

PARISH DIARY

Regular Activities

Weekdays	*9.00am-3.15pm	Pre-School - *Thurs 9.00-12.45pm	Pinchmill School
Tues	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tues	Approx 11.00am	Fishmonger in village - call 07803	201399 for info
Weds	7.30pm - 8.30pm	Zumba Dance Fitness	Village Hall
Thurs	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Yoga (term time only)	Village Hall
Fri	9.15am -11.00am	Parent/Toddler Group(term time only)	Portakabin
Fri	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Youth Club	Village Hall
2 nd Thurs	in each month at	3.00pm Thursday Club	Committee Room
3 rd Tues	in each month at	7.30pm W.I.	Committee Room
1 st Tues	every other month	(Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room
		7.30pm Parish Council Meeting	

Church Services for April – all morning services commence at 10.15am

Sun 1 Apr	Palm Sunday Choral Communion (Rev. D Mason)	St Mary's Church
Sun 1 Apr	Evensong (Sharnbrook) at 6.00pm	St Peters Church
2 / 3 / 4 Apr	Compline at 7.00pm (Rev.D.Mason & Church Wardens)	St Mary's Church
Thu 5 Apr	Maundy Thurs. Communion at 7.30pm (Rev. D Mason)	St Mary's Church
Sun 8 Apr	Easter Day Choral Communion (Revd. D Mason)	St Mary's Church
Sun 15 Apr	Choral Communion (Rev. D Mason)	St Mary's Church
Sun 22 Apr	Matins (Rev. T Sander)	St Mary's Church
Sun 29 Apr	Choral Communion	St Mary's Church

Dates for your Diary

Sat 7 Apr	Monthly Coffee Morning at 10.30am	The Old Bakery, Grange Road, Felmersham
Tue 17 Apr	Tea in the Church from 2.30pm to 4.30pm	St Mary's Church
Thu 19 Apr	Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 7.30pm	Committee Room, V. Hall
Thu 19 Apr	Ouse Valley Quilters 7.30pm (new term starts)	Village Hall
Sat 28 Apr	Car Boot Sale and Indoor Craft Fair	Sharnbrook Upper School
13 - 19 May	Annual Christian Aid collection	Felmersham & Radwell
Sat 12 May	Monthly Coffee Morning at 10.30am	Hall Farm, Radwell
Sun 13 May	Duck Race at 2.30pm	Corn Close, Felmersham
18 - 26 May	"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"	Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Rector and Rural Dean: Revd. Robert Evens (782000)

Curate: Revd. Tom Sander (781773)

Churchwardens: Jane Wells (782462) Ken Shrimpton (781381)

Published by: Felmersham PCC

Editor: Lorraine Shrimpton, 1 Trinity Close, Felmersham
(781381 or lorraine@felmersham.info)

We welcome any items of general interest for inclusion. All items should be with the editor by noon on the 25th of each month, and can be sent either by email to lorraine@felmersham.info or in written form to the above address.



Parish online: www.felmersham.net

APRIL 2012

The header this month pictures posies of flowers and traditional simnel cake ready to be presented by the children to their mothers (and grandmothers and aunties!) at the Mothering Sunday service in St Mary's Church. Breakfast was served before the service, which was attended by 90 people.

A LETTER FROM ROBERT EVENS

Dear Friends

I wonder if any of you gave up chocolate for lent this year. One of my friends gives it up every year and as she is a self-confessed chocoholic it really is hard. She says that it makes her Easter eggs taste wonderful after being without chocolate for so long. I wonder if you will have any Easter eggs and if you'll enjoy them as much as she will!

The tradition of giving chocolate eggs is relatively recent. They first appeared in the early 1800s in France and Germany, while in the UK, JS Fry (now owned by Cadbury) produced its first Easter eggs in 1873, made of dark chocolate and filled with sweets. By the 1960s the chocolate egg had become the preferred Easter gift. These days, Easter eggs make up 8% of annual chocolate sales, and more than 80 million are sold annually in Britain.

