

Titchmarsh Times

A bi-monthly village news letter sponsored by Titchmarsh Parish Council.

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April/May 2007.

Parish Council.

Sylvia Prestwich.

We were very saddened to hear of the sudden death of **Councillor John Pridmore**. John has served on the Parish Council for nearly four years, during which time we have benefited greatly from his knowledge and wisdom. He has given generously of his time and expertise to many aspects of village life, from devising fiendishly difficult questions for the pub quiz to making sure that the Christmas tree is brightly – and safely – lit. Our thoughts are with Pauline and her family at this sad time.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held at The Clubroom from 7.30 to 8.30pm on Tuesday 17 April. We do hope that you will be able to come along to hear from a number of speakers, including representatives from the Church, Clubroom, Footpath Warden team, Parish Council, Playing Field Committee, Pre-School, Primary School and Shop Group.

Parish Council elections. We have still to hear about the arrangements for the Parish Council elections, which are organised by the District Council, but you will be receiving full information about them in good time. In the meantime, why not give some thought to standing for the Council yourself. Our clerk, Emma Meen, or any of the present councillors will be able to let you know what the role involves.

Village of the Year. We will be entering the Village of the Year competition again as we feel that many of the issues raised by the judges two years ago have since been addressed. So, once again do not be surprised to see strangers with clipboards strolling through the village looking for people to talk to!

Gravel Workings. Councillors met with representatives of the County Council and the site operators, Mick George Ltd., to discuss our concerns. It was a useful meeting and is to be followed up by a visit to the site in May. Our thanks to Councillor Bob Seery for his efforts in ensuring that the meeting took place.

Titchmarsh garden Club.

Jane Finlayson

The Titchmarsh Garden Club continues to flourishwe're a small and very sociable group who enjoy getting together once a month... we put the world to rights, have plenty of laughs, and we even get round to talking about gardening ! . We have some very accomplished gardeners in our group who are only too happy to help those of us who are still at the growing a sun flower in a pot stage.

Our next meeting will be on May 1st, and when we've finished putting the world to rights we are looking forward to a plant swap. We would love to see you there, so for more information please contact me.

Stitchmarsh.

Eleanor Greig – Secretary.

We are currently learning the techniques of making covered boxes by using a base of stiff card which can then be covered with paper or fabrics such as silk and cotton. We hope to explore other crafts as the weeks progress ideas suggested are patchwork and silk painting.

We are always pleased to see new members and anyone is welcome to come along, have a cup of coffee and see what we are doing on meeting nights.

We meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Clubroom.

Titchmarsh School.

Mrs. J. Milton. Head Teacher.

I am delighted to announce that we are through to the final assessment stage of the British Council's International School Award. We are now compiling our portfolio of events. Staff, visitors, parents and pupils are contributing evaluations to each event. The first part of our Connecting Classrooms project was exhausting but highly successful. Our visitors from Africa were highly entertaining and thoroughly enjoyed their time with us in Titchmarsh. Our reception evening at the "Wheatsheaf" was very popular and was well attended by members of the various committees in the village. School reopens after the Easter holiday on Monday 16th April. Mrs Pat Upex will be retiring from her post as cleaner-in-charge at the end of this term. She has kept our school immaculate for the last 27 years. We will be incredibly sad to see her go. We shall be welcoming Michelle O'Neill, who will be replacing her.

The school will be closed for a training day on Friday 4th May and May Bank Holiday on 7th May. Our *Annual May Day* celebration will be held on Wednesday 3rd May and will follow the tradition of a service in St Mary's Church followed by the village walk. In the afternoon, the children will entertain with songs and dancing. You are most welcome to join us for this happy day.

Friend of Titchmarsh School (FOTS).

Pip Blowfield.

We are also holding a **Jumble Sale** on Saturday 21st April between 2pm and 4pm in the school hall. Entrance is 20p and there will be cakes, refreshments, tombola, bric-a-brac, etc available. If anybody has anything to donate for this event, please contact Ruth Knight on 735660 to arrange delivery/collection.

