

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 07803 201 399	For info
Tues	7.30 pm	Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
Fri	9.15am -11.00am	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 JUNE (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	All-Age Communion
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	Fr Reuben Preston	(782000)
Pastoral Assistant	Rosemary Drewery	(07792 926 004)
Churchwardens	Jane Wells	(782462)
	Sue Whitehouse	(781300)
Treasurer	Stephen Hill	(781064)

Editor Jane Carwithen (782185) or email janecarwithen@hotmail.com
Items should be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON ON 22 JUNE.



Parish Online: www.felmersham.net

June 2016

LETTER FROM Fr REUBEN PRESTON

Every family has its calendar of significant events, remembered and marked as a family unit: grandma's death, children's birthdays, the arrival of new pets, a traumatic legal battle..... These things shape our life and outlook and affect the spiritual balance of a household, bringing joys and anxiety, tears of sadness and deep moments of feeling part of something valuable and significant.

This month of June has its usual mix of such remembering in our church calendar: from St Julian martyred in Rome in 165AD to the Uganda Martyrs of 1977; from Columba, the 6th century missionary in Iona, to Richard Baxter, a Puritan Divine of 1691; and then from Evelyn Underhill, as a spiritual writer of 1941, to our own St Alban as the first Martyr of Britain in 250AD. These characters have shaped the life and spiritual dynamic of faith by their commitment to God through Jesus Christ as they understood him in their generations.

This June we also embark upon the remembrance of the social reformers of Samuel and Henrietta Barnett (1913 & 1936) whose work contrasts with the National Celebrations of Queen Elizabeth II's official birthday festivities on the weekend of 11 & 12 June. Samuel and Henrietta dedicated their lives and energies to the improvement of the East of London, and history tells us that their "unorthodox methods, including evening schools and entertainments, aroused much criticism". Nonetheless, Samuel's spiritual gifts, combined with Henrietta's robust energy and assertive personality, made for a dynamic expression of Christian faith.

The work of Samuel and Henrietta was local and it contrasts with the work we celebrate of Queen Elizabeth II whose work has been steadfast, persistent, and patient, grounded in duty and tradition, National and International. We can say little of the Queen's personality - for most of us she is a distant figure with occasional glimpses of her work and life on the TV or at a Garden Party.

A common theme to these contrasts is a desire for stability in the lives of the poor and the Nation and the utilization of the gifts and opportunities of the places where they find themselves. They are grounded in a spiritual commitment to the example and call of Jesus Christ upon their lives. They were not just caught up in present lives hoping for a *better* future but with the Christian ethic of *perfection*. Their Spiritual security and confidence gave them the desire to reach out into the future from a vision of *wholeness* to *perfection* in people's lives: caught up in the call of God who is both amongst us and beyond us.

As you have your household events this month, as you take part in National and Church celebrations, may you be inspired to use your skills, gifts and talents to work for *perfection* in our society, parishes and households.

SERVICE CHANGES in JUNE

Sunday 12th June

St Mary's Church at 11am, Celebration All-Age Communion Service to give thanks for

THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF HM QUEEN ELIZABETH

All welcome – bring your flags!

Sunday 26th June

There is **NO SERVICE** in St Mary's on this day.

Instead there is **Benefice Patronal Sung Communion, 9.30am in St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook**, to celebrate St Peter's Day as part of St Peter's Festival Weekend.

All are welcome to this Service - please note time.

Benefice Songs of Praise for St Peter's Day, 6.00pm on St Peter's Green (in place of Benefice Evensong). All welcome! Please note venue; if wet the service will be in the Church.

Open Church Sunday is also on this day when Churches across the Diocese are encouraged to open their Church to visitors. This is an annual event supported by Bishop Alan. St Mary's Church is open every day from 9am to 6pm for parishioners and visitors, so will be open as usual. Everyone is welcome to visit our beautiful village Church during daylight hours, to just visit or for quiet prayer.
(ctd.)

VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

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		Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
		Electrical Services	Mick Bowyer 783472
		General Building Renovation work	Allan Levene 781918
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985 228 116	Odd Jobs (babysitting/ car wash gardening/ house cleaning etc)	Isaac Perring 782733 07500 828404
Chemistry/Science Maths tuition	Peter Rankin 782897	Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719
Community Care	07786 344 176	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967 783246
Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Piano/Guitar Lessons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164	Driveway and Patio Cleaning (Radwell)	David Rickard 07900 677851 783589
		Daisy Bank Kennels Cattery &Grooming Centre, Fully Licensed and Qualified	Mrs Gee 01234 720241
		Gardening Services	Jack Charman 01234 954873 07766 762887

THE FELMERSHAM ROYAL OAK

Alex Smith, Felix and family

Felix my son and I were quite unhappy to come running up to the Jubilee Oak Tree in the park only to find that it had been snapped in two. Felix asked if we could plant another tree instead. We then went and collected supplies and planted a new tree which hopefully this time shall last. Felix and family would like to donate this tree which we grew from an acorn and is there for all to enjoy.

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Thursday 30th June & Friday 1st July

SOMME CENTENARY COMMEMORATION

Do you have an ancestor involved in the Battle of the Somme in 1916? The Royal British Legion are asking communities to remember those who went 'over the top' at 7.30am on 1st July, and to honour those lost or wounded that day, and in the 140 days that followed.

Thursday 30th June is our **Benefice Commemoration at St Mary's, Felmersham at 7.45 pm**. As we keep in mind those waiting in the trenches that night, our service will include readings and poems, the lighting of candles, Compline and prayers, the Act of Remembrance and a short vigil.

On **Friday 1st July at St Peter's, Sharnbrook at 7.00am**, we will keep in mind those who went 'over the top' that morning. The service will begin with Morning Prayer, and include the lighting of candles, Prayer for the Fallen, silent vigil and the Act of Remembrance.

Please come to one or both of these special services, timed to coincide with 'the evening before' and with the time when the soldiers, on both sides, climbed out of their trenches.

'We will remember them.....'

COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 4th JUNE

Jane Wells

NB Change of Venue

The June Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration fund will be hosted by Peter and Maria Hood,, Felmersham on Saturday 4th June 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 **July Coffee Morning** will be hosted by Peter and Pat Hartop, Felmersham on **2nd July**.

TEA IN THE CHURCH

Jane Wells

Don't forget Tea in the Church on Wednesday 15th June from 2.30–4.30pm. Come along with your friends for a chat, a cuppa and a piece of cake.

If you are new to the village it is a good way to meet people and to hear what is going on. Everyone of all ages is welcome.

Tea in the Church will also take place on Wed 20th July, Wed 17th August and Wed 21st September.

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CHURCHYARD CLEAN UP

Sue Whitehouse

Our first battle with the weeds this year will be on Sunday afternoon, 5th June from 2-4pm.

If you can spare an hour or so to help us, please bring gardening hand tools, gloves and a bucket of some description. This is essential preventative maintenance to stop gutters from clogging and boundary walls from crumbling under the ravages of ivy, as well as making the place look tidy.

Tea and biscuits will be served. Everyone welcome.

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WI

Blanche Smith

Have you ever suffered with painful hips and/or knees which have restricted your mobility and quality of life? Well, help is at hand! Our Speaker, Mr Manoj Sood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, reassured us that almost all conditions can be greatly improved with surgery, replacement joints and other state-of-the-art remedies. The percentage of women needing replacement joints is usually greater than men but the results are often very beneficial at all ages. Mr Sood demonstrated, with the aid of a slide show, the variety of operations available, the majority of which are carried out under a local spinal anaesthetic together with sedatives, resulting in a speedier and more comfortable recovery. Karen thanked Mr Sood for a very interesting and informative talk, commenting that without his and his colleagues' expertise many of us would be confined to wheelchairs.

The competition for the best limerick about 'hips & knees' was won by Lesley, although there were also a number of very clever ones!

Celia reported on her attendance at the Federation Annual Council Meeting where she was presented with a Certificate celebrating our WI's 95 years. The Chairlady made a plea for the Institutes to raise funds for Denman College which is running a deficit of around £200,000.

