

Parish Diary

October

- Sun 3 10.15am Parish Eucharist
Sat 9 10.30am Coffee Morning Peacehaven, High Rd, Felmersham
Sun 10 11.00am **Harvest Festival Family Service**
Sat 16 10.00am Save the Children Fund Christmas Sale, Leaways, Grange Rd
Sun 17 10.15am Parish Eucharist
17 3.00pm Save the Children Fund Christmas Sale, Leaways, Grange Rd
Tue 19 7.30pm Women's Institute
Wed 20 8.00pm Year 2000 Festival Planning Meeting Pinchmill Hall
Sat 25 7.30pm Concert 300 Cople Road, Cardington
Sun 26 10.15am Matins (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
11.15am Holy Communion (1662 Book of Common Prayer)
Sun 31 10.15am Parish Eucharist

November

- Tue 2 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting Pinchmill Hall
Sat 6 10.30am Coffee Morning The Old School House, High Road, Felm.

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

1/2 Cuts Saloon Bar - The Sun

Fridays 3pm to 5pm

Saturdays 10am to Noon

Tuesdays 11am to Noon

Thursdays 6pm to 8pm

Appointments anytime – ring 781355

Felmersham & Radwell Ouse News

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

October 1999

Harvest Festival Family Service.

Please note that this service will begin at 11.00am instead of the usual time. The service will be followed by a Harvest Lunch to be held in the school, and after which will be a Harvest Tombola. The money raised from the lunch will be donated to the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest for the Hungry Appeal. Details about this will be available during the events of the day. I hope that this event will be well supported.

The usual service pattern will be altered in November, the second Sunday in the Month (14 November) will be Matins, as this is Remembrance Sunday. The Family Service for this month only will be held on the fourth Sunday of the month (28 November). A concert is to be held at 300 Cople Road, Cardington at 7.30pm on Saturday 25 October, the home of Mr Clive Pritchard. Many of you will remember the sale held there last year in aid of the restoration of the path into Church. This concert is to raise money for the same purpose, and will consist of music played on the theatre organ. It promises to be very good, and tickets will cost £3.00. To obtain them please phone 01234 857144, or ask me and I will arrange to collect them for you.

Church Restoration

Ken Shrimpton

Work has commenced on the latest phase of the church restoration work. Initially the contractors will concentrate on the high level work. This will involve replacing the perished stone work on the 8 clerestory windows, repointing the clerestory wall and the re-roofing the north transept. This work is only possible because of the parishes continuing support of the restoration fund for which we are grateful. Our thanks to all organisers and supporters of our fund raising events and to those who make regular donations.

Pinchmill Lower School Millennium Spring

Celia Hulatt

Pinchmill School will be marking the millennium by planting a hedgerow around the school boundary fences along with 2000 bulbs, in order to create a sustainable habitats for wildlife.

I would like to thank the organisations and the individuals who have already kindly made donations. I would also like to thank the W.I. for their help with the cost of the hedging. We are still hoping to have more donations for the bulbs. Help with the planting nearer the time will be very much appreciated. For more information contact Celia Hulatt, 6 Marriotts Close or Pinchmill School (781371).

Visitors to our Parish Church

Ken Shrimpton

We are fortunate that our church is one of the few churches in the district that is left open and this is greatly appreciated by the many British and foreign visitors. Comments like beautiful, peaceful, quiet, stunning and spiffing are just a few of the superlatives visitors use to describe their feelings when they visit St Mary's church. However, some visitors are moved to write more. Here are some of their comments made over the past year.

A visitor from Melbourne, Australia writes: Visiting our birthplace. Did not realize we had left behind such a beautiful place. Charlotte Tipping (nee Barr-Hall) Hong Kong: Lived here 69-84 will always hold a special place in my heart. John Newbold, Bedford: I remember the Wells window being made – lovely. K Penfold (On an airfield tour): Thank God for the mighty Eighth. Mike and Marjorie Green from Cheshire write: Interesting to find family connections in the chancel. John and Di Waddington, Sydney, Australia: great great grandson of Joseph Pain. Yeoman farmer of Felmersham 1860. Sarah Wallis, St Ives, Cambs.: Great Great Granddaughter of Bishop Wilkinson whose memorial is in the church yard. Others appreciate the flowers and the village with favourable comments. Kenneth Tompsett and his wife Jean from Eastbourne recall, memories for Ken of his time here as an evacuee 1940.

