

a high-speed show with improvised scenes, spontaneous stories and sketches, based entirely on your – the audience's – suggestions. The Bar opens at 7pm, followed by a warming Chilli Con Carne supper at 7.30pm, before the 'one-off' performance at 8.15pm!

Tickets, only in advance, are £12, inc. supper, from Paul Wildman: wild-childthetre@yahoo.co.uk or Brenda Stafford: brenda.stafford@talk21.com / 823060. **Seats limited, so please don't delay!**

Deadline for the January edition of Ouse News

Please note that the deadline for the above will be **Thursday 22 December**. Contributions of copy, events, articles of local interest etc always welcome.

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

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 WI	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 are now in full on page 2.

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@gmail.com

Items should be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON ON 25th of each month.



Parish Online: www.felmersham.net

December 2016

LETTER FROM Fr REUBEN PRESTON

I put pen to paper today on the morning of the US Presidential Election results and some people are surprised. Being surprised is a mindful grace of the Christian faith as we look for the way in which God might choose to interact with creation.

When you receive this we shall be about to enter Advent, a season of Preparation, not of endless stress in selecting Christmas gifts! If you have one of the Fairtrade Advent calendars you will have a daily opportunity to be surprised by God if you sit and allow the story of the Nativity to dwell with you in the daily readings.

So many things are surprising in the Christmas story and each year we have the invitation of Advent to get ready to hear it afresh; allow the words to strike you anew, to be fresh for you.

There is often much business in December and often those at the edges of community life get left out; think about giving Christmas gifts to transform a stranger's life rather than another gift card or voucher to a loved one. What about buying a kid-goat for a household in Ethiopia to give them milk and status in their community for the year ahead?

www.presentaid.org/2016 has some great ideas for gifts to help others. Most of us in Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Souldrop have a decent life, so let us use this Christmas to share something of the dignity that we possess with people in other parts of the world where life is not as comfortable as ours.

As Jesus was born into the fractured world of political infighting of the Roman Empire, so may he be spiritually born afresh into our hearts in 2016 as we long, in our generation, for his peace and dignity to all peoples. (ctd)

Do something surprising this Christmas with your giving and your welcoming; invite people you know and don't know to share in the season with you and allow yourself to be a blessing to them and them to you - as Christ is to the world for those who stop and listen.

May your Advent and Christmas be peaceful, welcoming and surprising.

Services at St Mary's

Compline

During Advent Compline will take place **every evening at 8pm**

St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook Monday, Wed and Friday

St Mary's Church, Felmersham Tuesday and Thursday

Sunday 4th December 11am Parish Communion

Sunday 11th December 11am All Age Communion

Sunday 18th December

11am Parish Communion

4pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Saturday 24th December, Christmas Eve

4pm Christingle Service at the Crib

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Sunday 25th December, Christmas Day

12 noon Christmas Eucharist with Carols

Every Tuesday 9.30am Holy Communion

Advance Notice

Friday 6th January 2017, Epiphany

7.30pm Benefice Festival Communion

VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

		Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman 782290
		Electrical Services	Martin Blizzard 782527
		Electrical Services	Mick Bowyer 783472
		Odd Jobs (babysitting/ car wash gardening/ house cleaning etc)	Isaac Perring 782733 07500 828404
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985 228 116	Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719
Chemistry/Science Maths tuition	Peter Rankin 782897	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967 783246
Community Care	07786 344 176	Piano/Guitar Lessons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Driveway and Patio Cleaning (Radwell)	David Rickard 07900 677851 783589
Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164	Daisy Bank Kennels Cattery &Grooming Centre, Fully Licensed and Qualified	Mrs Gee 01234 720241
		Gardening Services	Jack Charman 01234 954873 07766 762887

SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE

Reg. Charity no 242164

Sleeping Beauty? – Oh! yes it is! - a festive pantomime for ALL the family. Evenings: 9th, 10th & 13th–17th December, 7.30pm, Matinées: 10th, 11th, 17th December, 2.30pm.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR TICKETS? – hurry! Tickets: Adults: £11-13, for aged 16 & under just £7! ... on-line from: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk or in person only from Twinkle, Twinkle Boutique, Sharnbrook; Groups/families of 10+ 10% discount; please contact Alison Bean on (01234) 781372; also for wheelchair space/easier access seating. NB: Hearing loop: Rows A- E only.

