



# Titchmarsh Times

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

Village website [www.titchmarsh.info](http://www.titchmarsh.info)

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## December 2009/January 2010 Christmas Edition

**SID KIPPER**

### **'The Very Funny Christmas Cracker - A Kipper Country Christmas'**

An evening with Sid Kipper - Teller of Tales, Singer of Songs, & Jester of Genius.

visit [www.sidkipper.co.uk](http://www.sidkipper.co.uk)

**Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> December at Titchmarsh Clubroom.**

Bar provided. Doors Open 7pm show starts at 8pm

Tickets £10.00 are available. Please ring 735135 or 735488 for tickets

### ***Titchmarsh Village Shop.***

By the time this festive edition of *Titchmarsh Times* reaches you, each household should have received a shop newsletter and Christmas order form which we hope will inspire you to visit the shop. A reminder that our **Christmas Fayre** is in the shop on **5<sup>th</sup> December (3-5.30pm)**, but just as important is your continued support all year round. The aim of the shop is to provide a community service and many now rely on us for that.

By the end of this financial year we hope to show a small profit compared to the £7000 loss we made last year. Good news indeed, but we still need to ensure that the shop goes from strength to strength, leaving the management committee with fewer sleepless nights! **Use it or lose it remains the message going into the New Year.**

Although we have a great and dedicated team of regular helpers, the numbers of volunteers seems to be steadily dwindling. When we started there were 60 on the rota who gave freely of their time helping the shop in various ways. Sadly, this number is now less than 30 who turn out on a regular basis, meaning that the juggling needed to keep the rota filled and the shop "open all hours" is an exercise worthy of Albert Einstein (although manager Jane comes a close second!) So, it's not only £10 a week spend per family we need, but also the odd hour of your time. Please make using the shop your New Year Resolution!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year on behalf of the Management Committee of the shop,

**TOAwST** Just a short note to wish all the supporters of TOAwST a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

2009 has been another successful year tasting wines from around the world and learning more about grape varieties. Each time we have met, the accompanying food that everyone contributes has again been stupendous - so thank you for your time and creations! We will not be meeting again until April 2010, time for one and all to detox!?!?!? Until the next time, Cheers!  
*Jeff and Jo*

**New artist featured at the Dog and Partridge.** Sharon Read, a local Kettering artist, will be showing her work to the 4th January.

In the New Year, Market Harborough artist Maxing Dodd will be showing work from 4<sup>th</sup> January to 1st March 2010

All work is for sale or just to enjoy with your pint or meal.

Titchmarsh artist Angie Snelling will be exhibiting as part of a group exhibition at the Yarrow Gallery, Glapthorne Road, Oundle, between December 4th 6-9pm and 5th-12th 10.30-4.30. . For further details please contact Angie Snelling on 734971 or at [angiesnelling@msn.com](mailto:angiesnelling@msn.com)

**Playing Field.** Members of the Playing Field Committee will again be erecting the Christmas tree and lights on **December 12<sup>th</sup>** and invite everyone to the informal gathering around the tree on The Green at 7.00pm Christmas Eve for the traditional carol singing.

Our usual fund-raising events will take place next year with the 3K Fun Run/10K Road Race scheduled for Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We are looking for new ideas for the Mid-Summer Music Event as we are planning to hold it at the Playing Field in 2010. One of the ideas is to showcase new talent, so we would like to invite any youngsters who are in bands to perform a session during the course of the evening. We would also welcome suggestions from anyone who can recommend a suitable band for the main entertainment.

Finally, we have a vacancy on the committee for a new member. We have many plans for the future and need enthusiastic people to help bring them to fruition. If you think you can help in any capacity please call Gina on 732430.

**A vacancy has arisen at a two bedroom cottage.** The property is situated within a row of six Grade II Listed cottages maintained by a local charity in Titchmarsh for the benefit of those in need in the local community.

Preference is given to applicants with a connection to the Parish of Titchmarsh, under a Governing Instrument authorised by the Charity Commission. The property benefits from oil fired central heating, lounge, kitchen/dining room with oven and hob, downstairs cloakroom, two bedrooms and bathroom. Communal garden.

