

**Inside
this
issue...**

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Parish Council News2/3 | Clubroom 6 | Pre-School 10 |
| Police Commissioner 3 | Shop Quiz 6 | Village Shop 10 |
| From The Rectory 4 | Christmas Phone Box 7 | Walking Group 10 |
| Church Services 4 | Quiz (NEW) 7 | Folk Dance Club 11 |
| Church Rota 5 | History Association 8 | Playing Field Association .. 12 |
| Church News 5 | Friends of The School 9 | Country Dancing 12 |
| Youth Group 6 | Music Makers 9 | Quiz answers 12 |

A bi-monthly village newsletter published by Titchmarsh Parish Council and sponsored by local businesses

Titchmarsh Times

Issue No. 101

February/March 2017



Bishop's visit

IT'S OFTEN been said what a vibrant and active village Titchmarsh is and you will see as you read through the pages of this issue just how many diverse events have already been planned for 2017.

For a small village we sometimes punch above our weight and are fortunate to occasionally entertain nationally-known names such as Alan Titchmarsh.

The next high-profile person to be visiting is Bishop George Carey, the retired Anglican bishop who was the Archbishop of Canterbury from 1991 to 2002, having previously been the Bishop of Bath and Wells. He will be here on Mothering Sunday (March 26th) to lead the service and re-dedication of the windows. The service starts at 10.30am and everyone is welcome. Afterwards there will be some refreshments and an opportunity to talk to the people who did the work.

More details about this and all the church's activities are on pages 4-5.

*Midsummer
Masquerade
Ball*

Saturday 24th June 2017
St Mary's Church, Titchmarsh

7 for 7:30 pm

Formal attire & masks
Live band, cash bar, canapes & 2 course meal

Tickets £25 - includes food and welcome drink

The tickets we have
information contact: margethames@btinternet.com
165en.165en@btinternet.com

BLADE OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Dates for your diary...

| FEBRUARY | | | |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 4 | London Theatre trip | Meet at Shop | 11.00am |
| 6 | PFA meeting | Pavilion | 7.30pm |
| 10 | Term ends | | |
| 11 | Walking Group | Top Green | 10.00am |
| 15 | Mobile Library | opp Clubroom | 4.35pm to 5pm |
| 18 | Oriental Express 2 | Clubroom | 7.00pm |
| 20 | Term starts | | |
| 21 | Parish Council meeting | Pavilion | 7.30pm |
| 23 | Locating the Lost Manor | Clubroom | 7.30pm |
| 25 | Shop Quiz | Clubroom | 7.30pm |
| 28 | Shrove Tuesday | | |
| MARCH | | | |
| 15 | Mobile Library | opp Clubroom | 4.35pm to 5pm |
| 21 | Parish Council meeting | Pavilion | 7.30pm |
| 26 | Clocks go forward | | |
| 26 | Mothering Sunday | | |
| 31 | Term ends | | |

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TT

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Shop Working Party

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Clerk to the Parish Council
email:
titchmarshclerk@aol.co.uk

Melvyn Chapman
Titchmarsh Times
Production Co-ordinator
Telephone: 07887 654705

*For all the latest news
check the village website
at www.titchmarsh.info*

PARISH COUNCIL

Welcome to the first edition of Titchmarsh Times in 2017

Allotments

At the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 20th December 2016, an allotment holder spoke during public open time about the break-ins and vandalism which has dogged the Islington Allotments for the last few months of 2016.

The police have been involved and on Monday 9th January 2017, PCSO Tim Butter organised the first meeting of Allotment Watch in the church, during Monday morning Café. All allotment holders were invited to attend and some 20 turned up. There was a lot of discussion about possible security measures.

The main message to come out of the meeting was that allotment holders should not leave anything of value in their sheds. Steps are being taken to improve communications so that all allotment holders can be informed as quickly as possible after any incident.

Budget & Initiatives

The annual budget for 2017/2018, including the level of the Annual Precept, has been discussed and agreed.

The Council is starting to think about initiatives that would improve our community and the process for taking these forward will be launched at the Annual Parish Meeting to be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday 20th April 2017 in the Clubroom.

Highways

The faded 30 mph sign at Polopit has been replaced.

We are still waiting for the 30 mph speed signs in Islington to be moved further out of the village beyond the new development at Islington Mews.

We are continuing with the plan to install more energy efficient lighting in the village.

We are very grateful to our Highways Warden – Mike Ferry – who makes

certain that issues are flagged to Highways and pursued until resolution.

