

The Alpha Course

This course is run in churches all over the world and will be running again in Odell, on Tuesday evenings at The Rectory, Church Lane, from September 11th to November 20th. Exploring the basic beliefs of Christianity, each session begins with supper at 7.30pm followed by a talk and informal discussion and is an ideal opportunity to ask all those questions you always wanted to. This is a 'Churches Together' event in partnership with Harrold & Carlton. More details from Rev Christine Clark (720234) or Jenny Quillen (720673).

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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	
September		
Sat	1 10.30am Church Coffee Morning	
Sun	2 10.15am Joint Benefice Service	St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Tue	4 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting	Pinchmill Hall
Sat	8 10.10am BHHCT Sponsored Walk	Felmersham Bus Shelter
Sun	9 10.15am Patronal Festival – Monica Robinson preaching	St Mary's
Tue	11 7.30pm Alpha Course	The Rectory, Church Lane, Odell
Thu	13 3.00pm Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	16 10.15am Choral Communion Trinity 15	St Mary' Church
Sun	16 Felmersham & Radwell Autumn Show	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	23 10.15am Matins and Communion Trinity 16	St Mary' Church
Fri	28 8.30am – 11.30am Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	30 10.15am Choral Communion Trinity 17	St Mary' Church
October		
Sat	6 10.30am Coffee Morning	

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

Assistant Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)

Churchwardens: Jane Wells (782462), Paul Keeble (782134)

Publisher: Felmersham PCC Editor: Clive Just, 2 The Old Rectory, Felmersham, MK43 7HN (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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Felmersham and Radwell online: www.felmersham.net

September 2007

The Margaret Alleway Memorial Garden

FRCT Trustees

The Garden was successfully opened on 19th August and, despite the atrocious weather "before and after" we had a window of fine weather for the actual opening. Many thanks to Truus Boyce for opening the Garden and to Peter Hartop for his excellent speech. Many of the 63 villagers there were not aware that Margaret Alleway was one of the founder-members of Felmersham and Radwell Community Care and it is thanks to her generosity to the community that the Trust was able to purchase the land and to continue to help not only Community Care but other organisations within the parish. If you would like to know more about Margaret Alleway or the FRCT, log on to felmersham.net and go to "Communication > Obituaries > Obituaries 2002" or "Organisations > Trust"

Although the Garden is now open there still remains a lot to be done - several nasty tree stumps have to be removed to below ground level, top soil spread all over and then seeded in the autumn. A member of the community has kindly donated a seat for the Garden and that will be installed shortly.

The Holidays Are Over

Rev David G Mason

For most of us our holidays will be over, and it will be time to face the seemingly long period that lasts up to Christmas. Already the nights are drawing in, and there is a distinctly autumnal feeling in the air. Now that we are all refreshed after our holidays perhaps it would be a good time to think of doing some studying to stimulate us and to strengthen and support our faith. As you will note in other parts of this publication an Alpha course is being run at Odell, also courses at Bedford are being run in Bedford by the Bedford Ecumenical Lay Institute for Education and Faith. I hope that there will be a home study group meeting in Felmersham during the autumn (more details next month). May I encourage you to undertake some form of study and reflection as part of your preparation for Advent and Christmas. Our lives can seem to get so crowded with so many things, and it is tempting to believe that we do not have time for this sort of work. But time spent in study and reflection on our lives is time well spent, it helps us to make sense of the things that happen to us, enables us to sort out our priorities, and to take more control of our lives and to give more purpose to them.

Some of you will be changing schools, going on to college, beginning new jobs, or facing other changes in your lives. I wish you success in all your ventures, and I look forward to hearing about how you get on in the future.

Autumn Show

A reminder that the 9th Autumn Show is being held on Sunday 16th September in Pinchmill Hall. The show is, once again, sponsored by Milton Ernest Garden Centre and the winner of each class will be awarded a £2 Garden Centre voucher, and the runner up a £1 voucher. If you haven't got round to thinking about entering this year – 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)

Once again the Art Club will be exhibiting some of their recent work and, as well, there will be a display of posters drawn and painted by the children of Pinchmill School.

