

## 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
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thu	3.00pm	Thursday Club	Pinchmill Hall
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue	7.30pm	Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall

### September

Sat	6 10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Shrimptons
Sun	7 8.30am	P3 Breakfast Walk	Felmersham (Church) Bus Shelter
Sun	7 10.15am	Patronal Festival	(JBS) St Mary's Church
Sun	14 10.15am	Family Service - Trinity 17	St Mary's Church
Sat	13	BHHCT Cycle Ride and Walk	
Sun	14	Felmersham and Radwell Autumn Show	Pinchmill Hall
Fri	19 8.00pm	Wildlife Trust - Wild Flowers talk	Sharnb'k Methodist Church
Sun	21 10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 18	St Mary's Church
Mon	23 7.45pm	Time of My Life opening night	Sharnbrook Mill Theatre
Sat	27 3.00pm	Wedding	St Mary's Church
Sun	28 10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 19	(JBS) St Mary's Church

### October

Sat	4 10.30am	Coffee Morning	The Welsh's
Sun	5 10.15am	Choral Communion - Harvest	St Mary's Church
Sun	12 10.15am	Family Service - Trinity 21	St Mary's Church
Tue	14 10.00am	Save the Children Sale (until 7pm)	
Sun	19 10.15am	Trinity 22	(JBS) St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook
Sat	25 2.00pm	Wedding	St Mary's Church

(JBS) – Joint Benefice Service with Sharnbrook and Souldrop churches

**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](mailto:ousenews@justs.info), with OuseNews in the Subject line by the 25th of the month

# Ouse News

Sponsored by Chesham Insurance Brokers

Villages online: [www.felmersham.net](http://www.felmersham.net)

August/September 2008

## Forward to the Future

David G Mason

The holiday season is nearly over, and most people face a return to the 'usual' routine. Memories of the events of the holidays just enjoyed are beginning to fade, and the next break from the pattern of work seems to be a long way off. The days are getting shorter, and it could be a depressing outlook. But for many there are changes ahead. Some will be starting school for the first time, and some will be changing school, others will be going to college or university, or starting paid work for the first time. For these the anticipation of the times ahead is exciting and possible a little frightening. Many will be worried about the future as costs are rising so rapidly and there is concern about energy supplies

Life has often been compared to a journey, a one way journey. We move from birth to childhood, to adulthood, to old age, and finally to death. At first we tend to look forward, there is very little past to contemplate. But as our journey through life continues we tend to think of the past more. It is good to enjoy the good memories of past events and relationships, and also to remember more difficult times when life was more difficult. There is a natural tendency to look with 'rose coloured spectacles' that can cloud our vision so that the 'bad' bits are filtered out. As we face the future, and things look grim, we must not become too pre-occupied with past memories when 'things were so much better'. Let us look forward to the future, and trust that we will be able to meet the challenges as they arise. Let us look forward to the future with optimism rather than pessimism, knowing that there will be difficulties ahead, but that there will also be good things to which we will look back with pleasure in the future.

God has given us so many good things, and the freedom to use or abuse them. Let us use the present difficult times to consider how we may make the best use of these things, and how to avoid mis-using and abusing them. I am sure that God has provided abundant resources to meet all our needs. I also believe that God intends that we should enjoy his gift of life to us, and has provided us though the gospels the way to live fulfilled lives and fulfilled relationships with others so that we may work together to develop and use all the good things that he gives us. Let us seek to follow the gospel way that leads to salvation.

## Barnardos Collection

Laurie Jones

Many thanks to the people of Marriotts Close, Harrowden Farm Cottages and The Slip who contributed the generous total of £61.70 to the recent collection for Barnardos. It is much appreciated.

### **Churchyard Cleaning**

Thank you to all who helped with the gardening at St. Mary's Churchyard on 18th July. Thankfully, the weather remained fine so a lot of weeding, strimming and cutting was achieved. The churchyard looks much smarter now from all your hard work. Thank you all.

### **World War II Stories**

I am hoping to collate a book of local World War II stories. This is something I have wanted to do since being at school but I never actually got round to it.

I am hoping to get sponsorship for it so it should cost anything to print. I would be looking for photo's – that will all be returned. Stories which can be posted, emailed, or I would happy to come and scribe.

This is something that should be done before it is too late to collect this info first hand – of which so many stories have already been lost.

My contact details are: Rachel Day, 709811

### **Radwell Open Gardens Update**

A big thank you to all of those who took part in the Red Cross open Gardens on Sunday 13th July, including those of you who came to visit them and who bought teas and plants..

