

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
Thur	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 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 October & beginning of Nov (all Services commence at 10.15am)

Sun 2 Oct	Harvest Festival	St Mary's Church
Sun 9 Oct	Choral Communion (Trinity 16)	St Mary's Church
Sun 16 Oct	Family Service (Trinity 17)	St Mary's Church
Sun 23 Oct	Matins (Trinity 18)	St Mary's Church
Sun 30 Oct	Souldrop Patronal Festival	All Saints Church, Souldrop
Sun 6 Nov	Choral Communion (Trinity 20)	St Mary's Church
Sun 13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday meet at 10.45am	The Memorial, then Church

Dates for your Diary

Sat 1 Oct	Monthly Coffee morning at 10.30am	Janet & Barry Welsh
Wed 5 Oct	Bell Ringing Practice 7.30pm	St Mary's Church Tower
Sat 8 Oct	Visiting Bell Ringers	St Mary's Church
10-14 Oct	Flu Vaccinations 2.00pm to 3.30pm	Sharnbrook Surgery
4 & 6 Oct }	Flu Vaccinations 2.00pm to 4.00pm	Harrold Surgery
11 & 13 Oct }	Flu Vaccinations 2.00pm to 4.00pm	Harrold Surgery
Thur 13 Oct	Thursday Club 3.00pm (Open Meeting)	Committee Room, V. Hall
13 Oct/27 Oct	Ouse Valley Quilters 7.30pm to 9.30pm	Village Hall
Sat 15 Oct	Bell Ringing recruitment 2.00 to 4.00pm	St Mary's Church
17/18 Oct	Flu Vaccinations 5.30pm to 6.30pm	Harrold Surgery
Tue 18 Oct	W.I.	Committee Room, V.Hall
Fri 28 Oct	Codebreaking at Bletchley Park 7.30pm	Bletsoe Village Hall
Sat 5 Nov	Monthly Coffee morning at 10.30am	Tom Sander, Sharnbrook
Sun 6 Nov	Children Choir meet 5.30pm to 6.15pm	1 The Tithe, Felmersham

Rector: Revd. Robert Evens (782000)

Rural Dean: Revd. David Mason (309737) Curate: Revd. Tom Sander (781773)

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

Published by: Felmersham PCC

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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. If you use either method, please provide a telephone number in case there are any queries.



Parish information online at www.felmersham.net

OCTOBER 2011

The header photograph this month shows the allotments in Town Lot Lane, Felmersham. There has been a recent increase in the number of applications for an allotment, especially among young families. This is certainly an excellent, family-orientated past-time with worthwhile and tasty results. It's probably also a good way to encourage children to eat vegetables especially if they've grown them themselves!

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE AT 10.15am ON SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER

Any donations of garden produce, fruit or tinned goods will be greatly appreciated and can be left in the church (in front of the screen) any time during the week leading up to the 2nd October. We will sort everything out into "Tombola size" prizes on Saturday afternoon.



All produce donated will be used to raise funds for the *Harvest for the Hungry Appeal*, which is a Charity doing good work amongst those most in need. Unfortunately we have all recently seen those harrowing scenes on our TV screens.

Why not come along to the Service at 10.15am on 2nd October? You are guaranteed some rousing hymns to sing, and after the service whilst coffee is served you will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for the Tombola. Don't forget - every ticket is a winner!

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Due to the resignation of our secretary, we are looking for someone with secretarial experience to help us. We meet once a month and the secretary will be responsible for taking, typing and distributing minutes to the committee members; typing the agenda and attending to correspondence. If you feel you can help us, please contact the Chairman - Marjorie Pipe 781140

LETTER FROM REVD. ROBERT EVENS

Dear Friends

One of the most astonishing things in my lifetime has been the development of the computer. Under 40 years ago a computer was huge. It required air conditioning, a room of its own with staff to look after it and it was positively feeble compared to the one that I am writing this article on. But is it a good thing? I came across this letter from an aged priest to his whiz kid nephew:

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My Dear Nephew Darren

Thank you for your kind offer of your old computer, but I do not want it. I know you find it invaluable for keeping in touch with those doing missionary work in remote parts of Africa, but even if I knew legions of clergy on that continent, I would have few pearls of wisdom to e-mail them and would not be overly interested in what they may be yearning to tell me.

I know that our diocesan offices long for us all to have computers, so we can receive at hourly intervals briefings, questionnaires, notifications of meetings and lists of irresistible training days, but I seem to have survived in ministry for the last 50 years without them and suspect I can do so for a little while longer.

