

Titchmarsh Times

A Bi-monthly Village Newsletter Sponsored by Titchmarsh Parish Council.

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June/July 2006

Parish Council.

Many thanks to those of you who attended our **Annual Parish Meeting**. It was heartening to see so many villagers at the meeting. We hope that you felt better informed as a result and that you had had an opportunity for your views to be heard. Certainly judging by the liveliness of some of the discussion, it is clear that the need for such meetings exists.

One of the items discussed was the Parish Council's response to the **Parish Plan**.

[1] With regard to the **A605** we have made your concerns known to the appropriate authorities and discussed with them the options you suggest. The whole of the road is subject to a much wider review – part of which includes improving the Titchmarsh turn. Unfortunately, this work is not scheduled for the short term and it will be some time before we see any major improvements.

[2] Having looked closely at various alternatives, the Council has reluctantly decided not to proceed with the construction of **bus shelters**, primarily because of cost.

[3] We were also asked to look at the provision of activities for **young people**. We have arranged for the Games Bus to visit the village on a couple of occasions, and several people have taken the opportunity to challenge their skills against the games provided by the computers on the bus. A range of more energetic and artistic activities has also been organised by the youth team from the District Council during school holidays. But perhaps most exciting of all are the plans to set up a Youth Club in the Clubroom from the autumn. The Parish Council is very happy to support this venture.

Having entered the **Village of the Year competition** in 2005 our marks suffered because of lack of activities for the young and for the elderly. As a result of the Parish Plan many clubs and societies are now being formed to involve these and other groups. It was felt appropriate to wait a year, until 2007, before entering the competition again when we should have a better chance.

Finally, one small grouse. We had a notice board erected in order to avoid the need for **fly-posting** on telegraph poles. This seemed to work initially but recently the fly-posters have reappeared. Please don't litter the village with these unsightly notices.

News and Events.

Titchmarsh Lunch Club. The Lunch Club will meet again on Friday, the 2nd of June in the clubroom for the monthly Pot Luck Lunch at 1PM. This will be the last meeting before the summer. There will be no meeting in July or August. Please watch the bulletin board by the school for news of September. Have a great summer!

Marie Curie Cancer Care Daffodil Collection. Many thanks to all the residents of Polopit and Abbots Close who contributed to the May Collection. £50 was sent to the charity. SC.

Titchmarsh Village Fete. Saturday 10th June 12noon - 5pm. The Fete starts with a dancing demonstration from the village Folk Dancing group, followed by a Fancy Dress competition for youngsters and a 'Bonny Babies' contest. Other arena events include a Pet Show, Children's Races, a Dog Agility demonstration and (in place of the previously advertised Throne Race) a Whacky Wheelbarrow Race for adults! There will be a Tug O War competition if there is enough interest – register your team of 8 with Sylvia by 8th June. The Grand Draw offers prizes of £200 cash, 2 tickets to Silverstone, 2 tickets to Huntingdon Races and many, many more prizes; tickets on sale in advance. There will be a BBQ, Beer tent, Pimms bar and a tea tent, something to quench all thirsts. Rushden Town Band will be playing during the afternoon and the famous Parachuting Teddies, launched from the Church tower, will be the highlight yet again. A full programme for the Fete will be delivered to every house in the village at the end of May. Fete Committee members will be knocking on your door soon asking for contributions – please be ready for them with your donations for their tombola stall, the White elephant or plant stalls. Be sure to come along and enjoy a traditional village fete.

Thanks to Sir Ewan and Lady Harper, who have kindly agreed to open their garden again this year, under the National Gardens Scheme.

Enquiries, and offers of help on the day, welcomed - please contact Sylvia on 732712

Titchmarsh Flower Arranging Club. The Flower Club, which was formed from the initiative of the Parish Plan, has held two very successful meetings. In March we had a fascinating demonstration by Keith Gubbins of arrangements of Spring Flowers; and then an evening with our own Ann Swift in April, when the members were able to make their own table arrangements.

We would welcome new members to this friendly sociable group, that meets in the Club Room from 7.30 to 9.30pm. Future meeting dates for this year are Wed 21st June, Wed 27th Sept, Wed 25th Oct, Wed 22nd Nov. Make a note in your diary now! For more information please contact Terry Higgins or Hazel Brocklebank

The eleventh **Titchmarsh 10k Road Race and 3k Fun Run** took place in near perfect weather on the 30th April. There was a field of 150 runners in the 3k event and the 10k attracted 251.

