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Tuesday	7.30pm	Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
Temporary opening	When pub is open for serving drinks	Book Barn	Open to use Cannot accept donations during this time
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 Tuesday in each month	7.30pm WI	Pinchmill School

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector	Revd Paolo Di Leo	(782000, 07968 606 377)
Curate	Revd Dr Diana Stretton	(07807 341 638)
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



HOUSE NEWS

OCTOBER 2022

Parish Online www.felmersham.net

From Revd Paolo Di Leo

'October Times'

Some months of the year seem to stand out more than others. They have become significant due to events that are associated with them, or they mark significant changes in our seasons, or some derive their names from ancient historical figures such as July named after Julius Caesar and August named after Augustus Caesar. December and January of course mark our Christmas and New Year Celebrations

October has always seemed a month that history has passed by and just seems to uneventfully pass us by. Even its name is unimaginative and simply originates from it being the eighth month of the ancient Roman calendar. You may rightly say "but September and November are much the same, they too are simply and unimaginatively named after the 7th and 9th month of the Roman calendar!" Yet September is now marked by the tragic events in New York on the 11th of September and has now also become significant in hosting the annual remembrance of Queen Elizabeth II. Not forgetting that September also marks and celebrates the equinox and the start of Autumn and harvest. November of course carries the heavy burden of Remembrance Day and All Souls Day, along with the spectacular November 5th Fireworks Day. Additionally, February has Valentine's Day and uniquely gains a day every 4 years, March brings Spring, April heralds Easter and of course May has May Day celebrating the joy of Spring and of course June and July which we look forward to as "the glorious summer month".

By comparison October seems ordinary, uneventful and unexciting. Yet October is a beautiful time of year. It's a time when the colour of leaves begins to change into a magnificent array of hues signalling that nature is gently preparing to hibernate, (Ctd)

PLEASE SUPPORT GORDON—SEE PAGE 4

Urgent Items Currently Required

Fruit Juice (Longlife), UHT Milk, Breakfast Cereal (not porridge), Tinned Vegetables, Cup-a-Soup, Tinned Spaghetti, Coffee (100g), Teabags (40/80), Tinned meat in sauce (e.g. curry, chilli), Jars of Curry Sauce, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Tomatoes, Washing-up Liquid, Anti-Bac Spray

**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 OCTOBER

Sun 2 Oct	9.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's Harvest Morning Service at St Mary's Harvest Evensong at St Margaret's
Wed 5 Oct	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 9 Oct	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's Harvest Choral Communion at St Peter's (ZOOM'd) Harvest Holy Communion at All Saints, Souldrop
Wed 12 Oct	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 16 Oct	9.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's (ZOOM'd) Evensong at St Peter's
Wed 19 Oct	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 23 Oct	9.00am 10.30am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's (ZOOM'd)
Wed 26 Oct	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 30 Oct	9.00am 10.30am 3.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's Benefice Pastoral Choral Communion at All Saints Evensong at St Peter's



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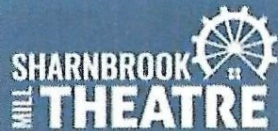
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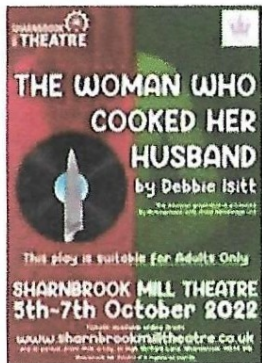
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VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

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



Your award-winning, local theatre
Patrons: Joanna David & Hugh Laurie CBE
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Wednesday 5th – Friday 7th October, 7.30pm

**A highly entertaining Comedy
by Debbie Isitt**

Kenneth and Hilary have been married nearly twenty years, but as middle age approaches, Kenneth finds himself in the arms of another woman. At first, Laura appears to be everything that is missing from Ken's life with Hilary - young, slim, attractive and a vibrant free spirit - but his little fling quickly becomes desperately out of hand...

