

Parish Diary

From the May Register

May 19 Funeral of Mrs Nellie Course

June

Sat 5 10.30am Coffee Morning Marchwood, Grange Rd
Sun 6 10.15am Holy Communion
Sun 13 10.15am Family Service
Tue 15 7.30pm Women's Institute Annual Outing Pinchmill Hall
Sat 19 7.30pm Village Hall Summer BBQ & Dance Pinchmill Hall
Sun 20 10.15 am Holy Communion
Tue 22 Deanery Service of Healing Ravensden Church
Sat 26 Wedding of Rebecca Shaw and James Harland-Fairweather
Sun 27 9.30am Light House Pinchmill Hall
10.15am Matins

July

Wed 7 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting Pinchmill Hall

Priest in Charge: Rev David Mason (309737)

Churchwardens: Ken Shrimpton (781381), Rosemary Brough (782104)

Items for next month's Ouse News should be sent to Clive Just, 2 The Old Rectory by the 25th of the month, at the very latest. It would be most helpful if items were sent via email to CliveJust@bigfoot.com; on disk in plain ASCII; typed or printed. Phone 781967 for more details.

Felmersham & Radwell Ouse News

On line: www.felmersham48.freeserve.co.uk

June 1999

Pinchmill School

David Knowles

At their meeting on the 26th April the school Governors accepted the resignation of Mrs Dingley effective from 31st August 1999, from her post as head teacher of Pinchmill Lower School. The Governors, in accepting Mrs Dingley's resignation, congratulated her on her appointment to a headship in the County of Norfolk but expressed their very real sadness at the prospect of losing a friend and colleague who has given dedicated service to our community school over the last five and a half years.

Mrs Dingley will leave Pinchmill knowing that the school is in the very top flight of small rural lower schools. It is a school that is in good heart, positive and confident as to its future. Her contribution in all its achievements has been a outstanding and we will miss her very much.

The Governors, together with the Local Education Authority will be seeking to make an appointment for January. They will make an acting head appointment for the September term, as the timescale for advertisements, appointments and notice period will not allow a permanent appointment to be made earlier. Teachers are required to give notice that is effective from an end of school term. In the case of existing heads the deadline for notice is the end of April or the end of September and in the case of non-headteachers the end of May and October.

The work of the school will continue and I anticipate no other changes in the day to day teaching and non-teaching arrangements. In the meantime, I know that Mrs Dingley will continue to give unstintingly of her own time. I am confident that we will attract good candidates from which to make an appointment and that the school will continue to move forward and further develop standards of excellence and opportunity that have characterised Mrs Dingley's years at Pinchmill.

Christian Aid

Gill Greenish

Thanks to all who collected and contributed to this year's Christian Aid week. The total raised was £157.35 .

Home Watch Urgent Message

Félice Kingerlee

The police are warning about burglaries that occurred after householders recently received a phone call saying they had won a prize. The caller asks for the postcode and name and then finds out when people will be in or out. 80 percent of those receiving such calls have been burgled afterwards. Don't give details to strangers on the phone.

Changing The Lectionary

David G Mason

In 1980 the Alternative Service Book (ASB) was brought into general use, it was envisaged that it would be in use for twenty years. In recent years this service book has been under scrutiny, and a number of revisions have been recommended, while others are being prepared. The revision which will have the greatest effect is the change in the lectionary to the Revised Common Lectionary. Most Churches have already adopted this Lectionary, and our PCC have agreed that we should be using it from Trinity Sunday onwards.

The ASB Lectionary that we have been using for the last twenty years was thematically based, a different theme being set for each Sunday, and readings considered appropriate were provided to suit the theme. Some themes worked better than others, and after twenty years some of the themes have lost their impact. The main disadvantage of the thematic approach has been a loss of continuity of the bible readings. The Lectionary that we shall be using was one of the fruits of the second Vatican Council, and has been adopted by many different denominations. It runs on a three year cycle, with one of the synoptic gospels being concentrated on each year for the gospel reading, with portions of the fourth (St John's) gospel being used for a part of each year. The system appears to be working well in those churches which have already adopted it, I will be interested to hear any comments you may wish to make about it.

