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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	Village Hall
2nd Wednesday 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)
Lay Leader of Worship	Rosemary Drewery	(07792 926 004)
Churchwarden	Sue Whitehouse	(781300)
Treasurer	Stephen Hill	(781064)

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



OUSE NEWS

April 2025

www.felmersham.net

A Time for Everything

Revd Dr Diana Stretton

It is the time of year of new beginnings. At the time of writing this, the crocuses and daffodils are starting to break out. We are seeing our first signs of warmer weather – time to put the big winter coat away in favour of lighter options.

Thinking about new beginnings is particularly poignant for me, as today is also the day that the 'To Let' sign went up on our house in Sharnbrook, and by the time you read this the moving vans will probably already be at work. It is hard to believe that my three years of curacy are coming to an end. Sharnbrook, Felmersham, Radwell, Souldrop and Knotting have been wonderful places to be part of, places to learn and to serve.

But change happens, as each season takes over from the last we are reminded that nothing in life remains exactly the same. Someone once told me that 'change is neutral, it is how we respond to it that makes the difference' – I'm not sure that I buy into that. There are changes which are negative and changes which are positive, and sometimes the pace of change that we see happening around us can feel so rapid that it is overwhelming. Maybe it is better to say that 'change is a reality; the only thing we can control is how we respond to it'.

That theme is a central part of the book of Ecclesiastes. In chapter 3 verse 1 the writer says, 'For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven'. There is then a list of bad and good things that can happen. The writer seems to be saying that change is inevitable, that good and bad things will happen, and perhaps simply recognising that there is a season for everything can help us to cope with the reality of change. (Ctd)

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 FOR APRIL

Wed 2 April	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 6 April <i>Lent 5</i>	9.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's Evensong at St Peter's
Wed 9 April	9.30pm	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 13 April <i>Palm Sunday</i>	9.00am 10.15am 10.30am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's Palm Procession & Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's Holy Communion at All Saints
Wed 16 April	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Thurs 17 April <i>Maudy Thurs</i>	7.30pm	Holy Communion of the Last Supper at St Peter's
Fri 18 April	9.40am 12.00pm 7.00pm	Walk of Witness SUS to Village Green and Service at 10.00am Stations of the Cross at St Peter's The Cross of Christ at All Saints
Sat 19 April	8.00pm	Service of Light And Renewal of Baptism Vows at St Mary's
Sun 20 April <i>Easter Sunday</i>	10.30am 10.30am	Choral Easter Holy Communion at St Mary's Choral Easter Holy Communion at St Peter's
Wed 23 April <i>St Georg</i>	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 27 April <i>Easter 2</i>	9.00am 10.30am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's

Dog Socials

Monthly Sharnbrook
Sundays 10-11am

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Babysitting	Lauren Smith 07392 188836	Vinyl and Carpet Fitter	Danny O'Grady 07720 779275
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985 228 116	Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Court- ney 783164
Community Care	07786 344 176	Dog Walking, feed- ing/ boarding	Ch. Tweed- dale 781279
		General Plumber	Frank Darrilulat 07768 511871

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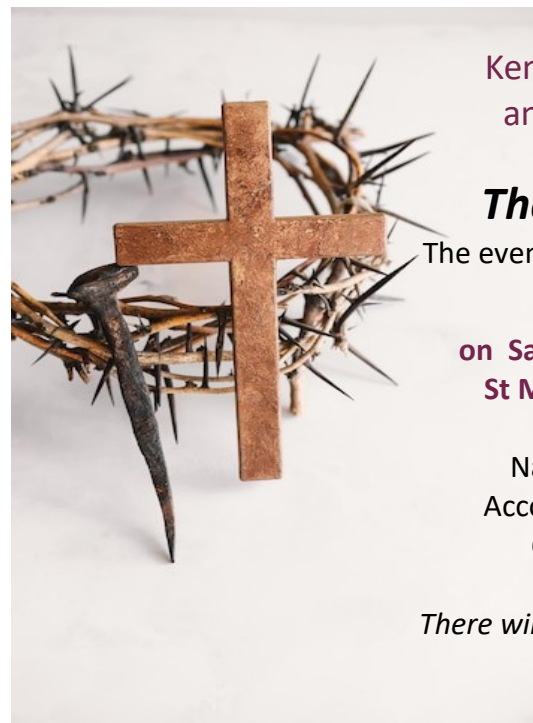
SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE
13TH-17TH MAY 2025

