

## 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 MARCH

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Parish Communion/Rise & Shine	<i>Next before Lent</i>
	6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Benefice Communion	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Midweek Communion	
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Parish Communion	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>
	6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook Church	
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Midweek Communion	
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Parish Communion	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>
	6.00pm	Taize Service at Sharnbrook Church	
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Midweek Communion	
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Choral Matins	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>
	6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook Church	
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Midweek Communion	
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	All Age Communion	<i>Mothering Sunday</i>



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

**March 2014**

## METHODIST MINISTER'S MUSE

Water, water everywhere, nor any drop to drink... Wherever we turn at the moment there seems to be water. Our hearts and prayerful concern go out to all whose lives and businesses who have been, and continue to be, so deeply affected by the recent weather. Whether we have suffered no more than inconvenience or have experienced personal loss the last few weeks have, for many of us, revolved around regular viewings of the news and weather forecast and trying to work out which bridges are passable from looking at *felmersham.net*. As a relative newcomer, I have been very grateful to those of you who have shared your expertise and local knowledge, helping us to acclimatise to an area more used than some to having to cope with so much water.

Nature is for us a two-sided coin. Bringing tourism and natural resources into our area on the one hand, the river Great Ouse can also become a source of anxiousness and destruction. How can we reconcile our need for the richness of natural resources on the one hand with the need for security and protection from the elements on the other? Throughout time there has been the tension between enjoying the world in its raw state and taming it to suit our own purposes. The dark storm clouds are at once awe-inspiring and threatening; thunder can be thrilling and menacing; swollen watercourses are picturesque yet alarming. When we look out of the window in that first glance at the clouds in the morning, we can have no idea of what the day will bring – from the point of view of weather, or from the more personal angle of the events that will confront us.

Biblical themes that spring to mind are the rainbow after the storm, illustrated in the narrative of Noah, reminding all of us that the hard times are not the end and that through it all God is with us, bringing light and refreshment and new life to come. This is picked up in Isaiah 43:2 *"When you walk through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you"*. Whatever we are facing, God-in-Christ IS there with us. There is no place, geographically or emotionally, that Jesus will not go to be by our side, sharing with us our pain and our anxiety, our struggles and our despair. As we

approach Lent and begin to consider once again the entirety of the Easter Story, let us be comforted and strengthened by the knowledge that Jesus went through everything that we do and more beside, and yet overcame even death itself through the grace and love of God.

As storms are to rainbows, so is the cross to the empty tomb. May the God of resurrection be your strength and your hope and bless you in all your ways.

Rev Gill and family

### WHAT'S ASH WEDNESDAY?

**Revd. Tom**

Ash in the history of Israel has always been understood as a sign on penitence, mortality and sorrow. In the Bible ashes are traditionally used to express remorse, a longing for change and at times a sense of loss.

In Genesis Jacob, on learning of the death of his son Joseph, “tore his garments, and put sackcloth on his loins, and mourned for his son many days.” *Genesis 37.34.*

Daniel, the faithful man of God, in praying for the people of his day seeks an answer from the Lord “by prayer and supplication with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.” *Daniel 9.3.*

Jesus in a stern call for repentance exclaims to the unrepentant in his own day “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.” *Matthew 11.21.*

From the Middle Ages it became customary to use this biblical symbol of Ash at the start of Lent as a means of recognizing our own personal need for sorrow and repentance, as well as a recognition of our own mortality. The main theme of Lent is one of personal longing and striving to be ready to live in the light of eternity, which Christ offers to us by his cross and resurrection. Through the liturgy of Ash Wednesday we begin our journey towards the life changing events of Easter with a sombre resolve to strive to be faithful to Christ in all that we do. In the service of Ash Wednesday we are marked on the forehead with the sign of the cross with the following words:

*“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return  
turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.”*

As Lent begins we seek to turn away from all that we do through ignorance or weakness or deliberate fault, which separates us from the eternal love of God. Our resolve at this time is to be faithful, to seek the goodness of God in the land of living and to trust in his unfailing love and compassion as we return to him in heart and mind.

**Begin Lent well...**

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES ON 5<sup>th</sup> MARCH:**

9.30am Benefice Holy Communion Sharnbrook (said)

8.00pm Benefice Holy Communion Felmersham (sung)

### VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

Babysitting (Felmersham)		Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman 782290
Babysitting (Felmersham)		Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
Babysitting (Felmersham)		Electrical Services	Mick Bowyer 783472
Babysitting (Felmersham)		General Building Renovation work	Allan Levene 781918
Babysitting (Felmersham)		Odd Jobs (babysitting/ car wash gardening/house cleaning etc)	Isaac Perring 782733/075008284 04
Babysitting (Radwell)		Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719
Babysitting (Felmersham)		IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967/783246
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 782128	Piano/Guitar Lessons (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 numbers)	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 Calcs	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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### LENT – what's it all about?

