

PARISH DIARY FOR JANUARY 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the Villages of Felmersham and Radwell. May we have all material for the December issue by 25th January to Roland Carpenter (781622).

JANUARY

Sun 2	8.00	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15	FAMILY MATINS	
		Exodus 12 v 21-27, Luke 2 v 41-end (ASB 456)	
5	2.45	Mrs Kemsley - Mother's Union	
Sun 9	10.15	CHORAL COMMUNION	(R.P. Carpenter)
		Isaiah 49 v 1-6, Eph. 3 v 1-12 (ASB 460-461)	
Mon 10	7.30	Pinchmill - PCC Meeting	
Sun 16	8.00	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15	FAMILY MATINS	
		1 Samuel 16 v 1-13, Acts 10 v 34-38 (ASB 463-464)	
Mon 17	8.00	Pinchmill - Village Hall Committee	
Tues 18	7.30	Pinchmill - W.I. "Silver"	
Thur 20	7.30	Pinchmill - Youth Club	
Sat 22	2.30	Pinchmill - Games/Coffee Afternoon	
Sun 23	10.15	CHORAL COMMUNION	(Mr Aitken)
		Jeremiah 1 v 4-10, Acts 26 v 1, 9-20 (ASB 467)	
Tues 25	8.00	Pinchmill - "Raising of the Mary Rose"	
Sun 30	10.15	CHORAL COMMUNION	
		Exodus 33 v 12-end, 1 John 1 v 1-7 (ASB 472-473)	

FEBRUARY

Sat 5	10.30	Mrs Walker - Cake Morning	
Sun 6	8.00	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15	FAMILY MATINS	(R.P. Carpenter)
		1 Kings 8 v 22-30, 1 Corinth. 3 v 10-17 (ASB 476-477)	

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MARRIAGE - 4th December, Anthony David Roscoe and Shân Marie Jordan.

CONFIRMATION - 14th December by the Bishop of Bedford at All Saints

Turvey, Mrs Susan Joyce Whitehouse.

FUNERAL - 31st December, Mrs Clara Sharman, who died in Clapham Hospital, on December 25th, aged 89.

Priest in Charge of Felmersham; Rector of the United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Souldrop and Knotting: The Revd. Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444.

Assistant Curate with specific responsibility for Felmersham: The Revd. D.E. Claypole White - Turvey 661.

Please note that future issues of OUSE NEWS will be distributed during 1st week of the month. This change is intended to allow a speedier turnaround at the printers.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL OUSE NEWS

JANUARY 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CLERGY AND THE LAITY IN FELMERSHAM

Doug Claypole White

In the last issue of Ouse News Canon Harold Jones said that I would be writing in a later issue to suggest some ways in which parishioners could help us in our ministry in Felmersham.

Over a year has now passed since I started to take services regularly in Felmersham and have a prime responsibility for the pastoral care of the Parish under the wise and experienced guidance of Canon Jones.

It was a great privilege for me to be given a special commission by the Bishop of Bedford at the Service on the 25th April. At present, I work 4½ days a week as a Chartered Accountant which leaves me only 2½ days a week for my duties as a Priest. The people of Felmersham have welcomed me with great warmth and it is thanks to the marvellous support I have had from the Laity that the arrangement has worked so well. I can look back on a very happy first year in Felmersham. I cannot let this opportunity pass without saying a very special thank you to a number of people for all they have done to help me.

First and foremost our Church Officers: The Church Wardens, David Knowles and Fred Best; the PCC Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs Pat Brown and Dick Aitken; our organist Mrs Pam fford; Colin Payne (Bell Ringers); Mrs Jessie Marsh (Flower Guild); Roland Carpenter (Editor Ouse News, Lay Readers' Rota); Brian Smith (Fete); Blanche Smith (Book Stall); Mrs Ivy Payne (Church Cleaning); George Brown (Verger); Anthony Smith (Server); Amanda fford (Sacristan); Sue Webster (Altar linen); to those many ladies who organise the parish coffee mornings, harvest suppers, and Christmas tea, to the Choir, Sidesmen and Readers, and many others whose names I have not recorded but to whom I am deeply grateful, in particular Mrs Mary Hensman and Mrs Mary Kemsley.

I am sure that all of you will agree that this is a very impressive list. There are two further exciting new developments which I hope will flourish in the New Year. The organisation by Mrs Blanche Smith of a bi-monthly book review to be given by a member of the congregation at our Family Matins Service on the first Sunday possibly starting in February. We are also hoping to start a Sunday School to be run by Mrs Bronwen Guest. In spite of all this however there is still one particular area where I am in need of help.

Because I only have a limited amount of time for my duties as a Priest and because Canon Jones is already fully occupied with a demanding job as the Rector of the United Benefices of Sharnbrook, Souldrop and Knotting we would like to see volunteers who would be willing to help us with visiting in the Parish. Ideally I would like to see the whole of the Parish covered by a group of lay people who would visit every house in their area and would inform me if anyone in their area would like a visit from me to administer Communion, or to talk to me as a Priest about their problems, or as a newcomer to the Parish would just like an opportunity to meet me.

Some time after the next PCC meeting on the 10th January, either I or one of the Churchwardens will approach a small number of people to ask if they would be willing to help with visiting.

There will no doubt be other areas where I may be asking for help in future issues of Ouse News. I regard it as a great privilege to serve as your Assistant Priest. We have an exciting challenge before us which I know will work effectively because of the spirit of partnership which already exists between the Clergy and the Laity. If any of you feel that you can help in any area which I have already mentioned or indeed any other area please do volunteer your services. If you know of anyone else who would be willing to help please do approach them.

HAPPY NEW YEAR - Roland Carpenter/Fred Best

On behalf of the Churchwardens and Parochial Church Council the Editors of Ouse News would like to wish all OUSE NEWS readers a very happy and prosperous 1983. Once again we would wish to thank our loyal band of distributors for their dedicated effort last year. They will shortly be calling upon you to renew your subscription and we are pleased to be in a position to hold prices at last year's level, i.e. 10p per issue (or preferably £1.20 per year). The only adjustment in subscription is for those few postal subscribers; cost of postage make it necessary for their rate to be increased to £2.70 per year. We would be pleased if you would renew your subscription as soon as possible.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - Glenda Davis

Best Kept Village Competition - Judges' Report 1982

The Judges spoke of significant improvements found in Felmersham and Radwell in 1982 as compared with the previous year when indeed high standards had been achieved. They were particularly impressed with the great improvements not only in the state of the bus shelters but also in the enhancement at Felmersham by the colourful planting in the new tubs. The general state of the Churchyard was again found to be good.

The state of the river lawn area was commented upon favourably as indeed were the mown grass areas within the Villages. The recent tree planting received favourable comment. The Public Houses again received favourable comment. "The Sun displayed pretty hanging bowls, The Plough had colourful tubs and front

planting and The Six Ringers was exceptionally attractive with all manner of plants making a riot of colour from the many hanging bowls and window boxes. The Swan again deserves a special mention for the wonderful array of plants and containers." The Judges Report goes on to congratulate the majority of the residents of Felmersham and Radwell on their well kept and attractive gardens. Many gardens the report goes on, were especially pretty on the day of visiting and the Judges would particularly like to congratulate the owners of No. 1 The Tythe, Stonehaven, the Bungalows in Grange Road and those many people in Marriotts Close who have made a particular effort with their front gardens.

The School and the Village Hall were found to be neat and litter free as was the Memorial which has been looked after conscientiously by the Guides.

Altogether it was a very pleasing report in which praise was given in equal measure to both Felmersham and Radwell. The Parish Council would wish to thank all those people who made such an effort this year and would want to encourage all residents for the Competition in 1983.

ST. MARY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - Bronwen Guest

We are proposing to start a Sunday School to be held on Sunday mornings in the Village Hall from 10am until 11.15am. During this time the children will spend a short time in Church at the end of the Morning Service. Our aim is to give the children some insight into the life and teachings of Jesus. We hope to be able to do songs and small plays in Church and so take part in the Family Service. To make a success of this venture we are going to have to start with a small span in age but, hopefully, we would like to expand this soon, depending on the help we get. At the present time we propose to keep the age group to 5 to 8 year olds.

Obviously, to start a venture like this we are going to need the support of parents in the villages. Help and any pertinent suggestions will be most welcome. Also, please come and support our Games/Coffee Afternoon on 22nd January 1983, at the Village Hall from 2.30-4.30pm, when we hope children (and adults if they feel inclined) will come and play any of the games available, for 10 pence entrance fee. Please help by bringing a game with you and so increase the fun. For parents there will be coffee and biscuits and a cake stall. This fund-raising event should enable us to buy books, crayons etc. to equip our Sunday School. Sunday School will open towards the end of February. Meanwhile, anyone wishing to contact me on this matter may do so mornings or evenings on Bedford 781364.

CAKE MORNINGS - Mary Kemsley

These will be resumed on Saturday, February 5th at the home of Mrs. W. Walker, Memorial Lane, 10.30. Please support - everyone welcome. There will be no cake morning in March but there will be a cake stall at the Cheese & Wine Party on March 5th.

THE BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION - May Taylor

The Coffee Morning organised recently by Topsy Ward and May Taylor raised £140.00. Thanks to all concerned.

POPPY APPEAL - Fred Turner

Many thanks to all who supported the appeal especially the collectors, namely Mrs. G. Burr, Mrs C. Hulatt, Mrs. F. Kingerlee and Mrs. B. Guest for Felmersham and Mrs. C. Wykes and Mrs. F. Turner for Radwell. Money collected: Felmersham £68.54, Radwell £27.55½ - Total £96.09½.

W.I. NOTES - Mary Freeman

At our Christmas party on December 21st a buffet supper was enjoyed by 33 members. The evening ended with Carols, mincepies and Coffee - gifts were exchanged.

Next meeting January 18th - A talk on Silver.

THE MARY ROSE - Mary Freeman

Tuesday, 25th January 1983 - 8.00pm. Tickets for a talk with slides on the Mary Rose are available from Mrs. W. Walker, 781801 and Mrs. M. Freeman, 781645.

YOUTH CLUB - Ray Merton

The Youth Club will begin again on Thursday, January 20th.

9-13 year olds - 7.30 - 9.00pm

13-16 year olds - 8.30 - 10.00pm

PINCHMILL PLAYERS THEATRE - Peter Hartop

On Friday 18th and Saturday 19th February, Pinchmill Players are presenting a gala Cabaret, Buffet and Dance in Pinchmill Hall. Party table bookings will be available, but tickets will be limited and demand is expected to be heavy. Watch your postboxes for details.

CHEESE & WINE PARTY - Roland Carpenter

The postponed Christmas Cheese & Wine party will now take place on Saturday, March 5th at 8.00pm at College Farm House. Tickets price 40p will be available from Members of the P.C.C.

PINCHMILL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION - Pat Bustin

A note to all parents interested in the way music is taught in school and how it will be taught in the future or will it?

Keep February 24th, 8.00pm free to hear Mr. M. Rose a member of the peripatetic music staff at County Hall tell us how music is taught and how we can help ensure that it continues to be taught to our children.

PARISH DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 1983

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FEBRUARY

Sat. 5	10.30am	Mrs Walker Cake Morning	
Sun. 6	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15am	FAMILY MATINS	(R.P.Carpenter)
		(Eighth before Easter, ASB p.490-2)	
Sun. 13	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(K.F.Shrimpton)
		(Seventh before Easter, ASB p.495-7)	
Tues. 15	11.00am	Marriotts Close. Pancake Race	
Tues. 15	7.30pm	Pinchmill W.I. "Roses"	
Wed. 16	9.00am	(ASH WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION)	(Mrs.Hensman)
Fri. 18	8.00pm	Pinchmill P.P.T. Cabaret, Buffet and Dance	
Sat. 19	7.30pm	Pinchmill P.P.T. Cabaret, Buffet and Dance	
Sun. 20	8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15am	FAMILY MATINS	(Mrs Kemsley)
		(Lent 1. ASB p.504-6)	
Tues. 22	7.30pm	Pinchmill Floral Art Club. AGM	
Wed. 23	7.30pm	Pinchmill W.I. Group Meeting	
Thurs.24	8.00pm	Pinchmill P.S.A. Meeting "Music in Schools"	
Sat. 26	2.30pm	Pinchmill Playgroup Jumble Sale.	
Sun. 27	10.00am	Pinchmill Sunday School starts	
	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(F.J.S. Best)
		(Lent 2. ASB p.508-10)	

MARCH

Sat. 5	8.00pm	College Farm House Cheese and Wine Party	
Sun. 6	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(Mrs Walker)
		(Lent 3 ASB p.513-4)	
Mon. 7	7.30pm	Pinchmill PCC Meeting	
MARRIAGE		On Saturday, 8th January, 1983	
		TERESA GÜDZ and SIMON ROLFE	

Priest in Charge of Felmersham; Rector of United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Souldrop & Knotting: The Revd. Canon H.D.Jones - Bedford 781444. Assistant Curate with specific responsibility for Felmersham: The Revd. D.E. Claypole White- Turvey 661.

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE - Pat Brown

Jack Everest has decided that he can no longer undertake the maintenance of the churchyard. The PCC are most grateful to him for his many years of faithful and efficient service. Please will anybody prepared to undertake this work (mainly grass-cutting) get in touch with either of the Churchwardens. There is some remuneration.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL HOUSE NEWS

FEBRUARY 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

In the course of the next month the General Synod of the Church of England will be debating one of the most important international issues of our time - the threat to humanity posed by nuclear weapons. But I wonder just how many people will take an interest in that debate. It will be quite easy to dismiss it as a further example of the Church meddling in politics; others will regard it as an obscure irrelevance and contrast it with the Greenham Common demonstrations, which at least made headline news; and for many more the mere mention of nuclear weapons is so horrifying that they will immediately turn the page or switch to another channel.

