

CHURCH SERVICES are mentioned at the bottom of this page.

Please read the arrangements carefully and respond to the churchwardens appeal for co-operation.

CLASSICAL CONCERTS on Friday and Saturday, 26th and 27th June at 8pm. The programme on the Friday will be by MISTER DEMPSTER'S MUSICK who gave so much pleasure by their performance two years ago. Music will be of Baroque.

On Saturday the programme will be by AURIGA WIND QUINTET (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn and Bassoon). Wind instruments sound particularly well in the church. Programmes will be on sale early in June at £2 each including refreshments in Pinchmill Hall. Children are admitted at 50p. It is to be hoped that these concerts will be well supported - especially as work is now in progress on the West Front and you can see that your money is needed and is being spent wisely.

Please pass on information to your friends outside the parish.

A MESSAGE FROM PINCHMILL PLAYERS THEATRE

October is the month, Pinchmill Hall is the venue and an Old Time Music Hall the production.

Rehearsals are already in progress so stand by for news of box office dates and avoid disappointment, by booking early. Goodbye -e-e!

OUSE NEWS

Ken Shrimpton and Roland Carpenter will be looking after future issues of Ouse News. The July issue goes to press on Wednesday 10th June (early date owing to holidays). Please let Roland Carpenter, College Farm House, Church End (781622) have your items before that date.

INTERREGNUM. Canon Jones will not be instituted as Priest in Charge of Felmersham until September. It has been necessary therefore to make certain arrangements for the interval between Revd. Sidebottom leaving the Parish and Canon Jones assuming his responsibilities with us.

Canon Jones will be responsible for any arrangements in connection with:
BAPTISMS WEDDINGS and FUNERALS.

He can be contacted at The Vicarage, High Street, Sharnbrook (tel. Bedford 781444). The Churchwardens Mr D.J.H. Knowles (781549) and Mr F.J.S. Best (781722) will gladly act as points of contact and parishioners should feel free and able to contact them as necessary. Canon Jones will be pleased to undertake any sick visiting and contact can be made direct with him or through the Churchwardens. It has of course been necessary to make special arrangements for services during the interregnum period but the Churchwardens have sought to give a regular pattern to these. Accordingly there will be a Eucharist Service at 11.15am on each of the Sundays 7, 14, 21 and 28 June, and 5, 12, 19 and 26 July. Canon Jones will take these services and it is hoped very much that parishioners will make a special effort to lend them their support. Details of services for the holiday month of August will be announced later.

OUSE

Felmersham

NEWS

Radwell

Bedford 56189

The Vicarage
FELMERSHAM

JUNE 1981

My dear Friends,

Twenty years is a long time in a parish and as I look back I can see that I have had over 170 Baptisms, 50 Marriages and prepared 150 for Confirmation. According to the records I have served longer as Incumbent than anyone else for the past 150 years.

Felmersham, like every other parish has had its problems and difficulties but fortunately they have been few and with a vast amount of goodwill we have managed to overcome them. There has at all times been a wonderful spirit of co-operation and Hazel and I take with us very happy memories and lasting friendships.

Over the years we have seen many changes - movement of population, development within the parish, people leaving and others taking their place but all has happened without too much upheaval. The outstanding achievements have been the new school and hall and the restoration of the church. These prove the generosity and determination of the people of the parish. The willingness to give and to work has been magnificent. Added to this there was the great joy shared by all at the Silver Jubilee celebrations when every organisation played an important part.

All this helps to assure me that Felmersham has a future and that you will continue to work together. No parish can live on the achievements of the past. It takes people who will come out and work to keep life moving today and I am sure there will be no scarcity of such people. It will give Hazel and me great pleasure to follow your progress and perhaps in time come back to see you all. With profound gratitude we will think of you all. You have done and given so much over the years. To Churchwardens, Parochial Church Council, Organist, Choir and Servers, bell-ringers, leaders of organisations and a host of others too numerous to mention, we say thank you a thousand times. A special word for the loyal folk of Radwell who have co-operated so very willingly and have never felt separated from Felmersham. Joanna, Mark and Evan join Hazel and me in wishing you every blessing and success for the future.

Yours very sincerely
Gerry Sidebottom

RESTORATION WORK is under way and the Department of the Environment has agreed that we should give priority to the West Front of the church. There are, however, one or two points I should explain. This will not be a full scale restoration. It is work to prevent further damage and to preserve as much as possible for years to come. The cost of a complete restoration of that part of the building would be prohibitive and we are more than fortunate that the D.o.E. has given us this help when (to my knowledge) other applications have been deferred for three years.

The scaffolding may not be used constantly and this is simply because much of the stone is being prepared away from the site and there are good reasons for this. It is necessary as far as our insurance is concerned to warn everyone to keep away from the scaffolding. Please warn your children.

THE CONFIRMATION on 11th May was very much a parish and family occasion. We had our own twelve candidates only and it was a great pleasure to welcome parents and God parents. There was a good congregation and the Bishop's visit was much appreciated.

GARDEN FETE - July 11th. Brian Smith has kindly agreed to chair a small sub-committee to plan the details of this year's fete, but many other volunteers will be needed to help man the usual wide range of stalls and sideshows plus several new features. Nearer the time we shall again be arranging door to door collections of gift items for the raffle and stalls (white elephant, produce, childrens' toys, etc.). We also need OLD CROCKERY & CHINA (but NO glass please) for a smashing side-show. Further details from Brian Smith (781443) or Mary Kemsley (781803).

THE JUMBLE SALE produced a clear profit of £77 after expenses. Many thanks to all the good folk who helped in so many ways - particularly the stall holders. They did not have much time to idle when the crowds arrived.

HOUSE NEWS passes on to two new editors and I thank them for being willing to keep it going. Please assist them as much as possible. I am grateful to the management and staff of Office-Aid (Bedford) Ltd., for very pleasant and helpful service over the years.

CONGRATULATIONS to chorister Craig Dawson who attended a three day choir training course at St. Albans and received an excellent report. It was no mean feat for a little chap to settle in with a group of others not knowing anyone and to be highly commended for his performance and behaviour.

A VILLAGE PUB is an important part of the life of any community and we are most fortunate in the fact that we have more than one and all extremely helpful. I am grateful to them all for their splendid co-operation towards the church and for the way in which they have welcomed and assisted me and my family. You will most certainly see us again.

PLAYGROUP needs a second leader for one session per week starting in the autumn term, pay £5. day by arrangement. Please apply in writing to Secretary, Mrs J. Hammond, Laburnam House, The Green, Radwell MK43 7HT, stating experience.

1st FELMERSHAM & RADWELL GUIDES. We are trying to get equipment together to enable the Guides to go camping. Is there anyone who is willing to donate to the Company any of the following? Tea chest muslin (for hanging larders); old but still usable saucepans; frying pans; fish slice; long handled fork and spoon; plastic bucket and bowls; axe; saw; spade. If anyone can help us please telephone - Mrs Frankham 782256 Mrs Brown 782180.

MOTHERS' UNION - Jessie Marsh. The Deanery Festival at Turvey Church was enjoyed by all. The Abbess of Turvey Abbey was our speaker, she told us about their Benedictine Orders and also some of the things they are aiming for at the Abbey. Everyone was cordially invited to pay the Abbey a visit. Tea was provided by our hostess branch, Turvey, was excellent and was very much appreciated. Lastly, many thanks to the car drivers, without whom we would not have been able to attend this service. Next Meeting - 3rd June, 2.45pm. at Mrs Kemsley's. Speaker Mrs Impey - Life as a Widow. Why not join us - everyone young or old are most welcome.

THREE in ONE CLUB - Mary Kemsley. Our grateful thanks to Gerry and Hazel for their help and support for our Club, we all wish Gerry a happy retirement, we hope they will come and see us when they can. We look forward to the Summer and our outings, hoping this year the weather will be kinder. On June 18th we are off to visit Holkham Hall, we hope to arrange a half-day outing as well.

W.I. NOTES. Mrs Knowles welcomed one visitor Mrs Hammond to our May meeting and two new members Mrs Glover and Mrs Aitken. After the business of the evening was completed Karen our Bamix demonstrator explained how we could all save at least £3 per week on our housekeeping budget by using the extremely versatile Bamix Food Mixer. The competition for a Victoria Sponge was won by (1) Mrs Hoodless, (2) Mrs Harris (3) Mrs Albury. The raffle raised £4.75 and was won by (1) Mrs Sidebottom (2) Mrs Mackenzie. Our next meeting will be the 'Diamond Jubilee Dinner' on June 16th. Guests for the evening are the County President, the County Secretary and Mrs Cook.