Welcome to 'At the Drop of a Hat' Christmas Special on Saturday 3rd December, performed by 'The Improvisation Comedy Crew' of Sharnbrook Mill Youth; (ctd overleaf)

ARNOLDS

Funeral Service

Reassurance when you need it most



48 Roff Avenue
Bedford MK41 7TE
t: 01234 359529



e: bedford@nevillefuneralservice.com

www.nevillefuneralservice.com

Appleby Upholstery

Re-Upholstery Service

Modern & Antique Work Undertaken

City & Guilds Qualified – Insured

Free Collection & Delivery Service

www.applebyupholstery.co.uk

applebyupholstery@hotmail.co.uk

or

Call to discuss your project on:

07767 394 419



The Coach House Felmersham

Offering Luxury
Bed and Breakfast
& Self Catering Accommodation

Contact : Wendy Mansell - Corn Close, Church End, Felmersham

Tel: 01234 782808 / 07899 872144

Email: wendyamansell@hotmail.com

Website: www.thecoachhousefelmersham.com

COLWORTH GOLF CLUB

- *quiet and peaceful environment
- *challenging 9 hole, par 68 course
- *7 day membership for only £350 pa
- *rarely congested – members & guests only
- *competitions and social golf
- *access to Unilever sports & social facilities



COLWORTH SCIENCE PARK, SHARNBROOK MK42 1LQ – 01933 350224 / WWW.COLWORTHGOLF.CO.UK

COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER

Jane Wells

The December Coffee Morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration Fund will be held in the home of **Tim and Linda Hoyle, Felmersham on Saturday 3rd December 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.

There will be **NO Coffee Morning** in January. Coffee mornings will resume again in February.

QUESTIONNAIRE

"OUR PLAN, OUR FUTURE"



Have you completed yours?

The deadline for completion of this survey, which will help determine the development of the Parish to 2035, has now passed (Saturday 26 November 2016) and questionnaires are being collected.

If you have any that still need collecting or you have a query, please contact your Steering Group member or leave a message with Jane on janecarwithen@gmail.com, telephone 782185. Someone will then be back in touch with you.

It is very important that you have your say
(so don't moan later !)



CM HEATING MAINTENANCE LTD



Domestic Oil Boiler Service

C.J & J.C Keep

SERVICE • BREAKDOWN • COMMISSION • ALL PARTS IN STOCK

The Oil Boiler Specialists

Telephone: **01234 824400** Email: sales@cm-heating.co.uk www.cm-heating.co.uk



Charity Furniture Store

1 Brereton Road, Bedford.MK40 1HU
01234 352899



Free local Collection/Delivery: Tuesdays & Fridays - Open Mon-Fri 9.30 to 4.00

*Furniture/electrical/white goods, donations gratefully received,
soft furnishing subject to having a fire label*

Charitable aims: "offering work experience to adults with learning disabilities" "alleviation of poverty"
Charity No. 1091271 ♦ Affiliated to Royal Mencap ♦ www.bedsgardencarers.org.uk

Pinchmill INTERIORS

Hand Sewn Curtains, Blinds and Accessories
Made to Measure Service, finished to your exact requirements

Contact Sarah Bunker on 01234 783220 or 07946 620821

Website: www.pinchmill-interiors.co.uk Email: sarah@pinchmill-interiors.co.uk

Matt Poulter Plumbing & Heating

- ♦ All plumbing & heating work
- ♦ Oil Boiler Installations
- ♦ General property maintenance
- ♦ Gas boiler servicing & repair

Complete bathroom design and installation, including tiling

For a friendly reliable service and free estimate call Matt on 07974 212232

Or 01234 824674 or email: mppoulter@gmail.com,

www.poulterplumbing.co.uk



K M Lovell

General building

- ♦ BLOCK PAVING
- ♦ EXTENSIONS
- ♦ ROOFING
- ♦ PATIOS

All work considered

01234 782869

Bryan T Rance

MRICS

Mr Bryan T Rance is a member of the Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE) and a member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE). He is also a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and the Institution of Surveyors (RICS). He is a qualified structural engineer and has over 20 years experience in the industry.