I mentioned earlier that there were other revisions being made to the ASB. New Eucharistic prayers are being produced, and some of the services will be altered. Any changes will be discussed in the PCC before they are brought into use here, and I will endeavour keep you all informed of the changes before they are implemented.

[Ed – We are sorry but owing to technical difficulties David Mason's previous article never made it into the last edition of OuseNews]

Women's Institute

May Mills

Cake or current affairs? Pudding or politics? Home cooking or healthy debate? If you associate the Women's Institute with the former and not the latter, then think again! The month of May ushers in the presentation of the annual resolutions, which are voted on nation-wide and subsequently submitted to the government. This year the subjects were as diverse as ever: genetically engineered food; ovarian cancer; women's human rights; the decline of the agricultural industry. The stereotypical W.I. image was not completely absent, however, because following the discussion we could be found tasting a mouth-watering selection of home cooking, including pudding and cake!

Coffee Morning

Ronald Watson

The coffee morning in aid of the Felmersham Church Restoration Fund will be held at the home of Don and Judy Gough, Marchwood, Grange Road, Felmersham on Saturday 5 June at 10.30a.m.

Contributions of home made cakes, toiletries, and produce will be most welcome for the bring and buy stall. All friends are welcome.

Bonfire Night – time for a change?

Hilary Wight

The Village Hall Committee has proposed that the traditional Felmersham & Radwell Bonfire Night does not take place this year and that a Halloween Party for children and parents is held instead at some point over the previous weekend.

The principal reason behind this is the feeling that Village Hall funds cannot hope to meet today's expectations of increasingly elaborate pyrotechnic displays. As 5th November falls on a Friday this year it is likely that many displays will be held on the same day, and bigger displays elsewhere will inevitably draw people away.

In addition there is the question of how much of a nuisance or hazard a bonfire and fireworks might be to people living in the new houses adjacent to the usual site. And finally, but not least, there is a difficulty in that the pool of organisers available is rather small, stretched and distinctly short of menfolk!

The committee recognises that Bonfire Night is a long-standing tradition and is keen to seek your views. If you feel strongly that this event should be retained and are willing to participate in its organisation, please contact me (781888) - or any committee member – to discuss your idea. A final decision will be made at the next VHC meeting on Monday 12 July and announced in Ouse News.

Milton Ernest Pig Roast

Richard Ward

Due to the demise of the village pub at Milton Ernest, an event not unknown in Felmersham, a new venue has been arranged for the Milton Ernest Pig Roast - The Swan at Radwell. This will take place on 28th August and as well as being a great family day out and fun evening we shall be raising money in aid of the Beds & Northants Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre in Barkers Lane plus a donation for the Felmersham Brownies. There will be live music during the day and early evening followed by a late evening disco. Various fun, charity and craft stalls will be there along with a tombola and raffle prize stall, and in the afternoon there will be a fun tug of war competition interspersed with other events such as a Line Dancing demonstration. Two whole pigs, spit roasted, served with salad will be available for purchase during the day (this is the main fund raising element). Make a date for your diary, support local charities and have a great day out.

Further details will be posted nearer the date or contact the committee members, John Lucas (781797) , Kevin King (824293) or Richard Ward (824013). Alternatively talk to John and Lucy, the management of The Swan at Radwell.

Harrold Lawn Tennis Club

Hazel How

Members are delighted with the newly resurfaced tennis courts. The special surface dries quickly and is proving to be very successful. The most popular time for playing is in the morning, starting at 10.00am. On most mid-week mornings both courts are occupied and on sunny days there are as many as 16 people wanting to play. In the summer holidays the Juniors play frequently and try to emulate Tim Henman. Some of the Juniors are showing great promise.

