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REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Tuesday	Table Tennis Club– No sessions due to Covid-19	Village Hall
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REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES - ALL POSTPONED EXCEPT PC

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

OUSE NEWS

Parish Online: www.felmersham.net

March 2021

Worry

Revd Paolo Di Leo

Standing by the islands watching the River Ouse pass by I was reminded of a saying by A.A. Milne who wisely said, 'A river knows this: there is no hurry we shall get there someday'.

I can't remember if the quote was attributed to any of his characters. If you happen to know please let me know. I can't imagine it would be the kind of utterance that Piglet would offer. Piglet if I remember was quiet and intelligent; a timid soul prone to worry. Often

worry would lead him to shrink away from situations preferring the mild comfort of offering some words of caution and then retiring behind Pooh or Christopher Robin whom he saw as his friends and a place of safety. Friends are always a good place with which to share our worries.

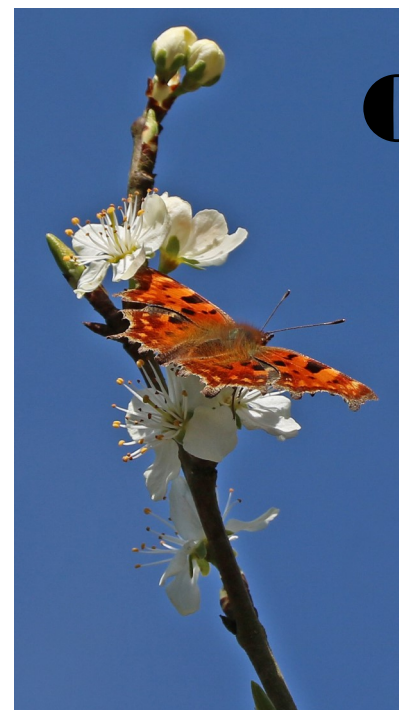
Naturally we all worry from time to time, worries may persist and many times we may feel we have good reason to worry. Our present situation regarding the COVID crisis is a case in point. It's a worrying and serious situation that as I write seems to be mercifully getting better, but we are not out of the woods.

A good friend of mine recently reminded me that there is no such thing as 'good worry' unless it is translated into focused concern and some form of positive action. I think he makes a very valid point. When worry grips us we need an outlet within which we can allay that worry.

One of those outlets is to perhaps remind ourselves of past difficult situations that have come to a resolution despite our worry. To acknowledge that past situations have been resolved, serves to allay some of our worries today and generates a hope and faith that our present worries will come to an end. It may also temper a propensity to worry about matters that have yet to arrive. This kind (Ctd. on page 5)

Many thanks to Sarah Axtell Royal for this month's Header of

A Comma Butterfly on Blossom



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THE CHURCH
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Welcome



The Online Services each week are as follows:-

Sundays: 9.30am Holy Communion
Wednesdays: 9.30am Holy Communion (BCP/CW)
Thursdays: 9.30am Morning Prayer (CW)

Compline: 9.00pm Every Mon, Wed and Fri

and also do remember

Tuesdays: 10 -11 am 'Hall of Friends' An informal chat session with friends over coffee

For online services:-

The Link is: <https://zoom.us/j/763110804>

The Password is: 079014

For 'Hall of Friends':

the Link is: <https://zoom.us/j/99397336200>

FORTHCOMING CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

Sunday 7th March	11am Holy Communion at All Saints, Souldrop 3pm Evensong at St Peter's, Sharnbrook
Sunday 14th March Mothering Sunday	11am Holy Communion at St Peter's, Sharnbrook
Sunday 21st March	3pm Evensong at St Peter's, Sharnbrook



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Barney's Barn Pet Grooming Radwell	Helen 01234 782402	Maths Tuition (inc. A Level & Further Maths)	Geraldine Hubbard 781413
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Whilst we are unable to put on shows or fundraising events at present, owing to the restrictions, although prospects are hopefully becoming more promising, The Mill Theatre is still here to continue to support you and our local community; to help combat loneliness and support mental health and well-being.

Please join us for the following on-line events via Zoom...

Friday, 12th March – QUIZ NIGHT!

We're back with another on-line quiz, this time hosted by Kathryn Rose; 8 rounds of family friendly trivia to help keep you and your family and friends' brains active - whilst hopefully having fun and keeping safe.

Email live@sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk to register individually or as a team and to receive the free Zoom link.

Friday, 19th March - 7.30pm 'COMMUNICATION IS EVERYTHING'

Back by popular demand, Paul Wildman, experienced Drama teacher, director and long-term Mill member, will be leading his second (during pandemic) free on-line drama / **communication workshop** via Zoom.

In this one-hour workshop there will be games and exercises that develop trust, listening and uncover your storytelling skills.