The rent payable is £126.00 per week inclusive of central heating.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from Secretary to the Charity Mrs Emma Morehen on 731869

**Clubroom.** We held our *AGM* at the end of October where we thanked three of our trustees as they stood down from the Committee: Jo Hunter (village community), Caroline Hope (Pre-school) and Carol Bassett (Babes and toddler group), and formally welcomed Claire Wallace (Pre-school) and Judith Collini (Babes and toddlers) as their replacements. Unfortunately we failed to encourage any further representation from the wider village community so we still have vacancies on the Management Committee. If anyone feels like giving a few hours each month to help in the running of this vital village facility please contact me or any other members of the Committee either directly or via [clubroom@titchmarsh.info](mailto:clubroom@titchmarsh.info). Whilst it's not a hugely onerous task it is a necessary one – the Clubroom doesn't run itself. As with all our meetings, the full minutes of the *AGM* are on the village web-site ([www.titchmarsh.info](http://www.titchmarsh.info)).

Our thanks also go to Katie Waterfield who, due to health issues has had to give up as our cleaner after two years sterling work. Michelle O'Neil has stepped in to give us cleaning cover until we decide on a permanent solution to the cleaning and caretaking requirements of the Clubroom.

We recently hosted a **40's Night** that saw the Clubroom transformed into a war-time dance hall. With people entering into the spirit and coming in a great range of period-style costumes and uniforms it really did feel like stepping back in time. A very energetic and fun evening was had by all with our MC getting everyone up and strutting their stuff jitterbugging, waltzing and even doing the Lambeth Walk (oi!). Feedback has been very encouraging so look out for similar event(s) next year.

**It's Panto time again (oh yes it is!)** and this year the Clubroom hosts **Jack and the Beanstalk**. Starting at **6pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December** the show lasts for about 90 minutes with a break for free refreshments half way through. Tickets priced £5 for adults and £3 for children are available from Julia Powell (tel 732283); due to limited capacity it is advisable to get your tickets early to avoid disappointment. *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 5<sup>th</sup> December – meet at 10am at the D&P Green. We shall be walking around the Titchmarsh area, and finishing off in the village for seasonal refreshments.

The January walk will take place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Phone Maggy Chapman on 735234 or email: [melandmag@btinternet.com](mailto:melandmag@btinternet.com) for further details. Details are also posted on the Walking Group page on our village website

**RNLI Collection.** A recent collection around the village raised £223-90. Thank you to everyone who made a donation. Margaret Alderman

**North Street.** Temporary road closure commencing **8<sup>th</sup> December** for two days, off peak only, for carriageway patching.

**Friends of Titchmarsh School. FOTS.** Well this year has continued as it started with a successful Halloween party. It was great to see so many families attending not only from the school, but also from the pre-school and the village. The clubroom was packed and we made nearly £400. Thanks to everyone who volunteered time to help including 2 children that helped from the school. I hope everyone had a great time; costumes were great as were the pumpkins. With this money, and the money raised at the Barn Dance we have already raise over £1000 for the children.

November saw a Bags2school collection and bags have been distributed around the village. Thanks to Mel, Fiona, Caroline and Jenny plus my boys for taking time out of their half term to deliver door to door. As usual we expect to raise a large sum from the collection and I shall let you know when we receive the cheque.

Up and coming events include the Twilight Carol Service on the 10<sup>th</sup> December and again on the following morning. The school Christmas dinner, which FOTS cook and provide for all of the children is on the last day of term, 18<sup>th</sup> December. Any help or donations of food and vegetables would be greatly received.

We are also jointly holding, with the pre-school, a wreath night which is being held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December in the school hall between 7.30 and 9.30. Tickets are priced at £15 and include your entrance, a wreath and a drink of wine or mulled wine. Drinks will be available to purchase throughout the evening. Please come along and have a laugh with others and take home your own creation. Tickets can be purchased from Fiona Love.

