

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

Tuesday 1st	8.00pm	Compline	
Thursday 3rd	9.30am	Midweek Communion	
	8.00pm	Compline	
Sunday 6th	11.00am	Parish Communion and Rise and Shine	<i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>
	6.00 pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook Church	
Tuesday 8th	8.00pm	Compline	
Thursday 10th	9.30am	Midweek Communion	
	8.00pm	Compline	
Sunday 13th	11.00am	All Age Communion	<i>Palm Sunday</i>
	6.00pm	Benefice Evensong At Sharnbrook Church	
Tuesday 15th	8.00pm	Compline	
Thursday 17th	9.30am	Midweek Communion	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>
Friday 18th	11.00am	Walk with the cross <i>Felmersham to Radwell</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>
Sunday 20th	11.00am	Parish Communion	<i>Easter Day</i>
	6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook Church	
Thursday 24th	9.30am	Midweek Communion	
Sunday 27th	11.00am	Choral Matins	<i>2nd of Easter</i>
	6.00pm	Evensong at Sharnbrook	



Parish Online: www.felmersham.net

April 2014

Dear Friends

This month I would like to begin by asking a question that's often fired at me on average about once a month: *'why do bad things happen to good people?'* Why indeed do bad things happen to good people? 'What have they done to deserve that?' – we find ourselves asking. Here we are dealing with issues of injustice. In my mind there are two types of injustice. The first is one which 'nature' might deal us (tsunami, hurricane, earthquake, illness); the second is what I'd call 'human' injustice (greed, lawlessness, hatred etc.). The first is open to comment, but not here because of lack of space. In any case it is more often the second form of injustice with which good people find themselves burdened. And why?

Sadly we do live in a world where sometimes those who deserve the best, end up getting the worst; those who've done nothing wrong find themselves losing in some way. It is the injustice of human being upon human being which facilitates this. Our susceptibility for power, greed and self-interest and sometimes sheer hatred in the face of those who are different from ourselves, takes root in the place where goodness should be planted and nurtured; to see the effect of this you need only look upon the gaunt faces of Syrian refugees, especially the children. The consuming greed of the Western world, politely called 'progress', together with our own less glamorous faculties takes no prisoners - in short there is a tendency to do what we want at the expense of others and the consequence of this sin is that sometimes bad things happen to otherwise good or innocent people.

The fact we live in an unjust world is evident to us now, just as it was evident to those who called for the crucifixion of the most humble, profound, fair and above all, good human beings that ever graced this earth. 2000 years ago Jesus took up his cross and went to Calvary, a man betrayed, loathed and mocked. Why? Because he wanted to take power away from the top and give it to the people, he dared to love the unloved, talk to the outsider, speak up for injustice, give goodness to all people. The threat was too much, the message was too subversive and in the end the world rewarded him with a mocking crown of thorns and a public execution. Bad things happen to good people – nothing changes. Jesus' fight to stand up to human injustice now falls to us who claim his name as Christians. Pray God we have his courage to take up our cross and follow him this Eastertide.

With every blessing,

Revd Tom

MOTHER'S UNION MEETINGS at Sharnbrook

The date of the next meeting is **Thursday 10th April at 2.30pm** in St Peter's Room at Sharnbrook Church (access is either through the church or outside at the back of the church). The speaker will be Yvonne Bell and she will be telling us about "*Silk for Sundays*". If you would like more information please contact Caroline Evens at the Rectory, Sharnbrook or call her on 782000.

Next month (8th May) is a talk entitled "*Faith and Beauty*". A very warm welcome is extended to all members and non-members

COFFEE MORNING: SATURDAY 5th APRIL 2014

The April Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration fund will be held at the home of **Tom and Jane Wells, Felmersham on Saturday 5th April 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 May Coffee morning will be held at the home of Geoff and Celia Hulatt, Felmersham on Saturday 3rd May.

My Ringing Story

Caroline Jones

One of the unexpected pleasures of moving to Felmersham was throwing open the kitchen window on a sunny afternoon to hear the church bells ring. Wedding peals in particular, to me, always sound joyous and full of hope and promise for the future. Looking back, it was inevitable that when Reverend Tom hosted a bell tower open day in 2011, I would find myself climbing the narrow staircase to the ringing chamber at St Mary's to see how one of my favourite sounds was produced. Inevitable again, that a few weeks later when Reverend Tom advertised for new ringers, I found myself nervously clutching the end of a bell rope while he whispered the immortal words "don't look up or you'll get pigeon **** in your eye".

