

Titchmarsh Times

A bi-monthly village newsletter sponsored by Titchmarsh Parish Council.

Village website www.titchmarsh.info

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June/July 2010. 10th Anniversary Edition.

Well, here we go for the 60th time.

The English Civil War Comes to Titchmarsh.



Colonel John Pickering's Regiment of Foote.

On Saturday, 19th June members of Colonel John Pickering's Regiment of Foote will be encamped on the Playing Field. In the authentic camp there will be soldiers and camp followers portraying 17th century life through living history and demonstrations which include firing of matchlock muskets, swordsmanship, cooking over an open fire and period entertainment.

The camp is open to all from 12 noon until 4.30pm. Displays of Arms and Drill will take place at 12.30 and 3.30pm. There will a Mummers Play, for your delight, commencing at 2.30pm.

Come and enjoy a free colourful afternoon and find out how the conflict between King and Parliament affected life in Northamptonshire and Titchmarsh.

Titchmarsh Village Shop.

The Committee of Titchmarsh Village Shop heartily congratulates *Titchmarsh Times* on its 10th Anniversary.

Having a village shop wasn't even in dream in 2000, but during its inception in 2005 to the reality of opening in 2007, *Titchmarsh Times* was, and remains an invaluable means for the shop to communicate our plans, progress and successes along with publicity for forthcoming events and calls for help with the whole village. We would like to express our appreciation and thanks that such a vehicle exists.

The shop for many villagers, both customers and volunteers, has become a familiar part of village life – we'd like to think you would miss us if we weren't there - but our message remains that we need your support if we are to survive and flourish. Last year, through Jane's careful management we managed to turn the previous year's £10,000 trading loss into a £3000 loss, and reduced this further by our fundraising efforts. Help us turn this year's result into profit so that we don't have to rely on fund-raising to keep us fluid – we don't aim to match the supermarkets in terms of profitability but a degree of financial comfort would enable us to try different products and be a bit more adventurous.

By the time this issue of *Titchmarsh Times* reaches you, we should have our popular delicious local strawberries and raspberries. To avoid disappointment, why not call us and place an order – our number is 730727 – the shop is there to help and serve the community, please use it.

The Date of the TVS AGM is Monday 19th July at 7.30pm to be held at the Pavilion. All are welcome.

TOAwST Thanks to everyone who came to the Loire Valley evening. The wine was interesting yet somewhat illusive and as usual the contributions of food - amazing!

The next meeting is on **Friday, 9th July** in the **Pavilion** at **7.30**. The focus is **Latin America** with a barbequed steak supper. **Admission £3.00**

Fingers crossed for a warm summers evening! Hasta Luego!

Jeff and Jo 730560

Titchmarsh Show.

Titchmarsh Show Committee.

This years Flower and Vegetable Show is on Saturday 14th August 2010 at the Clubroom, remember to put it on the calendar.

It's a popular event open to all, and an opportunity to show off your growing and cooking skills, along with handicraft, painting and photography opportunities.

This year - Adults are asked to enter a photograph of 'A Village Garden'. - Children 10 to 14 are invited to enter a 'Party Time' photograph and Children under 9 can enter a photograph of a 'Flower' and a painting or coloured Drawing of 'Horrible Things'. So, why not start now and get clicking and drawing.

We are want to encourage youngsters to get into gardening and become involved in growing their own produce, so we are introducing a new category for children to enter, which is 'A selection of 3 vegetables'

There is a special class for the 9's and under & a class for the older children.

Look out for the Show programme, which will be coming through your door at the end of July. Join in this traditional village event, first timers especially welcome.

Titchmarsh Pre-school. Start of another term and we are busy as usual. We have had our fashion show, bags2school and plant orders. Thanks to everyone who came along to support us and continue to support our fundraising efforts. Thanks to everyone who attended the school fete to support the pre-school in the rain, we had quite a few faces to paint and hair to plat.

We have been successful in our application for a grant from Northamptonshire County Council and are currently purchasing the toys and equipment which we are so grateful to receive. The playground is now full of great outdoor toys for all the children.

June we see us supporting the village fete with our coconut shy, face painting and hook a duck for what is always a great event. We will also be at the Thrapston Charter Day and possibly the Thurning fete.

