

Parish Diary

July Parish Register

3 July Wedding of Sharon Molloy and Stephen Honeywood
17 July Wedding of Leigh Martin and Michael Richardson
24 July Wedding of Victoria Latham and Anthony Smith

August

Sat 3 10.30am Coffee Morning Meadowbank, Pavenham Rd
Sun 1 10.15am Holy Communion
Sun 8 10.15am Family Communion Service
Sun 15 10.15am Holy Communion
Sat 21 Felmersham v Radwell Cricket Match
Sun 22 10.15am Matins (BCP) followed by Holy Communion (BCP)
Sat 28 Pig Roast at The Swan, Radwell
Sun 29 10.15am Holy Communion

September

Sun 5 10.15am Patronal Festival Preacher: Canon Anthony Hulbert
Sun 5 11.00am Dog Show Sharnbrook Mill Theatre
Sun 12 Harvest Festival Family Service
Sun 19 Felmersham and Radwell Autumn Show

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. It would help if items were either emailed to CliveJust@bigfoot.com; sent on disk; or typed. Phone 781967 for more details.

Dads and Lads Haircuts at The Sun

Fridays 3pm to 8pm
Saturdays 8am to Noon

Felmersham & Radwell Ouse News

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

August 1999

Congratulations

Congratulations to George and Dorothy Galliver who recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary and to Dick and Doris Aitken who celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary on the 5th August.

Felmersham Yoga Club

Hilary Foot

A note for your diaries - Yoga classes restart at the Village Hall on Monday evenings in early September. More details next month or from me on 781340.

Sponsored Cycle Ride

Ken Shrimpton

On Saturday 11 September the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust is holding its annual Sponsored Cycle Ride. Half the monies raised in this parish will go to the BHHCT and the other half towards our own church restoration fund. If you are interested in cycling in order to help finance the restoration of our local churches and chapels then please contact Stephen Hill on 781064 for details. We also need volunteers during the day to welcome cyclists and walkers to our own parish church, please ring 781064 for details. Stephen will be cycling for Felmersham on the day, so if you wish, you could sponsor him!

W.I.

May Mills

Where in the world are we? An obsession with education enables equality for both sexes, but active discrimination in all aspects of life ensures that women are second class citizens, traditionally speaking a different language and writing a different script from men. Marriages are still arranged but there is a high divorce rate in the 50-60 year age group. The first book was written by a woman from this country over 1,000 years ago. Living space is at a premium and must not be invaded, therefore there are slippers for every room. Superstitious

practices are common. Dexterity is encouraged in children, resulting in superior craftsmanship in leather, paper, silk, bamboo etc. Presenting food is an art form, and the tea ceremony takes years to learn. Yes, of course we are in Japan, transported there by Maureen Maule, who spent a year living in a traditional Japanese home and was able to experience at first hand their way of life. Inscrutable!

You are cordially invited to our September Meeting, which is a talk on the life and work of Ernest Shackleton by J. N. Bates. Everyone welcome on Tuesday, 21st September at 7.30pm in Pinchmill Hall. Cost to non-members £1.

September Walk

Ken Shrimpton

We meet at Felmersham bus shelter at 10-30 am on Saturday 11 September and we will be walking 6 to 7 miles somewhere in North Bedfordshire. During the walk we visit one or two local churches. It is not as boring as it sounds, in previous years those who have come on the walks have been pleasantly surprised by our local heritage. We invite walkers to pay £2 (£1 to St Mary's and £1 to the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust). Please bring a packed lunch, everybody is welcome, more details next month.

To Be a Pilgrim

Rev David Mason

This is the time of the year when we celebrate the feast of St James (25th July), the Patron Saint of Biddenham Church in which I served at before I came to Felmersham. Tradition has it that the body of St James was brought by sea to Compostella in Spain after he was executed. This place became a place of pilgrimage, third in importance after Jerusalem and Rome. Through the centuries countless numbers of pilgrims have travelled great distances, often with great hardships on the journey, to visit the shrine. It was both a great challenge and a great strengthener to the faith of those who made the journey.

