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REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Tuesday	7.30pm	Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
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REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

1st Wednesday in each month	7.30pm Wednesday Sisters	The Sun
2nd Tuesday every other month	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room
3rd Wednesday in each month	7.30pm WI	Pinchmill School

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector	Revd Paolo Di Leo	(782000)
Lay Leaders of Worship	Rosemary Drewery	(07792 926 004)
	Jane Templeman	(07885 617 583)
Churchwarden	Sue Whitehouse	(781300)
Treasurer	Stephen Hill	(781064)

Editor : 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

February 2022

Parish Online: www.felmersham.net

Life's Little Pleasures

The aroma of coffee fills our nostrils as we enter the kitchen. We pour the pungent black liquid into our mugs in anticipation of its taste on our tongues. We are experiencing one of life's little pleasures at the start of the day. In many ways, life is an accumulation of unexceptional activities that enrich the lives of every one of us. Who can forget the simple joy of picking blackberries when a child? Of plucking the ripe fruit from the brambles so that it stains our fingers? Of then licking our fingers and feeling the juice tickling our tongues? Such joy!

Of course, not all our little pleasures are to do with taste. They are sometimes visual. As we walk from Radwell, we see the sun sinking in a red sky over Pavenham. Our hearts are just a little uplifted and we sense that perhaps a divine artist has splashed paint on the sky. Life's little pleasures fill our lives, but can so easily, and wrongly, be dismissed as being trivial. We can become jaded; we can begin taking things for granted.

So often we like to focus on the expensive foreign holiday we are going to book now that COVID-19 seems less dangerous. Or on the spanking new fitted kitchen we have ordered. Or on the FA Cup Final for which we have got tickets. All these events in our lives are special, and important because of that. But it is life's little pleasures that warm our hearts every day and bring us joy. "O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song?" ("Jubilate Deo") Ernest Carwithen

Header for February:

A Frosty Morning on The River Great Ouse by Angie Bessant

**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 FEBRUARY

Sun 30 Jan	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's (also ZOOM'd)
Wed 2 Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 6 Feb	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's (also ZOOM'd)
Wed 9 Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 13 Feb	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's (also ZOOM'd)
	10.30am	Holy Communion at All Saints, Souldrop
Wed 16 Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 20 Feb	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's (also ZOOM'd)
Wed 23 Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 27 Feb	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's (also ZOOM'd)
Wed 2 March	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
	7.30pm	Choral Holy Communion Imposition of Ashes



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VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

Babysitting (Felmersham)	Laura Hewlett 782063	Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman 782290
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985 228 116	Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
Community Care	07786 344 176	Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719
Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967 783246
Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164	Piano/Guitar Lessons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
Vinyl and Carpet Fitter 8 years experience	Danny O'grady 07720 779275	Maths Tuition (inc. A Level & Further Maths)	Geraldine Hubbard 781413

Great Expectations
Saturday 5th February, 7.30pm



Gerald Dickens, great, great grandson of Charles Dickens, returns to Sharnbrook Mill Theatre; following his triumphant solo performance of *A Christmas Carol* in December 2020

Tickets £16 (+ £1 booking fee)

The World of Gilbert & Sullivan
Saturday 12th March, 7.30pm



The Wandering Minstrels combine beautifully the wit of W.S. Gilbert with the enchanting music of Sir Arthur Sullivan; in period costume and traditional style.

Tickets £16 (+ £1 booking fee)

These are both fundraising events for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

The Last Five Years

Wednesday 6th – Saturday 9th April, 7.30pm

An emotionally powerful and intimate musical about two young New Yorkers who fall in and out of love over the course of five years. Cathy tells her story backwards while Jamie tells his chronologically. A stunning show from Jason Robert Brown, who also composed *Parade* and *The Bridges of Madison County*

Tickets: Wed. - Thurs. £14; Fri. - Sat. £15 (+ £1 booking fee)



We follow Covid guidelines as set out by the UK government.

Terms & conditions are available when purchasing tickets.

Tickets for all the above, from Pick-a-Lily, Florists, Sharnbrook in person, or

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

For Snowdrop Gardens to visit this Spring in Bedfordshire see
The National Garden Scheme
www.ngs.org.uk and the Eastern region



Online Links

For online services:-

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

The Password is: 079014

For 'Hall of Friends' every Tuesday at 10.30am:

the Link is: <https://zoom.us/j/99397336200>

The Password is: 019892

See <http://www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org/> for further details.

The new practice during the offertory at our 10:30 services will be continuing

In worshipful Praise and Thanksgiving, the collection plate will be presented at the altar at the start of the Offertory Hymn, dedicating all our offerings, (whether through cash, cheque, gift envelope, standing order, bank transfer, or online) to the expansion of God's work in this Benefice and beyond.

We will not be taking a collection, but worshippers will be free to make their donations - either physically or digitally - as they arrive (or leave) the Church.

JOHN HUNT

Adrian & Michael would like to thank everyone for their cards and messages following John's Passing and those that attended his funeral and donations received.

Special thanks to Monica Robinson for taking the service & John Bennett for his eulogy.