As we are coming towards the end of the school year we look forward to our new intake in September and the sad farewell to some of our children leaving for primary school. It will of course mean that we will be looking for new members of the committee, including treasurer and vice chair. You don't have to have children at the pre-school to join in, so any offers will be gratefully received. Anyone also wanting to enrol at the pre-school, please contact Emma Cooper as soon as possible as we are filling up quickly. *Tracey Levick*

Titchmarsh Folk Dance Club. Our main forthcoming events are as follows:

On 12th June some of our club members will be dancing out at the Titchmarsh Fete around 12.15. Support would be appreciated.

On June 19th there will be a Charity barn dance in the Clubroom in aid of FAIR (Family Action In our Region). 7.45 to 11.00pm Kelly's Eye, a very popular local band, provide the music and a very well known caller Geoff Cubitt will take us through the dances. A dance not to be missed. Please bring a plate of food to share and own alcoholic drinks.

On July 5th the club holds an American Night with live music. Country Western dress would be appreciated if possible. For further information contact George on 01933 622827.

Titchmarsh 200 Club. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 200 Club this year. 113 tickets were sold and £678 has been raised each for Church funds and FOTS. This is very much appreciated.

The winners for April were:	Mrs Leader (3)	£448.00
Mrs Williams (97)	£ 10.00	
John Greig (162)	£ 10.00	
K Lawman (151)	£ 10.00	

The winners for May were:	Gaye Teese (150)	£ 10.00
	Alan Powell (7)	£ 10.00
	Mrs O'Neill (53)	£ 10.00
	S Pentelow & G Sermani (72)	£ 10.00

Well done everyone and good luck for this year!!

Mary Cheney and Caroline Hope

FOTS. "Funday" turned out to be a very wet affair, but we were amazed at the number of people who still turned out. Thanks to everyone who helped set up and put down and to all the helpers that made it a successful event no matter what the weather had in store. Thanks also to all of you who turned up on the day to support your local school.

We are looking forward to supporting the village fete by keeping everyone refreshed with the usual tea, coffee and cake. We hope the weather is good again this year and that the day turns out to be the usual success!

July sees us arranging a children's fashion show taking place on Thursday 8th July at the clubroom. It will be a great chance for the children to show their cat walk skills and fashion sense. It should be a great event and hopefully a great fundraiser. It would be lovely to see a lot of faces from the village and of course there will be clothes for everyone to purchase after the show.

July will also see our annual Teddy Bear picnic and the new intake for September will be joining us for a few hours of fun. We have arranged for Tropical inc. to visit us, so the children will get a great chance to get up and personal with some of the more unusual animals. This is taking place on Thursday 15th July. FOTS will be providing the picnic and entertainment for the whole school and our new owlets. We are only able to provide events such as this for the children thanks to everyone who supports our other events throughout the year.

September 19th sees another Barn dance and pig roast and after the success of last year, we hope to recreate a great night for the whole family. Tickets will be on sale before the end of July and during the summer holidays, so please come along and join the fun.

FOTS continue to support the school with a purchase a new shed and by providing help towards the costs of school trips and buses for swimming; we would therefore like to thank everyone for supporting all our events and this is the only way we can continue to support the school as we do.

SAFER COMMUNITY TEAM UPDATE. Your local policing team would like to advise residents of Titchmarsh that there have been several break ins to vehicles at the Titchmarsh Nature reserve car park last month.

Top Tip's f or Motorists. Where SatNavs are removable keep them safe by always taking them AND the support cradles with you when you park.

Always remove any suction marks left on the windscreen as thieves look for these and will break in to check the glove box and boot.

Never leave anything valuable in your vehicle or under the seat!

THINK BIG!

Think Big encourages young people, aged 13 to 25, to tackle the issues that most affect them, their friends, their neighbours or their community.

So if you are between these ages or know someone who is – if you want to make a change for the better – take a look at www.02.co.uk/thinkbig

Titchmarsh Village Fete. Due to the positive feedback, which I received from residents last year, members of your local policing team will be on hand to listen to any problems or concerns you have in your neighbourhood at this event.

We will also be entering one of Bobby bear's smaller & lighter relatives in the 'flying teddies' competition.

