

Felmersham & Radwell

Ouse News

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On line: www.felmersham.net

November 2006

Parish Diary

Regular Activities

Mon-Fri	9.15am – 3.15pm	Pre-School	Pinchmill School
Thu	9.30am – 11.30am	Parent & Toddler Group	Pinchmill Hall
Thu	11.00am (approx)	Fishmonger in village – call 07803 201399 for details	

November

Sat	4	10.30am	Coffee Morning	St Mary's Church
Sun	5	10.15am	Choral Communion - All Saints	Pinchmill Hall
Tue	7		Parish Council Meeting	St Mary's Church
Sun	12	10.15am	Remembrance Service	War Memorial
		11.15am (approx)	Wreath Laying	
Sun	19	10.15am	Choral Communion - 2 before Advent	St Mary's Church
Tue	21		Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall
Sun	26	10.15am	Family Service - Christ the King	St Mary's Church

December

Sat	2	10.30am	Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	St Mary's Church
Sun	3	10.15am	Choral Communion - Advent Sunday	St Mary's Church
Sun	10	10.15am	Family Service - Advent 2	St Mary's Church
Sun	17	10.15am	Choral Communion - Advent 3	St Mary's Church
Sun	17	5.00pm	Carol service	St Mary's Church
Sun	24	10.15am	Matins & Communion - Advent 4	St Mary's Church
		3.00pm	Christingle and Blessing of Crib Service	St Mary's Church
		11.30pm	Choral Communion	
Mon	25	10.15am	Family service Christmas Day	St Mary's Church
Sun	31	10.15am	Choral Communion	Christmas 1

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

Assistant Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)

Churchwardens: Jane Wells (782462), Paul Keeble (782134)

Remembering

This year Remembrance Sunday is the 12th November, and we will be following the usual pattern of holding a Remembrance service in the Church at 10.15am, followed by a service at the War Memorial. This year we have become all too aware of the costs of war as each week we hear of the number of our forces being killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, and see on the television the scenes of carnage and horrific damage that are everyday events in these countries. It now seems that those in authority are at last coming to realise that they got things badly wrong. Recently we have become aware of more countries seeking to make nuclear weapons, and we must be concerned that sooner or later a conflict will occur in which such weapons are used with awful consequences for all of us.

Recently we have been on holiday, and observed the effects of the long warm summer, with flowers normally only associated with spring coming into bloom. We are being warned of the consequences of global warming which most experts attribute to our misuse of the earth's resources. We may enjoy the milder weather, but the effects on a large part of the earth are likely to be catastrophic.

It seems to me that both the above paragraphs are related. God put us on the earth to be stewards, to learn about the earth and to develop it. We have forgotten God, and our duty to him, we have forgotten the summary of the commandments given by Jesus to love God, and our neighbours as ourselves. We have become selfish, the developed nations are taking and using the earth's ample resources without regard to the future, and without regard to their neighbours, the less developed nations. At the end of both the first and the second world wars there was a determination to ensure that such conflicts would never happen again. In spite of the formation of the League of Nations, then the United Nations, once again we are embroiled in conflicts which are causing very great damage and loss of life. Now, in addition, we are realising that the way we live and use the earth's resources is damaging our environment.

The Commandments that God gave us, and which were summarised by Jesus, are there for the maintenance of the health of the individual, the health of families, and the health of communities and nations. God designed the world and all that is in it, surely we would be advised to read and follow the maker's manual on how to use and get the best out of the world in which we have been placed.

Publisher: Felmersham PCC Editor: Clive Just, 2 The Old Rectory, Felmersham, MK43 7HN (781967)

Any items for inclusion should be emailed to OuseNews@justs.info, by the 25th of the month

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Thanks to the generosity of all those who supported our coffee morning in September in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief, we raised the amazing total of £448.62. Thank you for your donations to the raffle and stalls and to all those who helped on the day to make it such a success.

