

Parish Diary

Regular activities (M=Mon T=Tues etc)

MTW-F	9.00am - 3.15pm	Pre-School	Pinchmill School
Tues	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Pilates	Pinchmill Hall
Tues	Approx 11.00am	Fishmonger in village -- call 07803 201399 for info	
Thurs	9.00am - 12.45pm	Pre-School	Pinchmill School
Thurs	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Yoga (term time only)	Pinchmill Hall
Fri	9.15am - 11.00am	Parent & Toddler Group	Portakabin from 13 th May
Fri	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Youth Club	Pinchmill Hall

Church Services for May (all Services commence at 10.15am)

Sun 1 May	Choral Communion - Easter 1	St Mary's Church
Sun 8 May	Christian Aid Service - Easter 2	St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Sun 22 May	Choral Communion - Easter 3	St Mary's Church
Sun 29 May	Matins	

Church Services for beginning of June (all Services commence at 10.15am)

Sun 5 June	Choral Communion
Sun 11 June	Family Service

Dates for your Diary

Sat 7 May	Coffee Morning	10.30 am at Perch Heights
Tue 17 May	Tea in Church	2.30pm to 4.30pm at St Mary's
Tue 17 May	W.I. Open Meeting	8.00 pm in Pinchmill Hall
Sat 21 May	Swaziland Schools Appeal	2.00pm to 4.00pm at St Mary's
Fri 13-21 May	Three Penny Opera	7.45pm - Sharnbrook Theatre
Fri 13 May	Felmersham Toddlers	9.15am to 11.00am in Portakabin
Sat 16 July	Fete/Treasure Hunt	Time TBA - VHC/Pinchmill School

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

Asst Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)

Church Wardens: Jane Wells (782462) & Ken Shrimpton (781381)

Publisher: Felmersham PCC / Editor: For May edition Lorraine Shrimpton, 1 Trinity Close, Felmersham (781381 or lorraine@felmersham.info)

We welcome any items of general interest for inclusion. All items should be with the editor by noon on the 25th of each month, and can be sent either by email to lorraine@felmersham.info or alternatively in written form to the above address. If you use either method, please provide a telephone number in case any queries are necessary.



Village info. online www.felmersham.net

May 2011

Our New Curate – Tom Sander

Dear Friends,

Since the formation of the benefice, David Mason and I have worked in tandem covering the normal services in the benefice. However, a couple of years ago, David retired and nobody, least of all the Diocese noticed! This was because, by and large, he continued to work just as hard as before. However, he has started to do fewer services and this prompted me to draw to the attention of the Diocese, that we were in fact one man down. I drew this to the attention of the Diocese because without David or a replacement for him, we would not be able to continue the pattern of services we are used to.

People, like David, who give of their time without any financial reward at all are rare and it was soon agreed that he was, what we have all known, irreplaceable. However the Diocese did suggest that they might have a curate who was passionate about rural ministry and who would be an asset to the benefice. His name is Tom Sander. He will be with us for three to four years, he will be full time and he will live in the benefice. But can we afford it? Well it won't be easy in the current economic climate, but I believe we can.

First of all, his housing costs will be met by the Diocese. Secondly, we don't have to pay anything for the first year. Tom will get paid, but again by the diocese. Thirdly, for year two and three we will only pay a proportion of his costs. This proportion is dependant on the size of the benefice and for us that proportion is twenty per cent. This means that his cost (excluding expenses) would currently be about £10,800 for the full three years or about £3,600 per year spread over his full curacy.

This would be split amongst the three parishes in proportion to the parish share. I have spoken to all three treasurers and we feel this is something we can do and all three Parochial Church Councils feel we must do if we are to maintain the pattern of services that we are used to.

With every blessing,

Robert.

Robert Evens

Editor of the Ouse News

On behalf of the Parish may I express our appreciation to Clive Just (and Roz too) who, for the past 18 years, has taken on the task of editing, personally printing at home and distributing the Ouse News. Clive's generosity does not end there, he has purchased and donated a new printer to the Parish in order that the Ouse News may continue to be printed each month. Thank you, Clive, for your past time, input and energy and your present generosity to the Parish.

