

Titchmarsh Times

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

Editor: John Greig
Email: ttimes@titchmarsh.info

Parish Clerk: Emma Meen.
Email: parishclerk@titchmarsh.info

October/November 2007.

Parish Council.

Michael Alderman

There was no Parish Council meeting in August and as a result there is relatively little to report. You will probably be aware that we had some success in the **Village of the Year** competition, coming second in the medium sized villages category and third overall of all villages. We are looking at the judges' comments to see how we can improve even more. Many thanks to all of you who were involved, either in putting our entry together or in talking to the judges.

Most of you will no doubt agree that the appearance of the village has been significantly enhanced by the setting up of the **village sign and planters** at each of the entrances to the village. We would like to thank sincerely Gina Gaskin and Maggy Chapman and their respective teams for organising and carrying out these projects. What's more, all this was achieved using private donations and fund-raising and not Parish Council funds. A remarkable effort.

In the survey for the Parish Plan more people by far requested a **village shop** than any other amenity. So we are delighted to see the progress being made on getting the shop up and running, and congratulate the committee that has been working so hard to make it possible. We all now need to make sure that their efforts have been worthwhile, so please make as much use of the shop as you can.

As part of our ongoing campaign to ease the problems with **heavy traffic** in the village - especially in Islington - surveys are being undertaken of vehicle movements. We are obviously particularly concerned now that there is further large-scale development on the land opposite IKEA. The findings will be presented to the Highways Department as evidence of the need for more action before anyone else gets injured.

Playing Field.

We are once again saddened to report further vandalism to the building and equipment at the Playing Field. The Field is run by a committee of volunteers who's main objective is to raise funds to improve and provide more facilities, not to spend money repairing wanton damage. With building work on the new pavilion due to commence very soon we will be taking extra measures to bring to task those who are seen causing damage to new and existing equipment. In the meantime, could we please ask parents to impress on their children the importance of treating all the facilities at the Playing Field with respect.

Titchmarsh Flower & Vegetable Show

This year's Show, on 11th August, was very well supported. We had numerous excellent home grown vegetables, fruits, and herbs; the flowers were a picture and the children skills in painting, modelling, handwriting and cooking were outstanding. Visitors to the Show viewed the splendid entries in the hall before taking teas and ice creams in the warm sunshine. James Sealy from Bletsoes auctioned the produce at the end of the Show and a good time was had by all! Many thanks to all who helped make this event so successful

The results and trophy winners can be seen on the Flower and Vegetable page of the village website at www.titchmarsh.info/flowers.htm

Titchmarsh Village Shop.

Possibly, by the time you read this, Titchmarsh Village Shop will have opened to great fanfare on Friday 21st September 2007. Alan Titchmarsh did the honours with Phil Hope M.P. in attendance. There was book signing, cream teas, barbecue and children's entertainment. Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate this landmark day when Titchmarsh opened its own shop. It has been over 10 years since our last shop and Post Office closed. Now we just need you all to come and use it! We will be reviewing product ranges continually so that we sell what you want to buy. There will be a "suggestion box" so you can tell us what we're doing right, what we still need to work on, and to give ideas for other products and services you'd like to see.

We do still need additional volunteers to work in the shop. We are particularly looking for people to work first thing in the morning (7.45 to 9.00) and early evening (6 p.m. to 7 p.m.) If you don't want to work in the shop but would like to help, we also need people to help with driving (expenses paid), moving stock about and cleaning. We hope to put together a cleaning rota so that small groups can work together say once every couple of months. If you want to help please contact Jackie Rowe jackie.rowe@dsl.pipex.com or Jane Teague jane.teague@mac.com.

The Clubroom

The AGM of the Clubroom Management Committee will take place on Tuesday 16th October from 7.30pm in the Clubroom. There is an open invitation for all villagers and user groups to come along and share a glass of wine and some nibbles whilst hearing an update about the activities and plans for the Clubroom. The evening is also an opportunity to hear your views and feedback about how we can improve the facility for the benefit of the village community.