CAKE MORNINGS each month provide an excellent source of income and are much appreciated by a number of people inside and outside the parish. The time has come, however to make a wider appeal for interest and support. More people to offer the use of their homes, more people to bake and more customers. There is no great amount of work involved but if you could bring and buy it would be a great help. As we look around we can see that Felmersham & Radwell have built up an excellent reputation for top quality goods. Please help to build on this and consider what help you can give - it is important and will be welcomed. The next cake morning will be at Mrs Kemsley's 12 Marriotts Close, at 10.30am., on Saturday, 6th June. Any offers for later in the year?

FAMILY STRAWBERRY TEA - to be held on Thursday, 2nd July 3.30pm - 5.00pm., in Mrs Smith's garden, Perch Heights, Carlton Road. (If wet in the Sun Inn)

Organised by Felmersham & Radwell Conservative Association.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE - Please note from 2 - 18th July the keyholder will be Anne Carpenter. College Farm House, Church End (781622).

PARISH DIARY FOR JULY 1981

Fri. 26 June	8.00pm	Church	Concert. Mister Dempster's Musick
Sat. 27 June	8.00pm	Church	Concert. Auriga Wind Quintet
Sun. 28 June	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist *
Wed. 1 July	2.45pm	Mrs Kemsley's	Mothers' Union Meeting
Thur. 2 July	3.30-5pm	Perch Heights	Family Strawberry Tea
Sat. 4 July	Potted Sports regrettably cancelled.		
Sun. 5 July	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist * Mary Kemsley
Sat. 11 July	3.00pm	West Grange	Fete
Sun. 12 July	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist * Brian Smith
Sun. 19 July	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist * Kenneth Shrimpton
Mon 20 July	Last date for entries to 'Design a stamp' competition		
Tue 21 July	W.I. Meeting		
Sun. 26 July	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist * Geoffrey Vollam
Wed. 29 July	3.00pm	'Design a stamp' Prizegiving	

* The Celebrant at all the above church services will be Canon Jones. Please make every effort to attend these services during the interregnum. Should you require the services of a priest please contact Canon Jones directly at The Vicarage, High Street, Sharnbrook (Bedford 781444) or via the church-wardens D.J.H. Knowles (781549) or F.J.S. Best (781722).

(Annual Village Camp) The weather prevented Ray Murton from getting his big tillery out, but his truck became the troop carrier of children of all ages, visiting Sports Centres and Hostelrys to the accompaniment of melodious voices.

A dirty, tired but exhilarated band returned to the village and clean sheets on Saturday, 30th May. The next day at Gerry's presentation I couldn't recognise any of them.
George Airton, i/c Mud.

VILLAGE HALL

From 2nd - 18th July the village hall key will be held by Anne Carpenter, College Farm House, Church End (781622).

FOUND in the Village Hall a child's brown coat with fur collar. Ring 781381.

OUSE

NEWS

Felmersham

Radwell

The Parish magazine of St. Marys Church, Felmersham

JULY 1981.

THE PARISH SAYS FAREWELL TO ITS PRIEST

On Sunday, 31st May, over 400 villagers gathered together at a lunchtime reception, to say 'thank you' to Gerry Sidebottom and his family upon Gerry's retirement as Vicar of Felmersham and Radwell.

David Knowles made a witty and eloquent speech, thanking Gerry for his work in the parish and wished him a long and happy retirement. During his 20 years as parish priest, Gerry had the full support of his wife Hazel, and between them they had created a feeling of being part of one large parish family.

Presentations were then made, of a painting of the Church, by a local artist, pewter mugs to Joanna, Mark and Evan, a personal gift of a gold bracelet to Hazel and a cheque for £750 to Gerry. Hazel was also presented with a basket of flowers by Mrs Hensman and Alison Freeman handed her a bouquet from the Youth Club. Mrs fforde made a presentation on behalf of the choir and herself.

Light refreshments were served by the Guides and Brownies, sherry was distributed by anyone who looked strong enough to carry a tray, and the excellent music was provided by Harrold Priory School Band.

Our thanks to all village clubs and parishioners whose generosity made the occasion so successful.

Earlier at a special service, attended by the Bishop of Bedford, Gerry likened our community to an orchestra. Each member of the orchestra had a part to play and it was important that we each made our contribution. We had to rehearse and practise for many hours to achieve the high standards set by the Conductor. The parish was losing the leader of the orchestra but there would soon be another, and the orchestra's work must continue.

FETE - JULY 11th The Fete is this year being held at West Grange, Hunts Lane, by kind permission of Brian and Blanche Smith, and will open at 3.00pm. We look forward to a fine afternoon of entertainment, and hope very much we can count on your support and interest for this important fund-raising event. Raffle tickets will be on sale by the time you receive this magazine. If you are able to sell some - particularly outside Felmersham and Radwell - please contact Richard Carpenter (781622).

THE ROYAL WEDDING

The Village Hall Social Committee have arranged the following event to celebrate the marriage of Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer.

A competition will be held to design a commemorative postage stamp. The design to be A4 size paper and in any medium (i.e. pencil, crayon, paint, felt tip, collage, etc.) Competition open to all Felmersham and Radwell children of 16 years of age and under (including any non-resident child attending Pinchmill School). Entries to be submitted to Sue Webster or Ann Carpenter by Monday, 20th July. Entrant's name, address and age should be written on the back of the design. All children who enter the competition will be presented with a Royal Wedding Commemorative Mug on 29th July at 3pm in the Village Hall. All designs submitted will be on display and those judged to be best in their class will receive a prize.

Wedding watchers need have no worries over the timing of the presentation. The social committee and Buckingham Palace have come to an arrangement whereby the happy couple will make no scheduled appearances between 3 and 4pm.

POTTED SPORTS

Owing to numerous events taking place on the same day the P.S.A. Potted Sports due to take place on 4th July have been cancelled.

WINE AND PATE EVENING - A date for your diary

A wine and pate evening in aid of St. John's Moggerhanger (a Sue Ryder cancer care home) will be held at the home of Mrs Roberts, Old Barns, Church End on 24th September at 8pm. More details next month.

CAKE MORNINGS.

There will be no cake mornings in July or August - but please support the cake stall at the Fete on 11th July.

Future dates are: September 6th at Mrs J. Knowles, 'Long Mynd', Pavenham Road.

October 10th at Mrs S. Knight, 'Sennen', Grange Road.

November 14th at Mrs D. Lock, Marriotts Close.

all at 10.30am

Mary Kemsley (781803) will be pleased to receive offers for future dates.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION.

The Parish Council takes this opportunity of thanking all parishioners for the great effort made for last year's Best Kept Village Competition. We ask that a special effort be made for this year, to repeat and improve upon last year's achievement of second place.

YOUTHFUL CHALLENGE

Parents be warned! The editors have received reports that the Youth Club are about to challenge us to a grand tournament involving many forms of indoor and outdoor activities and sports. So, there is no time to lose in sorting out kit and equipment, and getting their muscles working again!

W.I. NOTES

The next meeting will be on July 21st when the speaker will be Mrs Jenkins. Her talk will be on the subject of Riding for the Disabled. There will also be an 'On the Spot' competition.

POINTS OF VIEW.

The editors will be pleased to receive correspondence on matters of local interest and in particular items connected with the Churches role in our community and worldwide.

Village organisations are reminded that we go to press on 20th of each month. Please may we suggest, if you have not already done so, that you appoint somebody within your group who is responsible for sending reports to 'Ouse News'. We are always pleased to receive reports that are slightly embellished.

MOTHERS' UNION - Jessie Marsh

'CRUSE' this is quite a new organisation, formed to provide company and entertainment for widows.

Mrs Impey explained to us, the different activities provided by the club, and of many friendships formed through the group. We now have a club in Bedford where meetings take place twice a week.

Next Meeting: 1st July, 2.45pm (anyone welcome) 12 Marriotts Close (Mrs Kemsley)

ANNUAL VILLAGE CAMP

In true Dunkirk spirit 8 families of Felmersham and Radwell set off to continue the annual tradition of camping during the Spring Bank Holidays.

At 9am on Wednesday 26th May the families of Airtton, Darbon, Dawson, Murton, Shrimpton, Stevens, Stokley and Taylor met at Pinchmill Hall and despite the prospect of bad weather, they each and everyone agreed to make their merry way to Henley-on-Thames.

On arriving they realised their folly for the name had been changed after 2½" of rain in 48 hours to Thames-on-Henley.

Not to be deterred they plunged onto the designated camp site and in no time every car, trailer and truck became bogged down with mud. The wives and their Officers of the Expeditionary Force signalled a hasty retreat to a camp site with firmer access. The retreat took almost 2 hours to complete as the mud splattered troops dug out the entrenched vehicles.

Re-forming at Hurley, tents were quickly pitched before the rain attacked again, except for the Murttons who had left the building plans behind.

Everyone then settled down to enjoy the company of the other users of the site - Ducks.

The children however loved every sticky, mud-caked minute of it. "There let us wallow" became the hit tune of the weekend.

