

Felmersham & Radwell Community Care

– Caring For Those In Need –

Short-term help for anyone in the Parish,
Using the services of local volunteers.

Call us on **07786 344176**, leave your name

And number with the Duty Officer, and one of our local
Volunteers will contact you as quickly as possible.



Parish Diary

September

Sat 2 10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Keeble's, Radwell
Sun 3 10.15am	Choral Communion	Trinity 12 St Mary's Church
Tue 5 7.30pm	Yoga Club	Pinchmill Hall
Sat 9 10.30am	Heritage Walk / HCT Cycle Ride	Felmersham Bus Shelter
Sun 10 10.15am	Patronal Festival	St Mary's Church
Thu 14 3.00pm	Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
Sun 17 10.15am	Family Service	Trinity 14 St Mary's Church
Sun 17	Autumn Show and Village Fair	Pinchmill Hall & Field
Sun 24 10.15am	Matins & Communion	Trinity 15 St Mary's Church
Wed 27 7.30pm	Parish Plan Public Meeting	Pinchmill Hall
Fri 29 8.30am	Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning	Pinchmill Hall

October

Sun 1 10.15am	Choral Communion Harvest	St Mary's Church
Sat 7 10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Phipps', East Grange
Sun 8 10.15am	Family Service (see article)	St Mary's Church
2.00pm	Save the Children sale	East Grange, Hunts Lane
Sun 15 10.15am	Choral Communion	Trinity 18 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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Any items for inclusion should be emailed to OuseNews@justs.info, by the 25th of the month

Felmersham & Radwell

Ouse News

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On line: www.felmersham.net

September 2006

End of the Holidays

David G Mason
In the last issue of OuseNews I noted that the holidays would soon be here. Now, all too soon, for most of us the holidays are over, and we are back at work or school. Many of our younger people will be in new classes, new schools, or moving on to college or university. I wish them well in their new ventures and hope that they use and enjoy the opportunities that they will be given. But here are also opportunities for the rest of us to undertake some form of challenging studies to stimulate the 'little grey cells'. An autumn course will be run locally starting in October (more details next month). As mentioned elsewhere 'BELIEF' will be offering a most interesting series of courses at St Andrew's Church in Bedford. This location is very easy to find, and has adequate parking. I have always found that time spent at working at our faith is never wasted, and produces benefits far beyond the effort used in the exercise. Above all, the sharing together in that work has added strengths in fellowship and the learning from each other. My own experience is the faith which is not worked at is in danger of becoming weakened, or even dying, and certainly may not be strong enough to cope with the accidents and problems that beset us all from time to time. If, for whatever reason, it is impossible or difficult to embark on courses of study which are shared with others, several different Daily Bible Reading Courses are available which can be fitted into the daily schedule as convenient. I am always ready to give information and/or advice should you require it.

The autumn marks the beginning of the academic year. It is a good time to start some studying, and although this is not the usual time to make New Year resolutions perhaps you could bring one of next year's resolutions forward.

Thank You Very Much

Jane Rhodes

It is not easy to express just how much we appreciate all the love and friendship, all the letters, cards and telephone calls that we have received since the onset of David's illness. While David was in hospital it was a great comfort to know how many people were there to step in and help whenever necessary. Help has been offered from so many people; we are very touched. We know that all that support will continue and we thank you for your ongoing concern. We are so fortunate to live in such a giving community and we do not take it for granted. Thank you from both of us and from our family.

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning this month will be held at the home of Paul and Pat Keeble, on Saturday 2nd September at 10.30 am. Funds raised will be used to buy new cleaning materials for the Church

October's Coffee Morning will be held at the home of Richard and Jacky Phipps, on Saturday 7 October at 10.30am. Proceeds will be used for toilet and kitchen facilities in the Church. There will also be a Save the Children table at this Coffee Morning selling Xmas cards, Xmas paper Xmas presents etc.

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

Radwell Neighbourhood Watch

I have a Motion Detector Alarm with a telephone dialler for temporary use by any resident in Radwell who wants to protect their home when away or if an existing intruder alarm is not operational. The alarm can also be borrowed following a break-in or attempted break-in. Please contact me on 782134 for more details.

