

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	7.30pm Parish Council Meeting	Committee Room

Services for October – ALL SUNDAY SERVICES ARE NOW AT 11.00am

Thur	4 Oct	Midweek Communion 9.30am	St Mary's Church
Sun	7 Oct	Back-to-Church Sunday and Harvest Festival, (with croissants & coffee at 10.15m -Service at 11.00am)	St Mary's Church
Thur	11 Oct	Midweek Communion 9.30am	St Mary's Church
Sun	14 Oct	Family Service at 11.00am	St Mary's Church
Thur	18 Oct	Midweek Communion 9.30am	St Mary's Church
Sun	21 Oct	Choral Communion at 11.00am	St Mary's Church
Thu	25 Oct	Midweek Communion 9.30am	St Mary's Church
Sun	28 Oct	Matins at 11.00am	St Mary's Church
Sun	7 Nov	Patronal Festival Service at All Saints, Souldrop	All Saints Church

Dates for your Diary

Sat	6 Oct	Coffee Morning at 10.30am	5 Tithe Barn, Fel'm
Sat	6 Oct	Save the Children Christmas cards etc	5 Tithe Barn, Fel'm
Sun	7 Oct	Harvest Festival /Back to Church Sunday at 10.15am	St Mary's Church
Thur	18 Oct	The Life & Times/Country Builder at 7.30pm	Sharnbrook
Sat	20 Oct	Art & Craft Fair at 10.30am - 4.00pm at Sharnbrook	Methodist Church Hall
Sun	28 Oct	British Summer Time Ends	
Wed	31 Oct	Halloween	
Sat	3 Nov	Coffee Morning at 10.30am	Pavenham Road
Sun	11 Nov	Remembrance Sunday – at Memorial then church	
Sat	17 Nov	Quiz Night	Village Hall
16-24	Nov	West Side Story at 7.30am, Sharnbrook Mill Theatre	The Mill Theatre

Rector & Rural Dean: Rev. Robert Evens (782000) Curate: Rev. Thomas Sander (781773)
Churchwardens: Jane Wells (782462) Ken Shrimpton (781381)

Editor: Lorraine Shrimpton, 1 Trinity Close, Felmersham (781381) or
lorraine@felmersham.info

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



Village information online at www.felmersham.net

OCTOBER 2012

This month's header is an oil painting by Frank Summerlin, depicting the ploughman at work after the harvest has been safely gathered in.

HARVEST FESTIVAL AND BACK-TO-CHURCH SUNDAY

This year we are combining the Harvest Festival service with Back-to-Church Sunday and this will be on **Sunday 7th October**.

The Harvest Festival Service will commence at 11.00am but before that we hope you will accept an invitation to join us for coffee and croissants or cake, which will be served in the church at 10.15am.



Whilst you are chatting over your morning coffee and refreshments you will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for our harvest Tombola!

Don't forget, with Tombola every ticket is a winner and you will take home with you a reminder of this year's Harvest Festival. Perhaps it will be fresh vegetables to be served with your Sunday lunch?

All monies raised from this Tombola will go towards the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal 2012 (*Action for Hope*) which is helping to transform communities in the Caribbean.

Any donations of garden produce, fruit or tinned goods for this Service will be greatly appreciated and can be left in the church (in front of the screen) at any time during the week before 7th October. We will sort everything out into "Tombola size" prizes on the Saturday.

Don't forget – 10.15am for morning coffee and refreshments and 11.00am Harvest Festival and Back-to-Church Sunday service. We look forward to seeing you.

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

The October Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration Fund, will be held at the home of Margaret and Allyene Leach, who live at 5 Tithe Barn, Felmersham, on **Saturday 6th October at 10.30am**

Contributions of homemade cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be most welcome.

Everyone is welcome – please join us.

The November Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 3rd November, at the home of Jeff and Karen Stokley, who live in Pavenham Road.



Jane Wells

SAVE THE CHILDREN CHARITY

Save the Children will be holding the annual Christmas card sale in conjunction with the Church coffee morning to be held on **6th October** at the home of Margaret and Allyene Leach. Come along and buy all your Christmas cards and wrapping paper and support the work of the charity both at home and around the world.

SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE

♥ **West Side Story** – ‘.....one of the greatest musical masterpieces of all time’. 16th - 24th November 2012 - Evenings at 7.30pm - Saturday matinees 17th & 24th. NB: No performance on Monday 19th November.

For Romeo and Juliet substitute Tony and Maria, for the Montagues and Capulets, the Jets and the Sharks. All the passion and heartbreak of Shakespeare's 'star-crossed lovers', but set amid the violence of New York's gang warfare.

There is the added delight of Leonard Bernstein's songs *Tonight, I Feel Pretty, Maria, One Hand One Heart, Somewhere, America* - the list goes on! 'Tonight, tonight won't be just any night'.

♦ **Booking from 1st October** at Sharnbrook Post Office – in person and Bedford Central Box Office (01234) 269 519*. 10% discount for 10 or more (excluding Gala & Charity performance). *2 wheelchair spaces, easier access seating in Rows A – C: hearing loop Rows A – E.

Theo Gibbs

HALLOWEEN

Just a reminder, HALLOWEEN is on the way.....so take special care on 31st October.



Children (and parents), do make sure you watch out for ghosties and ghoulies and if you should venture out for an evening of *trick or treat*, then make sure it isn't a *trick*.....

Don't forget, our ancestors referred to this time as Samhain (pronounced "sow-in") and it marked the end of the *season of the sun* (summer) and the beginning of the *season of darkness and cold* (winter).



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

BRITISH SUMMER TIME – CLOCKS CHANGE

British Summer Time ends at midnight on Sunday 28th October. A good way to remember which way the clocks go is the saying *Spring Forward, Fall Back*. Thus in the autumn (the Americans refer to this season as Fall) the clocks go back one hour.

This could mean an extra hour in bed, or an extra hour to do those jobs you've been putting off? Which is it?!

Sharnbrook Ward Conservatives

(Sharnbrook, Souldrop, Knotting, Milton Ernest, Felmersham & Radwell)

invite you to

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A COUNTRY BUILDER from rural Suffolk ... to wonderful Woburn

The fascinating, personal recollections of Mr Harold Avis, Bedford Estate Manager, 1984 – 2008

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Ticket in advance: £6.50 (inc. 1st glass of wine) available from: Theo Gibbs
782377 theo@twhgibbs.plus.com

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL AUTUMN SHOW

Maggie Spoor

Trophy winners at this year's Autumn Show were Kevin Lovell and Peter Bance. Kevin won the Show Plate after gaining four First prizes, and Peter was awarded the brand new Best in Show trophy for his entry of Five Runner Beans - an excellent entry that, according to the judge, would have won a prize in any show. Congratulations to them both.

Below are photographs of Peter Bance (left) after receiving his trophy, and Kevin Lovell (right) receiving the Show Plate.



Photograph: Ken Shrimpton



Photograph: Maggie Spoor

Entries in all classes were reduced this year and it's difficult to know whether to blame a poor growing season or Olympic and Paralympic fever! Despite this the large number of people who visited during the afternoon had some excellent entries to view and art work to admire.

Congratulations and thanks to everyone who took part, it made a most enjoyable social occasion.

LOCAL HISTORY BOOKS.

Ken Shrimpton

Dread the thought! Here we are in October and I'm suggesting a present for Christmas! However at £9.99 each, "*Felmersham - The History of a Riverside Parish*" and "*Bygone Felmersham and Radwell*" are good value and well worth considering as a present especially if you are new to the parish. Both books have hard covers with lots of photos, some of which are in colour. More details can be found online at www.felmersham.net/historybook.htm

The books are available from Milton Ernest Garden Centre and Sharnbrook Post Office, and also from the author (telephone number 781381).

£400 EACH WEEK! YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Ken Shrimpton

Because there is a connection between the Church of England and the State (the Queen is the Supreme Head of the church and appoints bishops on the advice of the Prime Minister) then many people think that the State in some way financially supports the church. The C of E receives no income from the State. However, like all registered charities, it does receive an income from the Government in the form of "Gift Aid". If a taxpayer makes a contribution to the church and it is gift aided, then the church can claim back the tax from the government. So if you are an income tax payer, then every £10 you donate is worth £12.50 to the church provided it has been gift aided.

