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REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Tues	7.30 pm	Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
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REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

1st Sunday in each month	7.30pm Sunday Sisters	The Sun
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
2nd Tuesday every other month	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector	Vacant. Please contact the Churchwarden.	
Lay Leaders of Worship	Rosemary Drewery	(07792 926 004)
	Jane Templeman	(07885 617 583)
Churchwarden	Sue Whitehouse	(781300)
Treasurer	Stephen Hill	(781064)

Editor Jane Carwithen (782185) or email janecarwithen@gmail.com

Items to be with the Editor for the next edition by **NOON** on 25th of the month



Parish Online: www.felmersham.net

May 2019

THEY SAY THAT THE EARLY BIRD CATCHES THE WORM!

You may think that this is an extremely early worm when you read on but please read, mark, inwardly digest and let us know if you can lend us your experience, know-how or anything else you might possess to help us in a rather special project.

In August next year we are planning to celebrate the 800th anniversary of our beautiful church, St Mary's, Felmersham.

We can't do it on our own and we don't think we *should* do it on our own. The church is here for us all. We are therefore inviting everyone in the parish of Felmersham and Radwell to offer ideas, plans, arms and legs, sheer willingness to help, in fact anything you like to make 2020 a memorable year.

If you feel that you *can* help in any way, no matter how small, please do get in touch with the members of the PCC listed overleaf.

Ideas that have been talked about so far are: a **Street Party** with entertainers and a town crier, a special **Songs of Praise**, where we will invite you to let us have your favourite hymns and we will select the most popular to be sung, a **Writing Competition** for children, teenagers and adults, with the emphasis on the church and its history. Obviously there will be a prize for the winners! The winning entries will be displayed in the church. Many other ideas are occurring to us, some good, some maybe a little impractical! We really would like you to let us know if you have suggestions and the energy to get involved with us in this project.

YOUR VILLAGES NEEDS YOU!

Please do get in touch

(see overleaf)

Services at St Mary's, Felmersham

NB May be subject to change—please check the noticeboard by the Lych Gate for details

Thursday 2 May	9.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 5 May	<i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i> 11am Parish Communion
Thursday 9 May	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 12 May	<i>4th Sunday of Easter</i> <i>No service at St Mary's</i> 10.30am Churches Together Service for Christian Aid Week at St Peter's
Thursday 16 May	9.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 19 May	<i>5th Sunday of Easter</i> 11am Parish Communion
Thursday 23 May	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 26 May	<i>6th Sunday of Easter</i> 11am A Service for God's Earth
Thursday 30 May	<i>Ascension Day</i> 9.30am Holy Communion

800th Anniversary of St Mary's, Felmersham

Please do get in touch

Graeme Dawson	01234 824713	Jane Templeman	07885 617583
Stephen Hill	01234 781064	Jane Wells	01234 782462
Elaine Longstaff	07501 516274	Janet Welsh	01234 781010
Jane Rhodes	01234 782138	Sue Whitehouse	01234 781300
Ken Shrimpton	01234 781381		

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Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Piano/Guitar Lessons (all ages)	Margo Payne 782355
Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164	Daisy Bank Kennels Professional Grooming & Pet Shop	Mrs Gee 01234 720241
Barney's Barn Pet Grooming Radwell	Helen 01234 782402	Gardening Services	Jack Charman 01234 954873 07766 762887
Tree Surgery	Neil Smith 01234 720801	Reflexology	Jackie Chambers MAR 07803 157963 783189

SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE

Patrons: Joanna David and Hugh Laurie CBE

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk Registered Charity 242164

Friday 10th May at 7.30pm - now booking!

ANTIQUE APPRECIATION EVENING WITH DAVID FLETCHER, (from the BBC's Flog It!)

who will bring antique items and talk about his life as an auctioneer.

Tickets £16, which will include a light supper, available now! Please phone

Ruth Pressley: 01234 771206. A 'Warm-Up/Cool Down' Appeal event.

Thursday 16th May, 7.45 pm - Now booking!

MADISON VIOLET - CANADIAN FOLK/COUNTRY DUO

Supported by David Banks (of 'The Whybirds')

Mill Theatre Auditorium. Tickets £14 (£1 booking fee; unreserved seats) available in person from Pick-a-lily, Florists, Sharnbrook, or on-line:

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets

A 'Warm-Up/Cool Down' Appeal event.

Wednesday 12th June, 12 for 12.30pm

SPURGEONS CHILDREN'S CHARITY - A SPECIAL TALK

BY SUE DENNIS, PRECEDED BY A 2-COURSE LUNCH

Wine/soft drinks available - Raffle

Tickets: £16: Theo. Gibbs: 01234 782377 theo@twhgibbs.plus.com

A 'Warm-Up/Cool down' Appeal event

Wednesday 10th – Saturday 13th July at 7.30pm

WAITING FOR SNOW

Created, written and directed by Kaye Tompkins, is a *Beyond the Barn* production in association with The Mill Theatre. A story told by actors, singers, dancers and musicians. An intimate tale of life and love distorted by the horrors of WW1. . 'A quite astonishing piece of theatre'; '...it is the perfect telling of a deeply affecting story.'