As we talked about pilgrimage during our celebration of St James inevitably our thoughts turned to the most well known work of Bedford's greatest author - John Bunyan. His 'Pilgrim's Progress' continues to be popular, and modern translations are available today. I imagine most of you have read, or heard read, this great work, in which the life of the Christian is described as a pilgrimage. Through the journey Christian endures many hardships and trials, and experiences many emotions, from the very depths of despair to great joy and happiness. It is possible to recognise parallels with our own lives on the Christian journey, even if the heights and depths are not so extreme.

Jesus did not promise his followers an easy journey through life, indeed he warned that the way could be narrow and difficult, with many obstacles to encompass. Each of us, in our own journeys will have experienced times when the way was hard, and difficult to see and follow. But pilgrims tended to travel in groups, so that they were able to support and encourage each other on the way. The community that is the Church is composed of individuals, each on their own Christian journey, each at a different stage of that great journey through life. In

our Church community life we are to support and encourage each other, particularly helping those who are finding the way difficult. If we are to be true to our faith we are to be a community founded on love, helping each other to travel towards our loving Father, and inspiring those who live around to see that our faith is something very precious, something worth having.

There are many distractions which can get in the way of regular church attendance, But if we are to be truly a community of encouragement and support to each other, then it is important that we are there for others who are having a difficult time. Just as we hope others will be there to comfort and support us in our own difficult times.

Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 7th July in Pinchmill Hall.

All Councillors attended this meeting.

Grasscutting The parish grass is being kept in good order, and Mr Thomas was thanked for his efforts in liaising monthly with Mr Horn the contractor.

Raglan Housing Mrs Spoor had been in touch with Raglan Housing Association. The delay in completing the houses was due to negotiations over the electricity easement. Completion is now at the beginning of September.

Post Box We are due to have a larger post box when Post Office funds allow.

Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Thanks to Mr Ure of Spring Cottage, Grange Road (782126) for volunteering to be the P3 coordinator. Tell him if there are any problems with any parish footpath and he will liaise with County Hall.

Burial Ground Quotations from Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire County Councils had been received for the evaluation work on the site. However, it was decided to seek one more quotation before a decision on who should do the work was made. The Clerk will contact Cambridgeshire County Council.

Millennium Issues

Millennium mug order: Photographs and drawings of parish landmarks - the church, lych gate, bridges, etc., are to be sent to McLaggan Smith Mugs Ltd., to enable them to do the art work.

Flag pole: Following a visit to the church tower it might be possible for the flag pole to be installed either on top of the small tower, or on the main tower roof. It was decided to find out the costs involved in this before proceeding further. There is a third option of siting it in the churchyard next to the lych gate.

Planning Reports The details are displayed in Pinchmill Hall Committee Room.

Highways Report Mrs Pipe reported several blocked road drains. Mrs Spoor had had a site meeting with Andrew Prigmore of the County Highways Department regarding the flooding in Pavenham Road. He will be investigating the run of the water under the road. The condition of Hunts Lane was also discussed - Mr Prigmore to be contacted.

Next meeting Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 7th Sept. at 7.30 pm.

Felmersham v Radwell Cricket Match

Eric Barford

The match will be held at Felmersham Cricket Club on 21st August. All are welcome to come and join in the fun and refreshments will be available. If you are interested in playing please contact me on 781204.

Age Concern

Want to know more about Age Concern? Make a date for coffee at Leaways, Town Lot Lane on Thursday, 16th September at 10.30am when Dr Galliver will be pleased to explain the work of the charity and answer questions. Tickets (inc. coffee and biscuits) £1. Sales table and Raffle with all proceeds to Age Concern.

MILTON ERNEST PIG ROAST - 28th August 1999

This should be a great fun day at the Swan at Radwell raising money for the Beds & Northants Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre in Barkers Lane, providing a donation to the Felmersham Brownies as well having a good time.

Food will be served from 12.30pm to 8.30pm with the fun events starting at 1.00pm. The attractions include: live music during the afternoon from DATS JAZ, live Rock Music from the Snarling Beasts of Stevington for the early evening and a late evening disco to round off the day. During the afternoon there will be a knock out tug of war, line dancing demonstration and a bouncy castle and clowns to entertain the children. Various local craft & charity stalls and a tombola stand will be there along with a big prize raffle and much more.