Tim Butter PCSO

Titchmarsh School. We had a dry and enjoyable May Day on Thursday 6th May; it certainly wasn't sunny. However the smiles on the faces of everybody participating and observing was warm enough! Our royal party this year was led by King Cameron Christie and Queen Sian Worrall, attended by Prince Oscar Milner and Princess Hollie-Rae Forster. Thank you to all involved in its smooth running.

I am sure you are wondering when our building work will finally begin, up until last week we were rather intrigued also! However on Tuesday 11th May, Chair of Governors, Mark Lee and I finally met with the project managers, Bovis Land Lease and the newly appointed contractors, SDC of Bedford. Construction will begin on 14th June and will continue through the summer until the end of October. Hopefully we will now begin to see things happening! If you have any questions during the construction work, please do not hesitate to contact Wray Booth from SDC, telephone number 07946 893441.

In preparation, our garden has been moved to two large planters, built for us by Dr Peter Montague and Mr Burt Ash. Many thanks! It will continue to be tended to by Mrs Stopps, Dr Montague and the gardening club.

Special dates in the school diary for the rest of the summer term are:

Transfer Day 19th July

Sports morning 9.15 am 13th July

Leavers Assembly at Church 9.15am 21st July

School closes for summer break 23rd July

Due to the construction project there will be no School Open Afternoon this term. However prospective parents of children for the school are still welcome to call the office to arrange an individual visit.

Mrs J Milton. Head Teacher

Parish Council.

Geoff Love

Affordable Housing. Following a meeting of the planning committee of East Northamptonshire Council on 21st April we gather that the application for five affordable homes comprising three two bedroom bungalows and two, two bedroomed houses at land adjacent 16 Tofts Close was approved. The PC still await official confirmation.

Annual Parish Meeting. The Annual Parish meeting took place on 29th April in the Club Room with about 40 villagers in attendance. A report from the Parish Council Chairman was given followed by brief presentations from the Church, the School, the Shop, the Youth Group, the Club Room, The Playing Field Committee, Parish Path Warden, Pre-school, and the Alms Houses. Each told us about their activities, achievements and future plans and the evening was rounded off with informal discussion over a glass of wine.

Titchmarsh website. A new section has been added to the Parish Council area of the Titchmarsh website (www.titchmarsh.info) entitled Current Affairs. It is intended to post information of interest to Parishioners in this section and currently includes responses from questions submitted at the Conservation Area review meeting from January

Erosion of road in Polopit. NCC has now installed the new kerbing at the original road width which should be effective in preventing erosion in the future.

Keeping in touch. A reminder that the Parish Council meet on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the Club Room. We are keen to keep in touch and encourage your attendance at 'public open time' at the start of every Parish Council meeting, which is an opportunity for parishioners to address the Parish Council about local matters that concern them. We display the minutes of each meeting on the Parish Council notice board outside the Clubroom and on the village website at www.titchmarsh.info/minutes.htm

Reading Group. Best wishes from the Reading Group to the Titchmarsh Times on its tenth birthday. We may only be half your age and have far fewer readers, but we continue to thrive. Since we started we have reviewed over fifty books covering an eclectic range of subjects from biography to classic novels to modern verse plays. This year for example we are reading the worthy (Barack Obama's autobiography), the wordy (the Booker prizewinner, Wolf Hall), and the downright weird (The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society).

So if you enjoy books and would like to broaden the range of your reading, why not join us? Eight o'clock on the fourth Thursday of each month at The Wheatsheaf. Lively discussion guaranteed. Check the village website for more details. *Ian Curtis*

From the Rectory.

The church calendar distinguishes between festival seasons (like Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter) and 'ordinary time' (the rest) – which we especially enjoy time of year. But this is only an accurate description of how life is. I remember a girl at my school who so enjoyed birthdays she was allowed two a year. Mercifully her six brothers were not indulged likewise. Like a clock striking 13 too much celebration takes away from the significance of special occasions.

The churchwardens are already laying plans for harvest and Christmas – which will be great when they come – but thankfully not until after the main holiday period!

With all good wishes.

Jim Mynors.

60 Main St. 720613 (Day off Friday) Jim@Mynors.me.uk

From the Registers

Peggy Chapman formerly of Rose Cottage died aged 81 on April 6th. Her funeral was on April 12th (the same day as her birthday and wedding anniversary).

Alexander (Alec) Ray of 25 High St died on 20th April aged 78. His funeral was on 28th April.

