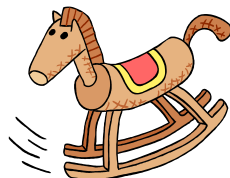


## PINCHMILL PRE-SCHOOL FELMERSHAM

Mon-Fri, 9.30 am - 12 noon, term time for children aged 2½ - 5. Our recent OFSTED inspection described Pinchmill Pre-School as 'a happy friendly and very caring environment in which children are continually learning new skills.'



For further information please contact Sylvia Evans, Pre-School Leader (781933) or Christine Callaghan, Deputy Leader (781173) or e-mail [syls@idzero.co.uk](mailto:syls@idzero.co.uk).

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# Felmersham & Radwell Ouse News

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February 2001

## The Turning Of The Year

Rev David Mason

As the new year begins it is natural to turn our attention to the old year, and to think back to all that has happened during it. The Millennium was well and truly celebrated in the Parish, with the seeing in of the New Year at its beginning, the Millennium Festival held in the middle of the year, and all the other events that have taken place in the villages. We look forward to the placing of the Millennium Window in the coming year. There has also been the continuation of the building restoration with the completion of another phase of the work, the path to the church has been paved, and at Christmas we have greatly appreciated the new candle holders which are a great improvement. We have also appreciated the contributions of the School to the life of the villages, with the concerts they have provided, the dancing at the Millennium Festival, and their contribution to the Carol Service. Many have continued to support the work of the Church in other ways, all of which are important and deserve our gratitude.

All these events and works have demanded a lot of hard work and support of many people, and we are grateful to all those who have done so much towards maintaining and improving so many aspects of village life. There is a good spirit within the village communities and that bodes well for the future. A very big thank you to all who have contributed in any way.

And now we look to the future. We must continue to build on the foundations laid in past years. In a society which is increasingly secular it is important that the Church remains strong and continues to remind the people of the need to maintain the spiritual health of the community. Throughout the Old Testament, and in history, it is evident that in long periods of prosperity people push God to the back of their minds. Men begin to believe that they no longer have any need for Him or any reason to respect Him. It was ever thus. But at times of personal or national tragedy and hardship we realise our weakness and vulnerability, and recognise our need for God. The faithful must develop and strengthen that faith, and be ready for those times when they are needed to support those who come to realise their need for God. Jesus warned his disciples that there would be hard times for them when many would scorn and persecute them, and we are experiencing attempts in many quarters to marginalize God. Let us keep strong in the faith and continue to seek God and his wishes for us.

[A couple of items, including the one above, were held over from January when OuseNews was not published due to a lack of material.]

## Parish Diary

### February

Sat 3	10.30am	Coffee Morning	6 Marriotts Close
Sun 4	10.15am	Choral Communion	St. Mary's Church
Sun 11	10.15am	Family Service	St. Mary's Church
Sun 18	10.15am	Choral Communion	St. Mary's Church
Sun 25	10.15am	Matins followed by Communion	St. Mary's Church
Wed 28	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday` Said Communion	St. Mary's Church

### March

Sat 3	10.30am	Coffee Morning	Storrington, Hunts Lane
Mon 5	7.30pm	Yoga	Pinchmill Hall
Tue 6	8.30pm	Parish Council Annual Open Meeting	Pinchmill Hall

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**Priest in Charge: Rev David Mason (309737)**

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

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We will print anything of interest to the community – not just reports of past village activities or reminders of forthcoming ones. Items should be sent to Clive Just, 2 The Old Rectory, Felmersham by the 25th of the month. It would help if items were emailed to [OuseNews@bigfoot.com](mailto:OuseNews@bigfoot.com); sent on disk; or typed. Phone 781967 for more details.

Published by Felmersham P.C.C.

### Thanks from Gerry Sidebottom and John Phipps

A very big 'thank you' to all the folk from Felmersham and Radwell for the support at our double celebration at St Paul's on December 17th. There are so many happy memories where Gerry was Vicar for 21 years and where John has recently been made so welcome. It meant so much to be surrounded by love and goodwill, and we are more than grateful. May we add a note from Joanna, Mark and Evan who were thrilled to meet up with so many friends from the past. For them too, it revived many happy memories.

