

MATT POULTER PLUMBING & HEATING

All plumbing and heating work undertaken
 Complete bathroom refurbishment
 Gas boiler Installation and service
 Air source heat pumps—MCS Registered and Eligible for RHI Payments



Checkatrade

07974212232 / mppoulter@gmail.com

www.poulterplumbing.co.uk



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

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



Friends

Revd Paolo Di Leo

The Beatles' enduring anthem, "With a Little Help from My Friends", distils a fundamental human truth: the necessity of friendships. This sentiment, far from being a mere pop lyric, resonates with the profound relational dynamics articulated within scripture and illuminated by the astute observations of C.S. Lewis.

In the Old Testament, Exodus 33:11 offers a striking portrayal of intimacy: Moses, we are told, spoke to God "face to face, as a man speaks to his friend." This speaks to friendship being a divine gift or even revealing the divine amongst us as we nurture friendships and find and make friends.

This Godly concept of friendship finds its divine climax in the New Testament. In John 15:15, Jesus, addressing his disciples, declares, "I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." Here, Jesus elevates his followers from a state of servitude to one of friendship, sharing with them the very essence of his divine understanding. This act of revelation signifies that friendship, in its truest form, is more than mere acquaintance, but incorporates a profound exchange of heart, mind and spirit.

C.S. Lewis, in his seminal work, "The Four Loves," dissects the genesis of genuine friendship with characteristic precision. "Friendship arises out of mere Companionship when two or more of the companions discover that they have in common some insight or interest or even taste which the others do not share and which, till that moment, each believed to be his own unique treasure (or burden)." The moment of recognition, the sudden realisation (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 MAY

Sun 4 May <i>Easter 3</i>	9.00am 10.30am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
Wed 7 May	9.30pm	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 11 May <i>Easter 4</i>	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 3.00pm 6.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's Churches Together Service for Christian Aid Week Holy Communion at All Saints Faith Explorers at St Mary's Evensong at St Peter's
Wed 14 May	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 18 May <i>Easter 5</i>	9.00am 10.30am 3.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's Choral Easter Holy Communion at St Peter's Faith Explorers at All Saints
Wed 21 May	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 25 May <i>Easter 6</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 28 May	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Thurs 29 May	Ascension Day	9.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom
Sun 1 June <i>Sunday after Ascension</i>	9.00am 10.30am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's

Dog Socials

Monthly Sharnbrook
Sundays 10-11am

Please message for more info and to book your space
Limited spaces
07789 585766 Dawn

OFTEC Registered Engineers
Fully Insured

'Local Family Run Business'

mark1heating

OIL FIRED BOILER SERVICES

Tel: 01234 328629

Mob: 07769 324331

info@mark1heating.co.uk

INSTALL - SERVICE - REPAIR
MAINTAIN - SUPPORT

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
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

Coming soon to your local theatre!

SHARNBROOK
MILL THEATRE

The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

GODSPELL

Conceived and originally directed by
JOHN-MICHAEL TEBELAK

Music & new lyrics by
STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Originally produced on the New York stage by
EDGAR LANSBURY / STUART DUNCAN / JOSEPH BERUH

This amateur production is presented by Music Theatre International

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTT www.mtishows.co.uk

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) that one's perceived singularity is, in fact, a shared experience, is the crucible of true friendship. "The typical expression of opening Friendship," Lewis observes, "would be something like, 'What? You too? I thought I was the only one.'" This 'fortuitous echo' as one might term it, is the very essence of finding a friend.

True friendship necessitates more than just a connection or acquaintance. It must by its very nature be a commitment offering support. A friend is present in times of need, offering practical assistance, emotional support, and unwavering encouragement.

With a little help from our friends, we can truly unearth the divine nature of friendship, a treasure of priceless value, a treasure God wishes us to have with himself and with others.

