

## 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
2nd Tuesday every other month	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room

**CHURCH SERVICES AT ST MARY'S FOR December** (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 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month	11.00am	Parish Communion
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in the month	11.00am	Family Communion & Rise and Shine
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month	11.00am	Parish Communion
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month	11.00am	Choral Matins
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month	11.00am	Parish Communion

### CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector	Vacant	
Pastoral Asstistant:	Rosemary Drewery	(07792926004)
Churchwardens:	Ken Shrimpton	(781381)
	Jane Wells	(782462)
Treasurer:	Stephen Hill	(781064)

Editor: Elaine Poulter (781133) or email [elaine.poulter@googlemail.com](mailto:elaine.poulter@googlemail.com)  
**Items should be with the Editor by noon on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month**

## Felmersham Ouse News and Radwell



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

**December 2015**

### We have a new Vicar!

Jane Wells and Ken Shrimpton have received the following letter from the Bishop of Bedford:

Dear Churchwardens

I am delighted that we are now in a position to confirm that the Reverend Reuben Preston is to be your new Vicar. Please could you announce this to the congregation at your churches this Sunday, 22nd November. Reuben is currently vicar of St Mary of Eton with St Augustine, Hackney Wick in the Stepney Area of the Diocese of London. He trained for the ministry at Westcott House. Prior to ordination he worked as a software engineer and in the fields of training and Fine Art education. He is a Benedictine oblate of Alton Abbey in Hampshire. Reuben is in a Civil Partnership with Stephen who currently works for the John Lewis Partnership as an Interior Design Consultant. Reuben will be licensed as your Vicar on Wednesday 9th March at 7.30pm by Bishop Alan. In the meantime, you will remain very much in my prayers.

Thank you for all the hard work that you and others have given to the parish and the mission of the Church during the vacancy.

With best wishes,  
 Bishop Richard

Reuben was selected after a very rigorous interview process which lasted most of the day. The six churchwardens from the benefice concluded that Reuben was well qualified to be our next vicar.

Church Services during Advent and Christmas

Services in St. Mary’s will continue as usual - see table on back page.

However, please note the following additions and exceptions (highlighted in bold) :

SUNDAYS

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. 4.00pm - CHRISTINGLE - Toy and Gift Service [Note earlier date]

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 4.00pm - Service of 9 Lessons and Carols [Note different time]

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. 11.00am - Benefice Holy Communion Service (said)

WEEKDAYS / CHRISTMAS EVE / CHRISTMAS DAY

Benefice Compline for Advent - 8.00pm each week-day evening from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov to Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec (inclusive)

St Peter’s - Mon / Wed / Fri

St Mary’s - Tues / Thurs

Advent Course - 8.15pm after Wednesday Compline – St. Peter’s Room 25<sup>th</sup> Nov and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

Christmas Eve - Family Crib Service - 4.00pm Midnight Choral Eucharist - 11.30pm

Christmas Day - NO SERVICE IN St Mary’s Benefice Parish Communion - 10.15am in St. Peter’s [Please note place and time]

[Also please note: there is NO EVENSONG in Sharnbrook - 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> Dec.]

A Reflection for Advent: Mary’s wait

Advent- a time of waiting and of busy preparation. We wait for so may things - in the queue for checkout, for a call or an email, for a new Vicar, for a hospital appointment, for a difficult time to pass. In this ‘have-it-now’ culture of instant gratification, we have almost forgotten how to wait, how to be still, how to put our lives into God’s hands and see what tomorrow or next year may bring, how to lace our longing for ‘arrival’ with patience and watchfulness.

We are waiting, in our family, for the arrival of a new baby. While I have been washing little babygros and counting tiny vests and preparing the family crib, my mind has been filled with thoughts and images of Mary. Mary, who spent her time waiting and preparing – watching the crib take shape under Joseph’s expert hands, drawing water from the well to wash the linen bands in which she would wrap her new-born, waiting for the sickness, and the tiredness to pass, waiting in a dream of longing for her child.

And then the unexpected: a forced journey, a trial of discomfort and exhaustion on the back of a plodding donkey, waiting for that long and anxious trek to be over, enduring with patience the days and nights. Did she yearn to be home, remembering the crib in Joseph’s work-shop, caressing the swaddling-clothes in the saddle bag? She was a migrant on a journey, away from home, waiting to be safe, waiting for arrival, for birth-pangs and for the glory of God in newborn nakedness next to her skin; enduring, looking through the darkness at the stars, waiting and watching, trusting in God who gave her this gift, waiting for Him.

