

## 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	
Wed	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	Portakabin
Fri	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Youth Club	Village Hall
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	in each month 3.00pm	Thursday Club (Committee Room)	Village Hall
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	in each month 7.30pm	W.I. (Committee Room)	Village Hall

### Church Services for June (all Services commence at 10.15am)

Sun 5 June - Choral Communion (Easter 6)	- St Mary's Church
Sun 12 June - Family Service (Pentecost)	- St Mary's Church
Sun 19 June - Patronal Festival	- All Saint's Church, Souldrop
Sun 26 June - Patronal Festival	- St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook

### Church Services for beginning of July (all Services commence at 10.15am)

Sun 3 July - Choral Communion (St Thomas)	- St Mary's Church
Sun 3 July - Evensong (time 6.00pm)	- St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Sun 10 July - Family Service (Trinity 3)	- St Mary's Church

### Dates for your Diary

Fri 3 June - Ouse Valley Singers, 7.30pm	- St Peters Church, Sharnbrook
Sat 4 June - Coffee Morning, 10.30am	- West Grange, Felmersham
Wed 8 June - Zumba Dance Fitness, 7.30pm	- Village Hall
Thu 9 June - Thursday Club, 3.00pm	- Village Hall, Committee Room
Sat 18 June - Ouse Valley Singers, 7.30pm	- St Owen's Church, Bromham
Tue 21 June - Tea & cake, 2.30pm to 4.30pm	- St Mary's Church
Tue 21 June - Health Roadshow, 6.00pm	- Sharnbrook Village Hall
23/24/25 June - Two One Act Plays, 7.45pm	- Sharnbrook Mill Theatre
Sun 26 June - Open Sunday for Bedfordshire churches	
Sat 2 July - Coffee Morning, 10.00am	- Storrington, Hunts Lane, Felmersham
Sat 9 July - Annual Churchyard Clean, 10.00am	- St Mary's churchyard
Sat 16 July - PSA/Village Hall Fete, 2.00pm	- Summer Fete/Tug of War
Tue 19 July - Tea & cake, 2.30pm to 4.30pm	- St Mary's Church
Sat 13 Aug - Coffee Morning 10.30am	- St Mary's Church

**Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)**

**Asst Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)**

**Church Wardens: Jane Wells (782462) & Ken Shrimpton (781381)**

Publisher: Felmersham PCC. Editor: Lorraine Shrimpton, (for June edition) 1 Trinity Close, Felmersham (781381 or [lorraine@felmersham.info](mailto:lorraine@felmersham.info))

We welcome any items of general interest for inclusion. **All items should be with the editor by noon on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month**, and can be sent either by email to [lorraine@felmersham.info](mailto:lorraine@felmersham.info) or alternatively in written form to the above address. If you use either method, please provide a telephone number in case there are any queries.



Village info. online [www.felmersham.net](http://www.felmersham.net)

June 2011

### Some words from our new Curate, Tom Sander

The arrival of a new curate in a rural parish such as the parishes of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Knotting with Souldrop arouses, I imagine, having grown up in a rural community, a certain degree of healthy suspicion and intrigue around *who* this person is and *what* there're going to be like. Well, before arriving in the parish in time for Evensong on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, I thought I would write, at the invitation of the Rector, a little bit about myself as a way of shedding some light on exactly *who* I am and *what* I'm like.

My name is Thomas Sander and I am 23 years old. I grew up in Eyeworth, Bedfordshire and then moved to Hitchin where I went to Hitchin Boys' School and from there went to university to read Theology. After my degree I spent one year working as a parish assistant in the parish of St. Martin and St. Paul in Canterbury. During my time at university and working in the parish I'd been exploring the possibility of a vocation to the ordained ministry, the process of which is quite complex, but essentially ends with an 'X Factor' style showdown, known in church circles as a 'BAP' (Bishops Advisory Panel). To my delight the panel, which didn't include Simon Cowell, concluded that I was able to begin training for the ministry! With this affirmation I began



looking for a theological college and eventually settled on Westcott House in Cambridge, where I have spent the past few years happily learning how to preach, pray, hope and laugh! Also as part of my training I have been doing a little further study at the university around the rapid growth of Christianity in China and its relationship to evolving global economies. This is part of my wider interest in the process of secularisation in European nation states and the role of Christian apologists.