School Parking

In partnership with Titchmarsh Primary School, Northamptonshire Highways are proposing to refurbish and extend the "SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR" road markings to alleviate problems with indiscriminate parking at peak drop off/pick up times around the school. The Parish Council, along with local residents, have been consulted on these proposals. The Parish Council has given its wholehearted support with the proviso that there is a requirement from time to time for wedding and funeral cars to park outside the church.

Dog Owners

Sorry but it is necessary to remind everyone yet again to please pick up your dog mess. Things are particular bad in the field at the rear of Back Lane. Remember spring is around the corner and

Neighbourhood Watch and Police

First point of contact to report any crimes or suspicious behaviour is to call the police on 101.

Or you can email them at

SCT-EastNorthantsNorth@northants.pnn.police.uk

If you want to get involved with neighbourhood watch or want to know who your street co-ordinator is then you can email

**Louise Benton-Pascoe who is the co-ordinator for Titchmarsh on
lbp101@btinternet.com**

Contact us at: titchmarshtimes@gmail.com

there will be calves and lamb's around and they can get bad infections from dog poo.

We know it is not everyone and that most dog owners do pick up, but as is often the case a few give the other dog owners a bad name.

Advance notice

The Parish Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday 20th April 2017 at the clubroom, start time 7:30pm. Start time will be confirmed on the website and in the next edition of the TT.

Emergency Planning –

Would you be willing to help?

We all hope emergencies don't happen and thankfully they are very rare. However, if some serious emergency happened in Titchmarsh would you be prepared to help if you could?

The Parish Council is preparing an Emergency Plan for the village and we are compiling a register of venues, equipment, people with special skills and general volunteers who could be called upon in an emergency. Enclosed with your copy of Titchmarsh Times is a form to enable us to complete the register. Please complete the form if you are willing to help in any capacity and return to any Parish Councilor or to the village shop.



The Benefice Choir at the Midnight Communion



THE START of a new year, always brings renewed encouragement to do things better and improve things where we can. As the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire I want to make our county a safer place, and key to this is ensuring the Police have the right resources and support to achieve this. I was very pleased that the latest reports released from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies (HMIC) have rated Northamptonshire Police as 'Good'. It is very encouraging to see that HMIC have maintained the Force's rating of 'Good' from last year, however I want to make clear that this is not the end-level of our ambition – I want my team and the Force to be striving to deliver the best possible service for the public of Northamptonshire. I'm confident that Chief Constable Simon Edens and his chief officer team are leading the Force to a level of service that we can be proud of and I will continue to help him achieve this while at the same time holding the Force to account for their performance.

As a growing county, it is clear to me that next year will be yet another challenging year as policing a large county such as ours is a complex undertaking with an ever growing demand on limited budgets. However I am determined to ensure that we continue on our journey of improvement and that as your Police and Crime Commissioner, I will ensure that central government recognise the pressures we are under.

If you require any help or assistance or if you have any further questions about any of the work I am carrying out, please do not hesitate to contact me further on the following e-mail address:

commissioner@northantspcc.pnn.police.uk

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2017

Stephen Mold
Police and Crime Commissioner

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Contact us at: titchmarshtimes@gmail.com

FROM THE RECTORY

So now the windows are back restored what are they all about?

JOIN US to talk about them – or if you're unable to there are leaflets just inside the church.

On alternate Thursdays in Titchmarsh Church we share breakfast and informal conversation from 9am — or come around 9.30am and skip the breakfast! Come and go as you like — we generally run on until 10.30am but some leave much earlier than that. Up until Easter we'll focus on the newly restored 9 chancel windows on 7 Thursdays and 2 Sundays — plus the 10.30am rededication on March 26th when the South Aisle windows will be suitable for Mothering Sunday.

We've begun with the three relevant

themes next to the Communion Table
Thursday Jan 12 Feeding 5000 - give ye them to eat Matthew 14:16

Thursday Jan 26 Lazarus – thy brother shall rise again John 11:23

Then there are three themed around women:

Thursday Feb 9 Mary Magdalene's foot washing and restoration Luke 7:47

Thursday Feb 23 Dorcas & Peter presenting her alive Acts 9:40

And on Easter Day we'll focus on Mary's Easter experience

Finally there are three themed around Peter:

Thursday Mar 9 Peter's commissioning

Thursday Mar 23 Peter in the book of Acts

Thursday April 6 Peter's storm experience

Newcomers welcome.

With all good wishes

Jim Mynors

60 Main St, Aldwinckle 720613

Jim@Mynors,me,uk

A confirmation service in Oundle is planned for June 11th.

