

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	

May

Thu 1	8.00pm Communion - Ascension Day	Dean Church
Sat 3	10.30am Coffee Morning	Perch Heights, Carlton Road
Sun 4	10.15am Choral Communion – Sun after Ascension	St Mary's Church
Thu 8	3.00pm Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
Sun 11	10.15am Family Service - Pentecost	St Mary's Church
Sun 11	7.30pm OV Arts Festival - Kaznowski Quartet	St Mary's Church
Fri 16	7.45pm Opening night "The Fix"	Sharnbrook Mill Theatre
Sat 17	7.30pm 80's Disco	Pavenham Village Hall
Sun 18	10.15am Patronal Festival	All Saints Church, Souldrop
Tue 20	7.30pm Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall
Sun 25	10.15am Matins and Communion - Trinity 1	St Mary's Church

June

Sun 1	10.15am Choral Communion - Trinity 2	
Sat 7	10.30am Coffee Morning	Riverside House, Felmersham
Sun 8	10.15am Family Service with Baptism - Trinity 3	St Mary's Church
Sun 15	10.15am Choral Communion - Trinity 4	St Mary's Church
Sun 22	10.15am Matins and Communion - Trinity 5	St Mary's Church
Sat 28	3.00pm Wedding	St Mary's Church
Sun 29	10.15am Patronal Festival	St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Sun 29	6.30 pm Songs of Praise	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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(781967)

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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May 2008

Review of the Year

David G Mason

Last Sunday (20th April) the Archdeacon visited us for our Sunday Service to preach and dedicate the restored organ, the recently completed quilted items and wooden case, and some altar linen. It was good to share our celebrations with the other churches in the benefice. On the Monday after we held our Annual Parish Church meeting, a time for reviewing the previous year, for considering our present situation, and for looking forward to the coming year.

I believe that the relationship between the different churches in the benefice is good and developing well. The regular sharing of services in different churches is helping us to get to know and appreciate each other. There is much scope for further developments within the benefice, for example we look forward to developing new patterns of service for families and young people. This cooperation will be even more important in the future as fewer ordained clergy will be available, and an increased involvement of church members in leading and supporting worship and ministry will be necessary if regular worship and ministry is to continue in the parishes.

As we celebrated all the work that was done in the church or provided for it we were reminded of the great support for our church that is provided by its members and from the parish. So many people are involved in so many different ways, and I thank you all for the care and support that you continue to give. A glance at the comments in the visitors book shows how much the care and maintenance of the church is appreciated by visitors, and I have been told by strangers who visit the church for services how welcoming they find the members of the church are. The early members of the church were admired by the people among whom they lived as those who loved their neighbours, and it is important for the future of the church that it continues to follow this Christian principle.

Within the Deanery we are exploring ways of providing the training for those who are becoming more involved in the local ministry of the church. We appreciate that, particularly for some parts of the Deanery, and for some people's pattern of work, regular attendance at courses in Bedford may not be possible. I hope that we will be able to meet the need for training in ways that make it more possible for those called to some aspect of ministry to be encouraged, supported and trained. Do not think that because of limitations of time or problems with travel you are unable to volunteer to help in some way with ministry, ask and trust that a way will be found.

Songs of Praise

This year's Songs of Praise will be held on Sunday 29th June, at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church, with a collection during one of the hymns. As in the past, you are invited to request your favourite hymn or poem or reading and, if possible, it will be included. Would you like to be a reader or would you like to play a musical instrument? Please ring me on 781381 if you would like to take part.

Radwell Open Gardens

As you may already know some of the residents in Radwell will be opening their gardens in aid of the British Red Cross on the afternoon of Sunday July 13th.

Teas are being sold here at Leedon House – would anyone would be willing to loan any of their garden tables or chairs to us for this? There will also be a plant stall at the old Methodist Church house – any contributions of spare plants you may have nearer the time would be most welcome! Thank you for your support

Thursday Club

We entertained ourselves at the March meeting - the keen Scrabble players had their wits about them. Competition was fierce at the whist table not to mention the draughts and dominoes. The usual scrumptious tea was followed by a quiz.

Next meeting on Thursday 8th May and anyone requiring transport please telephone Joan 781722. Newcomers welcome

Sharnbrook Bowls Club

Your local and long-established Bowls Club is again running coaching sessions and these are early in the season - which runs from late April until September. Qualified county coaches are keen to welcome new members to this ancient and compelling game.

Whether you are a newcomer to the game or a seasoned player you will be most welcome at the green in Lodge Road. There are spare bowls and flat shoes (ie no heels) if you fancy having a go.

Over 100 club matches are played each season: Ladies, Men's, and Mixed Teams play a variety of Friendly, League and Club Competitions; or if you wish to play non-competitively there are social 'roll-ups'.

Our Membership Secretary can be contacted on 01480 860430 or if you wish call me (secretary) on 781820. Why not give it a try.

Ouse Valley Arts Festival

Sunday 11th May - The Kaznowski Quartet, St Mary's Church Felmersham at 7.30pm. Programme: Ravel, Introduction and Allegro for flute harp & viola; Debussy Trio for flute harp & viola; and Brahms clarinet quintet. Tickets: £10 (students £5) from Bedford Central Box Office 01234 269519.

