

Ouse News

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July 2007

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 details	

July

Sun	1 10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 4	St Mary's Church
Tue	3 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pinchmill Hall
Sat	7 10.30am	Coffee Morning	
Sat	7 7.30pm	CANCELLED Pinchmill Players Concert	St Mary's Church
Sun	8 10.15am	Family Service - Trinity 5	St Mary's Church
Sat	14 10-12am	Churchyard Maintenance / Gardening	St Mary's Church
Sun	15 10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 6	St Mary's Church
Tue	17 7.30pm	Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	22 10.15am	Matins and Communion - Trinity 7	St Mary's Church
Sun	29 10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 8	St Mary's Church

August

Sun	5 10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 9	St Mary's Church
Sun	12 10.15am	Family Service - Trinity 10	St Mary's Church
Sun	19 10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 11	St Mary's Church
Sun	19 12.30pm	Grand Opening & Lunch	Margaret Alleyway Garden
Sun	26 10.15am	Matins and Communion - Trinity 12	St Mary's Church

September

Sat	1 10.30am	Church Coffee Morning	
Sun	9 10.15am	Patronal Festival – Monica Robinson preaching	St Mary's
Sun	16	Felmersham & Radwell Autumn Show	Pinchmill Hall

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

Assistant Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)

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

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Any items for inclusion should be emailed to OuseNews@justs.info, by the 25th of the month

Planning for the Future

David G Mason

This is the time when many people are spending some time planning for the future. In the Educational system Examinations are over and the papers are being marked. Thoughts and arrangements are also being finalised regarding the courses which will be commencing when the new Academic year begins after the holidays. Candidates for the courses will be hoping that they have got the correct grades to begin the courses that they wish, some may be wondering if they may have to look for alternative career paths. This is a good time for each one of us to be taking stock of where we are in our lives and careers, and to consider if we should be doing more to develop them, or, indeed, to take on a new challenge. There seem to be more opportunities than ever for further education and training, and with ever increasing advances and changes in technology there is a need to keep up to date.

The pattern of ministry in our churches is also changing. Long gone are the days when our churches individually had their own Vicar or Rector. Too few people are offering themselves for ordination to maintain this pattern, and also the money is not there to finance the old pattern. The total population of our Deanery is probably less than many urban parishes, and yet we have 27 churches serving that population in villages scattered over a large area. Over the years Parishes in our deanery have been sharing the services of a priest, and this pattern is set to continue, indeed, to become more extensive. In our villages there are many people who would be well able to support the work of ministry and assist the clergy in their task. Readers provide valuable support, and have an extensive ministry, but there are other areas such as bereavement support, baptism visiting, pastoral care and many others which can all make a valuable contribution to the provision of ministry in our parishes. There is training available for those who offer themselves for this work, they would be members of a team supporting each other, and developing a pattern of ministry which meets the need of those who live in the villages of our Deanery in these changing times.

Please discuss this with your Priest or Reader, you may well find that you could have a part to play which may well be challenging, and will certainly be rewarding

Concert on 7th July POSTPONED

Unfortunately the Concert planned for 7th July in St Mary's Church has been POSTPONED until the autumn.

Lorraine Shrimpton

Church Coffee Morning

The July coffee morning will be held at the home of Mel and Caroline Scott on Saturday 7th July 2007 at 10.30 am. Contributions of home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated. Everyone is welcome.

There will be no coffee morning in August, however September's will be held at the home of Ruth Coxon on Saturday 1st September at 10.30am
Currently all proceeds go towards a toilet and kitchen facility for the Church.

Mother's Union

The next meeting of the Mother's Union will be on August 9th 2.30 p.m. at St Peter's Room, Sharnbrook Church anyone wishing to attend this meeting will be most welcome. On 10th July at 11.30 in St Peter's Church Sharnbrook a Wave of Prayer service will take place.

The M.U. is collecting soap, shampoo, face flannels, toothbrushes and toothpaste etc for people who are taken into hospital suddenly and have no toiletries available. I will put a box in the church for any donations that parishioners may like to give.

Arthritis Research Campaign

£323 was raised in the recent house - to- house collection. Many thanks to everyone for their generosity, and to the collectors: Celia Hulatt, Mary Freeman, Karen Stokley, Lesley Gani, Sheila McKenzie and Mary Pickin.

Churchyard Tidy-up

On Saturday 14 July from 10am to 12am we will be holding our annual churchyard tidy-up. This is *the* social event of the year in the Felmersham and Radwell social calendar so it is best not to miss it! Dress is informal and if possible please bring secateurs etc with you though they are not de rigueur.

