

## Parish Diary

### Regular Activities

Mon-Fri	9.15am – 3.15pm Pre-School	Pinchmill School
Thu	9.30am – 11.30am Parent & Toddler Group	Pinchmill Hall
Thu	11.00am (approx) Fishmonger in village – call 07803 201399 for details	

### April

Sun	1 10.15am Choral Communion - <b>Palm Sunday</b>	St Mary's Church
Mon	2 7.30pm Address and Compline	St Mary's Church
Tue	3 7.30pm Address and Compline	St Mary's Church
	8.00pm Cricket Club Open Committee Meeting	Pinchmill Hall
Wed	4 7.30pm Address and Compline	St Mary's Church
Thu	5 7.30pm <b>Maudy Thursday</b> Communion	St Mary's Church
Fri	6 10.00am <b>Good Friday</b> - Family Service	St Mary's Church
Fri	6 7.00pm The Cross of Christ	Sharnbrook Church
Sat	7 10.30am Coffee Morning	
Sun	8 10.15am <b>Easter Day</b> - Choral Communion	St Mary's Church
Thu	12 Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	15 10.15am Family Service - Easter 1	St Mary's Church
Sun	22 10.15am Choral Communion	St Mary's Church
	6.30pm Songs of Praise	St Mary's Church
Mon	23 7.30pm Annual Parish Church Meeting	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	29 10.15am Matins and Communion - Easter 3	St Mary's Church

### May

Sat	5 10.30am Coffee Morning	6 Marriotts Close
Sun	6 10.15am Choral Communion - Easter 4	St Mary's Church
Wed	9 10.30am Sue Ryder Coffee & Cakes	
Sun	13 10.15am Family Service - Easter 5	St Mary's Church
Thu	17 7.30pm Deanery Ascension Day Service	St Mary's Church

**Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)**

**Assistant Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)**

**Churchwardens: Jane Wells (782462), Paul Keeble (782134)**

Publisher: Felmersham PCC Editor: Clive Just, 2 The Old Rectory, Felmersham, MK43 7HN (781967)

Any items for inclusion should be emailed to [OuseNews@justs.info](mailto:OuseNews@justs.info), by the 25th of the month

# Felmersham & Radwell Ouse News

Sponsored by Chesham Insurance Brokers

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April 2007

### Margaret Alleway Memorial Garden

Some clearing up of the plot has been carried out - this was basically to enable us to see exactly the extent of the work to be tackled. During this exercise it was discovered that one of the willow trees was completely rotten (completely hollow and on a windy day was moving at the roots!) so emergency felling was carried out by a contractor, after gaining permission from the County Tree Officer.

The situation at the moment is that, acting on the advice of the Tree Officer, we have identified which trees need to be pollarded within the next few weeks. Because the land is within a conservation area we have had to complete a plan of the work to be carried out and apply for permission from the County Council. In the meantime we are in the process of obtaining quotes for the relevant work.

Thank you to those who volunteered their services on a working party. As soon as we are in a position to start landscaping I will call on you.

### Communication – Another Perspective

Peter's excellent article is written from the perspective of a user of information, mine is from the perspective of a provider of information. There is no doubt that this parish is well served with outlets for news and information. The monthly Ouse News edited by Clive Just and felmersham.net with myself as webmaster, both provide an excellent conduit for information. No need to take my word for it. An ongoing world wide poll of visitors to felmersham.net rate the site as "78% excellent, 16% good, 3% OK, 1% terrible and 1% no opinion". In my view the problem of a perceived lack of communication within the parish is not a top-down problem but a bottom-up problem!

Despite endless requests for items of news and details of events etc. very little arrives in the inbox of either Ouse News or felmersham.net. Both media struggle to find items news. We can only publish what we are told; we haven't got a sixth sense that automatically kicks in. So come on Felmersham and Radwell, make use of the excellent facilities you already have. It really is up to you, send us news and information at the following addresses and we will publish it.