Bird's eggs have always been a symbol of springtime hope. The ancient Greeks, Chinese and Persians all gave them as gifts during their festivals at this time of year. In 1290 the household accounts of Edward the First recorded the sum of 18 pennies being spent on 450 eggs, all of which were to be coloured and decorated with gold-leaf and given as presents to his household.

For Christians the symbol of the egg has long represented the stone that was rolled away from Christ's tomb on the day of his resurrection. Easter day, Resurrection day is a time of great celebration for all who believe in Jesus. Our faith is based on the resurrection of Jesus; the empty cross is the focal point of our lives. Jesus lives in the hearts and lives of his people.

Easter for all Christians is the most special and sacred time of year. It's a time in which we try to share Christ's love, as seen on the cross with all those we know.

Inviting the lonely to share our special Easter day meal and in the giving of a chocolate egg to remember the empty tomb which tells us of the Christ crucified, risen and with us now and always.

May your Easter be full of love and eggs and the love of Christ as revealed on the cross.

Happy Easter to you all,

Robert

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING

Jane Wells

The April coffee morning will be held at the home of **Ian and Margaret Coomber, Felmersham on Saturday 7th April** (Easter Saturday) **at 10.30am** - *please note the change of venue from that advertised in the March edition of Ouse News.*

Any contributions of home-made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring-and-buy stall will be greatly appreciated. Do come along, everyone is invited.

The May coffee morning will be hosted by Hazel Worthington Dennehy, Hall Farm, Bridge End, Radwell on Saturday 12th May at 10.30am (*please note this coffee morning is a week later than usual due to the Bank Holiday weekend.*)



SERVICES DURING HOLY WEEK

Churchwardens

The following services will be held at St Mary's during Holy Week:

Sun 1 st April	Palm Sunday Choral Communion at 10.15am	Rev. David Mason
Mon 2 nd April	Compline at 7.00pm	Rev. David Mason
Tue 3 rd April	Compline at 7.00pm	Churchwardens
Wed 4 th April	Compline at 7.00pm	Churchwardens
Thur 5 th April	Maunday Thursday Service at 7.30pm	Rev. David Mason
Fri 6 th April	Service of Music and Readings at 7.00pm <i>(please note this service is at St. Peter's)</i>	Sharnbrook Church
Sun 8 th April	Easter Day Choral Communion at 10.15am	Rev. David Mason

VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

Babysitting (Felmersham)		Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
Babysitting (Felmersham)		Electrical Services	Mick Bowyer 783472
Babysitting (Felmersham)		Financial Planning Pensions/ Mortgages	Stephen Rudd 783122
Babysitting (Felmersham)		French Tuition	Marigold Sykes 781801
Babysitting (Radwell)		General Building Renovation work	Allan Levene 781918
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 782128	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967/783246
Children's Party Entertainment	Samantha Cook 781859	Maths Tuition	Geraldine Hubbard 781413
Chemistry/Science/Maths tuition	Peter Rankin 782897	Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719
Community Care	07786 344176	Pet Care Services	Annette Courtney 782809
Dog walking, feeding/boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Piano/ Guitar Lessons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
Drain Clearance, sinks, toilets etc	Andy Sharpe 781180	Social Psychology Studies, Management	Anthea Coghlan 782332
Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman 782290		

D ANTHONY Painter & Decorator (est. 40 years)

- ◆ *Internal/External*
- ◆ *Insurance work welcome*
- ◆ *Free estimates and advice (no VAT)*

Tel: 01234 782284

Mobile: 07901 845277

(Radwell, Bedford)

Rosie + the boys

Contemporary floral design

Bespoke handmade cards

01234 781046 / 07817291738

rosieplustheboys.etsy.com



Quote ONZ for a 5% discount (on orders over £30)