But clearly, the Church feels that there are fundamental Christian principles which have a bearing on this subject and it is hard to escape from that conclusion. Much of Christ's teaching centres around man's relationships with his fellow men; his instruction to "love thy neighbour" applies whether the neighbour be friend, foreigner or foe; and this is totally undermined by a weapon system that has the capability to annihilate mankind. Christians constantly pray and press for peace at all levels - domestic, national and international again in total allegiance to Christ's instructions. In that respect one imagines that modern Christians are really no different from their predecessors, decrying nuclear weapons on the same basis that their parents and grandparents objected to biological warfare, mustard gas or machine guns. The mortality rate may be different, but the Christian conviction is surely the same in all cases.

It becomes more difficult to identify a common Christian basis for action to deal with the present situation. Who is to say whether the objective of World Peace is more or less likely to be assured by possession of a nuclear deterrent? And what size of deterrent if any, is optimum; a single weapon, or sufficient to 'win' a nuclear war? The PCCs of Felmersham and Sharnbrook are arranging an evening discussion and debate, hopefully with visiting speakers, to help focus our thoughts on the christian issues underlying the current political debate. We hope you will join us and give your views.

R.P.C.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Cake Morning	5th February	Mrs W. Walker
Wine & Cheese Party	5th March	Mr & Mrs Carpenter
Proceeds of both to Restoration Fund		

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - Pat Brown

A meeting was held on 10th January under the chairmanship of Mr David Knowles. Many items were discussed and brief notes on the more important are given below.

Mrs B. Guest reported on the progress she was making on the proposed Sunday School. Further details are given below. It was decided to make an application for a Government grant for the restoration of the South Transept, the stonework of which is very decayed; and to carry out repairs to the bells. The Chairman thanked the many people who helped to make the carol service and tea such a success and the carol singers who raised £53 for the restoration fund. A car rota was drawn up to enable villagers requiring transport to attend church services. Anyone requiring this service should get in touch with either of the churchwardens. The High Sheriff of Bedfordshire was invited to attend the 10.15am service on 27th February.

With effect from MARCH the arrangement and timing of Church Services will be modified to the following, which it is hoped will be found generally more convenient for parishioners and clergy.

1st, 3rd (and 5th) Sundays in the month	Sung Eucharist	10.15am
2nd and 4th Sundays	Holy Communion	9.00am
	Family Matins	10.15am

ST. MARY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - Bronwen Guest

Thank you very much to all who supported the fund raising for Sunday School on 22nd January and especially to the people who made donations to boost our total to £25. This will go quite a long way to equip the Sunday School with basic requirements. Sunday School will be starting on 27th February and will be held in the Committee Room of the Village Hall every Sunday apart from a break in the summer holidays. It will start at 10am and then we will go up to Church about 10.45am to join their families in worship. At the moment we feel we can only cater for 5 to 8 year olds but do hope to include 3 and 4 year olds as soon as possible; this could be in weeks rather than months. Would interested parents please contact me as soon as possible (Bedford 781364). Would parents who are unable to attend church or collect their children afterwards (around 11.15) please let me know, so that their children can be safely escorted across the High Road.

CHEESE AND WINE PARTY - Roland Carpenter

The Cheese and Wine Party will take place on Saturday, March 5th at 8pm at College Farm House, Church End (781622). All are most welcome to come and sample a further selection of 'gourmet' cheeses from the Sidebottom cuisine. The tickets are now available from members of the Parochial Church Council at 90p. each to cover the cost of food and a glass of wine. There will be a cake and home produce stall and raffle, for which gifts and contributions will be especially welcome.

SHROVE TUESDAY, 15th February. Ladies Pancake Race and Children's Sponsored "Toss" 11am Marriotts Close. Please support British Heart Foundation. Entry forms from Jane Ward, Rose Cottage, High Rd. or The Six Ringers.

W.I. NOTES - Mary Freeman

Mrs Roberts welcomed three guests and two new members to our January meeting. Mrs H. Dickson gave a fascinating talk on "Silver" telling us the history of Hallmarks gave us information on collectable items and discussed pieces of silver that members had brought for the competition. She voted the most interesting pieces brought by members. 1st Mrs Best, 2nd Mrs Knowles, 3rd Mrs Sidebottom. She was thanked by Mrs Gough. The raffle was won by Karen Stokley and Norah Triska. After refreshments future outings were discussed and plans were made for visits to the theatre in Northampton, a shoe factory, Church's China Shop in Northampton and the Modern Technology home at Milton Keynes. Next month's meeting - 15th February 1983. Mr P. Harkness on Roses. February 23rd is our Group Meeting and we are entertaining members from six local institutes.

PINCHMILL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION BARN DANCE... SATURDAY 12th MARCH

Let your hair down, get your knees up and dosi-do to the lively calling of MERVIN FORTUNE. Village Hall - 8pm till 11pm, light refreshment provided, bar. Tickets £2.00. YO'ALL COME NOW! Peter Stephenson.

ALSO A FURTHER REMINDER about the talk by Mr M. Rose on 24th February concerning the teaching of music in schools.

SIX RINGERS - Jenny & Derek

On 4th March we say goodbye to Felmersham to start a new venture at the Falcon, Bletsoe. After five years, it will certainly be a wrench to leave the village and our thanks for being a "lovely bunch" of customers. God Bless. (And on behalf of all the residents of Felmersham and Radwell, the editors wish Jenny, Derek and family all the very best in their new home and hope there will be plenty of opportunities for contact in the future.)

NORTH BEDS. FLORAL ART (ex Colworth House) - Gill Burr

Annual General Meeting, Pinchmill Hall on Tuesday, 22nd February 1983, 7.30pm prompt. A demonstration by Mr L. Berrill will follow entitled "England - A Way of Life". Members 50p, non-Members 75p. Raffle and Oasis Sales.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE - Anne Carpenter

(a) Please could you all search your cupboards as the Village Hall tea towels have gone missing. We would be grateful if towels could be returned to the hall as soon as possible after being laundered.

(b) A vacancy exists for someone to mow the playing field. Please apply to Ken Shrimpton, 1 Trinity Close.

(c) Will club committees please remember to lodge a booking form with the Village Hall booking secretary before advertising their function to avoid double bookings, confusion or disappointment.

FEB 83

TABLE TENNIS DRIVE - Mike Templeman

On 18th March commencing 6.45pm. Tickets £1.00 to include refreshments and drink, available from committee members or Mrs D. Pipe, Cassiobury, Pavenham Road.

JUMBLE SALE - Judy Hammond

The Felmersham/Radwell Playgroup is having a JUMBLE SALE on Saturday, 26th February at Pinchmill Hall at 2.30pm. There will also be a cake stall. We would appreciate it if you could bring your jumble down to the hall the morning of the sale or contact a Playgroup mother to come and get it or ring Judy Hammond on 782388. Thanks.

PINCHMILL PLAYERS' CABARET DINNER AND DANCE - Peter Hartop

If you hurry you may still be in time to snap up the last few tickets for Friday 18th or Saturday 19th February at the unrepeatable bargain price of £3.50. Please contact Anne Carpenter (781622).

PARISH DIARY FOR MARCH 1983

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MARCH

Sat. 5	8.00pm	College Farm House, Cheese and Wine Party	
Sun. 6	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Lent 3 ASB p.513-4)	(Mrs Walker)
Fri. 4 - Mon. 7		Council Refuse Skips	
Mon. 7	7.30pm	Pinchmill PCC Meeting	
Tues. 8	7.00pm	Pinchmill Parish Council AGM	
Th. 10	8.00pm	The Sun Squash Club Meeting	
Sat. 12	8.00pm	Pinchmill Barn Dance (PSA)	
Sun. 13	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Mothering Sunday) (Lent 4, ASB p.518-519)	(B. Smith)
Fri. 18	6.45pm	Pinchmill Table Tennis Drive	
Sun. 20	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Lent 5, ASB p. 522-524)	(K. F. Shrimpton)
Tu. 22	10.30am	Trevor Barn, Radwell Coffee Morning	
Sun. 27	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Palm Sunday, ASB p.527-531)	(Mr Aitken)
APRIL			
Fri. 1		GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - 'The Cross of Christ'	
Sun. 3	10.15am	HOLY COMMUNION CHORAL COMMUNION (EASTER DAY, ASB p.574-579)	(Mrs Hensman) (Churchwardens)
Sat. 9	10.30am	Mrs Gough Cake Morning	

Priest in Charge of Felmersham; Rector of the United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Souldrop and Knotting: The Revd. Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444.
Assistant Curate with specific responsibility for Felmersham: The Revd. D.E. Claypole White - Turvey 661.

FUTURE EVENTS - You may like to make a note of the following dates of future events in aid of Church Restoration.

- 16 April - Concert in Church by the Ionian Singers
- 1 May - Concert in Church by Andrew Morris, Bedford School Choir & instrumentalists
- 14 May - Recital in Church by "Cantores"
- 9 July - Felmersham Fete at Pinchmill
- 1 Oct - Organ Recital by Andrew Morris

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL OUSE NEWS

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

MARCH 1983

11 Cody Road
CLAPHAM

Dear Friends,

It was with great pleasure that I received an invitation from the Editors to write a few lines for Ouse News and at the outset I express my thanks to Canon Jones for being so agreeable that I should do so.

Although it is nearly two years since I retired you are still very much in my thoughts and Hazel and I enjoy our contact with friends in Felmersham & Radwell. You will remember I said that the cheque you gave me at that unforgettable farewell would not be spent but invested. Here is the opportunity to tell you what has been done. It bought Treasury Stock which brings in about £80 per year (after tax) and so far it has gone to buying new kitchen fittings. This year it will provide the spending money for a European holiday in September. Wherever we go this is a reminder of your generosity.

Life is very different now but still interesting. As you probably know I work as the third man at St. Pauls in Bedford. After twenty years with you I had doubts about finding a parish where I could settle happily. Fortunately St. Pauls made me very welcome and provide me with useful work which I can do in my own time. One of the great joys is that I have found a number of people who have links with Felmersham & Radwell so we have many a chat about people and conditions - past and present. Most of the work I do is during the week which means that I can move around and help in other churches as well and this has brought a contact with St. Peters where there is a warm welcome too. One of the problems of course, was moving straight into the new Prayer Book, coping with different interpretations and varying degrees of churchmanship but, as the family say, I had it my own way for too long and it has done me good to accept other people's views and methods.

At present five of us have formed a study group to produce a series of sermons during Lent in St. Pauls.

All this seems very personal but, after all, I am writing to you as friends and I feel I cannot do it any other way. It pleases me so much to know that things are progressing in the parish and that new people are being welcomed and involved. Some of the long standing residents may be interested to know that I had a telephone call from Mrs Marr asking me for news of all her friends and assuring me that she would never lose contact. She is well over ninety and in marvellous health.

Douglas Claypole-White seems to be settling happily among you and I do appreciate his warm welcome and broad smile whenever we meet. I am sure you find him a very caring priest.

Hazel accepted early retirement last year so life is easier and we are able to do more together. She too, can give a little help where she sees the need and she has just enjoyed a week back at her old school. She even took on shop work over Christmas. The family are well. One married, one getting married and one still at home.

News of you all comes from various sources and I look forward each month to reading Ouse News.

Yours very sincerely,
Gerry Sidebottom

NEW PATTERN OF SUNDAY SERVICES - Editors

We would like to remind all Parishioners of the new pattern of Sunday Services that comes into effect in March.

Choral Communion will take place at 10.15am on the first, third (and fifth) Sundays of the month.

Family Matins will be held on the intervening Sundays, i.e. second and fourth Sundays of the month, again at 10.15am., and will be preceded by a (said)

Holy Communion Service at 9.15am (please note this new time, later than previously advertised to simplify clerical arrangements)

THE NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL - Bronwen Guest

Mrs Winifred Walker has very kindly offered to assist with the running of the Sunday School until September. It has also been agreed with the Guide leaders that a Guide will undertake her Community Service Badge by helping me each Sunday morning. Therefore with this extra help available, the age group for Sunday School can be expanded to include 4-year olds and 9 to 10-year old children. Please contact me (781364) if you are interested in your child coming along.

EASTERTIDE ARRANGEMENTS

On 1st April the choir will again be commemorating Good Friday with readings, hymns and anthems from "The Cross of Christ".

On Easter Day before the scheduled Choral Communion, there will also be a said service of Holy Communion. The times of these extra services will be displayed on the Church Notice Board. Would anyone who wishes to donate an easter lily in memory of a loved one please contact Mrs Marsh or the Churchwardens. As in previous years a list of names will be placed on the Altar.

CAKE MORNINGS - Mary Kemsley

There will be a Cake Morning on Saturday, 9th APRIL at the home of Mrs Gough, Grange Road at 10.30am. On Saturday, 7th May, Mrs B. Guest will have one at her home in Marriotts Close, 10.30am, everyone welcome. (Offers for other months?)

VILLAGE HALL CLEANING - Kenneth Shrimpton

Village organisations who hire the hall for their regular meetings are reminded that they must clean the hall after they have finished. At the very least they should give it a good sweep.

We are obliged by an agreement with the County Council to hand the hall over in a clean state ready for school use at 8.30am. Failure to comply with this agreement may result in a special cleaning charge being made. When the hall is hired for a particular event i.e. dance, disco, party, etc., a charge is made for cleaning, based on the number of hours worked, and the time of day (i.e. double time for Sunday cleaning).