Jeff Stokley's brew was as palatable as ever. The communal meals caused quite a stir. Betty and John Taylor showed us round their old haunts. (Cont'd. back page)

PARISH DIARY FOR AUGUST 1981

Sun. 2 Aug.	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	Martin Banham-Hall
Sun. 9	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	F.J.S. Best
Sun. 16	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	R.P. Carpenter / Mrs Marsh
Sun. 23	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	Mrs Geary / Mrs Gough
Sun. 30	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	Mrs Phillips
Sun. 6	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	Mrs Kemsley / Mrs Geary

* Canon Jones has arranged celebrants at these services during the interregnum; and is also available at The Vicarage, High Street, Sharnbrook (781444) for anyone requiring the services of a priest. Contact may also be made via the Churchwardens, D.J.H. Knowles (781549) or F.J.S. Best (781722).

(GEORGE HULATT - continued from previous page)

specially remembered by those who have been privileged to see him in these roles. The Felmersham and Radwell community will greatly miss a much loved village character and extend their deepest sympathy to his widow, Ivy, and to her family.

COLLECTION ON BEHALF OF N.C.H. by Lorraine Shrimpton

This year the collection for the National Children's Home takes place during the first two weeks in September. Unfortunately, I shall be on holiday most of this period and therefore need Help! I need one volunteer from each road, in both villages, to collect. So please if you can help, give me a ring on 781381.

OUSE NEWS - postal subscribers are reminded that the annual rate for Ouse News is £2.50., which includes postage. Payment should be made to the Editors.

SALE OF BABIES' and CHILDREN'S CLOTHES - Friday 11th Sept. 8.00pm in Pinchmill Hall. Discontinued lines, end of ranges and seconds, all very good well-known makes to suit children up to age 12. Please come and stock up for the winter. Commission is in aid of Felmersham Playgroup.

WINE AND PATE - Thursday, 24th September 8.00pm., at Mrs Roberts', Old Barns, Church End, Felmersham. Tickets £2, obtainable from Mrs E. Roberts (781933), Mrs G. Burr (781663), or Mrs W. Walker (781801). Proceeds in aid of St. John's, (Moggerhanger) Sue Ryder Home - please may we have your support for this worthwhile charity.

MOTHERS' UNION - Jessie Marsh

How very fortunate we are to have all our senses and faculties, this was the view expressed by us all when Mrs Glenda Davis showed the film "Tear Fund". What a very worthwhile task this organisation are doing.

Many thanks to Canon H. Jones for leading us in our 'Wave of Prayer' service.

No meeting in August. We will all meet outside 'The Sun' for our visit to Hazel and Gerry Sidebottom on Friday, 31st July. Time later.

OUSE

Felmersham

NEWS

Radwell

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. MARYS CHURCH, FELMERSHAM

AUGUST 1981

It was one of those very cold winter evenings, when all I wanted to do was relax at home with the family. However, that was not to be! Three of us had a date with the deanery pastoral committee. The meeting was an important one for Radwell and Felmersham as the major item of business was the future of the parish. The recommendations made at that meeting are, of course, currently taking shape and need no further explanation. During the discussion people were constantly referring to the M.T.S. man. What on earth was an M.T.S. man! Of course, it wasn't long before I found out.

Douglas Claypole-White an accountant from Turvey, who has recently preached in Felmersham, is an M.T.S. man, I thought it would be a good idea to ask him to explain.

THE MINISTERIAL TRAINING SCHEME

Sometime prior to April 1976 an appeal was made to Parishes to ask whether members of the congregation could play a more active part in the work of the Church today. As a result of this appeal the St. Albans Diocese Ministerial Training Scheme was conceived. The object of the scheme was to train people for both a lay ministry and an ordained ministry. The first M.T.S. course started in St. Albans in September 1976, followed by courses at Bedford in 1977, Welwyn Garden City in 1978, St. Albans in 1979 and Bedford in 1980.

I can only talk with authority about the three-year course based on Bedford between September 1977 and September 1980. We met twice a week during term time at Polhill Avenue for a meal at about 6.15pm., followed by a half an hour's worship planned and conducted by the students (80% attendance was mandatory). At 7.30pm we either had a two-hour lecture or split into three groups to study and discuss group projects. Five times a year we attended a residential weekend from Friday evening until after lunch on Sunday and once a year a residential nine day summer school. The original course literature suggested that each student should spend on average at least three hours per week on private reading. I do not think I was a particularly good student as I found I often had to spend quite a bit more time on my studies!

The course was not officially recognised by ACCM (The Advisory Council for the Church's Ministry) until September 1977. This meant that the students on the first

St. Albans course had undergone a whole year of training before the course was officially recognised as a theological college. Originally examination was by continual assessment on a total of 25 essays covering ethics, the Old Testament, the New Testament, worship and doctrine. This was changed in our last year to a given number of written pieces of work which were not necessarily essays. A number of us also assisted or took services in our home Parishes at the weekend.

Before we were accepted for training we had to attend a selection conference chaired by the Bishop of Hertford. Those of us who subsequently offered ourselves for Ordination then had to attend a four day residential selection conference run by ACCM. There were 31 of us who joined the first Bedford course. Five ladies and twenty-six men. All five of the ladies finished the course but unfortunately we lost four of the men during the three year period and a further two did not graduate at the end of the course. Of the twenty five who did graduate one was admitted as a reader, eight were licenced as lay ministers, two of the ladies were admitted to the order of Deaconess and fourteen of the men were Ordained Deacons.

THREE IN ONE CLUB by Mary Kemsley

We all enjoyed the outing to Holkham Hall and Wells-next-the-Sea, the weather was very pleasant, we hope for a nice day for our Woburn Safari Park trip. Please remember we have a Jumble Sale in Pinchmill Hall on Saturday, 15th August at 2.30pm., any contributions gratefully received.

We are all saddened by the death of George Hulatt, a very faithful member of the Club, he will be greatly missed. Our sympathy goes to Ivy and the family.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The work of the Parochial Church Council, or P.C.C. as it is generally known, is broadly to assist the Vicar in the whole mission of the Church, but it has a particular responsibility for finance including the care and maintenance of the church building, and for social activities. The P.C.C. is, for example, responsible for the restoration work now being carried out on the west front of the Church, for lighting, heating and cleaning, and for the production of Ouse News.

The P.C.C. consists of 19 members who are elected at the Annual Church meeting which is held at about Easter time, and can be attended by everybody whose name appears on the Church Electoral Roll. Forms of application for inclusion on the Electoral Roll are obtainable from the Secretary of the P.C.C., Mrs Pat Brown of 'Crantock' Grange Road. The P.C.C. generally meets at two monthly intervals.

It should not be confused in anyway with the Parish Council which is a local government body, and has a different membership and quite different functions.

The Chairman of the P.C.C. is normally the Vicar, but owing to the present interregnum, the chair was taken by the Lay Vice Chairman (Mr David Knowles) at the meeting held on 29th June. At this meeting, the Treasurer (Mr G. Vollam) presented a report on the current state of church finance, and it was learnt with satisfaction that there should not be any difficulty in meeting the bills as they come

in from the Contractor working on the West front. However, it was noted that more funds would be needed to pay for urgently needed work on the parapets which were in a dangerous condition.

It was reported that a profit of £101 was made on the two recent concerts. Thanks were expressed to Freddie Stevens and all helpers who contributed to the success of the concerts.

The P.C.C. heard a report from Mr Brian Smith, the Chairman of the Fete sub-committee, on the preparations in hand for this function.

At the next meeting of the P.C.C. consideration would be given to the pattern of services which they would prefer when a Vicar has been instituted, to the pros and cons of Christian Stewardship, and to the arrangements for the Harvest Festival.

£64.93 WAS COLLECTED in Felmersham and Radwell for the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council. Grateful thanks to everyone who collected or contributed.

Jennifer Knowles.

GOODBYE

This month we say farewell to two families who are leaving the parish. Geoffrey and Arline Vollam and family are leaving to live in the Bristol area. Both are very active members of the parish and will be missed. Geoffrey is currently Treasurer of the P.C.C. and Arline is a former Treasurer and President of the W.I. We wish them happiness in their new home.

We also say 'Bon Voyage' to Graeme and Cherry Dawson and family who are returning to Australia. Graeme and Cherry have also been very active members of the community, until recently Cherry was on the Village Hall Committee and, with Graeme, assisted at many of the Village Hall social functions. Our best wishes go with them.

GEORGE HULATT Freddie Stevens writes:

The death of George Hulatt has removed a much admired and respected figure from Felmersham and Radwell. George was born at Radwell in 1902, the sixth child in a family of eight children. He began to go to school at four years of age, walking to and from Felmersham four times a day. At the age of 11 he worked both before and after school as boot and knife cleaner for Mr Harry Green at the Grange. He left school at 14 and worked as a groom for the Oakley Hunt Kennels at Milton Ernest, and later worked for the old L.M.S. at Bedford Station, in charge of thirty horses. He married the daughter of the landlord of the Six Ringers in September 1925 and there was much rejoicing when they celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1975. He himself became landlord of the Ringers in 1936, remaining there until 1953 and also working on maintenance at the R.A.E. at Thurleigh, until retirement at 65. He died in Addenbrooke's Hospital on 9th July 1981 in his eightieth year.

