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REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Tuesday	7.30 pm	Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
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REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

1st Monday in each month	7.30pm Monday Sisters	The Sun
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
2nd Thursday in each month	3.00pm Thursday Club	Committee Room
3rd Tuesday in each month	7.30pm WI	Committee Room

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector	Revd Paolo Di Leo (from 4 November)
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

November 2019

Christmas is just a few weeks away, yet for many people today Christmas is actually a time of sorrow as the true meaning of Christmas has been distorted. They don't have the extra money to buy presents for their children, family, and friends. Many are saddened when they think of their loved ones who will not be able to come home for various reasons. Presents and Christmas dinners may be only a wish and not a reality for some. As we journey towards Christmas, many of us will be caught up in the hustle and bustle of the lead up to Christmas. The chances are on Christmas Day many of us will be so exhausted that we do not have the energy to enjoy it.

But there is so much more we can freely give to others that costs us nothing, and research shows that giving doesn't just feel good, it's also good for our own health. We often lose sight of the small steps we can personally take to improve the lives of those around us and offer them the greatest gifts we have to give - kindness and care. There are many ways we can offer the gift of kindness and care that can bring about a positive impact on a person's mood or spirit, not expecting anything in return except the warm feeling we get from knowing we are doing something good for someone else, in the form of a smile, acknowledging their presence, listening and if possible giving them time.

In our villages there are people who volunteer to help others as part of a volunteer team and others who give quiet and private care individually. Acts of kindness and care requires minimal effort but can be priceless to the receiver as they are not put in the drawer or handed to a charity shop like so many unwanted gifts; acts of kindness are kept in the heart for ever. If we give acts of kindness of any description to each person we meet, not just our family and friends, then we can then have Christmas every day. **Rosemary Drewery**

The Community Service for People Who Care on Sunday 27th October at St Mary's gave thanks to all those individuals and organisations run by people in our two villages for the benefit of others.

Services at St Mary's, Felmersham

Sunday 3 November	<i>All Saints Day</i> NO SERVICE AT ST MARY'S 10.30pm Benefice Patronal Festival Communion at All Saints, Souldrop
Monday 4 November	7.30pm The Licensing and Induction of the Revd Paolo Di Leo as Rector of the Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Knotting with Souldrop at St Peter's, Sharnbrook.
Thursday 7 November	9.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 10 November	<i>Remembrance Sunday</i> <i>3rd Sunday before Advent</i> 10.45am Act of Remembrance and Service
Thursday 14 November	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 17 November	<i>2nd Sunday before Advent</i> 11.00am Parish Communion
Thursday 21 November	9.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 24 November	<i>Christ the King</i> 11am Choral Matins
Thursday 28 November	9.30am Holy Communion

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Thank you to everyone who supported the work of the charity by buying Christmas cards at the October church coffee morning when £180 was raised. Thanks also to Jane and Ernest Carwithen who allowed us to "gate crash" their coffee morning and also to Jane Wells for accommodating the charity in the coffee morning schedule.

Andy Evans

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Barney's Barn Pet Grooming Radwell	Helen 782402	Gardening Services	Jack Charman 01234 954873 07766 762887
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AUTUMN SEASON

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

Book & Lyrics by Julian Woodford, Music by Richard John

Tuesday 26th - Saturday 30th November 7.30pm

with a special matinée performance Saturday 30th November, 2.30pm.

Set in Edwardian England,

The **Railway Children** follows three children and their mother, who move to the countryside fall in love with the nearby railway and local townspeople.

A perfect family musical - ideal for an early Christmas treat.

The show features a strong youth and adult cast with an award-winning creative team. It's sure to get you in the Festive mood!

First Night, Tuesday 26th November, hosted by St Marys Church, Higham Ferrers

Tickets, £15, from Sue Dennis 01933 317648

sdennis@jetnet.co.uk or in person from

Sidey Design Associates, 10 Market Square, Higham Ferrers.

Tickets for Wednesday 27th – Saturday 30th November (£1 booking fee) £12/13

are available online:

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/



Disabled Access: 2 wheelchair spaces and please phone Alison Bean (01234) 781372 to book; easier access seating A-C; hearing loop covering the whole Auditorium.