All of those residents who opened worked extremely hard in the weeks leading up to the big day, battling with the wind and rain , but on the day we were extremely lucky with the weather and all agreed that it was a wonderful way to share our passion for gardening , whilst at the same time raising money for a worthwhile cause.

In total we had 213 visitors and raised the fantastic sum of £1251.48.

### **10 years at St Mary's**

Rev David Mason will complete 10 years as our priest towards the end of September. We are celebrating David's dedicated service to the parish at Harvest Festival in church on Sunday 5th October at 10:15am.

During the last 10 years David has been associated with many families in the parish through baptisms, marriages and funerals so please join us at Harvest to thank David for all the work he has done.

### **Save the Children Fund**

I shall be selling Christmas cards, wrapping paper and stocking-fillers again this year on Tuesday 14th October from 10am until 7pm at my house. I shall be stocking a slightly narrower range than in previous years but, I hope, taking more catalogue orders. We have a new supplier and are promised prompt delivery. Catalogues will be distributed in advance of 14th October and, if you are not able to attend the sale, I shall be taking orders until the end of November. You can call me on 781789.

### **Autumn Show and Art Exhibition**

A reminder that the Felmersham & Radwell Autumn Show and Art Exhibition will

be held on Sunday 14th September in Pinchmill Hall. Schedules have been delivered to every house. We do have a few spare if necessary - please ring 782031 or 781072 - or they can be downloaded from <http://www.felmersham.net>

We look forward to welcoming you to the 10th Autumn Show however please note, there is a small change to the schedule. Unfortunately Justin North is unable to judge the photographs, so they will now be judged by Richard Wallis.

### **Church Coffee Morning**

**Jane Wells**

This month's Coffee Morning will be hosted by Ken and Lorraine Shrimpton on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 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 welcome.

Next month it will be at the home of Barry and Janet Welsh on Saturday 4th October 2008

### **Yoga**

**Julie Black**

A reminder that Yoga classes will restart at Pinchmill Hall, Thursdays 8-9pm, during term time. For more information contact me on 823304.

### **WI Meeting**

If you are still unsure what to do with your time this summer, and you are seeking a great holiday and challenge, why not consider walking Wainwright's Coast to Coast? Our speakers, Mike and Gill McKeever, are veterans and great enthusiasts of this 192-mile walk from the Lake District to the North Yorks. Moors. Mike has written a book about his experiences as well as songs that are available on his CD. In short, this couple are in love with this walking experience, and through slides and narration, invited us along on their many journeys.

This 15-stage walk is possible to do in a 14-day holiday, and using one of Wainwright's 66 books on the walk, you can't get lost or not enjoy some of the most remarkable beauty in England. Mike gave an interesting biography of Wainwright who died, age 92, in 1991. He was a remarkable artist, his pen and ink sketches still treasured today depicting the route and careful directions. Some contain homespun philosophy about nature and the experiences of walking this spectacular route. Wainwright was keener on nature than on people, and although at times introverted and eccentric, people grew to love how he wrote and his love of walking.

Our talk concluded with tips for how to organise and prepare for the walk. If you would like further information and help, you can buy Mike's book "Coast to Coast on an In-Growing Toenail."

### **Children's Homes in India Trust**

**Jane Templeman and Sue Whitehouse**

We thought you might like to know how things are going at the children's home in Bapatia. Our collection for CHIT at the Carol Service last year, together with other donations, has been used to very good effect, making a direct difference to the health and education of the children we support.

As you might know, last autumn the Home had significant problems with floods, sickness and a 'plague' of mosquitoes after the monsoon: the Red Cross provided urgent help, including treatment for those with TB or anaemia. The money we raised has helped to provide further vitamins and medicines. It has also helped to purchase new mosquito nets and mosquito extermination devices, water filters and various medical equipment (including a microscope) for the newly-built sick bay.

On the education front, CHIT has raised teachers' salaries (they had been working for half-pay,) and continues to support college students. Our money has helped to buy new (much-needed) English books and other equipment, but there is still a great deal to do in terms of resources and teaching expertise.

As ever, every penny is used for the benefit of the children and many are still in need of sponsors. Is anyone interested in sponsoring a child, or perhaps the nurse (Madhavi), or one of the teachers? Can you help with this by passing on that message to others? And, of course, donations are always very gratefully received. There are leaflets in the church.

Thank you again to all for your incredible generosity.

#### **Parish Council Meeting**

**Maggie Spoor**  
Matters arising at the meeting of Felmersham and Radwell Parish Council on 1st July included a report that the litter bins attached and adjacent to the various bus shelters are still not being emptied. The Clerk to contact DSD again.

