

Great Ouse Gardening Services

Grass Cutting , Pruning, Strimming, Weeding etc.

Based in Felmersham ~ Reasonable Rates

Please Call Jon on 01234-781957

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	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Youth Club	Pinchmill Hall

February

Sat 5	10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Spoor's , Corn Close
Sun 6	10.15am	Choral Communion - Epiphany 5	St Mary's Church
Sat 12	7.30pm	Concert	St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Sun 13	10.15 am	Family Service - 4 before Lent	St Mary's Church
Sun 20	10.15am	Choral Communion - 3 before Lent	St Mary's Church
Sun 27	10.15am	Matins - before Lent	St Mary's Church

March

Tue 1	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pinchmill Hall
Sat 5	10.30am	Coffee Morning	Ody House, Pavenham Road

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

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

Publisher: Felmersham PCC Editor: Clive Just, 2 The Old Rectory, Felmersham, MK43 7HN (781967)

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

February 2011

A Belated Happy New Year

David G Mason

The old year has now passed and we are well into the new one. In December we experienced very cold weather with snow and ice which made travelling and keeping warm very difficult. It seemed appropriate for a year which has been difficult for very many people. And there is an air of apprehension about the coming year as fears of unemployment are coupled with increases in the cost of food and fuel. As I write this the sun is shining although it is quite cold outside. The sun giving warmth in the chill and reminding us that spring is on its way. The cold reminding us that we are not yet finished with winter.

It is customary to take stock of our lives and situation at the turn of the year, and make resolutions for the coming year. Although it is a little late to do this if you have not done so already I consider that it is a good thing to do. It may be more difficult to count our blessings in the present situation in our country, but, none the less, I am sure that most of us will discover many things to be grateful for, things to give us more positive thoughts for the future. We may also find it more possible to take a positive view of the future when we realise how much we have to be thankful for at the present.

It is now becoming noticeable that the days are getting longer again. During this week I have noticed that the catkins are abundant in the hedgerows, a sign that spring is on the way. The seasons continue in their order, and we can begin to look forward to the early spring flowers to cheer us up. Easter is almost as late as it could be this year, and I wonder if the daffodils will have finished flowering by the time that it comes. There should be plenty of flowers for Mothering Sunday (3rd April). Ash Wednesday will be on the 9th March. We will be holding a Lent Course using material that the Bishop of St Albans has prepared for use in the Diocese. It looks very good and I am sure that the course will be beneficial. Further details will be in the next edition of the Ouse News, and there will also be announcements in Church.

Although it is a bit late may I wish you all the compliments of the Season.

Christmas Services - very grateful thanks to all who contributed to the Christmas Service. A great many people were involved in all the tasks to prepare the Church and in contributing to the services, and I thank you all.

Women's World Day Of Prayer - this year there will be a service at St Mary's Church, Carlton at 10.00am on Friday 4th of March for the Women's World Day of Prayer,

Thank you

I would just like to say a very big "thank you" to all the Community Care volunteers, friends and family who gave me so much help and support whilst I underwent radiotherapy treatment at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge. In spite of all the difficult weather conditions, they ensured that I arrived safely and on time for every appointment.

Community Care is there for those who need help at difficult times, and we are fortunate in this village that we have such an active group, so please get in touch if you feel you need help.

Mary Freeman**Thank you**

Our grateful thanks to Felmersham and Radwell Community Care for all their help during the very difficult time we experienced over Christmas and the New Year and to our neighbour Steve who kept our drive clear during the snowy weather.

Don and Judy Gough**Church Coffee Mornings**

The Church Coffee Morning in February is hosted by Chris and Maggie Spoor, Felmersham on Saturday 5th February at 10.30am.

The Church Coffee Morning in aid of the Church Restoration Fund will be held at the home of Bill and Hazel Pearce, Felmersham on Saturday 5th March at 10.30am.

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

Jane Wells**Concert in Sharnbrook Church**

The 'Kaznowski Quartet' with Marie-Katrien Bouts (viola) and James Jarvis (cello) play music by Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms.

Saturday 12 February at St. Peter's Church, Sharnbrook 7.30 p.m. Tickets £10 (including wine and canapés) from Sharnbrook P.O. or 01234 781721.

Colin Scott**Duck Race**

On Sunday 27th March Pinchmill Lower School will be holding a duck race from the bridge in Felmersham. Come along and join in the fun by sponsoring a duck - prizes, raffle, tea and cakes in the village hall afterwards. First race commences 3pm. Contact Wendy Mansell for further information 782808.

Wendy Mansell**Babysitter**

Redacted for online version of Ouse News.

Bellringers

Colin Payne

We have ringers at Felmersham on Saturday 26th February for a Quarter Peal at 10.30am

Pilates

Every Tuesday night, 8pm in the village hall with Hazel Caddick - qualified Level 3 instructor - term time only. Please call Hazel on 07803 132771 for further information.