Felmersham & Radwell WI

Last month the ladies of the Felmersham and Radwell WI were fortunate to have a captivating demonstration at Police HQ by two of the Bedfordshire Police dog handlers and their dogs. They provided us with an insight into how disciplined these highly trained animals are and showed us how their German Shepherd dogs track and catch criminals. They also demonstrated how their Springer Spaniel was used for sniffing out illegal drugs and explosives.

Considering the rather unsettled weather we have all been experiencing of late we were extremely lucky that the rain held off for the demonstration, at least until we reached The Bedford Arms, Oakley where we continued our evening with a meal. I think it is safe to say, 'a good time was had by all.'

The 17th July meeting will be a talk about Caroline Chisholm – "A Woman Before Her Time" new members are also welcome, start time is at 7.30pm.

felmersham.net Quiz

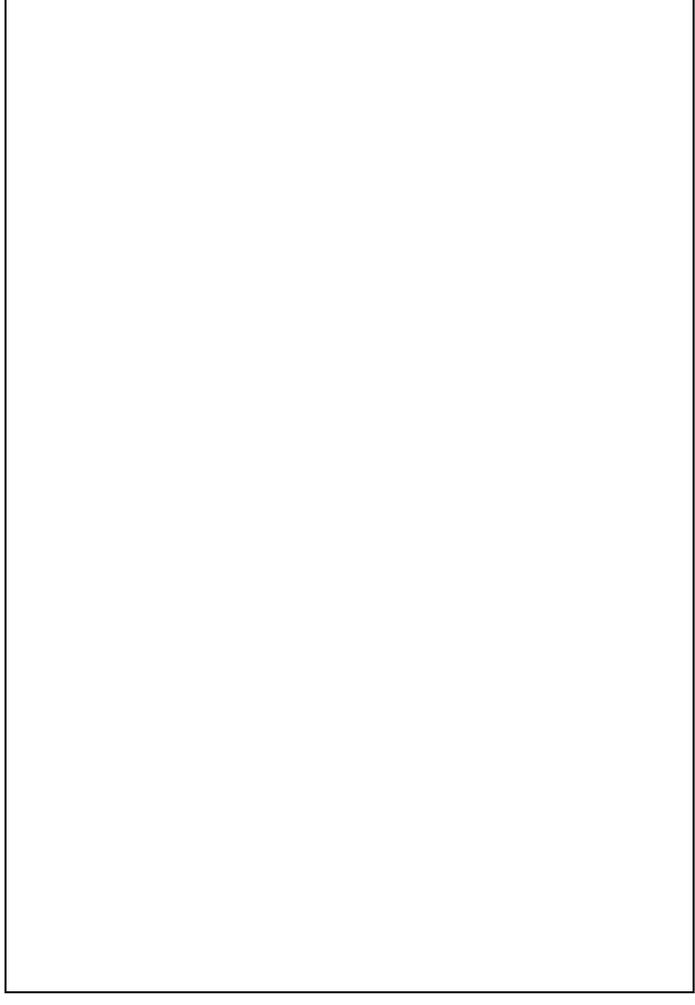
Maybe it was the prizes. A trip up Felmersham church tower is not to everybody's liking or perhaps you already have a copy of *That Book*. Unfortunately, whatever the reason, there were no entries for the felmersham.net competition. I can't believe it was too hard! The answers are published on the *Grapevine* page.

The Mill Theatre

Our next production: Suddenly At Home - by Francis Durbridge - Master of the unexpected – Tues. 25th – Sat. 29th September 7.45 pm. Sexy, passionate ...full of twist and turns ... the classic thriller! Tickets available from Monday 20th August from Sharnbrook Post Office (in person) or Bedford Central Box Office. Not to be missed! But not suitable for children.

Why not prepare by becoming a Chairholder of the Mill Theatre now, thus receiving 12 Vouchers exchangeable over 3 years for tickets face value a total of up to £132 for just £100; also concessions at The Riverside Restaurant and Mill House Hotel! For full details & conditions and to arrange, please 'phone Keith Lazenby 359733.

A date for your diary. The Felmersham and Radwell Autumn Show will be held on Sunday 16th September in Pinchmill Hall. Look out for the schedules which will be delivered to all homes over the next few weeks.



Jane Wells

Ken Shrimpton

Theo Gibbs

Theo Gibbs

Theo Gibbs

Theo Gibbs

Ken Shrimpton

Ken Shrimpton

Gail Holbourn

Gail Holbourn

Gail Holbourn

Gail Holbourn

Felmersham Neighbourhood Watch

The Neighbourhood Watch scheme is alive and well and can still continue to help every resident of Felmersham. It was known as Homewatch but is now known as Neighbourhood Watch in line with national practice. The funding has now changed so there are fewer leaflets but its purpose and practice is still the same.