Although these short biographical details of George's long life reflect many of the profound changes which have affected so many aspects of living in the 20th century, it is the man himself who will remain in the affectionate memory of his close-knit family. The devoted husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather will be

THE CHURCH FETE by John Taylor

AUG 81

Much was the same but there were notable differences. We had a new and charming venue but we missed the authoritative Irish voice reminding (nay instructing) stall holders not to open until 3 o'clock. None of them did, the discipline instilled over the past twenty years saw to that!

The stalls followed the same theme, some old favourites were there but also some original new ones. As usual the bottle stall had sold out within an hour leaving canny David Knowles with freedom to enjoy the rest of the afternoon. Someone actually won on Ray Murton's 'Roll-a-Coin' and Ralph Hamilton came all the way from the Middle East to have wet sponges thrown at him, mainly by his wife. Rumour has it that the water was laced with vodka.

Joanne Sidebottom displayed such considerable talent in organising the skittles that everyone wondered where she had learned the art! Of the new attractions the river trip boat seemed permanently crowded and the roller coaster proved a huge success for young and old alike, that is when Ron Draycott allowed anyone else to have a go.

All in all, a most successful day. The sun shone, ice creams melted, parents lost their children (temporarily), someone fell into the river and for a change, Gerry Sidebottom did not win a raffle prize. And the result? A profit of over £600 for which the organisers offer sincere thanks to all who helped and attended.

Special thanks must go to Blanche and Brian Smith for so generously allowing use of the delightful setting of West Grange and remaining calm and unruffled even at the sight of hundreds of feet trampling over their grounds. Dare one say it? They didn't even blanch!

Brian Smith writes:-

I would like to thank everybody for their tremendous support at the church fete. Those who donated items, ran stalls and sideshows and those who came to spend their money. We took approximately £670 which I believe is a record.

Also a special thanks for the clearing up party who did such a thorough job.

W.I. NOTES

On 16th June members enjoyed an excellent meal to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the W.I. in Felmersham and Radwell. Mrs Knowles welcomed three guests to the dinner, Mrs England, County Chairman, Mrs Boone, County Secretary and Mrs Cook a founder member. Mrs Cook cut the celebration cake which was made and expertly iced by Mrs M. Spoor.

After the meal members were entertained by Phoebe and William Tipping from Kettering who sang a varied selection of traditional and modern folk songs.

Raffle winners included Mrs S. Stapleton, Mrs J. Hoodless, Mrs England, Mrs G. Davis, and Mrs J. Knowles.

A Coffee Evening will be held in the home of Mrs Knowles 'Long Mynde' Pavenham Road on Tuesday 4th August at 7.30pm. Bring & Buy Stall & Raffle. Proceeds will go to the 'Riding for the Disabled Asscn.'. Do come and bring your friends.

PARISH DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 1981

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary any details of meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the villages of Felmersham and Radwell. All details please to Roland Carpenter (781622).

Su 30 Aug	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	Mrs Phillips
W 2 Sept	2.45pm	Mrs Kemsley. Mothers Union	
Sa 5	10.30am	Mrs Knowles. Cake & Coffee Morning	
Su 6	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	Mrs Kemsley/Mrs Geary
W 9	6.30pm	Church. Choir Practice resumes	
Th 10	7.45pm	Church. Flower Guild	
F 11	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall. Sale of Babies' & Children's Clothes	
Su 13	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	Brian Smith
Tu 15	7.30pm	Pinchmill Hall. W.I. Meeting (Health Foods)	
Su 20	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	Mrs Geary
Su 20	7.00pm	Pinchmill Hall. Box Office for 'Old Time Music Hall'	
M 21	8.00pm	Committee Room. Village Hall Committee Meeting	
Tu 22	7.30pm	Pinchmill Hall. P.C.C. Meeting	
Th 24	8.00pm	Mrs Roberts' Wine and Pate Evening	
Su 27	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	F.J.S. Best
Su 4 Oct	11.15am	Church. Sung Eucharist*	K. Shrimpton/Mrs Marsh
Su 4	6.00pm	Church. HARVEST FESTIVAL	Churchwardens
M 5	7.00pm	Pinchmill Hall. Harvest Supper and Raffle	

* Canon Jones has arranged celebrants at these services during the interregnum and is also available at The Vicarage, High Street, Sharnbrook (781444) for anyone requiring the services of a priest. Contact may also be made via the Churchwardens, D.J.H. Knowles (781549) and F.J.S. Best (781722).

CHOIR

Choir Practice will commence again on Wednesday, 9th September at 6.30pm for children, 7.00pm for adults. New members of all ages are urgently needed.

ORGAN RECITAL - Friday, 23rd October

Carys Hughes will be giving an organ recital on Friday, 23rd October at 7.30pm. Programmes will shortly be available from Mrs fforde price £1.25 for adults, 50p for children. Proceeds are in aid of the Restoration Fund.

SALE OF BABIES' and CHILDREN'S CLOTHES - Friday 11th Sept. 8.00pm., in Pinchmill Hall. Discontinued lines, end of ranges and seconds, all very good well-known makes to suit children up to age 12. Please come and stock up for the winter. Commission is in aid of Felmersham Playgroup.

POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Monday to Friday	9.30am - 2.30pm
Saturday	10.00am - 12.00pm

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THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, FELMERSHAM

SEPTEMBER 1981

The Parochial Church Council recognised at its last meeting that the interregnum gives us a unique challenge and opportunity to review several aspects of our church life. Moreover, since we are at last nearing the end of the major structural restoration of our Church building, we can now devote much more time and energy to this review, firstly in redefining the foundation and objectives of our Christianity and secondly in identifying opportunities for Christian witness and initiative within the community.

In recent years we have all been very occupied in putting the external fabric of the Church in order; it therefore seemed very appropriate that the first of these new discussions should be concerned with ordering what goes on inside the Church, and in particular the style of future Church worship.

Non christians seem to have very different views of what worship is all about, and even amongst christians there is different emphasis placed on the main elements of teaching, self-dedication, praise and prayer. Not surprisingly, therefore, there are many different ideas, and different 'ideal' forms of service. We also thought it important to emphasize that christianity is a family business and any form of worship that neglects this family aspect is partly missing the point. So what can we in Felmersham do to improve the feeling of family participation in our christian worship?

Traditionally, we held a Family Service based on Matins on two Sundays per month, and many people have expressed the wish that this service be reinstated as soon as possible. The Sung Eucharist is also popular and after the interregnum we may well seek to re-establish the pattern of Matins and Sung Eucharist on alternate Sundays, ideally starting at around 10.00am to 10.30am. Within this framework there are opportunities to vary the style of music (to include some more modern settings for hymns and psalms) to vary the order of service (1662 version, Series 2, Series 3, Alternative Service Book) and to encourage individuals or groups of parishioners to take or lead particular parts of the service; with the overall aim of combining the best of the old with the best of the new.

Further variety could be introduced by inviting visiting Preachers, and by occasional special services, perhaps including Sung Evensong. People might also be made more aware of Church services and more willing to participate if we issued a weekly information sheet and made Bibles etc., available in Church.

The children and youth of the Parish deserve special mention. Some services might be specially geared to children, or conducted by children but we would not aim for a regular children's service any more than we would aim for a regular adults' service. We feel that every service should cater for the whole family.

This naturally led us into a lively discussion on the merits of Sunday School, some of us attaching great importance to this, particularly now that there is no vicar residing in the village and able to make regular visits to the School. If we were to consider a Sunday School, it would most likely be held during the Sermon either in or very near to the Church, so that children attending it would be able to worship with their families for the majority of the service.

Other points of discussion included suggested modifications to the rear of the Church to create a better area for coffee and bookstall etc. These topics should not be decided by the P.C.C. alone. All parishioners are welcome to take part in our Church Services and each one will have a view as to what those Services should be like. Will you help the P.C.C. to form a balanced view by letting them know how you would like to see our Church Services develop? Although we shall not be able to answer all the needs all the time, we should at least be able to devise a sufficiently varied range to suit most tastes.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL by Fred Best

When the P.C.C. met on 28th July, the most important topics considered were the pattern of church services the Council would like to see adopted in the future, so that guidance could be given to the Churchwardens when they discussed this matter with the incoming Vicar; and the arrangements for the Harvest Festival. Both these topics are dealt with in detail elsewhere in this issue.

The Archdeacon's Visitation took place on 22nd July when he inspected the general condition of the Church, its documents, plate and furnishings. His report was not yet to hand, but it was understood that substantially everything was found to be satisfactory.

Consideration was given to the post of Treasurer, in succession to Mr Vollam. The P.C.C. are grateful to Mr Aitken of Peacehaven, High Road, for agreeing to take on this essential but onerous job.