When pressed why I have still not purchased one, I tell everyone that I am waiting for a few more weeks when I will be able to get an even better one. And as the wretched things continue to improve, there is every reason to defer a decision until they improve a little more. Surely, if I bought one today, I would regret it by tomorrow, as there would be a more advanced model out by then.

Besides, once you get a computer, you will need to buy a telephone connection, then a printer and spare ink cartridges and then equipment to protect you from viruses. The money can far more usefully be spent on claret.

Being without a computer also saves me much aggravation. From what I can gather, most computer owners spend significant parts of their lives trying to get their machine to do something it doggedly refuses to. Once they admit defeat, they then spend another significant chunk of time on what is called by naïve optimists a "helpline", where someone in a remote part of the world who speaks a jargon only distantly related to English tries to tell you that whatever you did, it would have been better if you hadn't.

No, no-one over the age of 25 should be allowed to possess a computer. On those rare occasions when you really do need to use one, you should adopt my practice: visit your local primary school and get a 6 year-old to do the job - which they do with effortless efficiency, speed and accuracy.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace.

THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN



October are mentioned in any Anglo-Saxon text, indicating that it was just an ordinary day a thousand years ago. From the Medieval period (1066-1485) through to the 19th century, there is no evidence that 31st October was anything else other than the eve of All Saints Day. From the 19th Century to the present day, 31st October has increasingly acquired a reputation as a night on which ghost, witches, and fairies, are especially active. The name "Halloween" comes from *All Hallow Even*, which means the eve (the night before) All Hallows day. So Halloween is the eve of All Saints Day

Children (and parents!) watch out for ghosties and ghoulies on 31st! Enjoy a fun evening.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Editor

DID YOU KNOW - our ancestors celebrated New Year on November 1st? They celebrated their New Year's Eve on October 31st. Samhain (pronounced "sow-in") marked the end of the "season of the sun" (summer) and the beginning of "the season of darkness and cold" (winter).

Neither the word Halloween or the date 31st

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ADVANCE NOTICES

COFFEE MORNING on 5th November at 10.30am will be hosted by the Curate, Tom Sander, at The Old Manse, Kennel Hill, Sharnbrook.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE is on 13th November and this year we will meet at 10.45am at the Memorial and after a short service there, proceed to the church to complete the service and have coffee.

SOULDROP PATRONAL FESTIVAL

On Sunday 30th October we will be joining All Saints Church, Souldrop for their Patronal Festival. This year is the 150th anniversary of the re-dedication of the church after its restoration following a disastrous fire. It will be a time of special celebration and I hope that we will be well represented.

David Mason

POPPY COLLECTION FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

This year there will be no door-to-door collection for poppies in Felmersham & Radwell. After collecting and organising the sale of poppies for many years, Geoff and I are retiring. We will, however, be organising two static stations within the parish, at Pinchmill School and the Sun Inn, where poppies may be obtained. Also we will still organise the supply of wreaths for the church and the Memorial.

Celia Hulatt

If you wish to contribute towards the cost of a poppy wreath please contact Geoff on 781082 or send a donation to 6 Marriotts Close, Felmersham.

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Computers are of course only tools and they do as much harm and as much good as the people who use them. The cyber world is full of people who use this tool for harm, particularly to children. Social networking is not bad, but some of the people who use it are. During school holidays, when young people have even more time to spend on their computers, keep a special eye on them and what they are doing.

With every blessing,

Robert.

COFFEE MORNINGS

The October Coffee Morning to raise money for the Church Restoration Fund, will be held at the home of Janet and Barry Welsh, 1 The Tithe, Felmersham, on **Saturday 1st October at 10.30am**. Contributions of home-made cakes, toiletries, produce and items for the bric-a-brac stall will be greatly appreciated. All are welcome. Also at this coffee morning there will be a table selling Christmas cards and wrapping paper to raise funds for the *Save the Children* charity.

Jane Wells

INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS 2011

The influenza vaccination is recommended for all patients over 65 and those in high risk disease groups. Locally the sessions are as follows – no appointments necessary:

Editor

Sharnbrook surgery

The following dates are for patients over 65 **plus** those in high risk disease groups

Mon 10 th October to Fri 14 th October	(5 afternoons)	2.00pm to 3.30pm
Mon 17 th October & Tues 18 th October	(2 evenings)	5.30 pm to 6.30pm

Harrold surgery

Surnames beginning A to J (patients over 65) :

Tues 4 th October & Thur 6 th October	(2 afternoons)	2.00pm to 4.00pm
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Surnames beginning K to Z (patients over 65):

Tues 11 th October & Thur 13 th October	(2 afternoons)	2.00pm to 4.00pm
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Patients under 65 (ie those in high risk disease groups):

Weds 5 th October & Weds 19 th October	(2 evenings)	4.00pm to 7.00pm
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PEW BIBLES

At a recent meeting of the PCC it was agreed that a pew bible would be provided in every other pew in order that members of the congregation can, if they wish, follow the readings in the bible. If you would like to donate a pew bible then please contact the churchwardens, Jane on 782462 or Ken on 781381. A suitable inscription could also be included, if the donor wishes. The cost is approximately £8 per bible.