Ringing works for me on many levels - I enjoy the physical and mental challenge of 'learning the ropes'. Ringers are a very knowledgeable, friendly and sociable group of people - Felmersham ringing practice often finishes up in "The Sun". In the spring and summer there are outings (and pub lunches) to bell towers both local and further afield.

As I get older I appreciate I'm continuing a unique English tradition. The bell tower steps are uneven from the tread of generations of ringers before me and now I'm playing my part. Surrounded by medieval wall paintings, I have the privilege of handling bells (the oldest dates back to 1617) which have been rung for centuries and hopefully will continue to be rung long after I have taken my turn. Ringing reminds me I am a thread in a rich tapestry and gives me perspective. An evening practice helps me slough off the cares and irritations of the day whilst ringing on Sunday morning enlivens and invigorates me. I'm very glad I've had the opportunity to discover ringing and grateful for all the patient tuition, support and encouragement from my fellow ringers.

If you're interested in learning to ring practice nights at Felmersham are Wednesdays 7.30 - 9.00 pm.

Dedicated to Roger James Foreman - a man who inspired others to reach for their dreams.

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		Painting & Deco- rating	Eric Barford 781719
		IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967/783246
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Chemistry/ Science Maths tuition	Peter Rankin 782897	Secretarial/ Business Support Service	Ruth Barratt 781876
Community Care	07786 344176	Driveway and Pa- tio Cleaning (Radwell)	David Rickard 07900677851 or 783589
		Daisy Bank Kennels Cattery & Grooming Centre, Fully Licensed and Qualified	Mrs Gee 01234 720241
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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
Items should be with the Editor by noon on the 25th of each month

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SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE

Camelot (Monday 19th - Saturday 24th May at 7.30 pm, also matinee: 24th May at 2.30 pm (19th Charity night: Save The Children) The musically rich, legendary tale of Arthur, 'The Once and Future King' by Alan Jay Lerner & Frederick Loewe. Booking from April 14th • (Evenings: £11 - 13; Matinee £10) on-line*: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk, or at Sharnbrook Post Office (in person only); also Bedford Central Box office* - 718112 (Tourist Information Centre, St Paul's Sq.); Groups: 781372 : 10% discount 10 + (excluding Charity nights, Fri. & Sat.) 2 wheelchair positions; easier access seating A-C; hearing loop Rows A-E : * NB Booking fee.

An Evening with Joanna David. (Actress in Film, Television and Theatre. Wife of Edward Fox; mother to Emilia Fox and Freddie Fox)... in conversation with David Saint. Reception: Sparkling wine with canapés. Interludes by The Milton Music Trio 7.30 pm on Sunday 27th April 2014 at Sharnbrook Mill Theatre. Tickets (subject to availability): £20 from: Brian Woodrow: bwoodrow@btinternet.com or 824323. *Early booking advised!*

Performers! Workshops and Auditions:

Macbeth: The Mill Theatre's inaugural Shakespeare production, possibly the bard's darkest and most powerful tragedy, will be on stage 15th - 20th September 2014. Workshops: Tues. 1st & Thurs. 3rd April 7.30 pm; Auditions: Sun. 6th April, 2 pm. (For details contact: Barry Thompson).

Miss Saigon by Claude Michel-Schonberg & Alain Boublil (*the School edition of the musical*) will be performed by Sharnbrook Mill Youth 14th - 22nd November. Workshop Mon. 26th May, Auditions: Sun. 31st May. (For details contact: Paul Wildman: wildchildtheatre@yahoo.co.uk).

Table Tennis

We are having a two week break after Easter, so there will be no table tennis on Tuesday 22nd or Tuesday 29th April. Weekly sessions will start again on Tuesday 6th May. New members are welcome. If you would like further information, please contact me on 781649.

Mike Benson

Sharnbrook Bowls Club

Our season starts outdoors in late April, and on Bank Holiday **Monday (5th May)** we have an OPEN DAY, where all are welcome—be they Novice or Experienced bowlers. Come Along and **HAVE A GO!**

Roy Durston

Secretary: 781660

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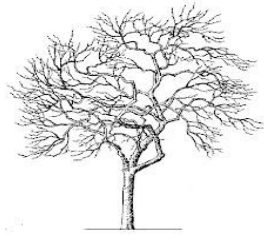
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SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK

