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REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Tuesday	Table Tennis Club-now restarted under COVID guidelines	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



HOUSE NEWS

Parish Online: www.felmersham.net

June 2021

'Little by Little, Bit by Bit' we can make the world of difference and a different world.

Revd Paolo Di Leo

The Bible narrates that humanity is trusted by God to be a good steward of creation and to creatively manage, tend to and positively prosper creation. To further define the nature of the relationship between humanity and creation, in Gen 2:15, the narrative

explains that *'The Lord God placed humanity in the Garden of Eden as its gardener, to tend and care for it.'* Humanity has been given a 'purpose' and 'vocation' to love, preserve, tend, care and look after all creation.

However, the story of 'Adam and Eve' and the 'Tree of Good and Evil', recounts that this gift of stewardship is marred and abused by humanity's sin of self-interest and selfishness. Adam and Eve is a story about choices and attitudes to God and creation, and the resulting consequences.

The Genesis narrative predicted that humanity would rather consume than conserve. The story of Adam and Eve reveals the hubris of humanity and the misplaced confidence that they can do as they please with regards to God and Creation. Consequently, because of their actions, they are alienated from God and creation, and creation itself turns against them as a judgement of God. Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann explains *"Their (Adam, Eve's and humanity's) interest has focused completely on self, on their new freedom and the terror that comes with it"*¹. The Biblical narrative has much to advise and contribute at the table of the world's climate and ecological debate, dialogue, development and direction.

(Ctd. Page 3)

This month's Header : Felmersham Nature Reserve
Pages 6 & 7 : The Edited Highlights of the latest Parish Council Meeting

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



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)

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 JUNE

Sunday 6th June	11am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Felmersham 6pm Evensong at St Peter's, Sharnbrook
Sunday 13th June	11am Holy Communion at All Saints, Souldrop
Sunday 20th June	6pm Evensong at St Peter's, Sharnbrook
Sunday 27th June	11am Holy Communion at St Peter's, Sharnbrook



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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	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
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We are delighted to be re-opening, with a new season of shows and events; strictly in-line with Government guidelines.

<<>>

MEN OF THE WORLD by John Godber

Thursday 1st – Saturday 3rd July 2021 at 7.30 pm

Larry, Stick and Frank, three coach drivers, share their experiences of passengers on previous trips to exotic locations, such as Folkestone, and getting stuck in The Channel Tunnel for hours. The affection, frustration and black humour in their observations emphasises that you can take the lad out of Yorkshire, but not Yorkshire out of t'lad.

Touching, often hilarious bitter-sweet play, with adult material

This amateur production is performed by arrangement with Concord Theatrical Ltd, on behalf of Samuel French, Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Book now! Tickets: £10 (corrected price)

Groups: 10+ 10% discount) + £1 booking fee

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets

Or, in person, at Pick-a-Lily, High Street/Park Lane corner, Sharnbrook
Wheelchair spaces, please call 01234 781372 Hearing loop

YOUTH THEATRE SUMMER SCHOOL AT SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE

27th - 30th July, 9am – 3pm

ONE DAY WORKSHOPS FOR AGES 6 – 18

including performance showcase at 4pm; £35 per student.

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

Enquiry link, full details and application form:

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/summerschool

WWW.SHARNBROOKMILLTHEATRE.CO.UK

It is at this juncture perhaps that we may begin to feel overwhelmed by the whole topic and the complex issues around our ecological behaviour and the climate consequences that may ensue from our life choices. The problem seems too big, complex and insurmountable, making us feel powerless, inconsequential and ineffective.

Very often today's big media headline grabbing solutions, big complex programs, expensive expansive projects, all with an immediacy of expected impact make us feel powerless, inconsequential, and ineffective. When faced with the magnitude of the task it is natural to feel that our actions relating to climate change are too small, insignificant, and inconsequential, and that all this should be left to organisations such as the United Nations, national governments, scientists, global enterprises, and billionaire philanthropists, yet this could not be further from the truth. We can support and all of us can participate in making our world a better place.

The Bible can be very much seen as a story of many small beginnings and actions contributing to and leading to world changing events and results. After all it was simply one small stone, in the hands of a small boy, shot through a small sling that brought down the giant Goliath. In many ways climate change is our Goliath. Yet as in the story of Goliath, small actions are often derided, minimised, or even dismissed with ridicule as futile, because small actions or beginnings don't appear to be immediately significant nor successful.

However, it is the principle of small consistent collective actions that may be one of the most powerful ways we can participate in solving and reversing many of our ecological problems. 'Little by Little, Bit by Bit' we can make a significant difference.

Every time we in our small way collectively reduce our consumption and re-use, recycle, restore and repair rather than replace, we are collectively making a significant and faithful contribution, and a real difference to the world that our God has created and in which he has placed us, to not only enjoy, but to respect, love, maintain and sustain. We do not need to keep repeating the mistakes of Adam and Eve. We can together contribute to the defeat of the Goliath we call climate change.

'Little by Little, Bit by Bit' we can make the world of difference and a different world.

¹Brueggemann, W. Genesis, p.48.

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The Villager Minibus (Sharnbrook)



Service update: Normal Full Services will
start Monday 21st JUNE

See the website for Latest News and Routes and Timetables

<https://www.sharnbrookvillagerminibus.co.uk>

Villager Minibus Enquiry Line: 01234 781920

PLEASE DON'T FORGET EMMAUS !

