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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	(782000)
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

January 2020

Traces and Memories

Letter from the Rector: Revd. Paolo Di Leo

As we enter 2020 I am sure that we have all enjoyed those TV and radio programmes or read newspaper articles that remind of us of all the key events that occurred in 2019. We may also have spent time reflecting and remembering all we did, the places we went and all the people we met in 2019. We have all left traces of our selves and made memories in 2019.

I enjoy charity and antique shops. Even if I really do not know what I want or in fact need, I seem to be drawn to enter and browse the often eclectic and random items, picking them up, examining them and inevitably putting them back down, only for my curiosity to focus on another random item for me to pick up and examine and put back down.

I have often wondered if one of these items may be a long lost artifact of great historical importance and for me to become the great discoverer that found the missing historical link to some great historical mystery. Alas, so far I have a small collection of random items of which the most significant historical importance is that I bought them! Hardly the kind of hoard, that Indiana Jones would risk life and limb to rescue and enshrine in one of the world's great museums or universities or that would place me on the cover page of Time Magazine or be the star turn on the Antiques Road Show. (Ctd.)



Services at St Mary's, Felmersham

for January 2020

Thursday 2nd January 9.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 5th January The Feast of Epiphany

11am Parish Communion



Thursday 9th January 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 12th January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

11am Parish Communion

Thursday 16th January 9.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 19th January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

****No Morning Service at St Mary's****

**10.30am CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVICE for Week of
Prayer for Christian Unity, St Peter's, Sharnbrook**

Thursday 23rd January 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 26th January 4th Sunday of Epiphany

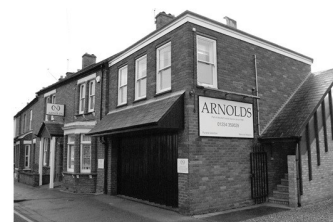
11am Choral Matins

Thursday 30th January 9.30am Morning Prayer

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Barney's Barn Pet Grooming Radwell	Helen 01234 782402	Reflexology	Jackie Chambers MAR 07803 157963 783189
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SPRING 2020 at SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE

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SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY 7.30pm

IS THERE ANYBODY THERE? AN EVENING OF CLAIRVOYANCE

with Wayne Marriott from The Open Circle

Wayne, Francis Nurse in our recent production of The Crucible, will take us on an exciting adventure exploring the world of the supernatural.

Tickets £15 (£1 booking fee) on sale now on-line as above* or from Pick-a-Lily, Florists, Sharnbrook

WEDNESDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 12 FOR 12.30pm

'SAY CHEESE!' Speaker: Christine Twell, Cheese-maker from Neneview Dairy,

will delight us with stories of her craft and business, following a

2-COURSE LUNCH Wine & soft drinks available Raffle

Tickets £16 01933 356974 or virginiapope@icloud.com (NB: source change).

N O C T U R N E at The Quarry Theatre, Bedford

COMPOSER PORTRAIT OF FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY

Champagne Reception 6.15; Performance 7.00pm

LUCY PARHAM, World Renowned Pianist, with narrators:

PATRICIA HODGE & ALEX JENNINGS (subject to other engagements).

Words and music scripted and adapted by Lucy Parham from his letters and diaries, which chronicle the romantic life of one of the greatest and most popular composers for solo piano.

Readings interspersed with some of his most loved and poignant compositions.

TICKETS £25 (+ booking fee) AVAILABLE NOW, from THE QUARRY THEATRE, EARLY BOOKING ADVISED!

St Peters Street, Bedford - on-line <http://www.quarrytheatre.org.uk> (01234)362337 (a-p)

'DAISY PULLS IT OFF'

TUESDAY 3RD - SATURDAY 7TH MARCH, 7.30pm & SPECIAL MATINÉE MARCH 2.30pm

A Youth-led drama by Denise Deegan

Daisy, a girl from a poor background, must overcome prejudice and schoolgirl pranks from wealthier girls at an English boarding school. Find out if she succeeds!

