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Parish Diary

Regular Activities (M=Mon – F=Fr)

| | | | |
|--------|------------------|--|------------------|
| MTW-F | 9am – 3.15pm | Pre-School | Pinchmill School |
| -T---- | 8.00pm – 9.00pm | Pilates | Pinchmill Hall |
| --W-- | 8.00pm – 9.00pm | Yoga (term time only) | Pinchmill Hall |
| ---T- | 9am – 12.45pm | Pre-School | Pinchmill School |
| ---T- | 11.00am (approx) | Fishmonger in village – call 07803 201399 for info | |
| -----F | 9.15am – 11.30am | Parent & Toddler Group | Pinchmill Hall |
| -----F | 4.30pm – 6.00pm | Fish & Chip Van | Jubilee Lawn |
| -----F | 7.00pm – 8.30pm | Youth Club | Pinchmill Hall |

December

| | | | |
|----------------|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Sat 4 | 10.30am | Coffee Morning | The Coomers |
| Sun 5 | 10.15am | Choral Communion - Advent 2 | St Mary's Church |
| Sun 12 | 10.15am | Family Service - Advent 3 | St Mary's Church |
| Sun 19 | 10.15am | Choral Communion - Advent 4 | St Mary's Church |
| | 5.00pm | Carol Service | St Mary's Church |
| Fri 24 | 3.00pm | Christingle and Crib Service | St Mary's Church |
| | 11.00pm | Midnight Communion | St Mary's Church |
| Sat 25 | 10.15am | Family Service - Christmas Day | St Mary's Church |
| Sun 26 | 10.15am | Benefice Said Service - St Stephen | St Peter's, Sharnbrook |
| | 11.00am | Boxing Day Walk | Felmersham Bus Stop |
| January | | | |
| Sun 2 | 10.15am | Benefice Service - Christmas 2 | St Peter's, Sharnbrook |
| Sat 8 | 10.30am | Coffee Morning | The Hartops |
| Sun 9 | 10.15am | Family Service - Baptism of Christ | St Mary's Church |

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

Ass't Curate: Rev David Mason (309737) Warden: Jane Wells (782462)

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

OuseNews

Felmersham & Radwell

Village online: www.felmersham.net

December 2010

Christmas

David G Mason

At this time of the year we are busy with our preparations for Christmas and have little chance to take time out. It is a hectic and wonderful time, with so much activity and anticipation. But there is a danger is that when the great day arrives we can be so tired by all the efforts of getting ready that we fail to enjoy the festivities to the full. There is also a danger that in all the partying, present buying, card sending and receiving, food buying and preparation and the many other things that happen at that time we lose sight of the original reason for the festivities, the sending by God of the best Christmas Present ever to his people. At that first Christmas Jesus was born of Mary and at the Christmas Services and Nativity Plays we will here again of the events of that wonderful time. It is good to hear again the story and be reminded of the strange and marvellous events that surrounded the birth in stable, but it would be sad if we were so busy that we failed to allow ourselves some time apart to reconsider what the events really mean to us. Can we relate God's great gift as being a personal gift to each one of us? Do we seek to live in the way that Jesus taught while he was on earth? Have we invited Jesus to come to live in and through us? Do we spend regular time in study and prayer seeking to build a living relationship with God so that we can know and follow God's will for our lives? God has sent the gift of his Son for each one of us, we can either put the present on one side, and perhaps look at it from time to time. Or we can accept the present gratefully and seek to get the benefit from it that God intended.

Just after Christmas there is the New Year, a time when it is customary to make New Year Resolutions. It would be good if one of our resolutions would be to accept God's gift of his Son, and to allow time in our busy lives to get the full benefit of that most precious gift. We will do this if we get to know Jesus, to learn about him in study of his life and work, and to work at developing a living relationship through regular prayer and communication. If we open up our lives to him and invite him to live in and through us.

I wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas. Thank you for all the support and encouragement you have given me through the year.

Bellringers

Visiting ringers to Felmersham from St. Mary's Church Coleorton Leicestershire on Tuesday 28th December from 2.30pm to 3.15pm.

Colin Payne

Thanks

We would like to thank all those who were kind enough to help us search for our dog Honey when she went missing at the beginning of the month. Happily, she was found the following morning, wet, cold and very tired but suffered no lasting ill effects. Both she and we were very relieved to have her back home again.

P3 Annual Boxing Day Walk

Ken Shrimpton

We meet at Felmersham bus shelter at 11.00am on Sunday 26 December. You are very welcome to join this annual event and share the festive spirit with your friends and neighbours whilst at the same time walking off those extra pounds.

We are normally back by 12.30, however for those who prefer a shorter walk, there will be a short cut home. Children and dogs on leads are welcome. Please dress appropriately and wear suitable footwear. All walkers are responsible for their own safety and we all walk at our own risk. We look forward to meeting you.

Christmas Services

Rev David G Mason

The Carol Service will be at 5.00pm on Sunday, 19th December. The Christingle and Crib Service is at 3.00pm on Christmas Eve and at 11pm is, the Christmas Communion. There will be a Family Service at 10.15am on Christmas Morning.

There will be a Benefice Service at St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook on the Sunday after Christmas Day (said) and another on Sunday 2nd January. There will not be a service at Felmersham on either of these two Sundays.

Church Coffee Morning

Jane Wells

The Coffee Morning for January raising funds for the Church Restoration Fund will be held at the home of Peter and Pat Hartop, on Saturday 8th January 2011 at 10.30am. February's will be hosted by The Spoons, on the 5th.

