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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	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings	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](mailto:janecarwithen@gmail.com)

Items to be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON on 25<sup>th</sup> of the month



# HOUSE NEWS

**Parish Online: [www.felmersham.net](http://www.felmersham.net)**

**May 2021**

## Happy 'Belated' Birthday Your Majesty

The 21st of April seemed to pass by like any other day. However, I would imagine that for the Queen despite it being her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday, it was a day of silent grief, reflection and sadness following the funeral of her beloved husband Prince Philip.

I read with interest some of the headlines surrounding her birthday, and one that

struck me was on the BBC website (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56811715>) where she focused on thanking us the British public and many around the world. In the article she said, "My family and I would like to thank you for all the support and kindness shown to us in recent days." It is extraordinary but not untypical that at this time which is perhaps one of the most difficult times in her life, she turns her mind and heart to think of her family and others, and to thank others for the kindness and support shown.

Through the days and weeks following Prince Philip's death there has been no 'grandstanding' 'theatrics' 'self-acclamations' 'self-pity' 'self-publicity' 'self-focus', ... I could go on. Rarely have I experienced a global leader of such historical import: past, present and in the future, who has not used such a time as this to increase their historical, political, economic, social or personal status and position.

It's noteworthy that she could have used Prince Philip's passing to produce a documentary, write a book, make a film, create a twitter storm, be interviewed by the global media or in fact start her own Holly-Flix reality show. Any of the above would I am certain have made her an instant billionaire. Yet her focus has been on family, public service and her calling to be a monarch dispensing her duties and obligations in and through dedicated service and resolute values.

We are called in the Bible to pray for all our leaders. St Paul and St Peter both pillars of our faith and church tell the early Christian church to "Honour everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honour the emperor" (1Peter 2:17) and that "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings (Ctd. Page 3)

This month's Header : St Mary's Church with the Union Jack flying at half mast in commemoration of the death of Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh

## The United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham

### and Knotting with Souldrop

St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook MK44 1HU, St Mary's Church, Felmersham MK43 7JP All Saints Church, Souldrop MK44 1EX

[www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org](http://www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org)



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

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)

**Sunday 9th May** 10.30am Churches Together Ecumenical Service for Christian Aid

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>

The Password is: 019892

See <http://www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org/> for further details.

#### FORTHCOMING CHURCH SERVICES FOR MAY

Sunday 2nd May	11am Holy Communion at St Peter's, Sharnbrook
Sunday 9th May	11am Holy Communion at All Saints, Souldrop 6pm Evensong at St Peter's, Sharnbrook
Sunday 16th May	11am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Felmersham
Sunday 23rd May	6pm Evensong at St Peter's, Sharnbrook
Sunday 30th May	11am Holy Communion at St Peter's, Sharnbrook



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#### VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

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		Electrical Services	Martin Blizzard 782527
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<b>Community Care</b>	<b>07786 344 176</b>	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967 783246
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Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164	Revision/Exams Tutor	J Lewes FRSA 07584 161 300
Barney's Barn Pet Grooming Radwell	Helen 01234 782402	Maths Tuition (inc. A Level & Further Maths)	Geraldine Hubbard 781413
Tree Surgery	Neil Smith 01234 720801	Vinyl and Carpet Fitter 8 years experience	Danny O'grady 07720 779275

### Our award-winning theatre is reopening!

We are delighted to be returning with new season of shows, strictly in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines: [sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/covid](http://sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/covid)

## MEN OF THE WORLD

1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2021 at 7.30 pm

Preparing for a mystery trip to Scarborough, three Northern coach drivers pass the time remembering more exciting trips from the past. They take it in turns playing an assortment of passengers in this touching, often hilarious bitter-sweet play.

Tickets: £11-12 + £1 booking fee, from

[www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets)

Wheel-chair spaces available; hearing loop.

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## YOUTH THEATRE SUMMER SCHOOL

### AT SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE

27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> July, 9am – 3pm

One day workshops for ages 6 – 18, including performance showcase at 4pm.

£35 per student

Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> July - ages 6 - 9	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> July - ages 13 – 15
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> July - ages 10 -12	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> July - ages 16 -18

[www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/summerschool](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/summerschool)

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## SHARNBROOK MILLTHEATRE

### YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS' SHOWCASE

Open to anyone **aged 13-18** the Young Playwrights Showcase aims to give young playwrights the chance to write a short piece of theatre, to be performed by our Youth Section later in the year.

Please let us know as soon as possible that you would like to write a piece for the showcase.

