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REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

1st Wednesday in each month	7 pm Wednesday Sisters Supper Club. For more details please phone Rosie on 781046.	The Sun
Every Tuesday	7.30pm Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
2nd Tuesday every other month	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector	Revd Paolo Di Leo	(782000, 07968 606 377)
Curate	Revd Dr Diana Stretton	(07807 341 638)
Lay Leader of Worship	Rosemary Drewery	(07792 926 004)
Churchwarden	Sue Whitehouse	(781300)
Treasurer	Stephen Hill	(781064)

Editor : Jane Carwithen (782185) or email janeocarwithen@gmail.com
 Items to be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON on 25th of the month



HOUSE NEWS

October 2023

www.felmersham.net

Scarecrows

Revd Paolo Di Leo

Congratulations to those who won the Scarecrow competition in Felmersham, Radwell and Sharnbrook this year. Competing can be fun and foster a spirit of innovation and creativity. But it can also be destructive and lead to negative emotions such as hatred, anger, resentment, and jealousy.

Here's a fable about two scarecrows. All characters and events in this fable are purely fictitious. Any similarity or resemblance to scarecrows living and working locally in our villages is purely coincidental, unintended and unrelated!

Once upon a time, there were two scarecrows who hated each other. They were put up in the same field to scare away crows, but instead of working together, they spent all their time competing against each other, arguing and trying to sabotage each other.

One day, the first scarecrow took the other scarecrow's hat and hid it. The second scarecrow retaliated by taking the first scarecrow's boots. Soon, they were both so busy competing and fighting each other that they forgot all about their purpose, which was to scare crows. The crows, of course, took advantage of this. They flew down to the field and started eating all the seeds. The scarecrows were so busy arguing that they didn't even notice. By the end of the day, the crows had eaten all the seeds in the field. The farmer was furious. He came out to the field and saw the two scarecrows arguing. He was raging with anger. "What is the meaning of this?" he shouted. "You're supposed to be scaring the crows away, not feeding them!" With deep disappointment he gasped "You've forgotten why I made you!"

The scarecrows were so ashamed that they hung their heads in silence. They realized that their hatred of each other had got the best of them. They had forgotten why they were there as scarecrows. Seeing their shame and change of heart the farmer's anger subsided. The farmer decided to give the scarecrows another chance. He told them that if they changed their attitude and worked together to scare away the crows, he would forgive them. The scarecrows were determined to make things right. They put aside their differences, changed their attitude and worked together to scare away the crows. Inevitably this worked, and the crows flew away and never came back. The farmer was so happy that the scarecrows had changed their attitude and re-discovered their purpose. He gave them a new hat and boots, and they lived happily ever after.

(Ctd overleaf)

The United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Knotting with Souldrop

St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook MK44 1HU, St Mary's Church, Felmersham MK43 7JP All Saints Church, Souldrop MK44 1EX

www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org



Welcome



FORTHCOMING CHURCH SERVICES OCTOBER

Sun 1 October	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's
	6.00pm	Evensong at St Peter's
Wed 4 October	9.30am	Cancelled- Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 8 October	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Holy Communion Harvest Festival at All Saints
	10.30am	Choral Communion Harvest Festival at St Peter's
	3.00pm	Faith Explorers at St Mary's
Wed 11 October	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Thurs 12 October	7.30pm	Prayer and Praise at St Peter's
Sun 15 October	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
	10.30am	Choral Communion Harvest Festival at St Mary's
	3.00pm	Faith Explorers at All Saints
	6.00pm	Harvest Evensong at St Margaret's, Knotting
Wed 18 October	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 22 October	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
	3.00pm	Faith Explorers at St Peter's
Wed 25 October	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 29 October	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's
	3.00pm	Evensong at St Peter's
<i>Also Thursdays</i>	9.30am	Morning Prayer on Zoom



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CARERS TOGETHER

Come and join us for tea, cake, and a chat.

Our meetings will be at 2.30pm
on Monday

October 2nd October 16th

Meet with other Carers knowing the person you care for is enjoying activities in a safe and friendly environment.