Regarding Committee Room and Lavatories, these are normally cleaned on Fridays. Village organisations who use these facilities are asked to leave them as they would expect to find them. Brushes, mops, cleaning materials and spare toilet tissues are kept in the china store.

THE VILLAGE PANCAKE RACE - Jane Ward & Jenny Stingsley

The event in aid of the British Heart Foundation was well supported on a very cold Shrove Tuesday. Donna Hulatt won the race; and Jeanette MacDonald won the children's sponsored pancake toss, with 101 tosses in the allotted 3 minutes. Guest appearances from Gertrude and Florence (alias D Ronaldson and G. Airton) were much appreciated. Rumour has it Linda Darbon now takes over from Hilda Ogden in Coronation Street. Thanks to Anne Airton for the tea and cakes from her garage, Mr Frankham for his expert tuition in the art of being a 'bookie' and to all the people who donated a raffle prize. Thanks to everyone who helped to make the event a success, competitors and supporters alike. Although the final sum of sponsorship money raised has not yet been collected, proceeds to date exceed £30. Raffle winners were Mrs McKenzie, Mrs Knowles, Mrs Sinfield, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Freeman, Mrs Rose, Mrs Pearce and Miss Hulatt.

W.I. - Mary Freeman

At our February monthly meeting Mrs Roberts welcomed one new member and one guest. The History of the Rose was the topic for Mr Harkness, a Director of Harkness Roses and this was shown by a collection of beautiful slides. He was thanked by Mrs Galliver after answering members' questions. After refreshments the evening was brought to a close by a team pancake race.

Group Meeting - Tuesday, 23rd February, Felmersham Institute were host to 75 members from six neighbouring Institutes. The evening started with a demonstration and talk on Scandinavian breads and open Sandwiches. Following refreshments, a county events report and two minute Institute reports, we were delightfully entertained by members of Pinchmill Players.

THREE IN ONE CLUB - Mary Kemsley

Would other organisations please note that we have booked Saturday, 20th August to hold a Jumble Sale in aid of our funds. Thank you.

SQUASH CLUB - Courtney Guest

There will be a social meeting in The Sun on Thursday, 10th March at 2000 hours to celebrate the launching of the new squash ladder. All members are invited to attend. A team to play friendly matches against local teams will be selected from the top half of the ladder.

It is hoped to introduce some coaching in basic squash play for children, aged 7 - 14, during the Easter holidays. John Walsh has kindly offered to run the coaching classes; anybody interested should ring John on 781072. For the more advanced players Tony Glover is willing to coach tactics and techniques and should be contacted on 782220.

BEDFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS EXPLORATION GROUP - Val Sexton.

There will be a COFFEE MORNING on Tuesday, 22nd March at 10.30am., at "Trevor Barn", Radwell, to help with the 1983 Seaborne Expedition to Spain. All donations to the Cakes, Produce, Plants, Bring & Buy Stalls most gratefully received. 20p everyone welcome.

SUMMER CONCERTS 1983 - Freddie Stevens

When the first Summer Concerts were given in 1974 it was certainly not foreseen that they would by popular request be continued annually on a regular basis. This summer's events will mark the tenth anniversary of their inauguration. All friends of St. Mary's Church and of music are asked specially to note the dates: Friday, 24th June and Saturday, 25th June to encourage music lovers in neighbouring villages to do so too and generally to ensure that these attractive and culturally valuable occasions are generously supported by large audiences. Programmes will be available at the beginning of June.

PARISH COUNCIL - Glenda Davis

The AGM of the Parish Council will be held at 7.00pm., on Tuesday, 8th March at Pinchmill Hall. All parishioners are welcome. Parish Council elections will be held in May. Anyone wishing to consider becoming a Parish Councillor may have a word with any existing councillor to find out what is involved. Parishioners are also reminded that council refuse skips will be sited in Felmersham and Radwell over the weekend 4- 7 March.

PINCHMILL PLAYERS THEATRE - Jill Mears.

Please come and support our Super Spring Jumble Sale. Please may we have all your jumble which should be taken to the hall on the morning of the sale or ring 781967 for collection.

PARISH DIARY FOR APRIL 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the Villages of Felmersham and Radwell. May we have all material for the May issue by 25th April to Roland Carpenter (781622).

APRIL

Fri. 1	7.30pm	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - 'The Cross of Christ'	
Sun. 3	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(Churchwardens)
		(EASTER DAY, ASB p.574-579)	
Sat. 9	10.30am	Mrs Gough	Cake Morning
	2.00pm	Pinchmill	Jumble Sale (PPT)
Sun. 10	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15am	FAMILY MATINS	(R.P. Carpenter)
		(Easter 1. ASB p. 602)	
Mon 11	7.30pm	Pinchmill	P.C.C. A.G.M.
Sat 16	8.00pm	Church	Concert by The Ionian Singers
Sun 17	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(K.F. Shrimpton)
		(Easter 2. ASB p. 607)	
Mon 18	8.00pm	Pinchmill	Village Hall A.G.M.
Tues 19	7.30pm	Pinchmill	W.I. A.G.M.
Sun 24	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
	10.15am	FAMILY MATINS	(Mrs Kemsley)
		(Easter 3. ASB p. 612)	
Mon 25	8.00pm	College Farm House - Fete Committee Meeting	
Thur 28	10.30am	8 Marriotts Close 'Bring & Buy' Coffee Morning	

MAY

Sun 1	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(F.J.S. Best)
		(Easter 4. ASB p. 617)	
	7.00pm	The Church	Bedford School Chamber Orchestra
Sat 7	10.30am	Mrs Guest	Cake Morning

Priest in Charge of Felmersham; Rector of United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Souldrop & Knotting: The Revd. Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444. Assistant Curate with specific responsibility for Felmersham: The Revd. D.E. Claypole-White, Turvey 661.

W.I. - Mary Freeman

At our March meeting, a fascinating talk on Yoga and Health Foods was given by Mrs. Diana Hannah. She was thanked by Mrs. Gani. Raffle winners were: Mrs. Holborrow and Mrs. Freeman. Nominations for the 1983/84 Committee were taken and voting will take place at our Annual General Meeting to be held on April 19th. The Speaker for the evening will be Mrs. D. Nash, Vice-Chairman on the County Organisation Committee.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL HOUSE NEWS

APRIL 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

My dear friends,

The Rectory,
Sharnbrook.

As the winter draws to an end many people feel down-in-the dumps, depressed, and generally out-of-sorts. Some are getting over 'flu and other winter ills; the nights are still long, the gardens look dead and dank, and there is not much sunshine. Then come the first signs of Spring and everything changes: life returns in some degree to the fields and gardens, we notice that the days are getting longer, and suddenly we feel better, and begin to make plans for the summer which now seems close at hand.

Easter has the same effect on the outlook of Christians that the approach of Spring has on the world of nature and on the human body and mind. Just as Spring tells us that plants and growing things have not died, and that the air will not be damp and chilly for ever, Easter speaks to us of God's good news for us, and tells us that the power of good is stronger than the power of evil, that life is stronger than death, and that after we pass from this world we will live again. This, and more too, is implicit in the Resurrection of Jesus.

We all have our favourite season of the year. There is something to be said for each of them. Some people love the winter when they can enjoy the long evenings in a warm room watching the television or reading a book. Others love the summer with its warm sunny days and evening when they can be out and about. Many love the autumn when we gather in the harvest, and when nature is full of rich colour. But many others would say that spring is the best season of all, with its new life and new birth, and its promise of good things to come.

Again, people have their own favourite Church Festival. Like the seasons of the year, there is something to be said for each of them. Ascension is a festival of triumph; Whitsunday carries a rich promise of God's help in our daily lives, and Christmas is the great family festival. Yet surely, Easter is the greatest of them all. Not for nothing has it always been considered the Queen of Festivals. It tells us like the Spring, of new hope, new life, and the victory of light over darkness. At Easter we thank God for this, and for the goodness, the greatness and the love of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

My wife joins me in wishing you all a truly happy Easter.

Your sincere friend and parish priest,

HAROLD D. JONES

JOHN, JOY & JULIE MACKENZIE would like to thank everyone, with deep appreciation for the overwhelming acts of kindness and sympathy received during the recent bereavement of our dear daughter Lynn. We would especially like to mention our pleasure to receive the spontaneous, collective gift from all the children of the village. Words cannot describe our feelings and thankyou seems inadequate. The strength of your support has enabled us to cope and carry on at this time and we feel greatly privileged to live amongst you.

TWO CONCERTS - Pam fforde

On Saturday April 16th, in Church at 8.00pm we shall be entertained by the Ionian Singers; then on Sunday May 1st, the Bedford School Chamber Orchestra will be giving a concert at 7.00pm. Both programmes will be varied and enjoyable; admission is £1.00, students 50p, and all proceeds go towards Church Restoration. Let's give these talented young musicians our full support.

P.C.C. ELECTORAL ROLL - Doug Claypole White

The Annual General Meeting for St. Mary, Felmersham will be held this year on Monday, 11th April, 1983 at the Pinchmill School at 7.30pm. I do hope that as many parishioners as possible who are on the electoral roll will make an effort to attend the meeting. This is an important meeting as it elects the lay members of the Parochial Church Council; persons so elected must be on the electoral roll of the parish. If you know of anyone who would be willing to stand for election to the Parochial Church Council would you please have a word with either myself, one of the Church Wardens, David Knowles or Fred Best, or the PCC Secretary, Mrs Pat Brown. In particular the PCC at its last meeting did express the view, which I wholeheartedly support, that it would be very much in the best interests of the parish if we could get one or two of our younger members elected to the Parochial Church Council. If you are over 16 years of age and a Baptised member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with the Church of England and are not on the electoral roll but would like to be included would you please contact the PCC Secretary - Mrs Pat Brown at Crantock, Grange Road, Felmersham (Tel: Bedford 781519). A person cannot be a qualified elector unless he resides in the parish, or is entered on the electoral roll as a non resident elector, providing he or she has for the six months preceding the date of enrolment habitually attended services at St. Mary's Felmersham.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - Pat Brown

A meeting was held on 7th March with Canon H. Jones as Chairman. The resignation of Mrs. W. Walker because of her impending removal from the Parish was accepted with regret. The main business of the meeting was concerned with finance. The Treasurer presented the accounts for the year and after discussion, these were accepted. It was noted that the General Fund showed a deficit of £32; and that if the restoration work recommended by the Architect was to be carried out

in 1983, a sum of about £1300 would be required, over and above that which would normally be raised during the year. Consideration was given on how this could be achieved. A sum of £86 was raised for Restoration at the Cheese & Wine Party held at Mr & Mrs Carpenter's home on 5th March. Mr & Mrs Carpenter and all others who helped to make this event so successful were thanked.

VILLAGE HALL - K. Shrimpton

The Village Hall Committee have a vacancy for a Cleaner. Duties include the sweeping and washing of the hall floor daily (if necessary) between 7.30 and 8.30 am during the school terms. Cleaning at other times by arrangement. Rates of pay - by arrangement. Apply to: K.F. Shrimpton, Tel. 781381.

PINCHMILL PLAYERS THEATRE - Jill Mears

Jumble Sale - April 9th - 2.00pm. Please come and support our super Spring Jumble Sale in Pinchmill Hall. May we have all your 'jumble' please, which should be taken to the hall on the morning of the sale, or ring Bedford 781967 for collection.

HANDBELL RINGING - J. Penwill

Discussion has taken place as to the possible interest in handbell ringing at Sharnbrook throughout the year instead of in the few weeks leading up to Christmas. The aim would be to promote handbell ringing under the captaincy of Pat Albon with the possibility of playing in the future at certain public events. Would anyone be interested? - please contact J. Penwill, 17 Normans Road, Sharnbrook.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH CHOIR MUSIC - Sue Webster

A Coffee Morning and "Bring & Buy Sale" to raise funds for music for the choir will be held at 8 Marriotts Close, on Thursday 28th April at 10.30am. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY! - Sue Webster

St. Mary's Church are holding their annual Jumble Sale on Saturday 21st May. More details next month.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The AGM will be on April 18th. Nominations for new committee members are invited. Please come and vote!

CAKE MORNINGS - Mary Kemsley

Saturday April 9th and Saturday May 7th. We would welcome offers of venues for future dates.

PANCAKE RACE - Jane Ward

The final sum of money raised for the British Heart Foundation amounted to £82.20. Thanks to everyone who gave so generously.

THE SUE RYDER "KNIT-IN" - Dorothy Galliver

The Sponsored "KNIT-IN" held on March 1st in aid of St. John's Home, Moggerhanger raised £375 - a truly wonderful result.

Our sincere thanks to the twenty one knitters who worked so hard beforehand and on the night; to Gerry Sidebottom and John Knight who supervised us so well, to Eileen Roberts and Jennifer Knowles who catered for the half-time refreshments and to everyone who gave so generously. It was a profitable and very enjoyable evening.

Judith Smith has nobly taken on the task of making a blanket with our efforts and this will be given to the home.

GUIDES - Margery Richards

HELP WANTED - 1st Sharnbrook Guides desperately need someone to run their Company - because their present Guider has moved and will have to leave very soon. They meet on a Tuesday night in Sharnbrook. If anyone feels able to lend a hand please contact Margery Richards, 44 Marriotts Close, Tel. 781018, for further details. It is a large thriving Guide company and it will be a shame to close it down.

THE ROYAL NATIONAL MISSION TO DEEP SEA FISHERMEN - Val Sexton & Maggie Spoor

House-to-House Collections in Radwell raised £20 and in Felmersham £30.94. Thanks to all helpers and contributors.