Felmersham Yoga Club

Our Autumn yoga classes begin at Pinchmill Village Hall at 7.30pm on TUESDAY 5th September. You are invited to join us for nine sessions on successive TUESDAY evenings from 7.30 to 8.30. Please bring a yoga mat, large towel or blanket. All ranges of ability are welcome from beginner onwards. Even if you can't make it for the first session, we will be pleased to see you for some or all of the others. If you have any queries, please telephone me on 781340.

Improved bus service

Major changes have been made to the bus timetable. Felmersham and Radwell now lie on route M50 from Bedford to Rushden, Higham Ferrers and Kettering. We have buses hourly in each direction and at two hour intervals on Sundays.

History tells us that upheavals to bus times and routes happen every two to five years, so if we want to keep this generous level of service, leave the car at home.

Thursday Club

Writing this on a damp and rather chilly day in August it seems a world away from our summer Garden Party held on a hot July day in Ian and Margaret Coomber's lovely garden while we listened with great pleasure to a quartet of very gifted girls - Anne, Sarah, Thea and Lily

The next meeting is on Thursday September 14th at 3.00pm and new members will be very welcome. If you need transport please telephone 781430.

Patronal Festival

This will be held in the church on Sunday 10 September at 10.15am. Congregations from the rest of the Benefice will be joining us.

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Come and be part of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday September 29th from 8.30 to 12.00 in Pinchmill Hall in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief, and help make a difference to people living with cancer. Raffle, Competitions, Bring and Buy, Toys, Books. Donations welcome. For further information, contact: Margaret Coomber, Lesley Gani, Celia Hulatt or Hazel Pearce

Lesley Gani

Reynolds Quartet at St Mary's

On a clear, still summer's evening in July Felmersham was given the rarest of treats: a top class musical performance on its doorstep. The concert, performed on period instruments by a group of young professional musicians, including local violinist Kathryn Templeman, featured three of the most formative works from the 'heyday' of the string quartet by two of its greatest exponents, Haydn and Mozart.

From the opening bars of Mozart's 'Prussian' quartet no.3 the audience was drawn into the musical equivalent of a riveting conversation between four equal voices. As each movement unfolded, the animated exchange of melodic and rhythmic ideas seemed effortlessly balanced. The rich sonorities of Haydn's quartet Op. 20 No. 2 which followed were amply conveyed through the mellower toned gut strings of the Reynolds Quartet. From the playful syncopations of the country dance style Menuetto to the lightly handled final Fuga, Haydn's masterful allusion to a cocktail of musical styles kept us rapt through to its conclusion.

The mutual admiration held by the one musician for the other was never more clearly illustrated than in Mozart's 'Haydn' quartet no. 3. Expertly interpreted by the Reynolds Quartet, here the perfect balance between parts and phrasing achieved a sort of 'divine proportion' and revealed the true influence of the master and the essence of Classical style.

In the glow of the evening light and with the door of St Mary's Church wide open, swallows whistling overhead and horses' hooves passing by, the sound world of the 1780s came to life. What more pleasurable way could be found to support a truly worthwhile charity?

More Than Just a Grand Total !

Jane and Rosalind Templeman

On behalf on Children's Homes in India Trust, we would like to thank all the many people of Felmersham and Radwell who have so generously supported our fundraising drive for the children at Bapatla. The concert raised £338.00, a wonderful result, and one which the musicians were thrilled to help raise. This, together with a donation and the proceeds of the two extraordinarily successful coffee mornings, gives a grand total of £1319.90 (more than grand, in fact!)

This sum would fully support at least 7 children (food, clothes, education etc.) for a year. However, it is possible that the Trustees will designate the money for a specific project, such as providing a sick-room or improving educational resources. We will put a note in Ouse News when decisions have been made. Once again, thank you (on behalf of the children) to all who have in any way contributed to this truly magnificent result.

