

Felmersham & Radwell Community Care

~ Caring For Those In Need ~

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

Call us on **07786 344176**, leave your name and number with the Duty Officer and one of our local Volunteers will contact you as quickly as possible.

Parish Diary

September

Sat 3	10.30am	Coffee Morning	Town Lot Corner
Sun 4	10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 15	St Mary's Church
Mon 5	7.30pm	Yoga	Pinchmill Hall
Sat 10		Historic Churches Trust Cycle Ride	
Sun 11	10.15am	Patronal Festival -	St Mary's Church
Sun 18	10.15am	Family Service - Trinity 17	St Mary's Church
Tue 20	7.30pm	Women's Institute	Pinchmill Hall
Sun 25	10.15am	Matins and Communion - Trinity 18	St Mary's Church

October

Sat 1	10.30am	Coffee Morning	Perch Heights
Sun 2	10.15am	Harvest Festival	St Mary's Church
Sun 9	10.15am	Family Service - Trinity 20	St Mary's Church
Sun 16	10.15am	Choral Communion - Trinity 21	St Mary's Church
Sun 23	10.15am	Matins and Communion - Trinity 22	St Mary's Church
Sun 30	10.15am	Choral Communion 4 before Advent	St Mary's Church

Priest in Charge: Rev Robert Evens (782000)

Assistant Curate: Rev David Mason (309737)

Churchwardens: Sally Carr (781225), Paul Keeble (782134)

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

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

Felmersham & Radwell Ouse News

Sponsored by Chesham Insurance Brokers

On line: www.felmersham.net

September 2005

Harvest For The Hungry

Rev David G Mason

Although it is a wet day as I write this the harvesters have been hard at work in recent weeks, and much of the crop has already been gathered in. Our Harvest Festival Sunday is the 2nd of October, and we look forward to that celebration. Recently I attended a presentation at Biddenham Upper School for the launch of the Bishop's Harvest Appeal. This year the Appeal is supporting UBINIG, a partner of Christian Aid working to help poor families in rural Bangladesh. One of the speakers at the presentation, Jonathon Ellis, Diocesan Advisor on World Development said, "In the year of 'Make Poverty History' our Appeal is focussing on the impact of trade on developing countries. UBINIG both gives practical support to farmers such as providing seeds and animals and campaigns for change towards fairer trade conditions." We are asked to pray, give and campaign for change. The Bishop of St Albans commended the Appeal, he said, "It is a part of our response as a diocese to God's call for justice. This could truly be the year that campaigners long for – the year we at least start to make poverty history. And we are part of it."

We have become only too well aware that in our Country we are not immune to the violence of desperate individuals and groups. And at least some of that anger and violence can be attributed to feelings of injustice and inequality. It is in our interest to work for a fair and just system across the world, and for the elimination of poverty and injustice. We will be supporting the Bishop's Appeal in our Harvest Celebrations, let us also support the appeal in our prayers, and in whatever way we can to work for fair trade between and within the nations.

Other notices:

The Patronal Festival will be held on Sunday 11 September. This special service include parishioners from Sharnbrook and Souldrop with Knotting. The Harvest Festival will be on the 2nd October watch out for more details soon.

Many thanks to all those who did do much in so many different ways to contribute to the Golden Wedding Celebration and Thanksgiving Service for Hazel and Gerry Sidebottom. It was a great occasion, and it was good to see so many people in Church and to be able to share in the celebration of such a great occasion. Instead of giving, guests were invited to give contributions to the restoration funds for the organs of Londonderry Cathedral and our own church, and on your behalf I thank Gerry and Hazel for their generosity.

Thursday Club

Jo Morris
It seems a long time since the club enjoyed their summer garden party in Tom & Jane Wells' garden on a very hot day in July. Very many thanks to Jane and all her helpers who put up the gazebo and sun shades, and provided tea. Thanks too to Janet Welsh who charmed us with her musical memories. We had not realised that we had a boules player of merit! Congratulations to Constance Carter who won the competition.

We shall start our Autumn programme on Thursday September 8th at 3.30pm in the Village Hall. New members will be very welcome. For transport please ring Joan Thomas on 781722.

Farewell

Sue & John Whiting
We moved to Felmersham in 1980, William was five and Mary two. William started school at Pinchmill and from then onwards we made lots of friends. Felmersham is such a lovely place for children to grow up with the nature reserve, the river bank and much more. We enjoyed lots of activities in the village, especially being involved with Pinchmill PSA. Having the Open Gardens really appealed to John and I as John really enjoyed the vegetable garden, and I had great fun showing visitors round. The night before I would be frantically checking up on plant names. I was sure someone would be bound to ask me the ones I had forgotten. We also enjoyed immensely being part of St Mary's and will treasure the memories of all the friends we made there. Lastly we would like to thank everyone in Felmersham for helping to make the last twenty five years extremely happy ones.

Ouse Valley Singers

Janet Welsh
If you enjoy singing why not come along to the Ouse Valley Singers? Rehearsals start on Monday 19th September, 7.30 pm at Sharnbrook Upper School, in the Music Department. Further details on 01234 781010 See you there!

Coffee Mornings

Jane Wells
The Coffee Morning for September, in aid of the Church Organ fund, will be held at the home of Tony and Jo Morris, on Saturday 3rd September at 10.30 am. Home-made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated. All welcome. Next month's will be hosted by Mo and Kanzy Zaki, on Saturday 1 October at 10.30 am.

