

Parish Diary

July

Sun	1	10.15am	Sharnbrook Patronal Festival (No service at St Mary's)	
		6.30pm	Songs of Praise	
Sat	7	10.30am	Coffee Morning	1 Memorial Lane
Sun	8	10.15am	Trinity 4 Family Service led by Revd Lionel Albon	
Mon	9	11.00am	Funeral of Kath Lovell	St Mary's Church
Sat	14		Felmersham Cricket Club v Riseley	Home
Sun	15	10.15am	Trinity 5 Choral Eucharist led by Revd Canon John Tibbs	
Sat	21		Felmersham Cricket Club v Forester Foods	Away
Sun	22	10.15am	Trinity 6 Matins followed by Communion led by Revd Albon	
		3.00pm	Knotting Patronal Festival Evensong	
Sat	28		Felmersham Cricket Club v Thurleigh	Away
Sun	29	10.15am	Trinity 7 Choral Eucharist	

August

Sat	4		Felmersham Cricket Club v Riseley	Away
Sun	5	10.15am	Trinity 8 Choral Eucharist	
Sat	11		Felmersham Cricket Club v Marston	Home
Sun	12	10.15am	Patronal Festival Choral Eucharist	
Sun	19	10.15am	Trinity 10 Choral Eucharist	
Sun	26	10.15am	Trinity 11 Matins followed by Communion	

Priest in Charge: Rev David Mason (309737)

Churchwardens: Ken Shrimpton (781381), Sally Carr (781225)

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; sent on disk; or typed. Phone 781967 for more details.

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Felmersham & Radwell Ouse News

On line: www.felmersham.net

July 2001

Holiday Time Is Here Again

Rev David Mason

I am writing this towards the end of June, and a recent improvement in the weather reminds me that we are moving towards the summer holiday season. By now I am sure that most of you have everything organised, and are looking forward to a time away from the routine of everyday life. A time of relaxation and change is important for us all, particularly this year when the winter has seemed to be so long and gloomy. I hope that you all get the opportunity to get away from it all and emerge refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

For many this time of the year also marks great changes in life. Most of those at school will be moving to new classes, many will be changing schools, and some will be leaving school to go on to higher education or to seek employment with a view to earning a living. No doubt those affected will be feeling the mixture of excitement and apprehension that is the inevitable accompaniment of changes in life patterns. While many of us may describe school days as the happiest days of our lives I am sure that when we really think about it few of us would want to return to them. Life has moved on, and we realise that there is no going back. Memories are valuable and enjoyable, but no use is served by trying to live in the past and deny the present. God has given each one of us the gift of life to use, and I believe, to enjoy. We can only go forward in our lives, time spent cannot be recovered. To those facing changes in their lives I send good wishes and prayers that you will have the strength and wisdom to meet the challenges on the way, and experience the reality of the love of God in your lives.

Open Air Classical Concert

Caroline Jones

Who could have asked for more? A fine summer's evening, professional performers, a spellbound audience and the beautiful surroundings of College Farm House bathed in candlelight. If you weren't there shame on you for you missed a superb concert. Ticket sales and the raffle raised in excess of £600 which means the Pre-School Appeal is off to a flying start. Many thanks to all the performers who were Miranda Doggett, Janet Welsh, Dennis Cloves, Freddie Stevens and Aili Just for giving their time and talents voluntarily. Thanks to Nigel and Miranda for their hospitality, David Twigden for donating the very generous raffle first prize and the audience for being so appreciative.

Christian Aid Collection

Gill Greenish

Thank you to all those who collected or donated. A total of £231.59 was raised

Patronal Festival

Rev David Mason

We will be holding this on the 12 August this year. Our preacher will be the Revd John Littlewood, a friend who we have known since he was a Curate at St Mary's Church, Rushden many years ago. After his Curacy John was a Chaplain to the Community of Scargill House in the Yorkshire Dales, and was then appointed Vicar of St John's Church, Werrington, Peterborough. Since 1991 John has been Vicar of Christchurch with St John and St Saviour's Church, Highgate, London.

Felmersham & Radwell Village Hall Committee

Gail Holbourn

During the month of May the roundabout at the park was vandalised. The park and play equipment in it are the responsibility of the village hall committee and as a result the roundabout has been very expensive to repair.

The committee are aware of who caused the damage and are currently dealing with the matter. If anyone sees or hears of vandalism taking place at the park in the future please contact any members of the Village Hall Committee.

Kath Lovell

On Tuesday 26 June 2001 Kathleen Lovell passed away at Avenue House, Rushden. Born in Felmersham in 1915 Kathleen Paine married Sid Lovell in 1937 and they were landlords at the Sun from 1951 to 1974. Kath lived in Felmersham all her life and spent her retirement living in The Row where she was an avid reader of books. Kath had strong family links with Felmersham, her grandmother was the cook at the Grange for the Green family and her uncle, Joseph Paine, was killed in the First World War. His name is recorded on the war memorial. The funeral will be held at 11am on Monday 9th July at Felmersham Church

Festival Weekend 2001

Ken Shrimpton

Glorious weather and a good attendance at all the events made for a successful weekend. Thanks to all the village organisations who organised and ran the individual events and activities. Special thanks to Maggie Spoor, Gail Holbourn and the Village Hall Committee without whose help and energies the weekend would not have taken place. Photographs of the weekend can be seen at www.felmersham.net/festival.htm

Grain and Chaff

Chris Ure

Following the successful launch of a limited edition reprint of 'Grain and Chaff' in May, copies are now available either direct from the author on 824902 or from 'County Town Books' in Bedford and 'Sally Carr's bookstall' at Milton Ernest Garden Centre. Copies are available in the village from Chris and Joan Ure at Spring Cottage, who are able to get them signed by the author, if required.