So do come along to Pinchmill Hall on the 16th September – enter into the spirit of a village show, admire the work of our very talented local artists and round the afternoon off with a delicious WI tea.

Church Choir - Singers Needed!

That well known group (above) are seeking ladies and children to join our happy band!

Ladies - if you enjoy singing and feel you would like to come and warble with us, please do! Attendance every Sunday is certainly not compulsory - just come when you can. Robes provided. No previous experience necessary, but an ability to sing in tune would be helpful! (An ability to sight-read alto parts would make you an instant star!)

Children - do you enjoy singing? Why not come and join us in the choir pews for Family Service? You can come in your ordinary clothes, or we can lend you a robe if you would like to look posh! You do need to be able to read, of course, but we will help you find the hymns and show you what to do.

You could sing at other services, too, if you would like to and we can help you learn the hymns you don't know.

Why not come and try it for a while, and bring your family to the Family Service, too.

Both groups - if you would like to give it a try, come and see Pam (organist) or any choir member after any service, and we'll tell you more.

September Walk

Just to remind you of the walk on Saturday 8th September meeting at Felmersham bus shelter at 10am. A 5 or 7 mile walk (the choice is up to you) visiting churches in Carlton, Harrod (church and chapel), Odell, Sharnbrook and Felmersham. This is a sponsored walk but, if you dislike asking for sponsorship, then why not sponsor yourself? Everybody is welcome to join us. Everybody walks at their own risk and each person is entirely responsible for their own safety.

felmersham.net

I am still getting reports that some people are unable to access felmersham.net. If you are one of them, then try typing "Felmersham" or "Radwell" into a search engine, ie into Google or Yahoo! Look for the entry in your search results that says "Felmersham and Radwell" and click onto it. However before doing so ensure that the address line reads www.felmersham.net/ and not www.felmersham48.freeserve.co.uk/.

Course on Pastoral Care

This course, run by BELIEF, will look at some of the basics of pastoral care and how Christians might handle different pastoral situations. Sessions will be held in St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Road, Bedford at 7.45-9.30pm each Wednesday between 12th September and 10th October. Contact me on 309737 for more details.

Rev David G Mason

Mill Theatre

Book Now! for Francis Durbridge's Classic Thriller: Suddenly at Home 25th-29th Sept. nightly at 7.45pm. Sharnbrook PO or Bedford Central Box Office 269519.

Theo Gibbs

During above, only at the Theatre, Advance Book for Richard Morris' high spirited musical extravaganza Thoroughly Modern Millie 16 – 24 Nov. 7.45 pm and Matinee on Sat. 24th. Why not make up a party – 10% discount on 10+.

Village Services

Babysitting (Felmersham)	Bianca Hewlett	782063
Babysitting (Radwell)	Darina Carter	782622
Building Services	Chris Poulter	781049
Chemistry/Science/Maths tuition	Peter Rankin	782897
** Community Care – short term help for anyone in the Parish		07786 344176
Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman	782290
Electrical Services	Martin Blizard	782527
French Tuition	Marigold Sykes	781801
General Building and Renovation Work	Allan Levene	781918
German/French Tuition	Gillian Whiteway	782686
Heating and Plumbing	Ray Testa	781827
Maths Tuition	Geraldine Hubbard	781413
PC Services (wireless networks, upgrades, repairs etc)	Clive Just	781967
Social Psychology/Studies, Management	Anthea Coghlan	782332
Translation (Italian-English, French-English)	Edith Caldwell	781160
Services marked ** are free, all others are chargeable		

Ken Shrimpton

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World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Please drop in to Pinchmill Hall on Friday 28th September between 8.30am and 11.30am and be part of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Toy and book stall, games and raffle will raise money to help people affected by cancer by enabling Macmillan to provide practical, medical, emotional and financial support. For further information, please call 782222.

Felmersham Yoga

The autumn yoga sessions, announced in August's Ouse News, have had to be cancelled, as our instructor is indisposed. Details of further sessions later.