### Parish Council meeting - 10<sup>th</sup> January 2001

Maggie Spoor

5 Councillors attended and apologies received from M Thomas and E Barford.

The wet weather before Christmas delayed work on the bus shelter.

The six trees near the Felmersham bus shelter are to be lopped. This will be done as soon as planning permission is obtained – probably in February.

Town Lot Charity land. The Trustees are writing to the Charity Commissioners regarding letting the land on a long lease.

Finance: The precept for the year 2001 – 2002 will remain at £6,000. An amendment that the precept should be reduced to £5,000 was not supported.

Before plans for the consecration of the churchyard extension can proceed, we must submit landscaping and pollution control schemes to the Local Authority. They are in hand. Also, we will be planting a beech hedge this spring to mark the boundary between the existing churchyard and the extension.

Three councillors attended a meeting called by Pavenham Parish Council to discuss planning issues in the Borough, and also the proposed boundary changes. The Chief Executive of the Borough Council listened to the various points raised, mainly that the views of the rural parishes were not taken into account on planning issues and that there was a lack of consultation. He did promise to report the meeting's concerns to elected members.

Highways: By a vote of 4 to 1, the quotation from Chris Horne Gardens for the parish grasscutting was accepted. This is our biggest expenditure: we cut the grass within the two villages, the playing field, the churchyard and extension and the verge along the Radwell Road path. This year we expect the bill to be approximately £2,276. (The weather affects growth rates). The breakdown of these costs, based on 2 cuts a month over 6 months, follows this report.

We are investigating seeking a preservation order for the patten pavement (the cobbled bit), which is next to the church wall in Church End

The P3 Group are producing another leaflet - "The Three Churches Walk". This covers the paths that can be followed to visit the churches of Felmersham, Sharnbrook and Odell. They are to be congratulated on their initiative.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 6th March at 7pm. This will be followed by the Annual Open Meeting at 8.30pm You are cordially invited to attend.

### Felmersham & Radwell Grasscutting 2001

Felmersham & Radwell villages £100 per cut x 12	£1,200.00
The playing field £45 per cut x 12	£540.00
Churchyard and extension £65 per cut x 12	£780.00
Verge along Radwell Road £35 per cut x 6 (once a month)	£210.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£2,730.00</b>
Less County Council grant	£454.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,276.00</b>

### Computing for Beginners

Gill Peck

We are delighted to inform you that Barnfield College plan to run another beginner's computer course at Pinchmill starting in late February, running for 12 weeks, on Tuesday evenings, 6.30pm - 9.00pm. Please contact me at the school on 781371 if you are interested.

### Felmersham Yoga Club

Hilary Foot

A note for your diaries - Yoga classes restart at Pinchmill Hall in March. You are invited to join us for eight sessions on Monday evenings from 7.30 - 8.30, beginning on 5th March. Please bring a yoga mat, large towel or blanket.

Everyone is welcome. Posters will appear on the Village Notice Boards during February as a reminder. If you have any queries, please telephone me on 781340.

### Coffee Mornings

Row Watson

February's coffee morning in aid of Felmersham Church Restoration Fund will be held at the home of Celia and Geoff Hulatt at 6 Marriotts Close Felmersham on Saturday 3 February at 10.30 a.m.

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

March's Coffee Morning will be held at the home of May and Laurie Mills, Storrington, Hunts Lane, Felmersham on Saturday 3 March at 10.30 a.m.

Badminton Angela Goldsworthy & Anne Smith

The badminton club meets on Friday evenings at Sharnbrook Upper School between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. For more details please call Angela on 782220 or Anne on 781780.

### Sharnbrook Mill Theatre presents All My Sons by Arthur Miller

A poignant tale of war time profiteering cuts straight to the heart of the American Dream questioning who comes first – family or country. Discover the truth. Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.45pm.



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