The 3k was won in 11:09 by Christopher Dunn (15 years) of Werrington. The first female, and the first Titchmartian, was Imogen Stokes aged 12 who finished 9th in 13mins 10secs. Very well worthy of a mention is the second Titchmartian, Kern Routley in 13mins 21secs. He is only 9 years old and finished in overall 10th place.

The 10k was won in a course record time of 30mins 48secs by Robert Birchall of Notts Athletic Club.

The organisers would like to thank everyone in the village who lent their support and those who very kindly gave up their Sunday morning to help by watering, refreshing, marshalling, registering, recording results, setting up kit and enforcing the road closure order.

Particular thanks to Kevin Shapland of CJS Event Solutions and Bulley Davey Accountants for sponsoring the day and to the United Church Schools Trust for providing the IT support.

If anyone has any suggestions about how to improve things for next year can they please make them known to Richard Roe either on email at roadrace@titchmarsh.info.

Titchmarsh Walking Group. Over 20 people of all ages and abilities enjoyed the sunshine at the recently organised Walk which took them approximately 4 miles around the village. The next organised event will be on Saturday 3rd June, commencing at the Dog and Partridge at 9.30am. This Walk will start from Watergates Farm in Cockbrook Lane, over fields to Old Weston, a bit of road work to Molesworth Air Base and back to Watergates Farm for tea or coffee. Approximately 4 mile walk, taking about 2 hours at the most. Adults and children welcome; also dogs on a lead. Cost will be £1 per person. Meet at the D&P to arrange transport. See posters nearer the time. For further information, please contact Maggy Chapman at mc.chapman@ukonline.co.uk, or Diane Ellis at dihellis@yahoo.com.

Titchmarsh Football Club. Titchmarsh football club would like to thank all the loyal supporters who have stuck with us over the past few years.

This time last year we weren't doing very well!! We were relegated from our division and were 'thrashed' on an almost weekly basis. At our presentation evening the players all received specially worded wooden spoons. This must have done some good as all we've done since then is improve! In our league this year we have only lost 3 games. We competed really well and finished runners up in division 4 of Rushden and District Sunday League, gaining promotion. In the Gordon Howes Memorial Cup we made it to the final playing the winners of the league above us. This was played in front of a crowd of approx. 200 (most of which were Titchmarsh supporters.....thank you). The game was evenly matched with Titchmarsh putting up a good fight, but unfortunately we lost 2-1 in the end.

Also this year Dave at the Wheatsheaf kindly hosted a race night to raise funds for us. This was very well supported and raised a total of £ 960.00 for our club.

So our thanks again to all who have supported us in whatever way this year. Here's to next season being even better!

Kev Jeffries (Manager)

Titchmarsh School. On Thursday 4th May we had a wonderfully happy May Day celebration. We were able to carry out the tradition of our village walk and open-air concert in beautiful sunshine. Our royal party this year was lead by King and Queen, Rowan Routley and Phoebe Sadler. Thank you to all involved in its smooth running.

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

Church Services at 9.15am 6th and 20th June and 4th July.

School Open Afternoon, including opening of our new library 1.45 – 3.30pm 15th June

School Council Fundraising event 3.30pm 16th June

Incoming Reception Parents Evening 10th July

'*Incrediball*' Rounders at Oundle Rugby Club, Oundle 10am – 4pm Saturday 15th July

Transfer Day 17th July

Leavers Assembly at Church 9.15am 19th July

School closes for summer break 21st July

Mrs. J Milton. Head Teacher

Good News. Restoration of the Chancel roof and exterior stonework will start on Monday 29th May – bright and early. Scaffolding will be placed around a large part of the building and Heras fencing will close off a section of the churchyard. The contractors will need to receive delivery of heavy materials, such as stone and sand and dispose of rubbish. This will be done at the eastern end of the church on Church Street. It is anticipated that there will be occasional hold-ups in the traffic flow along Church Street. Deliveries will be completed with care and as speedily as possible, but we ask people to be understanding and patient. We should appreciate your co-operation between the end of May until the end of September. Church Services will continue as normal.

Julia Powell.

