

PARISH DIARY

Regular Activities

Weekdays	*9.00am-3.15pm	Pre-School - *Thurs 9.00-12.45pm	Pinchmill School
Mon	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tues	Approx 11.00am	Fishmonger in village - call 07803	201399 for info
Tues	7.30 pm	Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
Weds	7.30pm - 8.30pm	Zumba Dance Fitness	Village Hall
Thurs	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Yoga (term time only)	Village Hall
Fri	9.15am -11.00am	Parent/Toddler Group(term time only)	Portakabin
Fri	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Youth Club	Village Hall
2 nd Sunday	in each month at	7-10pm Sunday Sisters wine & nibbles	The Sun
2 nd Thurs	in each month at	3.00pm Thursday Club	Committee Room
3 rd Tues	in each month at	7.30pm W.I.	Committee Room
1 st Tues	every other month	(Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov) 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting	Committee Room

Services for August

Thu 2 Aug	Midweek Communion at 9.30am	St Mary's Church
Sun 5 Aug	Choral Communion at 10.15am .	St Mary's Church
Thu 9 Aug	Midweek Communion at 9.30am	St Mary's Church
Sun 12 Aug	Family Communion at 10.15am .	St Mary's Church
Thu 16 Aug	Midweek Communion at 9.30am	St Mary's Church
Sun 19 Aug	Choral Communion at 10.15am .	St Mary's Church
Thu 23 Aug	Midweek Communion at 9.30am	St Mary's Church
Sun 26 Aug	Matins at 10.15am	St Mary's Church
Sun 26 Aug	Benefice Choral Evensong at 6.00pm	St Mary's Church
Thu 30 Aug	Midweek Communion at 9.30am	St Mary's Church

Dates for your Diary

Fri 17 Aug	Final date for collection of Jubilee Mugs	Pavenham Road
Tue 21 Aug	Tea in the Church at 2.30pm to 4.30pm	St Mary's Church
Sat 1 Sept	Coffee Morning at 10.30am	Marriotts Close
Sept 1/2	10 th Annual Woodworks Festival	M. Mortaine Centre
Sat 8 Sept	Beds & Herts <i>Bike 'n Hike</i>	Various churches
Sun 9 Sept	14 th Felmersham & Radwell Village Show	Village Hall
Sept 6 to 16	Beds Walking Festival - for details email <i>organiser</i>	<i>@bedswalkfest.co.uk</i>
18-22 Sept	"Cash on Delivery" S'brook Mill Theatre 7.30pm	Sharnbrook
Sat 22 Sept	Family Bingo Night 6.00pm to 8.00pm	Village Hall

Rector and Rural Dean: Revd. Robert Evens (782000)

Curate: Revd. Thomas Sander ((781773)

Churchwardens: Jane Wells (782462) Ken Shrimpton (781381)

Published by St Mary's PCC Editor: Lorraine Shrimpton, 1 Trinity Close, Felmersham

Tel: 781381 or email: lorraine@felmersham.info

We welcome any items of general interest for inclusion.

All items should be with the editor by noon on the 25th of each month.



Village info. online www.felmersham.net

AUGUST 2012

Dear Friends

Have you ever got into trouble while abroad? The story is told of a group of tourists who went to Israel and arrived in Jerusalem to see the sites of the old city. Four members of the group were so engrossed in taking pictures of each other by the Wailing Wall that they ignored the summons from the tour group leader to go back to the bus. A little while later, they realised that they were all on their own in Jerusalem. That's when their problems started.

The four tourists decided to head back to their hotel. But no one could remember the exact name of the hotel. So they hailed a taxi, and asked it to drive around Jerusalem looking for the hotel. An hour or so later, the driver gave up and demanded payment. That's when they discovered that they did not have enough money to pay the driver. So the driver took them to the police, who demanded some identification. That's when the four tourists remembered that they had left their passports in the hotel safe...

Some hours later, the tour guide tracked down the missing tourists. They greeted her with tears of relief as she provided the police with their passports, paid their debt, and prepared to lead them safely back to their hotel. The police warned the tourists: "From now on, you stay close to your friend!"

Stay close to your friend. It's good advice for all of us. If your life is going in the wrong direction, if you have run up debts of wrongdoing, if you feel lost and alone, you need to take action. You need to stop going on like this. Turn around, and go in another direction.

The Bible calls this action of 'stopping and turning around' repentance.

Repentance is when you stop, and you turn to God. For the good news is that there is a heavenly tour guide on whom we can all call. Only God can save us from the mess we are in. He sent us his Son to forgive us our sins, to provide us with an identity, and, if we walk with him, lead us safely through life.

As the Bible says: “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23).

With every blessing

Robert Evens

AFTERNOON TEA IN THE CHURCH

Mums and dads, grandmas and granddads, are you looking for a pleasant afternoon out during August? Look no further!

Why not come along to our tea and cake in the Church, which will be served on **TUESDAY 21st AUGUST** from 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

It is a good place to meet your neighbours and friends, to meet new people and to have a cup of tea and a piece of home made cake while doing so. Bring along the children, toys will be available for them to play with. Looking forward to seeing you.