** at Felmersham*



Monday 14th April	8.00am 8.00pm	Morning Prayer Sharnbrook Compline Sharnbrook
Tuesday 15th April	8.00am 8.00pm	Morning Prayer Sharnbrook *Compline Felmersham
Wednesday 16th April	8.00am 9.30am 8.00pm	Morning Prayer Sharnbrook Holy Communion Sharnbrook Compline Sharnbrook
Maundy Thursday 17th April - the day Jesus was betrayed and arrested	8.00am 9.30am 8.00pm	Morning Prayer Sharnbrook *Holy Communion Felmersham Holy Communion/Stripping of the Altar and Vigil Sharnbrook
Good Friday 18th April - the day Jesus went to the cross.	9.20am 11.00am	Good Friday Witness depart from Sharnbrook Upper School *Walk with the Cross Felmersham to Radwell
	12.00pm 2.00pm 7.00pm	Stations of the Cross Sharnbrook An Hour at the Cross Sharnbrook Service of music and readings for Choir & Congregation Sharnbrook
Easter Saturday 19th April	8.00pm	Service of Light Sharnbrook

WEDDINGS DURING APRIL

Saturday 12th April at 2.00pm. Nicola Povey and James Bell (James is the grandson of Lorraine and Ken Shrimpton).

RISE AND SHINE

invites the children of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Souldrop to

"JUMP" INTO JERUSALEM

Fun Packed Easter Holiday Club

at Sharnbrook Church

Monday 14th to Wednesday 16th April from 10am to 2pm

Journey with Jesus and his Friends from dark to light.

For more info call Revd Tom 781 773

ALLOTMENTS

David Folbigg

ALL rents for Allotments for 2014 should have been paid by 20th March 2014 . NO reminders will be sent, so I expect to receive all payments immediately.



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Recycling cartridges and phones

Peter Rankin

For some time, the value of both recycled cartridges and phones have been dropping.

The firm who recycle for Christian Aid contacted me last week as follows:

“Due to a change in the value and demand in the empty cartridge market, we are no longer able to offer a buy back value for empty cartridges on their own (there is only a small number of used cartridges hp and brother that we can accept). We appreciate you work very hard to raise money for your charity and for this we are grateful.” Basically, they will accept a limited range of HP and Brother cartridges if accompanied by unused or full cartridges/laptops/i pods/phones.

As such there is little value in continuing the recycling as in the past.

At the start we did raise a goodly sum but this has run its course. Thanks to all the people who have contributed in the past.

Tea in the Church

Teas in the Church will begin again in April **BUT** will now be on the third **WEDNESDAY** in the month to coincide with the Community Shop.

The first will be on **Wednesday 16th April from 2.00pm - 4.00pm.**

Please come along, bring your friends and neighbours for a chat over a cup of tea, a piece of cake and the chance to buy some home produce from the Community shop.

Tea in the Church dates for the rest of the summer are: Wednesday 21st May, Wednesday 18th June, Wednesday 16th July, Wednesday 20th August and Wednesday 17th September.

Offers of help on the days and/or to make cakes would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jane Wells.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

W.I.

May Mills

Ken Simpson is a Friend of 78 Derngate, Northampton and was therefore well qualified to give us a detailed insight into the history and restoration of this very special house. W. J. Bassett-Lowke bought the property in 1916 and Charles Rennie Mackintosh remodelled the interior, which was his last major commission and the only house he designed in England. The house fell into disrepair and following fund raising from a number of sources and a grant of almost £1 million from National Heritage, the Borough Council bought the lease, enabling the house to be reinstated to the original scheme. We saw ‘before’ and ‘after’ pictures of the restoration work which began in 2002, including details of a documentary by Eric Knowles following the work in progress. The extraordinary modern and striking interiors were faithfully reproduced by specialist contractors, and replicas of beds, cupboards, chairs and settle were made. W. J. Bassett-Lowke was recognised as one of Rennie Mackintosh’s most knowledgeable and progressive patrons and 78 Derngate is a testament to their unique partnership.

PLEASE NOTE: NEW DATE FOR APM / APCM

TUESDAY 22ND APRIL - 7.30 in the Committee Room Jane Templeman (Hon Sec PCC)

The Annual Parishioners Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting will now be held on **Tuesday 22nd April 2014** (NOT 1st April as previously published.)

The meetings will run consecutively, beginning at 7.30pm. Venue: Committee Room, Pinchmill.

At the first meeting (which will be very short) we will be electing Churchwardens. Nomination forms for Churchwardens are available: please see Ken Shrimpton or Jane Templeman.

At the second meeting we will be discussing aspects of St Mary’s Church life and management, and will be voting for the Parochial Church Council.

All members of the parish are welcome to attend these meetings and to vote for Churchwardens; you may also vote for election of PCC members if you are on the Church Electoral Role.

Please come and find out what’s happening!