These exercises allow you to connect with yourself and others, build empathy, compassion and collaboration. The workshop is suitable for anyone wanting to make new connections; no drama or performance experience is necessary.

The session will be facilitated in a supportive, friendly and fun environment.

For more information or to book, please email: paul@improv-ed.co.uk.

Spaces are limited to just **10 participants** (over 18 years only please).

20th March VIRTUAL COFFEE MORNING

(monthly, 3rd Saturday, 10.30 - 12 noon)

Open to Mill Members and the wider community; with coffee as you like it, at home! Host Kathryn Rose, Vice Chair of the Governors. Do join us for a chat - get to know us better - ask Kathryn questions about 'The Mill' - our plans - fundraising - how we tick! We look forward to seeing you!

Email live@sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk to receive the free Zoom link.

Visit: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/news to keep up to date

Registered Charity 242164



Palm Sunday	9.30am Online Holy Communion
Sunday 28th March	11am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Felmersham
29th & 30th March	9.30am Morning Prayer
	9pm Compline
Wed 31st March	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
	9pm Compline
Maunday Thursday	9.30am Morning Prayer
1st April	7.30pm Holy Communion of the Last Supper
Good Friday	12noon Stations of the Cross and Passion Narrative
2nd April	
Holy Saturday	8pm Service of Light and Renewal of Baptism Vows
3rd April	
Easter Sunday	9.30am Online Holy Communion
4th April	11am Easter Holy Communion at St Peter's, Sharnbrook

Lenten Bible Study Group

continues online
on
Tuesday 9th and 16th March
at 7.30pm



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Farewell....

Brian Smith lived in West Grange for about forty years with his wife and children. Brian, a Chartered Accountant, was a keen sportsman who loved poetry and family life. His children and grandchildren have many fond memories of their time spent together.

Denise Canning

Gillian Johnston and David Canning

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all the messages, cards, and support that the family has received both during our Mum's illness and since her passing on 15 February. Mum loved living in Felmersham and was an active member of the community during the 10 years she was here; whether at St Mary's Church, WI, Thursday Club, or up at the allotment; and it has been a great comfort to know how loved and valued she was by so many in our small community.

Mum's funeral will be held at St Mary's Church, Felmersham, on Tuesday 23 March at 1.00pm, with a committal afterwards at Norse Road Crematorium at 2.30pm. Unfortunately, due to current circumstances we have had to limit attendance to family members only.

Should anyone wish to make a donation in Mum's memory, we have chosen three causes that were very dear to her: -

St Mary's Church Restoration Fund You can write a cheque made payable to "Felmersham PCC Restoration Fund" or pay by BACS, the account number being 21165038, sort code 401002. Please can you indicate that your donation is in memory of Denise Canning. Cheques to the Treasurer, Stephen Hill, at 46 Marriotts Close.

The British Thoroughbred Retraining Centre The UK's first charity established for the welfare, rehabilitation, retraining and rehoming of retired racehorses. Please either make a donation online by going to www.justgiving.com/denisecanning; or make out a cheque payable to "The British Thoroughbred Retraining Centre LTD" and pop it through the letterbox at East Cottage, Grange Road, Felmersham and we will forward to the BTRC.

Bolton Hospice An independent charity providing expert care and support for local people facing life-limiting illnesses, and their families. Please either make out a cheque payable to "Bolton Hospice" and pop it through the letterbox of East Cottage, Grange Road, Felmersham and we will forward to the Hospice; or if you prefer to make an online donation go to www.boltonhospice.org.uk/one-off-donation and select the option 'A donation in memory of someone' and enter Mum's name in the space provided.

Bill Britton, although he lived in **Sharnbrook** for 55 years, was well known to many here. He was an active member of the Parish Council, going on to become Chair, as well as serving for a number of years on the Parochial Church Council.

Any donations in respect and memory of Bill are to be divided equally between The Tibbs Dementia Foundation and St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook. Please contact roland.carpenter@tiscali.co.uk for methods of payment. If you would like to see and/or add your own memories see <https://ouseinfo.mk437.net/thebrittons/index.php>.

Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes to their families and to all who grieve for lost loved ones.

(Ctd. from page 1) of worry is perhaps the most 'worrisome' since it could escalate into an uncontrollable whirlpool of anxiety.

Jesus' disciples, despite believing that Jesus was the Son of God, often worried about the future and how they would cope. On one of these occasions Jesus' response was as follows:

"Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?" Matthew 6:25-27

Alongside God's love and providence Jesus is also here including our experiences. He is pointing our focus away from our worries towards positive experiences given to us which give us hope of better times ahead.