At the AGM the whole Committee gets elected for the next 12 months, so if you wish to get actively involved in the running of the Clubroom please come along and put yourself forwards; we are particularly looking for a new Secretary and are very keen to have the involvement of any of the older youths of the village.

Paul Milner

Stitchmarsh.

Stitchmarsh got underway on Wednesday 12th September after the Summer break and it was decided that we have a go at beadwork over the coming weeks, with possibly a visiting instructor in November to show us other techniques in this craft.

Visitors and potential new members are always welcome. Our meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month in the Clubroom commencing at 7.30pm. Regrettably there will be no meeting on October 24th and the last meeting before the Christmas Break will be 12th December.

For further information contact Eleanor Greig

Titchmarsh Walking Group.

A successful series of mid-week walks came to an end in September, and hopefully these will be resumed next summer.

The Saturday walks will be ongoing during the autumn and winter months, with the next walks taking place on October 6th and November 10th. Meet at the Dog & Partridge Green at 10.00 am.

For more information on the Walking Group, please contact Maggy Chapman
mc.chapman@ukonline.co.uk

Titchmarsh School,

Business as usual for the children and staff at Titchmarsh School, after our summer break. I am delighted to announce, that after a year of preparation and events, we have been awarded our International School Award by the British Council. We feel that this is a great accomplishment for a little village school; however we have really enjoyed the journey and are enthusiastic to continue our international events and experiences.

We are now planning our Harvest Festival which will focus on the concept of Fairtrade. It will be held at St Mary's Church on 17th October at 9.15am. On Thursday 11th 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 our Reverend Mynors on the following Wednesday mornings at 9.15am; 26th September and 31st October. Please come and join us.

Mrs Milton, Headteacher

Titchmarsh Pre-School.

Titchmarsh pre-school opened its doors on 5th September for the start of a new year and currently has 23 children attending. We would like to offer a very warm welcome to our new children and parents.

Our theme for this half term is "myself and my family" and October 15th to 19th is the very popular "bring a pet week" and if you have an unusual pet that you would like to bring in to show the children, please let us know.

On Friday the 21st September, the preschool is closing at 10:45am for all children and parents to walk up to the village shop to help celebrate its opening.

We are currently making preparations for our annual Christmas Bazaar - if you would like to operate a stall on the day or if you could help in any way, please contact the Pre-School who can pass on your details to our fundraising team.

We are now open for 2 full days per week, from 9.15 am – 2.45 pm on Tuesday and Thursday which also includes to option of attending an afternoon session 12.15 pm - 2.45pm along with all our usual morning sessions still in place.

We provide a safe and stimulating environment in which children are encouraged to learn through play, so if you have a child of 2.5 to 5 years old and would like more information about Pre-School, do please contact us on 07879 072796, or call in during session time (09.15 – 11.45 every day, till 12.45 pm on Wednesday and 12.15 pm to 2.45 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Tracey Laverick

TOAwST

The next and final meeting of 2007 is on October 26th. Philip Amps is coming to talk about matching food and wine with a focus on matching wines to a four course Christmas Dinner.

Food and wine will be provided – tasters only, don't expect a full 4 course meal!

Admission approx £10.00 (sorry cannot be more precise until we price up the food).

All welcome as ever.

A BIG thank you to all who have supported us through the past months and turned out in all weathers!!!! Cheers. Jeff and Jo

Titchmarsh Youth Group.

The Youth Group has again started for the Autumn Term and the programme is as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 5 th October | Climbing Wall in Peterborough/Cooking Session at Clubroom |
| 19 th October | Clubroom – Table Tennis – Kate Noakes Jewellery session |
| 2 nd November | Clubroom |
| 23 rd November | Climbing Wall in Peterborough/Cooking Session at Clubroom |
| 7 th December | Disco |

We have a limited number per climbing wall session and therefore have split the bookings to allow for all to attend. For those wanting to go on the 5th October can you please remember to bring along the signed consent form and the £6 session fee. The first visit will be on a first come first served basis.

