

# Titchmarsh Times

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

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## October/November 2008.

### **Titchmarsh Trees & Trimmings**

Christmas will soon be here! ... and so will Trees & Trimmings on Sunday 21st December at 4.30-6.30 in the Club Room. In the meantime we shall be holding our first planning meeting on Tues 7th October at 7.30pm kindly hosted by the Aldermans at The Granary, Manor Farm Court. Please feel free to come along and help organise this festively-fun family event. If you are unable to come, but have some ideas please contact me on [lucy.milner@ukgateway.net](mailto:lucy.milner@ukgateway.net). Lucy Milner

### **Clubroom**

#### **Outside Area**

I hope that you've been able to see the improvements to the outside area of the Clubroom undertaken with the Pre-school. Thanks to the Pre-school members on the Clubroom Committee for co-ordinating the work so well. In the near future we are hoping to replace the gates with a more robust version and also fence in the bin area.

#### **Clubroom Decorating**

Unfortunately we only had one volunteer from the whole village come forward in response to our plea for assistance in repainting the inside of the Clubroom so this activity couldn't take place. We are now getting quotes from professional decorators to undertake the work during the half-term week in October - at significant expense.

#### **Keep Fit**

A new Keep Fit class has started in the Clubroom on Tuesdays at 7pm for 1 hour; initial participants have commented on how good the sessions are and the professionalism of the teacher. If anyone is interested in taking part either regularly or more sporadically, please turn up just before 7pm on a Tuesday - the success of this activity will depend on people continuing to attend in sufficient numbers to keep it viable.

#### **Circuits**

Coming soon, a regular evening circuits class will be running in the Clubroom. Suitable for all levels of fitness, and working at your own pace, a circuits class is a great workout for everyone to keep fit. Look out for the upcoming dates. For more information contact Lindsay

#### **AGM**

The AGM of the Clubroom will take place on Thursday October 23rd from 7.30pm. Not only is this an open meeting at which details of the activities and finances of the Clubroom will be discussed along with a question and answer session, it is also a chance for interested parties to get involved in the running of the Clubroom. Our

Constitution requires the Committee to all stand-down each year and a new Committee be elected/re-elected. As well as requiring participation from as many regular user groups as possible we always have vacancies for non-affiliated members from the village community and we're always looking for new people to participate in this essential village amenity. If you are even remotely interested in the running of the Clubroom (a registered charity) please come along; we look forward to greeting you with a glass of wine.

## **Titchmarsh Youth Group**

The Youth Group has again started for the Autumn Term. We shall be meeting alternative Fridays and our next meeting will be on Friday 17th October. We have a youth worker from the NAYC attending who will be undertaking a craft session.

Our next sessions are as follows:

7th Nov	Clubroom/Climbing Wall in Peterborough
22nd Nov	Saturday night at Rushden Swimming Pool – Details to follow
5th Dec	Clubroom – Christmas Craft with NAYC
19th Dec	Christmas Disco

Sessions at the clubroom are £2 per evening.

Membership forms can be obtained from the Titchmarsh Village website and must be signed by a parent/carer prior to joining TYG. The youth club is for those young people who are school Year 7 and above. The yearly membership fee is £10 which covers the cost of the hall hire, training, CRB checks and insurances. Members wishing to bring friends along to TYG, can you please arrange for a visitor form per friend (also available on the website) to be completed prior to attending (for insurance purposes – thanks).

For further information please contact Sue Shapland or Alice Dove

## **Titchmarsh Gardening Club**

The small but perfectly formed Titchmarsh Gardening Club decided at a meeting in March 08 to continue for a further year despite dwindling numbers. We meet informally on a monthly basis during the spring, early summer and autumn, usually at one of the member's houses where we discuss plants, gardening problems etc.

In view of the increased number of allotments and the obvious interest in all things green and eco friendly at the meeting in March we decided to invite Nicholas Warliker of Poddington Garden Centre and a judge for the Annual Titchmarsh Fruit and Vegetable Show to come and give a talk on Growing Great Vegetables.