Other and more mundane matters dealt with were the felling of a large dead tree in the churchyard, and the provision of new bell ropes (the existing ones are worn out) at a total cost of £270 of which the bell-ringers have raised by their own efforts £120. It was noted that it had been found possible to finance urgently needed repair work to the south parapets, and this is now in hand.

Finally, the Visitors Book has been filled up. If somebody would care to donate a new one, it would be greatly appreciated - a Churchwarden should be contacted.

HARVEST FESTIVAL - 4th October. Eucharist at 11.15am. Evening Service 6pm. The Flower Guild ladies will be at the Church to receive gifts of fruit and veg. on Friday, 2nd October between 2 - 4.30pm and Sat. 3rd Oct. between 9-11am.

(Harvest Festival Cont'd.) Extra help also welcome.

HARVEST SUPPER & AUCTION SALE

A Fish and Chip Supper, followed by the auction of produce will be held in Pinchmill Hall on Monday, 5th October 1981. Bar will open at 7.00pm. Supper at 7.30pm. Tickets price 70p each will be available from Roland Carpenter, College Farm House.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS by Glenda Davis

Complaints were received by the Parish Council concerning the overfilling of the refuse skips in July. Would people using the skips next time please ensure that the rubbish which is placed in the skip is pressed well down and please Do Not Overload. On this same subject, would parents kindly impress on their youngsters not to climb into the skips or remove rubbish, leaving an awful mess surrounding these skips.

It was reported at the last Parish Council Meeting that there had been 37 accidents on Radwell Bridge during the past 12 months, due mainly to excessive speed on the approach to the bridge. Will all those using this Bridge, take extra care so that we can cut down the amount of accidents at this dangerous spot. We are ever hopeful that the County will install traffic lights here.

The County have reported that they will be starting work on the kerbing around the triangular island at the junction of Hunts Lane and High Road when re-surfacing from Felmersham Bridge to Odell Road starts in July.

The Parish Council has written and phoned Charles Wells Ltd., concerning the bad state of the fencing at the back of the Six Ringers. The work is due to start soon!

Elderly Persons Bungalows - The Parish Council have requested an on-site meeting with the District Council before detailed plans are drawn up. The site chosen is to the rear of Betts Bakery.

The tree which has died on the Jubilee Lawn is to be re-placed in November.

ROYAL WEDDING MUGS The Village Hall Committee has a few 'Royal Wedding' mugs for sale at £1.00 each. These are identical to those recently awarded to entrants in the Royal Wedding Stamp Competition. Please apply to Anne Carpenter (781622).

MOTHERS' UNION by Jessie Marsh. The next meeting will be at Mrs Kersley's on 2nd September at 2.45pm. Everyone welcome.

FLOWER GUILD by Janet Cooke. Next meeting Thursday, 10th September at 7.45pm. in the Church. Mrs Hulatt, who recently took part in the Festival of Flowers in Westminster Abbey, will give a demonstration. Everyone is very welcome. He would like more people to join the Guild - members don't have to do Church flowers! Coffee will be served after the demonstration.

WINE AND PATÉ EVENING - Thursday, 24th September 8pm., at Mrs Roberts Old Barns, Church End, Felmersham. Tickets £2 obtainable from Mrs E. Roberts (781933). Mrs G. Burr (781663) or Mrs W. Walker (781801). Proceeds in aid of St. John's (Moggerhanger) Sue Ryder Home - please may we have your support for this worthwhile charity.

W.I. NOTES

SEP 81

Mrs Freeman presided in the absence of Mrs Knowles. She welcomed four guests to the meeting on 21st July. Mrs M. Spoor gave her report on the AGM in London which she attended as our delegate.

Mrs Jenkins gave an illustrated talk on 'Riding for the Disabled'.

It was noted that our stall at the Village Fete raised about £58.

Members and friends enjoyed a coffee evening at the home of Mrs Knowles on August 4th. There was a Bring and Buy Stall and Raffle. Raffle winners were: Mrs D. Lock; Mrs J. Mackenzie; Mrs B. Albury; Mrs H. Sidebottom; and Mrs Aitken. £30 was raised for the 'Riding for the Disabled Association'.

CAKE AND COFFEE MORNING - Mary Kemsley

Please remember the Cake & Coffee morning will be held at the home of Mrs J. Knowles, 'Long Mynd', Pavenham Road, on Saturday, 5th September at 10.30am. Please come along.

PINCHMILL PLAYERS THEATRE

Present an "Old Time Music Hall" on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 21st to 24th October 1981. Tickets will be on sale at 7.00pm., on Sunday, 20th September at Pinchmill and after this date from Linda Darbon, Highfield, Grange Road.

GT. Yarmouth. 740 303.

Horsey Staithe

PARISH DIARY FOR OCTOBER 1981

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary any details of meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the villages of Felmersham and Radwell. All details please to Roland Carpenter (781622).

Sat. 3 Oct	7.30pm	Pinchmill Hall	Fashion Show
Sun. 4	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist* K.Shrimpton/Mrs Marsh
	6.00pm	Church	HARVEST FESTIVAL Churchwardens
Mon 5	7.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	Harvest Supper and Auction
Wed. 7	2.30pm	The Sun	M.U. visit to Higham Ferrers
Wed. 7	7.30pm	Committee Rm.	Playgroup Bring & Buy Coffee Evening
Sat. 10	10.30am	Mrs J. Knight	Cake Morning
Sun. 11	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist * Mrs Kemsley/B. Smith
Mon 12	3.00pm	Mrs Phillips	M.U. tea
Sun. 18	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist* Miss Watkiss/Mrs Phillips
Tue. 20	7.30pm	Pinchmill Hall	W.I. Open Meeting 'Any Questions'
Fri. 23	7.30pm	Church	ORGAN RECITAL
Sun. 25	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist* Mrs Geary
Wed 28	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	Pinchmill Players. Olde Tyme Music Hall
Th. 29	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	" " " "
Fri. 30	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	" " " "
Sat. 31	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	" " " "
Sun. 1 Nov.	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist* K.Shrimpton/A. Smith
Mon. 2	7.30pm	Committee Rm.	P.C.C. Meeting
Thur. 5			Parish Bonfire
Sat. 7	2.30pm	Pinchmill Hall	3-in-1. Autumn Fare

* Canon Jones has arranged celebrants at these services during the interregnum and is also available at The Vicarage, High Street, Sharnbrook (781444) for anyone requiring the services of a priest. Contact may also be made via the Churchwardens D.J.H. Knowles (781549) and F.J.S. Best (781722).

CHEESE & WINE PARTY - Saturday, 28th November

Mrs Eileen Roberts has very kindly offered her home as the venue for this traditional village event in the lead up to Christmas.

GIFT SERVICE - Sunday 6th December

Continuing our Christmas Tradition, we shall again be holding a special Gift Service at which the children of the village may present wrapped gifts or toys (but not sweets or chocolates please) for St. Etheldreda's Children's Home.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE - Sunday 20th December

The Special Christmas Service of Carols and Bible Readings will be followed by Christmas Tea in Pinchmill Hall.

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THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, FELMERSHAM

OCTOBER 1981.

YOUR VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELD

The Village Hall and Playing Field Committee is a properly constituted charity which is responsible for the administration of the Village Hall and Playing Field. The Committee consists of six elected members and eight other members who represent the interests of the various village organisations who use the hall. The elected members are:- Kenneth Shrimpton (Chairman), Ann Carpenter (Vice Chairman), Jane Rhodes (Treasurer), Adrian Hoodless (Secretary), Tess Powell and David Lock. The Committee is elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

When the village hall was built, it was unique inasmuch as it was one of the first joint provision halls in the county. In term-time, during the day it is administered by the County Education Service and in the evenings, weekends and during school holidays it is administered by the Village Hall Committee. The committee room, toilets and store-rooms belong exclusively to the village. The classrooms, staff area, kitchen, playground and the grassed area, belong exclusively to the Education Service. A joint-management committee exists to safeguard the interests of the Education Service and the Village. This committee has met only once in the life of the hall, which is a measure of the goodwill that exists between all interested parties.

The village hall is financed by letting charges and a penny rate levied in the Parish (which raises £800 annually). This income is spent on heating, lighting, maintenance, rates, cleaning, administration, playing field, etc. The Village Hall Social Committee organizes the barbeque, bonfire night, village quiz and dances, etc. Any profits from these events have been used to build a village store, obtain and maintain the playing-field and, recently, to help finance the presentation of Royal Wedding mugs and prizes in the stamp competition.

The Village Hall Committee is currently building an adventure play area in one corner of the playing field. This work is being financed by the Committee with the aid of a small grant from the county. When the basic work of building the hill and grassing is completed, the Committee will be seeking help to develop the area.