My faith, I think it is fair to say, is something, which came as a bit of a surprise to both me and my parents, but it has transformed my life into something quite different and is an ever evolving journey. Faith has, in one form or another, always been an important part of my life; I believe it was there long before it found formation and expression in the life of the Church. I look with anticipation towards my ordination in St Alban's Abbey on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of

July, which is by complete chance, St. Thomas' Day, and I grow ever more excited about beginning my ministry among you in the beautiful villages of north Bedfordshire. I ask for your prayers, and please be assured of mine for the life of the churches of St Mary's, St. Peter's, St Margaret of Antioch and All Saints.

On a more prosaic level, I like to cycle everywhere, swim, play the piano and organ (badly), indulge in a little bit of campanology and car mechanics (again badly). I enjoy reading Iris Murdoch and Virginia Woolf together with the theological musings of our Archbishop Rowan Williams, Thomas Aquinas and Dietrich Bonhoeffer. My favourite Gospel is that of St. John and I am a great fan of the Book of Common Prayer. My favourite city is definitely Jerusalem, I can never refuse a falafel! And when either rain or shine, home or abroad I can never refuse a Gin and Tonic with a dash of Angostura Bitters!

Looking forward to being among you in July,

*Thomas*

#### **Coffee Morning**

**Jane Wells**

The June Coffee Morning will be held at the home of Brian and Blanche Smith, Felmersham, on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am. Contributions of home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated. All are welcome.

The July Coffee Morning in aid of the Church Restoration Fund will be held at the home of May and Laurie Mills, Felmersham, at 10.30am on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2011.

#### **Annual Churchyard Summer Clean**

**Jane Wells**

The Annual Churchyard summer clean will be on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 10.00am. Please bring your own gloves and any gardening tools that you think may be helpful in removing ivy, moss and weeds.

Everyone welcome to come along. Coffee, biscuits and friendly chatter will be provided.

#### **Thursday Club**

**Joan Thomas**

We enjoyed a games afternoon in May and we are looking forward to a talk this month by Joy Davies entitled "Crystals in Healing". New members welcome, why don't you come along and give us a try! Thursday Club is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month at 3.00pm. If you require transport please ring Joan on 781722.

#### **Come and See! Bedford Archdeaconry Open Sunday**

Many Parish Churches in Bedfordshire will be open during the afternoon of Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June. See the delights of Bedfordshire's Church Heritage. Enjoy ancient buildings in peaceful settings, impressive monuments, old brasses, colourful stained glass, Victorian grandeur, modern simplicity and much more. Relax over afternoon tea, read a Church guide and browse over a gift stall. For further information visit the following websites - [www.stalbans.anglican.org](http://www.stalbans.anglican.org) or [www.visitbedford.co.uk](http://www.visitbedford.co.uk)

**Bedford Borough Summer Holiday Play (5-8yrs) and Games (9-13yrs) Schemes** (Bedford Borough area August 1st - 26th 2011). The ever-popular Holiday Play and Games Schemes are running once again during August. This includes a wide range of weekday schemes for 5-13 year olds in urban & rural areas across Bedford Borough at a cost of only £1 session (first come first served for each session). Every child attending the schemes will need to register at the site. A parent/guardian will need to complete a registration form at their first session and this will be given out at the door. Bedford Borough Council employs trained and police checked staff to lead activities and we encourage the integration of children with disabilities (physical and learning disabilities) into the schemes. If you have any queries please contact the information number before attending. Each scheme has a limited number of places available. For more information contact 01234 221700 or [www.bedford.gov.uk/sport](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/sport)