New members are most welcome. Details of membership can be obtained from Alan Dynes, Wykes Farm, Carlton: telephone 720853. The subscription is £35 for adults and £15 for juniors and there are special rates for families.

Parish Council Meeting

Maggie Spoor

Notes from the meeting held on Tuesday 11th May. 5 members of the Council, the Clerk, and one parishioner attended this meeting. There were apologies from Mr Smith and Mr Cook. PC Martin Anstey joined the meeting later.

Mrs Spoor was re-elected Chairman, Mr Cook re-elected Vice-Chairman.

Burial Ground: The Chief Archaeologist has detailed the exploratory work necessary before obtaining planning permission. This can now go out to tender.

Meeting with Raglan Housing Association/Pilgrim Housing/Borough Housing Officer: a group of Councillors attended when the allocation criteria were discussed. Pilgrim Housing Association, in charge of letting the houses, are reducing their requirements on occupancy - but only by one. That is, in a three bedroom house they will allow one bedroom to be unoccupied. They are also being flexible on the rules regarding income and equity. The message from Pilgrim was - if you are unsuccessful at first do re-apply. Contact Deborah Pusey at Pilgrim direct on Bedford 221360.

Other items discussed included the tenancy agreements, arrangements for future lettings and lighting. Councillors discussed the four names suggested for the site - Dropshort Close, Pinchmills, Brook Farm Close and Swansholme. It was decided to call the site 'Swansholme'. *(If you have a copy of Ron Draycott's 'Grain and Chaff' you might like to look this name up in there).*

The Open Morning on Saturday 22nd May, had to be postponed

P C Martin Anstey of the new Police Station in Riseley joined the meeting. He told us about his work and how the Station operates. They hope to use volunteers to man the station and answer the telephone - Bedford 275175.

Finance Insurance is due for renewal. Quotes are being obtained. The Village Hall Committee are buying new curtains with the Borough Council's grant. Details of other payments and receipts will be detailed in the Minutes.

Grasscutting Mr Horne has the grass cutting contract again this year. He also now cuts along the path between Felmersham and Radwell and will be keeping the graveyard extension tidy. Mr Cardy had already advised that the grass bank outside his house was not being cut. It may have to be strimmed.

Highway Report Parking on the High Road Phoenix Paving Ltd of Kettering had quoted £4888 to lay block paviors along the verge for parked cars. Money available through the Highway Maintenance Partnership would not now be possible because (i) The work would have to be done by the County Council contractors and (ii) The amount of money available to us, £1,500, still left a substantial shortfall.

The Council agreed to request that the drainage pipe under Pavenham Road be enlarged to prevent flooding.

Millennium It was agreed to order the millennium mugs from McLaggan Smith Mugs Ltd. The mugs will be presented to children in the parish and will also be on sale. The Flagpole - The Clerk will write to the PCC regarding this.

The next meeting is on WEDNESDAY 7th July at 7.30 pm.

Village Quiz

Ken Shrimpton

Several friends have volunteered to organise a Village Quiz on Saturday 25 September 1999 at 7-30pm. Funds raised will be used to finance the construction of the Millennium Cross to be erected on the church tower. The quiz will be a friendly and light-hearted team event with Chris Spoor as the Quiz Master. Please note the date in your diary.

felmersham48 dot

Ken Shrimpton

One of the features of all web sites is that they are continually changing and expanding and Felmersham Web Site is no exception. Recent additions are local bus and London train times, info on Luton Airport, Village Hall details and Ouse News on Line. However we still need more local community input, for instance there is only one village club (Sharnbrook Cubs). If you have free web space and are a member of a local club or organisation why not have a go. The technology is new and it really is not that difficult. Please contact Clive Just or myself for more details. The web site address is www.felmersham48.freeserve.co.uk

Village Hall Summer BBQ With Music and Dancing 19th June from 7.30

At Pinchmill School & Village Hall

After last years very successful Summer Ball, the Village Hall Committee have decided to follow this up with a summer BBQ with Music and Dancing.