R. P. TESTA

- ◆ Plumbing
- ◆ Heating
- ◆ Bathroom Installations

City and Guilds

Gas Safe (CORGI) Reg:102217

Tel: 01234 781827

A local, reliable service



BLACK AND WHITE REVIVAL

- * Traditional Photograph Restoration and Conservation
- * Antique and Reproduction Frames
- * Old photographs of Bedfordshire

Helen Dawkins LRPS

Radwell, Bedford

01234 782265

helen@blackandwhiterevival.co.uk

www.blackandwhiterevival.co.uk

Architectural Design

Stephen Funge Architectural Design Ltd

38 Howard Close, Haynes, Bedfordshire MK45 3QH

Tel/Fax 01234 381800. Mob 07710 268372 - Stephen Funge MCIAT MAPM

Planning and Building Regulations Applications

Design and Project Management ◆ Extensions ◆ New Houses ◆ Offices ◆ Shops

Call for a chat. No obligation.

THE SUN INN

01234 781355

- * ☐ Country atmosphere
- * Log fire in winter
- * Bar meals
- * Excellent wines
- * Open 7 days a week



- * Provençal restaurant
- * Friendly bar staff
- * Open all day
- * Sky TV sports
- * Bring the kids and dogs

Bill and Sue look forward to welcoming you soon

LOOSE CHANGE

On Merseyside loose change is referred to as “slummy” for some reason. Having got that fact off my chest I now come on to Christian Aid and the annual collection during the week 13th to 19th May. Last year you kindly donated the sum of £500 and thanks go to all the people who collected as well as the people who donated. Why not collect your “slummy” and put that in the envelope when it arrives with the odd bit of the “folding stuff”?!

I will be contacting the sterling band of collectors prior to May but if anyone is willing to give up the odd hour to help we would be grateful.

Once again, thanks to people who drop off the cartridges and old phones....I sort them out (some are not suitable) and send them off to Christian Aid.....it all helps.

PARISHIONERS' & ANNUAL PCC MEETING

Jane Templeman

Date and Venue: Thursday 19th April at 7.30pm in the Committee Room.

This is a reminder that the Annual Parishioners' Meeting (originally known as the Vestry Meeting) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, will take place on **Thursday 19th April at 7.30pm** in the Committee Room.

All parishioners are very welcome to attend both meetings.

- At the first meeting (the Annual Parishioners Meeting) the Churchwardens are elected and all members of the Parish in attendance at the meeting are invited to vote.
- At the second meeting (the Annual Parochial Church Meeting), only those on the Church Electoral Roll are qualified to vote and elect Parochial Church Council (PCC) members. The meeting will receive reports from the PCC Chairman, the Treasurer and Churchwardens.

QUIZ NIGHT

Village Hall Committee

We would like to say thank you to those of you who purchased tickets for the quiz night but unfortunately, due to lack of support, we had to cancel the event. We shall be arranging an event for June / July so please watch out for this is the May edition of the Ouse News.

K M Lovell

General Building

BLOCK PAVING ◆ EXTENSIONS ◆ ROOFING ◆ PATIOS

All work considered

Tel: 01234 782869

TEA IN THE CHURCH

Jane Wells

Following the success of our “Tea in the Church” scheme last year, tea and cake will again be served in the Church, on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, between April and September - the first one will be held on **Tuesday 17th April, from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Everyone is welcome.**

We have toys for the children and will set aside a play area for them, so mums and dads and grandmas and granddads can come along for a cup of tea, a slice of scrumptious home-made cake and a chat.

It's a chance to meet up with your neighbours and friends - you may not have seen much of them over the winter period! Also, this is a good opportunity to meet and welcome newcomers to the two villages. If you missed coming last year, do come along this time.

We look forward to seeing you on **17th April.**

If anyone would like to help with these monthly teas please contact Jane Wells on 782462.



CHANGES TO MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE

Edith Cauldwell

FELMERSHAM: The time and date on which the Mobile Library visits Felmersham will change from the beginning of April. The last visit in March is on Thursday 22nd there will then be a 3-week gap before the start of the new timetable.