- Building plan preparation services
- Planning advice
- Structural calculations
- Party wall service
- Statutory permissions sought

Telephone: 01234 783191
Mobile: 07846 490380



Working from the heart of the Ouse Valley



BLACK AND WHITE REVIVAL

- * Traditional Photograph Restoration and Conservation
- * Antique and Reproduction Frames
- * Old photographs of Bedfordshire

Helen Dawkins LRPS
Radwell, Bedford

01234 782265

helen@blackandwhiterevival.co.uk

www.blackandwhiterevival.co.uk

R P TESTA

PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES LIMITED

Est. 1992

**All General plumbing requirements
and full design and installation for:**

- Gas Central Heating: Inc. LPG
- Bathrooms: Inc. tiling
- Underfloor Heating
- Solar Hot Water



102217

WORCESTER
Bosch Group
Accredited Installer

01234 781827
A LOCAL RELIABLE COMPANY

Barnes Tree Services

ALL TYPES OF WORK UNDERTAKEN

Trees reduced or removed ~ all waste chipped on site and taken away

NPTC qualified ~ Fully insured

Traditional family business ~ Woodland management since 1980

Ash logs always available for delivery

Telephone: Roger Barnes for a free quote on 01933 356205

Village Kitchens by Karen Ltd



From a Supply Only to a Fully Project Managed Installation.

Karen has a great team of excellent tradesmen to create your dream.

Classic Contemporary to a Sleek Modern Handleless kitchen.

Call Karen for a Free Consultation, Design and Quotation.

Email: vkbykaren@hotmail.com

01933 357890 or 07976 955976

D ANTHONY

Painter & Decorator

(est. 40 years)

- * Internal/External
- * Insurance work welcome
- * Free estimates and advice (no VAT)

Tel: 01234 782284

Mobile: 07901 845277

(Radwell, Bedford)

CHADBON

BRICKWORK LTD

**EXTENSION
SPECIALISTS
GARDEN WALLS
& FEATURES**

All Building Work Undertaken
by Friendly & Reliable Tradesmen

Excellent Working Standards

City & Guilds Qualified

TELEPHONE:

01933 316827

07931 991907

Architectural Design

Stephen Funge MCIAT

stephen@architecturaldesign.co.uk

Tel 01234 381304 ~ Mob 07710 268372

Planning and Building Regulations Applications

Design and Project Management ♦ Extensions ♦ New Houses ♦ Offices ♦ Shops

Call for a chat. No obligation.

LOGS Sourced from
sustainable
woodland
est. 1981



Well Seasoned Hardwood
Quality Split Firewood
Delivered by the Load

Mob: 07929 793361

Tel: 01234 721086

 **all for IT**

**Computer support,
consultancy and
maintenance
for business or home**

www.allforit.co.uk

Tel: Clive Just 01234 783246

HOUSE VALLEY SINGERS

Janet Welsh

Come and join us in singing some early Christmas Carols at St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook on Sunday 4th December at 3pm. Our concert is the finale of the Christmas Tree Festival so you will be able to see the trees as well.

Tickets can be obtained from me on 781010 and they are £6. Jeni Melia will be our soloist. We look forward to seeing you.

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

During the Christmas and New Year break there will be no Table Tennis Club on Tuesday 27th December and Tuesday 3rd January. Play will resume on Tuesday 10th January. New members are always welcome to join us at 7.30pm on Tuesdays in the Village Hall.

WI

A CHOCOLATE EXPERIENCE!