Tickets and more information
www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk
Sharnbrook Mill Theatre is a registered charity

(ctd from page 1)

But there is something more to what the teacher is saying in Ecclesiastes. In verse 14 he says, 'I know that whatever God does endures for ever'. This echoes other parts of the Bible which reflect on the unchanging nature of God, even when everything around us seems to be in flux. For example, Malachi 3:6 'For I the Lord do not change', and Hebrews 13:8 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.' Change is part of our human life, it is reflected in everything, even the turning seasons of our world, but amongst all of that change there is a constant that can be relied on.

I certainly have a lot of change happening right now; moving house, moving job, moving community. I will miss you all very much and will look back on my time here with fondness. But I find reassurance in the fact that God remains the same whatever happens next. A firm foundation and a constant guide through all the changes that are coming. My hope is that you have that reassurance too.



Kempston Musical Society
and Ouse Valley Singers
present

The Passion of Christ

The events leading up to Easter in words
and music

on Saturday 5th April at 7.30pm in
St Mary's Church, Felpersham

Narrator: Ernest Carwithen
Accompanist: Derrick Robinson
Conductor: Janet Welsh

*There will be a retiring collection in aid of
St Mary's Church*

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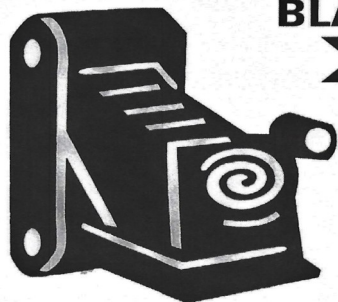
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Azalea
Walking free 

On Saturday May 17th at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church

The Ouse Valley Singers will join with our own Bridget Peirson-Davis in a concert to raise money for this Bedfordshire charity which provides drop-in points and reaches out to vulnerable people caught up in sex trafficking. Bridget is returning from Spain especially to sing for us on this occasion.

Regular attenders at The Sun Inn may be aware that our lovely Pete Pestell gives up his own time, with a team of other volunteers, to provide a weekly drop-in point in Bedford.

Please come along to learn more and contribute to this compassionate and worthwhile charity.

Entry £5 will include a glass of wine and there will also be a retiring collection for those who feel moved to give more generously.

CARERS TOGETHER

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

**The next meeting will be at 2.30pm
on Monday**

APRIL 7th

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

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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 12 MARCH 2025 EDITED HIGHLIGHTS

A resident of Radwell attended the meeting and declared that she wished to be considered to become co-opted as a Parish Councillor. This will take place at the next Parish Council meeting.

A resident of Felmersham attended the meeting and related her plans for decorated Christmas trees around the villages. The Parish Council will be considering the proposals and its implications.

Properties with overgrown foliage obstructing the highway or footpaths have been reported to the Borough Council for action.

The Borough Tree Officer has been requested to examine several mature trees of importance for signs of stress/damage which if not addressed could cause Irrevocable harm to these important features of both Radwell and Felmersham.

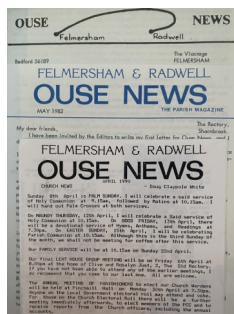
A "Contaminated Water" warning sign is to be placed on the Jubilee Lawn advising users of the river that you enter the water at your own risk.

The Borough has been asked to consider positioning wooden bollards on Radwell Green to prevent vehicles from driving on the grass.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 14th May at 7.30pm in Felmersham Village Hall.