In 1979 Bert Hulatt, along with a colleague, was murdered when he arrived for work at Thurleigh airfield. His death and the tragic circumstances surrounding it shocked the village. Claire Hulatt of Bedford, his great niece, writes: Please polish his plaque, thank you – his memory still shines. We will Clare. We will.

Pinchmill School News

Gill Peck

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to everyone. Although I have only been in post for two weeks I already feel very much at home here at Pinchmill and would like to thank those of you who have made me feel so welcome.

This term we will be collecting Podington vouchers. Podington Garden Centre have organised a 'Gardens for Schools' promotion. They are giving vouchers to their customers who, in turn, can forward these vouchers to their school. The offer ends at the end of November. We hope to use the vouchers to involve the our children in learning about their environment and how to look after it. Your help

would be greatly appreciated.

Recycling Bins - We will also continue to recycle newspapers and magazines. In the past your support has been incredible. Please do continue to support this venture.

Pinchmill Pergola - Work on our pergola continues this term - a project started over a year ago and made possible by the support of the National Freight Company (St. Peter's Street, Bedford) who contributed £750 to the project.

I look forward very much to meeting you all over the coming weeks.

Parish Council Meeting

Maggie Spoor

At the meeting held on 7th September 6 Councillors and 2 members of the public attended this meeting. Mr Prigmore, County Highways Dept., was present for part of the meeting.

The Burial Ground - after reviewing quotations from Beds, Northants and Cambs County Councils, the Council decided to ask Cambridgeshire to carry out the required archaeological work on the site.

Homewatch - Felise Kingerlee has now retired as Homewatch Co-ordinator for Felmersham. Felise has been Co-ordinator since 1993 and the Council has written to her on the behalf of parishioners expressing their thanks. She is succeeded by Mrs Joan White, The Birches, Grange Road, Felmersham.

Mrs Spoor had been invited by Carlton PC to speak to them about our experiences with the social housing scheme as they are considering a similar scheme.

The new **post box** should be in place by the end of October.

Question Time - there were questions regarding fly tipping along Carlton Road and at Daisy Bank picnic site. Picnic tables have been taken from this site. There was a question regarding the state of repair of the roadside wall to East Cottage, Grange Road.

Highways - Mr Prigmore agreed to use the County Council money set aside for Parish schemes to install a new drain at the bottom of Hunts Lane. The bald patches on the entrance to the villages ought to be red. Mr Prigmore explained the stone for these had been of poor quality and there was a delay in finishing the work. Mr Prigmore promised to look at the positioning and condition of various village and road signs, including the flood warning signs.

Finance - the accounts were approved by the Council. The annual audit will take place at the end of November. Payments made are itemised in the Minutes.

P3 - Mr Cardy has produced a superb leaflet illustrating and describing a circular walk around the parish. The finishing touches are being made and the leaflet will be available soon.

Millennium - A minor change was suggested for the design on the mug. Once this has been approved the order can go in.

It was suggested the parish noticeboards be fitted with plastic, lockable fronts to

protect notices from the weather as part of the parish's millennium activities.

The flagpole. We are waiting to hear from the church architect regarding costs.

Mrs Spoor outlined some ideas for the coming year, including a festival weekend, similar to the one held to celebrate the Queen's silver jubilee. There would be an opportunity for everyone to be involved, an open meeting will be held in October.

Correspondence is listed in the Minutes.

Date of next meeting - 2nd November 1999 at 7.30 pm

The Autumn Show - 19th September

There was a craft table for the creative; a bouncy castle, children's races, beat the goalie and splat the rat for the energetic; and delicious W.I. cakes and teas for the cognoscenti. A steady stream of visitors enjoyed all of these, plus there were the entries in the Autumn Show to view and check on who had won what. The adult entries might have been slightly down this year, but the children really went to town with some highly decorative paper plate faces, an amazing 42 objects in a matchbox, a whole army of gingerbread men and some really imaginative and intricate Lego models.