Dudley (Steve) Wesley formerly of 29 Chapel St died recently aged 95. His funeral was in Titchmarsh on 17th May

Titchmarsh Church Services

- June 6th 9.15 Morning prayer
- June 13th 9.15am Communion & 4.30 Family Service
- June 20th 9.15am Communion
- June 27th 9.15am Communion
- July 4th CLOPTON PATRONAL SERVICE 11AM no service in Titchmarsh
- July 11th 9.15am Communion & 4.30pm Family Service
- July 18th 9.15am Communion
- July 25th 9.15am Communion
- Details of other services on noticeboards

Bible Studies on Proverbs continue on 9th June at Mill House, Stoke Doyle & 23rd June Tavern Cottage, Lowick Lane, Aldwinkle at 7.45pm

Church Rotas for June and July 2010

Date	Flowers	Time	Sidesmen	Readers
6 th June 2010	Mrs A Dunn	9.15am	Mr J Fieldsend	Mrs A Dunn & Mr J Fieldsend
13 th June 2010	Mrs S Wilcox	9.15am	Mrs J Fieldsend	Mr S Barber
		4.30pm	Knight family	Jessica Knight
20 th June 2010	Mrs W Jeffries	9.15am	Lady Harper	Sir Ewan Harper
27 th June 2010	Mrs J Powell	9.15am	Mr A Powell	Mrs J Powell
4 th July 2010	Miss J Finlayson	9.15am	Dr G Webster	Dr S Bell & Dr G Webster
11 th July 2010	Mrs R Franklin	9.15am	Mr A Powell	Mr P James
		4.30pm	Hughes family	Mr R Hughes
18 th July 2010	Mrs A Dunn	9.15am	Mr P Dunn	Mr S Barber
25 th July 2010	Mrs S Prestwich	9.15am	Dr S Bell	Dr G Webster
1 st August 2010	Mrs S Hankins	9.15am	Mr J Fieldsend	Mrs J Powell & Mr J Fieldsend

Pews for sale. The church has just been granted permission to dispose of a couple of dozen pews. If you are interested in purchasing one please contact either churchwarden (Jean Bussens 732510 or Stephen Barber 734435) or myself 720613. Jim Mynors

Village Fete. Saturday 12th June is Fete day. We will be starting to get things ready on **Friday** afternoon – putting up marquees, marking out the arena, fetching tables and chairs etc. so if you want to help please come along to the school field. Setting up on the Saturday morning will start early from about **8.30** and the Fete will open at **12 noon**.

Duncan Williams & team will soon be coming round knocking on doors for prizes for the **bottle tombola** so please have a rootle in your cupboards. People will also be coming round selling **Prize Draw** tickets or you will be able to buy them in the Shop. We have some fantastic prizes this year including 4 tickets to a West End musical “The Jersey Boys”; 2 tickets to “British Superbikes” at Silverstone; a Stretch Limousine Experience and many more.

Any donations for the cake stall should go to Ann King, 13 Chapel Street and any donations for the plant & produce stall should go to Anita Dunn at Manor Farm House, 1 Chapel Street. Donations for the White Elephant Stall should go to Sylvia Prestwich, Ridgeon, Toft’s Close.

Flying teddies are on parade again this year. Remember – don’t bring your favourite teddy in case it gets lost, and do remember to attach a parachute to your teddy. There will be an opportunity to hire a ‘ready to fly’ teddy on the day! Programmes telling you all about the Fete will be distributed soon.

If you want to help or need further information please contact Sylvia Prestwich on 732712.

Shapeup and Slim with Sharon. Are you fed up with all those other diets that just don't seem to work as well as they say for you? A Diet & Fitness Instructor of 6 Years challenges you to make a fresh start to a healthier new you.

At my classes, I offer you a weigh-in and a fun and motivational aerobic workout with a regular healthy eating plan. To keep you motivated I provide lots of weight loss incentives and rewards to keep you on the right track towards your ultimate goal, a fitter new you. Sharon explains;

“My success is the success of the people who come to my classes and it is they who are an inspiration to us all. “I want them to tell you what Shape Up and Slim has done for them.”

My Class is held on Wednesday's in the Clubroom from 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Checkout my website for more details www.shapeupandslimwithsharon.com

Titchmarsh Playingfield Association. Congratulations to Titchmarsh Times on its first very successful ten years. Your success mirrors that of the Playing Field Association which has also gone from strength to strength.