W. E. 'Ron' Draycott reports that he has enjoyed meeting past and present residents of the village and he sends his regards to all those who remember him. You will be glad to know that both Ron and his wife, Greta remain in good health, and although Ron is now less mobile, he keeps busy and continues to enjoy the challenge of the Times and Telegraph crosswords.

Radwell Homewatch News

Freda Burns

Due to my imminent departure abroad, Paul Keeble has agreed to replace me as area co-ordinator. Paul's telephone number is 782134.

Newcomer to the village, Sue Rudd, has joined us as a co-ordinator, and is warmly welcomed. There is room for more co-ordinators, and the duties are not onerous. Please contact Paul Keeble, should you wish to offer your help - after all, many hands make light work! We desperately need help with photocopying - can anyone offer to run off 85-odd copies very occasionally, without charge? Paul would love to hear from you if you can.

Also, the weekly crime "Trend Sheet" is available to all through e-mail. ~ keep up to date with what villains are up to in the area and for advice on crime prevention, contact bedford.homewatch@ntlworld.com, and ask to be included in the distribution list. The more people who see this document, the better. Several arrests have been made following help from readers. And don't forget - this village may be the next on a burglar's list - so keep your eyes open!

For Sale

Freda Burns

Jodhpur boots, size 3, black leather, good condition, £8.

Child's jodhpurs, size 26R (age 10 approx.), good condition, £5.

Child's No.7 golf iron, left-handed, 33" long, excellent condition, £8.

Child's buoyancy aid (30-40 kg), Crewsaver, immaculate, (£42.95 new), £25.

Mobile baby monitor, mains/battery, good condition, £10.

Please telephone 781887 if interested.

Coffee Morning

Row Watson

The coffee morning in aid of the Church Restoration Fund is at the home of Marigold and John Sykes, 1 Memorial Lane, Felmersham on Saturday 7th July 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.

Felmersham & Radwell Community Care

~ Caring For Those In Need ~

Short term help for anyone in the Parish,
using the services of local volunteers.

To use this service, telephone us on 07693 225875
and leave your name and telephone number with the Operator.
One of our local Volunteers will contact you as quickly as possible.



Chairman & Campaigns Co-ordinator:
24c St Michael's Rd, Bedford, MK40 2LT. (Tel. 01234 405268)
Vice-Chairman & Mktg. Officer:
126 Chantry Ave, Kempston, Beds, MK42 7RJ (Tel. 01234 856560)
Membership & Finance Officer:
4 Rowlandson Way, Manton Heights, Bedford, MK41 7LT.

Join BRTA today for:

- **Station Reopenings (Sharnbrook, Ampthill, and Kempston)**
- **Railway Line reopenings (Bedford-Sandy/ Bedford-Oxford and Bedford-Olney-Northampton)**
- **Better Bus links and proper bus/rail integration**
- **Bus services which are reliable and at prices people can afford**
- **Safer Roads, road layouts, pedestrian rights, cycle safety**
- **reduced traffic congestion, fumes, oil spillages and air pollution**
- **general interest in environmental transport issues**

All BRTA Members get 4 newsletters per year with news, views, and information plus invites to occasional meetings and events.

BRTA is run by volunteers, helpers are always welcome -there's a job for every body!

Please join today and help make a positive difference to the status quo!

For further details send an SAE to:

4 Rowlandson Way, Manton Heights, Bedford, MK41.7LT or phone 01234 405268.



Wet, Wild and Wonderful?

The Wildlife Trust

A report published on June 26th and presented at the Otters and Rivers Forum by The Wildlife Trusts highlighted mixed success for the UK's otter population and future challenges for its conservation.

Water for Wildlife, a new five-year conservation initiative to tackle the problems of declining otters and the UK's threatened, valuable wetlands will be launched at the Otters and Rivers Forum and presented to the Environment Minister Michael Meacher, David Bellamy, President of The Wildlife Trusts and other UK conservationists.

The new project will build upon and enhance the work undertaken by the Otters and Rivers Project. Launched in June 1998, this project aimed to restore otters by natural re-colonisation to every UK waterway and coastal area where they have been recorded since 1960.

The project has been a great success in delivering results for otters and other wetland wildlife. For example, over the past three years it has achieved 400 significant habitat enhancement schemes and built over 300 otter holts. It has built up a work force of 23 regional project officers and harnessed the imagination and enthusiasm of more than 1200 volunteers throughout the UK. This project has been supported by Water UK and by a £750,000 grant from Biffaward through the landfill tax credit scheme.

Otters have returned to areas where they have been previously absent for almost three decades. The southwest of England has been particularly successful and a number of unusual areas have also registered the presence of otters including waterways in the centre of Birmingham, Glasgow, Newcastle and Doncaster. However the report reveals new and increasing dangers, in the form of roads, severe flooding and habitat loss, that could undermine their recovery.

The new project Water For Wildlife, funded by Water UK, will focus upon wider wetland restoration efforts to help otters, water voles, reed warblers, southern damselfly, reedbeds, lowland raised bogs, and other key wetland species and natural places of both national and local importance.

Commenting on the project Professor David Bellamy, said: "The return of the otter to our rivers and wetlands gives us great hope for the future. But now isn't the time for complacency and the fantastic benefits for otters and wetlands that this project has brought need to be built on. Wildlife Trust staff and an army of volunteers have built up a wealth of knowledge and experience in otter and wetland conservation and are ready and willing to meet the challenge ahead."

For more details on the Wildlife Trust visit their website //www.wildlifetrusts.org, contact the local office at Priory Park on 364213 or email them on bedswt@cix.co.uk



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