Are you one of those people who have “given it up for Lent”? Perhaps it's alcohol, or chocolate, junk food, smoking or (dare I say it) your iPad or perhaps Facebook? Will you keep it up? The 40 days of Lent refers to the number of days and nights Jesus spent alone in the desert without food, being tempted by the Devil.

Why is it called Lent? As Robert Evens wrote in last month's edition, Lent is an old English word meaning “lengthen” and is observed in spring, when the days begin to get longer. It begins on Ash Wednesday which this year is on 5<sup>th</sup> March. Ash Wednesday is preceded by Shrove Tuesday (shriving Tuesday) which some see as the last chance to indulge themselves before Lent begins! This day is also referred to as Pancake Day.

Lent continues for six and a half weeks until Easter and during this time Christians remember the execution of Jesus and then celebrate his rising from death. The last day of Lent is Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday (Easter Day) when, once again, it has become the custom to give chocolate eggs to children (and hopefully, wives, mums and grandmas too – who are sure to share with the men!!).

**Lorraine Shrimpton**

### EVENING PRAYER AND COMPLINE DURING MARCH

**Rev. Tom**

The following additional services will be held during March:

3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> March **EVENING PRAYER AT FELMERSHAM** at 5.00pm

5<sup>th</sup> March **BENEFICE ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNION  
AT FELMERSHAM** at 8.00pm

Thereafter Compline services will be held each week during March as follows:

Mon/Wed/Fri	<b>CANDLELIT COMPLINE AT SHARNBROOK</b> at 8.00pm
Tues/Thur	<b>CANDLELIT COMPLINE AT FELMERSHAM</b> at 8.00pm

### MOTHER'S UNION MEETINGS at Sharnbrook

**Caroline Evens**

The date of the next meeting is **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm**. There will be Communion in St Peter's Church. If you would like more information please contact Caroline Evens at the Rectory, Sharnbrook or call her on 782000.

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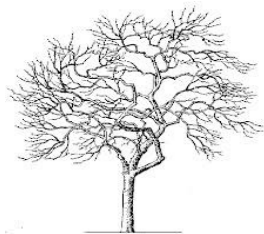
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## Ovarian Cancer Action

**Wendy Mansell and Anna Lewes**

Since we started fundraising for Ovarian Cancer Action one year ago, thanks to the support of all our friends, family and villagers, we have so far raised £5,435 plus £500 which we donated to St John's Hospice, Moggerhanger in memory of Jo Morris. We set ourselves a target of £10,000 so still have a way to go.

At the moment we are busy training and preparing for our Himalayan Trek at the end of April but on our return we are planning on putting on a Race Night in the village hall which we hope many of you will come along to, as we are sure it will be a good fun evening.

Survival rates for ovarian cancer are poor at under 40%. Very little is known about the causes of the disease and it is difficult to diagnose and treat. Ground breaking research is being undertaken and with our help and yours, we can make a real difference in raising awareness of this disease and its symptoms to improve the UK's poor survival rate.

As many of you will be aware, Anna lost her sister Tara to ovarian cancer in 2008, she was only 45. March is ovarian cancer awareness month and if you would like to make a donation please visit our fundraising page at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/greatbuns>

Many thanks for your continued support

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Ken Shrimpton.**

**Coffee Morning:** The March Coffee Morning will be held on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30am** at the home of Ian and Margaret Coomber, The Bakery, Grange Road, Felmersham. All are welcome.

The **Annual Parishioners and Parochial Church meetings** will be held on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30pm**. All parishioners are invited to attend.

**Rise and Shine** invites the children of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Soul-drop to "JUMP INTO JERUSALEM". Easter Holiday Club Mon 14<sup>th</sup> to Wed 16<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am to 2.00pm. See April edition for further details or ring Revd. Tom on 781773.





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**Marching into Spring at The Mill....** [www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk)

**1<sup>st</sup> March – Antiques Appraisal Evening** with Jonathan Reynolds - cancelled, with regret.

However tickets are now on sale for:

**8<sup>th</sup> March - Movies at the Mill– *Argo***, 7.30 pm, Bar, ticket £5 - Sharnbrook Post Office. (#)

**17<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March – *On Golden Pond*** by Ernest Thompson, 7.30 pm. A funny, heart-warming and perceptive play. Tickets £9 - £11. ^On-line: [www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk)~, or at Sharnbrook Post Office (in person); Bedford Central Box Office~ 718112 (#) (~booking fee).