COFFEE MORNING ON SATURDAY 3rd MAY

Jane Wells

There will be a **coffee morning in St Mary's Church, at 10.30am on Saturday 3rd May**. Do come along for an hour or so of friendly chatter, coffee, tea and biscuits and a small raffle.

A note for your diary

The **June coffee morning** will not be on the first Saturday this month but on the second Saturday on **14th June**.

Everyone is welcome.

LUNCH TOGETHER

Jane Rhodes, Maggie Spoor, Jane Wells

Come and join us for a chat and a delicious soup and sandwich lunch at **The Sun on Friday 9th May at 12.30**. The cost is **£7** plus a little extra if you would like tea or coffee after your lunch. If you would like to come please ring **Maggie on 782031 by Wednesday 7th May** so that we can let The Sun know numbers.

Our thanks as always to Pete and the team at The Sun for looking after us so well.

Online Link for Church Services

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

Also Thursdays 9.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom

CM HEATING & MAINTENANCE LTD

Domestic Oil Boiler Service



SERVICE BREAKDOWN
OIL TANK INSTALLATION
The Oil Boiler Specialists

J.C Keep Tel: 01234 824400
Email: sales@cm-heating.co.uk www.cm-heating.co.uk

 Reg.No. C4348

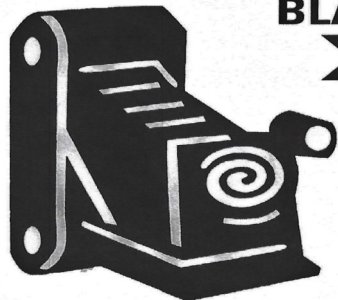
Pinchmill INTERIORS

Hand Sewn Curtains, Blinds and Accessories

Made to Measure Service, finished to your exact requirements

Contact Sarah Bunker on 01234 783220 or 07946 620821

Website: www.pinchmill-interiors.co.uk Email: sarah@pinchmill-interiors.co.uk




BLACK AND WHITE REVIVAL Helen Dawkins LRPS

- Traditional Photograph Restoration & Conservation
- Archival Storage: Antique Frames
- Darkroom printing
- Sepia Toning: Hand Colouring

01234 782265
www.blackandwhiterevival.co.uk

In business since 1992

Nutrient pollution risk: results frequency Jul 23 -Apr 24

NITRATE (MG/L)	5-10	VERY HIGH	6	6	8	3	1	0
	2-5	HIGH	4	10	3	0	10	5
	1-2		2	4	2	0	2	0
	0.5-1	LOW	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0.2-0.5	GOOD	0	0	1	0	1	0
	<0.2		0	0	0	0	0	0
			GOOD		LOW	HIGH	VERY HIGH	
			<0.02	0.02-0.05	0.05-0.1	0.1-0.2	0.2-0.5	0.5-1
PHOSPHATE (MG/L)								

CARERS TOGETHER

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

The next meeting will be at 2.30pm on Monday

MAY 5th & 19th

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

RP TESTA

PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES LIMITED

A professional service with over 30 years experience for all general plumbing and heating requirements and full design and installation for:

- ◆ CENTRAL HEATING inc. LPG
- ◆ BATHROOMS: inc. tiling etc.
- ◆ UNDERFLOOR HEATING



A LOCAL AND RELIABLE SERVICE

01234 781827

www.testaplumbingandheating.co.uk

River Pollution Update

Sue Whitehouse

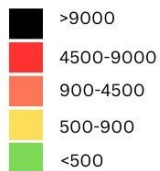
The April results for this year not yet being available, here are the e-coli results for this time last year which gives a rough indication of where we are this year. (The result for Sharnbrook relates to the brook and not to the river.) The picture in the winter is usually a lot more serious but all sewage outfalls are now discharging more than regulations allow. Many of our visitors will not be aware that the Odell sewage works is just round the bend in the river and a few people have reported illness after leisure activities in this and other parts of the river. The Parish Council has put up a notice to raise awareness. The work of monitoring is continually developing, organised by the Bedfordshire Great Ouse Valley Environmental Trust. www.Bedsgovet.org Follow this link to see what action is being considered:

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5901/cmpublic/waterspecialmeasures/memo/WSMB04.htm>.