Remembrance Sunday

There will be a short wreath laying service, conducted by Rev David Mason, at the War Memorial at approximately 11.45 am on Sunday 12th November, immediately following the morning service. If you wish to contribute towards the cost of the poppy wreath please contact me on Bedford 781082 or send your donation to 6 Marriotts Close. PLEASE SUPPORT THE POPPY APPEAL

Coffee Morning

Currently the proceeds from Coffee Mornings will be put towards a toilet and kitchen facility for the Church. Contributions of home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated.

This month's will be held at the home of Peter and Pat Hartop, on Saturday 4th November at 10.30 am.

Jane Wells

December's will be hosted by Bill and Hazel Pearce on Saturday 2nd December at 10.30am. There will also be a Traidcraft stall. David Mason adds "There will be a wide range of products on show, many suitable for Christmas presents. I hope that the stall will be well supported."

CHIT speaker at Family Service

On 8th October George Kent, the Chairman of Children's Homes in India Trust, came to talk about the work of the charity. Speaking during the service, he involved the children in a thought-provoking 'raisin challenge'. They responded very well - and we were all soon reflecting on our good fortune in living in a land of plenty. After the service, George showed slides of Bapatia; there were some distressing pictures showing the effects of poverty on children in the area - and there were many pictures of happy, cheerful children at work and play in the home, having escaped a life of destitution.

George talked in some detail about the charity and of the work they do. He expressed his gratitude to the people of Felmersham and Radwell for their support and especially for the wonderful sum of money raised during the year. He emphasised that there is much still to do. Sponsors are urgently needed for many of the children - if you could sponsor a child, there are leaflets in the church. In addition, there is a building project (a sick room and new toilets) underway at the home, and a plan to install solar panels to help with ever-increasing fuel bills - and more water buffalo are needed. Your contributions to any of these projects would be very welcome! There was much to reflect on, and several members of the congregation were able to contribute their own ideas and expertise in the discussion which followed.

We were all very grateful to George for coming to tell us more about the children we have been supporting. His talk was described by several people as 'inspirational'.

PS As usual, we will be collecting little gifts for the CHIT children at the Carol Service in December - more on that in the next Ouse News. (If you have not yet managed to do so, please do look at the notice board at the back of the church on which are some photographs of the children receiving last year's gifts.)

Congratulations

Congratulations to Janet Welsh who has received a Pride in Bedford community award. She was an overall Bedford Borough winner and received The Pat Olney Arts and Sports Award from the Mayor of Bedford. (Picture on the website)

Janet gives amateur soloists and musicians the opportunity to sing in the many concerts she directs. She has helped raise considerable sums of money for charity and given enjoyment to audiences and singers alike. Janet has also recently received a High Sheriff's Award and the Winifred Fowler's Award.

Cleaner Wanted for Pinchmill Pre-School

To clean the pre-school building. Some flexibility on timing but must be outside pre-school hours (9.15am-3.15pm, weekdays). Rate of Pay : £5.05 - £5.35/hour subject to experience Closing date is Friday 10th November. May suit young person. For more information, please contact Christine Callaghan on 781770.

Sue Wright

There's something fishy going on!

A fishmonger van visits Felmersham at approximately 11am every Thursday. Although he usually stops at the same places if you are interested it would be best to contact him on 07803 201399 for more details, especially Radwell times.

Village Services

Babysitting	Bianca Hewlett	782063
Building Services	Chris Poulter	781049
Chemistry/Science/Maths tuition	Peter Rankin	782897
Community Care ** - short term help for anyone in the Parish		07786 344176
Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman	782290
French Tuition	Marigold Sykes	781801
General Building and Renovation Work	Allan Levene	781918
German/French Tuition	Gillian Whiteway	782686
Maths Tuition	Geraldine Hubbard	781413
PC Support (wireless networks, upgrades etc)	Clive Just	781967
Social Psychology/Studies, Management	Anthea Coghlan	782332

Entries here are for anyone who lives or works in the parish and is offering a paid service. (services marked ** are free of charge).

WI

An autumnal evening played host to the October Women's Institute Meeting held at the village hall on Tuesday 17th October, there was as always a good turnout and we ladies played host to Ann Bonham from Riseley WI, who gave an enlightening presentation on 'Safety in the home'.