**27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30 pm.** A Clubroom performance by *Sharnbrook Mill Youth*: Act 1: *Drop of a hat* - Improvisation; Act 2: *Bouncers* by John Godber. A light hearted, insightful evening! Tickets: Adult £8/Student £6. *Drop of a hat* replaces Shakers. ^Booking as 'OGP'.

**5<sup>th</sup> April – Boobs & Brass** –all-female band. Concert proceeds to Mill 'Warm Up' Appeal & Breast Cancer Campaign. Tickets £10: Pat Abbott 01933 358319 / [patabbott1936@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:patabbott1936@yahoo.co.uk). (#)

**27<sup>th</sup> April \*\*\*An Evening with Joanna David\*\*\***, actress in Film, Theatre & TV; wife of Edward Fox, mother to Emilia Fox and Freddie Fox; in conversation with David Saint. Also: The Milton Music Trio; Sparkling Wine Reception with canapés. Ticket £20 from Brian Woodrow - 824323 / [bwoodrow@btinternet.com](mailto:bwoodrow@btinternet.com). (#) Early booking advised!

(#) 'Warm up' Appeal Events for a 'Green Energy' based H&V System. Reg. Charity 242164.

### News from the Sun

**Hannah Just**

After a fun an snowy week's holiday in Germany, Ben and I returned to the pub ready for a busy Spring and Summer. We've got lots planned, (including a beer festival!) and are continuing to work hard to get the kitchen open as soon as possible.

You may have seen a (rather cheesy) photo of us in the Times and Citizen recently, after North Bedfordshire CAMRA named us the 'Most Improved Pub of the Year'. We are thrilled! We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported us over the last 8 months both before re-opening and since.

We've also welcomed a new addition to the team this month, our Pointer puppy named 'Burton'. He's still quite little at the moment, either asleep or full of beans! We are looking forward to introducing you to him.

### MOTHERING SUNDAY

**Lorraine Shrimpton**

This year the Mothering Sunday service in St Mary's takes place on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March, when children in the congregation will be presented with a posy of flowers to give to their mothers, as a "thank you" for all their care and love throughout the year. Although it falls during Lent it is a day when the fasting rules are relaxed, in honour of the "*Feeding of the Five Thousand*"; a story in the bible.



### **Felmersham Community Shop**

Due to the weather forecast for March the re opening of Felmersham Community Shop will now be on Wednesday 2nd April 2014.

The community shop will be open from 2 pm to 4 pm every Wednesday in Felmersham Church selling:

Fresh bread & eggs  
Homemade cakes & pies  
Jams, pickles, chutneys, honey  
Vegetables, flowers & plants  
Cards & stamps  
Cups of tea & coffee

The first Wednesday of each month there will also be a selection of arts and crafts for sale.

If you make, bake or grow anything, then we would like to sell it for you, the shop is run by volunteers. All we ask is you decide on the price you would like to receive for what you want us to sell on your behalf, giving a small donation to the church or a charity of your choice.

Email ~ [Rosemary@madewithlovinghands.com](mailto:Rosemary@madewithlovinghands.com)

### **Village Litter Pick**

**Derek Williamson**

There will be a village litter pick on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March from 10am-12 noon

Please meet at the Bus Stop in Felmersham or on the Green in Radwell

### **Bedford Foodbank**

**Roland Carpenter**

For a trial period during Lent this year, St. Mary's will join forces with other local Churches in supporting the Bedford Foodbank.

From March 2<sup>nd</sup> until Easter Day there will be a collection box at the back of the Church, where you can leave any donations of non-perishable food items, and also find copies of leaflets explaining the scheme.

In addition to non-perishable food items, the Bedford Bank also distributes toiletries and nappies.

### **TAIZE SERVICE AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH, SHARNBROOK**

**You are warmly invited to the Taize Service – in the spirit of Taize the Service will be ecumenical in nature – all are welcome**

A service of music and prayers from the Taize Community, France will be on

**SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH at 6.00pm at St. Peter's Church**

Anyone who has been to Taize will be aware of the powerful music and sense of prayer present in the community.

For more information on the community, please Google 'Taize'.

This service is particularly open to young people from the local area that may be interested in joining Revd. Tom and others to travel to Taize this summer on 26th July – 4th August 2014

### **Felmersham and Radwell Crime statistics for January 2014**

If you have any current issues or concerns and wish to speak to your local officer then please call Riseley Police Station on 01234 842864 and ask to speak to PCSO 8423 Chris Warmington. Alternatively you can email on [lpt.carltonriseley@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lpt.carltonriseley@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk).