Many more people - young and not so young - now use the playing field than ever before. It is home to two football teams, one of which, Titchmarsh FC has enjoyed two very rewarding seasons and is beginning to enjoy the resurrect memories of the glory days of Titchmarsh football in the seventies and early eighties. And to ensure that the success is not a one off, much effort is being made in training the next generation of players, three junior teams basing themselves here. An area has been levelled off to give younger players the opportunity to play small sided games and we are still seeking funds to level the second adult pitch. As football finishes, the Rounder's team takes over, and the cries of excitement at another “rounder” fills the summer evening air.

The new pavilion has helped us to greatly expand what we are able to offer. It is home to the increasingly popular Titchmarsh Table Tennis Club and, as well as providing somewhere for meetings, it has become the venue of choice for a wide variety of activities, mostly joyous such as children's and family parties; others, like funeral wakes, very sad. The pavilion has recently also provided the school with much needed space while the new hall is being built.

A group of children and adults playing an informal game of football, rounder's or cricket or just enjoying each other's company is part of the pleasure of village life. Providing more of those opportunities has been the real success of the Playing Field Association over the last ten years. We would love to hear from you if you have any ideas on how we can provide more in the years to come.

10k Roadrace & Fun Run. The committee would like to pass on its grateful thanks to everyone who helped us stage yet another successful Road Race and Fun Run. Thanks also to those people on Main Street who kindly moved their cars off the road to allow easy access for the races.

Though at first glance numbers appeared to be down on last year - due in no small part to the London Marathon the weekend before - the event raised almost as much as it did last year. Particular thanks here go to Alan and Julia with their excellent refreshment stop.

One of the best things about the race is hearing all the positive comments and feedback from the runners themselves. This year was no different. We seem to have one of the best-organised and friendly events on the circuit - something we can all be proud of.

Plans are already being drawn up for next year's run - so those inspired by the event better get into training (now!).

Midsummer Music - Saturday 19th June. The forthcoming Midsummer Music Night is shaping up to be a real gala event.

Throughout the day elements of Col. Pickering's' Regiment from the Sealed Knot will be going through their paces on the playing field. Visitors will be able to walk through their authentic army camp and watch demonstrations of period cookery!

The evening kicks-off with not one but possibly two young bands, featuring musicians from the village and surrounding area. Once they've strutted their stuff, the headline act will take centre stage in the shape of **Cellar V** - (as in C'est la vie, not Cellar No.5!) - an 8 piece outfit from Bedford. Expect them to light up the evening air with a pulsating repertoire which includes everything from Elton John and the Rolling Stones to the Stereophonics and Green Day.

This year's event will be staged up at the Pavilion. There'll be a beer tent, the giant barbeque (on which you can cook your own food.) plus a dance-floor for the disco later on in the evening. The rest is down to you! Bring your Gazebo, your picnic and plenty of cheer and get ready to rock the night away.

Ticket price is £10 for adults, £5 for kids (15 and under). Gazebo plots can be booked in advance. Look for more details on the posters and the website at www.titchmarshplayingfield.org.uk.

Titchmarsh FC.

Our village football team has been extremely successful over the past few seasons, and have again enjoyed cup and league success this year. For the second year running they will be promoted and will be playing in the top flight of the Rushden Sunday League next season. You can check out their progress at www.football.mitoo.co.uk. Regular users of our sports facilities also include The Fox Inn and various other local youth football teams. In the summer the field is used by Titchmarsh Ladies Rounder's team. If you are interested in joining any of these teams, visit www.titchmarshplayingfield.org.uk for contact details.

Cheers, Ian Curtis, Mel Chapman & Antar Howarth

Titchmarsh Gardening Club. The Gardening Club has recently come out of hibernation and we recently held our first meeting and I am pleased to say that we were able to welcome a new member, Sheila Holland, to our small group.

A visit has been arranged to Top Lodge Gardens at Glendon near Kettering on Thursday, 24th June 2010 at 6.30 p.m. We will probably leave Titchmarsh at about 6.00 p.m. and make our way to the Garden by car (filling cars with passengers to be Eco friendly). The cost of our visit is £6.00 per person and includes tea and cakes. Numbers are limited but if anyone is interested in joining us please let me know by 20th June and I can give more details. The garden is 1½ acres and is very varied, including a woodland area, pond with stream and waterfalls, rare and unusual shrubs and many other plants, including roses and clematis. The garden also has wheelchair access.