Churchwardens

THURSDAY CLUB

The September meeting gave us a very enjoyable insight into the miniature world of dolls houses, brought along by Peggy Frankham and her friend, Carol. They showed us a mixture of detailed handmade and bought pieces, some of which were from recycled materials.

The next meeting on 13th October at 3.00pm is an **open meeting** to which everyone is invited. Our guest speaker is Jane Backhouse, who organises the Western Front Association, and she will be giving a talk entitled "Lest We Forget". She will be using slides and will also bring along some artefacts from the First World War.

If you would like to come along, please give Celia a ring on 781082, as numbers are helpful when supplying refreshments – yes, you will be served tea and refreshments! If you need transport please ring Sally Carr on 781225. We look forward to seeing you.

W.I.

It was obvious from the start that Will Osborne was an enthusiast of many things - 'his favourite things' as the title of his talk implied. He loved anything to do with space, as in astronauts, not elbow-room, and had collected the autographs of Neil Armstrong, Yuri Gagarin and Buzz Aldrin which were mounted in frames with photographs of the famous three. He loved Art and Actresses, having given the same treatment to the autographs of Picasso, Dali and Ursula Andress (the press photographed her with his son who had no idea who she was!) He loved Ancient Egypt and passed round artefacts for us to study at close range. Silk napkins coloured by Beatrix Potter and a portable record player made in the early 1900's also featured in an eclectic mix of 'favourite things'. We loved him because he stood in at the last minute for someone who cancelled because of illness.

We are arranging a visit to 'Half a Sixpence' on Thursday, 17th November 2011, tickets are £9 - please contact May Mills if you would like to come (tel. 781788)

Next month's meeting is on Tuesday 18th October, when Alan Painter will talk about his experiences as a Magistrate – visitors are very welcome.

Celia Hulatt

May Mills

AND FINALLY, SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS.....

Q: Why do gorillas need large nostrils?

A: Because they have big fingers!

Q: Why are teddy bears never hungry?

A: They are always stuffed!

Q: What do you call a sleeping bull?

A: A bull-dozer.

Q: Why do fish live in salt water?

A: Because pepper makes them sneeze!

Answers to SUDOKU:

4	2	3	7	1	6	9	5	8
8	9	1	5	3	4	7	2	6
7	6	5	0	8	2	4	1	3
9	5	4	6	2	7	3	8	1
2	7	8	1	5	3	6	4	9
1	3	7	6	4	8	2	7	5
5	4	2	3	6	8	1	9	7
3	1	9	2	7	5	8	6	4
6	8	7	4	9	1	2	3	5

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 6TH SEPTEMBER

All councillors present, plus Doug McMurdo and 3 members of the public. Issues discussed included: planning applications from Avonworth and The Swan, developments at Stone Pits and Radwell Retreat, Highways matters, new bus services through the village and tree felling in the churchyard and the search for play space in Radwell. The Chairman reported that the 2nd draft of the Allocations and Designation Plan had been published and he had been in contact with Planning as there were some omissions which were detrimental to the Parish. The Bulky Waste Collection next year is at great risk due to Bedford BC cuts in services. The next meeting is on 1st November at 7.30pm in the Committee Room, Village Hall.

Clive Just



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PUZZLE PAGE

This month a SUDOKU puzzle – answer on next page. Good luck!

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

DID YOU KNOW.....?

The phrase **MINDING YOUR Ps AND Qs** is a gentle warning to behave in a correct and polite manner. There are two suggestions for the origin of this phrase and both seem to have a reasonable claim.

First there is the unusual suggestion that at the French court during the 17th century, the aristocracy were expected to dance delicately when they took to the floor and dance instructors were in high demand. During their lessons pupils were encouraged to mind their “pieds” (feet) and “queues” (the tails of their wigs).

The second suggestion may have originated in the old London taverns, where the barman would keep an account of how much beer each customer had been drinking, by marking with chalk on a slate (to this day barmen are still sometimes requested to put expenses “on the slate”) the number of pints under the letter “P” and the quarts (two pints) under the letter “Q”. Customers were well advised to watch their Ps and Qs to make sure they were not overcharged at the end of a drinking session – that is if they were sober enough!