The meeting was held on 10 July 08 in the Clubroom and I am pleased to inform you that it was a very successful well attended evening. Nicholas gave a very interesting talk and answered questions from the audience, refreshments with cakes made by the ladies of the Club were well received and it was a very enjoyable informative evening.

As a result of the success of the event the Titchmarsh Gardening Club have donated the profits from the evening to three village sources with a gardening theme £50.00 was donated to the school garden, £20.00 to help fill the planters at the entrance to the village and £20.00 to help maintain the village shop garden. Our next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 23 September 08, anyone wishing to attend please contact Bert or Pauline Ash, you will be most welcome.

## **Titchmarsh Local History Group**

At our meeting in September twelve of us sorted through two collections of Parish Magazines that had been donated to the group. The earliest ones are from 1937 and go through to the 1970's. Although they are not complete they give a sketch of life in Titchmarsh throughout those years.

To keep the momentum going with these magazines our next meeting on Thursday 13th November will be entitled Titchmarsh at War. We will be looking, in depth, at the magazines from 1938 to 1950 to see how this rural village was affected by the world wide events that took place during this period.

We have also been going as a group for over 3 years. Time for a little celebration. (Well it will be nearly Christmas as well!!!!!!!!!!!!!!). Please bring a glass with you as we will be giving you a complimentary glass of wine or fruit juice. We look forward to seeing you at 7.30pm in the Club Room.

For additional information please contact John Greig

## **Stitchmarsh**

We had a very successful first evening after the summer break, on Wednesday 10th September with 8 people attending, As a group we will be looking at patchwork, and a few members started to cut out shape templates and material to do a sample patch.

Stitchmarsh will be meeting on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7.30pm in the clubroom so please do come along. Eleanor Greig

## **Titchmarsh Walking Group**

Why not join our friendly group of walkers on routes of approximately 4 to 5 miles around the local area? Walks are normally on the first Saturday of the month - meeting at 10am at the D&P Green. The October walk takes place on Saturday 4th, and the November one will be on Saturday 1st November. We generally take a circular route from a local pub, where refreshments will be available afterwards. The December walk, on Saturday 6th December, will start and finish in the village, where we shall partake of our usual Christmas fayre. All welcome. For further details, phone Maggy Chapman on email: [melandmag@btinternet](mailto:melandmag@btinternet) or see the Walking Group page on our village website [www.titchmarsh.info](http://www.titchmarsh.info)

## **Titchmarsh Parish Council**

### **Electricity Supply**

Work on improving the electricity supply is going on apace and – at the time of writing – the work in the High Street is nearly complete. This has been a major disruption to life, particularly for those of you in the western end of the village. But, thanks to your tolerance and cooperation and to the contractors' consideration, the whole operation has run relatively smoothly. There will inevitably be cuts in power when the changeover to the new supply takes place but you will be warned in good time about this. Once the work is finished we can all look forward to a more efficient supply with far fewer power cuts.

### **Fly tippers and litter bugs**

The village has prided itself in being a generally litter-free zone, but someone is seeking to spoil it. There has recently been an outbreak of fly tipping in Ranway and almost every day someone travelling through Polopit insists on discarding the packing from their lunch. At this stage we do not know who they are but we know what they eat and where they shop! Let's see if we can identify these antisocial individuals.

## **Allotments**

The improvement in the allotments at Islington has been a great success and there are now 42 plots being worked. Sadly, with success comes problems and there have been the occasional thefts of either tools or produce. The Parish Council is currently looking at ways of deterring this.

The rents on all allotments soon become due and our clerk, Emma Meen, will be at The Clubroom from 6.30 to 7.15pm on Thursday 16th October to collect rents and to discuss with allotment holders any matters they wish to raise.

## **Village website**

If you haven't seen our excellent website [www.titchmarsh.info](http://www.titchmarsh.info), it is well worth a look. Some pages are getting out of date though so, if you are responsible for a particular section - as the correspondent for a club or society, for example - will you please check it and send any changes to [sylviaprestwich@aol.com](mailto:sylviaprestwich@aol.com).