Many people believe that the Church of England is worth millions of pounds and therefore does not need financial support. The Church Commissioners, on behalf of the Church of England, manage an investment portfolio of £5.2bn derived from the Churches historic resources. In 2011 the income from this investment was £197.9 million, which is approximately 15% of the Church of England's overall annual cost. Most of this income is directed towards clergy pensions with the remainder being shared by all the dioceses of which the St Albans Diocese received £1.2m in 2011 (which represents 7.7% of the total St Albans diocesan budget).

This year, we are paying £14,728 to St Albans Diocese, the bulk of which goes towards clergy pay, pensions, housing and training. This is our share of the contribution by the Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Knotting with Souldrop. The formal setting up of the Benefice has not changed the basis of the calculation, which has operated since 1981 as though the merger took place at that time. We are currently benefiting from the Diocesan training programme with the placement of the Revd. Thomas Sander.

Like all parish churches, St Mary's church stands as a witness to the Christian faith and provides a house of prayer and praise to all who believe in God. We welcome people of all ages and denominations and our services are designed to accommodate the broad range of worship found in our rural community.

On Sunday 7th October we are holding our "Back to Church Sunday" Harvest Festival. This is an ideal opportunity for you to join us for morning coffee with croissants or cake at 10.15am, followed by the Harvest Festival Service at 11.00am. Look forward to seeing you.

THE CHURCH CLOCK

Ken Shrimpton

Several people have queried "why has the church clock stopped striking?" The answer is that the bell ringers are currently whitewashing the ringing chamber walls and the striking mechanism has been covered up. The clock will resume its duties again when the work is completed.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PLAY PARK AND VILLAGE HALL

Annette Freeman and Sam Bance

These vital village assets are self-funding by the village community and are managed by the village hall committee. Without your support these community assets will cease to exist.

So please come and support the village events run by the village hall committee to ensure the safeguarding of these important community amenities.

Events to keep an eye out for are:

ENTERTAINMENT THEMED QUIZ NIGHT on 17th November, tickets £10 per person, a maximum of 8 people per team and there will be a full team special offer. Tickets will include licensed bar, light supper and quiz.

Tickets are available from Annette (783085/annttfrn@aol.com) and Sam (782869/kevin348lovell@btinternet.com). All tickets need to be purchased 3 weeks prior to the event for the quiz to go ahead.

Other forthcoming events will include the famous Felmersham and Radwell Summer Fete/ Treasure Hunt and Duck Race.

Any other ideas for events are welcome.

DOING CHURCH DIFFERENTLY:

The elderly priest, speaking to the younger priest, said, "It was a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush bucket theatre seats. It worked like a charm. The front of the church always fills first now."

The young priest nodded, and the old priest continued, "And you told me adding a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church, so I supported you when you brought in that rock 'n roll gospel choir. Now our services are consistently packed to the balcony."

"Thank you, Father," answered the young priest. "I am pleased that you are open to the new ideas of youth."

"All of these ideas have been well and good," said the elderly priest, "but I'm afraid you've gone too far with the drive-thru confessional."

"But, Father," protested the young priest, "my confessions and the donations have nearly doubled since I began that!"

"Yes," replied the elderly priest, "and I appreciate that. But the flashing neon sign that says '*Toot 'n Tell or Go to Hell*' simply cannot stay on the church roof".

INFLUENZA VACCINES

Editor

The influenza vaccination is recommended for all patients aged over 65 and those in high risk disease groups. Details of dates are below.

Sharnbrook Surgery:

Monday 8th October to Friday 12th October - 2.00pm to 3.00pm each day also

Monday 15th October and Tuesday 16th October - 5.30pm to 6.30pm both days

No appointments necessary.

Harrold Surgery

Dates are not available - all patients who are eligible for the vaccine will receive individual letters from Harrold Surgery, inviting them to attend.

SAVE THE CHILDREN CHARITY

Andy Evans

Many thanks to all those who gave so generously in the recent door-to-door envelope collection in Trinity Close and Marriotts Close. We raised the excellent sum of £84.58 which will all go to support the work of the charity.

Thanks again

ART AND CRAFT FAIR

This will take place on **Saturday 20th October** at Sharnbrook Methodist Church Hall, from 10.30am until 4.00pm. Stalls are available, £10. Please telephone 781348 for stall details.

