

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

March

Tue	1	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pinchmill Hall
Fri	4	10.00am	Women's World Day of Prayer	St Mary's Church, Carlton
Sat	5	10.30am	Coffee Morning	
Sun	6	10.15am	Choral Communion - 1 before Lent	St Mary's Church
Wed	9	7.30pm	Communion - Ash Wednesday	St Mary's Church
Thu	10	3.00pm	Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
Sat	12	7.30pm	V.H. Fun Quiz and Supper	Pinchmill Hall
		7.30pm	Concert	St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Sun	13	10.15am	Ch Communion & Baptism - Lent 1	St Mary's Church
Tue	15	7.30pm	Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall
Wed	16	8.00pm	Lent Course	2 The Old Rectory
Sun	20	10.15am	Family Service - Lent 2	St Mary's Church
Wed	23	8.00pm	Lent Course	2 The Old Rectory
Sun	27	10.15am	Matins - Lent 3	St Mary's Church
Wed	30	8.00pm	Lent Course	2 The Old Rectory

April

Sat	2	10.30am	Coffee Morning	
Sun	3	10.15am	Family Service	Mothering Sunday St Mary's Church
Wed	6	8.00pm	Lent Course	2 The Old Rectory
Sat	9	12.30pm and 2.30pm	Weddings	St Mary's Church
Mon	11	7.30pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	Pinchmill Hall

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

March 2011

Lent and Easter

Rev David G Mason

This year Easter is almost as late as it can be according to the tables used to fix the date of this Festival. Unless spring is late in coming there may not be so many spring flowers to decorate the Church for Easter as I suspect many of them will have passed their best. Hopefully we will be enjoying the warmer weather that it usually associated with late spring. The nights will be shorter and the crops in the fields should be growing and developing well.

This year there will be a Lent Course in the Parish to follow the Bishop of St Alban's Lent Course (see below). This course is part of the new diocesan initiative 'Living God's Love'. 'This is an invitation to the people, parishes and deaneries to explore what it means to live by God's love today by seeking to go deeper into God, to transform communities and to make new disciples. It is an invitation to journey, to see things from new perspectives, to discover new ways of doing things and to learn from each other as we travel together.

There are many ways in which we can explore that journey. Individuals and groups can take time to pray, reflect, study and discuss what it might mean in their lives, their homes and their work. *Living God's Love* is an invitation to a deeper and more radical discipleship. Initiatives will be developed, for example in Lent and Advent, to help parishes and people explore that invitation and strengthen their discipleship.' Each parish will be invited to ask how its own mission and ministry can be developed and shaped to live God's love more effectively, more faithfully and more joyfully in the light of the three themes that are to be explored. The published material looks good, and I am sure that the course will be challenging and exciting. It will certainly make us think and possibly re-evaluate our faith and how we are living it. I commend the course to you.

Annual Parish Litter Pick

Maggie Spoor

Your parish needs you! Could you spare or an hour or so to help key our lovely parish litter free? That next litter pick will be on Saturday, 26 March. We meet by a shelter in Felmersham (opposite the Church) at 10.00am or by The Green at Radwell also at 10.00am. Everyone is very welcome to join the litter pick - all equipment is provided - and your efforts are much appreciated. Thanks in advance.

Church Coffee Mornings

The March Coffee Morning will be held at the home of Bill and Hazel Pearce, Felmersham on Saturday 5th March at 10.30pm

April's will be hosted by Derek and Wendy Williamson, Felmersham on Saturday 2nd April at 10.30am.

These raise money for the Church Restoration Fund. Gifts of home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the stall will be greatly appreciated.

Jane Wells

W.I.

Most of us know of William Morris the designer of wallpaper and fabric, but what of William Morris the man? Helen Elletson took us through his life story, entirely without the use of notes, and using only the occasional slide.

He was educated at Oxford where he met Edward Burne-Jones and afterwards the group of artists known as the Pre-Raphaelites. He studied architecture but was persuaded by Rossetti to become an artist, and married one of Rossetti's models, Jane Burden, an illiterate, Pre-Raphaelite beauty.

He was at the forefront of the Arts and Crafts Movement when he founded his firm to carry out the artistic concepts of his friends in the design and manufacture of furniture, wallpaper, textiles and stained glass. He established himself as a major Romantic poet and as a translator of Icelandic prose and verse.

He founded the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings and the Kelmscott Press. He insisted that you should have nothing in your home that is not useful or beautiful. Helen did not delve into his political career as a radical Socialist, but only had time to give us the shell of this remarkable man.

Next month our subject is 'Behind the scenes at the 2012 Olympics'.