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CAMPANOLOGISTS REQUIRED!

Revd. Tom Sander

Over the past few years the eight bells of St Mary’s have fallen silent. Indeed it is only on the hour that we are reminded that we have any bells in the tower at all. However with the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee in sight, the Church is looking to recruit bell ringers to help us ring the bells for some services and special village occasions, like the Jubilee.

Are you interested? If you are, then come along to St Mary’s on the 15th October (2-4pm) when we’ll be opening the tower for people to come and have a look around and see what’s involved! All persons, of any age or ability who might be interested are very welcome. In the meantime if you want to find out more please contact Revd. Tom Sander on 781773 or just turn up on a Practice night. Bell Ringing Practice starts this month (Wednesday 5th) and continues on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm to 9.00pm. ALL WELCOME! ‘Ding dong merrily on high!’

CHRISTMAS CHOIR FOR CHILDREN

Janet Welsh

I am hoping to have a children's choir again this Christmas for the Nine Lessons and Carols service on the evening of the 18th December. We shall start practices at my house, 1 The Tithe, Church End on Sunday 6th November between 5.30 and 6.15 and continue every Sunday till the service.

Please let me know if your children are coming on 781010 or prestissimo@btinternet.com
Looking forward to seeing you all again.

OUSE VALLEY QUILTERS

Janet Cook

We’ve grown too big to be a “house group”, which is excellent! In future we will meet in the Village Hall on alternate Thursday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Complete beginners and experienced quilters are welcome to join us. October meetings will be on 13th and 27th. For more information please phone Janet Cook on 781373.

CHRISTMAS FAIR – PSA

Samantha Bance

Following last year’s very successful event we will be holding our annual *Christmas Fair* on Saturday 3rd December 2pm at the Village Hall. Keep the date free, there will be lots of games and stalls and of course Father Christmas will be taking time out from his busy schedule to pay a visit to the children, so bring along your family and friends. If you would like a stall then please contact Sam on Tel: 782869.

FELMERSHAM SHOW 2011

Maggie Spoor

Many congratulations to Pauline Turner of Radwell, this year's winner of the Autumn Show. The photograph shows a delighted Pauline who gained 7 firsts & 1 third prize to win the trophy. The runners up were Caroline Cooper (3 firsts & 1 second), Jane Bell (3 firsts & 1 second) and Peter Bance (3 firsts & 3 thirds). A record number of entries meant there was strong competition in the majority of classes and the judges commented on the high standard attained. It's encouraging, too, to see the growing enthusiasm of the youngsters who are taking on the adults and winning prizes!

Our thanks to everyone who helped make the show a success – the art groups for exhibiting their work, the WI for the best tea and cakes around, the Village Hall committee for the use of the Village Hall and the army of tidy uppers who helped clear away at the end. We hope you enjoyed the day and look forward to welcoming you to the 2012 Autumn Show.



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SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE

HALF A SIXPENCE Flash, Bang, Wallop! What a show! 11th – 19th November 7.45 pm with a Matinee on Saturday 19th at 2.00 pm. A sparkling new version by Warner Brown of the classic show, featuring underprivileged orphan Arthur Kipps, who inherits a fortunethen loses it, but in the process discovers his true love..... The show includes the old favourite songs 'Flash, Bang, Wallop!' 'In The Cause of Economy,' and 'Half A Sixpence', plus *nine new ones*, including the show-stopping belter 'What Should I Feel'. A wonderful, traditional, fun musical for all the family. Tickets available from 3rd October at Sharnbrook Post Office (in person) and Bedford Central Box Office* 269519 or via the link on our website: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk (Matinee £9, Evenings £10-12.

NB: 11th is Charity Night, ticket price may vary - 10 % discount for 10 or more (excluding Charity performance) *2 wheelchair spaces, easier access seating Rows A – C; hearing loop Rows A –E. Please book early to avoid disappointment!

THE SECRET HISTORY OF CODEBREAKING AT BLETCHLEY PARK

A special talk and video presentation by Simon Greenish, Director of Bletchley Park Trust, on Friday 28th October at 7.30pm, at Bletsoe Village Hall, Licensed bar, raffle. Tickets £6, available from Theo Gibbs 782377 or Michael Hurley 782389.

VISITING BELL RINGERS IN THE VILLAGE

There will be a group of visiting ringers from Letchworth ringing the bells at St Mary's Church, on Saturday 8th October from 11.30am to 12.15pm.

Colin Payne

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