

REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Weekdays	*9.00am-	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 -	Parent/Toddler Group(term time only)	Portakabin

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 March (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	Family 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: Rev'd. Reuben Preston 782000
 Pastoral Assistant: Rosemary Drewery (07792926004)
 Churchwardens: Ken Shrimpton (781381)
 Jane Wells (782462)
 Treasurer: Stephen Hill (781064)
 Editor: Jane Carwithen (782185) or email janecarwithen@hotmail.com
Items should be with the Editor by noon on the 25th of each month

In Praise of Mothers

March 6th is Mothering Sunday. Traditionally in this country, Mothering Sunday was the fourth Sunday of Lent, when young people who worked in service were given a day off to go and visit their mothers and attend the church in their home community. The occasion has become much more like the American 'Mother's Day' which is held in May and is a general celebration of motherhood and the value that mothers have in communities. Commercial interests have come to the fore so that it appears to be all about buying mum a bunch of flowers or a box of chocolates.

So what do we really value in our mothers?



*The Pieced Heart
A detail from the east window
of Felmersham Church.*

When Mary took the baby Jesus to the temple, she was told that the child would be special and heard much that made her marvel about his future, but she was also warned that 'a sword shall pierce your heart' as indeed it did when she sat powerless beside the cross on which her Son died for us.

Mothers (and fathers) invest a great deal of love and care into raising their children in the hope that they will go on to live happy and fulfilling lives, but life does not always work out that way. Some will have the happiness of seeing their offspring go on to lead satisfactory lives. Others will know the anguish of losing a child to war or illness. The price mothers pay is that no matter how old they get to be, that bond is never quite severed in their hearts and they never stop worrying about their children.

On Sunday 6th March we give thanks for the care and devotion of our mothers. Our joys give them joy and our sorrows give them sorrow for as long as they live. Come and join us to celebrate the love that has meant so much in most of our lives.

This service will be led jointly by Father Mac and Revd. Lionel Albon, it being their last service before we are joined by Father Reuben Preston.

We are so fortunate to have both of them living in the Benefice and willing to keep the ministry going for us all during the interregnum. SW.



SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2016

Monday 21st March	8.00am 8.00pm	Morning Prayer, <i>St Peter's Church</i> Compline, <i>St Peter's Church</i>
Tuesday 22nd March	8.00am 8.00pm*	Morning Prayer, <i>St Peter's Church</i> Compline, <i>St Mary's Church</i>
Wednesday 23rd Mar	8.00am 9.30am 8.00am	Morning Prayer, <i>St Peter's Church</i> Holy Communion, <i>St Peter's Church</i> with Holy Week Reflection Compline, <i>Sharnbrook School</i>
Maundy Thursday	8.00am 9.30am* 8.00pm	Morning Prayer, <i>St Peter's Church</i> Holy Communion, <i>St Mary's Church</i> with Holy Week Reflection plus Stripping of the Altar Holy Communion, <i>St Peter's Church</i> with the Stripping of the Altar and Vigil until 10.00pm
Good Friday	9.45am* 12.00pm 2.00pm 7.00pm	Morning Prayer/Litany, <i>St Mary's Ch.</i> leading into Walk with the Cross Felmersham to Radwell Stations of the Cross, <i>St Peter's Church</i> An Hour at the Cross, <i>St Peter's Church</i> Cross of Christ, <i>All Saints Church</i>
Easter Eve	8.00pm	Service of Light, <i>St Peter's Church</i>
Easter Sunday	9.30am 11.00am* 3.00pm 6.00pm*	Festival Eucharist, <i>St Peter's Church</i> Festival Eucharist, <i>St Mary's Church</i> Festival Eucharist, <i>All Saints Church</i> Benefice Evensong, <i>St Mary's Church</i>

*Services marked thus * will be held in St Mary's Church, Felmersham*

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 clean- ing etc)	Isaac Perring 782733/075008284 04
		Painting & Decorating	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 Lessons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
Community Care	07786 344176	Driveway and Patio Cleaning (Radwell)	David Rickard 07900677851 or 783589
		Daisy Bank Kennels Cat- tery & Grooming Centre, Fully Licensed and Qualified	Mrs Gee 01234 720241
Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Drain Clearance, sinks, toilets etc	Andy Sharpe 781180
Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164	Nail Artist	Ellie Beecham 01234 783596

W.I.