Jane Wells

Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride

Stephen Hill

The annual sponsored cycle ride (or walk) organised by Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust takes place on Saturday 9th September. Participants choose their own route visiting local churches, so you can make the ride as long or as short as you like. Sponsorship proceeds are divided equally between the Trust and the church of the rider's choice. This is an opportunity to exercise yourself and your bike while contributing to St Mary's restoration fund. Please contact me on 781064 if you would like a sponsorship form or for further details. I am also looking for volunteers to staff the checkpoint at St Mary's for an hour apiece to sign through visiting cyclists.

Heritage Walk

Ken Shrimpton
All parishioners are welcome on this Ouse Valley six mile walk which is organised to coincide with the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust sponsored Bike Ride and Walk on Saturday 9th September..

We meet at Felmersham bus shelter at 10.30am where we make transport arrangements to ferry ourselves to the car park at Oakley Church. After visiting the church we will follow the river to Stevington where we visit the windmill, the church, the holy well (made famous by John Bunyan) and Stevington Baptist church. A rare and unique example of an early Baptist church and is an absolute must.

We continue following the river to Pavenham visiting the church which has all the walls lined with panels from old oak chests and return to Felmersham. Bring a packed lunch and, weather permitting, we will sit and eat it on the banks of the Ouse. On arrival in Felmersham we ferry the car drivers back to Oakley to pick up their cars.

Those who wish can make a donation to BHHCT. We all walk at our own risk.

Parish Plan Public Meeting

Carol Stork
Wednesday 27th September is not just an important date for your diary – it's your chance to help turn the Parish Plan into reality. Come along to the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27th September and lend your support to the next phase of this exciting project.

The evening will be very relaxed and informal, with drinks and nibbles to start us off, followed by a short presentation to update everyone on how the Plan took shape and what happens next. We also hope to have a county-wide perspective provided by a representative of the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity. But, the bulk of the evening will be very much over to you, and the formation of action groups to address each of the issues raised in the Plan. So, if you've been looking for an opportunity to get more involved in your community, and to meet new friends, this could be just what you've been waiting for!

If, in the meantime, you'd like more information on the Plan, or the public meeting, why not visit the Parish Plan stand at the Village Fair on Sunday 17th September. We very much look forward to seeing you there – or on the 27th!

www.felmersham.net

Ken Shrimpton

This is the last of the present short series of articles designed to encourage parishioners to visit the parish web site. Next month the site celebrates its 8th birthday and at the time of writing there have been 33,000 recorded visits.

There are some very interesting statistics: of the total number of visitors, Windows XP was used by 69.6%, Windows ME by 8.8%, Windows 98 by 8.6%, Windows 2000 by 8%, Windows 95 by 1.3%, Macintosh by 1.7%, others 2%. Visitors to a web site leave behind loads of other information about themselves and for me the most important is how they arrived. Did they arrive directly or did they use a search engine, if so which one and which keywords were used.

If you are a club leader or an active member of a group please can you take a look to see if the information is up-to-date and if it isn't then please let me know. You will find it listed under the "Leisure/Clubs" menu. If your club or activity is not shown, and you would like it listed, then please send me the details.

The "Journal" is the magazine section of the web site and is likely to continue expanding. Features include: *Then and Now*, *Pinchmill Players*, *Local Rush Industry* and *Garden in the Gutter*.

The "Church" section also includes a comprehensive guide to various aspects of the building including: *Inscriptions*, *Furnishings*, *Stain Glass*, *the Clock*, *the Bells (you can hear them)*, *the Organ*, *Corbels*, *Wall Paintings*, *Churchyard Survey*.

Recent figures show that 73% of internet access is via broadband. As a result I started to improve the quality of the images. If you still use *dial up* then some pages will take a longer to download - sorry but the wait is worthwhile!

Broadband Access

Clive Just

If you would like broadband but cannot justify the cost why not consider sharing a broadband connection with a neighbour? Wireless technology is now cheap, secure and relatively simple to set up. I would be happy to advise (free of charge!) and help people to link up. Call me on 781967 or email ousenews@justs.info if interested, particularly if you have broadband already!

