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### REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

|                                 |  |                |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------|
| 1st Wednesday in each month     | 7 pm Wednesday Sisters Supper Club. For more details please phone Rosie on 781046. | The Sun        |
| Every Tuesday                   | 7.30pm Table Tennis  | Village Hall   |
| 2nd Wednesday every other month | 7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)                         | Committee Room |

### CHURCH OFFICERS

|                       |                   |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Rector                | Revd Paolo Di Leo | (782000, 07968 606 377) |
| Lay Leader of Worship | Rosemary Drewery  | (07792 926 004)         |
| Churchwarden          | Sue Whitehouse    | (781300)                |
| Treasurer             | Stephen Hill      | (781064)                |

Editor of Ouse News: 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*

## OUSE NEWS

September 2025

[www.felmersham.net](http://www.felmersham.net)

### One day at a time

Stephen Hill

By the time this appears in print, it really will almost be time for “Back to school”. But the slogan has been pushed by the advertisers, ever since the end of last term. Didn’t we all hate that as kids? They keep on doing it year after year.

Now of course they will move onto ratcheting us up for Christmas. We laugh and grumble about it, and dislike it. They keep on doing it year after year. We haven’t yet celebrated the harvest, or marked Remembrance, but “Christmas is coming...”, even if the turkeys haven’t yet arrived on the farm.

A presenter on Radio 3, not a station noted for selling doom, gloom and disaster, introduced August with the comment that it was the last complete month of summer. The mention of the last “complete” month must mean that he was defining summer as running from the summer solstice to the autumn equinox, so the season was less than halfway through.

To my mind, summer is June, July and August, although that is another debate entirely. But in my schooldays with exams running into July, August was the summer. The new term would arrive all too soon, but the start of August was not the time to be writing off the summer as almost done.

We are told to take no thought for the morrow, for the morrow will take thought for itself (Matthew 6:34). In our generally comfortable world, we have food in the larder and things listed out to do, today, tomorrow, next week. Taking no thought for the morrow, we will object, is wholly impractical in the modern world, where civilisation functions on structure, organisation and planning. We all take a lot of thought for the morrow.

But then...

“Just when you think you have got everything sorted, something happens to knock you right off course.” Perhaps we need to see the big picture in the message (ctd)

## 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)

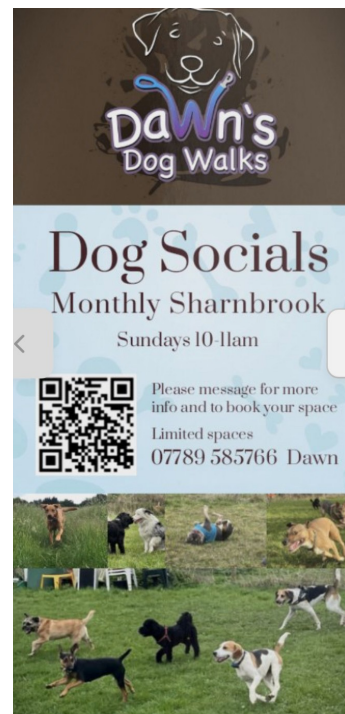


Welcome



### FORTHCOMING CHURCH SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Sun 31 August</b><br><i>Trinity 11</i>    | 9.00am<br><b>10.30am</b><br>6.00pm                                    | Said Holy Communion at St Peter's<br><b>Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's</b><br>Evensong at St Peter's  |
| <b>Wed 3 September</b>                       | <b>9.30am</b>   | <b>Holy Communion at St Mary's</b>  |
| <b>Sun 7 September</b><br><i>Trinity 12</i>  | 9.00am<br><b>10.30am</b>  | Said Holy Communion at St Mary's<br>Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's   |
| <b>Wed 10 September</b>                      | 9.30am  | Holy Communion at St Peter's  |
| <b>Sun 14 September</b><br><i>Trinity 13</i> | 9.00am<br><b>10.30am</b><br><b>10.30am</b><br><b>3.00pm</b><br>6.00pm | Said Holy Communion at St Peter's<br><b>Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's</b><br>Holy Communion at All Saints<br><b>Faith Explorers at St Mary's</b><br>Evensong at St Peter's |
| <b>Wed 17 September</b>                      | <b>9.30am</b>   | <b>Holy Communion at St Mary's</b>  |
| <b>Sun 21 September</b><br><i>St Matthew</i> | 9.00am<br><b>10.30am</b><br><b>3.00pm</b>                             | Said Holy Communion at St Mary's<br>Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's<br>Faith Explorers at All Saints  |
| <b>Wed 24 September</b>                      | 9.30pm  | Holy Communion at St Peter's  |
| <b>Sun 28 September</b><br><i>Trinity 15</i> | 9.00am<br><b>10.30am</b><br><b>6.00pm</b>                             | Said Holy Communion at St Peter's<br><b>Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's</b><br><b>Harvest Festival Evensong at St Margaret's</b>   |



### VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

|                             |   |  |                                  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Babysitting<br>(Felmersham) | Laura Hewlett<br>782063                   | Electrical Services                              | Martin Blizard<br>782527         |
| Babysitting                 | Jasmine Bunker<br>07368 466 948           | Painting &<br>Decorating                         | Eric Barford<br>781719           |
| Childminding                | Maxine Boswell<br>781940<br>07985 228 116 | Vinyl and Carpet<br>Fitter<br>8 years experience | Danny<br>O'Grady<br>07720 779275 |
| <b>Community<br/>Care</b>   | <b>07786 344 176</b>                      | Animal Care and Dog<br>Walking                   | Annette Court-<br>ney<br>783164  |
| General Plumber             | Frank Darrilulat<br>07768 511871          | Dog Walking, feed-<br>ing/ boarding              | Ch. Tweed-<br>dale<br>781279     |
|                             |   |  |                                  |

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by Christopher Durang

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**Sharnbrook Mill Theatre**  
**23rd-27th September 2025**

**Tickets and more information**  
**[www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk)**

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre is a registered charity

(Ctd from page 1) and not to be dominated by planning, ambition and expectation. Our thoughts for the morrow may all come unstuck. Like the man in the parable who built bigger barns to store his excessive harvest, thinking he was set up for years to come, but then promptly died, perhaps the message is that our thoughts for the morrow should be not so much about ourselves, but about our community.

When we are knocked off course, there will then be a community to turn to, a community to be part of, to continue to be a part of.

Let us take the seasons, measured by the length of the days and the weather, marked out as dates on the calendar, lived out in the church's liturgical sequence, one at a time. Let us give thanks for our daily bread, our daily round and our community each day and live each season for itself. There will be time enough for Christmas when it comes.

*Also Thursdays 9.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom*

<https://zoom.us/j/763110804> The Password is 079014

#### COFFEE MORNING ON SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

Jane Wells

The September Coffee Morning will be held in St Mary's Church, Felmersham on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am.

There will be a small raffle and plenty of chatter with your coffee, tea and biscuits. Friends, family and neighbours are all welcome.

#### LUNCH TOGETHER

Maggie Spoor, Jane Wells, Jane Rhodes

The next lunch together will be on Friday September 12<sup>th</sup> at The Sun Pub at 12.30. Please come and join us for soup and a sandwich. The cost is £7. This does not include drinks. It is an ideal opportunity to see friends old and new. Pete and his team always make us welcome and we are very grateful to them.

Please ring Jane Rhodes on 01234 782138 by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September so that we can let Pete have the numbers in good time. As always, we look forward to seeing you.

#### TEAS IN THE CHURCH - WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

Jane Wells

Teas in the Church will take place on  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September from 2.30pm - 4pm

Come along to enjoy a cup of tea, a slice of cake  
and, of course, friendly chatter.

All ages are welcome



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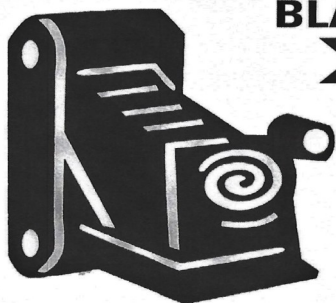
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Rachael Long who is probably most well-known for the Lifeboat Horse at Wells-next-to-the-Sea and has sculptures on display internationally. Our sculpture depicts 3 otters moving and tumbling around in the water. More about the artist can be found at [www.rachaellongsculpture.com](http://www.rachaellongsculpture.com).

We hope you are still enjoying the 2025 calendar The Friends of HOCF produced – that is if you bought one, though there are 2 calendars on display in the Dragonfly Café if you still want to see the pictures! Some of the calendar competition entries have been printed out and are on display in the café – bringing images of the park and our wildlife into the building whilst you enjoy a cake, coffee or cooked breakfast!

Even though the school holidays are over, our popular I Spot, Children's Activity and Crossword booklets are available all year round and perfect to keep your kids or grandkids entertained - available to buy for just £1 from The Dragonfly Café.

Every other Thursday, there are health walks around the park and/or local area. Meeting at 10:30am at the woodland entrance to the Dragonfly Café, they last about 1 hour. The dates are September 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, October 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. More info can be found at <https://hocp.co.uk/get-involved/health-walks/>

We hope you enjoy your visits to our wonderful park! From the Country Park staff and The Friends of Harrold-Odell Country Park.

## CARERS TOGETHER

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

**The next meeting will be at 2.30pm  
 on Monday**

**September 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**

Meet with other Carers knowing the person you care for is enjoying activities in a safe and friendly environment.

The Methodist Church, Park Lane,  
 Sharnbrook

For more information contact the group's  
 Co-ordinator

Linda Hoar 07791214148

[lindahoar@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lindahoar@hotmail.co.uk)

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### Thank You to Our Long-Serving Volunteers - and Exciting News from the Community Care Team!