Thank you Michael Hunt

THE BIG BLUNHAM BOOK SALE IS BACK IN 2022

The Big Blunham Book Sale will be held on **Saturday 26th February 2022**

10.00 am to 3.00 pm in Blunham Parish Church, MK44 3NQ

There will be an enormous selection of nearly new books - specialist and fiction sorted into categories.

Homemade soup with bread, homemade cakes, hot dogs, teas and coffees served all day. Plus a raffle.

Please see www.riversmeetbenefice.co.uk for up-to-date information or contact Sue 01767 640572.

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CHANGES TO BUS TIMES

The route 50 timetable is revised from 31st January. The service pattern remains as before, but most buses are retimed to run around 10 to 15 minutes later in both directions.

An exception is the Saturday and school holiday timing of the first bus of the day, which runs **earlier** at 06.22 to Bedford and 07.26 to Kettering. The weekday term time schedule for this one is unchanged at 06.07 to Bedford and 07.11 to Kettering. These are Felmersham times, so plus or minus a couple of minutes for Radwell.



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Following feedback from our customers, you can now drop off your donated goods for resale anytime during our normal opening hours, **without an appointment.**

If you have many items to donate (more than a car load), it will remain helpful if you could contact us to book a drop-off appointment, so we can manage your donation efficiently. Please call us on 01234 720826. Our phones are monitored Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am – 4.30pm and Sunday 10am – 4pm. We sometimes received a high volume of calls. If you can't get through, please do leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thanks so much for your continued support.

Welcome to Stevington Cinema

Stevington Village Hall , Court Lane, Stevington, MK43 7QT

Stevington Cinema brings digital film and live theatrical broadcasts to Stevington Village Hall.

For Example this month:-

- Thursday 3 February The Last Duel (Film)
- Monday 14 February Romeo & Juliet ROH Live broadcast ballet
- Thursday 17 February The Book of Dust – La Belle Sauvage NTLive broadcast theatre

For full details and how to book see

[Stevington Cinema – www.stevingtoncinemaclub.uk](http://www.stevingtoncinemaclub.uk)



OUSE VALLEY MOTHERS' UNION

OUR NEXTMEETING

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 10TH 2022 @ 2.30PM (in St. Peter's Room)

Our Speaker will be

PETRA YATES

'Faith in Queens Park' Inter Faith Programme

Refreshments will be provided by Hanne and Audrey with thanks

VISITORS ARE VERY WELCOME

A suggested donation to the MU Charity of £3 (Charity No. 249814)

Please feel free to contact us with your views or a chat, discussions or help.

Jackie Biggs 782517 and Hazel Scott 781559

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Claire Lurcock

The committee do not meet in December, so we only have a couple of things to report this month. Firstly, due to unforeseen circumstances we will not be able to hold the quiz that was scheduled for 26th February but hopefully things will be back to normal for our usual November quiz. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

If anyone has any suggestions for events that could be held in the future at the village then please email us on frvhc@yahoo.com.

We are currently obtaining quotes to replace the kitchen and will report back once a plan has been agreed, but if there is anyone local that would like to provide a quote then please contact us at the email address above.

Finally, we are still waiting for a start date for the fence to be replaced at the park so will put a notice on the village Facebook group once this is confirmed, as the park may need to be closed for a few days.

Thank you.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 11 JANUARY 2022

EDITED HIGHLIGHTS



Traffic Data Monitoring

Traffic Data Monitoring during November and December recorded the highest speed in the Felmersham 20mph zone at 51mph between 23.00 and 23.30 on 18 November 2021.

The highest speed recorded in the 30mph zone in Radwell was 85mph between 18.30 and 19.00 on 21 November 2021.

Inconsiderate Parking

Borough Highways communicated with the Parish Council, on 7 December 2021, that they have been made aware of access issues suffered by Borough Council gritter lorries whilst trying to turn into Grange Road, Felmersham from The High Road. They have also been advised that Fire Engine access could also be difficult. The Borough Council reported that the cause of this nuisance is parked vehicles at the junction and are, therefore, proposing the making of a Traffic Order enabling the installation of Waiting Restrictions around the junction.



Winter Travel

The Borough Council has a dedicated winter updates page on its website to keep residents informed of changes to public, school and adult services transport as well as waste collection changes and information on road gritting. This can be accessed via <http://apps.bedford.gov.uk/winterupdates/>.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting and will take place on **Tuesday 8 March 2022 commencing at 7.30pm.**

JANUARY WI MEETING

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

The Pitfalls of Learning Mandarin

Our speaker, Ernest Carwithen had been fascinated with China from a very early age. When he finally did visit the country he was not disappointed. He spoke passionately about the countryside, the people he met and the food which he loved. He now runs a language school, teaching English to 5 and 6 year olds and speaks Mandarin. However, he did recount a tale of being introduced to a colleague's mother. Having rehearsed a phrase of greeting in Mandarin he mistakenly used the wrong Intonation on one word and called her a horse. Needless to say she did not take offence but found it rather funny.

Our next speaker, on **Wednesday 16th February at 7.30pm**, will be Nicky Perfect, an ex Metropolitan Police Officer who will give a talk on The Art of Communication - A hostage and crisis negotiator's perspective. Visitors would be most welcome.



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