## **Welcome pack**

If you are new to the village, or you know of someone coming to live in the village, please contact our clerk, Emma, who will arrange for a Welcome Pack to be provided.

## **Playing Field News**

By the time you read this, building of the new Pavilion and Community Room will be completed. This is a fantastic new village facility for us all to be proud of and you are invited to come and have a look round on Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> when the official opening ceremony will take place at 12.30pm.

## **Burns Night Celebration**

Watch out for news of a Burns' Night celebration in the new Community Room on January 24th 2009. More details nearer the time.

## **Community Room**

The new Community Room is available to hire for private functions and is suitable for up to 70 people seated. Inside there are tables, chairs, a fully fitted kitchen, catering facilities and toilets. To find out more call Melvyn Chapman.

## **Titchmarsh Pre-school**

### **Outdoor Play Area**

As I am sure you will have noticed, we have now achieved our aim of providing an improved outdoor play area for the pre-school. We have been able to replace the old shed with a new wooden one and tarmac the driveway. I'm sure you will agree that with the painting the area looks great and is proving a hit with the children. We are also in the process of adding a pergola onto the side of the shed between it and the clubroom so we can have a sandpit, water pit & garden area for the children. We are planning to hold an official opening for our outdoor play area at the end of September when the final pieces of equipment arrive; this will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> October. Our theme for the opening is 'Cars' as we have a race track painted on the tarmac. All the Pre-school children will be making their own cars out of cardboard boxes to drive around the track on the day of the opening.

We would like to thank all the staff and parents who came to the clubroom during the holidays in their own time to help remove the old shed and then clean and replace the toys in the new one. We would also like to thank all those that supported the pre-school at our fundraising events without whom we would not be able to do all the improvements we wanted to do. We of course would also like to thank the clubroom for supporting us in all these improvements.

## **AGM**

We are holding the Titchmarsh Pre-School AGM on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 8pm in the clubroom, Titchmarsh. If you would like to find out what your preschool has been doing over the past year or what our plans are for the future please come along. We will also be looking to elect the pre-school committee, so if anyone would like to get involved in the committee please come along and see how you could get involved.

## **Half term Theme**

Our Theme for this half term is "Myself and My Family". We ask the children to make a display of photos of their families so they can understand their place in the family. Also as part of this theme we are also holding a "Pet Week" from the 20<sup>th</sup> October, when the children can bring in their pets, giving the children a chance to see and talk about different animals.

## **Christmas Bazaar**

We are of course starting to arrange our excellent Christmas Bazaar which will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November at the clubrooms. This is a huge fundraising event that helps us to raise money for additional toys and equipment for the Pre-School. If you would like to help the fundraising team with this event please speak to Dee Cole or any other member of the committee or staff who welcome all help offered!

## **Opening Hours**

We are looking into the possibility of opening for a further full day on Fridays from September which will mean that we will be open 4 full days per week.

9.15 am – 2.45 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

9:15 – 11:45pm on Monday.

If this extra session would be of interest to you please can you contact a member of staff as soon as possible.

If you have a child of 2.5 to 5 years old and would like more information about the Pre-School, do please contact us on 07879 072796, or call in during session time (09.15–11.45 on Monday & Friday and 09.15-11.45 or 12.15pm–2.45 pm on Tuesday's, Wednesday, Thursday's), or go to our website [www.titchmarshpreschool.co.uk](http://www.titchmarshpreschool.co.uk).

## **Friends of Titchmarsh School**

A HUGE THANKYOU to everyone who has helped FOTS in the past year! Together we managed to raise just under £4000, which is an enormous amount for a small village school.

## **Winter Ball**

We are holding a Winter Ball this year. It is on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November at Barnwell Village Hall. Tickets are £30 a head, and for this you get a welcoming drink, a 5 course meal and live music from "Bottled Out". If you are interested in attending this event please contact Pauline Gambrell.

