

Parish Diary

May

Sat	6	10.30am	Coffee Morning	'Long Mynd ¹ , Pavenham Rd
Sat	13		PSA - Murder Mystery Evening	Pinchmill Hall
Tue	30		Pinchmill Players Preview Night	Pinchmill Hall
Wed	31	7.45pm	PP - Round and Round the Garden	Pinchmill Hall

June

Sat	3	10.00am	Spring Clean	St Mary's Church
Sat	3	10.30am	Coffee Morning	'Ody House ¹ , Pavenham Rd
Sat	10	10.00am	Churchyard Tidy-Up	St Mary's Church

Priest in Charge: Rev David Mason (309737)

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

We are happy to publish any item on any subject which might be of general interest. Feedback on any of the items published would be most welcome – whether for printing or not.

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 emailed to OuseNews@bigfoot.com; sent on disk; or typed. Phone 781967 for more details.

Felmersham & Radwell

Ouse News

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

May 2000

Felmersham Past & Present

Kate Spoor

We are endeavouring to make a video as a permanent record of Felmersham Past & Present. We would like to encourage anybody who has photographs and records of Felmersham through the years to take part in the production of the video (either on or off camera). As part of this venture we will be collating all photographs to produce a pictorial record of the village.

If you can help in lending artifacts or with technical assistance please contact me on 782031 or Majorie Pipe on 781140, all contributions would be very much appreciated.

Pinchmill School Association

Kath Stenton

This month the PSA 200 Club has been in operation for a year and has raised £600 to fund music lessons for all year 3 & 4 pupils, with an equivalent amount being handed out in cash prizes over the 12 months. Following this success we plan to launch the Club again next month and hope to increase the membership from the current 96. If you are interested in joining, please contact either;

Liz May (200 Club Organiser), Radwell, Tel. 782543; Karen Chandler, Felmersham, Tel. 782868; Kath Stenton, 3 Church Lane, Pavenham

Our next fund raising event is a Murder Mystery Evening, to be held on Sat.13th May at Pinchmill Lower School. Come along for a night of murder, intrigue and suspense with live entertainment to help in revealing "whodunnit". Tickets at £10 each include a 3-course meal and are available from the school or Elizabeth Briggs, Tel. 720710.

Return Of The 'Pinchmill Players'

Bridget Peirson-Davis

Many of you will recall this fine drama group. Well we're back to present quality drama on your own doorstep! At 7.45pm from Wednesday 31st May to Friday 2nd June, 2000 the Pinchmill Players will be presenting Alan Ayckbourn's comedy "Round and Round the Garden" in Pinchmill Hall. Please telephone Bridget Peirson-Davis (01234 782507) with any enquiries regarding tickets, offers of assistance or sponsorship. There will be a special rate for students and Senior Citizens (details will appear on publicity material shortly), with a £1.00 preview night for students only on Tuesday 30th May, 2000.

LOST!

A cluster of rings attached to one silver ring, lost in the playing field near Pinchmill School on Sunday 9th April. If found please contact Terri or Adam at 1 The Row, Felmersham or phone 782363, or 0370 861024

Felmersham Tots

Are there any 0 - 3 year olds out there? If so, come to our small, but friendly, group on Tuesdays 1:30 - 3:20 pm in Pinchmill Village Hall, term-time only. Mums and dads welcome too!

Contact Avrea 782248 or Hilary 781275 for further information.

Homewatch

The police are now sharing their Crime Trend Sheets with the public. These are detailed, up to the minute, and professionally produced. The police are keen to involve as many ears and eyes as possible to look out for criminals. The trend sheets are sent out on e-mail so contact Bedfordhomewatch@cs.com for your copy. This will replace the Homewatch leaflets and will be available each Friday. A copy can also be seen by everyone on the village notice board.

Coffee Morning

This month's coffee morning in aid of the Felmersham Church Restoration Fund will be held at the home of Hazel and Bill Pearce, Ody House, Pavenham Road, Felmersham on Saturday June 3rd at 10.30 a.m.

Please come and bring your friends. Contributions of cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring-and-buy stall will be most welcome.

Church Spring Clean and Churchyard Tidy Up

Advance notice of the annual churchyard tidy up on Saturday 12 June 10-00am. and we will be spring cleaning the church on Saturday 3 June at 10-00am. Everybody welcome.

Oliver!

The hit musical for all ages. A combined production with Sharnbrook Mill Youth Theatre. Prepare to book early!

Performances from Wednesday 17th to Saturday 27th May nightly at 7.45pm

Matinees Saturday 20th and 27th May at 3.00pm

Tickets available from Village Trader, 28 High Street, Sharnbrook, Central Box Office, Harpur St, Bedford (269519) and other usual sources.

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

Avrea Ellis

Joan White

Row Watson

Rev David Mason

Millennium Festival

Weekend

1st & 2nd July

Music of the Millennium Party

This year's summer party will be held on the evening of Saturday 1st July. Make a note in your diary now and look out for more details soon.

Party Organiser: Village Hall Committee (781888)

Village Market

As part of our plans for the parish's Millennium Festival Weekend we are organising a village market for Saturday 1 July 2000. The market will provide an opportunity for local charities and voluntary groups as well as producers and retailers to exhibit their goods and sell produce.

The market will be a mix of stalls selling craft goods and produce available locally. It will also be an opportunity for villagers to meet and develop the community spirit within Felmersham and Radwell.

The market will be self-financing and stallholders will be charged £5. While fund raising is not the primary aim of the event any profits made will be donated to local charities. All profits made by stallholders are of course theirs to keep. The most important aspect of the market, and the whole festival weekend, is that it is a success and is enjoyed by everyone who attends.

If your group or business would like to know more about the market or the Festival Weekend, please contact the organizers below

This is a great opportunity for local groups and businesses to raise funds and attract new supporters and customers in Felmersham and Radwell. Don't miss out - book your stall today and be part of the Millennium Festival Weekend.

MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

Watch the actors!
Solve the mystery!

**SATURDAY
15th MAY**

7.30pm

Felmersham Village Hall

**£10.00, including
3 course dinner
Wine sold by the bottle**

Tickets available from:
Elizabeth Briggs Tel: 720710
Jeani Nertney Tel: 825959
Karen Chandler Tel: 782868



WILDLIFE SNIPPETS RESCUING RATTY

Once a common waterside resident, the water vole is now one listed as one of most rapidly declining mammals. Ratty, from Wind-in-the-Willows is a water vole though many, without thinking, would mistakenly declare him a rat.

The water vole (*Arvicola terrestris*) is the largest British vole and they measure between 25 - 35 cm from head to tail-tip. They live at the water's edge in dense vegetation along canals, ditches and streams. Spending eight hours of everyday patrolling the riverbank outside their burrows, they consume over three times their body weight in food, any vegetation they can find.

May is a good month to spot a water vole along the riverbank as the weather gets warmer although they do not hibernate but are not so active and therefore less likely to be seen in winter.

Their decline has been caused by destruction of their habitat, disturbance and river pollution. One of its biggest predators is the non-native American mink together with weasel, stoat, otter, fox, barn owl, heron and pike.

The Wildlife Trust needs to find out more about the distribution of water voles in your local area. If you would like to help by becoming a water vole warden and supply The Wildlife Trust with useful information, then please get in touch on 01223 712400.

Why not help protect local wildlife and become a member of The Wildlife Trust To join over the phone or ask for a membership leaflet, simply ring the Membership Secretary on 01234364213.