Tea in the Church

Tea (or coffee) and cake will be served in the Church on Tuesday 17th May from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Please come along and bring your friends with you. Mums and dads, why not pop in for tea on the way to pick up your children from school, or bring the children after school - we have juice, cake and toys to entice them! This is a chance to meet for a chat with friends and to meet new friends. Everyone welcome.

Marie Curie Cancer Cure Daffodil Appeal

Many thanks to the generosity of the people in Marriotts Close and Town Lot Lane for their contribution of £81.45. An extra thank you is due to the people who took the trouble to gift-aid their contribution on the form on the envelope. This makes a significant difference to the amount the charity can obtain.

Women's Institute – Talk about Yarlswood

Felmersham and Radwell Women's Institute is holding an Open Meeting this month when Gill Butler will talk about Yarlswood. Please join us in Pinchmill Hall on Tuesday, 17th May at 8pm and enjoy some W.I. hospitality.

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning in May will be 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.

The June Coffee Morning will be held at the home of Brian and Blanche Smith, Felmersham.

Swaziland Schools Appeal

Sale at St Mary's Felmersham 21st May 2.00pm - 4.00pm. We need your help: we are holding a sale of nearly new children's clothes, toys and books; also plants, and with teas on offer as well to help this worthwhile cause that we supported at Christmas. Every £40 we can raise will help another child to a better future. This is a local Bedford Charity so every penny goes direct to the schools.

Contributions for the sale, or donations to the appeal will be very welcome. Ring Pat (782134) or Sally (781225) for further info. Look forward to seeing you on the day!

CPRE Living Countrywide Awards 2011

Ann Collett-White

The Bedfordshire branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) is again on the look-out to find and publicise projects which improve the appearance, promote sustainability and preserve the character of the county. The awards have become one of the county's most prestigious environmental accolades since they were launched four years ago. The deadline for entries is 21st May 2011.

The awards recognise groups or individuals that have made special efforts to improve the natural environment. The scheme is not competitive, anyone can nominate a project if they believe it is worthy of acclaim. The entry form is very simple to complete. The three categories for entries are Landscape Improvement, Historic and New Buildings and Sustainable Living.

Please see link for our leaflet –

http://www.cprebeds.plus.com/pdf/lca_2011_leaflet.pdf, which can be downloaded from our website where you will find the application form under Living Countryside Awards. Further details from Ann Collett-White on 01234 353331/07989 837819 or by email to ann.cw@cprebeds.org.uk Best wishes.

Logo Competition

Samantha Bance

The School and the Village Hall Committee are looking to update their image. With this in mind, we are launching a competition to design a new joint logo. This is open to everyone from the school and local community. All entries are to be designed on an A5 sheet of paper and in one single colour that reflects the community. Entries need to be delivered to the school office by Wednesday 18th May. The winner will have a named plaque that will be mounted on the front of the School/Village Hall wall. Good luck.

Felmersham Toddlers

Sarah Bunker

Felmersham Toddler group is re-opening on Friday 13th May 2011 from 9.15am till 11.00 am. 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.

Neighbourhood Watch - A reminder of numbers to ring to report a crime

Emergency calls 999

Local Office weekdays (8.00am – 4.00pm) 01234 841212 or text 07786 200011
Ring "Crimestoppers" anonymously on 0800 555111 to report details of any crime.

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Theo Gibbs

The *Threepenny Opera* 13-21 May at 7.45pm. Tickets on sale now at Sharnbrook Post Office (in person) and Bedford Central Box Office on 01234 269519. Visit the website www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk Enquire for full details, discounts and wheelchair access information. Enter the world of Mack the Knife..... if you dare!!

Felmersham & Radwell VHC & Pinchmill Lower PSA

Samantha Bance
Our next venture is a joint fundraiser between the Village Hall and School. We are going to be holding a Fete/Treasure Hunt on Saturday 16th July 2011. The money raised from this event will go towards a new projector and screen, as an extra facility for the Village Hall and school.