"PUB OF THE YEAR" - Jane Ward

The "Pub of the Year" award will be presented to The White Horse, Keysoe at Colmworth Village Hall Dance on Saturday 23rd April. Tickets are available from Mr & Mrs Pryke at the White House or Mrs M. Collett, 1 Hospital Road, Arlesley.

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THE HISTORY OF OUR PARISH - Ron Draycott

During the 1820s and '30s corn prices in this country fell dramatically, and farmers reacted by cutting the wages of their labourers to a level which caused bitterness and often acute hunger. The result was outbursts of violence, arson, and sheep stealing, and for a short while Felmersham made the local headlines in this respect.

In the village was a desperate gang of six young labourers, all inter-related and five of them married with young children. During 1824-25 they set fire to hay and corn ricks, and stole vital parts from farm equipment. Their resentment centred on the principal farmer in the village, Joseph Pain, who lived in what is now called the Manor House.

The climax came in February 1825 when they burned Joseph Pain's corn barn at Hardwick, beat up the 'Firewatcher' there and stole two sheep which they slaughtered for food. As a result the gang all finished up in Bedford gaol, and were tried at the Lent and Summer Assizes with the following results: Dickens Prigmore (24) turned 'Kings evidence' and was discharged; Benjamin Parsons (32), Robert Costin (29), James Hulatt (29), Francis Hulatt (25) and George Costin (17) were all sentenced to death, but this was later commuted to transportation for life in Australia.

* * * * *

There is a pathetic postscript to this story. Whilst Robert Costin was in Bedford gaol his wife gave birth to a son, but sadly the father sailed in the convict ship Dolphin without seeing his child. Understandably, the son developed into a problem child, always in trouble with the law until he joined the army, when he is said to have reformed.

The years rolled by and Ann Costin (born Hulatt) eventually remarried a widower, William Neak. Meanwhile her sheep-stealer husband struck lucky in the Australian gold-rush and became a wealthy property owner. Having received a free pardon, in 1852 he sailed home with plans to take his never-yet-seen son back to the land of promise. Unfortunately the soldier son had been drafted abroad, so in frustration the father returned to Australia with a nephew instead. The remarried wife was naturally embarrassed by this back-from-the-dead visit, but her prosperous real husband made no attempt to reclaim her from her second spouse.

Think about all the facts from start to finish. I find it rather sad.

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PARISH DIARY FOR MAY 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the Villages of Felmersham and Radwell. May we have all material for the June issue by 25th May to Roland Carpenter (781622).

MAY

Sun.	1	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Easter 4. A.S.B. p. 617)	(F.J.S. Best)
		7.00pm	The Church	Bedford School Chamber Orchestra
Tues.	3	7.30pm	Pinchmill	Floral Art Club "Practical Evening"
Fri.	6	7.30pm	Pinchmill	Table Tennis for 11-16 yr. olds begins
Sat.	7	10.30am	Mrs. Guest	Cake Morning
Sun.	8	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs. Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Easter 5. A.S.B. p. 622)	(R.P. Carpenter)
Mon.	9	7.30pm	Pinchmill	P.C.C. Meeting
Wed.	11	2.45pm	Mrs. Kemsley	Mothers' Union
Thurs.	12	7.30pm	CHORAL COMMUNION (ASCENSION DAY)	
Sat.	14	2.30pm	Cricket v Renhold	
		7.30pm	Church	Concert recital by "Cantores"
Sun.	15	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Easter 6. A.S.B. p. 630)	(M. Banham-Hall)
Mon.	16		Start of Christian Aid Week	
		8.00pm	Pinchmill	Village Hall Committee Meeting
Tues.	17	7.30pm	Pinchmill	W.I. "Basketry"
Sat.	21	2.30pm	Pinchmill	P.C.C. Jumble Sale
Sun.	22	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs. Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Pentecost. A.S.B. p. 635)	(Mrs. Kemsley)
Sun.	29	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity A.S.B. p. 641)	(R. Aitken)

JUNE

Sun.	5	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity 1. A.S.B. p. 644)	(R.P. Carpenter)
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BAPTISM - On 17th April 1983, Helen Abigail Churcher.

Priest in Charge of Felmersham; Rector of United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Souldrop & Knotting: The Revd. Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444. Assistant Curate with specific responsibility for Felmersham: The Revd. D.E. Claypole White - Turvey 661.

(A guided walk around Felmersham Nature Reserve continued): More information will be circulated to Pinchmill School Children nearer the date.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL OUSE NEWS

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

MAY 1983

THE LOST WORD

Library records show that more books are being read than ever before despite the development of mass entertainments such as T.V. and home Video.

If a book sells 30,000 copies it becomes what the trade calls a "winner" and the author and publisher take each other out to lunch. A very successful "winner" becomes a "best seller" but is then likely to be out of print in ten years. If a book is still being read when it is a hundred years old, it has become a "classic"; but after 500 years, the book becomes unintelligible to most of us, and like the words of Chaucer, for example, has to be translated by a specialist.

One exception is that supremely important book, the Bible, which strangely is often overlooked. Its last word was written 18 centuries ago and it describes happenings some 150 years before that. The most commonly used English translation was published more than 350 years ago, and yet we can still read and understand it. According to recent reports, parts of the Bible have now been translated into 1100 languages, and 23 million copies are distributed annually world wide. Hundreds of thousands of our countrymen have bought the most recent translation of the New Testament. This would be reckoned very good sales for a popular novel, and yet every other day some magistrate, social worker, educationalist, or army chaplain comments that for the people they are dealing with, the Bible might well have never been printed. Thus we have the curious paradox that a book which is still accepted as an integral part of our culture, is being largely disregarded; a world best seller that nobody seems to read. Perhaps the only people who take the Bible seriously are the newer Christians, often in less developed parts of the world, whose lives are more akin to those of the people in the Bible.

Must we admit that it is only to these ingenuous children of nature that the Bible has anything to say; whereas for us who are caught up in the complexity of modern civilisation it is little more than a relic of a past age, something to which we pay lip service, hesitate to jettison because of some vague superstition but regard as a largely irrelevant hangover from a more credulous and less progressive era? Few people would suggest that this nation can maintain a position of importance merely by contemplation or psalm singing. Yet with scientific and technical progress, our values have become confused and honesty, reliability and unselfishness are perhaps now seen as less important than previously. We ought to stop and ask if anything can be done to arrest this decline. I would suggest that, whatever your views, the sound Christian teachings contained within this most under-read best

seller can provide a reliable standard by which the importance of all else can be measured

D.J.H. KNOWLES

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - Fred Best

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners was held on 11th April when Mr. D. Knowles and Mr. F. Best were re-elected as Churchwardens. This was followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at which the Rev. Harold Jones reported on the first year of his ministry in Felmersham. He said that, with the assistance of the Revd. D. Claypole White, it had been an extremely happy time. He thanked the many people who had contributed to the successful running of the church during the past year. Mr. Best reported that the 5 yearly report on the fabric of the church was awaited from the Architect. When this had been received, a further programme of restoration work would be drawn up. The accounts for the past year were noted and accepted. Resignations from the P.C.C. were accepted with regret from Mesdames Geary, Phillips and Walker, and it was agreed that letters of thanks for their loyal service over the past years should be sent to them. All other members of the P.C.C. were re-elected and Mrs. B. Guest was also elected.

1983 LONDON MARATHON - Linda Darbon

Thanks to all those who sponsored Howard Darbon in aid of Church Restoration Fund. Total collected was £86.50. First prize of £10 went to Anne Rhodes who forecast Howard's finishing time within 10 seconds! He actually finished the 26 miles 385 yards in 2 hours 45 minutes and 49 seconds.

JUMBLE SALE - Sue Webster

Please support our Jumble Sale to be held in Pinchmill Hall on Saturday 21st May, at 2.30 p.m. Anything for sale may be taken to the Hall on the morning of the sale or left at 8 Marriotts Close during the week before. Anyone needing help with collection please ring Bedford 781673.

CAKE MORNINGS - Mary Kemsley

On May 7th at the home of Mrs. Bronwen Guest, 11 Marriotts Close, Felmersham. On June 11th Mr. & Mrs. Chris Baldry, 16 Marriotts Close. Please do support these events - everyone welcome.

BEDFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS EXPLORATION GROUP - Valerie Sexton

SEABORNE EXPEDITION TO SPAIN

The recently held coffee morning raised £31 - thanks to all.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 16th - 21st - Kenneth Shrimpton

Please may we have volunteers to help collect for Christian Aid in our parish. Here is an opportunity to help those less fortunate than ourselves in a positive way. Please be as generous as you can with both your time and your money.

MOTHERS' UNION - J. Marsh

At our next meeting at Mrs. Kemsley's home at 2.45 p.m. on May 11th the Speaker will be Mrs. Eunice Davis.

TABLE TENNIS CLUB - Michael Templeman

As an experiment children aged 11 - 16 who are interested in playing table tennis seriously will be welcome on Friday nights in May, from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. provided they are accompanied by a club member. Further details from Doris Pipe, Cassiobury, Pavenham Road.

YOUTH CLUB - Ray Murton

Felmersham & Radwell Youth Club for boys and girls of middle and upper school age meets each Thursday in the Village Hall from 7.30 - 10.00. Members enjoy a variety of games, billiards, table-tennis and badminton to name a few, all played to "pop music". New Youth leaders are required and anyone who would be interested in running or helping to run this Club, which all the youngsters enjoy please contact Ray Murton at Omerdon, Moor End, Radwell, or telephone 781532.

NORTH BEDS. FLORAL ART CLUB - G. Burr

"Practical Evening" on 3rd May at 7.30 p.m. Demonstration by John Hollands on 7th June at 7.30 p.m. entitled 'June Wedding'. Both events in Pinchmill Hall.

W.I. - Mary Freeman

Our guest speaker at the Annual General Meeting was Mrs. Nash - a county V.C.O. In the form of a quiz she told us about the W.I. from village to national level. Mrs. Roberts was re-elected President and the 1983/4 committee members are Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Sexton, Mrs. Hulatt, Mrs. Gough, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Jeavons, Mrs. Galliver, Mrs. Bustin and Miss Rootham. The Annual Competition Cup was won by Bronwen Guest, 2nd was Anne Carpenter and joint third Jennifer Knowles and Mary Freeman. Raffle winners were Mary Freeman, Mrs. Hawken and Mrs. Turner and the winner of "The most interesting handbag contents competition" was Mrs. Holborow. Next meeting - May 17th a Basketry demonstration by Dorothy Holborow.

CONCERT - Pam fforde

The Cantores Group of Singers from Carlton and Harrold, under the direction of David Langton will be providing a musical evening in Church at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday 14th of May. Programme will also include contributions from Felmersham Bridget Batty-Pearson, Charlotte and Catherine Templeman, also Elspeth Cameron and Brian Caves (organ). Tickets at door £1 adults, 50p children.

A GUIDED WALK AROUND FELMERSHAM NATURE RESERVE - Pat Bustin

Is being organised for parents and children by the P.S.A. on Saturday June 16th. Starting at 2.30pm and finishing with a Picnic Tea. (Continued overleaf.....)

PARISH DIARY FOR JUNE 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the Villages of Felmersham and Radwell. May we have all material for the July issue by 25th June to Roland Carpenter (781622).

JUNE

Sun.	5	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity 1. A.S.B. p644)	(R.P. Carpenter)
Wed.	8	2.45pm	Mrs Kemsley Mothers' Union	
Fri.	10		Old Barns W.I. Supper & Wine Evening	
Sat.	11	10.30am	16 Marriotts Close Cake Morning	
Sat.	11	2.30pm	Cricket v Stevington	
Sat.	11	2.30pm	Nature Reserve P.S.A. Guided Tour	
Sat.	11	8.00pm	1 The Moor, Carlton Wine and Cheese Party	
		9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
Sun.	12	10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Trinity 2. ASB p648)	(Mrs Roberts)
Thurs.	16	8.00pm	College Farm House Fete helpers' meeting	
Thurs.	16		Pinchmill Youth Club	
Sat.	18	10.30am	'Gladstones' Floral Art Club Sale	
Sat.	18	2.30pm	Cricket v Riseley	
Sun.	19	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity 3. ASB p653)	(D.J.H. Knowles)
Tues.	21	7.30pm	Pinchmill W.I. 'The Wedding Cake'	
Fri.	24	8.00pm	Church Summer Concert	
Sat.	25	8.00pm	Church Summer Concert	
Sun.	26	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Trinity 4. ASB p658)	(Mrs Webster)
Tues.	28	7.30pm	Pinchmill Floral Art Club	
JULY				
Sat.	2	10.30am	College Farm House Cake Morning	
Sat.	2	2.30pm	Cricket v Thurleigh	
Sun.	3	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity 5. ASB p664)	(F.J.S. Best)
Wed.	6	12.00	The Sun Conservative Assoc. Lunch	
Fri.	15	8.00pm	The Old Stables Paté and Wine Evening	
Sat.	16	3.00pm	Pinchmill Village Fete	
SEPT.	10		Felmersham River Carnival	

Priest in Charge: The Revd. Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444. Assistant Curate The Revd. D.E. Claypole White - Turvey 661.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL OUSE NEWS

JUNE 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

CHURCH RESTORATION

Our parish church has been described by John Betjeman as "the finest Early English church in the county with a wonderful interior of the great clustered piers of the crossing contrasting with the delicacy of the 15th century screen". Another has described it as a most beautiful piece of work of quite unusual scale and richness for a country church. This is our great heritage which has been handed down from our ancestors and which is now our responsibility to preserve for those who follow. Standing as it does amongst trees and above the river, it is the most attractive feature of our village and helps to make it a place in which it is pleasant to live.

