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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](mailto:janecarwithen@gmail.com)**  
**Items to be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON on 25<sup>th</sup> of the month**

# OUSE

# NEWS

June 2025

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



### The Ripple Effect of Words

*Revd Paolo Di Leo*

Our words seem to flow out of us like a never-ending brook of sounds and writings. According to British writer, actor, broadcaster, self-professed

Word Person and Scrabble fanatic, Gyles Brandreth, it is estimated that a person will speak 860,341,500 words in a lifetime<sup>1</sup>. That's a lot even for me!!!

From the friendly "good morning" on the village green to the quick chat at the pub, social club, deli or local shops, from sharing news of a local event to offering a word of comfort, our words like a stone thrown into a pond create a ripple effect around us and others. Without our words, it would be difficult to connect, to understand each other, and to make sense of life right here in our own small corner of the world.

From the moment we're born, we hear the voices of our families and neighbours, and soon we learn to speak back, sharing our needs, our joys, and our thoughts. Words are not just tools for communication; they are the creative force that allows us to share our unique perspectives and feelings, enriching and changing the lives of those around us. Without words our ideas and feelings would remain encased in our minds forever entombed to never fulfil their purpose.

Our words, no matter how seemingly insignificant, make an impact on those who hear them. We may not all be eloquent novelists or powerful orators, but the words we use every day within our village carry weight. A simple word of encouragement to someone tending their garden, a thank you to the volunteer at the village hall, a prayer for them in the church or a kind remark to a neighbour can brighten their day in ways we might not even realise.

Words are like windows into our thoughts and feelings, revealing or concealing our true selves. They can guide or mislead, offer comfort or cause pain, create clarity or sow confusion, and calm or inflame. Think about the healing power of a well-chosen word of support during a difficult time for someone in our village, or conversely, how a careless remark might linger, and cause hurt.

(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](http://www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org)



Welcome

### FORTHCOMING CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE

<b>Sun 1 June</b> <i>Easter 7</i>	<b>9.00am</b> 10.30am	<b>Said Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Wed 4 June</b>	9.30pm	Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Sun 8 June</b> <i>Pentecost</i>	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am <b>3.00pm</b> 6.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's <b>Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Holy Communion at All Saints <b>Faith Explorers at St Mary's</b> Evensong at St Peter's
<b>Wed 11 June</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at St Mary's</b>
<b>Sun 15 June</b> <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	<b>9.00am</b> 10.30am 3.00pm	<b>Said Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's Faith Explorers at All Saints
<b>Wed 18 June</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Sun 22 June</b> <i>Trinity 1</i>	9.00am <b>10.30am</b> 6.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's <b>Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Evensong at St Peter's
<b>Wed 25 June</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at St Mary's</b>
<b>Sun 29 June</b> <i>St Peter's Festival</i>	<b>9.00am</b> 10.30am 6.00pm	<b>Said Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Patronal Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's Songs of Praise at St Peter's



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### VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

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Babysitting	Lauren Smith 07392 188836	Vinyl and Carpet Fitter 8 years experience	Danny O'Grady 07720 779275
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985 228 116	Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Court- ney 783164
<b>Community Care</b>	<b>07786 344 176</b>	Dog Walking, feed- ing/ boarding	Ch. Tweed- dale 781279
		General Plumber	Frank Darrilulat 07768 511871

**Coming soon to your local theatre!**



**Tickets and more information**  
**[www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk)**

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre is a registered charity

(ctd from page 1) The writer of wisdom in Proverbs observes that *"Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body"*<sup>2</sup> and that *"The tongue has the power of life and death"*<sup>3</sup>. It is claimed that the firebrand philosopher Frederick Nietzsche wrote *"All I need is a sheet of paper and something to write with, and then I can turn the world upside down."* Words are that powerful.

Our words matter. Every day, we have countless opportunities to choose how we communicate. We can choose words that build relationships or create division, offer forgiveness or hold onto resentment, bring peace or stir up conflict, inspire hope or breed despair. Christians believe that God chose to speak to the world through Jesus, who spoke words of forgiveness, peace and hope that can transform lives and the world. We can do the same. *"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth"*.

What kind of ripple effect will our words have on someone today?

1. <https://atkinsbookshelf.wordpress.com/tag/how-many-words-do-we-use-in-a-lifetime/>
2. Proverbs 16:24
3. Proverbs 18:21

#### **LUNCH TOGETHER**

**Jane Rhodes, Maggie Spoor, Jane Wells**

The Sun Pub will be hosting the next Lunch Together on **Friday 13th June** at 12.30pm. The cost is £7 for homemade soup with a roll, sandwich, or toastie. Drinks are not included.

Thank you to Pete and his team at The Sun who welcome and look after us so well.

**Please phone Jane Wells (01234 782462) by Wednesday 11th June** if you would like to come so Pete can be given an approximate number of those attending.

#### **COFFEE MORNING ON SATURDAY 14th JUNE**

**Jane Wells**

**Please note** the coffee morning in **St Mary's Church** for this month only, will be on the **second Saturday in the month at 10.30am on Saturday 14th June**.

Do come along for an hour or so of friendly chatter, coffee, tea and biscuits and a small raffle.

The **July coffee morning** will be back on the first Saturday of the month: **Saturday 5th July**.

Everyone is welcome.