The Easter story reminds us that God himself through Jesus' humanity also experienced tragedy and pain emphasising that God is with us and understands when we feel overwhelmed by pain and worry. However, the Easter story ends with a new beginning through the resurrection where all the tragedy and pain of the past is transformed into a new and eternal life of peace, faith and hope with God. God promises us through faith, that just like a river our life will flow to new destinations of 'quiet and still waters' refreshing our soul and washing away our worries.

THANK YOU

Sue Whitehouse

Very many thanks to all who have contributed to the Benefice Covid Relief Fund so far. It will enable us to continue helping local families in these times of uncertainty. It seems unlikely that such problems will end any time soon and we can probably look forward to more hardship for some when the government furlough scheme ends, so please continue to give what you can. It makes all the difference.

On another note, thanks also to those who kindly contributed to Church Restoration in memory of Ken Shrimpton. We have been able to instruct a stone mason/builder to go ahead with the work on the boundary wall along the main road and where the wall is sagging due to a collapsed drain near the west gate. Hopefully this work will start soon before anything deteriorates further. As may be seen from other stone walls that have collapsed this month; the combination of heavy rain and then frost has not been helpful and there are other areas of concern along the churchyard boundary which will need to be addressed before long, but it is great news that we are able to make a good start, so thank you again to all contributors.



SHARNBROOK BENEFICE COVID RELIEF FUND APPEAL




With the dawn of 2021 comes the hope that imminent vaccination will finally bring the Covid-19 pandemic to a close. But for some, the emotional and financial recovery will be long and painful. The three churches in the Sharnbrook Benefice are launching this joint appeal to raise funds to support local families who have fallen on very hard times. All donations will go into the **SHARNBROOK BENEFICE COVID-19 RELIEF FUND**.

Here are 4 ways to make your donation

by cheque	by text message	online, by card payment	
payable to Sharnbrook PCC delivered to your Church Treasurer or Churchwarden	To donate *e.g. £5, Text RELIEF 5 to 70450 Texts cost £5* plus one standard rate message. (* or £2, £3, £10, £15 etc.)	click this image 	scan QR code 

If you or someone you know in the Benefice is in such circumstances, please contact Revd Paolo Di Leo in complete confidence. Similarly, you can apply for Foodbank vouchers from the Benefice.

Please see the message from St Peter's, Sharnbrook.



PATHS TO PEACE

ENABLING YOU TO FIND
THE LOVE AND PEACE OF GOD

Slowly but surely we are building our network of resources to support our **Paths to Peace** Mission.

St. Peter's is now registered with the Bedford Foodbank, able to issue Food Vouchers to support those across the Benefice who have suffered most in the wake of COVID-19.

If you, or someone you know, is in need of help or support at this very difficult time, you are warmly invited to contact the Rector, or a Churchwarden, in complete confidence.

EASTER ACTIVITIES

Rosie Cheetham

We are putting together plans for lots of activities for the villages to enjoy over Easter. At this point we can't share too many details but want you to save the date w/c 28th March. Please look out for more information on the Felmersham and Radwell Facebook group and the notice-board by the Felmersham bus shelter. We promise there will be chocolate and lots of fun. Everything will be arranged to make sure activities are Covid secure and do not breach government restrictions.



Farewell....

We have said a goodbye to a number of friends recently who have lived in the village for many years and have been a part of this caring community, but now sadly passed on.

Andrew Facey who moved here with wife Sharon and two daughters some fourteen years ago. Born in Bedford, Andrew was a keen walker and reader. He worked as a Network Architect and continued to work throughout his long illness. He will be much missed by his loving family.

A message from his family

Love from the Facey Family xx

To everyone in the village that has sent cards, gifts and thoughtful messages since the passing of Andrew Facey on the 24.12.2020. It has meant a lot to us as a family to receive so much support and love in such a difficult time. The funeral was on 13th January 2021 and Andrew is now buried in St Mary's in Felmersham.

We would also like to thank The Sun Pub for the amazing meal they sent us, it was so thoughtful and a huge surprise.

For anyone who has any memories or any messages they would like to share, there has been a book of Remembrance set up to honour his memory by family and friends.

<http://ouseinfo.mk437.net/andrewfacey/>

Sarah Rafferty, born in the USA, moved to Ireland as a child and later after her marriage, to Portsmouth where she worked as a Civil Servant in a community setting. She came to Felmersham 18 years ago to be near her family to whom she was devoted. A much-loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

ALLOTMENT WARNING

ADVANCED NOTICE

On either **13th or 20th. March**, I will be **burning the big bonfire heap** on the allotments, so please be warned to keep windows closed or washing indoors on those days.

This is partly weather dependent, but as I am obliged to give advanced notice, it is impossible to wait until the wind is in the north or east. If fairly dry it should only take a couple of hours from about 9am so I hope inconvenience will be minimal.

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