Shop, Eat, Drink, Donate

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

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

CHURCHYARD WILDLIFE

Sue Whitehouse

As previously reported, we have been trying to encourage wildlife in the churchyard and this year so far I have spotted a number of wildflower species which were not apparent last year, so things are moving in the right direction.

A recent visit by a botanist has added further interest. He informed me that the area outside the south entrance door has more wildflower species in it than he had seen in almost any churchyard (he visits a great many round the country) and included a very rare grass which he intended to report to one of his botanical organisations. He was pleased to note that the area had not been mowed. Sadly it has now and as his recommendation was to rope off such areas during the growing season I shall be taking up his suggestion. Most of the churchyard will continue to be kept tidy but I hope those who like to see it neatly mown throughout will be patient. There are bigger issues at stake, like the huge loss of wildflower meadows in this country.

Getting wildflower meadows going sometimes takes years and will depend on the availability of our few volunteers.

Small creatures have also moved into the bee house and the bug hotel, though the owl box remains unoccupied and we cannot check on other bird boxes without disturbing possible inmates.

Churchyards are relatively undisturbed green spaces so there is an opportunity for us to help it flourish and do our bit for this little corner of the planet.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Andy Evans

An enormous thank you to the residents of Trinity Close, Church End, St Mary's Close, Grange Road and Marriotts Close for giving so generously in the recent door to door collection. The wonderful sum of £295.71 was collected which is excellent. Special thanks must go to Ann Smith, Alison and Tom Macready, Sue McWhirter and Sue Evans for their support and hard work in collecting the envelopes. I know that a number of households were not in when the envelopes were collected and also that a few people did not have cash in the house during this unusual "cashless" time so if you still have an envelope waiting to be collected, I would be more than happy to pop round and collect it - it is not too late! Please ring on 782523. I would also love to hear from people living in streets that were not collected who would be willing to help next year. Especially villagers living in Radwell!

All the money will go to support the work of the charity both in this country and around the world where children are at risk or in harm so on behalf of those children who are unable to say thanks in person; thank you!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 5 MAY 2021

EDITED HIGHLIGHTS

Parish Council Membership

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, **Peter Hartop** was re-elected as Chairperson and **Marjorie Pipe** was re-elected as Vice-Chair for the next annual period.

Daisy Bank Tree Plantation

The groundworks on site have been completed, comprising tree and scrub removal, car standing removal, soil levelling, hard standing path construction and ditches dug to resist vehicular access.

The boundary hedge on the north side has been lowered to open up the view. Approximately 420 native species trees have been planted on site (oak, silver birch, rowan and hazel) and gaps in the boundary hedge filled with hawthorn or blackthorn. There are still spaces on site to receive more trees next autumn/winter. Perennial weed growth has been sprayed with "Roundup" and will continue to be monitored. For many weeks after planting there had been little significant rainfall resulting in all trees having to be watered. Currently chipped wood is being applied around all the trees as a mulch. Despite everything most trees seem to be thriving so far.

The Parish Council has acknowledged, with thanks, the considerable help from the volunteer tree planters and litter removers, from David Evans (nearest neighbor to the plantation) for help with watering supply and equipment and Heritage Arboriculture for donating chipped wood.

Litter Picking

In addition to the Community Volunteers who regularly pick up litter, there are many like minded individuals whose efforts in keeping the parish tidy are acknowledged. A national litter-picking campaign called The Great British Spring Clean will run from 28 May 2021 to 13 June 2021. Pledges to spend some time on litter-picking can be made at www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbspringclean. It is a practical way to enjoy the outdoors and make a big difference to the environment in the locality.

Speed Data

The Parish Council has considered speed data from the recently installed speed activation sign in Radwell and it has revealed, with disappointment, that speeds of up to 82mph had been recorded in the 30mph speed area. A total of 14,515 vehicles were recorded passing the speed monitor during April 2021, with over 200 occasions when vehicles were exceeding 50mph. Bedfordshire Police and Borough Highways have been made aware with a request that speed detection vehicles attend the area.

(Ctd.. overleaf)

Dog Waste Bin

The dog waste bin on The Green, Radwell has been damaged beyond reasonable repair and arrangements have been made to replace the bin with a dual-purpose dog/litter bin.

Accounting Statement 2020/2021

The Parish Council considered the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 which identified a total balance at year end of £25,405 (compared to the balance brought forward as at 31 March 2020 of £22,319). The Accounting Statements had been subject to an independent Internal Audit process and the audit confirmed that the financial position is correctly stated and that the Parish Council appears to be well run, effectively and efficiently organised and meets the various legislative and other standards required of it.

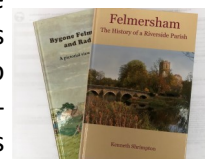
Smaller authorities are required to make available the financial statements and other documents for public inspection for a period of 30 working days which must commence no later than 1 July 2021. It has determined that the period of public inspection will be from 3 June 2021 to 14 July 2021 and arrangements would, therefore, been made in line with these statutory timescales.

Date of Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to take place at the Village Hall on **Tuesday 13 July 2021 at 7.30pm.**

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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