T I C K E T S: Tuesday 3rd March - Charity Night

On behalf of St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook; please contact Roland Carpenter, 01234 781551

Wednesday 4th - Saturday 7th March £10/11

(£1 booking fee) on-line, as above* or Pick-a-Lily, Florist, Sharnbrook, in person.

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH AT 7.30pm

THE WORLD OF GILBERT & SULLIVAN BY THE WANDERING MINSTRELS, IN FULL PERIOD COSTUME;

A superb, light-hearted evening is promised of Savoy favourites, combining the immortal wit of W.S Gilbert and the enchanting music of Arthur Sullivan, in scenes from their comic operas, in traditional style, by this highly accomplished group of singers with their concert pianist.

Tickets £15 on sale now on-line as above* or Pick-a-Lily, Florists, Sharnbrook.

The events on 18th Jan., 12th, 23rd Feb. and 28th March are in aid of Sharnbrook Mill Theatre Cool-Down Appeal

(Ctd.) However, whilst in these charity or antique shops, examining these items, I have sometimes reflected on the people who originally owned them. Who were they? Where were they from? What were their lives like? Each item once belonged to someone, had a specific purpose, was part of a life or many lives. In many ways these items are more than simply random functional or artistic objects; they are traces of lives lived. They carry and in fact are also traces and memories of other people.

As we live our lives we all leave memories, some form of trace. Every day we are making an impression on life that other people experience and remember. These memories, these traces, remain with them and affect them, even when we are not there. Our lives leave a trace wherever we are and wherever we go and make a difference to other people.

All acts of love, kindness and generosity, however small or random, will leave a beautiful trace and a fragrant memory of our lives, for others to notice, feel and pick up and examine. So it is, that our lives are important, they are not insignificant; our lives influence the lives of others, they also reveal the image of God, who is love, and is revealed through us.

Saint John writes; "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us" (1 John 4:7-21)

May we begin 2020 with a wish and desire to make good memories and leave lasting loving traces with whoever we meet, wherever we are and what ever we are doing. May we pray that we nurture a desire to make others important and to leave loving memories and lasting traces and in so doing reveal not just our love but also the love of God for others.

People may sometimes remember what we say, they will more often remember what we do, but people will always remember how we made them feel.

I wish and pray that you may have a wonderful and blessed 2020.

Rev. Paolo Di Leo

COFFEE MORNINGS

Jane Wells

There will be no coffee morning in January.

The next coffee morning to raise funds for the Church Restoration fund will be on **Saturday 1st February** at the home of Jon and Mili, Felmersham at 10.30am. There will be a small bring and buy stall, friendly chatter and a raffle. Please join us.

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Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 21st January 2020**
with a talk by Susan Wallis about the Campaign to
Protect the Development of North Bedfordshire.

theWI
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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

January 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 £2

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

HOMELESSNESS: Extract from The Guardian 3 December 2019

Housing Charity Shelter estimates that a child loses their home every eight minutes – 183 children per day.

London has the highest concentration of homeless youngsters with about 88,000 children homeless and in temporary accommodation in the capital at the beginning of 2019 – equivalent to one in every 24 children.

Outside London, the places worst affected were: **Luton** (one in 22 children); **Brighton & Hove** (one in 30); **Manchester** (one in 47); and **Slough** (one in 53). In Wales, one in 412 children are homeless, up 28% since 2015, while in Scotland one in 160 children were homeless, up 64% since 2014.

Over the past five years the number of homeless children living in temporary accommodation in Britain has risen by 51%. Latest figures show 5,683 children were living in emergency temporary accommodation such as B&Bs or hostels, up 11% since 2014.

Earlier this year an analysis by the Children's Commissioner for England estimated that on top of the 124,000 children in temporary accommodation in England at the end of 2019, a further 92,000 were sofa-surfing with friends or relatives.

2020 AND ALL THAT

Sue Whitehouse



A few months ago in this publication, Jane Rhodes announced plans for the 800th birthday of our church and asked for ideas. One suggestion was that we plant 800 trees in the parish and whilst this may seem a bit ambitious, it is a worthy suggestion in times when deforestation is a global issue and we all need to take more care of trees and nature in general.