Hilary Foot

CHIT Jane and Rosalind Templeman, and Sue Whitehouse
Some of you may know that, in January, we joined a small group visiting the two homes in Andhra Pradesh which are run by CHIT (Children's Homes in India Trust). We stayed at the Bapatla home, and had a wonderful time meeting the staff, and playing, working and talking with the children. We came away with a much clearer idea of their needs, and we were quite overwhelmed by their gratitude to all the UK sponsors and supporters. There are 11 million abandoned children in India and even the smallest child in the home was aware of their own good fortune. We, in our turn, were very impressed at the loving care with which these children are nurtured, and very aware of their need to do what we can.

We were also impressed at the importance the children themselves attach to education. However, the school has very little indeed in the way of resources and is desperate for money to purchase basic equipment - perhaps this could be our next focus, now that the boys have their new toilets. (In addition, the children will soon have a special room to go when they are unwell. Thanks to you all for your contributions to those projects.)

Sue, Rosalind and Jane will be giving a short illustrated talk at the Family Service on Sunday 14th October at 10.15. Please come and learn more about our visit, and about Children's Homes in India Trust.

PS Would you consider sponsoring a child? Information and leaflets will be available, and we will be happy to answer any queries you might have.

Thursday Club

Jo Morris
If ever there was an example of the true British spirit, it was illustrated by the Thursday Club's summer garden party in the Zaki's lovely garden. The rain came down in stair-roads but the members stayed put under their umbrellas and it was not until the musicians had to retreat inside to dry out their instruments that everyone crammed into the summer house. However the rain stopped and out we went again for tea and a look around the garden.

The next meeting is on Thursday September 13th. New members welcome and please ring Joan 781722 if you need transport

Save the Children Fund

I shall be running the Christmas Shop again this year on the weekend of 6/7th October. As last year, the Saturday morning session will be combined with the Church coffee morning 10.30 -12.30, but I shall also be open on Saturday and Sunday afternoons 2-4pm at East Grange, Hunts Lane. I shall have a good stock of cards, calendars, paper and stocking fillers and this year there is an even bigger range of Fair Trade goods and 'virtual gifts'. Catalogues will be distributed around the village in September and anything that I do not hold in stock can be ordered through me until late November with no postage charge. Please come along, or put your order form and cheque through the letterbox, and get a head start on Christmas preparations at the same time as supporting this excellent cause.

Church Coffee Mornings

Jane Wells
The Coffee Morning for September, in aid of funds for toilet and kitchen facilities at the Church, will be held at the home of Ruth Coxon, on Saturday 1st September at 10.30am. If the weather is inclement the Coffee Morning will be at Riverside House Contributions of home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated.

Next month's will be hosted by Richard and Jacki Phipps on Saturday 6th October. Jacki will also be having A Save the Children Table at the coffee morning selling xmas cards, pressies etc....

Harvest Festival

Peter Rankin
The Harvest Festival service will be held on Sunday 7th October. As you are aware, parishioners are invited to donate items of produce which are then used as prizes in a tombola at the end of the service. All proceeds go to the Bishop's Harvest for the Hungry Appeal which this year is supporting 'Procares' in El Salvador (Central America) to help farmers there to grow new crops.

Every year we have a number of marrows donated and the people who win them are at a loss on how to cook them in an interesting and exciting way. To remedy this, I will provide a variety of recipes with each marrow...at no extra cost!! Mrs Beeton suggests Marrow Dumplings and Baked Marrow Pudding. Delia has a lovely recipe of Baked Marrows with tomato and coriander. If your tastes are more exotic, what about Lamb stuffed Marrow, Marrow Barfi, Marrow Bhaji, Marrow and Dahl, Marrow Halwa, Marrow Kofta, Marrow with lentils, Marrow Raita, or a variety of Loki recipes?????

Do not let the idea of winning a marrow put you off taking part in the Tombola. If you cannot attend the service please leave the money for a ticket or two with me and I will see if we can win a marrow plus a recipe for you. If you do not win a marrow you will receive some other prize

On a sombre note, I lost my radio controlled boat on the river at the start of August...has anyone seen it?