Can we, in the midst of our busy preparation, take time to pause this Advent and reflect on Mary’s waiting, on that first Advent? Perhaps then we can look through the darkness to glimpse the Light, and be filled with wonder and awe at this gift to us of God’s presence in our midst: the Word made flesh, a helpless new-born baby, who created the spheres and caused the hay to grow on which he lay. JT

VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

Babysitting (Felmersham)	Zoe Mansell 07810 840629	Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman 782290
Babysitting (Felmersham)	Laura Hewlett 782063	Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
Babysitting (Felmersham)	Jade Facey 07826354060	Electrical Services	Mick Bowyer 783472
Babysitting (Felmersham)	Milly Dalton 781727/07986348347	General Building Renovation work	Allan Levene 781918
Babysitting (Felmersham)	Katie Henman 782290 (References can be provided)	Odd Jobs (babysitting/ car wash gardening/house cleaning etc)	Isaac Perring 782733/075008284 04
Babysitting (Felmersham)	Jodie Jackson 07880354831	Painting & Deco- rating	Eric Barford 781719
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985228116	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
Dog Walking	Melissa Facey 312385 or 07508838700 (Felmersham tel numbers)	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
Nail Artist	Ellie Beecham 01234 783596		

British Heart Foundation Social Morning

Margaret Jones

Many thanks to everyone who helped with our fund raiser. Special thanks to:

Emmaus Village Carlton  
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For donating raffle prizes. I was overwhelmed by the support from everybody, cake makers, raffle ticket sellers, sales ladies and tea and coffee makers! Thanks goes to everyone who helped to make £330 for my chosen charity

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## A big THANK YOU to the Felmersham Feet!

What a wonderful day – blue sky, sunshine and, above all, goodwill. We would like to acknowledge everyone who took part in or helped with the walk in aid of MND which was in memory of Lorraine Shrimpton. The walk was a huge success, thanks to all the generous people who walked or simply gave. We had a great age range of walkers (plus dogs!) and all those involved seemed to enjoy the afternoon.

We raised the impressive sum of £1,900 which is still rising and no money was taken out for expenses so well done everyone and thank you for your enthusiasm. A special thank you to Marianna who organised a competition at her school and raised £10 for the cause.

Thanks also go to Ben and Hannah for letting us have The Sun as our base. It could not have been a better place to return to after our efforts.

It has been suggested that an annual walk for a selected charity might be a good idea. Please let us have your feedback on this possibility.

Once again, many thanks to everyone.

Cherrie and Graeme Dawson

Tel: 01234 824713

### **A message from Ken Shrimpton**

Dear Friends

I am absolutely astounded by the response to the *Felmersham Feet* walk, the total raised now stands at £2084! It was a wonderful way to remember Lorraine and one which will help hasten the day when a cure is found for MND. A very big thank you to all who took part and to those who gave so generously. A very special thank you to Cherrie and Graeme Dawson for their initiative and hard work.

I am also pleased to report that the charitable donations given in memory of Lorraine at her funeral were £550 to MND and a £140 to Marie Currie. Once again my sincere thanks to all who gave. Ken

### HOUSE VALLEY SINGERS

OVS have a concert on Sunday December 6th at St Peter's Church Sharnbrook at 3p.m. Come and join the Choir in singing carols, and listening to the lovely voice of Min-Min Peaker. Tickets are £5. the proceeds going to The Children's Society. They are also taking part in a concert with Kempston Musical Society on Saturday 19th December at St. Peter's Church Bedford for the Hospital. Proceeds will be going towards a new scanner for babies. Tickets can be obtained from me on 781010 .

### Table Tennis

Jill Girling

There will be no table tennis on December 22 and December 29. It will restart on Tuesday January 5. New members are welcome.

### **CHRISTINGLE - Toy and Gift Service in St Mary's Church, Felmersham**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. 4.00pm** - [Note earlier date]

Bring a wrapped and labelled gift for a needy child, and your collection / donation for The Children's Society. Come along and light your Christingle!

### **FAMILY CRIB SERVICE - 4.00pm on Christmas Eve in St Mary's Church**

A service for the whole family, with familiar carols to sing, a nativity tableau and the blessing of the crib. All are welcome!

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## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 10 NOVEMBER 2015 Summary

**Bedford Borough Local Plan 2032** The Borough Council has commenced an 8 week consultation on its Local Plan 2032 which sets out plans for new employment, infrastructure and thousands of new homes in the urban and rural areas and are now inviting comments on the plan. 10-20 dwellings would be allocated to villages like Felmersham & Radwell.

**Village Speeding** A 20mph limit will be implemented on Church End/The Old Road, Memorial Lane and The High Road in the New Year. Additional signage and line markings will be included in High Road.

**Speed Watch** Community Speed Watch is a scheme to help people reduce traffic speeding through their neighbourhood and promote safer driving by educating rather than prosecuting individuals. Borough Councillor, Doug Mc Murdo, is keen to set up a Community Speed Watch Group and encourages residents that would like to participate to get in touch with him so that training can be arranged.

**Additional recycling during January 2016** The Sun in Felmersham will be a distribution point for orange recycling sacks during opening hours. Cllr Boswell will make distribution arrangements for Radwell. Residents will be able to place orange recycling sacks beside existing bins.