On Saturday 12th May we will be holding our annual **Funday/Craft Fair** between 12.30 and 3.30pm at the school. If anybody is interested in having a craft stall for just £10 at this event please phone John Gaskin for more details.

Our next collection for **Bag 2 School** also takes place in May – your blue bags should be being delivered to you shortly.

You should also be receiving through your door an order form for summer plants. If you are interested in placing an order please return your completed form and payment to Pip Blowfield at 9, Drydens Close by Friday 13th April at the latest. All profit from this fundraiser will be shared equally between the school and the pre-school.

We also have a **Children's Fashion Show** booked for Wednesday 4th July and our annual **Summer Ball** on Friday 13th July. Please keep an eye out for information regarding these events in the near future.

Titchmarsh Village Fete.

Jackie Rowe.

Look out for a flyer telling you all about Titchmarsh Village Fete which will be held on **Saturday 9th June 2007** from Noon to 5 p.m. on the school and church fields. There will be all the usual fun with flying teddies, teas, bars, stalls, arena events, games and prize draw with fantastic prizes. Titchmarsh House gardens will be open on the same day. Fete committee members will be coming round the village in late May to collect tombola prizes and sell prize draw tickets. If anyone feels able to offer 2 or 3 hours help on the day please contact Sylvia Prestwich

Titchmarsh 200 Club.

There is still time to join the 200 Club for this year. The cost of a ticket is £24 for 12 months. There will be two major prizes, one in April and One in October in addition to the four monthly prizes. The first draw will take place in the "Dog & Partridge" at 7pm on Friday 6th April. All proceeds will be equally divided between the Church and School.

Please contact Mary Cheney or Ruth Knight if you would like to buy a ticket.

Village Cricket and Veterans Football.

Derek Ellis

There will be a **Friendly Cricket Match** (40 overs per side) between teams from Titchmarsh and Islip on Sunday 24th June, at Islip, starting at 2pm. If you are interested in playing or would like more information please contact me on 735881 or derekellis1@yahoo.com

We are also hoping to arrange a few **Friendly 11 a Side Football** matches for the over 40s. If you are interested in playing a game or part of a game (roll on/roll off subs) please contact me.

TOAwST

Jeff Hunter.

Just a quick note to update those who are interested in The Original Appreciation of Wine Society Titchmarsh.

We are holding our first anniversary celebrations on Friday, 30th March in the Club Room at 8pm. We would be more than happy to welcome some new faces, but will everyone please contact Jeff Hunter prior to the evening as we need to cater for exact numbers for the complimentary glass of FIZZ to start the celebrations and to give information as to what to bring.

Other meetings are planned for 25th May, **Spanish night** and July 20th, a **South African night**.

Titchmarsh Playing Field Committee.

Gina Gaskin.

Titchmarsh 10K and 3K Road Race on Sunday 6th May Application forms are now available, either on line or from Gina Gaskin at 39 High Street. If you are not entering the race why not come along cheer and support the runners.

Date for your diary – Saturday June 23rd **A Midsummer Music Evening** on the school field. There will be live modern and Jazz music and some relaxing easy listening, hopefully music to suit all tastes. So please bring your picnic (BBQ will be available to CYO). More information to follow.

Parochial Church Council.

Julia Powell.

We are pleased to let everyone know that at last we have a new rector. He is the Revd Jim Mynors who will be moving into the Rectory at Aldwincle with his wife, and will be officially 'Licensed' on Monday 18th June. He will be in the Clubroom on Saturday 23rd June between 10.30 and 12.30 to meet and be introduced to all in the village, so do come and say hello over a cup of tea or coffee.

The PCC AGM is on Wednesday 18th April at 7.30pm in the Church.