Jane Wells

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

There will not be a monthly coffee morning during August, just tea in the church on Tuesday 21st August from 2.30pm to 4.30pm?

The next coffee morning will be held on Saturday 1st September at 10.30am at the home of Celia and Geoff Hulatt.

SHARNBROOK LEARNING FOR PLEASURE

A very active group of over 150 members already participate in numerous activities on Wednesdays and Thursdays in Sharnbrook including Art, Photography, Table Tennis, History, Singing, Rambling, to name but a few.

If you are looking for things to do, including running an activity, I have details of the Autumn programme and the cost to take part is very cheap. For further details please email me at pkeeble2134@btinternet.com

14th FELMERSHAM & RADWELL AUTUMN SHOW

The date is **Sunday 9th September** in Pinchmill Hall. Schedules have now been delivered to each household – if you would like additional information please contact Maggie Spoor or go online to www.felmersham.net for details.

The Show is open to all residents of Felmersham & Radwell and to children who attend the Pre-School and Pinchmill Lower School. New for 2012 is a “*Best in Show*” trophy for the finest exhibit in the Vegetables, Fruits, Flower and Plants classes.

VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

		Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
		Electrical Services	Mick Bowyer 783472
		Financial Planning Pensions/ Mortgages	Stephen Rudd 783122
		French Tuition	Marigold Sykes 781801
		General Building Renovation work	Allan Levene 781918
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 782128	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967/783246
Children’s Party Entertainment	Samantha Cook 781859	Maths Tuition	Geraldine Hubbard 781413
Chemistry/Science/ Maths tuition	Peter Rankin 782897	Odd Jobs (babysitting / car washing / gardening / house cleaning, etc)	Isaac Perring 782733/07500828404
Community Care	07786 344176	Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719

THE 10th ANNUAL WOODWORKS FESTIVAL

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd September 2012 from 11 am to 5pm at The Forest Centre & Millennium Country Park, Marston Moretaine, Bedfordshire.

Two days of wood craft, trees, traditional skills, real ale, arena displays and fantastic folk and roots music at the Forest Centre & Millennium Country Park.

Chainsaw carving, woodturning, pyrography, children’s activities, horse logging, archery, weaving with nature, wooden toys, sheepdog displays, ferret racing, bushcraft, leatherwork, art and paintings, falconry, storytelling, loads of chances to ‘have a go’, lots to buy for the home and garden, something for all the family.

There will also be a fantastic music line up for 2012, featuring an eclectic mixture of new and familiar faces; exciting young artists and mature and seasoned professionals; traditional musicians and those experimenting with new ideas; singer songwriters and instrumentalists; local musicians and those from further afield, including The Gambia!

Festival entry: £6 adult - £4 children 10-16 (under 10 free) - £4 Concessions
For information call 01234767037 or visit www.marstonvale.org/woodworks

BEDFORDSHIRE WALKING FESTIVAL 2012

The fourth Bedfordshire Walking Festival takes place over 9 days from 6th to 16th September, with walks to suit almost all abilities. The 70 walks organised by The Ramblers Bedfordshire Area and supported by National Trust, Bedford Milton Keynes Waterway Trust, Long Distant walkers Association, Marston Vale Trust, Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Countryside departments, range from short health walks of up to an hour in duration to three to five mile ambles and interest/information walks to half day walks of between 5.5 and 7.5 miles to full day walks ranging from 9 to 15 miles to the real challenge of 40 miles over two days. All the walks are free.

Those with a sense of history are not forgotten, the two mills informative walk from Bromham Mill will see the magnificent sight of the sails flying on Stevington Windmill (with weather permitting) and a Bunyan walk from his city of destruction via his birthplace to his celestial city.

For some the highlight of the 9 day festival is on the last weekend with the RU4 THE CHALLENGE a two day walk along the 40 miles of the Greensand Ridge. Every year the challenge has increased in popularity and people wishing to either join the led walk or run/walk/jog, need to register. Participants can sign up for both days or just one day and we welcome anyone wishing to raise money for a charity of their choice. There is a £10 charge to cover organisational and transport costs.

To register go to: <http://ru4thechallenge.eventbrite.co.uk/>

For more information please contact Barry Ingram, Organiser, either at organiser@bedswalkfest.co.uk or walking@madasafish.com or telephone 01234 353704. Office hours up to 6-30pm Monday to Friday.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Sam Bance

The Village Hall Committee are looking for 2 enthusiastic parish members to join our friendly team; we are currently looking for a secretary and booking secretary. For more information please contact Marjorie Pipe on 781140.

OVERHANGING TREES, SHRUBS AND HEDGES

Parish Council

A gentle reminder to all householders, that it is their responsibility to keep their overgrown vegetation clear of roadways and footpaths. Your help will be much appreciated.