To start the ball rolling, it is hoped to set up a community orchard on the allotment site with suitable donated fruit trees. We know that Bedford Borough Council is giving away native trees to encourage community planting and will be creating a small woodland area on the old Daisy Bank site on the Carlton Road. This site is now in the remit of the Parish council and we will count these towards our 800. We will also be discussing with the Parish council about other planting possibilities.

If you are thinking of planting a tree in your garden; If you own farmland and can include some new trees somewhere; if you are willing to donate a tree please let us know.

This is intended to be a longer-term project and we may not achieve 800 trees but it represents a target and we might just add to the beauty of our villages.

If you are interested, please contact me or Eric Barford. Thanks to Tom McCreedy for the original suggestion.

ODELL GARDENING CLUB

Odell Gardening Club has had a very successful first year which has included a programme of speakers, garden visits and social events. **The first meeting for 2020 is at Odell Village Hall on Thursday 16th January at 7:30pm.** One of the main events of the year will be **Odell Open Gardens on Sunday 28th June.**

If you would like more information on the Club or Open Gardens Event, please contact Mary Crouch 01234 711 503 / maryjcrouch@icloud.com.

DO YOU HAVE TEENAGE KIDS AT A LOOSE END IN THE VILLAGE?

Graham Leeson

I am a parent living in Felmersham, and looking to set up a Youth Club for any children/teenagers (eg. 13-17) living in Felmersham/Radwell who might be at a loose end during the dark winter months and/or summer evenings.

At this stage, it is just an idea, but I thought I would put the feelers out to see if anyone is interested in helping set it up before I get too far with it. I think it would be great for the kids to have something to do or somewhere to go once a week in the village. So if you are up for a new year's resolution, here's one possibility.. Contact me (Graham) on leeson003@gmail.com or 07887 607582.

A PLACE FOR WILDLIFE



The Church of England actively promotes the creation of wildlife areas in churchyards, to which end, last year, we sectioned off an area of grass for wildflowers. We were given a nest box and a bee house and children helped build a bug hotel. It may take a little while for the wildflowers to really become established but at the end of summer 2019 we already had a few new additions.

We would like to expand our efforts with a few more bird boxes and would particularly like a Tawny Owl box, but realise these can be expensive.

If anyone shares our enthusiasm to help the wildlife in our area and is willing to donate a bird box, a sparrow terrace or even something as special as an owl box, I would love to hear from you. **Sue Whitehouse**

The Chilterns AONB

For more information about this area

www.chilternsaonb.org

Carlton Squash Club

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2020 Open Days

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School Lane, Carlton on one of the following days:

Sunday 12th January 10am - 1pm

Saturday 18th January 2pm - 5pm

Thursday 23rd January 6pm - 8pm

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For more information: Carltonsquashclub@gmail.com

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COMMUNITY COLLECTION FOR THE BEDFORD FOODBANK

A very big thank you to all of the residents and their friends in Felmersham and Radwell who generously provided items following the appeal during December and also to those acting as collecting points. The Foodbank was very appreciative of all our efforts and we took them around 400 items the day following the Carol Service.

The following letter has since been received.

Pat Keeble

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL VILLAGES

I am writing to say 'Thank You' for your recent food donation to the Bedford Foodbank, weighing 150.25 kg which will provide 357 meals.

Your donation will help us to carry on providing a nutritionally balanced supply of food to individuals and families in and around Bedford who are facing really tough times, and who would otherwise struggle to put food on the table.

Unfortunately, the need for help from the Foodbank continues to increase year upon year and we now regularly feed over 500 people a month, giving them enough food for 3-4 days, or around 10 meals. The monthly food leaving our warehouse is generally in the region of 5-6 tonnes, so we are very grateful for all donations, whether money or food that we receive, as each one is vital for the ongoing work of the Foodbank, and is greatly appreciated.

It is sad that help like this is needed, but great that individuals, organisations and communities can come together to meet the increasing need in Bedford and the surrounding villages.

You may be interested to know that in November 2019 we helped 683 people, 233 of these were children.

Kind regards,

Volunteer Admin Support

Bedford Foodbank
Office [01234 268569](tel:01234268569)