

## REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Weekdays	*9.00am-3.15pm	Pre-School - *Thurs 9.00-12.45pm	Pinchmill School
Tues	Approx 11.00am	Fishmonger in village - call 07803201399	for info
Tues	7.30 pm	Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
Wed	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Community Shop - will restart in March	St Mary's Church
Thurs	7.00pm – 8.00pm	Zumba Fitness Class	Village Hall
Fri	9.15am -11.00am	Parent/Toddler Group(term time only)	Portakabin
Fri	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Youth Club	Village Hall

## REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

1st Sunday in each month	7.30pm Sunday Sisters	The Sun Pub
2nd Thursday in each month	3.00pm Thursday Club	Committee Room
3rd Tuesday in each month	7.30pm W.I	Committee Room
1st Wednesday in each month	7.45pm Pub Quiz	The Sun Pub
1st Tuesday every other month	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room

**CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY** (occasionally there are changes to the published details – please check the small notice board at the Lych Gate for weekly, up-to-date information).

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Candlemas</i>	11.00am	Parish Communion with Candlemas Procession and Rise and Shine
		6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook Church
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	<i>4 before Lent</i>	11.00am	All Age Communion
		6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook Church
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	<i>3 before Lent</i>	11.00am	Parish Communion
		6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook Church
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>2 before Lent</i>	11.00am	Choral Matins
		6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook Church
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am	Midweek Communion



**Parish Online: [www.felmersham.net](http://www.felmersham.net)**

**February 2014**

Dear Friends,

At this time of the year the days begin to noticeably lengthen, in fact the day lengthens by an hour and six minutes during the month. So, as the word indicates, LENT begins on Ash Wednesday, this year on the 5<sup>th</sup> March. Each time it comes around we are given a chance to know more of God and give to him more of ourselves and our love. That is the positive and liberating purpose of keeping Lent. This time of year is always forward looking – an invitation to adventure – to go beyond where we are. Some things during Lent will be repetition – but never mere repetition – rather they will be a creative and more disciplined doing of what lies at the core of Christian discipleship.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the courageous Lutheran pastor, writing from his prison cell in 1944, said of our various Christian observances: *In our traditional rites and ceremonies we are groping after something new and revolutionary without being able to understand it or utter it yet. That is our own fault. During these years the Church has fought for self-preservation as though it were an end in itself, and has thereby lost its chance to speak a word of reconciliation to mankind and the world at large. So our traditional language must perforce become powerless and remain silent, and our Christianity today will be confined to praying for and doing right by our fellow human beings. Christian thinking and speaking and organisation must be reborn out of this praying and action.* Those words remain thought provoking. They push the boundaries and clarify much of what the churches have been struggling with in our lifetime.

Looking back, every Lent will have been less successful than we would have liked. In the famous phrase, yes we will have missed the mark. But we face the truth to set us free. Truth is never discouraging precisely because it opens up the chance to start again. Here is the way to find hope and rebuild our intentions. Jesus' words spur us on, *anyone who wishes to be a follower of mine must leave self behind; he must take up his cross, and come with me* (Mark 8:34).

All we shall be doing in our congregation between Lent and Easter should help us to attend more closely to the call of Jesus and respond better to him. Daily prayer; nightly compline; definite, directed study; conversations and encouragement from our companions who share with us the bread of life; all provide vision, strength and determination. Through Lent we travel together not alone.

With every blessing,

Robert Evens

**MOTHER'S UNION MEETINGS - OUSE VALLEY DEANERY GROUP**  
The date of the next meeting is **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm.** On the Agenda is the **Annual General Meeting – National Marriage Week.**

All meetings (except for the summer garden party) are held in the St Peter's Room at Sharnbrook Church (access is through the church). If you would like more information please contact Caroline Evens at the Rectory, Sharnbrook or call her on 782000.

Next month (13<sup>th</sup> March) is Communion at 2.30pm. A very warm welcome is extended to all members and non-members.