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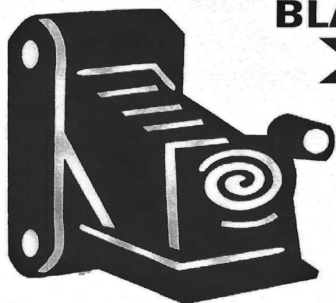
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**BULKY WASTE  
COLLECTIONS**



The Annual Rural  
Bulky Waste Collection Service

Saturday 16 August

Radwell Green between 8:00 and 10:00am

The entrance to Marriotts Close in  
Felmersham from 10:30 to 12:00noon

## CARERS TOGETHER

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

The next meeting will be at 2.30pm  
on Monday

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**

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](mailto:lindahoar@hotmail.co.uk)

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Without April showers of any note (where have they gone?), and record temperatures for the end of April and start of May, the park is quite dry. This is quite a remarkable thing to say after having been flooded many times over the autumn and winter!

Regular readers of this article will know that we are looking at all the work we need to do to retain the Green Flag Award for another year – so we have been fixing benches, cleaning signage, painting and treating wooden structures amongst a lot of other things.



Of course, the grass and vegetation has started growing well and we are busy cutting back the overhangs and keeping the amenity areas cut but leaving areas for wildflowers too. We are also busy at this time of year with school visits and educating a new generation of youngsters in the kind of bugs that can be found in the park or what can be found in the lakes with our pond dipping sessions – anything from pond snails and dragonfly larvae to water scorpions as well as the occasional water measurer or bullhead fish! Our park is very diverse, and we celebrate that sometimes through the sculptures that you might find around the park. Recently, we installed a new otter sculpture to be seen in the water from the duck feeding area – you'll have to visit if you want to know what it looks like!

Opening times for the Dragonfly Café are 9am to 4pm, seven days a week. Well behaved dogs are also welcome with doggy biscuits or a puppucino on the treat menu for your pampered pooch!

Every other Thursday, there are health walks around the park and/or local area. Meeting at 10:30am at the woodland entrance to the Dragonfly Café, they last about 1 hour. The dates are June 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>. More info can be found at <https://hocp.co.uk/get-involved/health-walks/>

We hope you enjoy your visits to our wonderful park! From the Country Park staff and The Friends of Harrold-Odell Country Park.

### Online Link for Church Services

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

*Also Thursdays 9.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom*

### TEAS IN THE CHURCH - WEDNESDAY 18th JUNE

Jane Wells

Teas in the Church will be held on  
**Wednesday 18th June 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.



### Concert for Azalea

Many thanks to all those who attended our May concert in aid of the Azalea Charity and who gave so generously. Louise Pestell gave us a brief talk about the work of the charity; your contributions meant that we could give £643 to this amazing charity which works with vulnerable people caught up in the sex trade.

Thanks to Bridget Peirson-Davis and Alan Mackenzie who returned from Spain to sing for us, adding something special to the occasion; also to Janet Welsh for organising the evening, conducting and playing, and the Ouse Valley Singers for their excellent contribution. A very enjoyable occasion.

### Pauline Tull

Karen, Colin, Ian and myself Adrian would like to thank everyone for their sympathy and kind words at the passing of Pauline. It was so nice to see so many of Pauline's friends at her funeral.

I am sure many stories and highlights of her life were remembered at The Sun, Felmersham over a drink or two.

Yours  
Adrian Hunt



**ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 14 MAY 2025  
EDITED HIGHLIGHTS**

Peter Hartop was re-elected as Chairman and Marjorie Pipe as Vice Chair. Pat Keeble was co-opted to the Council bolstering Radwell representation following recent resignations.

The Chairman read out a statement from the Parish Council regarding the Major Retrospective Planning Permission Application for land at the East side of Pavenham Road, Felmersham. A report in the form of a comprehensive objection letter commissioned from an experienced planning expert was unanimously endorsed by the Parish Council as the council's statutory response to be forwarded to Bedford Borough Planning Department. The Parish Council also approved a certain level of emergency expenditure to be available for further expert advice when required.

Ground works to improve the landscaping around the War Memorial were approved by the Parish Council.

The Parish Council requested that 2 "Entrance Gates" on the Felmersham to Radwell road are repainted to match the new replacement gate destroyed in a car accident last year.

The Parish Council acknowledged and thanked Neil Smith from Radwell for planting oak trees on the Felmersham to Radwell Road and undertaking "crown raising" on several of the more mature trees along the same road.

On Saturday 16 August the annual rural Bulky Waste Collection Service will be on Radwell Green between 8:00 and 10:00am and at the entrance to Marriotts Close in Felmersham from 10:30 to 12:00noon.

The proposed meeting dates for 2025/2026 are 9 July, 10 Sept, 12 November, 14 January, 11 March, and 13 May 2026 - all Wednesdays. The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 9:20pm.

**Ringling Changes**

**Sue Whitehouse**

On Thursday evening 15th May we had a full peal of just over three hours, a number of years since this has happened. Thank you to those who passed on positive comments and apologies to those who were not happy about the bell ringing and its timing. If we ever have another full peal, be assured it will be on a Saturday morning or not at all.

Bell ringers are a dwindling breed and those who do these long sessions are almost always visiting teams from another part of the country, as in this case, who are enthusiastic enough to travel and make the effort.

We are fortunate that our local ringers who gather from quite distant villages in the area are willing to give up their weekends for weddings and to ring for services in the Benefice.



# Ouse Valley Mothers' Union



**Talk by Hilary Tuohy**  
**about the services of**  
**Age UK Bedfordshire**

**Thursday 12 June 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