ONLINE ARCHIVES OF OUSE NEWS

Jane Carwithen, keeper of the villages' archives



My thanks to Clive Just for scanning many many copies of Ouse News that had not previously been uploaded to www.felmersham.net.

They make fascinating reading and are a record of events and happenings in Felmersham and Radwell going back to 1981.

If you are at any point turning out, I am always happy to receive photographs, letters etc from villagers as part of the social history of our villages.

COFFEE MORNING ON SATURDAY 5th APRIL

Jane Wells

The bleak long months of winter are passing, it is becoming warmer so it is time to step out to meet and chat to neighbours and friends again over a coffee/tea.

The first **Saturday Coffee Morning** for this year will be held in **St Mary's Church, at 10.30am on Saturday 5th April.**

There will be plenty of chatter, coffee, tea and biscuits and a small raffle. The next coffee morning will be on Saturday 3rd May.

LUNCH TOGETHER

Jane Rhodes, Maggie Spoor, Jane Wells

Twenty-five people enjoyed another lovely soup-and-sandwich lunch at The Sun in March. Our thanks to Pete and his team for looking after us so well.

All are welcome to the next lunch which will be on **Friday 11th April at 12.30pm**, the cost is £7 a head (drinks not included).

Please book your place by ringing **Maggie on 782031 by Wednesday 9th April.** See you there!

TEAS IN THE CHURCH - WEDNESDAY 16th APRIL

Jane Wells

Teas in the Church will also begin again this month, the first one being on **Wednesday 16th April from 2.30pm - 4pm ish.**

Come along for a cuppa, a slice of cake plus plenty of interesting conversation. All ages are welcome. Looking forward to seeing you

GROWING YOUR OWN

Sue Whitehouse

Spring is on its way and if you have the time and enthusiasm to grow your own vegetables and flowers there are a couple of allotments available for rent. The rewards will be in proportion to your effort but fresh air and exercise are guaranteed. If you would like to know more, please contact me on 781300.

Online Link for Church Services

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

Also Thursdays 9.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom

**Request for the help from Felmersham & Radwell
Community Care Committee (FRCC Committee)**

**WE REALLY NEED YOU! WITHOUT YOU WE WILL DISAPPEAR!
CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR OR TWO FROM TIME TO TIME?**

We are Felmersham and Radwell Community Care. You will have seen our appeals for help in Ouse News on a number of occasions. However, we are now in serious danger of finishing our care in the community. There are very few volunteers and this terrific initiative is in serious danger of folding.

THIS IS WHY WE NEED YOU!

This service is for people who are unable to use public transport due to disability. Should you be interested in joining Felmersham and Radwell Community Care the duties involved would be as follows:

Collection of prescriptions

Occasional emergency shopping

Transport to local GPs, local hospitals, dentist etc.

Small team to take it in turn to have the Community Care 'phone on a weekly basis (usually just a handful of calls a week).

Travel expenses of 45p per mile can be claimed should you wish to do so.

Community Care has been going for over 27 years and we desperately want and need it to continue. This is not an onerous commitment and the more volunteers we have the lighter the duties.

This would suit anyone who finds they have some time on their hands and would like to get involved in a worthwhile cause.

To contact us please email Community Care at felmershamradwellcc@gmail.com or telephone the CC number: **07786 344176**

42nd Unlock Walk on Saturday 12th April

The 42nd Unlock Walk to Battersea, Kennington, Camberwell, North Brixton and Stockwell takes place on 12th April, 9am to 5pm.

Unlock exists to help urban churches of any denomination to respond to their local challenges.

<https://www.unlock-urban.org.uk/support/walk/>

To take part in the walk, or to sponsor walkers, please contact Roland Carpenter, St Peter's Church on 07801 750963.



Ouse Valley Mothers' Union

Easter Fun!
**A programme of
seasonal games and
activities**



Thursday 10th April at 2.30pm, St Peter's Room

New members and 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

Charity No.249814