January will see our Annual Beetle drive and then on the 6<sup>th</sup> February we will be holding a casino night at Barnwell Hall. Tickets will be available from the start of term in January and I hope many of you will come along to have some fun! The tickets will be priced at £20 each and will include some chips to play with! Thanks go to one of our parents, Phinesta, who has agreed to sing for us on the night. We are looking for someone to provide the catering for the night, so if anyone knows of anyone, please can you let me know.

I would like to personally thank, on behalf of the committee, all the parents and villagers who have helped and attended events and I hope that you all have a great Christmas!

*Tracey Levick*

### **200 Club Results.**

**October** Mr & Mrs R Wenman (29), Mrs B Jenkinson (72),  
Mrs Heafield (21), Mrs S Wells (170)

**November** Mr & Mrs A Wallace (27), S Roughton (9), Mrs T Baille (75),  
Mr P James (52)

All the above won £10.00 each. Well done.

*Caroline Hope.*

**Trees & Trimmings 2009.** Trees & Trimmings 2009 will be held between **1p.m and 3 p.m. on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December.** This year you are invited to an informal lunch in the Clubroom with soup, savoury and sweet party food, mulled wine and other refreshments. There will be activities to keep the children busy and quizzes for all the family. There will also be a raffle and carol singing. Entry will be £2.50 for adults and £1 for children. Santa will be paying a visit around 1.30 to distribute presents to all the children.

This year there will be no competitions - although the Hillsborough House Cup for best decorated house will still be awarded and will be presented on Christmas Eve at Carols around the Christmas tree.

*Jackie Rowe*

**Titchmarsh Pre-School.** This November meant the start of another half term and we welcome 3 new children to join those who started in September and who have settled in well.

We held a pampered chef night in October and raised over £70. Thanks to all of those that attended. We also had a coffee morning which was held at the Dog & Partridge. A number of parents attended and we plan to hold another one each term. Thanks to the Dog & Partridge for opening for us and allowing load women and children to run around their pub first thing in a morning. We also held our annual Xmas Bazaar on the 28<sup>th</sup> November at the clubroom, which was well attended as usual. I hope you all had a great time.

We are holding a wreath night jointly with the primary school on the 14<sup>th</sup> December. It is being held at the school hall between 7.30 until 9.30pm. Tickets will be £15 and this includes entrance, your wreath and all materials and a drink of mulled wine, or other. Further drinks alcoholic and non-alcoholic will be available throughout the night. Please come along for an evening of fun and craft work, remember you get to take your own wreath home at the end of the night.

We would also like to ask you to help us gain some free sports equipment. It simple Haven are running a scheme called Haven Holidays Fun and Fitness Sports Equipment Giveaway campaign.

In order for us to achieve this we need your help. All you have to do is register on the website and pledge your support to the Pre-School. We need 70% of our parents/carers to sign up to receive our free sports pack and if we achieve 100% signup then we will receive a bonus folding trampoline for the Pre-School. So please help us achieve this as it is an easy way of receiving FREE equipment which would otherwise take a lot of fundraising to purchase.

We need you to go online to Visit <http://www.havenfunfitness.com/> and search for our pre school by either town: Titchmarsh or postcode: NN14 3DF. Select our pre-school and click on 'Register your support' then complete your details and click on 'register your support.' Tick the appropriate box if you do not wish to receive correspondence from Haven. Lastly check your Email Inbox and click on the link shown in the email from Haven. SIMPLE...one step closer to FREE EQUIPMENT for our children.

As you all know we are a charity and depend on fundraising to keep the pre-school open and to buy equipment for the children, so please if you can help in any way by attending events or helping at the pre-school we would be pleased to hear from you.

"We are holding a jewellery recycling program at the end of January, so please keep any broken chains, watches and odd ear rings along with any costume jewellery as it all can be recycled. If you have some jewellery please contact anyone at the pre-school for an envelope."