Our local Community Care Volunteer Group would like to take a moment to express heartfelt thanks to several of our long-serving volunteers who are now stepping down. Your dedication, time, and kindness have made a lasting difference to so many lives in our community. You've helped us build a service that is trusted, compassionate, and deeply valued. Thank you – you leave behind a strong and caring legacy to be continued.

At the same time, we're excited to welcome some new volunteers to the team. It's fantastic to see new faces who value community and are eager to support and develop this. Our services continue to include shopping support, prescription pick-ups, and transport for essential appointments – all free and offered with a friendly face, a smile and cheerful voice. We are also looking to explore the possibility of **friendly welfare checks**, **"Cuppa and Chat"** and **organised outings**, helping those who may feel isolated to reconnect with others in the community.

If you or someone you know could benefit from a little extra support, or if you'd like to find out more about volunteering, please get in touch. We're always happy to welcome new helpers – even a small amount of time can make a big difference.

Thank you again to those who have served so generously over the years. Your impact will continue to be felt for a long time to come.

**Contact us at 07786 344 176 to get involved or find out more.**

### Harrold-Odell Country Park

### Edward Green

In my last article, I talked about the work we have been doing in the park that will help us retain our Green Flag Award – well the great news is that we have won our Green Flag Award for the 18<sup>th</sup> year in a row. This is an amazing achievement across all those years and is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our amazing band of volunteers that help week in and week out to make Harrold-Odell Country Park a truly special place for our visitors and a highly desirable residence for our wildlife.

Work varies from season to season and year to year. Taking information from the Met Office, it has been the warmest spring (using average temperatures) and sunniest spring on record and the driest in the last century, so one of the most important jobs we are doing on a regular basis this year is watering the memorial trees and any small saplings that we have planted in recent years! Thankfully for the wildlife here, we have large lakes and a river for them to drink from, but you can help the wildlife in your garden by providing a water source (pond or bird bath for example) and topping it up regularly.

The Friends of Harrold-Odell Country Park use the funds received from donations to the benefit of the park. They commissioned a sculpture for the park, which has now been installed in the lake by the duck feeding area! The artist is



## BEDS & HERTS Historic Churches Trust

**Bike 'n Hike on 13 September 2025** is our main fundraiser and raising around £100,000 annually for some years. This is a fantastic amount for which the Trust is most grateful.

It's a vital challenge, because while churches continue to need repairs, building costs have soared. We can do it if more people are sponsored to take part in this fun day out, visiting beautiful historic churches. Half the sponsor money goes to the church nominated by the person taking part.

**Saturday 13 September**

You can visit local churches at your own pace and in any order you choose, being sponsored per church visited, or simply self-sponsoring for a local, eco-friendly day out. **For more details and for sponsorship forms, or if you would like to volunteer for an hour on the day as a greeter at St Mary's, please contact Stephen Hill (781064).**



**Sponsored Bike 'n Hike**

BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

*Bike 'n Hike in Beds 'n Herts*

### Felmersham & Radwell 25<sup>th</sup> Autumn Show & Art Exhibition

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025  
in Pinchmill Hall**

Schedules can be downloaded  
from the Felmersham & Radwell website  
[www.felmersham.net](http://www.felmersham.net)

or from the village Facebook page  
Felmersham & Radwell Village Group

There are classes for everyone  
and prizes for every class  
as well as trophies to be won

Open for viewing from 2.30pm when  
Tea and cakes will be served

Sponsored by Milton Ernest Garden Centre



# FELMERSHAM & RADWELL SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2025

Free to enter & fantastic prizes to be won!



This year's theme ~

**\*MUSIC\***

*(This can be anything you think fits this category -*

*Singers, bands, instruments, musical theatre, anything goes!)*

Make your scarecrow and put it out by 12pm on the day where it can be seen, or use the Church Garden if your garden is not road facing

To enter either download the entry form from Facebook or request one via email [felmershamscarecrowfestival@gmail.com](mailto:felmershamscarecrowfestival@gmail.com)

Judging will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER between 12-2pm

by Reverend Paolo Di Leo and friends

Points will be awarded for: Closest to the theme, Traditional Look, Original Design, Robustness, Entertainment Value and Comedy Value

Winners to be announced at The Sun Inn on

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 4.30pm

Prizes awarded for 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

The Sun Inn will also be hosting as part of the festival:

Live Music

Sweets for the Children

Charity Raffle – Tickets available to purchase at The Sun

Contact for any queries: [felmershamscarecrowfestival@gmail.com](mailto:felmershamscarecrowfestival@gmail.com)



## Ouse Valley Mothers' Union



### Safety in the Home

Talk by David Lynch of Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue

Thursday 11 September 2.30pm  
St Peter's Room

New members and visitors welcome (suggested donation £4 for MU charities)

Details: contact Jackie Biggs (782517) or Hazel Scott (781559)

We welcome anyone who would like to know about Mothers' Union

Charity No.249814