The Village Hall is a focal point of the two villages and it seems appropriate here to say 'many, many thanks' to the original Committee, whose hard work both in

administration and in fund-raising events, raised the initial amount of money necessary to finance the building of the Hall. Without their determination and persistence the whole idea would never have materialized.

HARVEST FESTIVAL - 4th OCTOBER

Eucharist at 11.15am. Harvest Festival Service at 6.00pm. The ladies of the Flower Guild will be at the Church to receive gifts of fruit and vegetables on Friday, 2nd October between 2.00pm and 4.30pm and on Saturday, 3rd October between 9.00am and 11.00am. Extra help will be much appreciated.

HARVEST SUPPER AND AUCTION - 5th OCTOBER

This year there will be a Fish and Chip Supper, followed by an auction of harvest produce, at Pinchmill Hall on Monday, 5th October. The bar will open at 7.00pm and Supper will be at 7.30pm. Tickets, price 70p, are now available from members of the P.C.C. and are open to adults and accompanied children.

W.I. NOTES - by Diane Lock

Mrs Knowles welcomed one visitor to the September Meeting. The Speaker for the evening was Mrs Andrea Chalmers, her subject was 'Food, Nutrition and a Balanced Diet'. She gave a very interesting talk pointing out how important the correct vitamins are for our health. Raffle winners were: Mrs J. Turner and Mrs M. Freeman. Limerick competition winners were: Mrs P. Bustin and Mrs S. Knight. Keep Fit classes will commence on 23rd September at Pinchmill Hall, 7.30-8.30pm.

Tickets are now available from Committee members for the 'Century of Fashion' evening at Pinchmill Hall on Saturday, 3rd October at 7.30pm. Tickets £2 including wine and refreshments.

The next meeting on 20th October is 'Any Questions' with a panel comprising Revd. G. Sidebottom, Dr. D. Rhodes, Mrs Collier (Policewoman) and Mrs A. Polhill (ex. Mayor). This will be an open meeting and all are welcome.

MOTHERS' UNION - by Jessie Marsh

The Speaker was unable to come to the September meeting, so the various departments in the M.U. throughout the world were discussed.

Will all members please note Mrs Phillips (our Deanery Secretary) has invited us all to have tea at 7, Marriotts Close on Monday, 12th October at 3.00pm., to meet African M.U. worker, Bridget Massile.

On Wednesday, 7th October we will all meet at 'The Sun' at 2.30pm for our visit to Mrs Clark, Higham Ferrers.

THREE IN ONE CLUB - by Mary Kemsley

The weather was lovely for our outing to Woburn Safari Park. 39 members and friends went on the trip, after tea at Woburn we came home by a different route.

A reminder that our Autumn Fair will be held on Saturday, 7th November in Pinchmill Hall, your support would be welcome.

PLAYGROUP - by Mary Banham-Hall

Playgroup started on 15th September. Sessions are held from 9.15am to 11.15am. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (one of these being for age 2½+) and on Thursday afternoon between 1.30 and 3.30pm. The charge is 60p per session.

We are holding a Bring and Buy Coffee Evening on Wednesday, 7th October at 7.30pm in Pinchmill Hall Committee Room, to raise badly needed funds. There will be a sale of cakes and almost new toys and baby equipment. (Please price goods before bringing them, if possible).

Orders will also be taken for Christmas Cards, Calendars, and other goods from the Webb Ivory catalogue, with commission going to Playgroup Funds. Please come and support your village Playgroup.

CAKE MORNING - by Mary Kemsley

The next cake morning will be held at the home of Mrs J. Knight, Grange Road, on Saturday, 10th October at 10.30am.

OLDE TYME MUSIC HALL - PINCHMILL PLAYERS' THEATRE

The Pinchmill Players presentation of an Olde Tyme Music Hall for your delectation and divertissement, is on Wednesday, 28th October until Saturday, 31st October, (not one week earlier as printed in last month's issue). Take the opportunity to dress up for a trip back into the EDWARDIAN ERA. Tickets: Wed. £1.00, Thurs. £1.50, Fri. Sat. £2.00 from Mrs L. Darbon, Highfield, Grange Road, Felmersham. Bedford 781804. Anyone over 14 years of age may attend.

ORGAN RECITAL - Mrs fforde

Carys Hughes will be giving an Organ Recital in aid of Church Restoration on Fri. 23rd October at 7.30pm in Felmersham Church. This is a rare opportunity to hear a well-known and accomplished organist play works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Haydn, Vaughan Williams etc. The concert will last about 1 hour and programmes are now available from Mrs fforde or members of the P.C.C. price £1.00 for adults, 50p for children. Please try to give this concert your support.

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME - The recent collection in Felmersham and Radwell on behalf of the National Children's Home raised the amount of £45.50. Thank you to all who donated and special thanks to the collectors, Mrs Mears, Mrs Gough, Mrs Maddern, Mrs Richards and Miss Shrimpton.

FUTURE EVENTS - further details later.

PICK OF THE PARISHES. Every village in north Bedfordshire is invited to select a team to participate in the 'Pick-of-the-Parishes' quiz competition. Felmersham will select their team at a friendly quiz to be held on Sunday, 15th November. Why not come along and join in the fun? If you don't want to take part, you can still have an entertaining evening watching those who do.

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary any details of meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the villages of Felmersham and Radwell. All details please to Roland Carpenter (781622).

Wed. 28 Oct.	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	Pinchmill Players	Olde Tyme Music Hall
Th. 29	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	"	"
Fri. 30	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	"	"
Sat. 31	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	"	"
Sun. 1 Nov.	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist*	K. Shrimpton/A. Smith
Mon. 2	7.30pm	Committee Rm	P.C.C. Meeting	
Wed. 4	10.30am	Hardwick Frm	'Save the Children'	Coffee Morning
Wed. 4	2.45pm	Mary Kemsley	Mother's Union Meeting	
Th. 5	6.30pm	Parish Bonfire	behind the Plough	
Sat. 7	2.30pm	Pinchmill Hall	3-in-1. Autumn Fare	
Sun. 8	10.45am	Church	Remembrance Service*	F.J.S. Best
Sat. 14	10.30am	Mrs D. Lock	Cake morning	
Sun. 15	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist*	Mrs. Marsh
Sun. 15	8.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	Pick of the Parishes team selection	
Mon. 16	8.00pm	Committee Rm	Village Hall Committee meeting	
Tues. 17	7.30pm	Pinchmill Hall	W.I. meeting 'Knowing about Wine'	
Fri. 20	7.30pm	Pinchmill Hall	Political Supper	
Sun. 22	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist*	D.J.H. Knowles
Sat. 28	8.00pm	Mrs. Roberts'	Cheese & Wine Party	
Sun. 29	11.15am	Church	Sung Eucharist*	M. Banham-Hall
Sun. 6 Dec.	11.15am	Church	Gift Service*	K.F. Shrimpton/ P. Carpenter

* Canon Jones has arranged celebrants at these services during the interregnum and is also available at The Vicarage, High Street, Sharnbrook (781444) for anyone requiring the services of a priest. Contact may also be made via the Churchwardens D.J.H. Knowles (781549) and F.J.S. Best (781722).

BAPTISM

Stuart Michael Prior, born 19th July 1981, was baptised in Felmersham on October 18th 1981.

CREMATION

On October 2nd 1981, Frances Mary Cottee.

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THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, FELMERSHAM

NOVEMBER 1981.

THE HISTORY OF OUR PARISH

An interest in history does not come naturally to all of us (an aversion bred during our schooldays?) but surely no one can be completely disinterested in what our villages of Felmersham and Radwell were like during the generations, centuries and thousands of years which have passed during man's occupation of this area. Yes, I do mean thousands of years, for archeologists have found evidence of Stone, Bronze and Iron Age life in several of the neighbouring villages, and artefacts from Romano-British times have been unearthed in Felmersham itself. During the next period, Saxon, the names of the two villages were adopted, and in fact the first known reference to Felmersham was in 701 AD. Following the Norman Conquest documentary evidence becomes progressively more plentiful, and certain records held by Trinity College Cambridge cover the past four hundred years or so. The parish registers from 1660 onwards have also survived.

I am sure that a number of you know far more about the ancient and more recent history of the parish than I do, but since my retirement at the end of August I have been preparing the ground for something I have looked forward to for some time - a thorough research of the history of Felmersham and Radwell. God willing, the data I accumulate will be my basis for writing and publishing a book which I hope will be of interest to all those who live in and love this area. My aim is that the book shall not be just a dry recital of recorded facts and dates, but a means of really bringing the past to life.

To make all of this possible I am asking for your help by contacting me if you have any information whatsoever about the villages in days gone by. This means memories, photographs, press cuttings, programmes, books etc. Remember that what may seem trivial to you could be just that missing piece of the jigsaw required on some particular aspect. Regarding photographs etc, with your permission I could make photographic copies of these and return them to you within a day. Naturally enough I am appealing in particular to those of you who have lived here for some time, but this does not exclude help from relative newcomers.