**Bedfordshire Walking Festival 2011 - RU4 The Challenge? September 3-11<sup>th</sup> 2011 (Greensand Ridge Footpath)** During this year's Bedfordshire Walking Festival taking place between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September, one particular event lends itself for individuals and groups to challenge themselves and even raise money for a favourite charity at the same time. Over the second weekend of the festival, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September, Bedfordshire's premier long distance trail, The Greensand Ridge Path, will be walked in two stages giving an ideal opportunity for groups and individuals to do the whole 40 miles or either 18 miles or 22 miles. Those participating have the option of joining the led walk or walking, jogging, running at their own pace and certificates will be awarded for completing the 40 miles over the weekend. If this appeals to you or your group why not sign up 4 the challenge and raise some money for your favourite charity at the same time. For more information and signing up email: [Organiser@bedswalkfest.co.uk](mailto:Organiser@bedswalkfest.co.uk)

#### **PSA/VILLAGE HALL SUMMER FETE**

**Samantha Bance**

The Summer Fete is on SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> JULY at 2.00 pm. Please put the date in your diary and bring your friends and family to an afternoon of fun. The Fete is being jointly organised between the Village Hall and the PSA to specifically raise funds for a new projector and screen for the hall.

We hope to have lots of games and stalls but we cannot do this without your help. If anyone can help set up, run a stall or game or help clear away for an hour on the day we would be very grateful. Please call Sam on 782869.

We are asking for your generosity for donations for the following as soon as possible:

- **BOTTLES** for a 'Bottle Tombola' and 'Water into Wine' stall – anything in a bottle and bottles of wine, please.
- **JEWELLERY** for a second-hand jewellery stall. Any items hiding in the back of a drawer that you no longer wear, please pass them on to us.
- **'PAMPER HAMPER'** for the raffle, anything for ladies and men - bubble bath, shower gel, moisturiser, after shave, perfume etc.
- **WHITE ELEPHANT / BRIC A BRAC** - good condition items e.g. books, puzzles, games, glasses, plants, etc.

We plan to have a 'Tug of War' competition so please start practicing and we will be asking for teams to enter nearer the time.

All donations can be dropped with Annette Franklin or please give her a call on **783085**.

### Street Party in Radwell

[felmersham.net](http://felmersham.net)

Radwell celebrated the Royal Wedding on Friday 29 April by holding a Street Party on the Green. Activities included a fancy dress competition, organised games and an evening barbeque. A wonderful day, thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, especially the children. For a photograph of the occasion see [www.felmersham.net](http://www.felmersham.net)

### Crime Stats for Felmersham and Radwell (Beat 733)

[felmersham.net](http://felmersham.net)

Committed between 31 March 2011 and 3 May 2011. On 17 April - 1500 hrs - burglary in a building other than a dwelling: CARLTON ROAD, FELMERSHAM.

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### Evacuee Grace visits parish

[felmersham.net](http://felmersham.net)

Grace Jessup made her first visit to Felmersham and Radwell since being evacuated to the parish, from Eastbourne, during the second world war. At the age of seven, Grace was privately evacuated to Dropshort Cottage (a house is now built on the Dropshort site), the



Photograph: 1 to r Grace Jessup; Peter & Ann Stringer

home of Joe and Hilda Farmer. She later moved to the middle of a terrace of three cottages in Moor End (which no longer exists). Grace recalls that her stay in the parish was very pleasant and she was treated with great kindness. She also remembers that before all the evacuees returned home they attended St Mary's church and sang "God be with you". Grace says that the parish she remembers has changed beyond her recognition!

### Tea in the Church

Jane Wells

Tea/coffee and cake will be served in the Church on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Please come along and bring your friends with you. If you were unable to come last month why not come along this time. There will be toys for the children to play with while the adults chat.

Everyone welcome.

### Ouse Valley Singers

Janet Welsh

Ouse Valley Singers are singing at St. Peter's Church on Friday 3rd June at 7.30pm. It is a concert to start a weekend of celebration for Sharnbrook Methodist Church who will be 100 years old on 5th June. Entry is free with a retiring collection, and our soloist for the evening will be Jeni Melia. Do come and help celebrate with our friends of the Methodist Church.

We are also singing at St. Owen's Church at Bromham on Saturday 18th June at 7.30pm. Both concerts include a mixture of sacred and light music.