RUBY RECOLLECTIONS

Celebrating 40th Years at The Mill with LINCOLN NOEL & FRIENDS

Saturday 7th December, 6.45 for 7.30pm

Tickets £16, including a glass of fizz,

available now from Pick-a-Lily, florists, High St/Park Lane, Sharnbrook

or www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets

In aid of the Cool-Down Appeal

COFFEE MORNING: SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER

Jane Wells

The **November Coffee Morning** to raise funds for the Church Restoration Fund will be hosted by **Bruce and Lynn Edwards, Felmersham on Saturday 2nd November 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 December** will be hosted by Graeme and Cherrie Dawson, Milton Ernest on Saturday 7th December.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

10.45am Gather at the War Memorial

10.50am A short Act of Remembrance, Last Post and 2-minute silence

11.05am [approx] Follow Choir to St Mary's Church

11.15am [approx] Remembrance Service in St. Mary's

You are invited to stay afterwards for coffee /tea and cake

Please would residents who need to pass by the War Memorial in cars at this time respect the occasion and drive slowly.

Christmas Tree Festival 4th - 8th December

St Paul's Church, St Paul's Square, Bedford, MK40 1SQ

This year's theme for the **annual Christmas Tree Festival** is **Twelve Days of Christmas**. It will be the 19th year that the Festival has taken place in St Paul's Church in the centre of Bedford in support of the Church and the Bedford Hospital Charity & Friends. It is now a firm favourite by many who see this as their start to Christmas and to come and enjoy the historic and beautiful St Paul's Church lit by over 70 trees decorated by so many community groups, schools and firms.

Wed-Sat 10-5, Sunday 12-4. £2.50. Free under 16 years

Daily community concerts, competitions, refreshments

The annual **Christmas Tree Festival Concert** will be held on Friday 6th December, at 7.30pm with the **Philharmonia Cello Quartet** performing. Tickets @ £17.50 include mulled wine and a mince pie and the chance to enjoy the trees in a night time setting.

Further details at www.stpaulschurchbedford.org.uk/ Tel 01234 340163

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Emmaus Village Carlton

PLEASE HELP: Yesterday evening (Sept 19) some of our hard-working companions and staff went out to do our regular weekly 'Rucksack Stomp' in Northampton centre. We helped over 70 homeless people with food, clothes, toiletries etc. - a very humbling experience as always. But we noticed that worryingly, the number of street homeless people are increasing each week. Yesterday we ran out of underwear, warm clothes and wet wipes.

URGENT APPEAL: If anyone could help by donating new (or as new) underwear, warm adult clothing and/or packs of wet wipes, we'd be very grateful. We've set up special drop-off points in our Emmaus Village Carlton Home Store and in the Bistro.

Please share if you know others who might be able to help.

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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

November 12th and 26th

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

The Methodist Church, Park Lane,
Sharnbrook

Churches Together working with
Tibbs Dementia Foundation

Suggested Donation £2

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

Think Before You Waste It

While our need for water increases as populations rise, our water supply
doesn't increase so being a *finite* source, one day it could run out.

The UK has less available water per person than most other European
countries and London is drier than Istanbul.

The whole of the South East England has less available water per person than
the Sudan and Syria.

If each person in the world took active steps to reduce the amount of water
they waste, it could help reduce the impact of water shortages and drought
across the world.

Just

One bath uses about 80 litres of water?

When you flush the toilet it uses around 4 litres of water

One full load in the washing machine uses anything between 50 and 100 litres?

A five-minute shower uses 45 litres?!

Waterwise UK responsible for improving water efficiency in the UK

WI

May Mills

Ernie Almond is one of Britain's most experienced children's entertainers, but we did not know this when he arrived to talk about his life, although as soon as he began, we knew he was someone special. His love of entertaining began at the age of five on stage at an annual concert in Harpenden, followed by doing magic tricks at age ten, then working men's clubs, and graduating to more up-market venues as a teenager. He decided to turn professional after realising that there were only three children's entertainers in the whole of London. Over the years he has performed for the children of Royalty and stars of show business, and as compere of the annual Lord Mayor of London's Children's Party at the Mansion House. His stories included Christmas parties at Althorp with Lord Spencer and Diana and Prince Harry's seventh birthday. His website describes him as friendly, funny and able to keep a large group of children entranced. He certainly kept a group of WI ladies entertained!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 19th November.

FELMERSHAM AND RADWELL VILLAGE HALL

QUIZ NIGHT SATURDAY 30th NOVEMBER

7pm for 7.30pm start

TICKETS £12.50 per person

**Includes a 2 course supper
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**FROM THE SECOND WORLD WAR ARCHIVES OF THE WELLS FAMILY
THE BATTLE OF FELMERSHAM, SUNDAY 17TH MAY 1942**

Dorothy Wells of Felmersham Grange, wife of Sir Richard Wells the Bedford MP, had nine children and typed newsletters to them, often twice or even three times a week, from 1935 to 1956.