Incidentally, if you see me walking around apparently talking to myself, don't ring the hospital - I have a mini taperecorder tucked away in my top

pocket! Please help if you can, and for those who don't already know, I am:
Ron Draycott, Paynesley Cottage, Grange Road, Felmersham, (Tel. 781906).

FELMERSHAM SUE RYDER SUPPORT GROUP - Mrs. Walker
We wish to thank all those who supported our recent fund-raising efforts. The Wine and Pate evening and Draw raised £462 for the St. John's Home, Moggerhanger.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND - Blanche Smith
A coffee morning in aid of the Save the Children Fund is to be held on Wednesday November 4th at 10.30 a.m. at Hardwick Farm, Carlton Road, Felmersham, by kind permission of Mrs. B. Millman. There will be a plentiful supply of cards and gifts on sale, as well as a cake and produce stall and raffle. Please support this good cause.

THREE IN ONE CLUB - Mary Kemsley
We would welcome your support please at our Autumn Sale on Saturday November 7th at 2.30 p.m. in Pinchmill Hall. Admission 5 pence.

CAKE MORNING - Mary Kemsley
The November cake morning will be held at the home of Mrs. Diane Lock, 50, Marriotts Close, Felmersham, on November 14th at 10.30 a.m.

These social occasions also provide a much valued source of regular income for the church and we hope for your continued support.

POLITICAL SUPPER - Peter Cuthbertson
The Felmersham and Radwell Conservative Association are holding a political supper in Pinchmill Hall on Friday 20th November at 7.30 for 8.00 p.m. Mrs. Jill Knight, M.B.E., M.P., is to speak and answer questions. Tickets, price £2, are available from Peter Cuthbertson (781840) and committee members.
This promises to be a most enjoyable evening. Come to listen and air your views.

VILLAGE BONFIRE - Paul Davies
The Felmersham and Radwell Village Bonfire will be lit at 6.30 p.m. on Thursday November 5th in the field at the back of the Plough. Fireworks will start at 7 p.m. Tickets (£1.50 per family, 50 pence single) are on sale in local pubs and shops. Refreshments will be available.

Paul Davies (781143) or Jane Rhodes (782138) would like to hear from anyone with bonfire material as soon as possible.

PICK OF THE PARISHES - Village Hall Committee
Every village in north Bedfordshire is invited to select a team to participate in the 'Pick-of-the-Parishes' quiz competition. Felmersham will select their team at a friendly quiz to be held in Pinchmill Hall on Sunday, 15th November, at 8 p.m. Why not come along and join in the fun? Jane Rhodes (782138) will be pleased to receive names of volunteers, who are asked to arrive by 7.30 p.m.

If you don't want to take part, you can still have an entertaining evening watching those who do.

W.I. NOTES - Diane Lock
Mrs. Knowles welcomed a number of guests to the 'Any Questions' evening. The panel included Rev. G. Sidebottom, Dr. D. Rhodes, Mrs. Collier (Policewoman), Mrs. A. Polhill (ex Mayor), and our chairman for the evening was Mr. D. Knowles. Questions were both topical and amusing. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Sexton, Mrs. Stapleton and Mrs. J. Turner.

The raffle was won by (1) Mrs. S. Stapleton (2) Mrs. J. Hoodless (3) Mrs. S. Knight. The next meeting will be on November 17th the subject 'Knowing about Wine', with a speaker from 'Peter Dominic'.

The competition is for 'The most attractively wrapped Christmas gift'. These will be distributed to patients at Fairfield Hospital.

MOTHERS UNION - Jessie Marsh
We had a most enjoyable time when we visited Mr. & Mrs. Clark at Higham Ferrers. Having afternoon tea with them. It is really very inspiring to know that the hand of friendship is still held out to us.

Next Meeting:- November 4th, 2.45 p.m. at 12, Marriotts Close, (Mrs. Kemsley). Please come prepared to tell us some of your experiences, during your christian life or read your favourite passage of scripture.

CHEESE AND WINE PARTY - November 28th - 8.00 p.m.
Mrs. Eileen Roberts has very kindly offered her home as the venue for this traditional pre-Christmas event, to which all parishioners are most welcome. Tickets, price 80p to cover the cost of food and a glass of wine, will be available shortly from Roland Carpenter (781622) or members of the P.C.C. Offers of home-baked produce for the cake stall, and gifts or prizes for the raffle will be greatly appreciated.

HOLY SMOKE?
Over the coming weeks, the timber from the recently felled dead elm in the Churchyard is to be cut and sold, in order to recoup some of the felling costs. Anyone able to offer assistance in cutting and/or delivery, or interested in purchase, should please contact Roland Carpenter (781622) as soon as possible.

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PARISH DIARY FOR DECEMBER 1981

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary any details of meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the villages of Felmersham and Radwell. All details please to Roland Carpenter (781622).

Sat.	NOV 28	8.00pm	Mrs Roberts'	Cheese and Wine Party
Sun.	29	11.15am	Church	* Sung Eucharist (M. Banham Hall)
				Romans 13.8-end NEB. (ASB p425)
Tues.	DEC 1	2.45pm		M.U. Bring & Buy
Fri.	4	7.15pm	Pinchmill Hall	Table Tennis Drive
Sun.	6	8.00am	Church	* Holy Communion (Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	Church	* Gift Service (K. Shrimpton)
Tues.	8	2.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	Pinchmill Lower School Nativity Play
Wed.	9	7.00pm	Pinchmill Hall	Pinchmill Lower School Nativity Play
Thurs.	10	7.30pm	Church	North Beds. Band and A' Cappella Choir
Sun.	13	10.15am	Church	* Choral Communion (Mrs Kemsley)
				Philippians 4.4-9 RSV (ASB p435)
Tues.	15	7.30pm	Pinchmill Hall	W.I. Christmas Party
Wed.	16	7.30pm	The Sun Club room	Après Ski Evening
Fri.	18	7.30pm		Carol Singing in Radwell
Sun.	20	8.00am	Church	* Holy Communion (Mrs Hensman)
Sun.	20	5.00pm	Church	* Carol Service (Churchwardens)
Mon.	21	2.15pm	Sennen, Grange Rd.,	Whist Drive.
Mon.	21	7.30pm	Church	Kempston Musical Society
Tues.	22	7.30pm		Carol Singing in Felmersham
Thurs.	24	11.30pm	Church	* Midnight Mass (Churchwardens)
				Hebrews 1.1-12 JB (ASB p446)
Fri.	25	10.15am	Church	* Choral Communion (Mrs Gough)
				1 John 4. 7-14 JB (ASB p446)
Sun.	27	10.15am	Church	* Holy Communion (B. Smith)
				Romans 12.1-8 NEB (ASB p452)
Sun.	JAN 3	8.00am	Church	* Holy Communion (Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	Church	* Family Matins (R.P. Carpenter)

* Canon Jones has arranged officiants at these services during the interregnum and is also available at The Vicarage, High Street, Sharnbrook (781444) for anyone requiring the services of a priest. Contact may also be made via the Churchwardens: D.J.H. Knowles (781549) and F.J.S. Best (781722).

EDITOR'S NOTE: I would like to have all copy for the JANUARY issue by the 10th December please to ensure publication before the Christmas holidays.

OUSE

NEWS

Felmersham

Radwell

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, FELMERSHAM

DECEMBER 1981

NEW BEGINNINGS

We are all very well aware of one New Year that is fast approaching, and as we draw nearer to the Christmas/New Year festive season, time itself seems caught up in the general hustle and bustle of last minute preparations, as the hours of daylight become progressively fewer and farther between.

Before we are completely overtaken by events and the flurry of activity becomes a frenzy, perhaps we might pause for a moment to consider that other New Year which has already sneaked up on us, almost unnoticed, and without any special celebration. This is the start of the Christian Year which begins with the four-week season of Advent, when we are reminded that this is a time for spiritual as well as physical preparation; a time to look ahead to the birth of our Saviour and prepare once more to receive those ageless inspirations of humility, peace, love, generosity and worship that are associated with Christ's Mass.

And for the parish church of St. Mary's, Felmersham, there is yet another beginning to be celebrated this Advent. After the earlier discussions of the Parochial Church Council, it has now been possible for the Churchwardens to finalise with Canon Jones and Douglas Claypole-White the future arrangements for Sunday Services in the Parish. The main service each Sunday will take place at a new time of 10.15am., and there is to be a new pattern of worship which combines Family Matins on the first and third Sundays of the month with Choral Communion on the second and fourth (and, if applicable the fifth) Sunday of the month.

This new regime commences on December 6th with the Gift Service, a most appropriate way to commemorate the feast of St. Nicholas. This service will conform to the new pattern of Family Matins which will not normally have a formal sermon, but will instead include a short talk or story of particular interest to younger members of the Christian family to illustrate a simple Christian theme or message. On this occasion we shall be welcoming one of the two Sisters responsible for St. Etheldreda's Children's Home, who will talk briefly of the work of their home and the children they care for. This promises to be of great interest and we hope that many families in the Parish will wish to join in this Gift Service.