RINGING IN THE OLYMPICS

Editor

Did you remember to ring bells, bang saucepans or make a noise with anything to hand at 8.12am on the 27th July? If you did you would have been joining in with people all over the country signifying the start of the Olympics. Thanks go to the St Mary's bellringers (all from the parish) for climbing the tower to give us a splendid peal on that morning – you did us proud.

REVEREND THOMAS SANDER

Editor

The Bishop of St Albans (Bishop Alan Smith) ordained Reverend Thomas Sander as a priest at an ordination service held at The Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban, on Saturday 30th June 2012.



There were a total of 11 men and women being ordained during the Service.

A coach party of parishioners from Sharnbrook and Felmersham made the journey to St Albans to give support, along with Tom's family and friends.

Many congratulations from us all.

The photo (*below*) shows The Bishop of St Albans together with two other Bishops and

members of the Clergy during the "laying-on of hands" as part of the ordination service.

It was an extremely interesting and moving Service and an emotional, but happy experience for everyone taking part.

Over the following two Sundays two gifts were presented to Tom; a red stole from the congregation of Felmersham St Mary's Church and a purple stole from the congregation from St Peters Church, Sharnbrook.



W.I.

May Mills

You could be forgiven for thinking that the Women's Institute had converted to a Yoga class as we sat with our eyes closed in absolute silence – which is a first for us! Katy was giving us a taster of cognitive hypnotherapy at the conclusion of a talk by Dr Elizabeth Philipps on the benefits of good nutrition and weight loss. They have set up in business in Olney as 'Topfloor Wellbeing', with the aim of helping you to achieve your weight and health goals permanently, and Dr. Elisabeth concentrated her talk on demolishing the myths surrounding weight loss such as low fat diets, high protein diets and low calorie diets. Apparently, the worst offender is sugar which is in nearly everything we eat and which turns to fat in the body if we eat it in excess. In fact the top tip for overall health is to be aware of how much sugar we eat – and you can always have a hypnotherapy session with Katy to help you beat the habit!

DEFICIT AND DEBT

Ken Shrimpton

Over the last few years much has been made of our country's deficit and debt and it may be that some of us are not completely aware of the difference. However, as I write this I am becoming very aware of the difference because over the last few years St Mary's church has been running with an annual deficit and within the next couple of years we will be in debt.

Let me explain in more detail. At the end of the 2011 financial year the General Fund stood at £3,500 in credit, this year we forecast that there will be a deficit of £1,500, this means that by the end of 2012 the General Fund will only be £2,000 in credit. If this trend continues, the General Fund will be in debt by the middle of 2014.

When a country is in debt the government can issue bonds, increase taxes or print more money, unfortunately these "financial instruments" are not available to us at St Mary's. However, what we can do is to ask parishioners if they could please contribute, on a regular basis, to the General Fund thus keeping us out of debt.



It costs approximately £400 a week to keep St Mary's church open and this translates into 100 people giving £4 a week, every week! Four pounds a week may sound a lot to ask but it's only the price of a pint and a half of beer, 10 cigarettes, or two tall lattes at Starbucks! Please could you seriously consider giving a regular weekly or monthly contribution to help keep St Mary's church open?

Please contact Ken Shrimpton (781381), Jane Wells (782462) or Stephen Hill (781064) for more details. All contributions are gratefully received and are confidential. We are thankful to those who do give regularly.

Next month we will account for where the money is spent.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Sam Bance

Felmersham and Radwell Village Hall committee are holding a family Bingo night on **Saturday 22nd September**, from 6pm to 8pm at the Village Hall in Felmersham. There will be a fully licensed bar available.

Come along to a fun evening and bring your family and friends. Tickets will be available from Monday 27th August - please call Sam Bance on 782869 or Marjorie Pipe on 781140. See you there.

DID YOU KNOW?

- During the occupation of these Islands, the Romans created a Goddess called *Britannia* to represent the Province. She was shown sitting on a rock, wearing a helmet and holding a spear. *Britannia* is still used as a symbol of our islands today.
- The Roman God of Fire was *Vulcan*, often shown with a blacksmith's hammer in his hand.
- Some Romans enjoyed eating exotic foods, like Dormice. They would fatten them up, put them in a bowl with herbs, olive oil and honey and bake them in an oven.
- The man who invented the hypocaust system was a man called Sergius Orata and he did it whilst experimentally breeding oysters. He then bought up villas, put in a bath complex and sold them again at a vast profit. Some things never change!
- After the Romans left Britain, around the year 410, public baths and bathing went out of fashion. It didn't become popular again until the Middle Ages, 1000 years later.

JUBILEE MUGS

Parish Council

A final reminder to all youngsters 16 years and under living in Felmersham and Radwell who have not yet received their Jubilee mugs. The mugs will only be available for collection from Marjorie Pipe, Cassiobury, Pavenham Road, Felmersham (tel. 781140) until **Friday 17th August**, after which they will be offered for sale to the general public. Do not miss out; please collect as soon as possible.

SMILE-LINES FOR AUGUST

One Sunday our Family Service included two baptisms and many young children were there. In his talk, the Vicar asked the children if any of them knew what the font was for – and the answer came back: “for washing babies’ hair”!

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