By February 1942 three had been killed in action: Kit on the carrier HMS Glorious, Jimmy leading 600 Sqdn against the German invasion of Holland, and Tom (Beds & Herts Regt) at the fall of Singapore. All three are commemorated in Felmersham Church's east window.

This extract from a 1942 General News Bulletin (as Dorothy called them) tells her surviving children about the Battle of Felmersham and her grandchildren's part in it.

Some background to this account :-

Mrs Milburn is Mary, Dorothy's eldest daughter and the only child who did not end up in uniform in WW 2. She passed on about 15 years ago.

Sarah is Dorothy's other daughter who is still alive, about 97 now, and lives in Dorset.

Gepps is Mary's second daughter who lives locally and was tiny at the time, about 2,.

Pooh is Mary's first who lives in the East Coast and is about 80 now, so would have been about 4 at the time.

Micky is a West Highland Terrier.

General News Bulletin - Monday May 18th 1942

What with one thing and another, we had quite an exciting week-end.... On Sunday Morning, Mrs Milburn and Sarah and Micky and I went to Church at 10, and did not notice anything out of the way; there was a full-scale Home Guard exercise on, with Regular Troops (from Sharnbrook) attacking Felmersham.

They kindly waited until after Church, and then I took Gepps [Georgina] out for her sleep, and seeing a lot of men along the Carlton Road, thought it would be quiet up in the orchard, so wheeled her up and down the grass paths for her morning sleep. But very soon we found we were right in the thick of the battle, with troops crawling about on all sides among the apple trees, guns going off all around, and a bomb in the top garden!

An innocent looking couple, man and girl, turned out to be 5th Columnists, and threw a bomb at our people: they had been in Church with revolvers and bombs in their pockets! (Weren't we grossly stupid not to have noticed? But would YOU have gone up to the innocent-looking people coming out of Church and demanded to search their pockets?)

So it was just about as noisy as could be, but dear old Gepps slept like a top through all the racket! We had about 8 officers of the Home Guard and Attacking Regiment in to sherry afterwards, and they told us that Felmersham had been jolly well guarded, and had repelled the attackers and put up a good show. So we were much gratified.

Mrs Milburn had Pooh [Philippa] along the Carlton Road and said Pooh was enchanted with the soldiers, and thought the grasses and leaves in their hats were a scream - she roared with laughter at them.... The battle was all over by about 12.20 and we had quite a peaceful afternoon.

Festival 2020

Celebrating 800 years of

St Mary's Church Felmersham



Earlier this year we invited people to join us in organising celebrations to mark this significant anniversary. Since then we have made a lot of progress. The following is an outline of some of the activities planned, some with dates still to be arranged.

28th March - Concert in the Church with Janet Welsh's combined choirs.

Some time in May - Talk by Ken Shrimpton in the Church. As many of you will know, Ken has a wide knowledge of the Church and the villages.

13th June - Concert in the Church organised by Janet Welsh. Details to follow at a later date.

11th/12th July Festival weekend

11th July - 'Treasure Hunt' followed by Street Party in Church End.

11th July - Hog Roast at The Sun

12th July - Songs of Praise

16th August - St Mary's Patronal Festival Communion. The Bishop of Bedford will be joining us.

- A Display of Talents (sewing, embroidery etc.) will be on show, organised by Paul and Pat Keeble.

Autumn TBA - A Concert with Janet Welsh. This will be a 'mixed bag'.

October TBA - Historic Documents Display in the Village Hall – Ken Shrimpton

The 'Treasure Hunt' is a chance for the younger members of our community to find between 10 and 15 points or items of interest in and around the Church. There will be a prize for the winner. We are also planning a story-writing competition with the Church at the core of the story. For the Songs of Praise we will be inviting people to let us know their favourite hymns.

We have a standing committee but we would appreciate all help offered. There is a lot to do, in particular for the Street Party. If you are able to lend a hand, please let us know. Thank you very much.

Jane Rhodes

Stephen Hill 01234 781064 – Elaine Longstaff 07501 516274 – Jane Rhodes 01234 782138 – Ken Shrimpton 01234 781381 – Jane Templeman 07885 617582 – Jane Wells 01234 782462 – Janet Welsh 01234 781010 – Sue Whitehouse 01234 781300