Ouse News: [ousenews@justs.info](mailto:ousenews@justs.info) (with OuseNews somewhere in the subject)  
Felmersham and Radwell website: [webmaster@felmersham.net](mailto:webmaster@felmersham.net) (please put GRAPEVINE in the subject line.)

### Lorraine Shrimpton

### **Pavenham & Felmersham Cricket Club**

**Ruth Barrett**  
Following the amalgamation of Felmersham & Pavenham Cricket Clubs, tremendous progress has been made. In early 2006 the new Club invested in improved playing facilities so that it could apply to join the Beds County Sunday League. Following an inspection, the application was accepted, and in its first season the Club gained promotion. The aim of the Club is to offer a varied standard of cricket so that all members, young and old, can enjoy the game, with excellent facilities. The Club plays on Saturdays in the Premier Division of the Bedford District League, on Sundays in the County League, and mid week in the Bedford Mid-week League. To keep the tradition of village cricket going the Club has friendly fixtures most weeks on Sunday. Last year the Club had a very successful tour in Lincolnshire, and this year is going to the East Midlands. The ever popular Presidents Day (when the Club XI play a Presidents XI of invited players) is followed by the traditional socialising!

Village Cricket Clubs have traditionally played an important part in the social side of the two villages, and this will continue. An Annual Presentation Dinner was held last October, and a completely new set of trophies was presented by the Chairman of the England Selectors, David Graveney who also presented the various awards. Three out of the six awards went to old Felmersham players. On New Year's Eve a very successful Dinner Dance was held in Pavenham Village Hall, followed in February by a 'Brunch'. It is the Club's intention to hold, where facilities permit, social events in Felmersham, and the Club has arranged an open committee meeting at Pinchmill School on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 8 p.m. The Club would be delighted to see all interested parties, and officers will be there to answer any questions. We are very keen on the development of Junior players and extend a warm welcome to young players who would be interested. Naturally a welcome is extended to senior players who would like to join a thriving and growing club. For more information contact me 781876 or email ruth.barratt@internet.com

### **Church Coffee Morning**

The April coffee morning will be held at the home of Rev. Robert and Caroline Evens, on Saturday 7 April 2007 at 10.30am. All funds raised will go to a toilet and kitchen facility for the Church.

Next month's Coffee Morning will be hosted by Geoff and Celia Hulatt on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am

Contributions of home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated. All welcome.

### **Red Cross Open Gardens**

Would you be willing to have your garden open to the public for the afternoon of Sunday 10th June 2007 to raise funds for Red Cross? Small or large, it doesn't matter. If you might be interested or to find out more phone Liz Watson 345028, or email [liz4watson@aol.com](mailto:liz4watson@aol.com)

### **Ode to the dog (Anon)**

Oh how I wish the dog that 'sits'  
Upon the pavement opposite  
Would step in it like my kids do  
When nice and clean and off to school

It's home again and rub and scrub  
Why do they give dogs so much grub?  
Off come the shoes so much admired  
The one's with soles like Pirelli tyres

Then it's once again into the fray  
We'll walk in the road, it's 'SAFER' that  
way

I hope he sees us in his series three  
After all, we mustn't deprive dogs of their  
lavatory

And so my favourite doggie friends  
If Rover 'has to', by my bend  
A scoop and bag will nicely do  
And PLEASE oh PLEASE take it home  
with you!!!!

70's Disco  
and  
Auction of Promises

**Saturday 19th May**  
Pinchmill Hall  
Felmersham  
7.30pm - late

70's Fancy Dress  
Buffet - Disco  
Prize for best fancy dress

Tickets £12.50  
or phone  
Sarah 708458 or  
Lisa 824443  
from PSA Committee

### **Village Services**

### **Women's Institute**

It was that single evening event, that occurs at the Felmersham and Radwell WI meeting just once a year, when the ubiquitous committee throw aside their responsibilities and chosen WI members take on the role of President, Secretary and Treasurer. March 19<sup>th</sup>, was such an evening when WI members Pam Coombs became the President, Jill West, Secretary and Beryl Millman, Treasurer. The challenge was taken on with great aplomb and all agreed and excellent job was done.