The pre-school would like to mention that all of our staff achieved further qualifications in the past year which means that we have very highly qualified staff. We are now running a number of sessions with a full quota of children and seem to be going from strength to strength. The changes to the Clubroom by way of the new playground, gates, fencing and shed has meant a very safe and successful play area for the children. We would like to thank the Clubroom Committee for their co-operation in making this a reality.

We had a successful fundraising year allowing us to buy new toys and equipment and to fund such activities as Sports Day and the Leavers party. Thank you to everyone for supporting us and we hope that we can continue to count on your support in the future. This year we are looking to purchase IT equipment for the children to gain basic knowledge and skills in this area and to purchase more outdoor toys.

For further information go to our website [titchmarshpreschool.co.uk](http://titchmarshpreschool.co.uk).

*Tracey Levick*

**Titchmarsh Folk Dance Club.** We have had another successful year which included an Irish night, Cheese and Wine/Valentines evening, Church Barn Dance, charity dance for Cransley Hospice which raised over £500. A club member's birthday dance added another £300.

During the summer months we danced at the Titchmarsh fete, weather was kind as previous years. We all enjoyed the annual ramble .This year around Titchmarsh lakes. We ended by popular choice at Wadenhoe for cream teas. In July we held an American evening and enjoyed a fish and chip night at the end of the month. Always popular as 70 attended. The summer highlight is the garden evening held in Clopton. We dance until dark and go inside for a superb buffet and drinks.

The annual dance in October was also a success as was our Ceilidh on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Live music was provided by Peter Scatterry , Highland dancing by the Grampian dancers from Corby, the youngest being just four years old. 14 members of the Rushden Caledonian Society did two demonstration dances and joined in the general dancing to finish off the evening. Had any local residents attended I am sure they would have enjoyed the evening.

Coming up is our Christmas party on 21<sup>st</sup> December .We will have live music, display by Northampton Morrismen, mince pies and mulled wine. All are welcome .Only £1.00 !!! Club meetings restart on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010 .

For your diary. The Church Barn Dance is on Sat March 7<sup>th</sup> in the Clubroom. (Jean Bussons is the contact for information on club activities please contact George on 01933 622827 or John on 01832 730230.

**Rose Cottage, High Street.** The new owners are Brian and June Dove, from Isham. They purchased the freehold of the cottage with the acre and a half of land around it from the Merchant Venturers. You may find the surname familiar; this is because they are the parents of Nathan Dove from The Poplars, opposite.

Brian and June wish to put any troubled minds at rest and assure all interested parties that the cottage is going to be sympathetically restored whilst maintaining its original shape, size and style. They will not be building a housing estate in the back garden! The grounds will remain just that, grounds; gardens and grass.

It is estimated that the cottage will be ready for them to take occupancy around Christmas 2010. Please join me and Nathan in welcoming them to Titchmarsh and wishing them luck in their very exciting project.

*Alice Dove*

### ***The Wheatsheaf Inn over Christmas.***

Come and join Darren and Amy Harding at The Wheatsheaf Inn over the Festive Season and enjoy fantastic food, beer and wine. Why not even book your Christmas parties with us - not too far too walk home then.

Opening Times. Christmas Day Noon - 2pm New Years Eve for food 6 – 9pm

Our usual opening times Monday to Friday are Noon – 2.30pm and 6 – 9.30pm (Food)

Saturday Noon to 9.30 (Food) Sunday Noon to 8.30 (Food)

January Offer Sunday to Thursday Lunch & Dinner 2 courses £10 or 3 courses £14

To book please ring 732203 email [info@the-wheatsheaf-inn.com](mailto:info@the-wheatsheaf-inn.com)

We look forward to seeing you in the near future. Happy holidays.

**Titchmarsh School.** This term has flown by. Congratulations to all our children and staff for settling into their new classes and a particular well done to our Owlets who have had a very successful first term of school life. Harvest Festival was very enjoyable and we have received many cards and letters from recipients of our Harvest Hampers.

We are very excited about our building project, which should begin construction in February 2010. Plans and images are available to view on our website. Go to Our School and then New Build 2010.