The first visit in April will be on Thursday 12th April, then Thursday 26th April and so on, every two weeks as usual. However the **time will change to 2.45pm to 3.10pm.**

RADWELL: Times and dates in from the beginning of April will be Thursday 5th then Thursday 19th at **2.15pm to 2.30pm.**

W.I.

May Mills

They say if you want to get ahead get a hat, well, we had enough hats to satisfy the whole of Felmersham at our March meeting! Jane Helliwell, Anna Wisson and Jane Taylor, collectively known as ‘Perfect Hat, Perfect Day’ brought along what must have been their entire collection of hats and fascinators. They are based at Wootton Park Farm where they provide a personalised service and a promise of a hat for every occasion. We had a very enjoyable time trying on the hats with some of us hoping for a wedding invitation or two!

Next month is our AGM and the ever popular fish and chips.



**Computer support,
consultancy and
maintenance
for business or home**

www.allforit.co.uk

**Telephone: Clive Just
01234 783246**

ARNOLDS

FUNERAL SERVICE

Independent & Family Owned

- ◆ Flower Service
- ◆ Private Chapels of Rest
- ◆ Pre-payment plans
- ◆ Memorial Service

48 Roff Avenue, Bedford

Tel: 01234 359529

For Day and Night
Personal Attention

**Reassurance when
you need it most**

DOMESTIC OIL BURNING SERVICING



- ◆ Breakdown and Maintenance
- ◆ OFTEC Registered

Chris Keep

Tel: 01234 824400

CP Property Maintenance

Internal and External House Refurbishment and Property Maintenance including:

- ◆ Bathroom and Kitchen Refurbishment
- ◆ Wall and Floor Tiling
- ◆ Painting and Decorating
- ◆ Any other small jobs

HETAS Registered for Installation and Servicing of
Woodburning/Multifuel Stoves and Chimney Lining etc.

For a friendly reliable service and free estimate call Chris on 07974 102482
or email: cpoulter2@googlemail.co.uk - 40 Marriotts Close, Felmersham

THURSDAY CLUB

Janet Munro, the Harold Country Park Ranger, gave us an interesting talk, with slides, showing us the development of the lakes from gravel extractions in the early 1950s. Janet described the work of the Ranger and that of volunteers, who are vital to the management of the Park, to ensure a safe habitat for wildfowl, mammals and many wild flower species. Their work certainly makes the Harold Country Park a very pleasant place for a walk, to enjoy the countryside in complete safety.

Celia Hulatt

OUSE VALLEY QUILTERS

The new term starts on Thursday 19th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. If you are interested in learning to quilt or already have experience you are very welcome to join this friendly group.

Janet Cook

The cost will be £7 for the term. Following meetings will be on 3, 17 and 31 May, 14 and 28 June and 12 July. For more information please phone Janet Cook on 781373.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Duplicate Bridge is played in the village hall every first and third Monday of the month and new players are always welcome. If you are interested in coming along or would like more details please contact me on 772948.

John Barton

Barnes Tree Services

ALL TYPES OF WORK UNDERTAKEN

Trees reduced or removed ~ all waste chipped on site and taken away

NPTC qualified ~ Fully insured

Traditional family business ~ Woodland management since 1980

Ash logs always available for delivery

Telephone: Roger Barnes for a free quote on 01933 356205



Workplace Potential

Coaching ≈ Stress Management
Leadership Development ≈ Team Building

Tel: 01234 781603

Email: enquiries@workplacepotential.com

Website: www.workplacepotential.com

WANTED JUNIOR CRICKETERS

(MALE AND FEMALE - AGED 8 UPWARDS)

For fun cricket ♦ coaching

Commences Sunday 6th May at 10am to noon
at Village Hall Playing Field, Pavenham (in Hall if wet)

First two sessions free! Places limited so book early.

