

Ouse News

Village online: www.felmersham.net

April 2009

Parish Diary

Regular Activities

Mon-Fri	9.15am – 3.15pm	Pre-School	Pinchmill School
Thu	9.30am – 11.30am	Parent & Toddler Group	Pinchmill Hall
Thu	11.00am (approx)	Fishmonger in village – call 07803 201399 for info	
Thu	8.00pm – 9.00pm	Yoga (term time only)	Pinchmill Hall

April

Thu	2	1.50pm	Library Van in the village	
Sat	4	10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Scott's
Sun	5	10.15am	Choral Communion - Palm Sunday	St Mary's Church
Mon	6	7.30pm	Meditation and Compline	St Mary's Church
Tues	7	7.30pm	Meditation and Compline	St Mary's Church
Wed	8	7.30pm	Meditation and Compline	St Mary's Church
Thu	9	3.00pm	Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
Thu	2	1.50pm	Library Van in the village (and every 2 weeks from now on)	
Thu	9	7.30pm	Communion Service - Maundy Thursday	St Mary's Church
Fri	10	10.15am	Family Service - Good Friday	St Mary's Church
		7.00pm	Stainer's 'Crucifixion'	St Mary's Church
Sun	12	10.15am	Choral Communion - Easter Day	St Mary's Church
Tue	14	7.30pm	Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	19	10.15am	Family Service - Easter 1	St Mary's Church
Thu	23	7.30pm	OVAF Organ Recital by Richard Tyler	St Mary's Church
Sun	26	10.15am	Matins and Communion - Easter 2	St Mary's Church

May

Sat	2	10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Keebles
Sun	3	10.15am	Choral Communion - Easter 3	St Mary's Church
Tue	5	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pinchmill Hall
Sat	9	3.00pm	Bulky Waste Collection (until 5pm)	Radwell Green
Sun	10	1.00pm	Bulky Waste Collection (until 3pm)	Marriotts Close

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

Assistant Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)

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

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We welcome any item of general interest for inclusion. Please email to ousenews@justs.info putting OuseNews in the Subject line, by the 25th of the month.

A Happy Easter

Rev David G Mason

By the time that you are reading this Lent will be over and Easter will be upon us. As I write this the sun is shining and it is pleasantly warm. Spring truly seems to be with us, with all its joys, the spring flowers blooming, lambs playing in the fields, and some birds are beginning to build nests. It is a time of new life, and should be a time of great joy. And yet the financial situation still is causing great concern, many people are facing the loss of employment. There is little talk of things getting better in the near future; indeed many speak of things getting worse before they improve.

Easter is the time when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus after his trial, torture and execution. It was the time when the sadness and despair of the disciples after the death was changed to joy as he was restored to life and came to them again. Jesus did not offer the disciples an easy life, indeed he warned them that many of them would suffer rejection, hardship, even torture and death as they sought to continue the work that he had begun of bringing the gospel message to the world. But the difference for the disciples between the time immediately after the crucifixion and when Jesus left them at the Ascension was that they believed that Jesus was dead after the crucifixion, and they knew that he was still alive after the Ascension. The disciples set out on their task knowing that though they couldn't see him Jesus was alive, and his promises were true.

In the difficult days ahead let's remember that Jesus' promises are as true for us as they were for the disciples. As we enjoy the longer days and the joys of spring let them be a reminder to us of God's great love for us all, and of the Gospel message of hope for the future. I wish you all a Happy and Blessed Easter.

Many thanks to all those who provided flowers and refreshments for the service on Mothering Sunday, and those who bunched the flowers for presentation.

Chesham Insurance

The Editor

Sadly Chesham Insurance is no longer able to undertake the printing of OuseNews. Looking back through the archives it appears they started sponsoring OuseNews back in May 2002 – nearly 7 years ago. This means they have produced and folded approximately 22,500 magazines, using about 50,000 sheets of paper. My great thanks to everyone there for their commitment and particularly to Trevor Janes for originally offering the sponsorship. It was through their generosity that we could make it free to everyone in the Parish. We are looking for new sponsors – if you are interested please contact me.

Annual Parish Council Meeting

The Annual Open Meeting of the Parish Council was held on 3rd March. 7 Parish Councillors, the Clerk, several members of the public, Borough Councillor Brandon and CSO Robert Edwards attended.

The meeting heard reports from the Chairman, the Clerk (Financial report) the Village Hall Committee, the Parish Plan, Parish Paths Partnership, the Margaret Alloway Trust and Borough Councillor Brandon. During the open forum for parishioners, questions and comments covered the lack of road sweeping and leaves not being cleared; the provision of an additional salt bin; the lack of salting at Radwell during the icy weather and the problems this caused with the school bus, and the continuing problems caused by trees and bushes overhanging paths and roads.

A short Parish Council meeting followed, Chairman Peter Hartop started by reading a tribute to County Councillor Mrs Gershon who died in January.

Highways Comment was made about the poor condition of the roads following the ice and snow. Councillor Brandon stated that each Highways Liaison officer has extra money available to repair these potholes.

Radwell Matters Mrs Keeble raised the following items - The ditch which runs from Thursdays Farm down towards The Swan is overflowing. "Poop scoop" bags should be placed in the appropriate bin for collection, not thrown in the hedge!! Rubbish bins are not being emptied. The Moor End Road sign is missing. There is no sign on the Clapham bypass to advise motorists when the road to Radwell is flooded.

Correspondence Details of changes to dates for mobile library visits - after 2nd April the next visit will be 9th April, then fortnightly after that. Dates for bulky waste collection: 9th May in Radwell from 3.00 – 5.00 pm and 10th May in Felmersham (Marriotts Close) 1.00 – 3.00 pm.