Work started on building the church in 1220 and it took 20 years to complete. It is now therefore well over 700 years old and although the mediaeval architects and workmen did a wonderful job, the ravages of man, time and weather are taking their toll so that much restoration work is necessary, some of it urgent.

A lot has been done over the past century or so. Major restoration was carried out in 1853. More work was done in 1895 but money ran out before the tower could be tackled. It was then stated that this work would have to await some further restoration - indeed it did, over 70 years! In the late 1940's much window glass was replaced and in recent years over £30,000 has been spent on re-roofing the nave and chancel and repairs to the tower. Our forebears have not been neglectful.

It had been hoped that funds could by now have been made available for re-decorating the interior of the church and repairing at least some of the decorative stone work of the west front with its beautiful and unusual arcading. Much of this stonework is so badly decayed that there is a real danger that the pattern of some of the carvings will be irretrievably lost. But these hopes have had to be abandoned because our architect has after a detailed examination reported that the lead roofing of the south aisle has deteriorated to such an extent that complete replacement is now essential. Water is getting into the wood below and, in heavy rainfall with the church in some quantity. Patching is no longer practicable. The cost of this work will be about £6,400.

The other urgently needed work revealed by recent examinations is to the South Transept where the stonework is very badly decayed and the roof requires attention. Temporary repairs were carried out to the latter a year or two ago to

prevent water getting into the Memorial Chapel but something more permanent is now required. Regarding the stonework, that around the window is very badly decayed but more importantly, the copings to the gable end have become unsafe and there is a danger that lumps of stone will fall down. Further decay would probably mean part of the graveyard would have to be fenced off for the protection of passers by. The bill of this work is some £15,000.

The total cost of this programme of work is therefore about £21,400. Because of the architectural importance of the building, grants towards the cost should be available from the Department of the Environment and from other sources. But nevertheless it would seem that some £4,000 to £5,000 will have to be raised by the parish over the next 18 months or so to cover the cost.

At a meeting held on 9th May the Parochial Church Council agreed to go ahead with the re-roofing of the south aisle so funds in hand plus expected grants should be sufficient to cover the cost; and they further agreed in principle to carry out the work to the South Transept, but the starting date of this work will of course depend upon the availability of funds. Applications for grants are being put in hand but special fund raising efforts will certainly be needed in the parish. The PCC will issue reports from time to time so that parishioners are kept fully in the picture on the progress made towards the fulfilment of these works. F.J.S.B.

SUMMER CONCERTS 1983 (Tenth year) F. Stevens

Details of this year's events are given separately. Please try to persuade friends in neighbouring villages in Bedford to come with you to one of the concerts. Funds are still needed to continue the work of Church Restoration. If you are unable to support the artists (who are all giving their services) by coming to hear them perhaps you would consider giving a donation towards the unavoidable costs of piano transportation and advertising; any gifts will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr R. Aitken, Peacehaven, High Road, Felmersham or by Freddie Stevens, 5 Marriotts Close. (Cheques should be made payable to Felmersham Church Restoration Fund)

PARISH COUNCIL NOTICES - Glenda Davies

Once again your help is requested in preparing the villages for the Best Kept Village Competition. Everyone can do their bit, from keeping gardens neat and tidy to preventing dogs fouling footpaths and public areas.

Your new Parish Councillors are: Mr F. Best (Chairman), Mr D. Smith (Vice Chair.) Mr G. Hulatt, Mr A. Hoodless, Mr D. Lock, Mr D. Barker and Mr M. Ward. Refuse skips will be placed in the villages on 22nd - 25th July 1983.

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY - Pam fforde

All parishioners are warmly welcome to attend a Summer Evening Wine and Cheese party at 1, The Moor, Carlton on Saturday, 11th June at 8pm. Tickets, price £1.20 are available from PCC members and all proceeds will go to Church Restoration. Contributions towards catering (patés, quiche etc.) for raffle prizes, would be much appreciated. Offers of transport or anyone needing transport please contact Roland Carpenter (781622).

ST. MARY'S CHURCH FÊTE - Roland Carpenter

Our village fete has been postponed by one week to Saturday, 16th July at 3pm. at Pinchmill School, to avoid clashing with another local event. The fete is a major source of income for the Church and we hope you will find enjoyment in giving it your support on the day. During the week before the fete there will be door to door collections of items of gifts for the various stalls, sideshows and raffle. If you would like to offer your support in a more practical way as a helper on the day please come along to an informal meeting on Thursday, 16th June at College Farm House, when we shall finalise the arrangements. You will be most welcome.

ST MARY'S CHURCH BOOKSTALL - Blanche Smith

In order to promote the bookstall displayed regularly on the second Sunday of each month, members of the congregation are giving short talks on a book of their choice with a religious theme. We do hope you will come to listen to these book reviews and browse through the wide selection of books on sale. On Sunday, 12th June Mr Ken Shrimpton will be reviewing Gerald Priestland's book "Priestland's Progress".

CAKE MORNINGS - Mary Kemsley

Please support the Cake Morning on Saturday, 11th June at the home of Mr & Mrs Chris Baldry, 16 Marriotts Close at 10.30am. Next month's cake morning will be on 2nd July at the home of Mr & Mrs R. Carpenter, College Farm House. Everyone welcome.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL FAVOURITE RECIPES - Blanche Smith

The recipe books are still on sale at the Six Ringers, the village shop and West Grange at £2 per copy, thanks to Mr & Mrs Betts and to Pat and Roger at the Six Ringers who are so enthusiastically selling books to their customers. I am pleased to say that we now have another outlet in the butcher's shop in Clapham by kind permission of Mr D.A. Barnell.

MOTHERS' UNION - J. Marsh

Our last meeting was very much enjoyed. Mrs Davis is like 'a ray of sunshine' giving pleasure to everyone. Next Meeting: 8th June at 2.45pm at Mrs Kemsley's.

W.I. - Mary Freeman.

The meeting began with the presentation of the Annual Cup to Mrs Guest. Mrs Holborrow gave us an interesting talk on 'Basketry'. She was thanked by Miss Rootham. A "Supper & Wine" evening is to be held at Old Barns on 10th June. Tickets at £1.50 each are available from committee members. Husbands and friends are welcome. The Resolutions for the 1983 AGM in June were discussed and voting took place. Jenny Hoodless is to attend and vote on our behalf. Subjects for discussion are:

- (1) Legal status for artificially produced embryos
- (2) Promotion of Hospice care
- (3) Widowers pensions in Occupational Pensions Schemes

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(4) Planning Permission for Agricultural Buildings

Next Meeting: 21st June "The Wedding Cake" Mrs Varnam N.F.W.I.

YOUTH CLUB - R. Minton

We were sorry to have to disappoint some members because we had to cancel the trip to Alton Towers due to lack of support.

Next Youth Club will be 16th June.

FELMERSHAM RIVER CARNIVAL - SEPTEMBER 10th 1983 - David Rhodes

The river carnival which was so successful in 1979 is to be staged again. On this occasion the various clubs and organisations in the village are all contributing to the activities of the day. By this means a varied and enjoyable day is promised. As before, we have the Bedfordshire Police Divers who will give a demonstration and provide expert safety for the competitors on the river. The Charles Wells Trophy is again to be presented to the winners of the Felmersham Pubs raft race and there will be races for local children's rafts and canoes and for outside entries. (Entry details from John Taylor). There will be a Barbeque run by Pinchmill Players open for most of the afternoon and evening. A licensed bar will be applied for and there will be lots of other attractions for all age groups. So, we should like to see rafts from the pubs and from the local young. We also want to see you there. Make a date on the calendar NOW.

SUE RYDER EVENING - Dorothy Galliver

A Paté and Wine evening will be held on Friday, 15th July at 8pm at THE OLD STABLES, GRANGE ROAD, FELMERSHAM in aid of ST JOHN'S, MOGERHANGER. Tickets £2 each can be obtained from Dorothy Galliver (781085). Gill Burr, Gladstones, Pavenham Road, has tickets for the raffle which will be drawn during the evening. She will be delighted to sell you some!

WELSH HOLIDAY FOR THE SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED - Piers Saunders

Thank you very much to everyone who supported the socially disadvantaged boys of North London. My friend and I cycled for seven hours on Sunday, 8th May covering 50 miles, and your generous sponsorship raised £51.71 to help fifteen boys go to a camp in Wales.

LADIES' LUNCH - T. Smith

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION request the pleasure of your company at a Ladies' Lunch at The Sun on Wednesday, 6th July at 12 noon for 12.30. Speaker Mrs H. Kent from Harrold on 'Life in Papua-New Guinea'. Tickets £2.50 to include your first glass of wine. Contact 781617 or 781230. The coffee morning held on 14th April was enjoyed by all and we thank you for your support. A total of £45 was raised. Many thanks!

NORTH BEDS. FLORAL ART CLUB - G. Burr

Mr John Holland presents "That Great Day the Wedding" on Tuesday, 28th June 1983 in Pinchmill Hall at 7.30pm. Prompt. Mr Holland is a professional Floral Art Lecturer, therefore it is hoped all interested will come along and enjoy his programme.

We are also holding a "Fund Raising Sale" on Saturday, 18th June 1983 at 10.30am "Gladstones" Pavenham Road, Felmersham.

ST. MARY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School has been meeting now for 12 weeks and we seem to have grown in number with each week. 17 children now attend Sunday School and we have had to form two groups to cater for them. Over the weeks we have learned a tremendous amount - not just about Jesus and God but more mundane things like how to get to Church on time and how it takes much longer to walk up to Church when it is raining! And of course, we have had our minor problems, like no wounded man or Levite turning up for our playlet 'The Good Samaritan' performed last Sunday in Church. We have also had to cope with the children's interest in everything around them, like one wanting to know when he could take Communion at the altar rail and, was God in the Church at night too because it would be spooky! However, despite all this the children seem as enthusiastic as ever and have made a very real contribution to the Church services on three occasions now.

All this could not have taken place without the help of the congregation: they have been most encouraging and uncomplaining and we do thank them for bearing with our teething troubles. Mrs Walker has been kind enough to help us to get Sunday School established and now Mrs Hartley is giving up her time to help the younger group in Sunday School.

Sunday School has been very lucky to have the help of Paula Stevenson, doing her Service Badge for Guides. When we close for the summer holidays Paula will have completed her time with us. She has been invaluable, not just in helping the children with coats, pictures and walking up to church but she has made it her responsibility to see to the books and crayons. Thank you very much for your help Paula.

Finally, our thanks to the parents for their support, may it long continue! Sunday School will close for the summer holidays after 10th July and will start again on 11th September.

Bronwen Guest.

PARISH DIARY FOR JULY 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the Villages of Felmersham and Radwell. May we have all material for the Aug/Sept issue by 25th July to Roland Carpenter (781622).

JULY

Sat.	2	10.30am	College Farm House. Cake morning	
Sat.	2	2.30pm	Cricket v Thurleigh	
Sat.	2	2.30pm	Homelands, High St. Turvey. Sponsored Swim	
Sun.	3	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(M. Banham-Hall)
			(Trinity 5. ASB p664)	
Wed.	6	12.00	The Sun. Conservative Association Lunch	
Sun.	10	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS	(R.P. Carpenter)
			(Trinity 6 ASB p668)	
Mon.	11	7.30pm	Pinchmill. PCC Meeting	
Wed.	13	2.45pm	Mrs Kemsley. Mothers' Union	
Fri.	15	8.00pm	The Old Stables. Patè and Wine Evening	
Sat.	16	2.30pm	Cricket v Bunyan C.C.	
Sat.	16	3.00pm	Pinchmill VILLAGE FETE	
Sun.	17	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(F.J.S. Best)
			(Trinity 7 ASB p674)	
Mon.	18	8.00pm	Pinchmill Village Hall Committee Meeting	
Tues.	19	6.30pm	Bus. Shelter W.I. Harkness Roses visit	
Fri.	22-24		Refuse Skips in Felmersham and Radwell	
Sun.	24	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS	(Mrs Kemsley)
			(Trinity 8 ASB p679)	
Thurs.	28	8.45am	The Sun. 3 in 1 outing	
Sun.	31	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(R. Aitken)
			(Trinity 9 ASB p684)	

AUG.

Sat. 20 2.30pm Pinchmill 3 in 1 Jumble Sale

SEP.

Sat. 10 Felmersham River Festival

BAPTISM Nicholas Edward Spoor was baptised on 15th May 1983.

CONFIRMATION Mrs Patricia Hartop was Confirmed at St Mary, Goldington by the Bishop of St Albans on Saturday, 21st May.

Priest in Charge: The Revd. Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444, Assistant Curate The Revd. D.E. Claypole White - Turvey 661.

* * * * *

W.I. SHOW Schedules and pumpkin seeds are available now.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL OUSE NEWS

JULY 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

Dear Friends,

I thought you might be amused to read of some of the unexpected pitfalls that I have had since I first started to come to St Mary, Felmersham. I started coming to Felmersham regularly in December 1981 and at that time also took responsibility under Canon Jones for Baptisms. I decided that it was a pity not to use the font at the back of the Church. Unfortunately we could not find the stopper. Fred Best gave me a cork from a wine bottle, which fitted perfectly. The only trouble was that after the Service I couldn't get it out and had to dig it out with the aid of a pen knife. With the next Baptism I brought my own cork but this time did not push it in so far; however I still couldn't get it out and in this particular case had to use a corkscrew. I then decided to buy a rubber stopper which I thought would be watertight. I put the stopper in the font and then filled the font up with water. When I came to baptise the child the water had drained away! It wasn't until my fourth Baptism that I finally got the hang of the plumbing!

