

Titchmarsh Times

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

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October/November 2006.

Parish Council.

Affordable Housing. Northamptonshire Rural Housing has recently distributed their Housing Needs questionnaire throughout Titchmarsh, although I gather some households haven't received theirs. If you haven't had an envelope through the door saying 'Titchmarsh Housing Survey' then you are missing out on the opportunity to express your opinion about housing in Titchmarsh. Contact Joanne Richardson on 01530 276545 for a survey form.

Daffodils. Following a suggestion raised at the Annual Parish Meeting in May, we have purchased 5cwt of varied daffodil bulbs for the verges. They will be planted on the morning of **Sunday, 22nd October** in the verges from the A605 towards the village and on the bottom green. Volunteers are welcome on the morning, we are meeting at 10am on the corner of Islington and Church Street (no children please because of safety issues surrounding working on the road side), remember to bring a spade!

Overhanging trees and shrubs. After a warm wet spell our gardens are flourishing and we are looking towards the autumn tidy up. As part of this process, let's remember to prune trees and shrubs that overhang our boundaries to ensure that pavements and footpaths are clear and safe for pedestrians. Thank you.

Pound Garden. This tranquil area is becoming overgrown and we have now authorised removal of an overgrown lime and plum tree. Qualified tree surgeons have been instructed so the appearance of this beautiful space in the village will be restored.

Welcome Pack: We are delighted to present a 'welcome pack' to all newcomers to the village; we have issued 15 packs already this year. If you are new to the village and haven't yet received a welcome pack, please contact Sylvia Prestwich by email sylviaprestwich@aol.com to request one.

Village News and Events.

Titchmarsh Clubroom. 'The Clubroom Committee holds its AGM on **24th October** at 7.30pm. We would really like to welcome as many people as possible; especially those who make use of the Clubroom facilities, whether occasionally or regularly, or just interested villagers.

As well as wanting to hear your views and suggestions about the running of the Clubroom, we will be re-electing the Management Committee and are always looking for individuals who are willing to participate in the administration of this essential community facility.

Come along and air your views over a glass of wine and some "nibbles".

Paul Milner, Chairman.

Titchmarsh School. The children and staff have settled into the new academic year. We are now planning our Harvest Festival, which will focus on harvests around the world. It will be held at St Mary's Church on **11th October** at 9.15am.

The following day, from 10am until 11am we will be opening the school for parents who are considering sending their children to Titchmarsh, to have a look around.

The children will be attending church services with Canon Richard Ormston on the following Tuesday mornings at 9.15am; 19th September, 17th October, 21st November.

We will be holding our annual **Christmas Bazaar** in the school hall on Monday **4th December**, from 3.00 – 4.30. Proceeds go to the Titchmarsh School Funds.

Do feel free to join us for all these events.

Mrs J Milton. Headteacher.

Titchmarsh Alms Houses. The Titchmarsh Alms Houses celebrate their 250th year in 2006. To be accurate the four middle cottages are 250 years old, the two end cottages were added on a hundred years later.

Those of us who live in the cottages now, often wonder who lived here previously, and what their lives were like. For this reason we'd like to start a register of tenants, with the dates that they lived in the cottages and some information about their lives ... what they did for a living, and how they were connected to Titchmarsh ... so that future generations of residents won't have to speculate in quite the same way !

If anyone has any information at all about previous occupants (Edna Mayes, Em Jeffries, Dolly Jolly and Fred Kilsby spring to mind) please could you contact me at 43 Islington so that I can start putting something together. Many Thanks.

Jane Finlayson

The all-new **Titchmarsh Trees & Trimmings** with bells on! More details will follow in next edition of the Titchmarsh Times, but expect something a little different this year. The event will be held on Sunday 17th December in the Club Room from 4.30 to 6.30pm – please put it in your diary.

In the meantime if you are interested in getting involved in this truly festive extravaganza please come along to the planning meeting on Monday, **16th October**. For more information 'phone Lucy Milner.

Titchmarsh Flower & Vegetable Show. The sun shone on us at the 30th Annual Show on 12th August 2006, and the exhibits were splendid.

68 adults and 24 children made a total of 506 entries over 102 classes, which included vegetables, fruit, salads and herbs; cut flowers and floral arrangements; home produce such as jams, pickles, cakes, sweets, bread and tea fancies; needlework, woodwork, drawings and photographs. The children made excellent paintings and models and demonstrated their handwriting and cooking skills. Their vegetable animals, vegetable monsters and miniature gardens showed off their vivid imaginations! Full results and trophy winners can be seen on the Flower and Vegetable page of the village website at www.titchmarsh.info/flowers.htm

Following this year's 'dry run', when so many pumpkins failed to thrive in the hot weather, we will be running another Giant Pumpkin Growing competition again next year. The free seeds and instructions will be circulated to children under 14 in March 2007, with the hope of a larger entry next year. There will be a special prize for the winner.

Many thanks to all who helped make this event so successful; the spontaneous help on the day clearing the room for the auction was particularly appreciated. A special thanks goes to Nicholas Warliker, who has judged at every Show over the last 30 years. This is the last year for Chris Bletsoe, our auctioneer, so we wish him well and pass on our grateful thanks for his support.

Sylvia Prestwich.

Titchmarsh Draw. The August draw took place in the D&P. The four £15 winners were: Mrs. Weatherall – 053; M. Valentine – 015; A. King – 024; J. Stoneman – 125.

The September draw took place in the Wheatsheaf and the winners of £15 each were: P Hitchings – 118; Mr & Mrs Godfrey – 095; A Jacquest – 157; A Wallace – 027.

All winners will be notified as soon as possible after each draw and details of winners will also be posted in the Titchmarsh Times.