Contact: Neil Blakemore 07920 144911

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

Cherrie Dawson

We are looking for additional helpers to join the cleaning rota for St Mary's church. The rota calls for two people to give their time for approximately 2 hours per week, for two consecutive weeks. Depending on the number of volunteers, the rota is usually only every six weeks or so. The task involves sweeping or vacuuming, polishing and generally tidying up the church - believe it, or not, it can be fun!

Why not ask a friend to volunteer with you, or your husband or wife? If you can help, or would like more details, please contact me on Bedford 824713. I look forward to hearing from you.

CHADBON

BRICKWORK LTD

EXTENSION
SPECIALISTS

GARDEN WALLS
& FEATURES

All Building Work Undertaken
by Friendly & Reliable Tradesmen

Excellent Working Standards
City & Guilds Qualified

TELEPHONE:

01933 316827

07931 991907

M. B. ELECTRICAL

ALL ELECTRICAL WORK
UNDERTAKEN

- ♦ Domestic & Commercial
- ♦ Inspection
- ♦ Testing
- ♦ Installations

FREE QUOTE & ADVICE CALL

01234 783472 ♦ 07076 406430

NICIEC and
Trading Standards Approved

FLYING THE FLAG ON FELMERSHAM CHURCH TOWER **Editor**

The flag pole on top of St Mary’s church tower was erected by the Parish Council as part of the Millenium celebrations within the parish and remains the responsibility of the Parish Council. Since the year 2000 several people have undertaken the arduous task of “flying the flag”. But not many people realise just what this implies!

The task involves climbing the tower steps, past the ringing chamber, then further on up past the eight bells (timing is important - it’s not advisable to climb past the bells when the clock is striking!), continuing up until a small trap door is reached. Climbing out of this is not easy but once you are on the top there is a wonderful view. Good on a fine day but not quite so appealing in the rain or wind.

For many years this task was undertaken by Michael Thomas with occasional help from Peter Hartop and Margaret Spoor and, since Michael and his wife Joan left the village, the flag has been raised by Nick Wells. The official flag flying days are shown below, but in addition there is the weekend of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations on 2-4th June. On your behalf, may I offer our thanks to all those who undertake this task on our behalf?

OFFICIAL FLAG FLYING DAYS	
January 1st	New Years Day
March (2nd Monday)	Commonwealth Day
April 21st	Queen's Birthday
April 23rd	St. Georges Day
June (various)	Official Queen's Birthday
June 2-4 th (2012 only)	Queen’s Diamond Jubilee
Early September	St Mary’s Patronal Festival
November 11th	Armistice Day
November (2nd Sunday)	Remembrance Day

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2012/13 **Editor**

TERM	TERM DATES	HALF TERM DATES
Summer 2012	Tue 17 April - Fri 20 July	4 to 8 June
Autumn 2012	Wed 5 Sept - Fri 21 Dec	29 Oct to 2 Nov
Spring 2013	Tue 8 Jan - Thu 28 March	18 to 22 Feb

SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE **Theo Gibbs**

May 18th to 26th at 7.30 pm ♥♥ I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change ♥♥
 Off-Broadway’s longest running hit musical comes to Sharnbrook! This hilarious, slightly naughty(!) revue explores the curious quirks of male/female relationships, across the spectrum from those first uncomfortable moments12 actors portray over 60 different characters...It’s fast, it’s furious...and not to be missed, but is not suitable for the children! Tickets £10 -12, available from 10th April at Sharnbrook Post Office – in person only, and Bedford Central Box Office* 01234 269519. 10 % discount for 10 or more (excluding Charity Performance) 2 Wheelchair Spaces*, easier access seating: Rows A – C; Hearing Loop: Rows A – E.
www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk ♥ Please note new start time of 7..30 pm! ♥

PARISH STREET LIGHT **felmersham.net**



The Parish Council have decided to replace the street light at the junction with Church End and The Old Road with a design that is similar to the street light outside the church.

The replacement bulbs will be cheaper and more efficient on the new light. The design of the current concrete lamp post (see photograph) is more suited to an urban environment rather than rural Felmersham.

The post is also badly damaged at the bottom.