Shortly afterwards I presented my first Confirmation candidates to the Bishop of St Albans in St Albans Abbey. I was the first Priest to arrive. As the other Priests arrived I noticed that each one had a book under his arm. Shortly before the service the Bishop arrived and announced that he would sign our Confirmation Registers after the service. It had never occurred to me that I had to take our Parish Register to a Confirmation Service held in the Abbey or at any other Church than St Mary. I had to explain afterwards to the Bishop about my ignorance. He was very kind, and I have never forgotten since that incident always to take the Confirmation Register with me for all 'away games'.

Before a Wedding Service the Priest normally writes out both copies of the Registers and the Marriage Certificate which are not of course signed until after the ceremony. If you make a mistake you have to reproduce the mistake on the other two copies and cross the mistake out on all three copies, initialling and cross referencing the mistake on all three copies. Needless to say, on the first Certificate that I wrote out in respect of a Wedding at St Mary, I made a mistake, in triplicate.

Church announcements can also carry pitfalls for the unwary. My notable example was in thanking Howard Darbon for running the London Marathon in support of the Restoration Fund when I unwittingly credited him with the Concorde-beating time of 2 mins. 45 sec. much to the amazement and amusement of the congregation.

In spite of all this I do derive a great deal of pleasure from being your Assistant Parish Priest and am constantly learning by the error of my ways! D. Claypole White.

VILLAGE FETE - Roland Carpenter

Remember the date? 16th July at 3.00pm. We hope to see you there. Please refer to the enclosed slip for details.

BOOK REVIEW - Blanche Smith

Martin Bannam-Hall will review "The Church and the Bomb" on 10th July at the 10.15am service.

CONFIRMATION - Douglas Claypole White

There will be a Deanery Confirmation Service at 3.00pm. on Sunday, 4th December. I am hoping to start Confirmation Classes in Felmersham next September after the school term re-commences. If there are any young people in the parish who would like to attend the classes would you please either have a word with me or alternatively ask one of your parents to speak to me. Equally if there are any adults who would like to be considered for Confirmation would you please get in touch with me. (Turvey 661)

SPONSORED SWIM - Douglas Claypole White

There will be a sponsored swim in aid of the Restoration Fund at Homelands, High Street, Turvey, Bedford on Saturday, 2nd July 1983 from 2.30pm to 6.00pm. The swimming pool, which is an outdoor pool, is heated. Swimmers will only be allowed to swim for a maximum of 60 lengths or 15 minutes whichever is the shorter. Sponsor forms can be obtained from either myself or through any member of the Parochial Church Council. (N.B. the pool is 12 yards long)

A number of members of the Choir have already agreed to enter the event so if there are any regular Churchgoers who would like to sponsor one or more of the choir we would be most grateful for your support. Friends and relations of the swimmers are most welcome as spectators.

THREE-IN-ONE CLUB

OUTING - An outing to Clacton has been arranged for Thursday, 28th July cost £3 per person, leaving The Sun at 8.45am. A few seats are available on the coach, anybody interested please contact Mrs Mary Franklin, telephone 781963. T. Best.

JUMBLE SALE - We are having a Jumble Sale on Saturday, 20th August at 2.30pm in Pinchmill Hall. Anything for sale will be greatly appreciated. Also our Raffle will be drawn that afternoon. Tickets for above are in circulation in the village. Please give us your support. J. Marsh.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL W.I. - Anne Carpenter

Mrs Varnham gave a very interesting talk on "The W.I. Wedding Cake" to illustrate the structure of the Institute. Eight members visited Bunyan ward, North Wing. Next Meeting 19th July 6.30pm at Bus Shelter (6.35pm Radwell) to visit Harkness Roses, including a ploughman's supper. The competition was won by Mrs Best, Mrs Brown and Mrs Albury. The raffle was won by Mrs Smith, Mrs Varnham and Mrs Roberts.

THE HISTORY OF OUR PARISH - Ron Draycott

I realise that some of you have read the so-called "Diary of a Gravedigger" relating to Felmersham but I feel sure that others too may be interested so this month I will introduce you to it and hope to tell you more next time.

The faded sheets which comprise the diary were discovered accidentally around 1930 - not locally but in Warwickshire - when they dropped from an old book which was being dusted. What a gem those few pages proved to be, not only by virtue of their contribution to the parish history but also for the whimsical appeal of the diary in general.

Edward Arpin (or Orpin) was the diarist, baptised at Pavenham in 1756 but living in Felmersham by 1763 when his (? widowed) father introduced into the family a young pregnant housekeeper and married her the next year, after her baby had died. At the age of 22 Edward married 37 year old Rachel Dawson who was then the same age as his stepmother. There was a son and three daughters by this marriage, one of the daughters reversing the age-gap trend by taking for her second husband a widower 32 years her senior. (The husband survived this experience for 5 years, dying aged 87).

An unusual family? That is certainly my belief, as returning to Edward himself how many farm labourers in those difficult times would dream of starting a diary, at the age of 58. I have seen the original (by courtesy of the County Records Office) and be it in a semi-literate, blotted scrawl, yet from it shines the personality of Edward Arpin - labourer, sometime sexton and parish clerk (spelling, blots etc. notwithstanding!). Fortunately for posterity he was also a keen gardener, naturalist amateur statistician and had a nose for gossip and scandal, as we shall discover next month!

PARISH COUNCIL - Glenda Davies

Refuse Skips will be placed in Felmersham and Radwell over the weekend of July 22 - 25 1983.

MOTHERS' UNION - J. Marsh

The next meeting will be at Mrs Kemsley's home on Wednesday, 13th July at 2.45pm.

CAKE MORNING - Mary Kemsley

The next Cake Morning is at College Farm House, (Mr & Mrs Carpenter) at 10.30am on Saturday, 2nd July. Your support will be much appreciated.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR OUSE NEWS - Editors

The next issue of Ouse News to be published at the end of July will cover the TWO months of AUGUST and SEPTEMBER so if you wish to advertise forthcoming events please be sure to let us have details before the summer holidays. We do hope these special holiday arrangements will not cause any inconvenience.

RIVER CARNIVAL - Entry Forms from John Taylor.

PARISH DIARY FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the Villages of Felmersham and Radwell. May we have all material for the October issue by 25th September to Roland Carpenter (781622).

AUGUST

Sun	7	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity 10 ASB p689)	(R.P.Carpenter)
Sat	13	2.30pm	Cricket v Little Staughton	
Sun	14	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Trinity 11 ASB p694)	(Mrs Roberts)
Tues	16		W.I. Coffee and Dessert evening	
Sat.	20	2.30pm	Pinchmill 3-in-1 Jumble Sale	
Sun	21	10.00am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity 12 ASB p699)	(D.J.H.Knowles)
Sun	28	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Trinity 13 ASB p703)	(Mrs Webster)

SEPTEMBER

Sat	3	2.00pm	Cricket v Wrestlingworth	
		8.00pm	Homelands, High Street, Turvey. Wine & Cheese Party	
Sun	4	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity 14 ASB p709)	(M.Banham Hall)
Tues	8		3-in-1 meeting	
Wed	7	8.00pm	Pinchmill. Keep Fit Sessions resume	
Sat	10		Felmersham River Festival	
Sun	11	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Trinity 15 ASB p713)	(R.P.Carpenter)
Mon	12	8.00pm	Pinchmill. Village Hall Committee Meeting	
Wed	14	2.30pm	The Sun. Mothers' Union visit	
Thur	15	7.30pm	College Farm House. PCC Meeting	
Sat	17	2.00pm	Cricket v Rushden	
Sun	18	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Trinity 16 ASB p717)	(F.J.S.Best)
Tues	20	7.30pm	Pinchmill. W.I. Meeting	
Sun.	25	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Trinity 17 ASB p722)	(R. Aitken)

OCTOBER

Sat	1	10.30am	Church. Produce for Harvest Decorations	
Sat	1		Organ Recital by Andrew Morris	
Sun	2	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(K.F.Shrimpton)
		6.00	HARVEST FESTIVAL (Trinity 18 ASB p729)	(Church Wardens)

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL HOUSE NEWS

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

THE HISTORY OF OUR PARISH - Ron Draycott

Continuing the account of Edward Arpin, gravedigger and diarist, here are a few examples of entries he recorded in 1813.

1813 October 3th I and my Famley had green pease Both Blue and Prounfirs for dinner

One Christmas day the Bird that is called Cuck-oo was seen and heard to sing By many Folks.....

1813 Out of 26 Famlys thiris 10 widows in the parish of Felmersham....

Febry the 19 1813 Ann Babar was Ravesh'd By Robert Smith Pavinham

His sense of wonderment never diminishes, as his jottings on anything out of ordinary invariably end up with: "... it was never known in the oldist Age." As far as is known he ceased keeping his diary in 1831 but lived till 1836, aged 81. The sur-name died out in Felmersham around the same time, but his descendants still live in the village. A likeable character, and with luck we can dip into his literary bran-tub again next time.

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY - Douglas Claypole White

My wife and I would be delighted to see as many parishioners and their friends as possible at our home at Homelands, High Street, Turvey for a Wine and Cheese Party in aid of the Restoration Fund on Saturday, 3rd September 1983 at 8.00pm. Tickets at a cost of £1 per person will be available sometime during August from either myself, the Church Wardens or any member of the Parochial Church Council.

W.I. - Mary Freeman

Members and friends enjoyed an evening trip to the Harkness Rose Gardens at Hitchin, followed by a Ploughman's Supper. Two rose bushes were purchased and presented to Mrs Kemsley and Mrs Knight who are both leaving the village. Tickets are available from Committee members for a coffee and dessert evening on 16th August. September 20th - Film and Talk on Royal National Mission to deep sea fisherman. Autumn Show Schedules should be returned at this meeting.

KEEP FIT - Linda Darbon

Keep fit sessions will restart on Wednesday, September 7th 8pm-9pm in the Village Hall. New members welcome.

CONFIRMATION - Douglas Claypole White

There will be a Deanery Confirmation Service at 3.00pm on Sunday, 4th December. I am hoping to start Confirmation Classes in Felmersham next September after the school term re-commences. If there are any young people in the parish who would like to attend the classes would you please either have a word with me or alternatively ask one of your parents to speak to me. Equally if there are any adults who would like to be considered for Confirmation would you please get in touch with me. (Turvey 661)

CHURCH SERVICES IN AUGUST - Douglas Claypole White

Owing to holidays I have had to make a slight alteration in the time of our Parish Communion Service on Sunday, 21st August which will now be held at 10.00am instead of 10.15am. I also have Communion Services at 9.00am at All Saints, Souldrop and 11.00am at St Peters, Sharnbrook on that same morning so that if the new time of the service at St Mary is inconvenient I will be very pleased to see you at either of the other two Churches in our group.

FELMERSHAM RIVER FESTIVAL 10th September - David Rhodes

Arrangements are well under way for this event. Linda Darbon is organising a tug of war; if you want to get a team together see her for details. There will be raft races for the children of the parish, the parish pubs and for allcomers; each with suitable prizes of course. The canoe races are being arranged by John Taylor assisted by an official of the British Canoe club, so it looks like being a smoothly run event. To reassure parents each event will be followed by the Bedfordshire Police Diving team in their rescue boat. They have been extremely helpful with safety suggestions and general advice. Entry forms are now available for the canoe and raft races from John Taylor, Marriotts Close. The catering will be done by the Pinchmill Players, Table Tennis Club and others, providing a selection of hot food right through the day. All sorts of good things and surprises are planned so this has to be a must. Remember the profits are going to help the village playing field and all the clubs and organisations that make Felmersham such a lively place in which to live.

MOTHERS' UNION - J. Marsh

Our next meeting will be September 14th when we visit the home of Mr & Mrs Clark Higham Ferrers. Please meet at the Sun 2.30pm. We wish Mary Kemsley all the best in her new home when she leaves us in August. We, as a group will be extremely sorry to lose her. She was most generous in allowing us to use her home for our meetings and we are most grateful for her hospitality. We wish her all the best. Unfortunately we have nowhere to hold our meetings in future unless anyone could let us have a room for an hour or so every second Wednesday in the month. However, members I will keep in touch and let you know of any new arrangements.

CHRISTMAS DANCE - Table Tennis Club Please note in your diaries that the Table Tennis Club is organising a Christmas Dance on Saturday, 10th December 1983.

PATE AND WINE EVENING - Dorothy Galliver

We raised £363.06 at our Sue Ryder evening on 15th July. Our sincere thanks to all who supported us and helped in so many ways. It was a financial and a social success.

ARTHRITIS AND RHEUMATISM COUNCIL - Jennifer Knowles

£70 was collected recently for the Arthritis and Rheumatism council. Thank you for your generosity and support. The collectors were Mesdames Freeman, Lane, Knowles, Locke, Pickin, Stokley and Webster.

THREE IN ONE CLUB - J. Marsh

Thanks to the generosity of Mr & Mrs Ditmas of Odell, we spent a most enjoyable afternoon in their garden including a delicious afternoon tea. We came home well filled and most grateful to friends who once lived among us and have not forgotten the happy times we used to spend together. Please don't forget the Jumble Sale and Raffle at Pinchmill Hall on Saturday, 20th August. Next Meeting September 8th.

DOLL RAFFLE - Table Tennis Club

The Winning Ticket was purchased from Mrs Richards by J. Goad of Sharnbrook Upper School. Thanks to all who contributed; profit was £20.00.