Thanks to everyone who supported the Show: by taking part, by making cakes, by helping on the day or just by turning up. We hope you enjoyed it.

Congratulations to Roger Foreman of Marriotts Close who was awarded the Show Plate having gained 4 Firsts, a Second and a Third place with his entries.

Year 2000 Festival

Maggie Spoor

It is proposed that a weekend celebrating the past and future of our two villages be held next summer. This could be along the lines of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations held in June 1977 (for those who remember), and to this end there will be an open meeting in Pinchmill Hall on Wednesday 20th October at 8.00 pm to discuss the possible content and to form a steering group.

If you have any ideas, suggestions or opinions to express please try to be there. If you can't make this meeting there will be others, or you could let me have your suggestions prior to the meeting.

The 1977 celebrations took place over 6 days and included a flower festival and exhibition of crafts, a special church service and festival of hymns, a peal of bells, a pet show, potted sports, barbecue and dance, street parade and children's fancy dress, a street tea party (it rained and this was held in Pinchmill Hall!), a bonfire with music and dancing, a 4 day camp for lower school children and an over 60's tea party. Something for everyone in fact. Do give this project some thought and come along on the 20th October armed with your own ideas.

Pinchmill Lower School Association

The sun shone for our Sports Day and Balloon Release in July; returned balloon labels came from as far afield as Norrkoping and Karlshamn in Sweden, Bramstedt and Busum in Germany and Buitenpost in The Netherlands, with lots

from Norfolk too! Thank you to all who helped by buying or selling tickets; we can now purchase a new Overhead Projector and Screen for the school.

The prize of an hour's flying goes to Paul Davis, Felmersham, who we're sure will have a wonderful time. Thanks again to Tom Wells for donating this prize.

The school is collecting the Poddington Garden Centre Vouchers, given for every £10 spent, so please pass any vouchers to the school to enable the children to learn about their environment and how to look after it.

Homewatch Security Reminder

Joan White

Open garages and garden sheds provide easy pickings for burglars. Thieves rarely take holidays and have been working in the village recently. To reduce the possibility of loss, it is advisable to keep property locked up at all times.

Sharnbrook Badminton Club

Anne Smith

Badminton has started again on Fridays from 7.30 - 9.30pm in Sharnbrook Upper School sports hall. New members always welcome. For further information please contact Anne Smith (781780) or Angela Goldsworthy (782220).

Save the Children Fund

Ronald and Judith Smith

The Bedford branch is currently asking for permission to collect again at the local supermarkets before the Bedford branch is currently asking for permission to collect again at the local supermarkets before Christmas. Over the last two seasons many of our regular volunteer collectors have left the area or are now too infirm to help. Would you spend an hour "shaking a tin" for the benefit of children whose plight is desperate now? As yet we do not know which supermarkets will agree to let us collect, or on which days, but if you feel you probably would be able to help please let us know, telephone 781430.

You are warmly welcome to coffee on Saturday 16th October, 10 am - 12 midday or to tea on Sunday 17th October, 3 pm - 5 pm at Leaways, Grange Road/Town Lot Lane when Save the Children Christmas cards and gifts will be on sale and orders will be taken. The advantage, other than the social occasion, is that no postage will be payable on orders, a saving of £3.60. All profits, 50% of the selling price, go to the work of Save the Children Fund.

Women's Institute

May Mills

Mr J.N. Bates began with a dramatic pause as he encouraged us to imagine the unimaginable. Gales blew, blizzards raged, icebergs loomed and we froze in sub-zero temperatures with Ernest Shackleton and his crew, as they languished on board the "Endurance", stuck in pack ice in the Antarctic. After months of gruelling survival on the ice floes, a journey of 800 miles in a 22 ft open boat on tempestuous seas, and an incredible crossing of the mountainous interior of South Georgia, we were relieved, if exhausted, at the rescue of the entire party.

