



– Caring For Those In Need –

Short-term help for anyone in the Parish,
Using the services of local volunteers.

Call us on **07786 344176**, leave your name
And number with the Duty Officer, and one of our local
Volunteers will contact you as quickly as possible.

Ouse News

Sponsored by Chesham Insurance Brokers

On line: www.felmersham.net

July 2006

Parish Diary

July			
Sat	1	10.30am	Coffee Morning
Sun	2	10.15am	Choral Communion Trinity 3
Tue	4	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting
Sat	8	3.00pm	Treasure Hunt
Sun	9	10.15am	Family Service Trinity 4
Sun	13	3.00pm	Thursday Club
Sun	16	10.15am	Choral Communion Trinity 5
		7.30pm	Concert in aid of CHIT
Sun	23	10.15am	Matins & Communion Trinity 6
Sat	29	1.00pm	Wedding
Sun	30	10.15am	Choral Communion Trinity 7
		6.30pm	Songs of Praise Service
August			
Sun	6	10.15am	Choral Communion Trinity 8
Sun	13	10.15am	Family Service Trinity 9
Sun	20	10.15am	Choral Communion Trinity 10
Sun	27	10.15am	Matins & Communion Trinity 11

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evans (782000)

Assistant Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)

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

David G Mason

Each year the holiday season seems to come round more quickly. I am sure that many of you are looking forward to spending some time away in the coming weeks, and I hope that you all have a very good time and come back refreshed and ready for the regular routine of life at home again. Holidays a very important not only for the rest and refreshment that they provide, but also to allow a little time and space to think about our lives, and the direction that they are taking. It is so easy to become so absorbed in the pattern of day-to-day living, to become preoccupied with the pressures of the daily routine, that we lose sight of a broader perspective. Holiday time can provide an opportunity to step back from day to day routine and see the direction that our life is taking.

If we perform this exercise we may be able to discern a need for a change in direction. Perhaps a mere tweak in direction, perhaps a major change in its course. Holiday time spent with family and friends provides the opportunity to discuss our findings, and make some sense of them. Part of this sort of thinking should be about our faith. What does it mean to us? Are we actually living be the faith we profess? Do we have doubts and unanswered questions about our faith? I believe that it is important that we examine our faith from time to time, and recognise that it may need working at. It can be so easy to just go on not thinking in depth about just what our faith is, and how important (or not) that it is in our lives. Our faith will be strengthened and become more relative in our lives if we work at it, and through prayer and study seek to deepen our relationship with God, and ensure that it forms an essential part of our lives and the direction of life in which we are travelling.

I wish you all a very happy holiday, and, whether you spend them away or at home, that you end them feeling refreshed and ready for the long run up to that next break at Christmas.

Gill Greenish

Many thanks to those who collected for and to those who donated to Christian Aid Week. A total of £347.68 was given. If you would like to help with this collection next year please let me know.

Patronal Festival

This is very advanced notice of our Patronal Festival, which will be held in the church on Sunday 10th September at 10.15am.

Songs of Praise

The Songs of Praise is arranged for 6.30 pm on Sunday 30th July 2006, in St Mary's Church, Felmersham. The programme is varied with hymns, poems (including two very funny ones!), two solos, a duet and an organ recital. After the Songs of Praise, sherry, soft drinks and nibbles will be served. What a wonderful way to spend a summer Sunday evening, singing your favourite hymns in our wonderful church, a glass of sherry and a chat to your friends and neighbours. So do come along - we look forward to seeing you.

Coffee Morning

There will be no Coffee Morning in August

The Coffee Morning for September will be held at the home of Paul and Pat Keeble, on Saturday 2 September at 10.30am. Proceeds will be used to raise funds to buy new cleaning equipment for the Church. Contributions of home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring-and-buy stall will be greatly appreciated. All are welcome.

David G Mason

It was January 1998 when Clive Just first floated the idea of a Felmersham and Radwell web site and he was "underwhelmed" by the response. In those far off days not many people had Internet access, however four of us who did, met with Clive to discuss the possibility of launching a parish web site. In October 1998 I took up the challenge and the site appeared on the World Wide Web for the first time. Initially it did not have the felmersham.net domain name because early registrations were expensive. Over the years the site has expanded, it has gobbled up 15MB of free web space and another 30MB besides.

This month, as part of making parishioners more aware of the web site, we look at walks featured on www.felmersham.net. Select "Walks" on the drop down menu and there are several choices. "Felmersham Circular" is a 1½ mile walk around Felmersham giving the walker information about the village. "Radwell Circular" gives similar details about Radwell. "Local Walks" describes local walks that can be taken using Felmersham or Radwell as the starting point. The "P3 Map Board" is a copy of the parish footpath map displayed on Jubilee Lawn and Radwell Green and it is best looked at using broadband.