We now look forward to Christmas and sharing our Christmas Concerts with you

- Twilight Carol Service in St Mary's Church from 6.30 -7.30pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December
- Morning Carol Service in St Mary's Church at 9.30am on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December
- School re-opens for Spring Term on 4<sup>th</sup> January.
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On behalf of everyone at school, I wish you a very merry Christmas and prosperous new year.  
*Mrs J Milton*

**News from the Dog and Partridge.** [www.dogandpartridge.food.oficelive.com](http://www.dogandpartridge.food.oficelive.com)

**Christmas Menu Bookings now being taken...** Pop in for a menu or see the web site

**Quiz Nights.** The Christmas Quiz will be held on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December with a free buffet. The first of the New Year will be on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

**The Christmas Draw** will take place on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Live music from 2pm.

**Burns Night.** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January. Book a place at the table.

**Art Exhibition.** As Part of Northampton Open Studios for the next few months we will have various artists work displayed. New work now on show

**Bonus Ball.** Weekly draw for the lottery bonus ball on Saturday Night

**Chase the Ace.** Look out for chase the Ace on Friday Night draw at 10pm

**Acoustic night.** All welcome from beginners to advanced with a free drink for any performers. Wednesdays, 30<sup>th</sup> December and 27<sup>th</sup> January

**Evening Meals Monday to Saturday and Sunday Lunch ...Special offer 2 for £12**

For a limited period we are offering 2 main courses for £12, a bar snack menu is also available. Take away available. Pre-order and we will have it ready for you to collect.

**Charity Music Night for Kidney Research.** This was a great success and Mags would like to say thank you to all who supported her.

**Opening...** It is with regret we have had to change our opening hours. We are now closed weekday lunchtimes until further notice, Saturday and Sunday are 12 noon through until closing.

A Merry Christmas to you all from Carole, Mick and all the staff at the D & P.

When it is over come and join us for New Years Eve!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you for your continuing support.

**Titchmarsh PCC.** Just to let everyone know, the Sponsored Cycle Ride raised £90 for our church and the same for Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust.

The Harvest Celebrations made a magnificent £1500, this is much appreciated as rising costs in insurance and parish share are quite challenging for us.

Dates for your new 2010 diaries:

Ski Evening on **Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> February** will be a fun evening of excellent food, games and quizzes with a silent auction of promises. We are hoping to offer promises of Food and Drink and Home and Garden. If you feel you could offer a promise please do not be shy, let us know. Contact Julia, Jackie or any member of the PCC.

We will have a Pancake Party on Shrove Tuesday on **February 16<sup>th</sup>**, further details will be posted on notice boards and in the next TT.

Barn Dance will be on Saturday **27<sup>th</sup> March** in the Clubroom, and further details in the next TT.

**Titchmarsh Youth Group.** Our last session this year will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> December when we shall have Richard from the NAYC attending to do some Christmas craft with us.

For those coming on the theatre trip to see Joseph on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December, we will pass final details to you nearer the time. TYG meetings for the New Year:

8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Lasar Evening with Cultural Community Partnerships attending
22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Club Night

Next year we hope to arrange more trips: to the ice rink in Peterborough, a tennis evening with some coaching as well as evenings at the Clubroom with cooking and craft nights.

Programmes will be emailed to members shortly. For further information please contact Sue Shapland on 734467 or Julie Ray on 720308.

**From the Rectory** This year our carol service has not only the usual Rushden Brass Band but also the choir - at 7.30pm on the Monday before Christmas. 21<sup>st</sup> December

The main focus for our gifts is Cransley Hospice (although it's also possible to give to the local church). In 1995 a local hospital ward caring for the dying was moved to this NHS facility in London Rd Kettering. It serves 250,000 people in this area in a 9 bedded unit, designed to the highest possible standards. NHS. funds underpin the cost but the Trust aims to raise £500,000 per year to sustain the quality of care at a high level and to purchase additional services and benefits for the patients, to make their stay as comfortable as possible. It is also the base for the community Macmillan nurses, who work in close partnership with the local GP's and District Nurses as well as the Marie Curie nurses. Any one of us – or those close to us – might one day find ourselves needing to turn to Cransley ourselves.