### ZUMBA: Ditch the Workout, Join the Party!™

Hannah Burton

Zumba is coming to Felmersham! The 'Latin Inspired Dance Fitness' programme that is captivating the nation begins at Felmersham Village Hall on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June. The class is for one hour, and begins at 7:30pm. Participants are advised to wear supportive footwear such as trainers, and to bring plenty of water. No experience is needed, and everyone is welcome. Any questions please do not hesitate to contact Hannah Burton via [hannahburtonzumba@gmail.com](mailto:hannahburtonzumba@gmail.com), or through 'Find An Instructor' at [www.zumba.com](http://www.zumba.com). Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Sharnbrook Mill Theatre (SMTT)**

([www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.com](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.com))

In conjunction with Bedford University Travelling Theatre (BUSTT) Sharnbrook Mill Theatre present Two One Act Plays on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> - at 7.45pm.

(1) ‘The Dumb Waiter’ by Harold Pinter directed by Sam Turton and performed by SMTT. *The play follows two hit-men, Ben and Gus, waiting in a basement room for their assignment. As they wait in this apparently abandoned building, strange happenings lead to arguments and misunderstandings between the pair....*

(2) ‘What happens next?’ *A new farce by up-and-coming playwright Emma Hopkins performed by student members of BUSTT.*

Tickets £8 available now from Sharnbrook Post Office (in person) and Bedford Central Box Office (01234) 269519.

**Health and Wellbeing Roadshows**

Bedford Borough Council and NHS Bedfordshire have co-produced a series of roadshow events with the aim of improving the health and wellbeing of local residents. A roadshow is coming to **Sharnbrook Village Hall, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, 6.00pm to 8.30pm.** Members of the public are invited to come along and get information on local health and social care services and equip themselves with the tools, motivation and inspiration to develop a healthier lifestyle.

Residents aged 40 to 74 will also be offered an NHS health check, which helps to identify the risk of developing heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease. Those identified at higher risk will be offered support and advice on reducing that risk.

To book your health check in advance please ring Horizon Health quoting date and venue (with your name and contact telephone number) on 01234 807501. For more information please contact Carol Wells on 01525 636764.

**WI**

*‘Asylum seekers come here just to cream off our benefit system’* – just one of the many myths surrounding asylum seekers and refugees which Heather Jones was determined to demolish. She is the co-ordinator of Yarls Wood Befrienders which is a committee of over 40 volunteers who visit and befriend asylum seekers and immigration detainees at Yarls Wood Immigration Removal Centre. There are 10 removal centres in the country with a capacity of over 3,000 and Yarlswood is the only one to hold solely women. We knew the evening was not going to be a lot of fun but we were unprepared for the grim nature of the womens’ experiences and the horrifying statistics – up to 50% are the victims of rape. She explained that women have different reasons for seeking asylum e.g. arranged marriage, domestic violence, mutilation and rape, and many are separated from their children. Whether they are detained because they are towards the end of the asylum process and are facing removal, or awaiting decisions on their cases, they have no idea how long they will be at Yarls Wood. Heather Jones gave an emotional account of an emotive subject.

**May Mills**

**PUZZLE PAGE**

Within the grid are the names of 20 British Prime Ministers (going back to 1741). Look vertically, horizontally, diagonally (up or down), sometimes using the same letter more than once. Answers below – no peeping!!

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

Artlee  
Brown  
Churchill  
Gladstone  
Pelham  
Asquith  
Callaghan  
Disraeli  
Major  
Pitt  
Baldwin  
Canning  
Eden  
Palmerston  
Walpole  
Blair  
Cavendish  
Heath  
Peel  
Wilson

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The word **DEADLINE** originated from the battlefields of the American Civil War when, for lack of prison camps, prisoners were gathered together and a line was drawn around them in the dirt. This became known as the dead line, and anyone who strayed beyond it was shot.

The deadline for Ouse News is 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. However, we no longer shoot people who fail to make the deadline!

**AND FINALLY, ONE FOR THE KIDS.....**

Q: Where does a General keep his armies?

A: In his sleeves.

Ouch - sorry about that!!