P3 has published several walks leaflets and these can be down loaded at "Leaflets Download". Three of the leaflets are only available as down-loads they are: "Footpaths to Fitness" devised by David Cardy as part of a keep fit regime, "Footpaths and Photograph" gives graphic details, in colour, of footpaths in the parish also by David Cardy and "Four Family Walks" devised by P3 in response to suggestions made in the Parish Plan. A new Church Guide is also available in the download section.

If you are not sure who P3 are then select it on the "Organisations" menu.

Wendy Williamson

If the intrepid ladies of the Felmersham and Radwell WI were to take on a mission to the upper mantle of the Himalayas, then Richard would have been our Sherpa. But on the day of our mission June 21st, I received a call from the aforesaid Richard confirming our venture was definitely to Harrold Country Park and not the thin air of the Himalayas and furthermore would involve pond dipping. This threw me into immediate panic and I knew my ladies would feel just the same. What does one wear for pond dipping? Do we rummage through our cupboards for those hibernated green Hunters, do we hire wet suits or could our Richard be suggesting a more revealing approach as other WI ladies have been prepared to commit to in the past?

Tuesday evening 21st was not without chill factor, as we all for the first time (certainly since school days) rummaged through what could have been a pair of old fish net tights to discover what wild life of Harrold Lake existed inside. It turned out to be a super educational evening and provided us all, with many laughs along the way, Richard was clearly more interested in the contents of the tights (or could it have been a net?) than party clad WI ladies. On behalf of us all we offer our gratitude to Richard.

Chilled and chilled we were, we made our way for a hot supper at The Bell at Odell. Although this hostelry may have experienced some difficulties over the past year or so, the new tenants put on a delightful evening, with efficient service and fine fare. Well done The Bell.

At least at the end of the evening we hadn't suffered from altitude sickness.

www.felmersham.net

Ken Shrimpton
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Lorraine Shrimpton

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Jane Wells

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Women's Institute

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Thursday Club

Jo Morris

For their summer outing the Club went to the Cambridge University Botanic Garden. Geoff Hulatt drove the Villager and Mary Freeman took the overflow in her car. The staff were very helpful in providing electric buggies (and repairing Ken's flat tyre!). Some stalwarts did a short tour before lunch and another afterwards but some just pottered and enjoyed the lovely setting.

The next meeting is on Thursday July 13th at 3.00pm in Margaret and Ian Coombes' garden at the Old Bakery, Grange Road.

Felmersham & Radwell Autumn Show

Maggie Spoor

The 8th Autumn Show will be held on Sunday 17th September in Finchmill Hall, the same day as the Village Fair. There are classes for Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers, Household, Craft and Photography, and also Junior Classes for the 16s and under. Schedules are currently being delivered but are also available to download from the Felmersham website www.felmersham.net.

Village shows are definitely in the news this year, even the BBC is running its own National Village Show competition. Join in the fun at the Village Fair and Autumn Show on 17th September - you might be the champion of our own Village Show and the next holder of the show plate.

BELIEF

Last month I wrote about 'BELIEF', (Bedford Ecumenical Lay Institute for Education and Faith) and its main aims. I believe that it is important that we all seek to learn more about our faith and discipleship and the Institute can help us with this. May I encourage you to consider the courses available. I have a copy of this autumn's course; please see me for further details.

A launch service is to be held at St Luke's Church, St Peter's Street, Bedford on Sunday 10 September at 6.30pm. During the service Dr Stephen Heap will be commissioned as Director. If you are interested in attending please let me know so that I can forward the numbers of those attending from our Parish.

Arthritis Research

A total of £264 was raised in the recent house-to-house collection for the Arthritis Research Campaign in Felmersham and Radwell. Many thanks for giving so generously, and to the collectors Margaret Coomber, Celia Hulatt, Sheila McKenzie, Pam Norris, Mary Picken, Karen Stokley and Wendy Williamson.

Mill Theatre Sharnbrook

Tickets for *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Tue 26th - Sat 30th September at 7.45 pm) available from 14th August. A poignant wartime drama dramatised by Frances Goodrich & Albert Hackett. Adaptation by Wendy Kesselman. Tickets from Sharnbrook Post Office or Central Box Office 01234 269519

St Mary's Church, Felmersham

A Concert

in aid of

Children's Homes in India Trust

A programme of Haydn and Mozart given by the

Reynolds Quartet

Sarah Moffatt , Kathryn Templeman
Nina Kopparhed, Henrik Persson

Sunday 16th July at 7.30pm

Tickets: £8

(£6 – seniors, £4 – juniors)
from Stephen Hill (781064), Sally Carr (781225) or on the door
Drinks and nibbles served during the interval