Incident	Date & Time	Location
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS THEFTS NOT CLASSIFIED ELSEWHERE	13/1/2014 14:30	MARRIOTTS CLOSE FELMERSHAM
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	12/1/2014 14:00	SHARNBROOK ROAD FELMERSHAM

<b>Incident Type:</b>	Vehicle. <b>Location:</b> Moor End Road, Radwell
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Overnight on the 14th to 15th February.
<b>Incident Details:</b>	The vehicle was a Black, 0 9 registered, Toyota. The offender has gained access to the underside of the vehicle. The catalytic converter has been removed from the exhaust system.
<b>Crime Reduction Advice:</b>	Park in well lit and public areas, if you have a garage please use it. Be aware of any suspicious activity around parked vehicles. Always check that it is correctly locked, and all valuables are removed, before leaving the vehicle.
If you have information about any crime or suspicious activity please call the Control Room on 1 0 1 Text your message to 07786 200011 Alternatively you can contact the independent charity <b>Crimestoppers</b> , anonymously, on 0800 555 111, or online at <a href="http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org">www.crimestoppers-uk.org</a> . No personal details are taken, information is not traced or recorded and you will not go to court.	

## Village Hall Committee

**Sam Bance**

### November quiz night

We would like to thank everyone who turned out for our annual quiz night in November; it was well supported. We raised £1000.00 on the night and then we've given £1000.00 match funding from Scot Barden. The committee would like to thank them for their kind donation. This money will be used towards the upkeep of the village hall and playing field.

Up and coming events in 2014 from Felmersham and Radwell Village Hall Committee:

**Family Bingo Night** - Saturday 1st March 5pm - 8pm tickets are £2.50 each. There will also be a licensed bar and snack food available to buy and a raffle. Tickets are available from Sam Bance.

**70/80's Disco** - Saturday 10th May 8pm tickets. There will be a buffet, licensed bar available and raffle. There will also be a prize for the best fancy dress but you do not have to dress up.

**Summer Fete** - Saturday 28th June - 2pm

### Christian Aid co-ordinator needed

**Peter Rankin**

Christian Aid need a co-ordinator for Felmersham and Radwell. If you are interested or would like to know more please contact Peter Rankin on 782897. By volunteering you will be helping to transform the world, where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

If you feel you can help being a collector, please contact me.

## BRING AND SING

**Janet Welsh**

There will be a Bring and Sing of Faures Requiem on Saturday 5th April at St.Owen's Church Bromham. Rehearsal will be at 3 p.m. The cost is £5 to include tea, and the performance will be at 7p.m. All proceeds will go to the Church

Please contact me for further details  
Janet Welsh

## W.I.

**May Mills**

How many of us have a piece of Denby pottery dating back to the year dot? Sue and Bruce Edwards' superlative collection dates back to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (apparently one of the properties of clay produced stoneware is longevity!) Denby's enduring success is that they embraced innovation in manufacturing techniques and design beginning with salt glazed bottles for liquids and containers, circa 1809; decorated tableware, circa 1910; glazed and coloured ware, circa 1920; designer pieces for the sitting room, circa 1950. Green was the first colour used for glazing and we saw a number of styles of tea-pot including the '4 o'clock tea set' comprising tea-pot, jug and sugar bowl. The up-to-date designs in tea-pots, plates and mugs proved that Denby pottery is here to stay and Sue and Bruce Edwards gave us a tremendous 200 year history of an iconic British manufacturing company with a smattering of social history to boot.

Our next meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> is a talk about the Charles Rennie Mackintosh House at 78 Derngate Northampton.

## Village Minibus

**Dave Girling**

Last month I stated that the villager stopped at Sainsbury's. Due to a lack of passengers this stop has been removed from the schedule.

Villager Minibus Schedule 2014				
Pickup From and Return to the Felmersham Sun Pub or the Church				
Destination	Day of each month	Pickup Time	Location	Return Time
Milton Keynes **	2nd Tuesday	9.10 am	Sun	13.13 pm
Northampton	1st Wednesday	9.21 am 9.20 am	Sun Church	13.19 pm 13.20 pm
Cambridge	4th Friday (only if booked)	9.00 am	Church	16.10 pm
St Ives	3rd Monday (only if booked)	08.50 am	Sun	15.50 pm
Peterborough	2nd Friday	09.22 am	Sun	15.23 pm
Olney	Every Thursday	09.15 am	Sun	11.23 pm

It is advisable to book on services to Cambridge, St. Ives, Milton Keynes and Peterborough. To book a seat call the Bedford Borough Bus Line on 01234 718005 by 4.00pm the day before. \*\* Will stop at Radwell if requested.