All other sessions at the clubroom are £2 per evening.

Membership forms must be signed prior to attending TYG and for those young people who are school Year 7 and above, there are still a few spaces left to fill. The yearly membership fee is £10 which covers the cost of the hall hire, training, CRB checks and insurances. For further information please contact Sue Shapland Alice Dove.

All is New at the Dog & Partridge.

In the middle of last month Carol and Mick Roche took over the tenancy of the D & P. We all welcome them, and their family, to the village and we wish them well with their new enterprise.

The Quiz Nights with Dave and Ollie are already underway. The first was on 9th September where an excellent buffet was provided by Carol and Mick.

A new sound system has been installed so that all areas of the pub are now covered including the garden if needs be.

Future dates are 7th October, 11th November and 9th December.

By the time this edition hits your door mat food will again be available at the D&P.

An interesting menu has been prepared for weekday eating together with special Sunday roasts. Tea and coffee is also available.

The big 4OH is fast approaching for Carol. We are all invited to share this momentous event with Carol and Mick in the evening of Saturday 1st December with music and a hot meal. Lets make it a night to remember for her.

For future events and entertainment nights please keep an eye on the pub notice boards.

Titchmarsh Local History Group.

Colin Rae, a local historian from Oundle is coming to the Club Room on Thursday 11th October at 7.30pm to give an illustrated talk entitled

Curios and Curiosities of East Northamptonshire

The illustrations will show “out of the ordinary” features of our area and Colin will be explaining how and why they came to be. The fee for the evening will be £2 and refreshments will be served.

It will 2 years ago, come November since the group was formed. We will be having our AGM and Social Evening on Thursday 8th November, in the Club Room, at 7.30pm. We will also be reviewing our past activities and our collection of artefacts and photos will be on display. Come along for a glass of wine and some nibbles.

For further information please contact John Greig

PCC

Quiz Night... 17TH November at 7.30 in the Clubroom. Another opportunity to compete in the quiz in aid of Church funds. The event will be hosted by our ever popular quiz master Duncan Williams. Tables of eight, with a hot supper and festive drink, as well as a bar. Tickets £7.50 each will be available from Jean Bussens. Advance booking essential.

Harvest Festival. Sunday 7th October. Thanksgiving Service in Church at 11.30am. After the service there will be a HARVEST LUNCH in the Clubroom (with a bar) and followed by the AUCTION OF PRODUCE, cakes, pies, jam or jelly. This year we welcome Andrew Wager as auctioneer. Tickets £5 adults, £2 children (from Jean Bussens).

A warm welcome for any contribution of flowers or produce and to help decorate the Church on Saturday morning.

Autumn Churchyard Clearing. After Church on Sunday 28th October. This is good fun as a band of volunteers dears ivy, weeds and generally deals with excessive growth. Bring tools with you, secateurs, loppers, forks. After the work we enjoy lunch together, well washed down. Bring the family and enjoy a worthwhile job in the fresh air. It really does help to make the churchyard and village good to visit.

The Wheatsheaf There are lots of new things happening at The Wheatsheaf:- Third Sunday of the month Quiz Nights – We are pleased to announce the new Wheatsheaf Mega Quiz, on the third Sunday of each month. Come along and impress us with your knowledge. 3rd November – Halloween party, when the Wheatsheaf will be cast under a mysterious spell! 9th November – Belated Guy Fawkes night. No fireworks but a feast of fun with toffee apples, dunking apples, outside fire and BBQ & much more.... Christmas 2007 – book your Christmas party now, we can tailor our menu to suit your parties individual needs. 21st December – our grand Christmas Draw. 24th December – Santa Claus will be popping in to deliver his infamous lucky dip for our younger residents in the village. 25th December – We will be open for drinks between 11am and 2pm. New Years Eve – We are hosting a buffet supper, complimentary champagne and Discos Disco – tickets on sale now, telephone 732203.