Please email Kathryn, our coordinator, at [youth@sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](mailto:youth@sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk).

**The deadline for final entries is 28<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

[WWW.SHARNBROOKMILLTHEATRE.CO.UK](http://WWW.SHARNBROOKMILLTHEATRE.CO.UK)

*and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.” (1 Timothy 2:1-2)*

Given that the Roman Emperor at the time of St Paul and St Peter's life was the infamous and calamitous Nero the above makes extraordinary reading. However, St Paul and St Peter could instruct the church to pray for all leaders because they knew and taught that *“there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God.” (Romans 13:1).*

In Queen Elizabeth II we have a monarch that I believe understands the power that God has placed into her hands and the responsibility she has before God and the nation. She would, I suggest, understand the need for prayer and in particular prayer for our leaders and the nation, especially in these unstable and uncertain times.

Yet I would suggest that it is Queen Elizabeth we should pray for as she grieves and reflects on life without her beloved husband Prince Philip and confronts the turmoil presently in and around the Royal family. If you have no prayer of your own to offer, then perhaps you may like to use the beautiful words from the Book of Common Prayer below:

*“We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors; and specially thy servant ELIZABETH our Queen; that under her we may be godly and quietly governed: And grant unto her whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under her, that they may truly and indifferently minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.”*

Happy 'Belated' Birthday Your Majesty.

### Annual Parishioners' Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting Annual Church Meeting

The Annual Parishioners' Meeting for the purpose of electing church wardens is to take place on **Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 7.00 p.m.** This meeting is open to all parishioners. Due to the current situation with Covid - 19, the meeting will take place via Zoom, using the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83874011929> . The passcode is 727597.

If anyone requires help to access the meeting or has any queries regarding voting on this issue, please contact Mrs. Sue Whitehouse on 781300.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will follow immediately afterwards and is open to those who are named on the church electoral roll, using the same link.

### FELMERSHAM CHURCH RESTORATION FUND

**Stephen Hill**

Thank you to the many people in the parish and beyond who have contributed so generously to the church restoration fund in memory of our recently departed friends, including Andrew Facey, Brian Smith, Denise Canning and Ken Shrimpton. It is most appreciated (and much needed although current restoration spending is largely on the stitches in time that save nine rather than les grands projets).

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## SAVE THE CHILDREN

Andy Evans

We have taken the decision in Bedford to undertake a door-to-door collection in May/June as we have been unable to raise funds over the last two years because of the pandemic. A major issue, however, is a loss of volunteer collectors during that time. I would be really pleased to hear from anyone in Felmersham/Radwell who would be prepared to spend a small amount of time delivering ten or so envelopes to neighbours in your street on one day and then collecting them a day or so later. Your efforts could really make a difference.

Please contact me on 782523.

Thanks

## Bedford Library Select and Collect – Mobile Library

For those who have been using the Bedford Library Select and Collect service during lockdown, you will now be able to collect and return books via the mobile library.

The library van will be at Felmersham and Radwell on May 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. This is not the usual library service. It is select and collect only.

Felmersham times from 13.20 – 13.40 at the Sun and Radwell from 13.45 – 14.00 on the Green (apparently occasionally the van parks in Moor End Road).

If you haven't used this service before google "Bedford Library Select and Collect". You will need to register and can either choose your books via Arena or call the Select and Collect Line on 01234 718178.

## A REMINDER TO DOG WALKERS

Rosemary Drewery



For people walking their dogs across the fields from the footpath commencing in Grange to Hardwick please remember to pick up any faeces. The sheep in the field are in lamb and Paul has lost three or four lambs after the ewe has contracted a serious disease from eating the faeces which is transmitted to the unborn lamb.



## 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 <b>Sharnbrook PCC</b>  delivered to your Church Treasurer or Churchwarden	To donate *e.g. £5,  Text <b>RELIEF 5</b> to 70450  Texts cost £5* plus one standard rate message. (* or £2, £3, £10, £15 etc.)	click this image  	scan QR code  

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 9-15 MAY 2021

Janet Welsh

Since it was founded 75 years ago Christian Aid has sought to follow the teachings of Christ that we should help our fellow human beings without asking anything in return. One of its guiding principles is the old saying "if you give a man a fish you feed him for a day. If you give him the tools and teach him to catch fish you feed him and his family for life" This is exactly what CA is achieving with local help.

Climate change is affecting some of the poorest people in the world and one of the things that CA has been involved in is supplying parts of Africa with tools and skills to build earth dams which hold the rainfall until it is needed, between flooding and then drought. They also work with children to grow vegetables, teaching them ways to adapt to the changing weather.