Thursday Club

This month Paul Keeble is holding a quiz afternoon, and details will be announced of our outing to Ely cathedral on April 7th. I hope you have a note in your diaries.

If you need transport to the village hall, please contact Joan on 781722.

Duck Race

Change of Date! The Duck Race will now be held on Saturday 26th March at 2pm from Felmersham Bridge. Come along and join in the fun, prizes, raffle, tea and cakes in the village hall afterwards. All proceeds to Pinchmill Lower School. If you wish to sponsor a duck please call Wendy Mansell on 782808 or 07899 872144.

Wendy Mansell

K. M. Lovell

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Village Hall Fun Quiz

The Village Hall Committee are organising a Fun Quiz and Supper on Saturday 12th March at 7.30pm in Pinchmill Hall. There will also be a licensed bar.

Tickets at £10 are available from Sam Bance (782869), Janet Cook (781373) and Marjorie Pipe (781140).

All are welcome to come and join in the fun and at the same time contribute to village life – in more ways than one!

Janet Cook

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

"Ladies Day" by Amanda Whittington Tuesday 22nd - Thursday 26th March nightly at 7.45pm "...an exuberantly up to the minute comedy" (The Guardian).

Tickets are £8-£10 and are available from Sharnbrook Post Office, and Bedford Central Box Office (269519). A bit of a laugh? A winner!

Theo Gibbs

Village Trades and Services

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Ash Wednesday - there will be a service of Communion with Ashing on 9th March. The Revd Lionel Albon will be the Celebrant

Lent Course - This year we will be using The Bishop of St Albans Lent Course on Living God's Love. It will be led by John Scott and hosted by Rosalyn and Clive Just at 2 The Old Rectory at 8pm on Wednesdays in Lent, beginning on the 16th March. Please consider coming along – everyone will be most welcome. The material looks good, It can be viewed at – www.stalbans.anglican.org.

[2 The Old Rectory is opposite, 4 Tithe Barn – call 781967 for directions]

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - the Electoral Roll is being revised. And application forms are in church. This important meeting is on 11 April at 7.30pm. It is your opportunity to discuss the life of the Parish and to plan for the future.

Swaziland Schools Project - Keith Fossey, has visited the project and will be giving a presentation at St Andrews Church, Bedford on Saturday 9th April beginning with supper at 6.30pm. Tickets are £6 (includes a glass of wine. For further details please phone me on 309737.

New Editor Required for OuseNews

Clive Just

I am standing down as Editor of OuseNews – it's time for some new blood.

If you might be interested in taking over the role and would like to know what is involved then please contact me either on 781967 or by email clive@justs.info. I am pleased to say the decision of who will take over is not mine.

In the meantime please send any items for OuseNews to ousenews@justs.info and they will be forwarded automatically to the right person.

New Local History Book Launch

Ken Shrimpton

A new book, "Bygone Felmersham and Radwell" will be launched on Sunday 20 March in the Pinchmill Committee Room between 2pm and 5pm.

This book looks back into the past of Felmersham and Radwell using old photographs and drawings. It contains 390 images and is a quality printed book with hard covers and stitched binding. At only £9.99 it is good value! Why not come along and purchase your copy?

During the afternoon "Bygone Felmersham and Radwell" and "Felmersham - The History of a Riverside Parish" will be on sale together for only £20, a saving of £2.94. In addition local history documents will be available for your perusal.

Parish Council

Maggie Spoor

Abridged minutes of the meeting held on 1st March

The Chairman, Peter Hartop, reminded us that this Parish Council will end with the election on the 5th May. He expressed frustration that many things discussed at the same meeting last year were still outstanding. In particular he mentioned road sweeping, gully/drain clearing, overgrown hedges, the heavily eroded slipway and broken culvert next to the Jubilee Lawn and a disappointing lack of action from the Borough Enforcement Officer.

Peter concluded by thanking the Clerk and fellow Parish Councillors for their help and support over the year. We also heard reports from the Clerk (Financial report), P3 (Parish Paths Partnership) and the Village Hall Committee.

Comments from the floor were made on: the state of the verges, mud left on the road; red and white boards by Dropshort, village "gates" and speeding

Highways - a large pothole by Harrowdene Farmhouse had been repaired but another had now appeared. A request had been made for the drains be cleared and the roads swept. The Director of Environment had written addressing the many issues raised by this Council. Parking tickets had been issued to vehicles parked near the school.

Planning - a representative of Britannia Parks advised the Council on their plans for The Retreat at Radwell.

The next meeting of the new Parish Council will be on Tuesday 10th May at 7.30 pm in Pinchmill Hall. Please contact Borough Hall (267422) if you are interested in standing for election to the Parish Council. Nominations close on 4th April.



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