Winter months – We shall be launching our new tapas menu, available until 11pm weekdays and 12pm at weekends. Cocktails will be served soon, commencing with a cocktail party to launch this new initiative. Every Monday will soon be locals night, yes free food, all night, on presentation of a Wheatsheaf membership card. Ruby Tuesday – come down and enjoy a selection of our delicious home-made curries with various rice dishes, popperdoms and naan bread.

Coming soon ~ Documentary Club on the first Monday of the month ~ Murder Mystery evenings ~ live music ~ the Staff Play ~ Cheese & Wine ~ Spit Roasts ~ Petanque court ~ Titchmarsh has got talent ~ Gourmet theme nights ~ Yard of Ale competition ~ Crossword Club ~ Darts team ~ Take away service including curry and pizza and a freezer fill up service ~ outside skittles ~ and our Winter feast.

and finally We are proud to announce the launch of our new publication – “The Wheatsheaf News”, which should be through your door in the next few weeks. David and his team thank everyone in the village for their continued support – without you there would be nothing. David welcomes Margaret, Angela, Jave and Nathan to the team.

David Moffatt

Titchmarsh Parish Church

Harvest – a time to reflect on another year

This year those close to the farming community will be aware of three challenges. The 'single farm payment' fiasco has had its knock-on. The weather has significantly reduced yields for many. And the recent Foot and Mouth outbreak nearly proved disastrous. Yet we have much to celebrate & be grateful for – look at the shelves of the supermarkets – or now I should say the local shop.

These will be among the themes of the Harvest Festival at St Mary's Titchmarsh at 11.30am on October 7th. I hope you will join us.

Services on Sundays thereafter:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Oct 14th | 8am Communion & 3pm Baptism – all welcome |
| Oct 21st | 9.15am Communion |
| Oct 28th | 9.15am Communion |
| Nov 4 th | 9.15am Morning Prayer |
| Nov 11 th | 8am Communion & 4pm 'Sunday @ 4 (Remembrance Day) |
| Nov 18 th | 9.15am Communion |
| Nov 25th | 9.15am Communion |

Services at other churches, rotas etc on church notice boards

Jim Mynors (Parish Priest) Aldwincle Rectory jim@mynors.me.uk

From the Registers

Anthony (known as 'Jim') Ward of 27 St Andrews Lane died on 2nd August aged 67. His funeral took place at Kettering Crematorium on 13th August and his ashes were buried in Titchmarsh churchyard.

Church Rotas – October & November 2007.

| <i>date</i> | <i>Flowers</i> | <i>Sidesmen</i> | <i>Readers</i> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 7 th October 07 | Mrs S Holland | Mr A Powell | Mr S Barber |
| 14 th October 07 | Mrs A King | Mrs S Hankins | Mr A Wallace |
| 21 st October 07 | Mrs W Jeffries | Lady Harper | Sir Ewan Harper |
| 28 th October 07 | Mrs B Ray | Mrs K Williams | Mr D Williams |
| 4 th November 07 | Mrs G Gaskin | Mrs J Bussens | Mrs C Thompson & Mr J Fieldsend |
| 11 th November 07 | Mrs A Dunn | Mr A Powell | Mr R Jones |
| 18 th November 07 | Mrs S Hankins | Dr G Webster | Dr S Bell |
| 25 th November 07 | Mrs S Prestwich | Mr P Dunn | Mr T Higgins |

The Mystery of the Missing Chair !!!!

Did anyone accidentally take away a green foldaway picnic chair by mistake at the Music Evening on June 23rd as one has gone missing. The chair was bought for someone as a birthday present and has sentimental value. If anyone has any information please contact Gina Gaskin.

Finally.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this edition. The next edition will be for December 2007 and January 2008, lets make it a Christmas Bumper Special. I will need all contributions by Saturday 17th November at the very latest. Thank you for your continuing support.

John Greig (Editor).