Highways. Peter Hartop and Marjorie Pipe reported on their meeting with four representatives of Bedfordshire Highways. The Parish Council raised the following: poor maintenance of roadside gripes leading to localised flooding; pot holes; damaged road edges; overgrown verges; overhanging vegetation; speeding traffic and the unsatisfactory resurfacing of the road between Radwell and Milton Ernest. County Council Highways promised to address these issues.

Other highway matters reported - Radwell Road often now flooded, possibly due to a collapsed culvert. Councillors were unhappy with the poor finish applied to the resurfaced Marriotts Close. Road closures will affect Harrold Bridge, Carlton Rd and Odell High St through August and into September. Residents are advised to look out for signs. Roads will be closed from 9.30am to 15.00.

The proposed speed activated sign in Felmersham would need to be solar powered as there is no electricity supply. The "Give Way" white lines at Radwell bridge are to be re-painted.

Planning. The Parish Council had received thanks from the Borough for its contribution to the consultation process of the Local Development and Rural Issues Plan. Peter Hartop reported that the proposed travellers caravan site at Bletsoe had been rejected by the planning committee after a two hour meeting.

Radwell. Mrs Keeble was very pleased with the new seat on Radwell Green. It was explained that the tiled surface could not be repaired - problems with adhesion. The old County Council notice board is to be removed. Street light globes are dirty and need cleaning. The willow tree at the approach to Radwell bridge was causing some motorists problems. Mrs Keeble reported that there

was a notice in the 'phone box to say it was to be removed. She also asked why there were no "No cold calling" signs in Radwell - answer: this was a Borough Council initiative. The Clerk will try to get signs for Radwell.

Finance. Following his letter to the Rural Affairs committee, Peter Hartop is to have a site meeting with Councillor Clifton and Mr Simpkins regarding the play equipment grant.

Date of next meeting - 2nd September, 7.30 pm in Pinchmill Committee Room

#### **BHHT Bike 'n Hike**

**Stephen Hill**

The annual sponsored cycle ride and walk organised by Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust takes place on Saturday 13 September. You choose your own route visiting local churches, so you can make the ride or walk as long or as short as you like. Sponsorship proceeds are divided equally between the Trust and the church of your choice. This is an opportunity to exercise yourself and your bike and have an enjoyable day out while contributing to St Mary's restoration fund. Please contact me on 781064 if you would like a sponsorship form or for further details, or if you would like to man the checkpoint at St Mary's for an hour to sign through visiting cyclists.

#### **Harrold Odell Country Park 2008**

**Rosemary Barrett**

The Friends' Group has been fortunate enough to have been given a grant from Awards for All that has enabled them to purchase two wheelchairs for use by visitors when in the Park. They are in the Discovery Room in the Visitor Centre and may be used by anyone, so even if you have a temporary disability and want to join in with activities or just go for a walk around the Lakes, you will still be able to do so.

Events at the Park are designed for people of all abilities. You don't have to know it all before you join in with an event!. If you have particular needs it may be helpful if you let us know and we can provide additional helpers and often equipment, to make it as enjoyable as possible.

Spoons and Spatulas - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 12 - 3pm

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 with some of the tools including a shave horse, pole lathe, spoon gouge and curved knife.

This is a drop in session. No need to pre-register.

#### **Friends of Harrold-Odell Country Park**

**Rosemary Barrett**

Conservation tasks 2008 - Come and join in with practical work to enhance the park for wildlife and visitors on the following date. Keep fit for free!

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> Sep and Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 10am - 3pm wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Drinks provided. Come for an hour or two or stay as long as you like.

**ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, CARLTON  
PATRONAL FESTIVAL WEEKEND**

Saturday 6th September 7.30pm

St. Mary's Church Presents  
**THE LINFORD ENSEMBLE**

A varied programme of classical music  
for strings and wind

**Tickets £8 & £6 (concessions)**

from PCC members, at the door and  
from Carlton Village Shop

Also

**Cream Teas At The Church**

From 3pm to 5pm on

Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th September

Tower open from 3pm to 5pm on Saturday ☐☐



**PAVENHAM & FELMERSHAM CRICKET CLUB**

**ANNUAL DINNER AND TROPHY PRESENTATION**

**PAVENHAM VILLAGE HALL**

**SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER 2008 AT 7 P.M. FOR 7.30 P.M.**



❖ **FOUR COURSE MEAL**

❖ **DISCO**

**Dress code: DJ optional**

**TICKETS AT £22.50 PER HEAD FROM:**

**BRIAN BOTTERO TEL: 01234 825367**

**IAN MCKENZIE: TEL: 01234 825867**

**Green Flag Award for Harrold-Odell Country Park**

Harrold-Odell Country Park has been recognised as one of England's best green spaces by being awarded Green Flag status.

The County Council believes the substantial improvements it has been making to the park in recent years has made the park welcoming, safe, well maintained and attracted strong involvement from the local community - all key areas to achieve the Green Flag award. The park was also judged on its environmental performance, buildings and signage.

A big thank you must go to the park staff and the Friends group who have worked hard to ensure the park enhances the quality of life for all its visitors.

The Green Flag Award is a key component of the Government's commitment to create cleaner, safer, green communities.

For information on all winners please visit: [www.greenflagaward.org.uk](http://www.greenflagaward.org.uk)

### **P3 Breakfast Walk**

Work up a healthy appetite for breakfast by joining the Felmersham and Radwell P3 group for an early morning walk from Felmersham to Harrold-Odell Country Park on Sunday 7th September. Starting at 08.30 from the bus shelter opposite St Mary's Church, we'll walk along the river and arrive at the Park in time for breakfast at Teazels cafe around 09.30.

Depending on how energetic you have been en route, you can opt for a full breakfast (£6.75 per head) including orange juice or tea/coffee. Or for a lighter bite, there's the option of a bacon sandwich and a filter coffee or tea for £5.30, or a drink and toasted tea-cake for £3.55. (A full vegetarian breakfast and veggie sausage sandwiches are available for those who would prefer a non-meat option.)

Returning to Felmersham by the same route, we should be back by around 11.30am.

If you would like to join us, please let Carol Stork know on 782769, so that we can give the cafe an idea of numbers to cater for a little in advance.

### **Friends of Harrold Medical Practice**

The Friends are holding their AGM at the Surgery, Peach's Close Harrold on Tuesday 18th November 2008 at 7.30pm.

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 the villages that have patients that use the Practice.

To enable the proposed Medical Car Service to get off the ground more volunteer drivers, willing to use their own cars and give their time to help less able members of the community, are needed. We are working in partnership with Wellingborough Community Transport to set up this service, to take elderly and disabled residents to their medical/hospital appointments. Mileage expenses are paid. If you are interested, then call 01933 228844 for more details. Many thanks to those who have already expressed an interest in helping with this project.

If you would like to find out more about the Friends and the work that we do please contact Frances Hirst on 825212

### **Sharnbrook Mill Theatre**

We are pleased to announce a change to our Autumn Programme: Time of my Life by Alan Ayckbourn - 23rd - 27th September 2008, nightly at 7.45 pm (replacing Our Town). Tickets: £8 - £10 will be available from Sharnbrook Post Office and Bedford Central Box Office 269519 from Tuesday 26th August.

Advance Booking for Aladdin ~ our own spectacular traditional pantomime ~ Friday 5th - Saturday 13th December 2008, nightly, with two Saturday matinees ~ will be available during Time of My Life - but only at The Mill Theatre - Take this opportunity to book early!

### **Squash Competition**

As a trial run, we have had a small squash, or more correctly a giant squash, competition in the village. I use the term small as there are only seven contestants. I use the term giant as the final products should be very large.

The prize to the winner will be the sum of £5. Dad tried to lose this on a horse but I managed to stop him. To date there are only 3 surviving plants and the leader is a Mr J Stokley who has the largest tendrils. Ask Mr Hewlett to show you his plant. Hopefully the final specimens will be exhibited in the Autumn show.

It would be nice that after the resounding failure this year we could, as a village, repeat the exercise more successfully next year on a whole village basis. My Dad, Peter Rankin, would like to ask if someone would be willing to take this on...it has lots of potential e.g. the final specimens could eventually be used to carve giant Halloween lanterns. I would be willing, with my friend the Podge Ure, to judge any competition.

If you have not guessed, or do not know, I am of the feline persuasion and I find typing very difficult. My phone number is 782897.....ask for Dorothy.

### **Calling All Children**

I am looking into starting a Youth Club in Pinchmill Hall for Felmersham and Radwell children ONLY aged 8-13 years. This will probably be term time only, Friday's 6-8pm.

Before things can move forward, I would like to know the interest from the children and what sort of things they would like. So please can you/your child complete the form below and return it to me at 23 Marriotts Close, Felmersham.

If not enough forms are returned, this venture WILL NOT be able to go ahead.

Thank you - Annette (Ben's Mum) Tel - 783085

-----  
Please circle as appropriate and return to 23 Marriotts Close, Felmersham

**Name:**

**Phone No:**

I would be interested in attending the youth club:

Yes / No

I am happy to pay a small donation on attendance:

Yes / No

I would be willing to help on occasions:

Yes / No

The best time for the club would be :

6-8pm / 6.30-8.30pm

Please write three things you would like to do at the Youth Club

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Dorothy Rankin**