A mixture of spring and exotic flowers created the smell and colours of this time of year, when Ann Gray gave a presentation on flower arranging. Ann produced three stunning artistic and co-ordinated displays and each were raffled at the conclusion of the evening and won by three delighted members.

For those ladies who may recently have relocated to one of our villages, joining the Felmersham and Radwell WI is a great way to make friends whilst providing an enjoyable evening combined with becoming a valued member of the area in which we live.

If you believe that The WI is a frumpy rather staid institution, then we invite you to come, take part and realise for yourselves that we certainly are not!

### **Choral Concert at St Mary's**

The first concert in church using the restored organ will be held on Saturday 19th May 2007 commencing at 7:30pm. Janet Welsh will conduct the concert given by members of both The Ouse Valley Singers and Kempston Musical Society including works by Vivaldi, Parry, Rutter and Stanford. Tickets are £5 and are obtainable in advance from me (phone 782134) or on the door.

### **Songs of Praise, St Mary's Church**

This year's Songs of Praise will be held on Sunday 22nd April 2007, at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church, with a collection during one of the hymns. We hope you will join us for sherry or a soft drink at the end of the service.

As in the past, you are invited to request your favourite hymn or poem or reading and, if possible, it will be included. Would you like to be a reader or would you like to sing or play a musical instrument? Please ring me on 781381 if you would like to take part. I look forward to seeing you on the 22nd.

### **Annual Litter Pick**

A big 'thank you' to Jane Wells, Joan and Michael Thomas, Sue and David Cardy, Lorraine Shrimpton, Peter Hartop, Karen and Geoff Stokley, Pat Jones, Margaret Coomber, Chris Spoor, Mike and Matilda Boswell and Anne Duigan who braved Saturday's grey skies and chilly winds to take part in the annual litter pick. The haul this year included 18 bags of rubbish around Felmersham and 9 from around Radwell, plus assorted hubcaps, car trims and an old tyre. Thanks again to everyone who took part.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> March when Mr Cirin of the County Council gave a most interesting and informative presentation on Emergency Planning. This is now a Government Strategy Plan requirement for County, Borough and District Councils and includes services such as Fire, Police, Ambulance, Health Authorities, Councillors and voluntary bodies. An overall committee draws up the strategy plan and is responsible for the training of personnel to be instantly ready as soon as an emergency or disaster is reported, such as a rail or air crash, or the Buncefield site in Hertfordshire.

Parish Council Chairman, Peter Hartop, gave a report on the work of the Parish Council over the last year, which included the co-operation between the council and Beds Highways on reporting defects on the roads, erecting bollards on the Jubilee Lawn and the grinding down the tree stumps on the Green. The Parish Plan had been completed which had given the council a comprehensive blueprint for the future. He also gave details of the support the council had given to the Margaret Alleyway Trust in purchasing the field beside the slipway, and the proposals by Mr Williams Robinson for a recreation ground as an outcome of a planning application for 3 houses on a field in Old Road.

Other items were the removal of the damaged bus shelter in Radwell, when the opportunity was taken to install a new one away from the Radwell Green area. Many planning applications had been commented upon, likewise the Government's proposals for re-organisation of local government and the formation of Unitary Authorities. Peter concluded by reminding those present that the Parish Council was up for election in May, the same time as the elections for the Borough Council and the Mayor.

The Clerk gave a financial report. The precept for 2007/08 had been set at £12,500. A number of costs had risen, such as power for street lights and audit fees, with grass cutting being one of the largest outgoings in the budget. The cost of the new bus shelter had been met by the insurance claim for the damaged shelter.

Reports were also received from the Parish Plan Group, the P3 Footpath Group, and the Village Hall Committee. The Borough and County Councillors answered questions during the Open Forum.

**A short Parish Council meeting followed**, when progress on work on the causeway was reported. It was also reported that there had been an instance of horse riders riding along the pavement on the Radwell Road. Riders are respectfully reminded that pavements are for pedestrians.