Later in the year we are intending to hold another fund raising event similar to last years. Watch this space, I will try and have more details for the next Titchmarsh Times.

Pauline Ash 735769

Stitchmarsh. Another year of this group is drawing to a close with the final two meetings as follows:-

- June 9th – this will be in the Clubroom from 7.30pm
- June 23rd – the group will be going to a demonstration that evening

The future of Stitchmarsh is very much in the balance and we will probably wait until September before making a definite decision.

Eleanor Greig

TITCHMARSH YOUTH GROUP.

5 th June	Cycling in Fermyn Woods
18 th June	Camp Night
2 nd July	Club Night/Games Night
16 th July	Club Night/Games Night

Titchmarsh Youth Group is for any young person in School Year 7+ living in the Titchmarsh, Clopton and Thurning. The group meets Friday fortnightly during the school term time at Titchmarsh Clubroom. There is a yearly membership fee of £10 - this goes towards covering the cost of the hall hire, training, CRB checks, affiliation fees and insurance. Session fees are £2 for the two hours.

For those starting in Year 7 in September 2010 and who want to come along to Titchmarsh Youth Group, a membership form can be downloaded from the www.titchmarsh.info website. This must be completed when you come along to your first session. Our first session after the summer holidays will be on the 10th September. Membership forms will be available at youth club but a parent/carer must attend to complete and sign the necessary forms. For current members, can you please make sure we are notified of any changes to emergency contact details.

Our AGM will be held after the last youth group session on 16th July at 9pm in the clubroom. If anyone wants to get involved with the youth group, you will be very welcome to come and join us to hear what goes on.

A small number of adults already work a rota system for the youth club supervision but we are always grateful for new ideas and a willingness to spend time with the young people of TYG. It may mean that on a rota, you would be asked to help out one evening per term. We have now been meeting regularly for nearly 3 years and new inspiration would be keenly welcomed - especially for those of you with children (below the Year 7 starting age) keen to see the youth club continue. Please contact sueshapland@hotmail.com if you would like further information.

Titchmarsh Clubroom. The Clubroom Committee would like to congratulate the Editorial team of the Titchmarsh Times on this 10th anniversary edition.

The Clubroom will be celebrating a significant milestone of its own next year as 2011 marks the 150th anniversary of the formation of the original Titchmarsh Clubroom. We are seeking suggestions for ideas as to how best to celebrate this historic moment in the life of the Clubroom; if you have any suggestions – or better still would like to join us in making them a reality – please contact either myself (paul.milner@ukgateway.net or 733501) or John Gaskin (john.gaskin@btinternet.com or 732430), as Co-chairs of the Committee.

The Committee is also reviewing how best we can undertake the cleaning and caretaking of the Clubroom. We're open to all considerations of how we carry out the tasks of cleaning, managing the opening and closing of the room for hirers (this includes being available for late evenings and weekends), and undertake routine health and safety checks and some basic maintenance and repairs of the facilities.

These functions could be carried out as separate cleaning and caretaking roles or be combined as one. Hours and rates of pay can be discussed with any interested parties.

If you are potentially interested in the role(s) or would like to pass on your thoughts, please contact myself or John.

Paul Milner

Titchmarsh Walking Group. You are welcome to join our friendly group of walkers on routes of approximately 4 to 5 miles around the local area. We generally take a circular route from a local pub, where refreshments will be available afterwards. All welcome.

The next walk will be on Saturday 5th June – meet at 10am at the D&P Green. The July walk will take place on Saturday 3rd.

Weekday Evening Walks will be arranged for Wednesday 16th June, Tuesday 13th July and Wednesday 18th August.

Phone Maggy Chapman on 735234 or email: melandmag@btinternet.com for further details. Also details are posted on the Walking Group page on our village website.

PCC.

The Barn Dance in March raised £300, mostly due to the Folk Club members and their friends. Thank you George and Titchmarsh Folk Club.

The Boundary walk this year saw 14 intrepid people tackle the full 18 mile boundary, 2 did the 8 mile and another 14 did the 4 mile (opinion is that this is 5 miles). All together and with the sale of the remaining cakes we raised £106.