Bring your friends.

A Bar will be provided so this time don't bring your own, we will be providing the music and food for a ticket price of £10 per head.

Tickets are in demand, so book your party in now.

Ring the Village Hall Committee members, see one of our posters that are set up in the village, or ring Dave Chandler on 782868 NOW.

COME ALONG AND HAVE A GOOD TIME.

NUNSENSE

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre, 24, 25*, 26 June

Back by popular demand!! Those Sisters of Swing are at it again! After an overwhelming response to 'Nunsense' in February 1999 at The Mill Theatre, the cast of this hysterically funny, if mildly irreverent romp, are delighted to return to the boards once more. If you missed it before, don't miss it now and if you saw it before, we know you'll want to see it again! Hallelujah!

* Sharnbrook Mill Theatre Trust and St Peters Church, Sharnbrook invite you to a Charity Gala Performance of Nunsense on 25th June, 7.45pm Tickets: £10 including wine from The Village Trader, 28 High Street, Sharnbrook from 1st June

LAKESIDE MUSIC

SHARNBROOK HOUSE

What is Lakeside Music? It's an evening of magical music in the gardens of Sharnbrook House, High Street, Sharnbrook, Bedfordshire in aid of Sharnbrook House Residential Care Home in association with WRVS and British Red Cross, Bedfordshire Branch on Saturday 3rd July 1999 from 6.30pm to 10.30pm

Sharnbrook House is a listed building in delightful grounds with gardens that go down from the house to a lake and Sharn Brook.

We will be presenting a variety of musical entertainment including a string quartet, a wind ensemble, jazz, brass and choral music. A harpist will add to the magic. There will be continuous music from two stages positioned in different corners of the gardens. Professional sound experts will ensure everyone throughout the gardens, can enjoy all the music.

You are welcome to come and go as you please. We are inviting you to bring your own picnics, rugs, chairs and tables. We will provide you with a glass of fizz when you arrive and a wine and soft drinks bar will be available. Dress is informal - or formal if you prefer it - but some warm clothing may be needed for later.

Who is Performing? All those taking part are well-known local groups who have kindly agreed to give their services free of charge and we are most grateful to them for their support: Albany Consort, Bedford Brass, Bedford Jazz Quartet, Beverley String Quartet, Byrd Consort, Riseley Singers, Emma Weatherill (harp)

Who will benefit from the Proceeds? Half of the proceeds of the evening will be for Sharnbrook House Residential Day Care Home. It will help to fund the cost of the recently installed lift which is proving invaluable to the residents. The other half will be used to help fund the work of the Bedfordshire Branch of the British Red Cross. The money raised will fund the purchase of one or more mobile defibrillators: a lifesaving piece of equipment in treating cases of cardiac arrest.

How much are the tickets and how does one get them? Tickets: £10 each, family ticket £25 for 2 adults and up to 3 children. They can be obtained from:

Rachel Friend, c/o Sharnbrook House, High St, Sharnbrook. Tel: 781294

Jo Whitney, British Red Cross, 99 Ashburnham Rd, Bedford. Tel: 349166

Central Box Office, Harpur Suite, Harpur Street, Bedford Tel: 269519. (24 hours)

MILLENNIUM 2000 CELEBRATION

The Village Hall Committee has arranged a

MILLENNIUM CELEBRATION at the Village Hall on New Years Eve.

It is planned to hold an event that is open to ALL villagers and their friends and family – of any age.

Why not celebrate at your own village Millennium event?

Links in with other village events
so you won't miss out on the celebrations.

It's time to get organised and book your places.

Telephone or speak to any of the
village hall committee or telephone
Hilary Wight 781888
And book your space

Wondering what to do? – Now you know

ALL WELCOME