Wendy Mansell**Bygone Felmersham and Radwell**

A new local history book will be published in March giving the reader a pictorial glimpse into the past of the parish. There are over 350 images in the book and a few are of people who still live in the parish. If you would like to check if you are in one of the photographs then please go to www.felmersham.net/bygonebook.htm where you will find details of how to check etc. Please note that the book goes to print on the 13 February 20011. Figure 13.15 is the photograph of WI members taken in 2009.

Ken Shrimpton**Village Trades and Services**

Parish Council Meeting

Maggie Spoor

At the Parish Council Meeting on 4th January - 5 Parish Councillors, the Clerk and 5 members of the public attended. Apologies were received from Geoff Hulatt.

The Chairman read a letter of resignation from Councillor Mike Thomas. The Chairman's expressions of thanks for Mike's contributions to the Parish Council over the last 12 years were minuted.

Parishioners Talk Time Item raised – the Borough's performance regarding the list of necessary works/services within the parish that had been given to the Mayor during his recent visit. Some satisfaction that a few complaints had been dealt with, but the majority of work on the list is still outstanding. Rubbish collection over the Christmas period had, however, been excellent.

Information from the Clerk re: Government proposals. The Clerk advised Councillors of recent Government proposals. Despite the freeze on local authorities this does not extend to Parish Councils who may raise expenditure by 2.5% before being capped; and in future, any expenditure over £500 must be published.

Highways The weight/length sign for Memorial Lane has still not been erected, and, despite the Mayor's recent assurances, there are a number of highway works still outstanding in the parish. The new lamp post for outside the church has been ordered and a quote has been obtained for the new 'village gates'. These last two items are funded by Borough Councillor grant.

Finance The quotation from Mr Muskett for street light maintenance for the coming year (£184) was accepted. Councillors voted to maintain the parish precept for 2011/2012 at £12,500.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 1st March at 7.30 pm in Pinchmill Hall. The last meeting before the Parish Council elections in May.

Thank You

Jan And Barry Welsh

We would like to thank all our neighbours and friends for their generous offers of help following our recent fire incident at home.

While no major structural damage was done, the main disruption was due to smoke contamination, resulting in living elsewhere during the recovery period. The positive side is that we have taken the opportunity to have a "major" clearout and finally discovered what we have been storing in the loft over many years!

Thank you all again, and please don't forget to have smoke detectors installed, and make sure that your insurance is up to dateyou never know do you?

K. M. Lovell
General Building

• **BLOCK PAVING** • **PATIOS** • **EXTENSIONS** • **ROOFING** •

All work considered

01234 782869

River Ouse Flooding

Editor

The Environment Agency is now publishing on its website river depths which should give an indication of the risk of flooding.

That data is being collected and interpreted locally to try and give an up to date display of the state of the river at both Radwell and Felmersham Bridges and an **approximate** guide to whether the road is flooded. This is currently being published on www.mk437.com If you would like to be notified when flooding is likely please send an email request to floods@mk437.com

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Theo Gibbs

LADIES DAY by Amanda Whittington; Tuesday 22nd - Thursday 26th March nightly at 7.45 pm; 'an exuberantly up to the minute comedy' (The Guardian) follows the adventures of four fish workers when they go to Royal Ascot, which has been relocated to York. Out go the hairnets, the overalls and the wellies as the four "do themselves up" and head to the races for a drink, a flirt and a flutter... an intriguing and poignant insight unfolds into their friendships, lives, past histories and future hopes....A Must for March! Visit: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

Tickets available from 14th February from Sharnbrook Post Office & Bedford Central Box Office 269519.

ADVANCE BOOKING for The Threepenny Opera Music by Kurt Weill, text by Berthold Brecht, English translation by Marc Blitzstein - Friday 13th – Saturday 21st May at 7.45 pm will be available during Ladies Day, but only at The Mill Theatre

Extracts from www.felmersham.net

Paul Davis (of Pavenham Road) and his team have developed wound healing technology which was featured on BBC Breakfast TV on Friday 7 January as part of Breakfast's "Pioneers" series. They found a way to utilise some of the ingredients - including a pure form of honey - to deliver a new healing principle based on oxygen and iodine. The new products, called Oxyzyme and Iodozyme, give faster healing and can heal wounds that have remained static for years.

Gordon Lang's photograph of a frosty Felmersham Reach and Church has been selected as the photograph of the month by the BBC TV programme, Countryfile. It is published in the February issue of the Countryfile magazine, page 110.

Felmersham and Radwell Parish Council used Cllr Jim Brandon's allocated funding to purchase a new street lamp. It replaces the old 60s style lamp outside St Marys Church. The new lamp is more appropriate for a rural setting next to the medieval church and its bulbs are energy efficient and cheaper to replace.

Robert Edwards was recognised by Bedfordshire Police on Friday for his excellent leadership skills within the Special Constabulary and has been made up to the rank of 'Acting Special Inspector' with immediate effect.. Robert will be in charge of two Sergeants with a team of officers at Bedford but points out he will still be policing in our parish of Felmersham and Radwell.