How can Neighbourhood Watch help you?

- Cheaper House insurance. A Neighbourhood Watch scheme entitles all householders to a discount on house policies. If your company does not offer one consider changing to one which does.
- Community Cooperation. A Neighbourhood Watch scheme encourages people to look out for each other. It is not a snoopers charter but a friendly eye on an empty house or the report of a suspicious vehicle which can prevent break-ins.
- Ensuring a better service from the Police. The response to the visits of the mobile police office was very disappointing so it has been discontinued but there is the following facility:
- Ringmaster. Crime alerts by telephone or e mail

For up to date information about local burglaries, dubious traders in unmarked vans, tarmac scams or other lawbreakers register with the Neighbourhood Watch central office on (1234) 275165 or visit its website www.safer-beds.org.uk

How Neighbourhood Watch Works: The village is divided among a group of volunteer coordinators. They distribute the annual newsletter and keep information packs which give details of support material such as Home Security Health Checks which householders can carry out themselves. The volunteers for Felmersham are:

Joan White	781702	Acting Area Coordinator – all other roads
Rosemarie Brough	782104	Grange Road (Town Lot Lane - High Road)
Claire Bullock	738038	Swansholme
David Folbigg	782591	Trinity Close, High Road (lower part)
Maggie Spoor	782031	Church End and Old Road
Alan Stevens	781167	Tithe Barn, High Road (upper part)

More volunteers are urgently needed.

It is an interesting and worthwhile way to help the community. Joan White is stepping down after seven years and appeals for someone to come forward. The area coordinator role is not exacting and it is a good way to get to know fellow villagers and to keep in touch with village life. The main activities are maintaining a first point of contact with the police and attending the occasional meeting.

Reminder of useful telephone numbers:

- 999 Emergencies/Crimes in action with risk to personal injury
- 01234 841 212 Suspicious incidents/Crimes with no risk to personal injury

Thursday Club

Our annual outing this year was to the Milton Keynes Museum at Wolverton. Probably the "best value" lunch we have ever had in the Granary Tea Rooms to start with and then a very interesting guide took us through the major exhibits - Victorian farmhouse and school room, the Wolverton Railway Company's Board Room, many small shops (lot's of "I remember those"), the abattoir, and the agricultural exhibits in a massive barn. Everyone agreed it was a good day out. This year's garden party is in the Zaki's delightful garden on July 12th at 3.30pm

Borough Council Election

Gordon Williams
May 1, through your newsletter, thank everyone who voted in the recent Borough Council Election, a turn out of approximately 50% illustrates the civic awareness and interest in the issues which were raised by many.

As the Conservative candidate may I place on record my ongoing interest in matters affecting the villages; and my wish to be available throughout the year, especially if "The Local Man" cannot help

I do not intend to turn up only when an election is due!! Should you wish to contact me direct on any issue please telephone me direct on 01234 711744 and once again such a fine turnout at the election in to be applauded.

[Ed: Unfortunately this missed last month's edition of Ouse News]

The Margaret Alleyway Memorial Garden

Lorraine Shrimpton
There is still a lot of work to be done before the opening of the garden to the general public. Ideally the grass/weeds really need to be levelled, topsoil spread all over and then grass seeded. However, if we do that now it won't be ready for months! Therefore we have decided to leave all this until later in the year and for now just give the grass/weeds several cuts to make it as level as possible.

Before the opening day we also need to: cut down the hedge along the road to a height of approx 0.5M to open up the Garden; remove the gates and insert bollards to stop cars parking on the grass; a lifebuoy to be purchased and attached to a post; a permanent sign to be erected, the wording on which to comply with health and safety and public liability; benches or seats to be fixed into the ground (to prevent them going for a surprise swim!); a low fence to be installed 8ft from the river bank as a safety measure; and lastly, have the ash tree felled (it is rotten half way up) after which it will be cut into manageable log sizes, so if you would like the wood please ring me on 781381 and I will let you know when it will be available - a small donation for the wood would be appreciated. All these jobs are where the volunteers will be needed so if you have given me your name I will contact you in due course.

All the above will be completed in time for our **GRAND OPENING on SUNDAY 19th AUGUST at 12.30pm**. The Trust invites all residents to come along and enjoy a picnic lunch together with soft and not-so-soft drinks! Hope for good weather for a good old fashioned village get-together. More news next month.