Save the Children Fund

Jacky Phipps

This year the annual Save the Children Fund Christmas Sale will take place slightly earlier than usual and will be combined with the Church Coffee morning on Saturday 7th October, at East Grange, Hunts Lane. In addition to the morning session, from 10.30am - 12.30, the shop will open from 2-4pm in the afternoon. Catalogues will be distributed before the event and if you have not received one by the beginning of October, please phone me on 781789. There is a good selection of cards and also of Fair Trade goods this year. If you aren't able to come to the sale, you can order through me at any time between now and the end of November and save the cost of postage. Just let me have your order form, a cheque and your phone number and I will contact you as soon as the goods arrive. Orders normally take 10 days or less if ordered in good time.

Women's Institute

More than 65 members, their husbands, partners and friends came together in a celebration marking the 85th Birthday of the Felmersham and Radwell Women's Institute on Sunday 20th August.

Renee Whitbread and Hazel Sidebottom were specifically invited as past members, who between them had accrued more than 73 years as members of the Felmersham and Radwell WI. As the longest serving member of forty years, Hazel was invited to cut a magnificent cake made for the occasion by Mary Riley of Milton Ernest.

Thanks were offered by the Branch President Wendy Williamson for the preparation and hard work carried out by the committee to ensure a great afternoon was enjoyed by all. Special thanks went to Hazel Pearce for her superb flower arrangement and the table displays.

Karen Stokley was also thanked for her help in the planning and preparation of the luncheon and although Karen is not part of the current committee, Karen had preceded the current incumbent with a three year Presidency.

Janet Welch played a medley of tunes to welcome guests whilst sipping their pre lunch drinks and went on to accompany 'Muse and Music' in an after lunch cabaret that had the audience offering a standing ovation. The Rev. David Mason said grace and Ann and David joined the guests for lunch.

Guests offered their thanks for the splendid afternoon and many of the male contingents could be heard asking when there would be another such event?

Autumn Show

A reminder that the 8th Autumn Show is being held on Sunday 17th September in Pinchmill Hall. This is on the same day as the Village Fair so, with everything crossed for a dry day, it promises to be a lovely village occasion. As an added point of interest in the Hall this year the Art Club will also be exhibiting some of their recent work.

If you haven't got round to thinking about entering the show – it's not too late! Schedules were delivered to every house in July. If you have mislaid your copy I do have a few spares (Corn Cottage, Church End) or it can be downloaded from the Felmersham website (www.felmersham.net)

So do come along to Pinchmill Hall and Playing Field on the 17th September – enjoy all the fun of the Village Fair, enter into the spirit of a village show, admire the work of our very talented artists and end the afternoon with a delicious WI tea. All proceeds from the day go towards refurbishing the village playing field.

Children's Home's In India

The Revd George Kent will be visiting us for the Family Service on 8th October, and will be telling us about the work being done in India by the charity that we support each year at Christmas. It promises to be a most interesting occasion, and I hope it will be well supported.

BELIEF

A launch service for BELIEF (Bedford Ecumenical Lay Institute For Education And Faith) is being held at St Luke's Church, St Peter's Street, Bedford on Sunday 10 September at 6.30pm when Dr Stephen Heap will be commissioned as Director. If you are interested in attending please let me know. The Autumn programme is now out, and looks most interesting with some very good speakers. Contact me for further information.

Harvest Festival

This year the Harvest Festival will be held on 1st October, and will follow the usual format, with refreshments and tombola after the morning service. This year's Bishop's Harvest Appeal, to which we will be contributing, will be supporting TEDDO, part of the Anglican Church in Uganda and a Christian Aid partner. TEDDO is making a huge impact on individuals' lives in a troubled part of Uganda. It supports refugees, who are unable to return home, by giving them tools and seeds so that they feed themselves and make a living.

David Mason

Bell Ringing

The Beds Association of Church Bell Ringers are holding an open day on Saturday 30th September between 12.00 and 2pm to promote the exercise and generate new ringers. I hope everyone in the village will come and visit the tower.