Sue Shapland.

Titchmarsh Youth Club. Finances are delaying us at the present time although we are hoping that some of the funding issues will be sorted out and some positive news can be passed on. Watch this space. However if you feel you wish to help organise or be part of the running of the Youth Group please contact Sue Shapland.

Titchmarsh Village Shop Project.

What is happening?

- We are now Titchmarsh Village Shop Association Ltd and will soon have our bank account up and running. We will then be able to bank all the cheques given to us. Sorry this has taken so long to sort out;
- We have just got a grant for £4000 from Welland Social Capital and another couple of grants for £14k and £7k are looking probable. Other funding opportunities are looking good;
- We have our planning permission, building regulations drawings are in progress and then we will be getting quotes for building work and fitting out. We are still aiming for April 2007 to start trading.

Next Steps:

- Letters will be coming out to all who have indicated a willingness to help out with the shop to confirm whether or not they are still prepared to help. If you do not receive a letter but are interested in helping please contact Jane Teague (734568);
- We intend to develop a youth sub-committee to help run the shop and letters will be going out via their parents to those young people who said they were interested;
- Autumn Fayre + Grand Draw on **Saturday, 14th October** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Clubroom. Refreshments, craft stalls and entertainment for kids. 50p entry.

Jane Teague

Friends of Titchmarsh School. The FOTS have held their AGM for the 2006/7 school year and a new committee has been elected. We are now planning this years events.

Our first event will be the **Halloween Party**, which will be held in the Club Room on Friday **20th October** from 6.30pm until 8.00pm. Entry is 50p unless you come in fancy dress. Hotdogs and other refreshments will be available.

We are also organising another Bag2School for Wednesday **15th November**. Any unwanted clothing, bedding, curtains, shoes, belts etc can be recycled for the benefit of the school. We get paid roughly £1/£2 for each bag collected. Your blue bags should be being delivered shortly.

THANKYOU to everybody who has helped and supported us in the past (and hopefully the future.
Pip Blowfield.

Titchmarsh Walking Group. The Walking Group's next Walk will take place on **Saturday 7th October**, leaving the Dog and Partridge at 9.30am, strolling around the Fotheringhay area. This walk will be approximately 4 miles long, take about 2 hours, and will finish at The Falcon Inn, where we hope to take some light refreshment.

This will be the Group's 7th organised walk around the local area, and up to 20 people have joined in the walks, with a regular nucleus of around 14 villagers.

The Group is open to everybody, with children under the age of 16 to be accompanied by an adult. Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times. Stout footwear should be worn, and do not forget warm waterproof clothing. Entry fee £1 per person.

The November Walk will take place on Saturday 4th venue yet to be decided, but will be posted on the website during October.

For further information, contact Maggy Chapman email: mc.chapman@ukonline.co.uk; or Diane Ellis email dihellis@yahoo.com

Annual Church Quiz. Saturday 25th November. Duncan Willams will be the Quizmaster. A hot supper will be provided to keep you going. Teams of 8, maximum. Tickets will be available shortly.

Concert in the Church. Saturday 7th October, 6.00 for 6.30pm. "Music for an English Country Garden" with Vocalists and instrumentalists. Wine and canapés during the interval. Tickets £10 from Jean Bussens. This will be a celebration of the completion of the first stage of the church restoration, proceeds in aid of further works.

Titchmarsh Pre-School. A very warm welcome to our new children and parents from Titchmarsh, Thrapston and Denford They are now enjoying the challenges that the pre-school routine brings. Some places are still available. If you have a child of 2½ to 5 years old and would like more information about Pre-School, please call in at the Clubroom during session time (09.00 - 12.00 every day).

Activities this term will include "Bring a Pet Week" **October 2nd to 6th** This is very popular. If you have an unusual pet that you would like to bring in to show the children, please let us know. On **Thursday, 12th October**, children and Mums will be visiting Titchmarsh School where they can view their new classroom for September 2007 and meet the teachers. **Saturday 2nd December** will be the ever-popular "Christmas Bazaar". This year from 12 until 4pm. There will be lots to see and do, including stalls selling stocking fillers, books, cards and a small selection of special edition toys; activities to entertain the children; refreshments and of course the annual Xmas raffle. The funds raised will go towards repairing/ replacing our wooden shop and play tunnels.
Jan Murray.

Titchmarsh Local History Group. Thank you to all who attended our successful September meeting where Eric Jenkins recounted some "Unfamiliar Titchmarsh Tales". The stories stopped at about 1900 so we will be inviting Eric back in the future to bring us up to date.

Our October meeting will take place on Thursday **14th October** at 7.30pm This will be an illustrated talk on "War Memorials of Northamptonshire" by Neal Easton.

Neal Eaton lives in Thrapston and is a member of the Western Front Association. As part of a nationwide study, with others, of war memorials Neal has collected a wealth of information concerning memorials in and about Northamptonshire and stories of the men they honour. £2, including refreshments.

The group will be one year old in November and we intend to have a little celebration. Wine and nibbles and a look at what we have done and produced in the past year together with a discussion about what we want to do for the next twelve months. Please bring any interesting articles or photos for all to share on **Thursday 9th November** at 7.30pm.

His is the time of the year when people get digging in their gardens. Dug up anything interesting? Lets have a look.
John Greig

Finally. Please accept my apologies. This issue will have reached you later than usual. Thank you to all who emailed me their contributions whilst I was in the southern hemisphere. Due to the wonders of technology I was able to keep an eye on you!!!!
The final date for copy for the December/January will be Wednesday, 15th November at the very latest. Lets make it a "Christmas Bumper Edition".
John Greig