Thanks to the Parish Council for dealing with this.



James Lowe

BSc (Hons)

36a High Street
Oakley Bedford MK43 7RG

- ◆ Architectural Design
- ◆ Building Surveying
- ◆ Construction

Tel: 01234 822248

Mobile: 07856753020

E-mail: jl@jamesloweabc.co.uk

SHAKESPEARE'S MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR OPEN AIR THEATRE IN BEDFORDSHIRE - 15th – 24th June 2012

For full details please go to www.nolossproductions.co.uk

Following on from the 2011 sell out performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Bedfordshire based No Loss Productions are delighted to be returning to Swiss Garden & Moggerhanger Park and to be adding Wrest Park to the season, with Shakespeare's domestic comedy *The Merry Wives of Windsor* in June 2012. As well as entertaining Bedfordshire audiences No Loss hope to help build and strengthen links between these three stunning Bedfordshire Gardens.

It has often been said that if Shakespeare were around today he would be writing for TV. If that's true, then this is his 1970s sit-com. Which is what makes it such a brilliant choice for Shakespeare in the gardens in 2012 - comedy vicars, dirty rotten scoundrels, people hiding in cupboards and the wonderful wives of Windsor outwitting the men time after time. And to top it off a big finish in the woods! The perfect entertainment for a summer evening.

And if you have not visited the gardens before you are in for a treat as you discover the beauty and local history they have to offer.

Tickets are available directly from venues or www.nolossproductions.co.uk

- Tickets in advance £12 (£10 Concessions)
- Tickets on the day £15 (£12 Concessions)

Venues, Dates & Times:

- Moggerhanger Park - 01767 641007 - 15 June 7.30pm - 16 June 2pm & 7.30pm
- Wrest Park - 01525 860000 - 19 & 20 June 7.30pm
- Swiss Garden - 01767 627933 - 22 & 23 June 7.30pm, 24 June 2pm

Doors open 1 hour before curtain up. Bring a picnic (no glassware), a rug or folding chair

Wet Weather - Performances will continue in wet weather. All tickets are non-returnable and non-refundable

THEFT IN MOOR END ROAD

felmersham.net

Residents are asked to be vigilant, and to review the security of all outbuildings, after a burglary took place at a storage container in Moor End Road, in Radwell. The offence took place between the 1st and the 12th of March. The offender had forced the padlock from the container. A chain saw, a power cutter and garden tools were taken.

Comment by Bedfordshire Police: Outbuildings, sheds and garages can be especially vulnerable to criminals and are often not the best place to store high value items. Always lock sheds and garages, and help keep sheds secure with a good quality padlock and hasp. If possible anchor down items like bikes and lawn mowers. Consider an alarm and make sure your security lighting is covering your shed and garage.

TEA FOR EVE

Jo Goodman

Come and support 'Tea for Eve', a fundraising campaign to help raise money for the ovarian cancer charity 'The Eve Appeal'.

When: Friday 27 April 9:30am to 4pm

Where: The Stables, Tithe Barn, Felmersham, Beds MK43 7HN.

Friends & family welcome.

On the day you will be able to view:

- Jo's brand new collection of clothes including Miss and Lady Captain amongst others;
- fabulous accessories by Hot Tomato, Blaze and One Button;
- beautiful hand made cards and flower demonstrations by Rosie + the boys;
- delicious home made jams and chutneys from Humber Jams.

Please call Jo Goodman on 07788 970178 with any questions or enquiries.

10% of all proceeds are donated to the Eve Appeal.

HOEING AND SOWING IN THE CHURCHYARD

Churchwardens

Thank you to all who came along to help with the preparation, the raking and sowing of grass seed along the north boundary churchyard wall on Saturday 24th March. We were lucky with the weather and with all the help we were able to finish by 11.00am, in time to share a cup of coffee with those who had been on the village litter pick. It was quite a community affair.

All we need now is some rain to help with the germination. Thank you all.