### **Felmersham and Radwell Crime statistics for December 2013**

Incident	Date & Time	Location
DANGEROUS DOG INJURES PERSON - PUBLIC PLACE	15/12/2013 16:30	GRANGE ROAD FELMESHAM

If you have any worries or concerns and wish to speak to a local officer then please call Riseley Police station on 01234 842865 and ask to speak to PCSO 8423 Chris Warming-ton

Alternatively you can email at [LPT.CarltontoRiseley@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:LPT.CarltontoRiseley@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

### **Mobile Library**

**Edith Caldwell**

Since this is the time of year when it's good to sit at home with a book, I'd like to remind everyone about the Mobile Library. The van visits every two weeks on Thursdays: in Felmersham it parks opposite The Sun from 2.45 to 3.10 p.m. (next visit due on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January) and in Radwell it parks on The Green from 2.25 to 2.40 p.m. (next visit due Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January). It has a lift for those who can't manage the steps. To join, you need proof of identification showing your name and address. This is a really useful service which we don't want to lose, carrying fiction, non-fiction, large print, spoken word and children's books. You can borrow up to 10 books at a time and can also request books, either on the van or online, to be available on the van's next visit.

### **VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES**

		Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman 782290
		Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
		Electrical Services	Mick Bowyer 783472
		General Building Renovation work	Allan Levene 781918
		Odd Jobs (babysitting/ car wash gardening/house cleaning etc)	Isaac Perring 782733/075008284 04
		Painting & Deco- rating	Eric Barford 781719
		IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967/783246
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 782128	Piano/Guitar Les- sons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
Chemistry/ Science Maths tuition	Peter Rankin 782897	Secretarial/ Business Support Service	Ruth Barratt 781876
Community Care	07786 344176	Soc. Psychology Management	Anthea Coghlan 782332
Dog Walking	Melissa Facey 312385 or 7501328660 (Felmersham tel num- bers)	Daisy Bank Kennels Cattery & Grooming Centre, Fully Licensed and Qualified	Mrs Gee 01234 720241
Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Building Plans & Planning, Consultancy & Structural Cales	Bryan T Rance Associates MRICS 783191
Drain Clearance, sinks, toilets etc	Andy Sharpe 781180		

### **CHURCH OFFICERS**

Rector & Rural Dean: Revd. Robert Evens (782000)  
Curate: Revd. Thomas Sander (781773)  
Pastoral Assistant: Rosemary Drewery (07792926004)  
Churchwarden: Ken Shrimpton (781381)  
Treasurer: Stephen Hill (781064)  
Editor: Elaine Poulter (781133) or email [elaine.poulter@googlemail.com](mailto:elaine.poulter@googlemail.com)

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## Winter-into-Spring at Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Sat. 1<sup>st</sup> February - Movies at the Mill – *Quartet* at 7.30 pm. Licensed bar. Ticket £5 on sale now at Sharnbrook Post Office (in person) or email reservations [info@sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](mailto:info@sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk). Next film: *Argo* on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Sat. 1<sup>st</sup> March - Antiques Valuation Evening with Jonathan Reynolds, Mill Theatre, 7.30 pm. Details/Tickets £10 from Brian Woodrow 824323 or [bwoodrow@btinternet.com](mailto:bwoodrow@btinternet.com).

17<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> March – *On Golden Pond* by Ernest Thompson, nightly at 7.30 pm. A heart-warming love story of a spirited, loveable, aging couple, and the later relationships and difficulties they face in the twilight years of a long marriage. Touching, funny – warmly perceptive.

27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> March - *Bouncers and Shakers* by John Godber and Jane Thornton, at 7.30 pm. A Clubroom performance by Sharnbrook Mill Youth, a funny, intense and insightful evening!

• Tickets for both the above 2 shows will be on sale from 10th February: On-line: [www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk), or at Sharnbrook Post Office (in person). Also: Bedford Central Box Office\* - 718112 (Tourist Information Centre, St Paul's Sq.).

5<sup>th</sup> April - *Boobs & Brass* - The Mill Theatre 'Warm Up' Appeal and Breast Cancer Campaign present: A special concert by this All-Female Brass Band, at 7.30 pm. Tickets £10 are on sale now: [patabbott1936@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:patabbott1936@yahoo.co.uk) or 01933 358319 – early booking advised!

## Thursday Club

Celia Hulatt

Christmas was celebrated with a delicious three course Christmas dinner at The Mill House Restaurant Sharnbrook. Members and helpers were entertained after the meal with Quizzes arranged by Revd. Tom Sander and a musical sing-a-long. Karl and his staff were very attentive to us all. Everyone had a most enjoyable time. A Very Happy New Year to all our members and helpers.