We are looking for books, toys & games that are in good condition, bottles of wine and pamper hamper gifts e.g. men's toiletries, ladies toiletries, smellies, aftershave. If you have any of these that you would like to donate, then please contact Annette on Tel: 783085 or email at fryouthclub@aol.com

We are also looking for people to help. If you are interested and could give some time on the day to help set up, run a stall or help clear away, please call Sam on 782869. Stalls are available, so if you would like one, please contact me for further details.

New Parish Council

The following people have been nominated to serve on the Parish Council:

From Radwell: Maxine Boswell; Robert Edwards; Pat Keeble

From Felmersham: Peter Hartop; Derek Williamson; Marjorie Pipe; Clive Just.

No nominated candidate has withdrawn, and since there are the correct number of nominations there will be no Parish Council election on 5th May 2011. The above candidates will therefore form the new Parish Council. The first meeting of the new Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 10th May at 7.30 pm in Pinchmill Hall. Congratulations to you all and thank you for volunteering to give up your time for the benefit of the parish.

Commendation for Robert Edwards

Acting Special Inspector Robert Edwards (from Radwell) was commended at Bedfordshire Police's Annual Chief Constable's Commendation Ceremony. He received the award for his involvement in solving a series of local burglaries which eventually led to him arresting the burglar. Many congratulations and our sincere thanks. Robert has also recently been elected to serve on the Parish Council.

Felmersham and Radwell Youth Club

Calling all Felmersham and Radwell young people aged 9-13yrs. Felmersham and Radwell Youth Club runs on Friday evenings 7-8.30pm term time only. If you would be interested in joining, please feel free to pop down for a registration form or contact Annette Franklin 783085/ fryouthclub@aol.com for any further details.

Annette Franklin

Felmersham Duck Race

Thank you to everyone in the parish that came and supported the PSA's duck race, it was a fantastic afternoon. We raised over £1,700 which is an amazing achievement. We have now hit our target of £5,000 for the schools new computers that are so badly needed. Once again many thanks to all those who have supported us.

May Services at St Marys

Normal pattern of services for May, except 8th May when there will be a Joint All Age Worship service with Felmersham and Methodists for Christian Aid at 10.15am at St Peter's, Sharnbrook. We will be having some musicians from Sharnbrook Upper School joining us for this Service. For details of other Services at St Mary's, please see back page.

Robert Evens

School Term Dates

Summer Term 2011	Wed 27 April - Fri 22 July	Half Term: 30 May - 3 June
Autumn Term 2011	Tue 6 Sept - Fri 16 Dec	Half Term: 24 - 28 October
Spring Term 2012	Wed 4 January - Fri 30 March	Half Term: 13 - 17 February
Summer Term 2012	Tues 17 April - Fri 20 July	Half Term:- 4 June - 8 June

Dog Poo Box in Felmersham

You may have wondered why the dog poo box opposite the bus shelter in Felmersham was recently overflowing. This was because during the litter pick in the village on 26 March, bags of excrement were retrieved from the hedge in Pavenham Road, and then placed in the box. Well done to those brave souls who picked it up!

felmersham.net

Bygone Felmersham and Radwell

This book is now on sale at: Sally Carr Books at Milton Ernest Garden Centre, Sharnbrook Post Office and County Town Books at 7 High Street, Bedford.

Ken Shrimpton

Items for inclusion in the next edition

The last date for receiving items to be published is noon on the 25th of each month. Items can either be posted through the letterbox of 1 Trinity Close, Felmersham, or sent via email to lorraine@felmersham.info

Editor

K. M. Lovell

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Ouse Valley Arts Festival 30 April to 8 May 2011

Sunday 1 May: *Liquorice A/lsorts* St Mary's, Felmersham at 7.30pm
Monday 2 May: *An Evening with Brian Clemens* The Barn, M.Ernest at 7.30pm
Weds 4 May: *Young Performers* St Thomas More School, Bedford at 7.00pm
Friday 6 May: *An Evening of Voice & Piano* The Barn, Carlton at 7.30pm
Sat 7 May: *Piano Recital (Piano Not Included)* St Peters, Harrold at 7.30pm
Sunday 8 May: *Guided Walk with Extras* Priory Country Park, Bedford 2.00pm

A detailed programme can be viewed at www.ousevalley.co.uk/festival or is available from 01234 781372. Tickets are available from Bedford Central Box Office 01234 269519.