SPONSORED SWIM - Douglas Claypole White

I would like to thank everybody who supported the sponsored swim on Saturday, 2nd July in aid of the Restoration Fund, all the sponsors and in particular the 17 swimmers 4 of whom were adults. We raised slightly over £106. I would also like to thank Mr and Mrs Carpenter for arranging for a Coffee Morning to be held at their home on the same day and everybody who supported the event which raised a further £25 for the Restoration Fund.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The first weekend in October promises to be very eventful. On Saturday, 1st October, Andrew Morris, Bedford School, is giving an Organ Recital and the following evening at 6.00pm is the Harvest Thanksgiving Service. If you have gifts of produce or decorations please bring them to the Church by 10.30am on Saturday morning, 1st October.

WASPS - Mrs Swift

To some people a wasp sting can be lethal. Please would anyone who finds a wasp nest report it to Mrs Swift at 26 Marriotts Close who will arrange for its disposal.

BAPTISM - Catherine Louise Mills and Emma Suzanne Mills were baptised on 10th July 1983.

PARISH DIARY FOR OCTOBER 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the Villages of Felmersham and Radwell. May we have all material for the November issue by 25th October to Roland Carpenter (781622).

OCTOBER

Sat	1	10.30am	Church. Produce for Harvest Decorations	
Sat	1	7.30pm	Organ Recital by Andrew Morris	
Sun	2	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(K. F. Shrimpton)
		6.00pm	HARVEST FESTIVAL (Trinity 18 ASB p729)	(Church Wardens)
Tues	4	7.30pm	"The Sun" Harvest Auction, Fish & Chip Supper	
Fri	7	7.30pm	Pinchmill Table Tennis Ladies' Singles	
Sat	8	10.30am	27 Marriotts Close Cake/Plant Morning	
Sun	9	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS	(R.P. Carpenter)
			(Trinity 19, ASB p734)	
Fri	14	7.30pm	Pinchmill Table Tennis - Men's Doubles	
Sun	16	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(Mrs Roberts)
			(Trinity 20, ASB p739)	
Tues	18	7.30pm	Pinchmill W.I. Second Annual Show	
Fri	21	7.30pm	Pinchmill Table Tennis Felmersham v Radwell	
Sun	23	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS	(B. Smith)
			(9th before Christmas, ASB p400)	
Sun	30	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(Mrs Webster)
			(8th before Christmas ASB p405)	(B. Guest)
		6.00pm	SONGS OF PRAISE	

NOVEMBER

Tues	1	7.30pm	Pinchmill Table Tennis Parent and Child (12-16 yrs.)	
Thurs	3	10.30am	Mrs Saunders Coffee Morning (Save the Children Fund)	
Fri	4	7.30pm	Pinchmill Table Tennis Ladies' Doubles	
Sat	5	10.30am	Mrs Mills Cake Morning	
Sat	5		The Plough Village Bonfire & Fireworks	
Sun	6	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION	(M. Banham Hall)
			(7th before Christmas, ASB p 410)	

Priest in Charge of Felmersham; Rector of United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Souldrop & Knotting: The Revd. Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444. Assistant Curate with specific responsibility for Felmersham: The Revd. D.E. Claypole White - Turvey 661.

TABLE TENNIS CLUB - Mike Templeman

From Friday October 7th the club will be open to anyone over 14. Play begins at 7.30pm. on Friday evenings. Charges for 1983/4 will be:- Members 20p per evening (under 16 10p), Non-Members 50p per evening (under 16 25p). Membership subscriptions £1 per adult (50p under 16) are now due and should be paid to a Committee Member. Autumn events are listed on the Diary page.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL OUSE NEWS

OCTOBER 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE - K.F. Shrimpton

Many thanks to David and Jane Rhodes and all members of the Social Committee for the River Carnival. Thanks also to all the village organisations who helped to make the event a happy and enjoyable occasion. Despite the miserable weather, and clashing with other local events, a profit of approx. £280 was made. This will be divided, with 50% going to the playing field and the rest divided equally between all participating organisations. Well done all concerned.

The playing field has recently undergone extensive development. We now have a tyre-tower, climbing frame, parallel bars, a three-seat swing (waiting for fittings), and a slide. Netball posts have been installed, posts are erected ready for an aerial runway and we hope, before the football season is finished, to install nets behind the goal posts (be patient boys!). Thanks to Walter Hitchens for all the conscientious effort he has put into the construction work.

A word about the slide. We are all too aware that it collects water and most children have difficulty in using the run-out. We are currently negotiating with Wicksteeds over this and we do not want to prejudice our case by rectifying it ourselves.

After many years' service to the village Youth Club, Ray Murton and Mary Freeman have decided to hang up their ear plugs. The Village Hall Committee wish to thank them, and all other organisers and helpers of the Youth Club over the years, for their service to the community.

The village is currently without a Youth Club. Please will somebody volunteer to take on the job as Youth Club Leader? The young people of the village look forward to their Thursday evenings down the Hall. Please don't disappoint them.

We desperately need help for the annual village bonfire. Dads, your help is needed to build the bonfire! Mums, we need help with the food!

Here is an opportunity for you to help in a positive way, to ensure the continuation of this traditional event.

Please come and enjoy yourselves on November 5th at the Plough.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL GOLFING SOCIETY - Bill Kelly

A Stableford match was held at Bedford & County Golf Club, Clapham on 30th August, followed by a dinner with non-playing husbands and wives. Prize winners were L. Cannon (39 points), E. Taylor (36 points) and D. Ronaldson (35 points.)

CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE IN AID OF CHRISTIAN FAMILY CARE -

D. Claypole White

Readers will be aware that for a number of years parishioners have very kindly made donations of toys at Christmas time which either I or Gerry Sidebottom have subsequently donated on behalf of the parish to St. Etheldreda's Home for Children. St. Etheldreda's is closing and therefore this year the Parochial Church Council have decided, at my request, that any toys donated at Christmas time should be taken to Christian Family Care who run a home in Ashburnham Road for mothers and their children in need of some form of sheltered accommodation. During the year ended 31st March, 1983 Christian Family Care provided 2,328 nights of accommodation for adults and 4,066 nights for children. In addition the centre runs regular playgroups both for the children resident in the house and on Tuesday mornings for the children of both the resident and visiting mothers. I am sure therefore our gifts of toys will be put to very good use and much appreciated. This year, the Gift Service will be on December 4th.

ST. MARY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - Bronwen Guest

Sunday School is again meeting regularly every Sunday morning at 10am in the Committee room of the village hall, and any children are welcome to come (provided that they have had their fourth birthday). Because of the approaching winter conditions the children will not now come up to church with us on the second or fourth Sunday of the month. Obviously, exceptions to this will be when we are required in Church for special occasions like the Gift of Toys Service and Christmas services. But the children will still be brought up to the Church gate at 11.15 so that they can be collected as usual. Do come down and see us if you feel your child would like to join our Sunday School - you are most welcome to drop in on us at the Hall or phone 781364.

CAKE MORNINGS - Helen Rose

Saturday 8th October at Helen Rose's, 27 Marriotts Close. Everyone is invited to the usual bring and buy cake and coffee morning in aid of the church restoration fund. In addition this month there will be a bring and buy plant sale. Please could we have any surplus herbaceous plants you may have.

Saturday 5th November - cake morning at Mrs Mills Storrington, Hunts Lane.

(The PCC is extremely grateful to Helen Rose for taking over the organisation of our monthly cake mornings, and hopes that they will continue to be well supported - Editors.)

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND - COFFEE MORNING - Blanche Smith

On Thursday morning, November 3rd, thanks to the kind offer of Mrs. Margaret Saunders, a coffee morning in aid of the Save the Children Fund will be held at her home at 10.30am.

"MR GOD, THIS IS ANNA" - Blanche Smith

This is the title of the book which David Knowles has selected as the subject for his talk on Sunday morning, October 9th. As usual, following this Matins Service you will have an opportunity to browse through our bookstall, over a cup of coffee. We will be very pleased to welcome you on that occasion.

THE SUE RYDER COLLECTION - Dorothy Galliver

The recent collection in aid of St. John's Moggerhanger raised £65.63. Thank you for your generous support and a special 'thankyou' to Stella Gough, Bronwen Guest, Celia Hulatt, Sue Webster, Winifred Walker and Jessie Turner who helped so willingly.

FLORAL ART CLUB - Janet Cook

The Floral Art Club will benefit by £129.62 from the sale held at "Gladstones", Felpersham on 18th June 1983.

3-IN-1 CLUB - J. Marsh

Many thanks to everyone who helped by giving and working to make our recent Jumble Sale a success. It boosted our funds with a total of £172.

CHRISTMAS DANCE - D. Pipe

The Table Tennis Club are running a Christmas Dance on Saturday 10th December 1983. Please make a diary note. Tickets will be on sale from November 1st.

W.I. - Mary Freeman

The President welcomed one new member, Mrs. Heald, and presented Mrs. Walker with a farewell gift from the Institute. Mrs. Galliver and Mrs. Mills are to attend courses at Denman College. Mr. Tebbutt, showed us a film on the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen, an interesting insight into the work done to help these fishermen and their families in times of disaster and trouble. Mrs. Henderson-Begg came to tell us about the W.R.V.S Emergency Service. It is hoped that some members will take part in a training day to be organised locally. October 18th is our Second Annual Show. Families and friends are invited to view the exhibits from 7.30-8.30 when winners of the childrens competitions will be presented with their prizes.

MOTHERS UNION - J. Marsh

A most enjoyable afternoon was spent at Higham Ferrers with Mr & Mrs Clark. We all came away very happy and very full. We have decided not to have a meeting in October and trust Mrs Hensman will be fully recovered for November. We are very grateful to her for offering us a room for our meetings. Next meeting - November 9th at 2.45pm. when we will arrange for Christmas Tea.

At the Service of Songs of Praise, 30th October, 6pm if any parishioner would like to select a favourite hymn please contact our Organist, Mrs Pam fforde (720716), also if anyone would like to briefly introduce their chosen hymn I would be delighted.

PARISH DIARY FOR NOVEMBER 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the villages of Felmersham or Radwell. May we have all material for the December issue by 25th November to Roland Carpenter (781622)

NOVEMBER

Tues.	1	7.30pm	Pinchmill	Table Tennis Parent and Child (12-16yrs)	
Thurs.	3	10.30am	Mrs Saunders	Coffee Morning (Save the Children Fund)	
Fri.	4	7.30pm	Pinchmill	Table Tennis Ladies' Doubles	
Sat.	5	6.30pm	The Plough	Village Bonfire & Fireworks	
Sun.	6	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (M. Banham Hall)		
			(7th before Christmas, ASB p410)		
Mon.	8	8.00pm	Pinchmill	Parish Council Meeting	
Wed.	9	2.45pm	Mrs Hensman	Mothers' Union Meeting	
Fri.	11	7.30pm	Pinchmill	Table Tennis Over 40s	
Sat.	12	10.30am	Mrs Brown	Cake Morning	
Sun.	13	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION (Mrs Hensman)		
		10.30am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY (F.J.S. Best)		
			(6th before Christmas, ASB p415)		
Mon.	14	7.30pm	Pinchmill	P.C.C. Meeting	
Tues.	15	7.30pm	Pinchmill	W.I. Cheese and Cheese Tasting	
Fri.	18	7.30pm	Pinchmill	Table Tennis Mixed Doubles	
Sun.	20	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (R. Aitken)		
			(5th before Christmas, ASB p420)		
Mon.	21	8.00pm	Pinchmill	Village Hall Committee Meeting	
Sun.	27	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION (Mrs Hensman)		
			FAMILY MATINS (Mrs Webster)		
			(1st in Advent, ASB p424)		
Tues.	29	8.00pm	'The Sun'	Squash Club Social	

DECEMBER

Sat.	3	10.30am	Mrs Burbidge	Cake Morning	
Sun.	4	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION GIFT SERVICE (D.J.H. Knowles)		
			(Advent 2, ASB p430)		
Sat.	10		Pinchmill	Table Tennis Dance	
Sun.	11	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION (Mrs Hensman)		
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (R.P. Carpenter)		
			(Advent 3, ASB p434)		

Priest in Charge of Felmersham: Rector of United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Souldrop & Knotting: The Revd. Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444. Assistant Curate with specific responsibility for Felmersham: The Revd. D.E. Claypole-White - Turvey 661.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL HOUSE NEWS

NOVEMBER 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

CALLS TO REMEMBRANCE

With the approach of Remembrance Sunday we were reminded of the following two quotations:

"Death is nothing at all... I have only slipped away into the next room... I am I, and you are you... whatever we were to each other, that we are still. Call me by my old familiar name. Speak to me in the easy way which you always used. Put no difference into your tone, wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name ever be the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without effect, without the ghost of a shadow on it. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was; there is absolutely unbroken continuity. What is this death but a negligible accident? Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight? I am but waiting for you for an interval somewhere very near, just around the corner... all is well."

(Henry Scott Holland, 1847-1918, a canon of St Paul's Cathedral)

"If I should go before the rest of you break not a flower nor inscribe a stone. Nor when I'm gone speak in a Sunday voice but be the usual selves that I have known. Weep if you must, Parting is hell, But life goes on, So sing as well."

(Joyce Grenfell)

BOOK REVIEW - Blanche Smith

Mr Phillip Nicholls from Riseley will be reviewing "Halfway to Heaven" by Max Sinclair at the Matins service on 11th December.

CAKE MORNING - Helen Rose

Please note that owing to the indisposition of Mrs Mills this month's Cake Morning is now at CRANTOCK by kind permission of Mrs Brown, and has been postponed to Saturday NOVEMBER 12th.