Entrance is free and food prices are £3.00 for a pig roast platter and £1.00 for a hot dog roll. Food tickets and more information can be obtained from the Swan or members of the organising committee. Contact John & Lucy at the Swan on 781351, Kevin & Alison King on 824293, Richard & Carol Ward on 824013 or John & Diane Lucas on 781797

Advocacy Support For Older People - our 'new' service

B.A.S.O.P. has arrived. These initials stand for our new name - Bedfordshire Advocacy Service for Older People. We were previously part of Age Concern Bedfordshire but are now a registered charity in our own right and are available to work with older people in the whole of Bedfordshire and surrounding areas.

It has been a busy six months getting everything in place for independence. Our Executive Committee has been joined by Alan Jenkinson as Hon. Treasurer. We still have some Committee spaces left to fill so if you or anyone you know has interest in that kind of work, please contact us. All the Committee and Advocacy team have been excellent in giving us lots of help on all fronts over the past few months. I would like to thank them all, along with Heather and Catherine, our Co-ordinator and Team Support Worker, for all their hard work and good humour!

We had a good response to our last volunteer recruitment drive. Two new people joined from our last Training Course and we now have local volunteer teams for North, Mid, and South Beds. However, we are always looking for more people to

join us as Advocates or in other roles. Our next course will in late 1999.

Our workload continues to increase and more people are contacting us for help. We are developing our Citizen Advocacy work - where we work with people who have problems that require a longer term involvement - and the number of shorter-term crisis partnerships with individuals continues to rise. We have also been involved in group advocacy and have set up partnerships with our first 'out of County' clients. So life is pretty hectic - but good!

The only less than great item of news is that we have recently learnt that we have to move out of our Ampthill office - no details yet but watch this space!

If anyone has an interest in our work or feel our Service could assist you please contact Gail on 01525 406666 or Heather on 01582 470903.

Sharnbrook Cub Pack

Robin Shaw

It's been a busy half term for the Pack. We started off meeting at our Campsite in Sharnbrook where we did outdoor Scouting activities such as tracking, firelighting and cooking. We have had some special meetings as well, one week we met at Sharnbrook Upper school where the boys tried for their Athlete's badges. Most improved on their last year's performance to gain the next stage of the badge.

We had a visit to Bedfordia where we were shown around some enormous tractors and combines, after I had invested Alex on the catwalks above the grain silos. We went on a cycle ride on Colworth estate and, for the last week of term, there will be a campfire to which all the parents are welcome.

The highlight of the term for most boys was camp. We spent a weekend at Bromham campsite and took part in all sorts of activities from archery and shooting to orienteering and wide games. There were 18 of our boys along with 60 from the rest of the District and we had a great time despite the weather.

You could be part of all this, we have vacancies for both boys and leaders. If you are interested, just give me a ring on 782358. There are fuller reports on most of the above events on the Sharnbrook Cub Pack website found at <http://www.btinternet.com/~robinshaw/sharnbrookcubs.htm>

Arthritis Research Campaign

Jennifer Knowles

£175.70 was raised in Felmersham and Radwell during the recent house-to-house collection. Thank you for your contributions and thank you to the collectors who assisted me - Peggy Alexander, Glenda Davis, Mary Freeman, Pat Keeble, Christine Lindley & Renée Whitbread.

Community Care Scheme

Michael Thomas

Don't forget that if you need short term help with things such as domestic support, household assistance, or transport call 01893 225875 and give your name and phone number to the operator. One of our volunteers will respond with your request as quickly as possible.

The Mill Theatre, Sharnbrook

Dog Diary Date! Join us for our 15th **Exemption Dog Show** (with Kennel Club permission) on Sunday 5th September at the Mill Theatre.

4 Pedigree and 13 Novelty Classes Entries from 11am, judging starts at Noon
Rosettes, Prizes, Stalls, Light Lunches, Teas, Bar. More details on 781298.

Bouncers Monday 13th to Saturday 18th Sept. 7.45pm John Godber's very Adult show; one of the great contemporary dramas. Tickets £6 (£5 on 13th)

Book in Sharnbrook at the Village Trader, 28 High Street – personal callers only.