Home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated. All Welcome.

Felmersham.net problems

Ken Shrimpton

Recently felmersham.net has been either "hanging" or downloading very slowly. I have spoken to Amenworld again and they have told me that the problem is a slow line in Paris. (The site is hosted in France) Apparently the maintenance of the line is outside of their control. I have asked them to sort it out ASAP. If it is not sorted by 1 Jan, I will move to another company. However moving felmersham.net is a mammoth task, there are 349 pages and over a 1000 images!

Obituaries

Felmersham.net carries obituaries of people who had lived in the parish at some time in the past. The most recent entries are:

Mary Ward (later Watson) 1926 – 2010

Constance Betty Turner (Nee Desborough) 1924 - 2010

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Annual Report of Friends Of Harrold Medical Practice

The meetings of the Friends continue to be well supported. However due to the resignation of some of our long term supporters we need more representatives from the villages who have patients that use Harrold Medical Practice.

Membership of the Friends is an excellent way to keep up to date with the services provided by Harrold Medical Practice and the local Primary Care Trust, as well as finding out how these will be affected by new Government initiatives.

We have again had some very generous "In Memoriam" donations this year and almost £700 from book sales. Many thank to those who donate and read these book. This income continues to enable us to help the Practice. This year we have continued to finance the servicing of equipment which we have already purchased and next year will be helping to finance the refurbishment of the waiting room.

The Harrold Volunteer Car Service continues to grow slowly but needs both more drivers and users for it to remain viable. This service has been set up by the Wellingborough Volunteer Bureau in conjunction with Harrold Medical Practice to take people, mainly elderly or disabled, to essential medical appointments. This is for people without their own transport and where there is no public transport available. The service will pick users up at home, take them to their medical appointment, wait with them and return them safely home. Users own escorts can be taken at no extra charge. All drivers are volunteers, use their own cars, are recruited and CRB checked by the Volunteer Bureau. Petrol expenses are covered by the passenger. If you are interested in using the scheme or becoming a volunteer driver please call 01933 2272735 or contact Harrold Surgery 01234720225 for more details.

The next meeting is to be held at the Surgery, Peach's Close, Harrold on Tuesday 2 February 2011 at 7.30pm. For more details call me on 825212

Parish Council Meeting

Notes from the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd November. 6 Parish Councillors, the Clerk, Acting Special Sergeant Edwards and one member of the public attended this meeting. Apologies from David Cook and Councillor Brandon.

The Mayor of Bedford Borough, Dave Hodgson, was welcomed to the meeting. He spoke at length about the problems the Borough faces coping with a substantial debt inherited from the County Council. This is on top of Government budget cuts. His strategies included cost cutting and efficiencies at Borough Hall, plus some lateral thinking which should save the Borough thousands of pounds.

The Chairman, Peter Hartop, tackled the Mayor on a lack of action following the Mayor's visit to the Parish in September. The Parish has received very poor service regarding road repairs, road sweeping and drain clearance to name a few. The Mayor promised to look into these complaints and then left the meeting.

Highways - The Parish Council had applied to purchase a new street lamp for outside the church using the money available from Councillor Brandon. This has been approved - the application to purchase 'gates' for the village was not. The weight restriction sign for Memorial Lane is 'in hand'.

We were notified of local road closures – Sharnbrook Kennel Hill and Mill Road will be closed on 6th and 7th December from 9.00 am to 3.30 pm. Odell Road, Harrold will be closed for two days between 15th November and 31st December.

Planning - The Boundary Commission has made its final recommendations regarding boundary changes. Felmersham will be part of Sharnbrook ward, along with Knotting and Souldrop and Milton Ernest parishes.

Radwell matters - A planning restraint on The Retreat means it should be closed from the 31st October to 1st April each year. Numerous complaints received regarding traffic going to the stables using Moor End.

Finance - Eight new Neighbourhood Watch signs, showing the Smart Water logo, have been purchased. Another dog bin has also been purchased and will be installed on the verge between Radwell and Felmersham.

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 4th January 2011 in Pinchmill Hall.

Maggie Spoor

Pavenham & Felmersham Cricket Club

Family Race Night

Pavenham Village Hall

7pm Saturday 22 January

(First Race 7.30pm prompt)

£8.50 includes Sausage & Mash and Dessert

(£5 under 16s)

8 Races -(bring your coins to bet)

For tickets or to sponsor a race or horse telephone:

Neil Blakemore:07920 144911

Tony Lockwood: 721236

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Welcome to our exciting Season 2011 – Simply unmissable!

Ladies Day: 22nd – 26th March Join the Hull fish filliters' frolic - to Royal Ascot! -

The Threepenny Opera: 13th – 21st May Enter the world of Mack the Knife. Passionate jazz satire of The Beggar's Opera by Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill.

Wait until Dark: 20th – 24th September Tense, dramatic thriller by Frederick Knott. Edge-of-your-seat, white-knuckle suspense.

Half a Sixpence: 11th – 19th November Flash, Bang, Wallop what a musical! A sparkling new version by Warner Brown ...for the whole family.

Tickets are available from about one month before Opening Night at: Sharnbrook Post Office (in person) or Bedford Central Box Office 269519.

Visit our website: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk for details.

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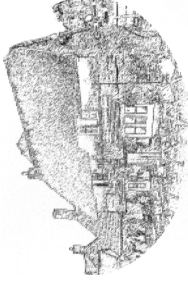
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