It might seem a curious choice at this season – but remember the final lines of 'Hark the Herald': 'Born that we no more may die, born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. A season when we think about the Christ-child who came to bring life beyond death is also a time to help those at the end of this life. Happy Christmas

Jim Mynors (Rector) 720613 Jim@mynors.me.uk

## **Titchmarsh Church Services**

Dec 6th	9.15 Morning Prayer
Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion & 4.30 Family Service
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion
<b>Dec 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>7.30pm Carol Service</b>
<b>Dec 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.30pm Christmas Communion ('Midnight Mass')</b>
Dec 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion
Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15am Morning Prayer
Jan 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion & 4.30pm Family Service
Jan 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion
Jan 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion
Jan 31 <sup>st</sup>	9.15am Communion (All age service in Clopton 4.30pm)

Details of services other churches on notice boards

### **From the Registers.**

Madeline & Samuel White of Higham Ferrers were baptised on 8<sup>th</sup> November

Terry Beattie of 8a St Andrew's Lane died suddenly on 31st October aged 59 and was buried in Titchmarsh on 12<sup>th</sup> November

## Church Rotas for December 2009 & January 2010

<b>Date</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Sidesmen</b>	<b>Readers</b>
6th December 09	Wedding/Mrs S Prestwich	9.15am	Mr T Higgins	Mrs A Dunn & Mr T Higgins
13th December 09	Mrs R Franklin	9.15am	Mr A Powell	Mr P James
		4.30pm	Edwards family	Mr R Hughes
20th December 09	Mrs I Williams	9.15am	Dr S Bell	Dr G Webster
24th December 09	Christmas	11.30pm		
27th December 09	Mrs W Jeffries	9.15am	Mrs K Williams	Mr D Williams
3rd January 2010	Mrs J Powell	9.15am	Mrs J Fieldsend	Mr J Fieldsend & Mrs J Powell
10th January 2010	Mrs G Gaskin	9.15am	Mrs J Powell	Mrs J Bussens
		4.30pm	Knight family	Jessica & Caitlin Knight
17th January 2010	Mrs S Wilcox	9.15am	Mr P Dunn	Mrs A Dunn
24th January 2010	Miss J Finlayson	9.15am	Lady Harper	Sir Ewan Harper
31st January 2010	Mrs B Ray	9.15am	Mrs K Williams	Mr D Williams

**Shape up and slim with Sharon.** Get fit before Christmas and loose weight after the New Year. Wednesday evenings 5.30 to 6.45pm.

The last meeting before Christmas will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> December and then a break to the 6<sup>th</sup> January.

For further information contact Sharon on 01933 226813 or 07712 835088.

**Theatre trip to London.** Following the success of the Jersey Boys theatre trip in March 2009, and by popular request, we have arranged another London theatre trip for February 2010. This time we are going to see the matinee performance of 'Chicago' at the Cambridge Theatre, Earlham St, London WC2 9HH on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010.

The plan is to leave Titchmarsh by coach (max 49 persons) at 11am, have a sandwich lunch on the coach and arrive in plenty of time to see the 3pm performance of Chicago. After the Show (around 5.25pm) there is an option of having a meal at a local restaurant, before we leave London at 8pm for the journey home.

If we can fill the coach, the cost is just £45 per person ! (£25.75 per person for the top price theatre tickets [which are usually £60] and £19.25 per person for return coach travel including a sandwich lunch). Enquiries are underway with Porters English Restaurant regarding a group meal reservation after the Show, the menu and costs are still to be finalised.

If you are interested in participating in this amazing experience, please contact Sylvia or Terry, by Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009 at the latest, to provisionally reserve your place(s). Don't delay as places will be allocated on a 'first come first served basis'. Contact details are:- tel 732712, or [sylviaprestwich@aol.com](mailto:sylviaprestwich@aol.com) , or 31 High St, Titchmarsh NN14 3DF. Further information regarding the meal will be circulated before Christmas to those who have made a provisional booking, so that seats can be reserved for a meal after the Show. Full (non-refundable) payment of £45, + meal if applicable, must be made by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.