Date of next meeting which will be the AGM of the Parish Council - Tuesday 5th May at 7.30 pm in Pinchmill Committee Room.

Thursday Club

We had a real treat at our March meeting. Mr and Mrs Kingsworth from the RSPB brought a beautiful film of the red kite with its wonderful colouring and amazing flight. These spectacular birds are now breeding successfully and have been seen in this area. After tea we were shown another film - this time of kingfishers - which was brilliant.

The next meeting is on Thursday April 9th. Anyone wishing to take part in the Easter bonnet competition please bring a PLAIN HAT - decorating materials will be provided.

New mobile library dates

The Mobile Library will still visit fortnightly and at the same time (13.50 to 14.10) but the dates will change after the visit on Thursday 2nd April. The next visit will be the following week, Thursday 9th April and then every two weeks thereafter.

Church Coffee Morning

The April Coffee Morning will be held at the home of Mel and Caroline Scott, on Saturday 4th April.

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

The May Coffee Morning will be hosted by Paul and Pat Keeble, Radwell on Saturday 2nd May at 10.30am.

Dates for your Diary

Forthcoming events to be held in St Mary's Church:

SONGS OF PRAISE - Sunday 28th June at 6.30 pm

More of your favourite hymns and readings.

"PULLING OUT THE STOPS" - Saturday 12th September at 7.30pm

Concert by the international organist, Carlo Curley.

Tickets £12 (allocated seating only)

Lorraine Shrimpton

Wardrobe Required

Peter Rankin

If anyone has a suitable wardrobe surplus to requirements it would be gratefully accepted for the robing (not Robbing!) area in church.

Village Trades and Services

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Theo Gibbs
The Secret Garden; Area Premiere; Friday 15th – Saturday 23rd May, Nightly at 7.45 pm, *Matinée* Sat. 23rd May 2.30 pm. Based on the original novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, this enchanting play... for All the Family, brought to life with delightful music, tells the story of orphan Mary Lennox, who travels from India to her uncle's home in England. She struggles to fit into her new home and family, until the discovery of the *Secret Garden*... Tickets (£10 - £12): will be available from Sharnbrook Post Office (in person) or Bedford Central Box Office* 01234 269519, from about one month before first night. [10% discount 10 or more (excluding Charity Performances)] Please book wheelchair spaces through BCBO. www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk.

Do you like to save money? Mill Theatre Chairholders do! In return for £100, you'll receive 12 vouchers exchangeable for up to 3 years, for tickets face value up to £144! (£12 top price ticket) No catch.....please phone Keith Lazenby - Bedford 359733 for details. It's well worth it - for yourself, or as a gift!

A Quiz Night with a Difference!

Felmersham and Radwell Village Hall Committee have spent more than 2 years raising money for a major refurbishment of the Playing Field. We need one last big push to complete the task and reach our £67,000 target, and this is where YOU come in.

Have fun testing your knowledge of wines and cheeses.

How's your general knowledge?

Book a table for as many as you like, or make up a table on the night.

Keep your fingers crossed that you'll win the lucky ticket prize.

Enjoy a light supper to accompany the wine and cheese.

Buy more wine from the bar, by the glass or bottle (or case!)

Join in the community spirit!

Saturday 25 April at 8pm in the Village Hall

Tickets are just £10 each and are available from:-

David and Janet Cook - Tel. 781373

Marjorie Pipe - Tel. 781140

This is for the children in our village,
so please support this event.

ERRATUM

The Ouse Valley Arts Festival sent the wrong information. The concert in Felmersham should have read:

Thursday 23rd April – **Organ Recital by Richard Tyler** at 7.30pm
Prominent local organist explores a wide range of music from baroque through to late 20th century at St Mary's Church, Felmersham.

March PCC Meeting

Another scintillating meeting in which the discussion ranged far and wide. The financial side is efficiently administered by Stephen Hill and Mel Scott has been appointed as independent examiner. There are proposed changes to the Deanery which would encompass the addition of a number of parishes to Sharnbrook. Work is being carried out on the bell tower and the toilet kitchen is due for completion soon.

Peter Rankin

Tickets are going well for the Carlo Curley concert....80/200 sold to date.

We will be looking for a new church warden as Paul Keeble will not be seeking re-election.....anyone interested ??????

Open Gardens will be in June and Easter Services are as published in the OuseNews.

Songs of Praise will no longer be on 5th July ..new date is 28th June.

Some of us then went to the Sun.

WI March Meeting

Candace Rankin

"Going Green" is certainly the buzz phrase for these environmentally difficult times. In aid of this, Michelle Marley, Waste Education Officer from Beds County Council, spoke an excellent "load of rubbish" on Tuesday evening. Why recycle? - 3 reasons: the environment, the need to reduce demand for raw materials by recycling plastic, and to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill. We were shocked to learn that a plastic bottle takes 450 years to decompose in a landfill, disposable nappies take 500 years, a steel can 100 years; glass never decomposes. Each household in Beds produces 1 ton of waste, and the methane gas from landfills seeps into the ground causing serious environmental concern. There is a waste "hierarchy" to which all of us can strive to reduce these concerns. First of all, **reduce** the waste products you use, e.g. all those plastic bags and bottles. Next goal is to **reuse** if you can, then to **recycle**. The final hoped for outcome for Beds is to contain all its own waste by building an incinerator in Stewartby wherein emissions would be minimal and the heat could be converted to electricity so that the rubbish does some good. Finally, we saw some "creative" (read as odd) products using recycled plastic and juice packs. I have to be honest with you, I certainly prefer the handbags at John Lewis, but don't tell Michelle that!

OuseNews Deliverer Required

Clive Just

We are looking for some who could deliver OuseNews in the Old Road area. If you can, or would like more details, please email clive@justs.info or call 781967.