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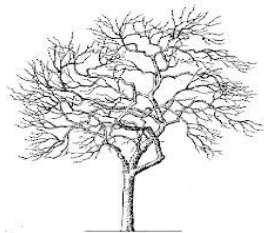
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## W.I.

## **May Mills**

There was a collective straightening of backs in chairs as Eileen Lewis explained the importance of good posture to our health and well-being. Eileen trained as a physiotherapist and acupuncturist and worked in the NHS for twenty years, before setting up her own practice five years ago. She said that diagnosing pain is difficult but emphasised the effectiveness of acupuncture, which is now widely accepted and supported by an ever-growing body of evidence. Her mantra was 'use it or lose it' – so reach for those walking boots!

Next month we will have a potted history of Denby Stoneware.

We are a lively group and welcome new members – if you think you would like to give us a try why not come as a guest (free of charge!) on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm?

## Village Minibus

## **Dave Girling**

The Villager minibus may be regularly seen stopping outside the Sun pub in Felmersham (unfortunately not for a swift pint), a less regular sight is passengers boarding the bus. The Villager service is driven by local volunteer drivers and serves a number of villages North of Bedford. On various days of the month its destinations include Northampton, Milton Keynes (also available from Radwell), Olney Market, Peterborough, Cambridge, St. Ives and Sainsburys Clapham Road (to the door).

If you have a concessionary travel permit then travel is free, but it is a scheduled service for any fare paying passengers at reasonable rates. If you, your friends or family are interested in travelling on the Villager, then please contact 01234 781920 for more information or check our website [www.villager-sharnbrook.org.uk](http://www.villager-sharnbrook.org.uk). Times are posted on the village notice board or you can pick up a full timetable from Sharnbrook Post Office.

The Villager community bus is also available for community hire (with or without a driver) provided it is not on scheduled runs. Please ring 01234 781820 for further information.

## Free Books Available

## **Anthea Coghlan**

I have a number of academic text books, suitable for post graduate study, in the following subjects:

Management Theory, Research methods (in particular qualitative methods), Psychology, Social Work Theory

Anyone interested is most welcome to come and browse and, if interested, can take away for free!

Please Contact Anthea Coghlan, Tel: 782332



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### COFFEE MORNING: SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY

The February Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration fund will be held at the home of **Rev Robert Evens and Mrs Caroline Evens, Sharnbrook on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 10.30am.**

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

Please come along. Everyone welcome.

The March Coffee morning will be held at the home of Ian and Margaret Coomber, Felmersham on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

### FLOODING INFO

**Ken Shrimpton/Marian Blyth**

Recent flooding has once again caused inconvenience to residents of Felmersham and Radwell. Probably the most annoying thing is to motor from Felmersham to Radwell or vice versa only to find the road is flooded. "Uh, if only I had known, I would already be at Pavenham!". Well here is the good news, help is at hand, and those who are members of Felmersham Forum already know this.

Go to [www.felmersham.net](http://www.felmersham.net) and click onto the "Real Time Flood Information" icon on the left hand side of the page. This will take you to a general flood information page about the local flooding. On this page you will find a link to the Environment Agency website for the actual (i.e. real time) river levels at Sharnbrook Mill. Currently the assumption is approximately as follows:

River Level = 0.76m then Radwell will be flooding

River Level = 1.15m then Felmersham will be flooding

Observations confirm the correlation is approximately right within 0.025m (i.e. 1 inch)

Clive Just has used this information to produce a traffic light colour coding system to interpret how the above observations MIGHT relate to flooding at Radwell and Felmersham Bridges. There is a link to Clive's coding system. It is only a rough indication – so you have to make your own decision on whether it is safe to pass or not.

### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY IN TIMES OF FLOODING

Should you be unfortunate enough to need to call 999 at a time when the river has flooded the primary access roads into the village please communicate this as part of the call. The dispatcher is then able to advise the crew of the best route to reach you following information that you supply them.

Recently an ambulance was called at 4pm on Boxing Day and it didn't arrive in the village until 4.55pm The delay was caused by the Luton crew not knowing that the roads were flooded and then not knowing how to avoid them. The Highways Agency should inform all emergency services of flooding but the message doesn't always get through to the crews on the ground.