THIS PLAY IS SUITABLE FOR ADULTS ONLY

Tickets £13 (+£1 booking fee)

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd

**Special Showing of ROYAL PAPWORTH HOSPITAL'S CENTENARY FILM
'PAPWORTH - A MOVING STORY',**

followed by **AFTERNOON TEA**, on Sunday 23rd October 3.15pm for 3.30pm

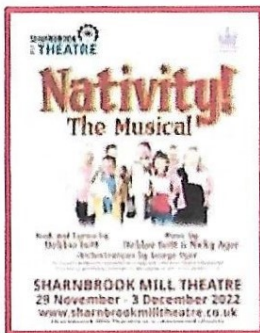
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Introduction by Ian Burton, B.Sc; C.Biol; MRSB; PGCE



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In memoriam Rachel Roberts

This is a fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre



TUES 29th NOVEMBER – SAT 3RD DECEMBER

Every child in every school has one Christmas wish: to star in a Nativity play. The only trouble is that teacher Mr Maddens has promised that a Hollywood producer is coming to town to turn their show into a film!
BOOK NOW! Charity Night is Thursday, 1st December, for Rotary Club of Rushden Ticket £15 including a welcome drink from 6.45pm. Call John Garley 01933 312668

Tuesday – Wednesday £14, Friday – Saturday £15 (+ £1 booking fee)
Group booking 10+ 10% discount (not Fri/Sat, nor Charity night)

Show tickets from Pick-a-Lily, Florists, Sharnbrook (In person) or on-line:

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

Online Link for Church Services

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

(Ctd. From overleaf) rest and recover and a time to celebrate the harvest that has been gathered in previous months. In similar vein we too need what I would call 'October Times' in our life. Times of uneventful refreshing stillness and the gentle healing peaceful passing of time, a time to also consider the good things in our lives as a kind of harvest.

'October Times' are gifts. When they come, we must try to accept and immerse ourselves in them, and not allow them to pass us by. 'The Lord is My Shepherd' is a poetical writing in the Bible known to many, whose opening stanza sums up how God offers us 'October Times' and the vital need to accept these times, letting their stillness, healing, rest and restoration gently bathe us and embrace us.

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul. Psalm 23:1-3*

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Sue Whitehouse

If you would like prayers to be said for someone who is unwell, or about whom you have concerns, there is now a book in a box in the Memorial chapel (to the right as you enter the church) where you may write a name or your own prayer. For the sake of privacy, please leave Christian or forenames only in the book and no detail that may identify that person to others.

The Memorial chapel is a space set aside for private prayer but if you wish to talk to someone please contact Revd Paolo direct or a church member known to you, who can contact the Pastoral team on your behalf.

COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 1st OCTOBER

PLUS THE SALE OF CHRISTMAS CARDS IN AID OF SAVE THE CHILDREN

The October Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration fund will be held in St Mary's Church, Felmersham, on Saturday 1st October from 10.30am.

This month Andy and Sue will be there with Christmas cards in aid of Save the Children. Come along to buy your cards in plenty of time for Christmas while enjoying a cup of coffee or tea.

There will be a small raffle and plenty of chatter! Do come along. Everyone is welcome. It will be lovely to see you.

A date for your diary: The November Coffee morning will take place at Riverside House, The High Road on Saturday 5th November

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CARERS TOGETHER

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and a chat

Our meetings will be at 2.30pm
on

Oct 11th Oct 25th

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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Gordon's Back This autumn and winter are forecast to be the toughest in economic terms for decades. Food banks have always been important, but now there is a new urgency to replenish their shelves as demand increases. Gordon the Binman first appeared in August 2020 and then changed his uniform and persona with the seasons up to last Christmas. Over this period, you generously donated huge quantities of toiletries, tinned and boxed foods for the Bedford Foodbank. Recently he has been taking a rest, but now it's time for him to wheel out his trusty bins again and ask you to help others get through a critical time in their lives.

Gordon will be at the Felmersham Church gate on Sunday October 2nd for the Harvest Festival service before returning to his usual pitch at the Old Bakery, Grange Road, Felmersham. In view of the seriousness of the situation for many in the Bedford area, he will remain for longer (weather permitting!) at his post than in the past. The situation is no longer something one short collection, however generous, can effectively influence and we hope giving can be sustained over a longer period this time. Please support Gordon, it really matters.