**Titchmarsh Gardening Club.** The Green Welly's Gardeners Question Time held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 09 at the Pavilion was very successful. The Radio Northampton Team, Johnnie Amos and the panel were very impressed with the venue, the enthusiasm of everyone who attended and the number and variety of the questions taken on the night.

Many questions were asked on the night and the questions broadcast the following Sunday were a query from Sheila Holland on her water lily, Mary Montague regarding agapanthus, Pauline Ash regarding how to get an orchid to re-flower, Colin Shipton and Peter Montague on the swarms of white fly affecting the allotments, Jean Bussens regarding a rose problem Duncan about pruning a tree peony and Jennie Harper regarding the taking of hard cuttings. I hope I have not missed anyone out.

Light refreshments were served to the panel and attendees and many compliments were received (especially for the chocolate brownies baked by Mary) on the delicious cakes etc. In fact Johnnie and the Panel said that Titchmarsh is top of the list for venue and refreshments and they hope to be asked back again. The event was attended by about 30 people a small profit of about £100 was made which will be used for village good causes..

Titchmarsh Gardening Club consists of a small friendly, informal group of fun loving gardeners with no formal committee.. We meet fairly regularly during the spring, summer and autumn and enjoy exchanging gardening anecdotes and tips. We have all shades of green fingers in our midst, and would love to hear from anyone who might like to join our group.... no one pulling rank as designer gardeners! We just share ideas. Many of us have lovely and very diverse gardens, and the rest are only too happy to discuss our gardens failings and welcome suggestions! We often describe ourselves as small but perfectly formed. One of our members runs the Children's' Gardening Club at the local Primary School.

During the last year we have visited Easton Walled Gardens and other gardens open under the Northamptonshire Gardens Scheme. Our meetings are very informal at members' houses and we try and organise one fund raising event during the year which is quite a task for such a small group Please contact Pauline or Bert Ash on 735769 if you are interested in joining us, even if it is only for the garden visits.

*Pauline Ash*

### ***Titchmarsh Local History Group.***

On Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm, Colin Rae from Oundle will be sharing his research on:

Medieval Churches. Their Design, Features and Uses.

Many churches have features that cannot be readily seen or understood in this day and age. Colin will unravel these features and give us a new understanding of the use of the church buildings in bygone days.

This is our Christmas meeting and we will be having wine and nibbles. The cost of the evening is £2.50. Our next meeting will be in March 2010. *John Greig*

***Stitchmarsh.*** Why not start the New Year exploring various craft? At the moment some of us are investigating knitting white others are still continuing with patchwork projects the started during the course of 2009, but all crafters are welcome.

Dates for the New Year are Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> January & Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> February

We are looking at having demonstrations during the course of next year, will give more details in the near future *Eleanor Greig*

### ***Parish Council.***

*Geoff Love*

***I***

***Affordable Housing.*** Following the recent Open Day on Affordable Housing, the Parish Council has received confirmation from East Northants Council that they intend to proceed with a planning application for a development of affordable housing in Tofts Close. The planning process provides interested parties the opportunity to voice their opinion on the matter before a final decision is made and we would recommend that if you do wish to make your views known, you should use this opportunity to do so.

***Broken seat in Park Rd.*** The Parish Council is planning to remove the broken seat at the top of Park Rd in the coming months.

***Dog Fouling.*** It has been a number of months since any problems with dog fouling have been raised with the Parish Council, but it has come to our attention that the issue is once again surfacing. The footpath leading off Tofts close is a particular problem area. Could those dog owners that don't deem it necessary to pick up after their dogs please consider the impact it has on others who follow after them. It is very anti-social and a health risk to young children.

