

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
Fri	4.30pm - 6.00pm	Fish & Chip Van	Jubilee Lawn

June

Sat	6 10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Pearcees
6	2.30pm	Wingrave Bell Ringers	St Mary's Church
Sun	7 10.15am	Patronal Festival - Joint Service	All Saints Church, Souldrop
Sun	14 10.15am	Family Service, Baptism - Trinity 1	St Mary's Church
Sat	20 2.00pm	Felmersham Open Gardens (until 6pm)	
Sun	21 10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 2	St Mary's Church
Sun	21 2.00pm	Felmersham Open Gardens (until 6pm)	
Sat	27 3.00pm	Treasure Hunt / Playground Opening	VH/Playing Field
Sun	28 10.15am	Patronal Festival - Joint Service	St Peter's, Sharnbrook
Sun	28 6.30pm	Songs of Praise	St Mary's Church

July

Sat	4 10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Hartops
Sun	5 10.15am	Joint Service - Trinity 4	St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Tue	7 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pinchmill Hall Committee Room
Sun	12 10.15am	Joint Service, Baptism - Trinity 5	St Mary's Church
Sat	18 9.30am	Annual Churchyard Clean	St Mary's Church
Sun	19 10.15	Choral Communion - Trinity 6	St Mary's Church
Sun	26 10.15	Matins & Communion - Trinity 7	St Mary's Church

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

Assistant Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)

Churchwardens: Jane Wells (782462), Richard Phipps (781789)

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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.

Ouse News

Felmersham & Radwell

Village online: www.felmersham.net

June 2009

Mid Point

Rev David G Mason

By the time that you are reading this we will have begun the long series of Sundays after Trinity. Trinity Sunday marks the approximate half way point in the Church's year. In the countryside the crops have been planted, and soon we will be thinking of harvest. Already the barley is developing ears, and the rape will almost lost the brilliant yellow colour of the flowers. The lambs are growing quite quickly. It is a very pleasant time of the year, with long days, and, hopefully, plenty of warm sun.

There is a sense in which the Church's year can be compared with the natural cycle of the seasons. In the first half of the farming year there is a time of preparation and nurturing. The land is prepared and the crops are planted. Fertilizer may be applied to the crops, and also pest and weed control. The lambs are born and when the weather is suitable they put out to graze. In the middle of the year there is a time when the crops and young animals are growing and developing, regular maintenance and support is given to ensure the animals thrive and the crops achieve a good yield. Later, when all is ready, the crops are harvested, and the animals are sold or bred on. With the crops brought in the land is prepared, the cycle begins again.

At the beginning of the church year there is Advent, a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus into the world. Then there is Christmas when we celebrate the coming of Jesus to the world as a baby. During Lent we examine our own lives in the light of the gospel, and prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter. At Easter we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, and, after 40 days, the Ascension. Ten days later we celebrate Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the first disciples to enable them to continue the work begun by Jesus. The second half of the year has far fewer festivals, and can be seen as a time of consolidation and growth.

Our faith is the crop, the time between Advent and Pentecost is the equivalent of preparation for and planting of the faith. At Pentecost we pray for the Holy Spirit to come into our lives to strengthen and consolidate the growth of our faith and to enable us to undertake the works of discipleship that Jesus has called us to. The rest of the Church year is for the strengthening and development of our faith, and its continued practice. When Advent comes the process begins again with work to renew and refresh the growth of faith.

As we begin the second half of the year let us pray that the Holy Spirit will enter our lives, and fill them with the love of Jesus so that it shines out through our lives and enables us to be true disciples.

Felmersham Open Gardens

11 gardens around the village will be kindly opening in aid of St Mary's Church and the Parkinson's Disease Society on the weekend of 20th and 21st June. The gardens will be open from 2pm until 6pm, with tickets and programmes available from the Church each day. As this event is a fundraiser, we naturally hope that lots of people will want to come along and support it, but are conscious that this may result in more cars than usual in the village, and apologise for any inconvenience caused to fellow villagers as a result. If you would like any further details on the Open Gardens, or would like a copy of the flyer to pass on to friends and family, please contact either Alan (781167) or Carol (782769), or consult www.felmersham.net.

WI Meeting: Experiences of a Local Vet

As a vet's daughter, many happy memories were revived for me listening to David Chennells share his personal and professional views on being a vet. He is from a long line of Olney farmers, and felt that by becoming a pig specialist vet, he has hung on to his agricultural roots. He believes the "glory days" of being a vet were during and after the war when agriculture was a highly valued industry, people knew where their food came from, and on a basic human existence level, people looked after the farms and industry that fed them. Today we are a society of "companion animals." His surgery holds ultra sound and scanning equipment, digital x-raying, blood analysis, specialist surgeons of all sorts - people expect more and more for their pet care. David pondered on how we use our resources when animals get hip replacements in days compared to us mere humans who wait for months. He made us smile with tales (tails?) of clients who bring in obese animals and the communication skills it takes to make owners realise their actions and attitudes are making their animals unwell and unfit. Indeed, I can recall a tactful vet in my past who gently told me that my old pussycat was "well-covered" rather than offend its doting and devoted owner with the term "fat"! But should you wish to send your child on to vet school, the competition is ferocious and he suggested extra curricular activities related to vet practice begin at the age of 12 in order to accrue the experience and exclusively Grade A's required to meet the mark today. Interestingly, 80% of entrance candidates are female – figure out the maths, boys!! We win!

