

Parish Diary

Regular Activities (M=Monday, F=Friday)

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 – 11am	Toddlers	Portakabin, Pinchmill School
-----F	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Youth Club	Pinchmill Hall

April

Wed 6	8.00pm	Lent Course	The Justs, 2 The Old Rectory
Sat 9	2.30pm	Wedding	St Mary's Church
Sun 10	10.15	Benefice Service - Lent 5	St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Mon 11	7.30	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	Village Hall
Wed 13	8.00	Lent Course	The Justs, 2 The Old Rectory
Sun 17	10.15	Choral Communion - Palm Sunday	St Mary's Church
Mon 18	7.30	Meditation and Compline	St Mary's Church
Tue 19	7.30	Meditation and Compline	St Mary's Church
	7.30pm	Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall
Wed 20	7.30	Meditation and Compline	St Mary's Church
Thu 21	7.30	Communion - Maundy Thursday	St Mary's Church
Fri 22	10.15	Family Service - Good Friday	St Mary's Church
	7.00	The Cross of Christ	St Mary's Church
Sun 24	10.15	Choral Communion - Easter	St Mary's Church

May

Sun 1	10.15	Choral Communion - Easter 1	St Mary's Church
	7.30pm	Concert by Ligoalice Allsorts	St Mary's Church
Sat 7	10.30	Coffee Morning	The Zaki's
Sun 8	10.15	Christian Aid Service	Methodist Church, Sharnbrook
Tue 17	2.30	Tea in Church (until 4.30pm)	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

April 2011

Lent and Easter

Rev David G Mason

Last month I reminded you that Easter is almost as late as it can be according to the tables used to fix the date of this Festival. Already the spring flowers are out, lots of lambs are visible in the flocks of sheep and the leaves are beginning to come out in the hedgerows. We are beginning to enjoy warmer weather and we realise that we are in the season of Spring. The natural disasters in New Zealand and Japan with the resulting loss of life, injuries and damage to property, and the events in Libya have been filling the news and making the world seem very dark for so many people. At this time when the nights are getting lighter and the days are warmer the events in other parts of the world remind us how fortunate we are let us not forget those who are having such a hard time. The difficult problems seem to be so far away that it can seem that there is little that we can do to help. But we can hold those who are suffering in our prayers, and we can be on the look out for any information on how we can provide practical support and encouragement. All people are our neighbours, and as followers of Jesus we are to love our neighbours.

We are now well into the penitential season of Lent, and I hope that we are all giving some thought to our life patterns in the light of the gospel and spending some time considering whether we ought to be making some changes in them. We will soon be in Holy week and contemplating the events of that momentous week. The week began with the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem riding on a donkey with the crowds scattering palm leaves before him. Later in the week Jesus celebrated the last supper with his disciples, was betrayed, arrested, tried and executed. His disciples must have thought that all had been in vain, that this was the end. Just imagine how depressed and desolate they must have felt. But then all their sorrow turned to joy as Jesus rose again that first Easter Morning. Things would never been the same again. Death was proved not to be the end, Jesus in his resurrection proved the truth of his words about life continuing after death, that after our time on earth was over we would join him with his Father, God. As disciples we each have a duty to spread the good news of the gospel message. There is truth in the saying that *actions speak louder than words*, our discipleship will be far more effective if we are true to the words that we say, if the way that we live our lives is in accord with the gospel that we proclaim. May I wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter.

Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes on the christening of our daughter Katie on the 13th of March

We would also like to extend a special thanks to Sue and Bill at The Sun for putting on such an excellent buffet. Sue worked extremely hard to facilitate our needs and those of our 50 guests. We thoroughly recommend them

Felmersham Toddlers

Felmersham Toddler group is re-opening on Friday 13th May 2011 from 9.15am to 11am. We have lots of new toys, new premises and plenty of exciting new activities for your little ones. £1.50 per session and 50 pence for each additional child. Why not come along for a play and a chat, great way to meet new people. If you would like any further information please contact Sarah Bunker on 07946 620821 or just come along to the Portakabin, Pinchmill Lower School, The Old Road, Felmersham.

Tea In The Church

Tea and cake will be served in the Church on the 3rd Tuesday in the month between May and September from 2.30pm - 4.30pm.

The first one will be on Tuesday 17th May and thereafter on - Tuesday 21st June, Tuesday 19th July, Tuesday 16th August and Tuesday 20th September. Please put these dates in your diary and bring your family, neighbours and friends along. If anyone would like to help please contact Jane Wells on 782462

Annual Litter Pick

There was a brilliant turnout of over 25 people, including 4 youngsters, who took part in the parish litter pick on Saturday 26th March. We were again lucky that the weather was fine and dry, and the haul this year was about 20 bags of litter in Felmersham and 4 in Radwell plus the usual assortment of hub caps and a car battery. Very many thanks to everyone who took part.