Who needs props, slides or film when an extraordinary and heroic saga such as this was so effectively depicted by a man whose only aid was the dramatic pause.

For Sale Electric stairlift for the infirm or elderly. Used only once since purchase. Suitable for straight flight of stairs. £1400. Phone 781105

The Season Of Mellow Fruitfulness

Rev D Mason

This month we will be having our harvest festivals, one at the school and one at the Church. It is traditionally the time when we give thanks to God for the harvest, and for all who are involved in growing or producing the food and produce that enable to survive. In this Diocese it is also time when we think about the needs of others less fortunate than ourselves. This year the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest for the Hungry Appeal is centred on South India. Leaflets will be distributed at the Harvest Festival, and I am sure that you will be happy to support it.

I am sure that we are all aware of how fortunate we are in this country as we hear and see the great problems people have to even survive in many parts of the world. This year has been a very difficult one for the agricultural industry in this country, and many who work in that industry are very anxious about their future. Although this village is in the heart of the country relatively few of those who live in it are directly involved in agriculture, and this is the case in very many country villages. Successive advances in agricultural techniques and the increasing mechanisation of the industry has reduced the need for manual labour, so that relatively few people are directly employed on farms. The farms have also increased in size so that there are now far fewer of them. But we must not forget how much we depend on agriculture for our food, and for the appearance and facilities of our countryside. All who live in the countryside must not forget how important agriculture is for them. We all must be concerned about the present problems, and strive to ensure that the industry's health is maintained.

The Harvest Festival is a time when we come to Church to give thanks for the Harvest. Let it also be a time when we give thanks to God for all the good things he does for each one of us, and commit our lives to his service. In our busy lives perhaps it would also be a good opportunity to spend some time standing back, and seek through prayer and contemplation what God is calling us to do in his service. Good husbandry of the land includes a time for it to lie fallow, allowing time for it to recover and regain its fertility. There is a lesson for us, times of intense activity need to be balanced by times of rest and recuperation if we are to remain healthy, and to enjoy the gift of life that God has given us.

Remembrance Sunday

Fred Turner

There will be a wreath laying service at the War Memorial at approximately 11.45am on Sunday November 14th, immediately following the morning service.

If you wish to contribute to the cost of the wreath, please contact me on Bedford

781864 or send your donation to "Five Elms", Moor End Road, Radwell.

ODD JOB MAN

Painting, Grass cutting, weeding, log stacking and any general gardening. Reliable, hard working and pleasant. Call Paul Evans on phone/fax 782523 or Email andy-sue@felmersham91.freeserve.co.uk

The Big Sleep

Wildlife Trust

The last few months would have seen constant activity as animals and insects prepared for the winter ahead. In a race against time and temperature, particularly for those that have been born this year, they were and still are eating as much as possible in order to store up valuable fat supplies for the hungry months to come.

For a few animals, the winter is just too cold to continue life as normal. Their body temperature drops, their heart rate slows drastically and they go into hibernation. This is not technically sleep but a state of torpor.

Hedgehogs hibernate in nests made of leaves and grass. They usually have more than one nest as they will usually move at least once during the winter. Hedgehogs normally start hibernation in October but younger hedgehogs can still be active as late as December in the hunt for food.

Dormice also usually hibernate from October to April, but if the weather during summer is bad, they may also go into hibernation then too! Their name comes from this remarkable ability to 'sleep', as seen at the Mad Hatters Tea Party.

Badgers however do not truly hibernate. They are still awake but less active. In fact they can go without food for several days and will remain underground in their setts for great lengths of time, particularly during severe frosts.

If you want to know more about your local wildlife or wish to join the Wildlife Trust, please phone 01223 712400 for more information

Quiz Evening

*Sat. 13th November at 8.00pm
Pinchmill Lower School, Felmersham*

*£5 per head; tables of up to 6 people
Light refreshments provided All Welcome!*

*Tickets available from;
Michele Evans, Radwell, Tel.781859
Karen Chandler, Felmersham, Tel. 782868
Jeani Nertney, Pavenham, Tel. 825959*

In aid of Pinchmill School Association