On a happier note, our Quiz Team is amongst the last eight and will go on to the next round in Aylesbury. On 21st June there is a tour of Jordan's Mill with the prospect of a delicious afternoon tea.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Andy Evans

In the recent door-to-door collections along Grange Road, Marriotts Close and Trinity Close, the wonderful sum of £163.97 was collected, all of which will go to Save the Children working not only in this country but also around the world wherever children are at risk. Thank you to all who donated such a generous amount. Special thanks to Denise Canning for her on-going support along Grange Road. Should anyone else wish to involve themselves in the work of the charity locally, I would be really pleased to hear from you on 782523.

ADVANCE NOTICE. The Mill Theatre production of the comedy "Silly Cow" written by Ben Elton on Monday 12 September is their charity evening supporting Save the Children. If you are a theatre goer, could you please consider attending the Monday performance in order to support Save the Children. Tickets will cost £9 and will be available from me. Thank you.



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PINCHMILL LOWER SCHOOL NEWS



Another exciting half term at Pinchmill Lower School! We were eager to enter the Scarecrow Competition run by Milton Ernest Garden Centre. All of the children in School worked hard to create a scarecrow of George and the Dragon. After much excitement and determination the project was completed (although George and the Dragon did turn out a bit larger than expected!). We laid out the seats in the car and bundled the pair in the back, only just managing to fit them in. It was off to the Garden Centre to display our 'work of art'. Many people visited them over the bank holiday weekend and voted for their favourite scarecrow of the twelve entries. To our delight we were voted as the winning entry. With pride we visited Milton Ernest Garden Centre to collect our prize; we took several children with us and were photographed for an article in the local press. We were presented with a voucher which the children are currently thinking about how to spend.

We have also had many visitors in School, including a Viking, a bee keeper and Father Reuben, who asked if we could provide 'flame' decorations for the church for Pentecost. The children enjoyed our visitors and the Church looked great.

We are now busy preparing for the Summer Fete at the School which will be held on Sunday 10th July from 2 to 4pm. Please put the date in your diary and come along to celebrate with us. There will be games, a variety of stalls and lots of fun on the day!

SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE (www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk Reg. Charity 242164)

FORBIDDEN BROADWAY'S GREATEST HITS Mon – Sat 6 - 11 June, 7.30pm. Hit comedy musical cabaret revue, created & written by Gerard Alessandrini. An hilarious, loving, and endlessly entertaining satirical tribute to some of the theatre's greatest stars and songwriters. Book Now!! £11-13 from www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk; (£1 bkg fee); also Sharnbrook Twinkle Twinkle Boutique, 65/67a High Street (in person only) & Bedford Central Box Office, 13 St Pauls Sq. 718044. (Bkg fee); Groups: 01234 781372. 10% discount for 10+ (exc. Charity Night, Fri & Sat). NB Mon 6 June, Charity Night for Rotary Club of Rushden. Contact 01933 312668 / 01933 222271 for ticket price/to book. Lift; Disabled Access; 2 wheelchair spaces & easier access seating.

FRIEND OR FOE Th 16 – Sat 18 June, WWII, North Devon; exciting, energy-packed new musical by Ruth Lusby-Yentis & Tim Brewster, based on a children's story by Michael Morpurgo, author of War Horse. Tickets online only www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk (£1 bkg fee). An SMTT & Harrold Priory School collaboration.

CORAM BOY Our next Youth production, on stage 26-29 October. Aged 8-19? Wish to take part? Workshops: Tues. May 31st & Thurs. June 2nd, both at 5-6:30pm. See our website for synopsis of play. Director Paul Wildman wildchildtheatre@yahoo.co.uk.

INVITATION! COFFEE & CAKE MORNING & NEARLY NEW ACCESSORIES SALE Wed 18 June 10-12 noon, by kind permission of Mrs Chrissie Summerling at Woodford, Northants. Full address on ticket! £4 from Erica Lester 01234 781210 or Virginia Pope 01933 356974.