**Radwell** The Parish Council, has installed a Christmas Tree and purpose built tree pit on the Village Green. Christmas tree lights will be added soon.

**Neighbourhood Planning** The application for the designation of Felmersham & Radwell as a Neighbourhood Area has been successful and a public notice advising of this appeared in Bedfordshire on Sunday on 15th November 2015. The Parish Council are now able to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

**Parish Budget and Precept 2016** The Parish Council has approved its budget for 2016/2017 and supported a Precept of £15,400 for 2016/2017, the equivalent of a 2.7% increase. This will increase the Band D Council Tax to £43.02

**Pinchmill Lower School - Proposed Extended Age Range** The Parish Council has received the formal consultation on proposals to extend the age range to a single phase primary age 4 to 11 provision for 2017/2018. Following the consultation, the school Governing Body will consider the responses in January and then publish a report on the school's website.

**Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday 12 January 2016 at 7.30pm.**

### WI - "A Bird's View"

Blanche Smith

Marylyn Wood learnt to fly at Cranfield University and subsequently obtained her Pilots Licence after only 6hrs 55mins training. She was awarded a scholarship as an outstanding student and went on to become a Flying Instructor. It was not easy to follow the description of the intensive training required for a student to become a pilot and the technical skills needed to keep an aircraft airborne but with the help of a model aeroplane, Marylyn demonstrated, for example, what happens when a plane 'stalls' and how to overcome it! Most of us will never have to prove this! She regaled us with many anecdotes on her flying experiences and we especially enjoyed the 'bird's eye view' photos she took while taking part in the 'Dawn to Dusk' event flying over Avebury, Stonehenge, etc. Marylyn ended her talk by reading a poem, High Flight, written by a young Canadian RAF Pilot who was killed in action in December 1941 which, she says, epitomises the freedom of flying.

It was a few days early but we wished Jennifer a very Happy 'Special' Birthday and all enjoyed a piece of birthday cake made by May.

Just a reminder that December 15th is our Christmas Party with supper at The Sun. Please be there at 7pm.



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### Halloween

I would like to thank the Halloween friendly households of Radwell for making a little boy and girl very happy. My grandchildren, aged 7 and 5 were visiting us for the weekend and were very excited about Halloween. I was a bit worried that it might not live up to their expectations but I needn't have been concerned because the people of Radwell came up trumps. The tradition of signalling your enthusiasm to enter in the festivities by displaying a lit pumpkin meant that the children did not disturb anyone that didn't want disturbing and were greeted with lots of treats by at least 10 households. I personally may think it is a load of American bunkum but to see those two little faces lit up with the joy and fun of it made it all worth while. Rosie wrote the following "My brother Thomas and I are down at my granny and grandad's for the weekend (Halloween week end) and would just like to say thank you for the sweets. We hope your Halloween was a hit" So, once again many thanks Radwell.

**Pauline Berry**

### COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2015

The December Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration fund will be held at the home of Ian and Margaret Coomber, The Old Bakery, Grange Road, Felmersham, on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am.**

Contributions to the bring and buy stall are welcome ( toiletries, bric a brac, cakes, produce etc...).

**Everyone welcome.**

**There is no Coffee Morning in January.**

Thank you to all who hosted and supported the Coffee Mornings and Teas in the Church this year. It is very much appreciated.

Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

### News from The Sun

**Ben & Hannah Just**

In August 2013 we reopened The Sun. Our ambition was to offer a relaxed and welcoming pub which would appeal to as many people as possible with the hope of demonstrating that the village pub can be a profitable business worth saving. We have been extremely well supported by the village and other customers from the surrounding area and we feel we have achieved our goal.

Neither of us are career publicans as I am sure many of you realise! As a result we feel the time right to move on and allow someone with fresh ideas and energy to continue the success of The Sun in Felmersham.

Clive and Ros will keep the ownership of the pub and are currently in the final negotiations with an individual to take on the tenancy. As a result we will be leaving in January and are hopeful that there will be little or no closure between us and the next tenant.

Many thanks to everyone for the support help and friendship we have received throughout our time here. We genuinely couldn't have made The Sun a success without you.

We both look forward to enjoying a few more drinks with you over the Christmas and New Year period and will of course keep you posted as we settle on final leaving dates and a party!

### Christmas and New Year Opening Hours

Unless otherwise stated our opening hours are as normal. Ben and Hannah are really looking forward to welcoming you in The Sun during the festive period!

Christmas Singalong Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 7:30pm

Christmas Eve 12 noon-12:30am

Christmas Day 12 noon-2pm

Boxing Day 12 noon-4pm

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December 12 noon-10pm

Bank Holiday Monday 12 noon-11pm

29<sup>th</sup> December CLOSED

30<sup>th</sup> December CLOSED

New Year's Eve 12 noon - 1am

New Year's Day 12 noon - 11pm

Quiz Weds 6<sup>th</sup> January 7:45pm