The Methodist Church, Park Lane, Sharnbrook

For more information contact the group's

Co-ordinator

Linda Hoar 07791214148

lindahoar@hotmail.co.uk

VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

Babysitting (Felmersham)	Laura Hewlett 782063	Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
Babysitting	Jasmine Bunker 07368 466 948	Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985 228 116	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967 783246
Community Care	07786 344 176	Maths Tuition (inc. A Level & Further Maths)	Geraldine Hubbard 781413
Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Vinyl and Carpet Fitter 8 years experience	Danny O'Grady 07720 779275
Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164		



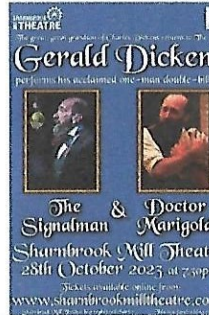
SATURDAY 28th OCTOBER, 7.30pm

GERALD DICKENS

CHARLES DICKENS' great, great grandson will perform, solo, his double bill: *The Signalman & Dr Marigold*

Following his previous triumphant performances at The Mill Theatre of *A Christmas Carol & Great Expectations*
BOOK NOW!

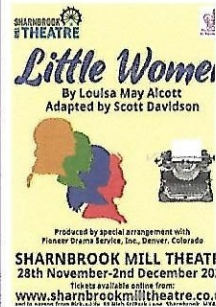
Tickets £18 (+ £1 booking fee)



Friday 17th November 7.30pm:



Sharnbrook Community Choir
Sharnbrook Mill Theatre
A CONCERT
celebrating the choir's 10th Anniversary.
Tickets: £10 (+ £1 booking fee)



LITTLE WOMEN

TUESDAY 28th NOVEMBER

– **SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER, 7.30pm**
Our romantic, winter drama, set against the backdrop of the American Civil War.

Meet the March sisters: Meg, Jo, Amy and Beth, in this timeless and enduring classic about their journey from childhood to maturity.

NOW BOOKING:
Tickets £15 (+ £1 booking fee)

Friday 8th & Saturday 9th December, 7.30pm
"Take a Dip III"
A REVUE celebrating our Society's 80th Anniversary (1943 – 2023)

Tickets: £20 (+ £1 booking fee) to include a traditional Fish & Chip Supper

The above are both fundraising events for Sharnbrook Mill

THE FOUR SHOWS above may be booked at Pick-a-Lily, Florists, Sharnbrook, in person, or www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets:

Our Spring Comedy for 2024! - On stage: 5th – 9th March

THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Adapted by Steven Canny & John Nicholson for Peepolyhut
An Amateur Production by arrangement with Nick Heame Books

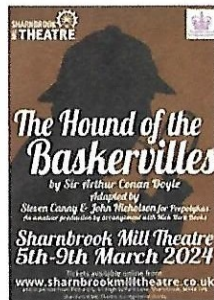
CAST CALL- Read-through & Auditions at The Mill Theatre

Read-through: Sunday, 8th October, 2-5pm

Auditions: Wed. 11th October 6.30-8.30pm,

also Thursday, 12th October, if oversubscribed.

For important information see: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/the-hound-of-the-baskervilles-read-through-and-auditions-announced/



(Ctd. From Page 1)

Repentance lovingly accepted and partnered with forgiveness is a powerful transformative process. Forgiveness following repentance may lead to second chances in life, and potentially to a new, happier and better life, both for the person 'forgiven' as for the person 'forgiving'.

Here's some life wisdom that we may all need to receive and give from time to time.

"If you see your friend going wrong, correct them.

If they respond, forgive them.

Even if it's personal against you and repeated seven times through the day, and seven times they say 'I'm sorry, I won't do it again,' forgive them."

Luke 17:3-4 The Message

Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults - unless, of course, you want the same treatment. Don't condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang.

Be easy on people; you'll find life a lot easier.

Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing.

Giving, not getting, is the way.

Generosity *generates* generosity."

Luke 6:37-38 The Message

Online Link for Church Services

<https://zoom.us/j/763110804> The Password is: 079014

Christmas Cards and Coffee Morning: Saturday 7th October

This month, there will be a **Save the Children Stall** selling Christmas cards etc. at the coffee morning. So, come along and enjoy a coffee or tea while choosing cards on

Saturday 7th October from 10.30am in St Mary's Church, Felmersham.

An opportunity to buy your cards early and to 'tick that box' in your preparation for Christmas.

There will also be a small raffle, plenty of chatter, coffee, tea and biscuits. Everyone welcome.

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Some more Scarecrows



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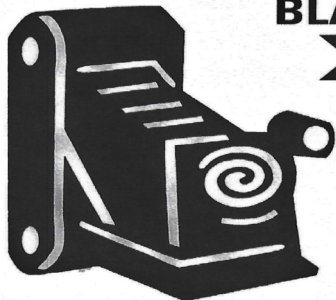
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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 12 September 2023

EDITED HIGHLIGHTS

Overgrown Vegetation

Several parishioners have complained or commented upon a few instances in Felmersham where overgrown shrubs and hedges are obstructing the highway, restricting the footpath or obliterating traffic signs. There is a requirement on landowners to cut or trim hedgerow that overhangs a highway, road or footpath and that obstructs public access and, in this regard, the Parish Council urges you to keep your trees and hedges maintained in good order for the benefit of highway and footpath users. This would be most appreciated.