During the course of my Presidency I have tried to encourage younger recruits to join the WI and become part of an organisation based on fun, knowledge and friendship. I have never towed the line that WI members were only interested in cake making, jam making or flower arranging. It is far more than individual likes and dislikes and participation ensures there is something for everyone.

I was delighted to have read in the latest November issue of the Sainsbury magazine an article called 'Join the club' which describes how a group of young career women have formed a WI 'but not as we know it'. I can only hope that this type of young entrepreneurial initiative will allow a new generation of women to take on the mantle and carry the aims of the WI forward.

The November meeting is an open evening inviting non members, their husbands, partners and friends as it was considered that when Major Alan Gilmore describes his career as an intelligence officer and the way in which these spies are trained, it would be of great appeal to both men and women. Please do come along a make this enlightening evening a very special event.

Mill Theatre Sharnbrook

Theo Gibbs
HURRY! Book now for OKLAHOMA! the Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical classic. On from 17th – 25th November 7.45pm, plus matinee on 25th at 2.30pm. Also, Charity Gala Performance for *Save the Children, Bedford* on the 17th.

Tickets £9-£11 from Sharnbrook Post Office or Bedford Central Box Office 269519. Disabled Access: lift and 2 wheelchair spaces – please book at least 2 days in advance.

Coming in March 2007 - Willy Russell's clever comedy Breeze Block Park. Performers! Workshops will be held on Tues. 28th and Thurs. 30th November 7.45pm. Auditions: at 2pm on Sunday 3rd December. Enquiries 708308.

FRCT (Felmersham And Radwell Community Trust) Lorraine Shrimpton

The late Margaret Alleway bequeathed the residue of her estate to Felmersham and Radwell Community Care "for their general purposes". When the estate administration was completed, that residue amounted to approximately £230,000, and in February 2004 a Trust was formed and became a registered charity known as the "Felmersham and Radwell Community Trust" - the trustees are Michael Thomas, Jeff Stokley, Richard Phipps and Lorraine Shrimpton.

Since the FRCT was formed funding has been granted to several organisations, to a total of £44,103. Do you have a scheme or proposal, which you feel may be of benefit to parishioners within the two villages? If you would like advice or have any queries please contact any of the above trustees, or alternatively an application form for funding (within the guidelines of the Trust) may be obtained from FRCT, c/o Willow Lodge, Grange Road, Felmersham, Bedford MK43 7HJ.

Coffee Morning

Lorraine Shrimpton

Last month I gave notice of a coffee morning in November to raise funds for a new altar cloth and wall hanging. This event has now been cancelled. The reason is that a parishioner has kindly offered to fund all expenses relating to the altar cloth and wall hanging, to the memory of his wife and son. To him we give our sincere thanks.

Dog Fouling

For all of us that own dogs, can we please be reminded that when walking our pets a pooper-scooper is a necessary tool to ensure a clean and healthy village.

Sleepout for Homeless People Kings Arms Project/St Albans Diocese

Each year the Diocese has held a sponsored sleepout at St Albans Abbey to raise money for the homeless (in recent years the Bishop of Bedford has slept out). This year it will be held on Friday 1st December and, as well as the one at St Albans, there will be a sleepout in Bedford in Manton Lane. More details on both of these events can be found at <http://www.kingsarms.org/sleepout.html> or <http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/news/2006/sleepout06.htm>

PINCHMILL PRE-SCHOOL FELMERSHAM

Welcomes children aged 2½ – 5

Opening times: 9.15 – 3.15

Half-day and full-day sessions available

Registered for government funding for 3 and 4 year olds.

Excellent purpose-built indoor and outdoor facilities.

Warm, friendly environment with highly qualified staff.

Contact Christine Callaghan: 781770

PINCHMILL PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

Thursdays 9.30-11.30am at Felmersham Village Hall

Cost - £1 Everyone welcome!

For further information contact:

Paula (782527) or Raffi (781659).