***Parish Clerk Hotline.*** Emma Morehen, our hard-working Parish Clerk has a new mobile telephone number for the sole purpose of carrying out Parish Council business. If anybody wishes to contact Emma, the new telephone number is **07507 684451**. In order to allow Emma to have a life outside of the Titchmarsh Parish Council, Emma will be contactable between 4.30pm and 7.30pm Monday to Friday. Messages can be left outside of these hours, for a response during the proposed times. If you wish to contact Emma by email, the address remains **[clerk.titchmarshpc@googlemail.com](mailto:clerk.titchmarshpc@googlemail.com)**.

***December Parish Council Meeting.*** Please note that the Parish Council meeting to be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> will take place in the Pavilion and will commence at 7.30pm. If you want to express a view on any aspect of village life then please come along for the Public Open Time at the commencement of the meeting. We would welcome contributions from all parishioners.

*Finally* Well look at this ..... a 12 page edition and a crossword to boot.

The idea of a village newsletter was sown in the Spring of 2000 and the very small first edition germinated and hit the streets of Titchmarsh in May of that year.

I used to have to type most of the articles from scraps of hand written copy put through the door. I still have some of Raymond Grays articles written in his own and unique manner. Raymond kept the last carbon paper salesman in business. Now 95% of the articles come by email, something we now take for granted.

Now let's All wind down and enjoy the gift of Christmas. Peace to you all and best wishes for 2010.

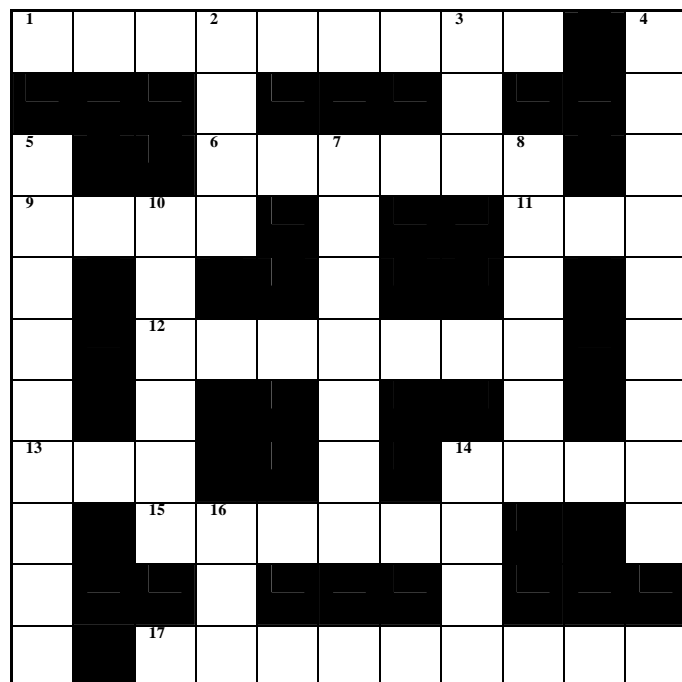
*John Greig (Vintage Editor).*

Across

1. Seasonal Festival is endless in Titchmarsh with added salt (9)
6. Burner can be dipped (6)
9. Leads the way to the start of disease (4)
11. The central pane of Vegas (3)
12. Source of light in sticky terrain is hot accompaniment (7)
13. Will in the end be unwell (3)
14. Wood cutter in a daze (4)
15. Shelled Drink (6)
16. Insane Elizabethan songs (9)

Down

2. Measure of a chin (4)
3. Everything at the end of a fall (3)
4. Seasonal merrymakers with a cup of mead were shipped (9)
5. Pip eaters have early dinner (9)
6. Night time musical piece (7)
7. Escapee dueled in mix-up (6)
10. Singer of nautical confectionary starts with agency worker (6)
14. Opera goggles help gaze spectacle (4)
16. In India some time ago (3)



Entries to 24 North Street, by the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009

First Correct crossword randomly drawn to receive a £5 voucher from RT Floral Supplies, Second drawn receives £3 voucher.

Thank you to Nicholas Partridge for composing the crossword & Ruth Thompson for the prizes. (Ed.)