Sadly, not all the finds were quite as wholesome as car hub caps. A far less pleasant discovery for two of our volunteers was the numerous bags of dog faeces that had been collected and dumped together at the side of Pavenham Road. We have several dog bins installed in the parish for the collection and disposal of dog messes. Surely it's not asking too much for them to be properly used rather than dumping the offending bags on the side of the road?

Church Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning in May will be held at the home of Mo and Kanzy Zaki, Felmersham on Saturday 7th May 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 proceeds go to the Church Restoration Fund. All are welcome.

Village Hall Quiz Night

Thank you so much to everybody who supported the Quiz Night at the Village Hall. Judging by the feedback we have had, a good night was had by all and £934 was raised towards redecoration etc of the Committee Room.

Us oldies on the Committee must say a big thank you to Sam Bance and Annette Franklin for their youth and enthusiasm which kept us oldies going after our bedtime! Here's to the next Village Event!

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

The Threepenny Opera Fri. 13th - Sat. 21st May, 7.45 pm. A satire of The Beggar's Opera.. Enter the world of Mack the Knife...if you dare! A sexy, wild romp through London's underworld of beggars, thieves and cutthroats, where Mack the Knife dodges the hangman's noose and tries to evade the women in his life. The dramatic dialogue of Brecht combines with the wily melodies of Kurt Weill, whose vibrant, jazz-based score includes the hit song 'Mack the Knife.' Hilariously funny but with a delicious, dangerous bite, you'll be splitting your sides one moment and on the edge of your seat the next. Don't miss the most powerful theatrical experience of your lifetime! Tickets available from 4th April at Sharnbrook Post Office & Bedford Central Box Office 01234 269519.

visit: www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

Open Day Invitation

You are invited to our Open Day on Tuesday 10th May from 9.45am - 2.30pm. Come along to our new premises and find out what services are available to support people who have a visual impairment or who are blind. Guides available.

Find us at: Kings House, 245 Ampthill Road, Bedford, MK42 9AZ - past "Granada"

Buses: Park & Ride route; Jupiter 2; Grant Palmer X42, & X44 routes.

For info or to book call 311555 / email office@lightconcern.org.uk or just drop in!

Terry Dennehy (1944 - 2011)

St Mary's was packed for Terry's funeral service – an indication of how popular and respected he was - I have lost count of the number of people who have since remarked on his excellent craftsmanship.

We only got to know Terry last autumn and we drunk a lot of coffee together – in fact he was allocated his own mug with a tiger and he became affectionately known here as "Terry the Tiger". A misnomer really as he was always calm and quiet. In our chats it became apparent he was a man of very many talents and interests even undertaking some serious studies in later life.

We shall certainly miss him and his friends and family will miss him so much more.

Allotments

A small number of allotments plots are now available within the Parish, Anyone interested in cultivating their own produce should contact Geoff Hulatt, 6 Marriotts Close or call 781082.

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Village Trades and Services

OuseNews Editor

Clive Just
This will probably be the last month that OuseNews will be edited by me as a new editor should be in place for next month. Until told otherwise please carry on emailing items as before to ousenews@justs.info - they will be forwarded automatically. Before posting or dropping in other items please phone 781967.

Lent Course

David Mason
We are part way through the The Bishop of St Albans' Lent Course on Living God's Love which meets at The Just's house, 2 The Old Rectory on Wednesdays in Lent at 8pm. Each week is independent so it doesn't matter if you haven't been to any before. The course material (available at www.stalbans.anglican.org) is good, and I encourage you to come.

Annual Parish Church Meeting

David Mason
The Electoral Roll for St Mary's is open for revision. If you are not sure if your name is on the roll please check with Peter Rankin. Application forms are in church if you wish your name to be added. It is important that we have an accurate record of those who worship at St Mary's. The Annual Parish Meeting is important and will be held 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

David Mason
You may remember the recent presentation on the above project. The presenter, Keith Fossey, has since been out to 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 £6.00 (includes a glass of wine. For further details please phone me on 01234 309737.

Neighbourhood Watch

Dave Girling
At a recent "Bedfordshire Police - Joint Action Group Meeting" there was a general feeling amongst some people that it was not worth reporting minor incidents such as speeding, vandalism, fuel theft or dog fouling etc. as little or no action seemed to often result.

The police representatives stated that all incidents should be reported, including failed attempts at crime, as there may be many small incidents that no one reports, or a "pattern" might emerge that could be traced and followed up.

They said that in the towns all incidents are often reported and so police resources are targeted there. If many small incidents in the rural villages are not reported then the few that are look isolated and will not have such a high priority.

Remember - in an emergency call 999

For non-emergency calls ring 01234 841212 or text 07786 200011.

Local Office weekdays (8am-4pm): 01234 275175 or 01234 275176

Ring "Crimestoppers" anonymously on 0800 555 111 to report any crime.

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