As part of the Outreach programme, Bedsgovet with Bedford College are encouraging schools to take an interest in the effects on their local environment. A group of 'Eco warriors' from Pinchmill school is carrying out their own monthly tests of Nitrate and Phosphate content in the river as part of an environment project, recording and observing.

Great Ouse: E. coli Phase 2 results

Cfu/100ml - 900cfu/100ml
is max limit for safe bathing



*Ave covers period Jul-23 to Apr-24. For sites with no asterisk Ave covers Feb-24-Apr-24



Test site	07 Mar 24		18 Apr 24		Ave
Turvey	436	500	614	700	1182
Odell*	548	580	500	600	983
Felmersham*	2000	3300	1120	727	1,408
Sharn Brook	388	614	308	239	448
Stevington*	1000	1500	614	727	876
Bromham	6000	5600	196	261	2281
Kempston	580	687	192	129	770
Queens Park	727	462	117	123	973
Embankment	900	817	308	249	801
Kingfisher	580	388	196	276	657
Bedford Allen's Br.	600	1100	921	1204	2219
Gt Barford*	1100	1200	388	489	1048

Are you interested in knowing about the mission, restoration and running of St Mary's church?

Elaine Longstaff PCC Secretary

The date of the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting is Wednesday, 7th May 2025**; the venue is St. Mary's Church and it will start at 7.00 pm. There are two parts to the meeting:

- 1). Election of Churchwardens
- 2). Reports on mission, restoration and management of St Mary's church and election of members of the PCC.

If you are a resident of Felmersham and Radwell you are welcome to attend the first part of the meeting and vote for Churchwardens. If you are a member of the church electoral roll, you can also attend the second part of the meeting and vote for the election of PCC members.

If you would like to apply for one of the posts (eg. Churchwarden or member of the PCC) nomination forms are available from Elaine Longstaff (tel. 781957). We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 7th May 2025 at 7.00 pm. at St Mary's Church.



Concert for Azalea

A reminder that we are holding a concert to raise funds for the Azalea charity in St Mary's church on **Saturday 17th May at 7.30pm**. Janet Welsh will

lead the Ouse Valley Singers with Bridget Pierson-Davis and Alan MacKenzie as visiting soloists.

We hope to have a visit from a representative of the charity to tell us all about it and Pete Pestell may park his outreach van by the gate to show us.

All welcome.

TEAS IN THE CHURCH - WEDNESDAY 21st MAY

Jane Wells

Teas in the Church will also begin again this month, the first one being on **Wednesday 21st May 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

Christian Aid Week 11-17th May

Sue Whitehouse

Christian Aid uses donated money to address poverty and injustice worldwide, focusing on humanitarian relief, long term development and advocacy for change.

In this campaign they will work with a partner charity in Guatemala to help subsistence farmers whose crops are failing due to climate change. They are being helped to adopt new crops and growing techniques to enable them to feed their families.

An envelope will be supplied and, if you are willing to donate, please pop your donation through my door at 6 Trinity Close or go online to give directly to Christian Aid.

Thank you

Sharnbrook Bowls Club

Lodge Road, Sharnbrook



Lawn bowls

Target bowls

Bowls Bash

Open Day

Monday 5th May 10am – 4pm

It's doable, fun, sociable, inexpensive, health enhancing

First season for new bowlers: FREE MEMBERSHIP

Only pay for competitions and match fees

www.sharnbrookbowlsclub.co.uk

e: robhalls@sharnbrookbowlsclub.co.uk

m: 0777 579 2519



Ouse Valley Mothers' Union



**A talk by Revd Lionel Albon
and Sarah Russell about
Tibbs Dementia**

Thursday 8 May 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