After some discussion, the council voted to award the contract for grasscutting to Chris Horne who currently cuts the grass in the parish. The next bulky waste collection will be in Radwell on 28<sup>th</sup> April from 3.00 – 5.00 pm and in Felmersham on 29<sup>th</sup> April from 1.00 – 3.00 pm.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting in May is to be decided. Please watch the website, notice boards or Ouse News for details.

### **Maggie Spoor**

### **Annual Parish Church Meeting**

This year our APCM will be at 7.30pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at the Village Hall. This is the meeting at which the various church reports are given, as well as plans and suggestions for the future. I hope that there will be a good attendance.

### **Happy Easter**

Easter is almost upon us, I am writing this on a cold but sunny day in March, the spring flowers have been blooming for some time now, and the hedges are beginning to bud up. It is one of the most beautiful times of the year, with an air of freshness, and the promise of new life. It is also the time when we think again about the events of Holy week, Good Friday and Easter Day. We look back to the time when all the hopes and expectations of the disciples about Jesus seemed to have been dashed as Jesus hung and died on the cross on the first Good Friday. The week seemed to have promised so much as Jesus rode into Jerusalem in triumph with the crowds cheering him on. But then Jesus' words and actions at the last supper must have brought a sense of alarm and worry to the disciples, and the events in the Garden of Gethsemane amplified those tensions. Any hopes that they had retained were dashed in the trials and crucifixion. All lost, the body of Jesus taken down and hastily placed in the tomb.

### **David G Mason**

### **Thursday Club**

It's amazing the things that people do to raise money for charities! Sonia, last month's speaker, aged sixty and not very keen on heights, went sky diving to raise money for The Guild House in Bedford where she organises talks, dancing, bridge and many other things for over 60's. There is also a cafe which is open to anyone over 60 so have a break from tour shopping there. April's meeting is on Thursday 12th for transport telephone Joan on 781722.

### **Jo Morris**

### **Coffee and Cakes in aid of Sue Ryder**

Join us at Rose Cottage, Felmersham for Coffee and Cakes in aid of The Sue Ryder Foundation on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May from 10.30 – 12.30. It's a great opportunity to catch up with friends and purchase exclusive South African Jewellery and Phoenix Cards. For more information call me on 782094.

### **Caroline Scott**

### **Mothers Union**

The inauguration service for the Deanery Branch of the Mothers Union was held in St Peters Church, Sharnbrook, on the 18<sup>th</sup> March. It was a joyous occasion, and there was great enthusiasm shown. If anyone would like information about the branch, or would like to join, please get in touch with me.

### **David Mason**

### **A Date for your Diary**

A Concert will be held in St Mary's Church, at 7.30pm on Saturday 7th July 2007. There will be a varied programme bought to you by members of Pinchmill Players Theatre. We look forward to seeing you. Further details to follow.

### **Lorraine Shrimpton**

### **Ouse Valley Arts Festival**

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27 April - 5 May	A Little Night Music at Sharnbrook Mill Theatre Trust
28 April	Cantamus in Concert at 8pm at All Saints Church, Turvey.
29 April	Walk, talk and lunch at 11.30pm at Moggerhanger House
30 April	Youth Music Showcase at Biddenham Upper School
1 May	Forging Art for Pleasure at Sharnbrook Village Hall
2 May	Quartet Camerata at Chellington Centre.
3 May	Bedford Gallery Quire at St Peter's Church, Harrold.
4 May	Liquorice Allsorts Clarinet Quartet at The Barn, Carlton.
5 May	Sights and Sounds of the Swing Era at Bromham Village Hall.
6 May	Gary Seiling in Concert at St Leonard's Church, Stagsden.

For further information call 78137; for tickets call 269519

### **Holy Week And Easter**

Please note the lists and times of services for Holy Week and Easter. Also, the 'Cross of Christ' will be at St Peters Church, Sharnbrook this year, on Good Friday (6<sup>th</sup> April) at 7.00pm.

### **David Mason**