Colin Payne

Willington's Tudor Story Comes to Life

On September 9th, the National Trust's Dovecote and Stable at Willington will be open from 1.30pm to 5pm as part of the 'History Matters – pass it on' event. Willington's Tudor story will be brought to life in two ways:

There will be story-telling sessions for families in the Tudor stables at 2.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. by Jane Lambourne. The stories will be based on local and national events during the Tudor period. There will also be a new illustrated display showing important events in the life of the village and its lord of the manor, especially during the reign of Henry VIII and the Dissolution of the Monasteries. This display has provided by the Bedford Association for National Trust Members.

The church nearby was extensively rebuilt and extended in Tudor times and

PARISH PLAN PUBLIC MEETING

The Village Hall, Felmersham

7.30 pm, Wednesday 27th September

visitors can admire its splendid east window and the Gostwick chapel while they enjoy refreshments. The proceeds from the refreshments will go towards improvements to the facilities in the church.

Harrold-Odell Country Park

Wednesday 13 September 10am–2pm - The Art of Photography

Bring your digital camera and experiment. Catch a bird in flight or the sun reflecting on the Lakes. How much light is too much? Avoid the wobbles!

Saturday 16 September 10am–2pm - Spoon and Spatula Carving

Join the Countryside Officer to learn some of the tricks of the trade to make your own kitchen spatulas and spoons. Find out which wood is the best for this and have a go at some of the tools including a shave horse, pole lathe, spoon gouge and curved knife!

There is no charge but you may care to make a donation so further events can be planned. If you would like to come on these two sessions, as numbers may be limited, please contact the Park on 720016 or Email hocp@bedscc.gov.uk

The Mill Theatre, Sharnbrook

The Diary of Anne Frank Tues. 26th – Sat. 30th September 7.45 pm. A moving drama and a true story. Not to be missed. Tickets available now, £8 and £10, from Sharnbrook Post Office or Bedford Central Box Office 269519 (credit/debit cards accepted). Party bookings - 10 tickets for the same night at 10% discount – call 781372 (excludes charity or gala performances).

PLAN AHEAD! Advance booking for *OKLAHOMA!* (17th – 25th November 7.45 pm, Saturday matinee 2.30 pm on 25th), available during above show, only at The Mill Theatre...Early booking advised!

Black and White Revival

This company has just relocated to Radwell. For further information on their specialist photograph services see the advert.

Community Notices

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity

Want To Be A Professional Interpreter?

A free 6-week training course for people aspiring to be professional interpreters.

The course will run for 6 weeks (every Friday), starting from Friday 29th September from 10:30-4:30 pm at Bedford Central Library. For more information on registering or details on the course, please call: 01442-867212.

The course is supported by Bedford Partnership Board (Bedford Borough's Local Strategic Partnership) and will be facilitated by Herts Interpretation and Translation Service. It is open to all residents of the borough who are fluent in English and any other language/s and interested in becoming professional interpreters.

Identity Theft Initiative logs on

BRCC is working with Bedfordshire Police to stamp out identity theft from data obtained from discarded computer hard disc drives.

Identity theft is a growing crime in the UK. Research has shown that 90 percent of discarded computers contain sensitive data (such as bank details) that could be used to steal individual identities. Data may be retrievable within 2 to 3 minutes, even if the drive has been reformatted.

Locations where hard drives can be taken for safe disposal are being established across the County. This service is free of charge for individuals, business users will incur a small charge. For further information about the scheme please contact David Maxwell 01767 626466 or davidm@bedsrcc.org.uk

'Step Out and Speak Up

Are you over 50 and live in the Borough of Bedford? If so then why don't you 'Step Out and Speak Up'.

The new Mature Citizens Action Group is supported by Bedford Borough Council and will give you a voice. Come along to the first meeting on Wednesday 11th October at 10:00 in the Howard Room at Bedford Corn Exchange.

Get 'Stepping Out', the bi-monthly newsletter for the Over 50s. The newsletter aims to keep residents updated on what is happening in the area, and raise awareness of relevant topical subjects. Copies are available from the Town Hall and libraries. If you are unable to obtain a copy, contact Anona (see below).

If you run an activity for the over 50s or are holding an event we would love to hear about it and may be able to include it in the next newsletter.

For further information contact Anona Thomson (Community Welfare) on 227488.