Felmersham Yoga Club

Hilary Foot
Our Autumn yoga classes begin at Pinchmill Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 5th September. You are invited to join us for nine sessions on successive Monday evenings from 7.30 to 8.30. Please bring a yoga mat, large towel or blanket. All ranges of ability are welcome from beginner onwards. Even if you can't make the first session, we will be pleased to see you for some or all of the others. If you have any queries, please telephone me on 781340.

Felmersham & Radwell 8th Autumn Show

Sponsored by

Milton Ernest Garden Centre

Sunday 4th September 2005
Pinchmill Hall
open 2.30 - 5.00 pm
(Teas served)

- * Produce * Preserves * Cookery *
- * Vegetables * Fruit * Cut Flowers *
- * Photography * Children's Classes *
- * Crafts *

PRIZES FOR EVERY CLASS

Entry forms from Maggie Spoor,
Corn Cottage, Church End
Tel: 782031

Find us on www.felmersham.net

What a difference a decade makes

The Parish Plan Committee has now started crunching the numbers and collating the responses to the Parish Plan questionnaire...and there are some fascinating results. In total, 213 completed questionnaires were returned out of 289 delivered – a very positive response rate of 74%. You will have to wait a couple of months for the full picture of parishioners' views, which will appear in the Parish Plan report, but here's a taster and a snapshot of how the parish has changed since the Village Appraisal in 1993:

- The peak age range in both 1993 and 2005 was 40-59, although the percentage fell from 41% of respondents in 1993 to 35.8% in 2005.
- In 1993, 16% of respondents were over 65, compared with 17% in 2005, and 13% were under 17 compared with 17% in 2005.
- 75% of this year's respondents have lived in the Parish for more than 5 years – a slight increase on 73% in 1993.
- 'Village locality' was the top reason for moving here (35%), with being 'close to good schools' as the 2nd highest. (In 1993, the question was phrased slightly differently, but 'love of country life' and 'love of village life' were the top two answers respectively.)
- 556 people were declared on the questionnaires and 412 cars! (33% of which are garaged and 58% parked on the premises.)
- Bedford was the most popular choice of main food shopping place (47%), followed by Sharnbrook and Rushden – with 4% of us choosing to use the Internet.

The Committee would like to thank all those who took the time to respond to the questionnaire and, of course, all those who contributed their thoughts and suggestions beforehand. A big 'thank you' also to the small band of volunteers who assisted in delivering and collecting questionnaires.

Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride

The annual sponsored cycle ride (or walk) organised by Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust takes place on Saturday 10th September. Participants choose their own route visiting local churches, so you can make the ride as long or as short as you like. Sponsorship proceeds are divided equally between the Trust and the church of the rider's choice. This is an opportunity to exercise yourself and your bike while contributing to St Mary's restoration fund. Please contact me on 781064 if you would like a sponsorship form or for further details. I am also looking for volunteers to staff the checkpoint at St Mary's for an hour apiece to sign through visiting cyclists.

Felmersham and Radwell W. I.

For our August Social, a large group gathered at the Thurleigh "Jackal", where Kevin had prepared a delicious buffet supper.

Our September meeting, on 20th, is entitled "Entertainment Reviews", and the competition will be for An Unusual Programme/Menu.

Podington Wind Farm

Many people are oblivious of the proposal to build a wind farm close to Santa Pod. There was public meeting held in Podington and the response was fairly positive - further details can be found on www.energy4all.co.uk. There is also a strong opposition group who can be found at www.clowd.co.uk. Felmersham.net published an item to stimulate debate however there is now another forum to air your views - I have started a discussion group on Yahoo. To subscribe visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/felmersham/> or send an email to felmersham-subscribe@yahoo.com. Everyone is welcome, in fact encouraged, to join. In the Files section there are two files containing photo-montages which should give an indication of how the farm would look from two different locations.

However this group is not just for the wind farm - that was the trigger to start it - it is there to discuss any other aspect of village life. Do join the group, email your opinions or comments. If you would like any help joining this group or want to discuss this further please call me on 781967.

BRTA

Do you support a wider use of public transport? Do you commute by train and would rather catch your train north of Bedford? Then you may be interested in the Bedfordshire Railway & Transport Association. BRTA are working to promote better public transport accessible to all and in particular are campaigning for a reopening of the Cambridge to Oxford line, the Northampton line and stations north of Bedford. For more details look at their website www.brta.org.uk or email chairman@brta.org.uk.

Richard Pill

Harrold-Odell Country Park

Come along learn something new, get some exercise and make new friends. All the events are free but donations are welcome. Do book as some events have limited numbers. tel/fax: 720016 or email: hocp@bedscc.gov.uk

Rosemary Barrett

Bat Detecting: Sat 10 Sept, 6 – 8.30pm - Become a bat detector, and identify which species of bat hunt for insects around the different habitats of the Park.
Charcoal Making: Tues 27 Sept, 10am – 4pm - Practical hands-on opportunity to learn about this ancient coppice-craft and make your own charcoal.

Village Services

Babysitting	Bianca Hewlett	782063
Chemistry/Science/Maths tuition	Peter Rankin	782897
Driving Instruction	Jeff Henman	782290
French Tuition	Marigold Sykes	781801
German/French tuition	Gillian Whiteway	782686
Maths tuition	Geraldine Hubbard	781413
Social Psychology/Studies, Management	Anthea Coghlan	782332

Carol Stork

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