Titchmarsh Babes. We are a Mother and Toddler group that meets on a Monday in the Club Room between 1-30 and 2-30pm during school term time only. We charge £1 per family which includes drinks and biscuits. We are a small friendly group, so please come and join us. Fathers, carers and grandparents are welcome as long as they are accompanied by a toddler. For more information contact Helen James

Titchmarsh Show. This years Flower and Vegetable Show is on Saturday 12th August 2006 at the Clubroom – why not put it on the calendar now? 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 will be the 30th annual Flower and Vegetable Show in Titchmarsh and we are celebrating by having a 'Grow the biggest Pumpkin' competition for children aged 14 and under. By now all eligible children will have received pumpkin seeds and details of the competition and hopefully there are now numerous young pumpkin plants flourishing in the village! Any children who have not received their seeds should contact Sylvia on 732712.

We hope that some of the newly formed village clubs will participating. Full details of timings, categories and how to enter are in the Show programme, which will be delivered to every house at the end of July, so look out for it and do join in.
Sylvia Prestwich.

Titchmarsh Pre-School. After a recent intensive fund-raising campaign which included Pamper Hamper raffles and a children's Easter egg hunt, the Pre-School Committee managed to raise £360, and sponsorship money is still coming in for Sophie Rouwenhorst (aged 4) and her mum who both completed the Titchmarsh 3K Run. Well done Sophie and Liz! Hopefully we can persuade a few more young runners next year. In the meantime, these vital funds will go towards new toys and equipment for the children. With at least 9 of the children leaving Pre-School to start at Titchmarsh School in September, we look forward to welcoming new children aged between 2½ and up to 5 years. Two open days are planned on Thursday 18th May and Monday 17th July – please come along. Alternatively ring Rachel Hamilton-Charlton or speak to one of the team on the Pre-School stall at the Titchmarsh Fete on Sat 10th June.
Lucy Milner.

Sponsors needed. Alan Powell is once again embarking on one of his eccentric marathon events to raise money for the local branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. He is going to walk 600 miles from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean along the GR11 pathway in Spain travelling along the Pyrenees. He expects it to take him 7 weeks and all the sponsor money donated will go to the Society as the trip is self-funded.

Titchmarsh Youth Group (TYG). On 28th March there was an open evening for the youth group in the clubroom. This was a taster evening of what could be arranged within the village for the young people. We were assisted by two youth workers from Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs who brought along their Playstation and also some craft materials. About 40 young people attended and we received some ideas of how it was wished to pursue this club. We also received details of those adults who would be interested in going on to a rota to assist with the running of TYG. What must happen now is training in first aid, child protection, health and safety and for name checks to be undertaken for all those adults. Once that has been sorted out we can then look to opening the youth group on a permanent basis. If there is anyone interested in being part of the running of the youth group please contact Sue Shapland. Thank you.

Titchmarsh Draw. The draws continue for this year. April's took place this year in the D&P. Winners of the £15 tickets were: 114 – Mrs O Welsh, 074 – B James, 134 – Mrs Caves and 005 – Lucy Cheney.

The May draw took place on 4th in the Wheatsheaf. The winners of £15 were: 125 – Julian Stoneman, 120 – Terry Beattie, 128 – Mrs Elliott, 170 – Sandra Wells.

All winners will be notified as soon as possible after each draw and details of winners will also be posted in the Titchmarsh Times. The next draw will be held in the D&P on 2nd June.

Also to remind you that the 2nd Jackpot Draw will be included in the draw on Friday 7th July in the Wheatsheaf. There will be one winning ticket worth £573.
Sue Shapland.

Friends of Titchmarsh School. The Spring Ball was a great success once again, and although I wasn't present I have been informed that a fantastic evening was had by all. Many thanks to everybody who supported this event. Congratulations to the Aldermans who won first prize on the raffle. We will let you know how much we raised as soon as we have a figure.

The Bag 2 School was another great success too - I don't know where it keeps coming from. This time we made £282.50! So yet again – thanks to everyone who had a sort out.
More news in the next issue. *Pip Blowfield.*

Stitchmarsh. The meeting due to be held on Wednesday 31st May has been cancelled as this falls during half term holidays.

The meetings after that date are as follows-

June 14th – Making Angels these would be suitable for cards our decorations, bring along any of the following - embroidery threads, beads, sequins and a piece of cardboard – Clubroom 7.30pm

June 28th – The same as June 14th - Clubroom 7.30pm

July 12th – Silk Painting- this will be held at 29 St Andrews Lane 7.30pm. You will need to bring along a wooden frame about 12 inches square to which the material can be pinned.

Visitors are always welcome to our meetings and if you need a change from the football please do come along. Cost of a meeting is £1.50.

Meetings will then recommence in September, date to be announced. *Betty Wiesner*