Future dates for your diary are:-

Halloween Party – 24<sup>th</sup> October

Bag2School – 6<sup>th</sup> November

Beetle Drive – 7<sup>th</sup> February

Ladies Pamper Night – 13<sup>th</sup> March

Please look out for posters and flyers regarding these events in the near future.

**Don't forget if you fancy a treat, the mobile Fish and Chip Shop visits Park Road every Wednesday evening from 4.30pm to 7.30 pm**

## **Titchmarsh Village Shop**

We are delighted to welcome Jane Newman to the team, who joined us as our full time shop manager at the end of August. Jane brings a wealth of experience to the role, having previously managed Tasty Bite in Thrapston. We are looking forward to using her knowledge to develop the shop and in particular the lunchtime takeaway trade.

It hardly seem possible that we have now been trading for a full year and, by the time you read this, we will have celebrated the shop's first birthday. It has been a rewarding year, not without its challenges, and of course we are still learning! We hope we have got things right most of the time and we always welcome feedback about any aspect of the shop – products, prices, opening hours etc. We can improve if you tell us where we haven't quite got it right.

Cyclical and seasonal trading patterns have taken some getting used to and the summer has proved to be a slow trading period. Some consolation can be taken from the fact that this experience has been repeated in other village shops with whom we are in contact. However, we do need to get back to the trading figures seen prior to the summer holidays and we can only do this if you come and shop with us as often as you can. Do call in and see what your village shop can offer – we think you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Our new meat supplier, Grasmere, is proving very popular as is the selection of cheeses from Rowcliffe. Our famous Plum (Christmas), Chocolate and Ginger puddings are due in at the end of September, but only in limited supply, so don't wait too long or you'll be disappointed. They bear the Titchmarsh Village Shop label so make excellent and original gifts, either on their own or as part of a hamper.

The committee would like to thank all of the wonderful volunteer staff who contribute so much to the day to day running of the village shop and also to our customers, who make it all worthwhile.

## **From the Rectory**

### **Harvest**

Almost as soon as this is published we shall be into harvest celebrations. It's not been an easy year for our farmers – yet we still have much to be thankful to God for. So I would encourage you to join our service on Oct 5th. We've starting at 11.30pm so that it can lead straight onto our lunch outside (or under canvas!) an hour or so later. Please bring produce on the day which we can then sell at that lunch. A special feature will be our new choir. Jim Mynors

### **Titchmarsh Church Services**

Oct 5 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am Harvest
Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion & 3pm Baptism/Family Service
Oct 19 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion
Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion
Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.15am Morning Prayer
Nov 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion 3pm Family Service for Remembrance Day
Nov 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion
Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15am Communion
Nov 30 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Communion

### **From the Registers**

Adam Sallabanks of 18 Drydens Close was baptised on 10<sup>th</sup> August  
Scarlett Langford of Whitstable – and grand-daughter of the Harpers of Titchmarsh – was baptised in Titchmarsh on September 14<sup>th</sup>

A group of young teenagers is just beginning to prepare for confirmation. If you'd like to consider joining them or know others who would please make contact asap Likewise for christenings, weddings, funerals – and visits for any other reason - please contact Jim Mynors (Rector) 720613 (usual day off – Friday) email [Jim@Mynors.me.uk](mailto:Jim@Mynors.me.uk)

### Autumn Bible Study

An invitation to a Bible Study group for any resident in the 7 parishes, especially if you have not been to one before. At the Rectory on Thurs 16 Oct, Sat 1, Thurs 13 and Sat 29 Nov. We will begin at 10.00am and finish with coffee at 11.00 am. Come to any or all. Helen Mynors