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Parking Restrictions

(PC Edited Highlights Ctd)

Bedford Borough Council issued a Public Notice and plans on 4 August 2022 of its intention to introduce parking restrictions on Grange Road, Pavenham Road, The High Road and Memorial Lane, Felmersham. The proposed parking restrictions at the junctions of Grange Road/Pavenham Road and The High Road/Grange Road in Felmersham are because of issues with inconsiderately-parked vehicles affecting visibility, safety and also the manoeuvrability of larger vehicles, such as the Borough Council's gritting lorries, at these locations. The proposals are intended to resolve these issues by ensuring the junctions remain clear of parked vehicles.

The proposed restrictions on Memorial Lane, Felmersham are due to a new access road/junction for the residential development off Memorial Lane, as it is deemed necessary to introduce some parking restrictions in order to keep the visibility splays for the new junction clear of parked vehicles. This will help ensure visibility and safety for all highway users. The Borough Council intends, therefore, to introduce "No waiting at any time" restrictions (double yellow lines) at these locations.

The proposals have generated many comments from residents, ranging from the unsightly appearance of yellow lines in a rural environment, the effectiveness of the measures without adequate enforcement, and the likely displacement of parking to other locations (that could eventually require further parking restrictions). There is also an increasing amount of street furniture, signs and markings that are, to some extent, 'urbanising' the villages. It is further acknowledged that the yellow lines will not in themselves provide any additional support to enforce antisocial/dangerous parking and may not, therefore, entirely solve the problem.

Parking restrictions of this nature should, however, act as a deterrent and thus improve access for essential services, emergency services and residents generally. The Borough Council has carefully considered the need and propose these parking restrictions in limited locations only.

Radwell Bridge – Visibility Concerns

The Parish Council had been made aware of several complaints from residents and concerns at the visibility at Radwell Bridge as a consequence of overgrown vegetation. Bedford Borough Council have been made aware of and acknowledged the need to investigate these concerns; appropriate action will hopefully follow the outcome of this investigation.

Bedford Borough Parks: Green Flag Awards

Environmental charity, Keep Britain Tidy, recently announced the winners of the coveted Green Flag Award 2022, the international quality mark for parks and green spaces. The Award scheme recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for their management across the United Kingdom and around the world. Nearby Harrold-Odell Country Park have again been included in this year's winners list.

Overgrown Vegetation

Several parishioners have complained or commented upon a few instances in Felmersham where overgrown shrubs and hedges are obstructing the highway, restricting the footpath or obliterating traffic signs. There is a requirement on landowners to cut or trim hedgerow that overhangs a highway, road or footpath and that obstructs public access and, in this regard, the Parish Council urges you to keep your trees and hedges maintained in good order for the benefit of highway and footpath users. This would be most appreciated.

You are responsible for cutting your hedges back to the boundary of your property. Could you please respond to this matter as soon as you can. Your support in resolving this matter is appreciated.

LADY FLORENCE

Coloratura Soprano

'She had no idea how bad she was'

Bridget Peirson- Davis, Alan Mackenzie and Janet Welsh present a **play with music on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th November at 7.30 in St Mary's Church.**

A new play with music in one act by Alan Mackenzie after an idea by Bridget Peirson-Davis performed by members of Chatelaine Theatre Company, based in Felmersham. First performed at Bedfringe, Quarry Theatre 2021, it received an award as a sell out production.

Florence Foster Jenkins was a very rich lady of New York, who thought that she could sing, but she couldn't! She regularly gave recitals in New York to the rich and famous but in a terribly distorted way. When she was 76 she hired Carnegie Hall to give a recital, and of course it was a catastrophe. The critics were merciless in their criticism, with scathing reviews. She had a heart attack five days later and died.

Free admission, retiring donations to the Church Restoration Fund.

Felmersham & Radwell Village Hall

We are sorry to say that due to lack of ticket sales we have been forced to cancel the Barn Dance which was planned for October 1st. Our thanks goes out to everyone who showed an interest and all those who supported us and hopefully it will be something that we could organise in the future.

However we do have the **Annual Quiz night** which is on Saturday 26th November. Tickets are £12.50 each and include food; a licenced bar will be available. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our AGM is on Wednesday 16th November at 7.00pm, everyone is welcome. Come along and see us and perhaps be inspired to join the team.

Felmersham and Radwell Community Care

October 2022 is the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Felmersham and Radwell Community Care, our own good neighbour scheme and one of the oldest in Bedfordshire.