DUCK RACE - SUNDAY 13th MAY

Pinchmill Lower School PSA

After such a successful Duck Race last year, the PSA have decided to hold another one. We previously advertised the date in the Ouse News as Sunday 6th May but we have had to change this to **Sunday 13th May starting at 2.30pm**. The event will again be held in the garden of "Corn Close", Church End, Felmersham, the home of Mike & Wendy Mansell - we are very grateful to them.

There will be 3 children's races: Reception age, Key stage 1 & Key Stage 2 and then the main race consisting of 600 ducks. Children's races will start from 2.45pm

1st Prize £50.00

2nd Prize TBA

3rd Prize £15 Garden Centre Voucher

4th - 6th Prize Go-Carting Voucher

So if you would like to purchase a duck for the main race at a price of £2.50 per duck, then please contact Sam Bance on 782869. Hope to see you there.

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Watch this space for details of the celebrations planned for Felmersham and Radwell. More details in next month's edition.

PUZZLE PAGE

This month’s puzzle is a Word Search. Can you find 18 **Asian countries** below? Letters can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal or backwards, sometimes using the same letter twice.

P	B	A	K	Y	R	G	Y	S	T	A	N
A	A	U	Z	T	I	R	A	N	O	K	A
F	H	I	L	E	P	H	E	L	Q	U	E
G	R	N	R	A	R	P	C	E	A	W	D
H	A	D	F	A	A	B	U	R	M	A	B
A	I	O	I	L	Q	G	A	J	L	I	H
N	N	N	B	R	U	N	E	I	O	T	U
I	I	E	R	N	A	D	R	O	J	O	T
S	R	S	K	A	R	M	E	N	I	A	A
T	A	I	K	A	Z	A	K	S	T	A	N
A	Q	A	S	L	E	A	R	S	I	P	E
N	T	U	R	K	E	Y	A	I	R	Y	S

HEAVENLY SHORTS

◆A woman went into the Post Office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards. “What denomination?” asked the assistant. “Oh! Good heavens, have we come to this?” asked the woman. “Well, give me 50 Anglican and 50 Catholic ones”.

◆A Sunday School teacher had just concluded her lesson and wanted to make sure she had made her point. She said, “Can anyone tell me what you must do before you can obtain forgiveness of sin?” There was a short pause and then, from the back of the room, a small boy spoke up. "Sin" he said.

◆ Attending a wedding for the first time a little girl asked her mother “Mummy, why is the bride dressed in white?” “Because white is the colour of happiness and today is the happiest day of her life”. The child thought about this for a moment and then asked “So why is the groom wearing black?”

DID YOU KNOW?

Although the word **BACKHANDER** is now used to imply money given to obtain a favour, the expression “backhander” is linked to the custom surrounding the drinking of port. Traditionally the port was passed to the left and from hand to hand. At a large dinner party a thirsty man might have to wait a while for his turn. Anyone who defied tradition and moved the port to the right to top up his glass was said to be guilty of a “backhander”. The connotation was that the guilty party was concerned only with advantaging himself.

AND FINALLY, A PUZZLE FOR THE YOUNGSTERS

1. Something you go abroad on.
2. Something you ride.
3. It gives you milk.
4. It keeps you warm.
5. You get bacon from it.
6. You get wool from it.
7. It’s sometimes called the King of the Jungle.
8. It’s sometimes known as man’s best friend.
9. It eats chickens.
10. It looks bare in the winter.

1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					

ANSWERS to Word Search

- Kazakhstan
- Israel
- Brunei
- Afghanistan
- Nepal
- Jordan
- Burma
- Armenia
- Syria
- Kuwait
- Indonesia
- Azerbaijan
- Iran
- Bahrain
- Iraq
- Bhutan

ANSWERS to children’s Puzzle

- 6. SHEEP
- 7. LION
- 8. DOG
- 9. FOX
- 10. TREE
- 1. PLANE
- 2. HORSE
- 3. COW
- 4. FIRE
- 5. PIG