You are responsible for cutting your hedges back to the boundary of your property. Could you please respond to this matter as soon as you can.

Your support in resolving this matter is appreciated.

Litter

Litter throughout the Parish has generally been kept in check by volunteer litter pickers. The Parish Council acknowledges and thanks these volunteers for their efforts.

Bedford Town Centre – Free Parking

Bedford Borough Council had launched a trial scheme to support local businesses and cultural venues in Bedford Town Centre by offering up to four hours of free parking at Allhallows multi-storey car park.

Bedford Borough Parks: Green Flag Awards

Environmental charity, Keep Britain Tidy, recently announced the winners of the coveted Green Flag Award 2023, the international quality mark for parks and green spaces. The Award scheme recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for their management across the United Kingdom and around the world.

Addison Howard Park, Bedford Park, Harrold-Odell Country Park and Priory Country Park, have all been included in the winners list. Harrold-Odell Country Park did exceptionally well, scoring overall in the highest category this year, which reflects the hard work put into the management of the park by the Country Park Team and Friends of Harrold-Odell Country Park. The judges gave a special mention to the work undertaken by park volunteers.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 14 November 2023 commencing at 7.30pm.

Smalls for All

Jane Rhodes

I am still collecting for **Smalls for All** (see details in last month's Ouse News) The box will be outside my front door at The Spinney, Hunts Lane, Felmersham until Friday 20th October.

*If you would like to know more about the company, just google **Smalls for All**. Past copies of Ouse News can be found on www.felmersham.net.*

AUTUMN SHOW 2023

Maggie Spoor

It was so nice to see a good crowd of people visit the Autumn Show on 10th September to view the various classes and then stay to chat to friends and neighbours over a cup of tea. There were some incredible skills on display in the craft sections, well supported photographic classes and, despite what the judge called a difficult start to the year, some very good fruit, flowers and vegetables.

The number of entries have not quite returned to pre-covid levels but we would like to thank everyone who entered and supported the show.

The Art Group again mounted a fine exhibition of their work. It is always amazing to see the skill of our local artists.

Our grateful thanks to the ladies from Pinchmill School who served us tea and cakes, to the Village Hall Committee for the use of the Hall and Committee Room, to our sponsors Milton Ernest Garden Centre and to the judges - Justin North, James Gell and Monica Euwens who kindly gave their time to judge the various entries.

Congratulations to the trophy winners who were as follows:

The Show Plate - Simon Greenish

Best in Show - Pat Keeble

The Rose Bowl - Simon Greenish

Introducing Wednesday Sisters Supper Club - Rosie Cheetham 01234 781046

Started around 10 years ago with the aim of encouraging women to visit the pub and get to know other women in the village, the Sisters group has met on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays. Contrary to popular belief, it's not a bible study group, just a chance to get together for a chat and to make new friends!

We now meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 7pm in the front bar of the Sun to share a meal and good conversation. There's no pressure to eat if you don't want to and everyone is welcome to join us. If you are thinking of coming along, please let me know so I can make sure we have enough spaces booked at the table.

PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS

Plans are starting to take shape for a family Christmas event in early December. Whilst we're not ready to announce the details yet, please keep the afternoon of **Saturday 2nd December** free for a village celebration.

ADVENT WINDOWS - ANGEL THEME

This year, I'm hoping to organise 24 lovely decorated windows throughout Advent with the theme of angels. If you would like to take part and can commit to decorating a window visible from the street in Felmersham please do get in touch either through the village Facebook page or by giving me a call Rosie Cheetham 01234 781046.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL

SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2023

Thank you to everyone who entered and assisted with judging the Scarecrow Festival this year. There were 17 in total, all amazingly good too so tough judging.

1st prize was Wills Farm in Town Lot Lane (See header)



2nd prize Swansholme on The Old Road



3rd prize Marriotts Close joint effort



Special prize went to Underwood Farm in Radwell



Ouse Valley Mothers' Union

'Life in Nature'
Alan Goodger returns to show us some more of his amazing photography

Thursday 12 October
2.30pm at St Peter's Room

Visitors welcome (suggested donation £4 for MU charities)
Details: contact Jackie Biggs (782517) or Hazel Scott (781559)
We welcome anyone who would like to know about Mothers' Union
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