PCC Meeting

In the record time of 45 minutes all business at the PCC Meeting on 11th May was completed including two prayers. Can any other organisation match that??? Items discussed and agreed upon included the provision of coffee and biscuits after service, the eventual introduction of a children's area in the church, and restoration and cleaning of the tiles in the chancel. This is in addition to the normal run-of-the-mill church business.

The next high spot is the annual churchyard clean. This is on Saturday, 18th July from 9:30 onwards. The more people involved, the less time it takes. Please try and turn up, bring the children to help/have a picnic/use the new toilet facilities. It is all free!!!

Christian Aid

Many thanks to every one who donated to Christian Aid and those who collected the envelopes. A total of £461.63 was given by Felmersham and Radwell.

Bell Ringing

Wingrave Bell Ringers will be visiting on Saturday 6th June from 2.30 to 3pm.

Annual PCC Meeting

The Annual meeting of the PCC took place on 27/04/2009 and attended by 12 parishioners. The minutes are displayed in the porch of the church. Our new churchwarden is Richard Phipps who joins Jane Wells. There are 2.8 vacancies at present on the PCC i.e. 2 average sized adults and one who is 4ft 6inches tall.

Songs of Praise 2009

The Songs of Praise this year will be held on Sunday 28th June at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church. This will be on similar lines to previous years, giving us all a chance to sing some of our favourite hymns with gusto, interspersed with readings and poetry. Stay for a chat with friends, neighbours and those parishioners you haven't yet been introduced to! Look forward to seeing you there.

Lorraine Shrimpton

P. Rankin

Colin Payne

Village Trades and Services

Church Coffee Morning

Now the new facilities in the Church are completed the next Coffee Morning, hosted by Bill and Hazel Pearce on Saturday 6 June at 10.30am, will raise funds for the restoration of the chancel floor tiles.

Starting next month at Peter and Pat Hartop's on Saturday 4 July at 10.30am proceeds will go to restoring the Lych gate.

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

Parish Council AGM

The AGM of the Parish Council on 5th May was attended by 6 Parish Councillors, the Clerk, SPC Edwards, Borough Councillor Brandon and four members of the public. At the start of the meeting Peter Hartop was re-elected Chairman and Marjorie Pipe Vice-Chairman.

Parish Councillors responsibilities: Peter Hartop - Planning and Grass cutting; Marjorie Pipe - Highways and Village Hall representative, Pat Keeble - Radwell matters, David Cook - Tree warden, Mike Thomas - Parish Council Assets and Burial ground, Geoff Hulatt - Villager Bus representative and Town Lot Charity Trustee, Maggie Spoor -Communications

Councillors' reports: The quotation for grass cutting was approved. There has been a 2.4% increase but this is the first increase for two years. Work is due to start on the new playground equipment towards the end of May. The Borough Council will be requested again to empty the litter bins in the parish. The Town Lot allotments are fully subscribed and there is a waiting list. A new Villager bus will be in service within weeks. The base of the lime tree on the green near the bus shelter is very overgrown and needs trimming.

SC 1616 Edwards from Riseley Police Station provided the following report for the period since the last meeting: *There have been a number of thefts from motor vehicles, house burglaries and drugs dealing in the Parish. Four people have been disqualified from driving for excess alcohol and two vehicles removed from their owners and the road for no insurance. He is urging everyone to be vigilant and aware of what's going on, to report any suspicious activity immediately! For crime in progress please call 999. Any other information, how ever small which may help us with these crimes, please call Riseley Police Station on 01234 842865 or Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 or email us at SNT.CarltontoRiseley@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk. SC1616 Edwards would like to thank the members of this Parish for their help to date.*

Highways - there potential capital projects within the parish were discussed.

Radwell - The willow tree next to Radwell Bridge which restricts visibility is to be pruned. The Parish Council will advise the new owners of the Riding School in Radwell that their visitors should not use Moor End Road but should use the concrete road instead.

Finance – draft accounts for the year were presented. The purchase of a new Parish Council notice board was approved. This will be sited next to the County Council notice board by the bus shelter in Felmersham.

The dates for the next bulky waste collection are 26th September 15.00 – 17.00 hrs and 27th September 13.00 – 15.00 hrs. Venues to be confirmed.

Date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 7th July at 7.30 pm in Pinchmill Committee Room.

Jane Wells

PINCHMILL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
&
FELMERSHAM & RADWELL VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE
PRESENT

A
FAMILY TREASURE HUNT IN FELMERSHAM

and
**GRAND OPENING
OF FELMERSHAM PLAY PARK**

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE AT 3PM

Group Ticket to enter the Treasure Hunt
(up to 6, incl. an adult) - £5.00

BBQ

Bar (courtesy of The Sun)

Ice Cream Van

Fun & Games

And much more

Tickets are available from
Chris Whitham, Felmersham 781399
or **Lisa Brooker, Pavenham 824443**