A woman's work is never done, especially if you are a honey bee! The workers are all female, and 'worker' is no misnomer – they visit one hundred flowers on one forage and live for only six weeks. Wendy Potts gave us an illustrated look into her bee hives, explaining how honey was made and recommending which plants bees preferred (fruit trees are popular). Apparently there are more bees in London than the countryside thanks to the flowers planted in the Olympic Park in 2012. Male bees are the drones whose sole aim in life is to mate with the queen, but they too die in cold weather. Recently however, more robust New Zealand drones have been crossed with English ones in the hope that they will survive. We are grateful to Wendy and her husband for their work and dedication in order to reverse the decline in honeybee colonies which we have witnessed over the years. This subject is dear to our hearts as the WI has been active in adopting a bee-action plan – so keep planting bee-friendly plants!

May Mills

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Licencing Service

Ken Shrimpton

On Wednesday 9th March at 7.30 pm at St Peters Church, Sharnbrook the Revd. Reuben Preston will be licenced as Rector of the Joint Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Knotting with Souldrop. Parishioners are encouraged to attend the Licencing Service; you do not need an invitation. Refreshments will be served afterwards in Sharnbrook Village Hall when there will be an opportunity to meet Fr. Reuben. I know there are some people who have difficulty in calling their parish priest “Father”, in which case he is quite content to be known as Reuben or Vicar.

Reuben’s first service will be at Felmersham on Thursday 10th March at 9.30 am and his first Sunday service in Felmersham will be on Sunday 13th March at 11.00 am.

COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 5th MARCH 2016

The March Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration fund will be hosted by Hazel Worthington – Dennehy in St Mary’s Church, Felmersham, **on Saturday 5th March at 10.30am.**

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

Everyone welcome.

The coffee morning in April will be hosted by Elaine Longstaff in St. Mary’s Church, Felmersham on Saturday 2nd April.

Good Friday service at Souldrop

In recent years, the necessity of sharing a priest has meant that we now often hold one service in the Benefice to which everyone from the other parishes is welcome. Folk from Sharnbrook and Felmersham now regularly travel to each other's churches, but Souldrop, being the smallest, does not always seem to get its fair share of hosting Benefice services.

This year, the 'Cross of Christ' will be sung by the Benefice choir during the Good Friday service at Souldrop. For those who have never attended, this is a lovely and moving service of readings and music reminding us of the sacrifice of our Lord. We hope as many people as possible will be able to travel over to Souldrop in support of their beautiful little church and its community.

The service will begin at 7pm

Editor of Ouse News

Ken Shrimpton

In the next week or so, Elaine and Chris Poulter will be leaving us for the opportunity to work in the camping and caravan sector. Unfortunately this means that Elaine will need to step down as editor of Ouse News. Elaine has been editor for 26 months, and during that time she has edited, printed and delivered to the distributors on time every month. This is no mean feat.

On behalf of the PCC and the parish community I wish to thank Elaine for being a very efficient editor of Ouse News. She is always positive and cheerful and this made life so much easier for those who came into contact with her. Thank you Elaine, and we wish you and Chris well in your new employment.

The PCC are pleased to announce that Jane Carwithen will be the new editor of Ouse News so please email your copy for the April edition to Jane at janecarwithen@hotmail.com

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(14th is the Charity Night for Beds & Northants MS Therapy Centre,

(Charity No 802510) Contact Keely Ann or Val Woods. 01234 325781

Two households, both alike in dignity, / In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,

From ancient grudge break to new mutiny, / Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.

To commemorate the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death, a rather special production of the classic *Romeo and Juliet* is coming to the award-winning Sharnbrook Mill Theatre.

Set in 'Verona-on-Sea', this tragic tale of star-crossed lovers will transport you straight back to the 1960's where it's the Mods versus the Rockers. Taking inspiration from real events in the South of England in 1964, Shakespeare's classic words will take you to the sights and sounds of that iconic time.

You'll be able to hear the music from the era, see authentic costumes, a real Lambretta and a 1964 Norton motorbike on stage as well as movement that depicts a time of violence and changing attitudes. Think 'Quadrophenia' meets 'West Side Story'.

You won't want to miss this moving, memorable and modern theatrical experience!

TICKETS: £9 – 11 are available now, on-line from: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk;

BEDFORD Central Box Office, 13 St Pauls Sq. 718044 or SHARNBROOK at Twinkle Twinkle Boutique, High Street (in person only please). GROUPS: 01234 781372 10% discount for 10+ (exc. Charity Night, Friday & Saturday). Disabled Access is available, including lift, WC & * 2 wheelchair spaces and easier access seating *Please enquire at Central Box Office only for availability. Hearing loop Rows A – E only.

'WARM UP' APPEAL – Do join us for our next 2 events at the Mill Theatre, to help us maintain the momentum...for your ultimate comfort!!