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CHERRIE'S 192 mile WALK

Editor

Cherrie, together with her companions completed the Wainwright east coast to west coast walk, 192 miles in total, over 14 days. Below are “before” (starting the walk at St Bees) and “after” photographs (finishing at Robin Hood Bay) but they all look as fresh as the day they started - I cannot detect any difference!!



Some days it was so wet they weren't able to take photos! The photo below shows the walkers at the end of their walk, cooling their feet in Robin Hood Bay!

Well done, Cherrie, many congratulations to you and your fellow walkers.



It isn't too late to sponsor Cherrie – all sponsorship money goes towards the refurbishment of the Memorial Chapel in St Mary's church – please contact her on Bedford 824713. She will be pleased to hear from you.

THURSDAY CLUB

Celia Hulatt

The July meeting took the form of a visit to the Prebendal Manor House, near Nassington in Northamptonshire. As well as the early 13th Century Manor House there is also a large medieval garden and dovecote. Artifacts from excavations carried out by the present owner, Mrs Baile, together with the history of Nassington, is housed in the Tithe Barn Museum, where very enjoyable tea and cake was served.

At the September meeting we were pleased to welcome the wife of one of our members, who brought along a selection of her hand-made, colourful patchwork quilts and other items which were inspired by their travels across America (and which included a few references to tractors!!). A very talented lady indeed, all her work is by hand, no machines are used.

The October meeting will be held in the Committee Room of the Village Hall at 3.00pm on Thursday 11th October. New members are very welcome.

W.I. - A STITCH IN TIME SAVES

Wendy Williamson

Following a panic 6.30pm cancellation on the night of our WI meeting, we had to find a replacement speaker pretty quickly. We were saved by one of our very own members, Janet Cook, who brought along her beautiful patchwork pieces and fabulous dolls she makes. No ordinary dolls of course but ever so slightly wacky with personalities all of their own. All made of silk with moveable parts and interesting costumes.

Janet also showed us her journal of patchwork squares she has made over the years, one a month in differing styles and textures, a true record of her wonderful craft. Janet travels widely to teach her patchwork skills including other countries and has won many prizes.

Last but not least she brought along a beautiful throw which was simply glorious. We were all mesmerised by such talent, a thrilling evening thanks to Janet.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday October 16th** an open evening to which everyone is welcome. Our speaker for the evening is television personality, David Fletcher, and his talk is called “*Behind the scenes in the showroom*”.

We are a thriving WI with 40+ members, lots of fun and friendship, so do come along and take a look at us.

THIS MONTH A SUDOKU PUZZLE:

					5		2	8
9	4					5	7	
2					1			
				5				9
4	7		8		3		5	1
5				9				
			5					3
	5	2					9	7
7	9		4					

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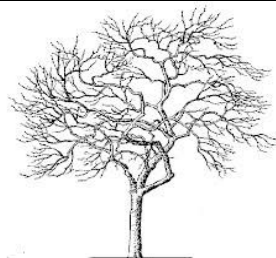
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		Maths Tuition	Geraldine Hubbard 781413
		Odd Jobs (babysitting/car washing/ gardening/house cleaning etc)	Isaac Perring 782733/07500828404
		Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719
		Pet Care Services	Annette Courtney 782809
		Piano/ Guitar Lessons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
		Soc. Psychology, Management	Anthea Coghlan 782332
		Zumba Fitness hannahjust.zumba.com	Hannah Just 07989 120367
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 782128		
Children's Party Entertainment	Samantha Cook 781859		
Chemistry/Science/ Maths tuition	Peter Rankin 782897		
Community Care	07786 344176		
Dog walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279		
Drain Clearance, sinks, toilets etc	Andy Sharpe 781180		
Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman 782290		

ANSWER TO SUDOKU PUZZLE:

5	9	8	2	1	4	3	6	7
7	6	4	9	8	3	2	5	1
3	1	2	6	7	5	4	9	8
2	4	3	7	6	9	8	1	5
1	5	9	3	2	8	6	7	4
6	8	7	4	5	1	9	2	3
4	3	6	1	9	7	5	8	2
9	7	5	8	3	2	1	4	6
8	2	1	5	4	6	7	3	9

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