Garage Wanted

Does anyone have garage space, or barn space where I can store two aircraft wings and an engine? The wings would be long term, the engine, hopefully, short term. If you have space please contact me on 781079. Thank you.

Friends of Harrold Medical Practice

If you want to have your say on what health care services are provided in your area or what improvements the Practice can make, please come and join us. We need representatives from all patients' villages.

Our latest project is working in partnership with Wellingborough Community Transport to set up a Medical Car Service, to take elderly and disabled residents to their medical appointments. We need volunteer drivers who will use their own cars and give their time to help less able members of the community. Mileage expenses are paid. If you are interested, then call 01933 228844 for more details. The next meeting of the Friends is to be held at the Surgery, Peach's Close Harrold on Tuesday 20 May 2008 at 7.30pm. If you would like to find out more about the group please contact: Frances Hirst on 01234 825212

Church Coffee Morning

The Church coffee morning for May will be held at the home of Mo and Kanzy Zaki, Felmersham on Saturday 3rd May at 10.30am. Proceeds will go towards a toilet and kitchen facility at the Church. Contributions of home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated. All welcome.

Next month's will be hosted by Tom and Jane Wells, Felmersham on Saturday 7th June at 10.30am

Jane Wells

Village Trades and Services

80's Disco

Saturday 17th May 2008

7-30pm for 8pm

Pavenham Village Hall

Fancy dress, buffet and bar, raffle
Auction of prizes - 5 exclusive lots

Best dressed prize

Tickets £12.50 available from
Sarah 708485 or Lisa 824443

Souldrop Patronal Service

We will be joining Souldrop for their Patronal Festival on 18th May at 10.15am. The setting of the church is beautiful, and I hope the weather is good enough for us to appreciate it. There will be no service at Felmersham on that Sunday.

David Mason

Long Service

At the recent APCM Gill Greenish retired as PCC Secretary. This was a job that she had performed admirably for many years, certainly some time before I came to the Parish. On your and my behalf I thank her for all the hard work that she has done for us, and for the quiet, efficient way that she has undertaken all that the job involved. I am pleased that Gill will continue to be a member of the PCC, and also that Peter Rankin has volunteered to be PCC Secretary.

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Theo Gibbs
Available now! Tickets for our regional premiere of THE FIX 16 - 24 May (from Sharnbrook Post Office and Bedford Box Office 269519 - £9 - 12); also Back to Broadway 12 - 15 June - four dynamic, classically trained, young professionals bringing your musical favourites to life. Your choice of 4 Charity Performances (see April Ouse News) (from Sharnbrook P.O. only - £15 inc. glass of wine).

Cricketers and Members Wanted

Since the merging of Pavenham and Felmersham Cricket Clubs three years ago we have expanded into a successful competitive and thriving village club. Following this success we are now able to offer:

Saturdays Millman Division 1

Sundays Beds County Division 2 and full friendly programme

Midweek Beds & District Division 2

Ruth Barratt

As well as one of the best grounds in Bedfordshire (with covered pitches) we also have a full social calendar of activities beyond cricket for all the family. So why not come and join the Cricket Club. We welcome players of all ages and abilities as well as social members and those who may wish to umpire or score.

To see how much we have to offer and for further details contact Gary Wintersgill (Club Captain) 0781 8075774 or Tony Lockwood (Publicity Officer) 0781 8446786. Alternatively we have weekly indoor nets at Sharnbrook School at 10am. Come along and introduce yourself

Visit of the Archdeacon

As David mentioned above, the Archdeacon of Bedford recently came to St Mary's, both to preach and to dedicate some items.

The organ in Church was fully restored in 2007 and to commemorate this event a beautiful quilt was made by the ladies of Ouse Valley Quilters. This quilt is now on permanent display in the Church in a very fine case, which was donated by Dick Horsford in memory of his wife and son.

Also an exquisite altar cover was made by Di Stephenson and Pat Keeble. The idea of the altar cover came from a cope, a sort of cape worn on special occasions by priests, which was shown to the congregation during a service a couple of years ago. The cope, like the altar cover, is richly embroidered and decorated. Di Stephenson came up from Cornwall especially for the service.

Felmersham and Radwell Community Trust (FRCT)

The late Margaret Alleway made a bequest to Felmersham and Radwell Community Care, "for their general purposes", to the value of approximately £230,000. In February 2004 the "*Felmersham and Radwell Community Trust*" was formed and registered as a charity - the trustees are Michael Thomas, Jeff Stokley, Richard Phipps and Lorraine Shrimpton.

Since the FRCT was formed, funding has been granted to several village organisations, plus the purchase of river frontage land to make the "*Margaret Alleway Memorial Garden*". Do you have a scheme or proposal, which you feel may be of benefit to parishioners within the two villages? If you would like advice or have any queries please contact any of the above trustees, or alternatively an application form for funding (within the guidelines of the Trust) may be obtained from FRCT, c/o Willow Lodge, Grange Road, Felmersham, Bedford MK43 7HJ.