At The Drop Of A Hat Improvisation Comedy Troupe will be performing on Fridays 4th & 25th March 8.15 pm in the Clubroom - Retiring Donation.

Quiz Night!!! 8th APRIL at 7.30 pm. Teams of 4: Cash prize for winning team! BAR open: Ticket: £5/person from: Amelia Newman 07976218573 amelia.newman@hotmail.co.uk

Felmersham & Radwell Village Hall Committee

Family Easter Bingo - Saturday 19th March from 4.30pm at the Village Hall. Come and have some fun at our Family Easter Bingo early evening event. Tickets are £2.50 each. There will be Hot Dogs and other snacks available to buy as well as a Fully Licensed Bar. There are lots of Chocolate prizes to be won.

Community Spring Clean and Litter Pick

Don't forget the annual community litter pick will take place on March 12th from 10am (weather permitting). As I mentioned last month there will be a variety of clean up jobs as well as our usual litter pick. Take a look at the Parish Council noticeboard by the bus stop (from 3rd March) for more information about the tasks we'll be tackling.

Even if you can only spare half an hour, please do join us - every little helps! As a reward for all your hard work there'll be tea, cake and lollipops! For more information contact Rosie Cheetham: 781046





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Notice to allotment holders (and others)

Sue Whitehouse

Can everyone please refrain from adding to the pile of waste by the top entrance to the allotments. Volunteers are trying to clear the area and every time someone gives up their time to burn it and tidy up, someone else comes along and deposits more!

The problem with heaps like this is that they attract dumpers and much of the stuff I burned recently was garden waste (Leylandii, rose bushes, forsythia, and piles of decorative ivy), none of which comes from the allotments.

Next we would like to tackle the 'compost heaps' which are not functioning as such so if anyone is willing to lend a hand with this, please ring me (781300) and I will try to sort out a date that suits everybody.

Just a reminder that everyone is entitled to have a bonfire on their own allotment, or take their waste home to the green bin if they do not want to compost it.

Pinchmill Lower School News

During November and December Pinchmill Lower School undertook a consultation to extend the age range of the school and become a Primary School. Following this and the analysis of the responses, the majority of which were in support, it was unanimously agreed by the Governing Body to go ahead with the proposed change. The full consultation report can be found on Felmersham.net or the school website at: Pinchmill.beds.sch.uk

At Pinchmill Lower School, a small rural lower school with a population of mainly white British children, we were faced with a challenge of providing our children with opportunities to experience a variety of ethnicities, cultures and religions. With this as our focus we began a project, with the help of Mike Berrill of Biddenham International School & Sports College, for us to work alongside some of their Sixth Form students. This involved staff at Pinchmill working through the Grass Roots Equality and Diversity Programme with the Biddenham students who visited weekly to work with our pupils. They completed a range of activities from support in the classroom, to cooking and dance sessions. This project then led to us being assessed for the 'Investors in Diversity' award based on equality, diversity and inclusion, in which we achieved a Stage 2 Award. At the Investors in Diversity Grand Awards Evening in Birmingham we were ranked 27th in the top 100 award winners, and received the National Centre for Diversity Grand Awards 2016 School of the Year Award. The children, Staff and Governors were extremely proud of this achievement. We accomplished this through the commitment to make our school a community where everyone is equal and valued through our teaching and learning about acceptance and respect.

Pavenham and Felmersham Cricket Club

Calling all Young Cricketers

Are you a boy or girl, aged between 7 years and 14 years old and interested in playing cricket? You may already have experience of playing at school or at a club elsewhere but equally you may be enthusiastic and completely new to cricket. Either way you would be welcome to join the junior section of the **Pavenham and Felmersham Cricket Club**. We are recruiting ready for the summer season ahead. We are a friendly village club and welcome all members.

We have recently started our Winter Nets training on a Sunday, based at Lincroft School Sports Hall at 3pm to 4pm. Come along, have a look, join in and see whether you like it. If you have your own kit, bring it along but we also have kit to borrow. We will be entering teams for U10s, U12s and U14s into matches this summer- matches will be on a Sunday morning, U 14's on a Tuesday evening.

During the Spring/Summer months we train outside at Pavenham on a Friday evening. If you would like to know more please contact, Simon Thorp, our U10s coach on 07585 956406, Neil Blakemore our U12s coach on 07920 144911 or David Addison our U14s coach on 07821 964678.

BELL-RINGING AT FELMERSHAM

MIKE BENSON

The Bedford District of the Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers will be holding their March meeting at Felmersham on Saturday March 5th in the evening from 7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.