### Church Rotas

Date	Flowers	Sidesmen	Readers
5th October 2008 <i>Harvest Festival</i>	Mrs S Holland	Mrs K Williams	Mr D Williams
12th October 2008	Mrs W Jeffries	Mrs C Blackman	am: Mrs B Berry
			pm: Phoebe Sadler
19th October 2008	Mrs R Franklin	Mr A Powell	Mr J Fieldsend
26th October 2008	Mrs A King	Lady Harper	Sir Ewan Harper
2nd November 2008	Miss J Finlayson	Mrs J Fieldsend	Mr T Higgins
			Dr G Webster
9th November 2008 <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	Mrs M Cranch	Mrs R Knight & family	am: Mrs J Bussens pm: Mr J Hope
16th November 2008	Mrs G Gaskin	Mr A Powell	Mr S Barber
23rd November 2008	Mrs A Dunn	Dr S Bell	Dr G Webster
30th November 2008	Mrs J Powell	Mr A Powell	Mrs J Powell

### Titchmarsh P.C.C

#### Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival on Sunday 5th October will start 11.30am in the Church. There will be a Pig Roast for lunch in a marquee beside the church, and the usual auction of produce will follow. There will be a bar. The ticket price will stay at £5 for adults and £3 for children. We would welcome produce of all kinds whether baked, boiled or grown and these can be brought to the church on Saturday morning or even better to the service on Sunday morning. If you can help for a little while on Saturday morning to either put the marquee up or to decorate the church we would appreciate it very much.

#### Music in Quiet Places

On Friday October 11th there will be Music in Quiet Places in the Church at 7.30, with drinks available in the interval and at the end of the concert. This is a concert of light music over the last 500 years. Tickets are available at the Oundle Tourist office or can be bought on the door.

#### Quiz Night

The Quiz Night on Saturday 15th November will be Shepherds Pie and there will be a complimentary drink to start the evening off. Everyone usually has a great deal of fun with many an argument about the answers, but remember the Quizmaster's word is law. Supper and prizes are included in the ticket price of £8 and there will be a bar. Just to let everyone know that the Murder Mystery Evening raised nearly £2300, and thanks to everyone who helped with the setting up of the venue, doing the food and then clearing everything away. Thanks to everyone who came and spent lots of money on the auctioned lots and to those who provided them.

## **News from The Wheatsheaf**

Hello friends, we hope you are all well. Please find a few dates for your diary:

### **David Moffit is 40!**

Yep I know I only look 20 and behave like i'm 15, but it is true - so it's party time at the Wheatsheaf on Saturday 11th October. As yet the entertainment etc. has not been confirmed, but I'm sure it will be fun - everyone welcome (Rolex watches gratefully recieved (joke) ) - please RSVP in advance - 732 203 - so that Bob and Paul know how many to cater for. Mother suggests that the dress code should be jacket and tie - who am I to argue?!

### **Ruby Tuesday**

Feel like a homemade curry on a Tuesday ? Why not Poppadom down to the Wheatsheaf or give us a call and we will deliver. We are expanding the menu every week.

### **Christmas**

Provisional Dates for your diary

Christmas Draw - 22nd Dec

Santa comes to the Wheatsheaf - 24th Dec

Dinner Dance in the marquee - Sat 27th - more details to follow

News Years Eve - Banquet Supper and Disco

## **News from the Dog and Partridge**

Thanks to every one who came in for a glass of punch and nibbles to help us celebrate our first year.

### **Quiz Night**

The monthly Sunday night Quiz night returns on 14<sup>th</sup> September in its usual slot of the second Sunday of the month, starts 8pm with free buffet afterwards.

### **Halloween Party**

Fancy Dress Halloween Party on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Fun and ghoulish games with prizes from 7pm. Halloween theme quiz, apple bobbing, piñata and more. Plus prize for best children's and adults costume

Music until late....

### **Music Night**

Look out on notice board for music night planned for November

And dare we say it... It will soon be time to get the wood burners going after the awful summer & Christmas bookings are now being taken. Phone or call in for a copy of the Christmas menu.

Until then we still have the lunchtime set menu which is priced at £5.75 for 2 courses and £7.75 for 3 courses which is running along side the full lunchtime menu and is available Tuesday to Saturday.. Sunday Lunch we still have the traditional Sunday Roast on offer.

## **Finally**

Thank you to all who helped put this bumper edition of Titchmarsh Times together. The December / January issue will see John Greig return as editor following his overseas travels. Geoff Love.