Next month's cake morning will be held on 3rd DECEMBER at Mrs Burbidge, Corn Close, Church End.

VILLAGE BONFIRE - Ken Shrimpton

Once again we look forward to an evening of excitement and entertainment at 'The Plough' on Saturday, 5th November, by kind permission of Sheila Juffs. Tickets are on sale from Betts' bakery or 'The Sun'. 75p Single, £2 per family. The Bonfire is to be lit at 6.30 with Fireworks starting at 7.00pm.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY'S

As we again approach the festive season you may like to make a note of the dates of the main Parish events during December:- We start the month with the annual Gift Service on December 4th. This year, for the first time, gifts will be donated to 'The Refuge' in Bedford, details of which were included in last month's magazine. The Service of Lessons and Carols will take place on December 18th and will be followed by the traditional Christmas tea in Pinchmill Hall. We hope to arrange a Carol Singing tour of Felmersham later that week; please look out for details in next month's Ouse News. On Saturday, 17th December, Harrold Middle School are staging a Christmas Concert in Felmersham Church. Church Services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (which this year falls on a Sunday) will follow the same pattern as in previous years.

NEW ALTAR FRONTAL

Recent visitors to the Church will doubtless have noticed the transformation that has taken place in the Lady Chapel. Thanks particularly to the efforts of Mrs Marsh, the chapel now has a brand new gold cloth to adorn the altar, which now finds increasing use at the 9.15 Communion services which appear to be gaining in popularity. The War Memorial Commemorative Plaque has also been returned to its original position in the Lady Chapel.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND - COFFEE MORNING - Blanche Smith

A last minute reminder of the coffee morning to be held at the home of Mrs. Margaret Saunders, Manor House, Church End (at the corner with Memorial Lane) at 10.30 on Thursday, 3rd November in aid of the Save The Children Fund.

R.S.P.C.A. COLLECTION - Lucy West

Warmest thanks to all those who contributed to the recent Felmersham collection in aid of the R.S.P.C.A. which raised a total of £47.

FELMERSHAM AND RADWELL W.I. - Mary Freeman

Over 150 entries were on display in our Second Autumn Show, and a very good standard was achieved. The trophy was presented to Mrs Bronwen Guest who had a total of 204 points. 2nd was Mrs Janet Cook, 3rd Mrs Judith Smith and 4th Mrs Val Sexton. In the children's classes, first prizes of tokens were presented for "A garden on a plate" to Paul Jeavons and Laura Pearce, and for fairy cakes to Peter Jeavons and Peter Stokley. After a short business meeting, members enjoyed a ploughman's supper. The November meeting will be held on Tuesday, 15th and will be "Cheese and Cheese Tasting". The competition will be a wrapped gift for Fairfield Hospital.

THANKS - Mrs Southwell

Mrs Tilly Southwell would have liked to have written to all her friends who sent her good wishes for a speedy recovery after her recent accident; but there are so

many that she feels unable to do so and hopes that they will accept this notice of her sincere thanks.

PARISH COUNCIL - Glenda Davies

If anyone has any complaint regarding street lighting please will they contact Mark Ward, Rose Cottage, Felmersham, who has agreed to notify Eastern Electricity on our behalf. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday, 8th Nov. at 8.00pm in the Committee Room. Items on the Agenda will include Radwell bridge and Elderly persons' bungalows.

SITUATION VACANT - Ken Shrimpton

The Village Hall Committee are looking for a booking clerk. The duties include looking after the keys and taking hall bookings. The position carries a token payment and expenses are reimbursed. The present booking clerk, Margaret Spoor, is retiring after several years service. The committee wish to thank her for her service to the community. Please reply to Ken Shrimpton, 781381.

CONSERVATIVE CLUB - Pat Stephens

On 3rd December Bedford Conservative Association's Christmas Fair will open at 10.00am in the Corn Exchange. Felmersham and Radwell's contribution will be the show stopping raffle "Christmas for 50p". Everything on our stall will go to the one lucky winner - Turkey, Pudding, Cake, Bottles(!), Tree, sweets, toys, crackers, gifts for all the family, glasses, serviettes, even a J cloth and tea towel for the washing up! Limited ticket sale 300, apply Mrs Stephens 781485 or committee members.

SQUASH CLUB - Courtney Guest

There will be a social evening in the back room of 'The Sun' on Tuesday, 29th Nov. starting at 8.00pm. Everybody, including new members will be most welcome. Do come along and meet other members of the club.

PARISH DIARY FOR DECEMBER 1983

We will be pleased to include in the Parish Diary details of any meetings, events or fixtures taking place within the villages of Felmersham or Radwell. May we have all material for the January issue by 25th December to Roland Carpenter (781622).

Sun.	4	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION GIFT SERVICE (Advent 2. ASB p.430)	(D.J.H. Knowles)
Mon.	5	8.00pm	Pinchmill Village Hall Committee Meeting	
Thurs.	8	7.30pm	Pinchmill Playgroup AGM	
Sat.	10	8.00pm	Pinchmill Table Tennis Dance	
Sun.	11	9.15am	HOLY COMMUNION	(Mrs Hensman)
		10.15am	FAMILY MATINS (Advent 3. ASB p.434)	(R.P. Carpenter)
Thurs.	15	8.00pm	Pinchmill Special Parish Council Meeting	
Sun.	18	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Advent 4. ASB p.439)	(Mrs Webster)
		5.00pm	CAROL SERVICE (Followed by Parish Tea in the Village Hall)	(R. Aitken)
Tues.	20	7.30pm	Pinchmill W.I. Christmas Party	
Thurs.	22	7.30pm	The 'Sun' Carol Singing around the Village	
Sat.	24	11.30pm	MIDNIGHT CHORAL COMMUNION	(K. Shrimpton)
Sun.	25	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Christmas Day, ASB p.444)	(R.P. Carpenter)

JANUARY 1984

Sun.	1	10.15am	CHORAL COMMUNION (Sunday after Christmas, ASB p.452)	(B. Smith)
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Tues.	10	8.00pm	Pinchmill Parish Council Meeting	
Sat.	14	10.30am	Leaways, Grange Road, Cake Morning	

Priest in Charge of Felmersham: Rector of United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Souldrop & Knotting: The Revd Canon H.D. Jones - Bedford 781444. Assistant Curate with specific responsibility for Felmersham: The Revd. D.E. Claypole-White - Turvey 661.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At our November meeting we learnt about the history and processing of English Cheeses. Our speaker, Mrs Kirkman, from the National Dairy Council, produced a great variety of cheeses for us to taste. She was thanked by Judith Smith. A selection of Christmas gifts were collected for Fairfield Hospital, and the winners for the most attractively wrapped gift were:
(1st) Mrs Whitbread, (2nd) Mrs Guest The Raffle winners were Mrs J. Smith and Mrs P. Tull. The Christmas meeting on 20th December is our annual party when members will provide the refreshments and exchange gifts.

SITUATION VACANT for a Village Hall keyholder and booking Clerk. Please apply to Ken Shrimpton for further details on 781381.

Mary Freeman

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL OUSE NEWS

DECEMBER 1983

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

My dear friends,

In our Lord's Lifetime and in the early years of the Church, the events connected with the birth of Jesus were not widely known, possibly because the Virgin Mary may have been rather reticent in 'treasuring up all these things in her heart'. Only very gradually was the birthday festival established, by which time the actual date had long since been forgotten; December 25th is in this respect similar to our Queen's official birthday.

Some early Christians thought the celebration of a birthday for the Son of God was both irreverent and unnecessary. Many hundreds of years later in Puritan England the celebration of Christmas, and indeed all Religious Festivals, again came under threat. What a lot we would have missed today if that opposition had been successful. Christmas has been a great inspiration in music and art; popular carols as well as great choral works like Handel's "Messiah" and countless paintings of the Madonna and Child, the worship and gifts of the Wise Men, the flight into Egypt, the shepherds, and many more.

Thank God the earlier opposition to the Christmas Festival did not succeed. But that threat is still with us today in a different form. Christmas has become very commercialised. On the one hand this has given many more opportunities to brighten Christmas with gifts, food, amusements and general excitement. On the other hand there is a real danger that the essential simplicity of the Christmas message becomes swamped and forgotten. We too may become so caught up with the material aspects of December 25th, the food and drink, the fun and games, that we lose the religious basis altogether. Christmas would then become rather like a pointless birthday party, with the Person whose birthday is being celebrated left off the invitation list!

So as we approach another Christmas let us thank God for all the joy that it will bring into our lives, and above all let us thank Him for the gift of his Son to be the Saviour of the World. In that way we shall all be doing our bit to ensure that Christmas continues to survive, not merely as a festivity but as a Festival with very special Religious significance for us all.

Let us pray too that everywhere, as men and women, boys and girls, celebrate this great Festival, they will remember Him who gave us Christmas, and give their lives to Him in return. Iris and I wish you a truly happy and blessed Christmas.

Your sincere friend and Parish Priest, Harold D. Jones.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY'S

The Service of Lessons and Carols will take place on December 18th, and will be followed by the traditional Christmas tea in Pinchmill Hall. On Saturday, 17th December, Harrold Middle School are staging a Christmas Concert in Felmersham Church.

Carol Singing around Felmersham will take place on Thursday, 22nd December and will start from the Sun at 7.30pm.

Church Services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (which this year falls on a Sunday) will follow the same pattern as in previous years.

PARISH COUNCIL

Glenda Davis

At the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th November, most discussion took place following a report by Councillor Gibbs of the Borough Council on the present position regarding the provision of ELDERLY PERSONS BUNGALOWS in the village. It had previously been understood that the Borough had money earmarked for this project and that good progress had been made on finding a suitable site. It appeared that the situation had now changed, in that it was unlikely that the Borough would be able to go ahead with an economically viable scheme unless it could be shown that in addition to the Elderly Persons Bungalows there was also a need for three Starter Homes or 2-bedroomed houses in the village.

Please therefore, would anyone who might be interested in a STARTER HOME in the Village get in touch with Mrs G. Davis of 'The Hawthornes', Pavenham Road, who will forward any information received to the Borough Council.

A SPECIAL MEETING concerning the issue of Elderly Persons Bungalows for Felmersham has been arranged for Thursday, 15th December 1983 in the Village Hall to hear a Report from Mr Parkhurst, who is the Chief Programme and Administration Officer of the Department of Housing at the Town Hall. This meeting is open to the whole parish and hopefully we will be able to obtain up to date information from the relevant authority.

ROADWORKS (due to road subsidence) will commence in Pavenham Road (both sides of the road) in ten weeks time. Re-surfacing will be delayed until May-June 1984.

LATE NIGHT FLYING from R.A.E. Thurleigh will continue until 20th December. Any complaints should be directed to Mr Ken Dunford, Telephone Bedford 55241. Outside Office Hours complaints may be lodged with R.A.E. and will be recorded by the police on duty there. If there are particular difficulties, these can be reported to Mr Dunford on Bedford 51401 or Mr Danny Richards on Bedford 67422 Ext.142.

We have now been issued with a Byelaw on DOG FOULING of footpaths and verges. Fines will be £50. The copy of the Byelaw will be placed on the Notice boards in Felmersham and Radwell.

On 21st November the Clerk attended a site meeting at the Junction of High Road and Grange Road, with an official from the United Bus Company, an official from the County Surveyors Office and a Traffic Policeman. It was decided to place the OFFICIAL BUS STOP opposite the properties Peacehaven/Snowdonia in the High Rd. instead of the present stopping place opposite the bus shelter in Felmersham.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday, 10th January 1984 at 8.00pm. This meeting will be an OPEN MEETING, where as many of the parishioners as can attend will be very welcome. Discussion will have to take place with regard to PARISH PRECEPT which looks as if it will have to be raised considerably. Members of the Parish will need to know the reasons for this increase, so please attend if you can. Other matters to be discussed will be Radwell Bridge and Elderly Persons Bungalows.

BOOK REVIEW

Blanche Smith

Please remember that our monthly book review is on 11th December. Mr Phillip Nicholls will be reviewing "Halfway to Heaven" by Max Sinclair. This promises to be an enjoyable and interesting talk, and you will be most welcome.

POPPY APPEAL

Fred Turner

The sale of poppies, and donations towards the War Memorial Wreath were as follows: Sale of Poppies £135.85, Donation towards Wreath £21.50, making a total of £157.35. I would like to thank all those who contributed, with a special "Thank You" to the poppy sellers, Mrs Burr, Miss Kingerlee, Mrs Guest and Mrs Wykes.

JOHN HEWITT

Doris Pipe

It is with deep regret that we announce the recent death of John Hewitt. John and Meg, together with children Katie and Chris, lived at Barn End, Pavenham Road, Felmersham until October 1974 when they moved to Derbyshire. John will be well remembered for his support of village activities. We send our deepest sympathy to Meg and the Family.

PLAYGROUP

Helen Rose

We are holding our AGM at 7.30pm on Thursday, 8th December in the Village Hall Committee Room. After we have completed the business section, Mrs Marsh, the headmistress of Pinchmill Lower School, has very kindly agreed to talk to us, broadly about her aims in the school. All Playgroup and Toddler Group parents are invited to attend.

AN IDEA FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Blanche Smith

Please remember that we do still have copies available of the Felmersham Recipe Books on sale, price £2.00 from the Six Ringers or from me. They make an ideal Christmas present.

CAKE MORNINGS

Helen Rose

Our next cake morning is on 14th Jan. at Judith Smith's home, Leaways, Grange Rd.