Blanche Smith

With this title for our November meeting, it was a fair guess the room would be full! Who could resist it? Caroline Lewis gave an enthusiastic and informative talk on behalf of Susan Stevens, Chocolatier, who had brought samples of her plain and strawberry chocolate truffles for us to taste. Caroline explained that Susan had started her 'hobby' several years ago as a treat for her granddaughter who was unable to eat shop-bought chocolate. By experimenting, Susan devised her own recipes using only natural products, dairy free, wheat free and with no E numbers added - (the colour and flavouring were all natural too) allowing the end product a 6 month shelf life if stored at the optimum temperature.

The cacao trees grow only 10 degrees north and 10 degrees south of the Equator and require a hot, humid climate all year round. The beans (or pods) grow directly on the bark of the tree and are harvested by hand twice a year. Small independent farmers produce much of the cacao as it is a long and complicated process and takes 40/50 pods to produce 1lb of chocolate.

We were all anxious to buy some of Susan's selected range of products to share with family and friends. A distinctly popular subject for WI!

Birthday celebrations this month were for Sheila and we enjoyed sampling her cake (made by May) during our tea break.

Don't forget December 20th for our traditional Christmas dinner, this year at Vesuvio Hotel, where we shall exchange small gifts from Santa's sack.

ALLOTMENT UPDATE

Sue Whitehouse

Many thanks to all who came to help clear up some of the rubbish and cut back the overgrowth on Saturday 12th November. We achieved a great deal more than we expected in spite of the damp weather. The clearing of the old compost heaps is half done and has produced some usable tilth which we have piled up near the manure heaps for any allotment holder who needs it.

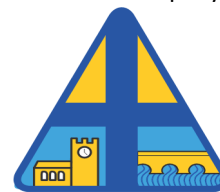
The next step now is to form a User Group for allotment holders in order to organise such group efforts and to keep people informed of any developments. If you would like to be kept in the loop then please let me have your email address. My contact details are susiem17@gmail.com, tel number 781300.

There is still quite a bit of work to do, so I will be contacting those for whom I have email addresses, as well as flagging up any future tidying days in Ouse News.

Thanks again to the volunteers for their hard work and enthusiasm.

PINCHMILL LOWER SCHOOL

As we head rapidly towards the end of the year, things have been busy here at Pinchmill. There was much fun and excitement as the children watched, from a safe vantage point, the lifting and moving over our existing building of the new units. High winds caused a bit of a problem but the new classrooms are now in place. A BIG THANK YOU to all of those who live along Church Lane and The Old Road for your support in keeping the road clear of cars to enable the units to be delivered. Work is now rushing ahead and should be completed by early January 2017. Further information will be published in Ouse News, and posted on www.felmersham.net and our School website www.pinchmill.beds.sch.uk. If you have any questions, or would like to see what is going on with the building work, please feel free to contact me by phone, email or in person. My email address is vcoleman@pinchmill.beds.sch.uk.



We are busy preparing for our Christmas Production this year; it will once again be held in St Mary's Church. **All neighbours are very welcome to attend the Community Performance which will be held on 13th December at 10:00am. Entry is free, just turn up.** We have two other performances which will require tickets for entry. If you cannot attend the Community Performance and would like to come along, you can contact the School to see if we have any spare tickets available.

We are also busy planning for the **Christmas Fayre, to be held on 3rd December, 2 – 4pm.** This will be an exciting event and an opportunity to buy some pressies and have some fun! We will also have a special festive visitor for the children. It would be great to see as many of you as possible, so put the date in your diary and pop along! St Mary's Church will also be providing tea and festive offerings if you want to get into the Christmas spirit.

We were also delighted to be invited to support the Remembrance Service at the Church. I attended with several of our children; it was a moving and thought-provoking service.

The last part of this term is very busy with trips, visitors and lots of fun and excitement to cram in before the end of term on 20th December. Our Year 3 and 4 children visited Stockwood Park in Luton to explore and learn some gruesome things about the Ancient Egyptians. We have a trip to the Snowzone in Milton Keynes for our Year 1 and 2 children coming up, relating to their topic of Fire and Ice. The final treat of the term for all of the children will be a visiting pantomime, which the children and staff will be eagerly participating in!

RADWELL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS

The Radwell Christmas Tree lights will be switched on at 5pm, Sunday 4th December.