On Monday April 23rd **'The Rockingham Forest Trust'** will be holding an event in the church at 7.00pm. They are running a project with the aim of working with the communities across the area to produce 'Statements of Significance for churches'. There will be a presentation on the church's history, architecture and recent restoration work; plus other information which will include the 'Historic Churches Trust' sponsored cycle ride. Refreshments will be provided and anyone is welcome to come along and join in the evening.

The Boundary Walk will be on Sunday 20th May, with the long route setting off at 7.30am and the shortened route will leave from the church at 10.30ish; as usual there will be a £2 adult and £1 child fee which will be donated to the church and there will be drinks and cake at the checkpoints.

The 'Antiques Roadshow' with Lady Victoria Leatham is on Sunday 8th July in the afternoon, more details in the next TT.

Church Services over the Easter Period:

Palm Sunday – April 1st at 10.45am on the Top Green for procession of palms to the church for 11.00am service.

Good Friday – April 6th at 11.00am Easter Sunday – April 8th will be Holy Communion at 9.30am.

Any further information or enquiries can be made to Jean Bussens or Julia Powell.

Titchmarsh Village Shop Project.

The Management Committee.

We have secured the £36K grant/loan from ViRSA and Co-op Community Finance which is really good news. We will have the final decision on our application to Northamptonshire County Council for a further £15,418 at the end of April.

The **Youth Committee** held its first meeting on 24 February. Nine youngsters, including Chairman Daniel Ward-Williams, discussed their own ideas including how the shop might look, what the opening day celebrations might be etc. They were full of enthusiasm and some really innovative ideas are coming through. It is good to have them on board and an integral part of this community project. The next YC meeting is on 18th March. If you would like to get involved, please speak to Daniel or any member of the management committee.

Our next fundraising event is **Line Dancing & BBQ** on Saturday 28 April in the Clubroom from 7.30pm, when the bar opens. A professional caller will guide everyone through dances such as Calling all Electric Cowboys, Come J Walk and Tush the Push! It promises to be an entertaining evening so come with friends and have a laugh! Tickets cost £7 (adults only) and are available from Diane Ellis and Anita Dunn or any of the committee members.

We are organising an **Open Day on Saturday, 19th May** in the Clubroom from 11am to 3pm. We intend to incorporate a **Food Fayre** to which we will invite potential suppliers to show their wares. This is a really important forum so do make your opinion count. We really want as many people as possible to come along and tell us what the shop should sell, which services should be provided and so on. This is *your* community shop so have your say! Home made cakes, tea & coffee will be available so pop in for a look around and a chat.

Titchmarsh Local History Group.

John Greig.

On Thursday 12th April we have a meeting entitled:

“Lilford Life”.

John Walpole, who was the estate foreman at Lilford Park, will be talking to us on an informal basis about his work and life on the estate. The cost of this evening will be £2, including refreshments.

The Clubroom.

Hopefully all our regular Hirers will have met or at least spoken with our new Caretaker – Chris Knight. As well as being available by phone (735660) Chris can also be reached by e-mail via bookings@titchmarsh.info. In the coming months we hope to get our bookings diary visible on the web site and, ultimately, progress to being able to make provisional bookings on-line.

Following on from the positive feedback of our Murder Mystery, Songs from the Shows and Pantomime events the Clubroom Committee hosted ‘Lady Audley’s Secret’, a Victorian melodrama performed by Northampton College drama students and a fun time was had by all who attended this vaudeville-style evening.

We hope to host further entertaining events throughout the year but they are only successful if people are interested enough to attend them – whilst they are not meant to be huge fund-raisers for the Clubroom we do look to at least cover the costs involved. If you have any particular preferences for events for us to host, or know local groups of players looking for venues please contact Paul Milner paul.milner@ukgateway.net

Finally. Thank you to all who have contributed to this edition, all but one article by email. Certainly makes it easier to put together. Rosemary is unable to do her round this time and thank to the four people who readily volunteered.

I need your copy for the June/July issue by the evening of Friday, 18th May at the very latest.

John Greig, Editor,