TICKETS (£1 booking fee) £12/13 may be booked in person at PICK-A-LILY, Florist, SHARNBROOK, or www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets

Groups 10+ 10 % discount (but not on Fri. or Sat.).

2 wheelchair spaces, (please phone: (01234) 781372 to book); easier access seating; new hearing loop.

SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE 17th ANNUAL SUMMER SCHOOL: 22nd – 26th July 2019

Dance, drama & musical theatre - open to all aged 9 – 18.

Run by fully-qualified teaching professionals who specialise in the Performing Arts and have enhanced DBS clearances.

Enq's: Paul Wildman (Summer School coordinator): wildchildtheatre@yahoo.co.uk.

Full details: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/youth/summer-school/

ACTION FOR THE PLANET AND A SERVICE FOR GOD'S EARTH

11am, 26 May

Sue Whitehouse

We are all concerned about global warming and the implications it has for us and for all the creatures with whom we share this world.

On 26 May we plan to create a wildlife area in the churchyard. This is not as simple a job as it sounds but we have enthusiasm, ability, experience and advice. The Church of England actively encourages the support of native plants and animals in churchyards which often represent a rare undisturbed habitat.



On the same occasion we will hold a short community service devoted to appreciation of God's world and focus on our action, hopes and prayers for the future. (Outside if weather permits).

Young or old, of Christian, other faith or none, if you have something to say about what we can do to help make changes; or just want to see what is happening, please contact me or Rosemary Drewery (our numbers are on the back of Ouse News) and let us have your ideas. It goes without saying that there will be cake! Do come and join us.

COFFEE MORNING: SATURDAY 4 MAY

Jane Wells

The **May Coffee Morning** to raise funds for the Church Restoration Fund will be hosted by **Derek and Wendy Williamson in St Mary's Church, Felmersham on Saturday 4 May 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 June** will be hosted by Denis and Denise Canning in St Mary's Church, Felmersham on **Saturday 1 June** at 10.30am.

TEAS IN THE CHURCH Wednesday 15 May NOTE NEW TIME : 3.00 - 4.30pm

Do come along and join us for a cuppa and a piece of cake. Bring your friends and neighbours for a chat, to meet others and to find out what is happening in the village. Everyone and all ages are welcome.

Teas in the Church will also take place on **Wednesdays** 19 June, 17 July, 21 August and 18 September.

CHANGES TO MOBILE LIBRARY TIMES

The **visiting times** for the mobile library have changed.

The Mobile Library is now in Felmersham from 14.00 to 14.30 (fortnightly from Thursday 2 May)

and in Radwell from 12.55 to 13.15 (fortnightly from Thursday 9 May).

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A Reminder

Rural Bulky Waste Collections 2019

Saturday 15 June The Green, Radwell, 3—5pm

Sunday 16 June Marriotts Close, Felmersham, 1—3 pm



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A REQUEST FROM GARY MACFARLANE

Gary has been a Felmersham resident for the last 4.5 years and has been supportive of local causes and groups and is now asking locals to kindly show their support to raise money for the **Mental Health Foundation**.

Gary has entered himself into an organised challenge to climb the summit of Kilimanjaro (Lemosho Route) in October 2019. He needs to raise £5,450 in the next 4 months. All proceeds go to the Charity. Gary will purchase his own kit and has already paid his entrance fee.

Please Donate to Gary's **JustGiving** page. He needs everything you care spare to hit his target https://www.justgiving.com/Garymacfarlane79?utm_source=Whatsapp

If you're not online or prefer cash, then The Sun will also have a fundraising form and will collect cash contributions on Gary's behalf.

You can follow Gary's progress on Facebook. Thank you.

CHARITY TROPIC SKINCARE & MAKEUP EVENT

Mercedes Gray-Redburn

Hi I'm Mercedes and I'm hosting this fundraising event at my home on Sunday 5 May between 2-5pm. It's a drop-in event and opportunity to sample and buy beautiful products which are all UK made, naturally sourced, cruelty and chemical free. Please go to www.tropicwithellie.com for an idea of what to expect. A percentage of all sales will go towards my husband Gary's Kilimanjaro climb in October for the Mental Health Foundation. All welcome!

CARERS TOGETHER

Meet with other Carers knowing the person you care for is enjoying activities in a safe and friendly environment.

Our meetings will be at 2.30pm
on

May 14th & 28th

Come & join us for tea, cake and a chat.

**The Methodist Church, Park Lane,
Sharnbrook**

*Churches Together working with
Tibbs Dementia Foundation*

Suggested Donation
Cared For £4 Carers £1

For more information contact the group's
Co-ordinator Linda Hoar 07791214148
lindahoar@hotmail.co.uk

Christian Aid – We believe in life before death

'We stand with the most vulnerable and excluded people of the world – both in times of crisis and for the longer term. We give people survival essentials when they are without shelter or refuge, and help them find the strength and resources, they need to flourish and protect themselves from shocks and disasters.

We support people to stand up for their rights and to build stable, secure lives they can enjoy living.'