Wrapped gifts or toys (but please not sweets or chocolates) will be presented during the service and the collection will be given to the Church of England Children's Society, in this their Centenary Year.

Advent has always been the season for Christians of all ages to begin again; this Advent the beginnings at St. Mary's will have a new and special significance. If you would like to share in these beginnings you will be most welcome.

Footnote:

The details of the December 6th service that were printed in the November Ouse News should now be disregarded. Would P.C.C. members also accept apologies for changes in the new arrangements, which are now different in detail (but not in principle) from those described at our last P.C.C. meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - Glenda Davis

SITUATION VACANT - Person required for cutting grass in Felmersham & Radwell (verges, village greens, Jubilee Lawn etc.), motor mower provided and regular tidying of bus shelters. Salary by negotiation. Apply in first instance to Mrs G. Davis, 30 Marriotts Close.

IF YOU WANT TO KEEP IT, USE IT - Mothers entitled to Child Benefit can help ensure the survival of our Village Post Office by arranging to collect their payments weekly at Felmersham. Details at Post Office.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION - Although we failed to win a prize this year, the judges report was very favourable and thanks are due to all Parishioners who help to keep the standard high.

MANY THANKS - to Mrs Arlene Vollam for her services as a Parish Councillor over the last few years. Mr Adrian Hoodless has been co-opted on to the Council to fill the vacancy left by Arlene's resignation.

MAINTENANCE will be carried out in the near future as follows: reinstatement of the Radwell verges, replacement of fencing by the Felmersham Bridge, repairs to the high pavement and repairs to the fencing at the Six Ringers.

WANTON DESTRUCTION of the plastic fencing on the Footbridge between Marriotts Close and High Road has made it necessary to spend some of our limited Parish resources which could be better employed in other ways.

W.I. NOTES - Diane Lock

Mrs Knowles welcomed two visitors to the November meeting, Mrs Hartley and Mrs Thompson. One new member, Mrs Hawkes received her membership card. Mr Irwin who is Chairman of the Bedford Amateur Wine-Makers Circle gave a very interesting talk on home wine-making. He pointed out that wine can be made not only from the traditional grapes but from almost any type of fruit or vegetable. During the evening we sampled some of Mr Irwin's Apricot and Elderberry wines which were both very good and made for only a fraction of the price of commercially produced wines.

The Raffle made a profit of £4.30 and the winners were Mrs Stockley and Mrs Thompson. The Competition for the 'Most Attractively Wrapped Gift' was won by (1) Mrs Stephenson (2) Mrs Webster and (3) Mrs Hullatt.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND - Beryl Millman. I would like to thank all who helped with the recent Coffee Morning, which raised £230.

THREE IN ONE CLUB - Mary Kemsley

Our grateful thanks to everyone who supported our Autumn Sale, we made £270. This will help to pay for our Christmas Lunch.

CAKE MORNINGS - Mary Kemsley

There will be no Cake Mornings in either December or January, but they will be resumed in February.

WHIST DRIVES - Mrs Geary

We are pleased to report that Whist Drives have recently started up again. The next one is to take place at Sennen, Grange Road at 2.15pm on Monday, 21st December and Mrs Geary will be happy to receive the names of any others interested in joining the group.

TABLE TENNIS DRIVE - Doris Pipe

The Table Tennis Club are organising a Table Tennis Drive on Friday, 4th December 1981. The hall will be open at 7.15pm and play will commence at 7.30pm prompt. There are six competition prizes to be won and these will be presented at approx. 10.45pm along with prizes won in the raffle which will be run during the evening. Tickets are now on sale - 50p each (this includes refreshments) from any club committee member.

THE BLUE PETER PIPELINE APPEAL 1981 - Peggy Frankham

The Guides and Brownies have placed PIPELINE APPEAL BOXES for your used postage stamps in the Post Office, Betts Bakery and the Village Pubs. You may alternatively pass them directly to the Guides or Brownies. Please help us to turn on the taps.

APRÈS SKI EVENING in aid of the STOKE MANDEVILLE APPEAL

The 1st Felmersham and Radwell Guides invite you to an APRÈS - SKI EVENING on Wednesday, 16th December 1981 at 7.30pm in the Club Room of the Sun Inn. Tickets at 50p each are available from guide members. All proceeds will go to the Jimmy Saville Stoke Mandeville Appeal.

CAROL SINGING

We hope to continue the tradition of singing Christmas Carols around the villages of Radwell and Felmersham from 7.30pm., on Friday 18th December and Tuesday, 22nd December respectively. Children will be welcome provided they are accompanied by a parent. Anyone willing to offer hospitality at the end of either evening, or able to provide transport to and from Radwell, is asked to contact either Brian Smith or Roland Carpenter, who will be making the final arrangements. Please watch the village notice boards for final details.

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W.I. NOTES (Continued) Next month's meeting on 15th December is the 'Christmas Party' and the Competition 'A Table Decoration'.

NATIVITY PLAY - Sue Webster

Pinchmill Lower School invite parents and friends to their Nativity Play to be held in Pinchmill Hall on Tuesday, 8th December at 2.00pm., and Wednesday, 9th December at 7.00pm.

TWO CHRISTMAS CONCERTS IN FELMERSHAM * * * * *

The North Bedfordshire Band and A' Cappella Choir would welcome your support at a concert in St. Mary's Church, Felmersham on Thursday, 10th December at 7.30pm., in aid of Church Restoration. Adults 40p Children 20p.

KEMPSTON MUSICAL SOCIETY will present a programme of Christmas music and carols to listen to and carols to join in with on Monday, 21st December at 7.30pm. in St. Mary's Church, Felmersham. Admission by programme, 20p.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will take place at 5.00pm on Sunday, 20th December and will be followed by the Christmas Tea in Pinchmill Hall. Please park cars at the rear of the hall so as not to restrict access. There will be no 10.15am Service on 20th December. Midnight Mass will commence at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve and there will be a choral Communion on Christmas Day at 10.15am. There will be no choir for the Holy Communion Service on 27th Dec.

THE SUE RYDER COLLECTION - Dorothy Galliver

My sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously to our recent collection. The amount raised was £42.14; the total for North Bedfordshire was £2564.74 an increase of £350 on 1980. My personal thanks to Gill Burr, Stella Gough, Blanche Smith and Winifred Walker for helping so readily.

MOTHERS' UNION - Jessie Marsh

At our last meeting we discussed our past Christian experiences and also made plans for the Christmas Tea on 20th December, immediately following the Carol Service. We agreed to ask past helpers to please assist again this year. We would also be grateful for refreshment contributions, preferably small cakes. Please contact either Mrs Geary or Mrs Marsh if you are able to help. Thank you.

Our next meeting on Tuesday, 1st December at 2.45pm., will be a Bring and Buy.

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* **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS** *

* The Churchwardens and Parochial Church Council wish all parishioners and friends *
* of St. Mary's a Happy and Joyous Christmas *

* And we have received the following message from Gerry and Hazel Sidebottom - *
* "Just a note from all the Sidebottoms to say that we will be thinking of *
* you all at Christmas and send our very warmest greetings. May you enjoy *
* a season of peace, goodwill and prosperity." *
* * * * *

VILLAGE HALL PARKING - Anne Carpenter

It is requested that drivers using the Village Hall out of school hours should park at the rear of the building thus leaving the small front space clear for visitors and emergency services. There is an externally switched light at the side of the building towards the back, but please would the last person out of the car park make sure that it is turned off as it is not on the automatic switch.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE - Kenneth Shrimpton

At a recently held committee meeting it was reported that the village hall finances were gradually going into the red. Lettings were raising approximately £250 p.a. and the product of a penny rate raised £800 p.a. Outgoings were heating, lighting, rates, maintenance, cleaning, upkeep of the playing field etc., and together total over £1150.

It was projected that income would remain static (unless charges were increased) whilst expenditure would increase at the rate of inflation. The committee were asked to consider ways of redressing the balance. It was agreed that any profits from social events organised by the committee should be used for capital expenditure.

Thanks were expressed to the social committee for organising the very successful bonfire night. The social committee reported that it had not yet recovered the cost of the Royal Wedding gift mugs. A donation from the parish council was gratefully received. Spare mugs are still available from Anne Carpenter price £1.00.

CHILTERN RADIO 362M (828K Hz) and 97.5 FM Stereo

Chiltern Radio is your local commercial radio station. Should you wish to advertise any local event then ring them on Bedford 49266.

Every Sunday morning from 7.00am to 8.30am Chiltern broadcast a religious programme called "Travelling" and they are always pleased to include information about local church events. During the weekdays at 6.50am and 8.50am a two minute religious programme is broadcast called "Take Two".

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS