

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
2 nd Thu	3.00pm	Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
3 rd Tue	7.30pm	Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall

October

Sat	4 10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Welsh's
Sun	5 10.15am	Choral Communion – Harvest Festival	St Mary's Church
Thu	9 3.00pm	Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	12 10.15am	Family Service - Trinity 21	St Mary's Church
Tue	14 10.00am	Save the Children Sale (until 7pm)	East Grange, Hunts Lane
Sun	19 10.15am	Joint Benefice - Trinity 22	St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Sat	25 2.00pm	Wedding	St Mary's Church
Sun	26 10.15am	Matins and Communion - Trinity 23	St Mary's Church

November

Sat	1 10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Leach's
Sun	2 10.15am	Choral Communion - 4 before Advent	St Mary's Church
Sun	9 10.15am	Remembrance Sunday	St Mary's Church
	11.15am	(approx) Wreath Laying	War Memorial
Fri	14 7.00pm	SUS Reunion Meal	Tea-zels, Harrold Country Park
Fri	14 7.30pm	Girls Night Out	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	16 10.15am	Family Service - 2 before Advent	St Mary's Church
Sun	23 10.15am	Choral Communion - Christ the King	St Mary's Church
Sun	30 10.15am	Matins and Communion - Advent Sunday	St Mary's Church

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, with OuseNews in the Subject line by the 25th of the month

Ouse News

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October 2008

Troubles

David G Mason

It has been said that troubles do not come singly, many of the events of this year confirm the truth of this statement. The recent massive rises in fuel prices and threat of global fuel shortages have been followed by international financial problems and, for us, a very wet August which has made gathering the harvest difficult and expensive contributing further to the rising cost of living. Changes in climate are having a profound effect on agriculture and ecology.

I am sure that there are lessons here for us to learn, essential lessons if we are to have the security and peace that we all long for. The way of life given by God, and proclaimed in the Gospel is, I believe, the only way that we can all live in peace and harmony. Many of the difficulties and problems that beset us are the consequences of failing to follow God's way. The earth is rich with resources, and we have benefited from the exploitation of them, but we have also been very wasteful of many of these resources, and, particularly in the west, have developed a 'throw away' society. Rather than mend equipment or re-use the materials in that equipment we have thrown them away. Rather than get full use out of many of the items that we use we change them for the latest model, and dispose of the old one. We live in a generation that throws away rather than repair. So many resources are wasted and irrecoverable.

We have also become very wasteful of energy. The cheap energy that has been so available in recent years has led us to be profligate with it. Electrical equipment that is left on when not in use will be found in most households. The use of the 'stand-by' mode means that rather than switching equipment off it is left on unused for long periods of time, wasting power. We are now realising that the generation of energy by the burning of fossil fuels is altering our climate adversely, and also that our increased thirst for energy is leading to shortages of fuel as resources are used up.

I believe that we have become very selfish, and have failed to realise that our abuse and misuse of the abundant resources that God has given us has led to so many of the problems that we now face. We have, in reality, been living beyond our means. Others have seen the quality of our lives and want to emulate us, and this is making the situation worse. Those who 'have not' naturally want to become 'the haves'. Jesus tells us that we must love our neighbours as ourselves. Loving our neighbours demands that we care for our planet, and work for the equitable development and use of its resources in a way that does not damage it.

SOS - SUPPORT OUR SUN

A big welcome to Bill, Karen and Jo - our new landlords at The Sun pub. Since taking over, they have given the place a welcome face lift, (including the most wonderful mural) and now offer home made meals and sandwiches with the promise of live music to come. The Sun is now not only a sanctuary for its regular drinkers, but a family destination.

The opening bash on 5th June where we were entertained by the fabulous Bonas Brothers (accompanied on one number by a svelte harmonica player), became a traditional street party and it was great to see the incredible turn out of regulars and irregulars all enjoying themselves.

Hopefully this is the beginning of a new chapter for the Felmersham community and the chance for all of us to enjoy our beautiful village together. For so long, so many people have longed for a real village pub to serve everybody and it is important that now we have one, we support it! See you in there!

[Ed: This item was omitted from the last edition in error. Apologies to all.]

10th Felmersham & Radwell Autumn Show

Although entries for this year's Autumn Show were down compared to last year's bumper crop, everyone seemed to enjoy the event. A large number of people took advantage of the lovely sunny day to walk down to the Hall to view the exhibits and the Art Club exhibition in the afternoon, and the WI did a roaring trade in teas. The exhibits, as always, were of a high standard and it was obvious that some time and effort had gone into their preparation. Our thanks to everyone who supported the show. (Wouldn't you have loved to be a fly on the wall when the Pre-School did all that finger painting!)

Congratulations to the overall winner of the Show - Hilary Foot.

Our thanks too to the Art Club for all their hard work in putting together such a superb exhibition; to the WI for providing such lovely teas; and to the Village Hall Committee for the use of the Village Hall. We hope to see you all again next year at the 11th Felmersham & Radwell Autumn Show.

Felmersham and Radwell Open Gardens

It is planned to hold an "Open Gardens" in Felmersham and Radwell in aid of St. Mary's Church and the Parkinsons Disease Society on the weekend of 20th and 21st June 2009.

A number of kind of volunteers and conscripts have already agreed to open their gardens. Since 10 years have passed since the last large opening, several gardens will have changed hands and new ones, of which we are unaware, have appeared.

This appeal is to all gardeners who have not already been approached to consider joining the "openers". We are looking especially for gardens of interest, large or small, displaying, for example, professional or DIY design and construction, vegetable plots, unusual plants or imaginative planting.

If you feel able to offer your garden or wish to find out more first please contact Alan Stevens at 7 Tithes Barn (781167).

St Mary's Church Toilet and Kitchen

Paul Keeble
After a lengthy period of fund raising in the parish and with generous support from a number of charitable trusts, the PCC has contracted to install a disabled persons toilet and a kitchen in St Mary's Church. Space behind the organ is being used for the new facilities and a new robing area for the choir will be made in the north aisle of the Nave. Work is to commence in the first week of January 2009 and should be completed 12 weeks later i.e. before Easter. The church architect's plans for the work has been approved by the Diocese and English Heritage. The total cost of the project is close to £60,000. Repairs to a lintel in the tower steps will be undertaken at the same time.

Remembrance Sunday

David Mason/Geoff Hulatt
Following the Morning Service on Sunday 9th November at 11.15am (approx) there will be a short service at the War Memorial. If you wish to contribute towards the cost of the poppy wreath please contact Geoff Hulatt on 781082 or at 6 Marriotts Close. PLEASE SUPPORT THE POPPY APPEAL

Wildlife Trust

Next meeting - "Our native ladybirds and the Harlequin" an illustrated talk by Peter Brown. Sharnbrook Methodist Church 8pm Friday 17th October.

Minutes of PCC meeting

Peter Rankin
It was agreed at the meeting on 8th September that we should publish details of any items felt to be of general interest in Ouse News (Obviously, this will be before they are approved at the next meeting).

At the September meeting these items were, among others, decided upon:

The Child Protection policy will be finalised at the next meeting.

There will be an organ recital on 23/04/09

The church path is to be pressure hosed as it is slippery.

Toilet/kitchen to be started early in 2009

After many years of service, Ken Shrimpton no longer wishes to be responsible for the exterior church lighting at Christmas. Would anyone like to volunteer??

Harvest festival - 5th October. There will be a tombola for all produce etc received (£1 per ticket). It is also the 10th anniversary of David Mason's tenure. Remembrance Service 9th November.

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Theo Gibbs
Aladdin - Our own spectacular, traditional Family Pantomime. Friday 5th - Saturday 13th December, nightly at 7.45 pm (not Sunday), with 2 Saturday matinees. Tickets will be available at Sharnbrook Post Office (in person) & Bedford Central Box Office (01234) 269519 from Monday 6th October.

Thursday Club

Jo Morris
We started our fifth year with a games session - Scrabble, Whist, Draughts etc., followed by our usual super tea and afterwards a holiday quiz.

We were saddened by the death of Joyce Franklin one of our most regular attenders and remember with pleasure her cheerful smile and chuckle.

Our next meeting is on Thursday October 9th. Telephone if you need transport.

Harvest Festival

This year our Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 5th October at 10.15, the School will be holding their celebration in the previous week. As in previous years we will be supporting the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest appeal. This year the appeal will be supporting work in Mali where fishing communities can no longer rely on the river for a harvest of fish due to decreased rainfall. River levels have dropped and so the number of fish have diminished. The people are being taught new farming techniques and ways of managing the water supplies efficiently. Please support the Bishop's fund in this work

Church Coffee Morning

The October Coffee Morning will be held at the home of Barry and Janet Welsh, on Saturday 4th October at 10.30am

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

November's Coffee Morning will be held at the home of Alleyne and Margaret Leach on Saturday 1st November at 10.30am

Bellinging

Bell ringers visiting Felmersham this month are:

Wednesday 8th October 2.30 to 3.30pm Chilton Midweek Group

Saturday 11th October 3.30pm-4.10pm Desborough Northants Outing

Colin Payne

WI Meeting

Art historian Sue Edwards brought the National Art Gallery to Felmersham Village Hall with a wonderful selection of our favourite paintings. A former police officer turned passionate art lover, we were all infected with Sue's enthusiasm for seeing well-known pictures with a fresh eye. We began with Constable's beloved Haywain and enjoyed the history and symbolism that often gets lost on paintings seen on too many place mats and calendars!

The affluent Dutch 17th century was portrayed in rich, sensual fabrics and costumes by Vermeer. The Impressionists were sharply contrasted with the Orientalists of the 1850's who revelled in depicting the Islamic lifestyle. We flew around the world and centuries and quickly learned that different paintings gave us distinctly different feelings. Sue likens revelling in a beautiful picture to be as relaxing as sitting with a glass of red wine and a box of chocolates all to yourself! Perhaps one of our members summed the evening up best to me by saying "I want to jump on the train tomorrow and visit the National Gallery!"

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dick and Sally Watson who celebrate their Diamond Wedding anniversary on 9th October – with love from Richard and Jenny.

Congratulations also go to Ken and Lorraine Shrimpton and Brian and Blanche

Smith who both celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary earlier this year. Coincidentally both weddings were on the same day.

Fireworks

With Bonfire Night and Diwali fast approaching, and Christmas and New Year soon after it seems appropriate to remind people of the laws regarding fireworks. It is a criminal offence to let off fireworks between 11pm and 7am and anyone breaking the curfew risks a fine of up to £5,000 or six months imprisonment.

The curfew applies all year round except for four "permitted firework nights", which extend the hours. These are Bonfire Night Nov 5th (extension until midnight), Diwali Day Nov 12th (1am), New Year's Eve (1am) and Chinese New Year Feb 9th (1am).

It is an offence for anyone under 18 to be in possession of fireworks in a public place and the police can issue fixed penalty notices to anyone breaking the law.

Fireworks will only be on general sale between October 15th and November 10th and for short periods around New Year, Chinese New Year and Diwali.

Finally, and more importantly, KEEP SAFE - Follow the Firework Code

SHARNBROOK UPPER SCHOOL REUNION

Friday 14th November 2008
7pm

Tea-zels Café
Harrold Country Park

If you joined Sharnbrook Upper School
right at the very beginning
around 1975 and left between 1978-1980
please come along.

It has been around 30 years since many of us left,
it will be great to see some familiar faces.

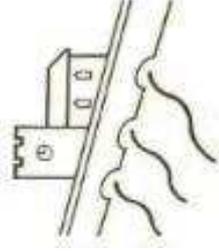
There will be a buffet served at a cost of
£10.00 this will secure your place.

Please bring your own alcohol, glasses will be provided.

Please send cheques made payable to Tea-zels,
C/O Julie Tyrrell
3 Church End
Felmersham
Beds
MK43 7JA

Please email tyrrellfottri@hotmail.com if you have any questions.

Book early so you won't be disappointed!



In Aid Of Pinchmill Pre-School

Back by popular demand - bigger and
better than before join us for a

GIRLS NIGHT OUT

FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER
from 7.30pm till late
Felmersham Village Hall

Girls all ages welcome, bring your friends
for an evening of indulgence,
Christmas shopping and fun.....

Many new stalls including Jewellery,
Accessories, Osbourne Books, Cards,
Virgin V At Home, Clothes, Aromatherapy
and much more.....

£8 inc. buffet and glass of wine

Tickets from: Debbie Holland 01234 781454
Or Georgina Markham 07739 412966