Back in 1945 Christian Aid was formed by the churches of Britain and Ireland to help refugees after the war. It continues to be their agency for tackling the root causes of poverty in some of the poorest places in the world. It benefits all faiths and none.

Your Christian Aid envelope is enclosed with this Ouse News, so please don't throw it away. Someone will call to collect your donation, however big or small to help those whose lives are far worse than many of us can imagine.

If you have **questions about Christian Aid**, please visit their website where there is a wealth of information about their vital work.

Many thanks to you all.

Sue Whitehouse

Felmersham May Festival Was a Delight

From an Account in the Bedfordshire Times and Independent May 1952

The old-world garden of Felmersham Vicarage provided an ideal setting for the May Festival on 22nd May, and the weather, too, was in keeping. The programme opened with the singing of the Bedfordshire carol, "Hark my soul how everything", during which a procession made up of heralds, the new May Queen (Miss Edna Marsh), and eight former Queens took their places. The new Queen was crowned by last year's Queen (Miss Dorothy Constant), and Miss Fenton of the Bedford Rural Music School, presented her with a silver cross and chain.

The followed Morris and Maypole dancers, and recorder playing, and a play, "Sir Francis Drake", in which the principal characters were Davis Constant, Chris Lovell, Michael Podd, Brian Cockings, Terry Albury, George Lord, George brown, Terence Marsh, Peter Payne, Brian Norman and Geoffrey Hulatt. The programme ended with square dances and a folk dance.

The Rev A L Martin thanked the Head Mistress, Mrs W M Mellon, and Miss Taylor for a most enjoyable evening. A collection was taken for the school fund.

NEW BLUE PLAQUES HONOUR DYNAMIC VICTORIAN DUO

Joshua and Hester Hawkins – both extraordinary figures in Bedford's history – have been recognised with the unveiling of a new plaque. The fifth in a series of new blue plaques around the town, it's situated on the wall of 18 Linden Road, the couple's former address and now home to the YMCA.



As five times mayor, businessman and editor of the Bedfordshire Times, Joshua Hawkins was pivotal in the provision of some of Bedford's most recognisable landmarks including Bedford Park, the Embankment, County Bridge and the suspension bridge.

Also honoured on the plaque, Hester Hawkins was equally highly regarded in her capacity as a novelist, astronomer and hymn writer – the couple forming a formidable and impactful force.

Joshua Hawkins' name is preserved on four additional blue plaques throughout the town at County Bridge, Prebend Street; the Suspension Bridge; the old Fire Station, Mill Street and the main building at Bedford School. thebedfordclanger.com

WI

Blanche Smith

How many AGM's start with a fish & chip supper prior to the somewhat boring business to follow? Well, in our Institute we put pleasure before business! Tables set for 6, beautifully arranged with vases of yellow tulips and matching napkins made fish & chips look positively gourmet dining! A very enjoyable experience.

Our finances are healthy and in the good hands of Gina, our Treasurer, who gave her annual report which was unanimously approved. May, our long-serving (or should I say suffering) Secretary reported on the very varied and interesting programme over the last 12 months including our social events. Ruth Gill, County Advisor, presided over the election of President and Sue consented and was duly elected for another year - to much applause by the members! Sue thanked everyone, especially the committee and all those who volunteered their help and support when it was needed. The draw for the Denman Bursary was won by Pat Jones.

At the next meeting on May 21st, Peter Gage will give his talk on Native Americans. New members and/or visitors are always welcome so please come and join this friendly group of ladies.

THE LOSSEN

A film shot on location in Felmersham is to be screened at Bedford Cineworld on Thursday 16th May. **'The Lossen'** was filmed mostly in Church End during a week long shoot. The film is a magical tale about living your dreams and has since gone on to **win awards in the USA at the Rhode Island International Film Festival and recently won a Gold Award at Worldfest in Houston, Texas.** Felmersham resident **Colin Skevington**, who wrote, produced and directed the film said, "Without the support and kindness of the people of Felmersham, making this film would simply not have been possible".

There are two screenings of the film on the 16th May at 6.30pm and 7.25pm. Come along and support local cinema and see why this film is winning awards.

Tickets are £5.49 and can be purchased online at www.thelossen.com and clicking on 'Screenings' top left of the website. You can also see a trailer on the website.

Greensand Country Festival 2019

Following the huge success of the first Greensand Country Festival last year, the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership has an even BIGGER and BETTER programme of events for May 2019.

The Festival is a celebration of Greensand Country, and we encourage you to get out and explore the distinct and beautiful countryside on your doorstep. There are a variety of events for all ages and interests, including cookery classes, churchyard tours, history talks, nature walks, treasure trails, photo competitions, art workshops, children's activities and traditional country crafts.

Teaming up with many local organisations, from well-established walking groups such as The Ramblers, Walk2Fitness and Walk4Health to local organisations including Warden Abbey Vineyard, Kelchner Brewery and Higher Adventure, the festival is great opportunity to engage with the local landscape.

View the PDF of the [Greensand Country Festival Guide 2019](#) for a full list of events and activities taking place across the landscape this May on the website www.greensandcountry.com.