We are a small group of volunteers, all of whom live in either Felmersham or Radwell. Some of our members have been with the group since its inception and I would like to thank them, and all our volunteers past and present, for their many years of help and support to our community.

The range of help we offer covers transport for hospital appointments, admissions, discharges or visits; GP and dental appointments, prescription collection; other journeys when normal transport is not available. We have two wheelchairs and a bed cradle available for short term loan. We could also help with occasional light shopping and dog walking. Ring **07786 344176** to speak to one of our volunteers.

We are always keen to welcome new volunteers. Over the last few years our numbers have dwindled somewhat due to people moving away or 'retiring'. It would be wonderful to think that Felmersham and Radwell Community Care will be here for another 25 years, so could you offer the group and your friends and neighbours in our two villages some occasional help? Or could you monitor the mobile 'phone which is held on a weekly rota? Volunteers do not take on tasks best suited to trained professionals or the emergency services but if you would like to know more please speak to one of our Committee members: Celia Hulatt (781082), May Mills (781788), Jane Rhodes (782138) or Maggie Spoor (782031). Thank you.

The Felmersham and Radwell Autumn Show was held on Sunday 11th September in Pinchmill Hall. Entries, particularly in the vegetable and flower classes, were much reduced this year after what has been a difficult growing season. But the judge was full of admiration for the grower of a magnificent celeriac - Sue Whitehouse, which earned her the Best in Show cup. Other trophy winners were Pat Keeble who won the Show Plate with a total of 7 'firsts' for her entries, and Pat Hartop who was awarded the Rosebowl for her winning dahlias.

The children and teachers of Pinchmill School had worked very hard in the first few days of term to create some amazing artwork especially for the Autumn Show.



As part of the Show the talented members of the Art Group again mounted a superb exhibition of their work. Brian Farmer's portrait of HM Queen Elizabeth II made a fine focal point in the Committee Room where members of the WI were kept busy by a steady stream of visitors who came to enjoy the delicious tea and cakes on sale. Our thanks to everyone who took part in the show whether judge, contributor, visitor or helper.
See you all next year!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 13 SEPTEMBER 2022

EDITED HIGHLIGHTS

Carlton Road Carriageway Resurfacing

Borough Highways have confirmed the temporary road closure of Carlton Road, Felmersham (between Hunts Lane, Felmersham and the junction of Felmersham Road, Carlton) during the period 4 October 2022 and 19 October 2022 (08.00am to 18.00pm) for priority carriageway resurfacing.

Traffic Data (during July & August 2022)

In Felmersham the highest speed recorded in the 20mph zone was 48mph between 9.00pm and 10.00pm on 24 August 2022; there were 63 instances where speeds were recorded at or above 35mph and 35% exceeded the 20mph speed limit.

In Radwell there were 2 instances of vehicles doing around 80mph. An instance of 80mph was recorded between 6.00pm and 7.00pm on 2 July 2022 and one of 81mph on 22 July 2022 between 12.00noon and 1.00pm. There were 57 instances where speeds were recorded at or above 60mph and 40% exceeded the 30mph speed limit.

The Parish Council expressed considerable concern and disappointment at the continuing problem of speeding through the villages and is keen to work with Borough Highways to explore possible options to encourage traffic to slow down and improve local safety and noise. The traffic data for an extended period of twelve months has been submitted to Borough Highways with a request that possible traffic calming options be considered to improve the ongoing problem with speeding. Bedfordshire Police and Borough Highways are also being encouraged to programme more regular visits to the area with speed detection vehicles.

Heavy Goods Vehicles

The Parish Council considered the continuing problem of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) using Pavenham Road, Felmersham for access and the significant problems that this causes.

Bedford Borough Highways had been made aware of the problem several times but, despite monitoring, they had not identified an issue with HGVs using this road and have, as a result, been reluctant to take action. Photographic evidence has, however, now been submitted to Borough Highways to hopefully strengthen the case for measures to restrict access to vehicles over a certain width or weight.
Ctd overleaf)



OUSE VALLEY MOTHERS' UNION

OUR MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER

will be on

Thursday 13th October 2022, St Peter's Room, Sharnbrook at 2.30pm



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Jackie Biggs 782517 and Hazel Scott 781559



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