This year, as last, there can be no door to door collections, so if you would like to contribute could you put your gift of cash or a cheque made payable to Felmersham PCC, in an envelope marked "Christian Aid" and deliver it to me at 1, The Tithe, Church End opposite The Old Plough, and of course you could send direct to [caweek.org](http://caweek.org).

Thank you very much for your help. We are so privileged to live where we do.

## Emmaus Village Carlton – a Bedfordshire homelessness charity with a difference

Emmaus Village Carlton is a Bedfordshire charity based just outside of Carlton (10 minutes from Felmersham). It provides a real workable alternative to homelessness, offering a home and support as well as meaningful work experience and training. People being supported by the charity (known as 'companions') live on site for as long as they need it to and are helped to move on when they are ready.



Like any flourishing community, Emmaus works because everyone makes a contribution. Companions, staff and volunteers all work together to help generate the funds needed to support the charity. All companions gain work experience and develop their skills by helping to run social enterprises: three charity shops and a bistro.

**Impact of Covid-19** The charity estimates it will have lost around £200,000 of trading income due to the pandemic - valuable income that is needed to ensure they can continue their work. Emmaus Village Carlton is now reaching out to local people, asking for their support – needed now more than ever.

### Help Emmaus: shop, eat, drink, donate

Emmaus Village Carlton is located in beautiful countryside, with three large charity shops to explore plus an on-site Bistro and attractive outdoor areas. It's a special place to visit and a great day out for the whole family.

The shops and bistro (on School Lane, Carlton, MK43 7LQ) are open Wednesday to Saturday 9.30am - 4.30pm and Sunday 10am - 4pm.

### Shop

Visit the impressive Home Store to explore a wide range of quality, preloved furniture and homeware, across multiple rooms – including a toy department and upcycled creations. The Bric a Brac shop offers a wide range of music, books, games and homeware, whilst the Boutique at Emmaus Village Carlton is the perfect place to browse quality preloved clothing, shoes and accessories for all the family.

### Eat & drink

Serving proper coffee, tasty breakfasts, delicious hot and cold lunches, as well as their famous cakes, em's Bistro at Emmaus Village Carlton is extremely popular. There is currently socially-distanced seating available in a marquee, as well as picnic tables across the site.

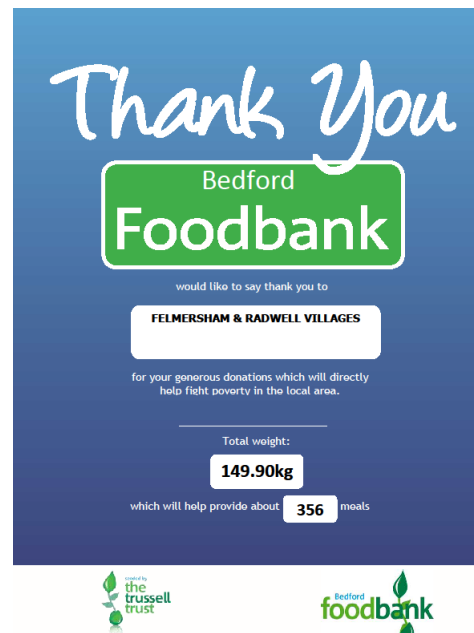
### Donate

Emmaus Village Carlton runs a free collection service for unwanted quality furniture, within 20 miles of the site. Alternatively, you can drop-off items for any of the shops, by making a donation appointment. To book either of these services, please call on 01234 720826.

**Find out more:** [www.emmaus.org.uk/village-carlton](http://www.emmaus.org.uk/village-carlton)

Twitter: @EmmausVC | Facebook: @Emmausvillagecarlton | Instagram: @emmauscarlton Emmaus Village Carlton is a registered charity - number 1083113

## A NOTE OF THANKS FROM THE BEDFORD FOOD BANK



We would like to add Gordon's and our thanks for the generosity of the people of Felmersham and Radwell.

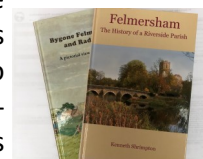
Gordon will no doubt be looking for an opportunity in the summer to launch another appeal as unfortunately the work of the Food Bank is needed now more than ever.

Ian & Margaret Coomber



### Felmersham and Radwell Archives

As many of you are aware, as well as writing his two books, Ken Shrimpton held the archives for the villages.



Before he passed away this collection was handed on to me for safekeeping. If you have any queries on the history of the villages, or indeed find any articles or artifacts that would be of interest to future generations, then please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Jane Carwithen  
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