

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
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 AT ST MARY'S FOR May (these are the regular weekly services for each month – if there are any changes to these services, details will appear inside the magazine and also on the small notice board at the Lych Gate)

Every Thursday morning	9.30am	Midweek Communion (20 minutes)
Every Sunday evening	6.00pm	Benefice Evensong at Sharnbrook
1 st Sunday in the month	11.00am	Parish Communion
2 nd Sunday in the month	11.00am	Parish Communion & Rise and Shine
3 rd Sunday in the month	11.00am	Parish Communion
4 th Sunday in the month	11.00am	Choral Matins
5 th Sunday in the month	11.00am	Parish Communion

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector & Rural Dean:

Pastoral Assistant: Rosemary Drewery (07792926004)

Churchwardens: Ken Shrimpton (781381)

Jane Wells (782462)

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



Parish Online: www.felmersham.net

May 2015

ROBERT'S COLLATION AT ASHWELL - A Personal Reflection

On Saturday 18th April the centre of gravity in this part of our region shifted very slightly as folk from Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Souldrop, and surrounding villages, made their way to Ashwell in Hertfordshire for Reverend Robert Evens 'collation' as Rector of the Benefice of Ashwell, Hinxworth and Newnham.

St Mary's Church, Ashwell is a beautiful church - large and lofty, light and airy; by the time the service started at 4.00pm, it was packed, not only with Robert and Caroline's family and personal friends, but also with hundreds of parishioners - both 'new' and 'old'.

Then there was the procession! Two choirs (senior and junior), churchwardens and parish officials, more clergy and lay ministers than one could shake a stick at, including the Archdeacon and Rural Dean - and, bringing up the rear in his splendid cope and mitre, the Bishop of St Albans. The procession went on and on, filling the pews and chairs in the chancel.

The service began: the hymns were rousing or contemplative in turn, the prayers and vows moving; the choirs sang magnificently (including Parry's 'I was Glad'), and the Archbishop preached an inspirational sermon on reflecting Christ to others in our actions and our lives.

During the service, Robert was led to the door and handed the keys, led to bell-ropes and rang a bell, took the oath to obey the Church of England service rules, signed agreements, inspected the parish maps, made declarations and vows, and was ceremoniously 'installed' in his special chair.

Then came the queue of his new parishioners - with a flagon of water for baptism, bread and wine for Communion, a Bible, and a series of welcome greetings from representatives of the parish, young and old.

It seemed, for all the world, like a miniature coronation in a country church – an extraordinary blend of ritual and commonplace, of the legal and the sacred.

And then of course, there was Robert. Amidst all the grandeur and the formality, he was so much the same Robert, the Robert who led Morning Prayer or preached to a handful at a dark winter's Evensong or to a large and joyful congregation on Easter Day, or strolled into a coffee morning, or held a hand, or cracked a joke – the same Robert.

And so the service – beautiful, moving, uplifting, grand at times, tinged with sadness for us who were seeing him go - was also, in some indefinable way, 'comfortable'.

Robert was there so everything would be fine. And it was.

Jane Templeman

MESSAGE FROM ROBERT AND CAROLINE

We are beginning to settle into our new home in Ashwell. Everything felt very strange at first, but we are slowly finding our feet (although many things are still missing – presumably in boxes!)

The dogs are enjoying the freedom of an enclosed garden and exploring new walks.

We took a break from unpacking and went to Norfolk for Holy Week and Easter. Quite unusual for a priest to take Easter off, but we were able to recharge our batteries and are now back in Ashwell getting ready for the collation on the 18th April.

Thank you to all our lovely friends for the marvellous last week you gave us in the benefice. The hospitality, many gifts and cards which we have so gratefully received. The cards are strung up around the house and will be re-read when they come down. Such kind words from you all.

With every blessing

Robert and Caroline

Church yard spring clean - 7th June

Sue Whitehouse

Every summer the church yard needs a bit of a tidy up to clear weeds, stop ivy from damaging stonework and generally keep things presentable.

If you can spare just two hours on Sunday afternoon 7th June from 2-4pm, I will be very pleased to have your help. Tea and biscuits will be served. Please bring basic gardening hand tools and gloves.

Similar follow up sessions will be held on 5th July, 9th August and 13th September, but I will post reminders in Ouse News so as not to disappoint the keen volunteer!

VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

		Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman 782290
		Electrical Services	Martin Blizzard 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
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 782128	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967/783246
Chemistry/ Science Maths tuition	Peter Rankin 782897	Piano/Guitar Les- sons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
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
Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Fencing Services	Tom Brett 783164
Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164	Drain Clearance, sinks, toilets etc	Andy Sharpe 781180

Crime Statistics for Felmersham and Radwell—for the period 28/02/2015 to 01/04/2015

Offence Class Description	Committed	Address
BURGLARY IN A BUILDING OTHER THAN A DWELLING - ATTEMPTED	19/3/2015 20:00	THE HIGH ROAD FELMERSHAM
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS THEFTS NOT CLASSIFIED ELSEWHERE	27/2/2015 16:00	PAVENHAM ROAD FELMERSHAM

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ROGATION WALK - Sunday 10th May

Jane Templeman

Meet: St Mary's, Felmersham - Start: **4.00pm** - Destination: Sharnbrook

We leave from St Mary's at 4.00pm for the walk across the fields to St. Peter's. On the way, we shall pause at various places for a short reading or prayer.

All are very welcome – look out the walking boots, or the wellies!

Refreshments: Available on arrival in Sharnbrook – tea and cake, and a chance to relax. Do join us on this Rogation Walk.

You are welcome to stay for Evensong in St Peter's at 6.00pm. if you wish.

[The Rogation Walk is an old custom, echoing that of walking the parish boundary - 'beating the bounds'.] (See Ken Shrimpton's book for more details.)

ASCENSION DAY - Thursday 14th May

Jane Templeman

Mid-week Holy Communion at 9.30am in St Mary's Felmersham to celebrate Ascension Day in the Benefice. All welcome ...

After the service there will be a further [five minute] gathering in the churchyard to mark this day. Do stay if you'd like to participate.

Deanery Ascension Day Service: Evening of Ascension Day 14th May
Place / Time: Upper Dean Church at 7.30pm

All are most welcome – please let us know if you need a lift.

RISE AND SHINE at FAMILY COMMUNION –

Meeting: Second Sunday of each month

Place: St Mary's Church

Time: 11.00am

During the first part of Family Communion each month, there will be organized (quiet!) craft activities for children in the church, and short activities outside (weather permitting). Children can then watch and be part of the second part of the service. Afterwards there will be refreshments for all.

Children aged 3 and over are very welcome – those under 6 years must be accompanied by parent / carer, please; all parents are very welcome, of course. We look forward very much to seeing you – do come along to the next Family Communion on 10th May.
(Jane Templeman / Sue Whitehouse)

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COFFEE MORNING: SATURDAY 2ND MAY 2015

Jane Wells

The May Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration fund will be hosted by Sue Whitehouse at St. Mary's Church, Felmersham, **on Saturday 2nd May 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 June coffee morning will be hosted by Derek and Wendy Williamson also in the Church on Saturday 6th June

Tea In Church and Local Fresh Produce

Jane Wells

Tea In the Church in conjunction with Local Fresh Produce being sold will be held on **WEDNESDAY 20th May from 2.30pm – 4.30pm**

Do come along to buy fresh veg, eggs, bread etc. and have a cup of tea and a piece of cake and friendly chatter while doing so.

Everyone Welcome

Other dates during the summer months for the above: 17th June, 15th July, 19th Aug and 16th Sept.

If you haven't been before or are new to the village, it is a great way to meet your neighbours and to hear what is going on in the village.

Do come along



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SPRING INTO SUMMER at SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE



- **Actors! Gasping by Ben Elton** (actors aged 16-25 only); workshop 1st July 7.30 pm, Auditions 3rd July; Show dates 3rd – 5th Sept. Details: Paul Wildman: wildchildtheatre.yahoo.com.
- **Lunch @ The Mill~ Wednesday 13th May** 12 noon for 12.30 pm, followed by a talk from *David Saint on Murders and Mysteries*. Ticket £15 brenda.stafford@talk21.com or 823060.
- **Merrily We Roll Along ♪ Mon. 8th – Sat. 13th June** – thrilling and compelling Broadway musical fable. Music & lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by George Furth; based on the original play by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart. Nightly at 7.30 pm. Tickets on sale now! £11 - £13 on-line sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk and from Sharnbrook Post Office (in person), Bedford Central Box Office 718112/ No 13 Corn Exchange.
- **Dames at Tea~ Sunday 28th June – Joanna David and Phyllida Law**, mothers to Emilia Fox and Freddie Fox - Emma Thompson and Sophie Thompson, talk with David Saint about their families and their careers. Fizz & Afternoon Tea. 2.30 for 3 pm. Tickets; £20 from Douglas Pope: Tel: 01933 356974/ email: mail@douglaspope.com; Brian Woodrow Tel: 01234 349455/email: bwoodrow@btinternet.com; Sharnbrook Post Office in person.

~ A 'Warm up' Appeal. Event, raising funds for a green-energy based heating and natural ventilation system at The Mill Theatre. Reg. Charity 242164 www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

Sharnbrook Bowls Club are holding an OPEN DAY on Monday 4th May from 10.30 am.

All ages are welcome - Beginners and Experienced. Come and have a try!

Coaching courses for beginners start early May. Secretary Penny Mann 781660.

Come and Join our Friendly Club!