These 3 events just about cover the cost to insure the Church which is just short of £3000 this year.

Now what have we done over the last decade? Completion of work on the nave, tower and east window has taken place earlier in the decade. The chancel roof had major repair and was re-leaded in 2006 and the chancel walls were repointed along with some new stonework. A heating system was installed in 2003 and a public address and loop system was completed in 2007. Sufficient funds have been raised to remove the wooden pew platforms and replace with stone flooring, this should be completed this year.

There has been a change in the way this Parish is set within the Diocese. In 2000 we were one of four parishes (Barnwell, Clopton, Thurning & Titchmarsh) forming a benefice under the care of Revd Paul Trenchard and when he left in 2003 we were left without a minister for 4 years. In 2006 the old benefice of 4 was dissolved and we became 1 of 7 parishes (Achurch, Aldwinkle, Clopton, Pilton, Stoke Doyle, Titchmarsh & Wadenhoe) in a new benefice. In 2007 we had a new rector, Revd Jim Mynors, who has brought us renewed enthusiasm especially with the development of the Family Service held at 4.30pm on the 2nd Sunday in the month. We have continued our contact with the Village School with regular and enjoyable services in the church. Titchmarsh Church continues to be very popular for weddings and baptisms and the demand appears to be growing.

The last decade has been financially challenging with the ongoing maintenance of the church fabric and ministry and along with regular annual events of the Village fete, Harvest Meal, Churches Cycle ride and Boundary walk we have added to our regular events the Barn Dance and the Quiz and now hopefully Music in Quiet Places will become an annual event.

The Harvest meal has been moved from Monday evening to Sunday lunch to make it more practical for families with young children. We have also tried to have a special event every couple of years and to this end we have hosted 2 Mediterranean Evenings, an Après Ski evening, a Murder Mystery, and an Antiques Roadshow with afternoon tea.

We thank all those in the Village and elsewhere who have helped and supported us through the years.

BREAKING NEWS. Relocation of Thrapston Livestock Market.

Your Parish Council has just heard of proposals to relocate the market on land at the village side of the old IKEA building. Access would be off Ranway and would entail the widening of the road back into Thrapston. Formal planning permission has not been sought at this stage.

The Parish Council has important reservations about these proposals and has accepted an invitation from Bletsoe's, the developers, to send a representative to its next meeting to talk about the plans. We will keep you fully informed of the outcome and the progress of the project.

(Editors comment. Remember, any member of the public may attend a Parish Council Meeting and speak at public open-time. You are welcome to stay for the duration of the meeting but you are unable to speak or pass comment during that meeting).

Nearly there

We are nearly there, the end of the 60th edition of the TT and one of the biggest we have ever had.

It has been my pleasure to put this village newsletter together 59 times. I missed one in 2006 whilst on holiday in South America and Geoff Love substituted for me. It has become easier over the last couple of years due to the explosion of email but it is you, the residents of Titchmarsh, who make it happen.

I know there are other groups out there, but we don't seem to get their news. Remember this "rag" goes out to every household in the parish and is put on the village website. It is free publicity that now goes worldwide.

I would like to thank the Parish Council and Geoff Love who have financially sponsored the production and printing of the TT. It has come long way since the early days when I would print the single double sided A4 sheet in my office in Rugby. It is now professionally printed by *Stockline* in Kettering. Their service has always been first class.

The delivery team has also been very consistent since the beginning. Rosemary Franklin, Norma Gregory, Gina Gaskin, Alan Dexter, Katie & Kevin Waterfield, Sylvia Prestwich, Kate Noakes, Jimmy James & Ian Curtis. It might be a pleasant evening walk in the Summer but not so attractive in mid Winter. Thank you all.

We have a thriving community here in Titchmarsh with services and businesses that many rural areas have lost in the past 10 years. We have the Clubroom and the new Pavillion that are the envy of many villages. We need our pubs and shop. Please support them whenever you can.

So "Happy Birthday" TT, May you have many more.

And finally.....

The deadline for copy for the August/September edition will be ***8pm on Friday, 16th July 2010.*** May I have all your contributions by then, by email (attached WORD document) or hand written and through the door, but please don't all leave it to the last minute !!!!!!!

Enjoy your Summer.

John Greig (Vintage Editor & Publisher).