Let me know if at all interested.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Interment of ashes (on 10 Dec 2016)

Paul McNeely of 14 Chapel Street who died on 12 November aged 78

Church services

PLEASE NOTE NEW 10.30am TIME FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

February 2017

| | | | | |
|------|--|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| 5th | 9.15am Communion | Isaiah 58:1-9 Matthew 5:13-20 | Titchmarsh | Jim |
| 12th | 9.15am Communion 4.30pm Family Service | Deuteronomy 30:15-end Matthew 5:21-37 | Titchmarsh Titchmarsh | Liz Carolyn |
| 19th | 9.15am Morning Prayer 4.30pm Family Service | Genesis 1:1-2:3 Matthew 6:25-end | Titchmarsh Achurch | Carolyn Jim |
| 26th | 10.30am Family Communion | Exodus 24:12-end Matthew 17:1-9 | Titchmarsh | Liz |

March 2017

| | | | | |
|------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1st | Ash Wednesday | 7.30pm Communion | Clopton | Jim |
| 5th | 9.15am Communion | Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Matthew 4:1-11 | Titchmarsh | Liz |
| 12th | 9.15am Communion 4.30pm Family Service | Genesis 12:1-4 John 3:1-17 | Titchmarsh Titchmarsh | Jim Jim |
| 19th | 9.15am Morning Prayer 4.30pm Family Service | Exodus 17:1-7 John 4:5-42 | Titchmarsh Achurch | Jim Jim |
| 26th | 10.30am Mothering Sunday service and window rededication | I Sam 1:20-end Luke 2:33-35 | Titchmarsh | BISHOP GEORGE CAREY |

200 Club winners

THE WINNERS FOR DECEMBER WERE:

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Mrs E Cawdell (30) | £14.00 |
| Mrs D Goucher (146) | £14.00 |
| Mrs P Ash (76) | £14.00 |
| Mrs J Powell (11) | £14.00 |

THE WINNERS FOR JANUARY WERE:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Dr K Hughes (168) | £200.00 |
| Mr & Mrs I Curtis (160) | £14.00 |
| Mrs J Dove (28) | £14.00 |
| Mr K Lawman (151) | £14.00 |

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A big thank you to everyone who has supported the 200 Club this year, and well done to all the lucky ticket holders!!

In March we will be delivering letters with details of how you can

take part in or renew your 200 Club ticket. The tickets cost £24 each for the full year and will be on sale throughout March.

Half the proceeds benefit Titchmarsh Church and Titchmarsh School, and the other half is paid

back in prize money.

There are four lucky winners every month, each winning £14.00. There are also four big cash draws throughout the year, each one is £200 !!

Mary Cheney and Caroline Hope

Contact us at: titchmarshtimes@gmail.com

CHURCH ROTAS FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2017

| Date | Flowers | Time | Sidesmen | Intercessions | Readers |
|--|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 5th February HC | Mrs S Prestwich | 9.15am | Mr A Powell | Mrs J Powell | Mr T Higgins |
| 12th February HC All Age Service | Mrs J Powell | 9.15am 4.30pm | Dr S Bell Hope Family | Mr P James | Dr G Webster Hope Family |
| 19th February MP | Mrs S Wilcox | 9.15am | Mr A Powell | Mrs J Powell | Mrs J Powell Mr J Fieldsend |
| 26th February FC & Sunday School | No Flowers | 10.30am | Miss J Rowe | Mr S Barber | Miss J Rowe |
| 1st March Ash Wednesday | | 7.30pm | Clopton Church | | |
| 5th March HC | No Flowers | 9.15am | Miss J Rowe | Miss J Rowe | Mr S Barber |
| 12th March HC All Age Service | No Flowers | 9.15am 4.30pm | Mr P Dunn Hughes Family | Mr P James | Mrs A Dunn Hughes Family |
| 19th March MP | No Flowers | 9.15am | Mrs K Williams | Mr D Williams | Mr J Fieldsend Mr D Williams |
| 26th March Mothering Sunday and Re-Dedication of Windows | | 10.30am | Mrs A Dunn Lady Harper | Sir Ewan Harper | Sir Ewan Harper |

If the date doesn't suit please contact me on 732283 or email: ju.powell@btinternet.com

Packed diary of events for the church

Orient Express 2 – That Riviera Touch! To be held on Saturday 18th February at 7pm in the Clubroom. Following on from the exploits during the 'Venice to Paris' trip last year, we are now going from 'Paris to the Riviera' The dress code is Riviera Chic (can't wait to see what you all make of that). Please arrive at Platform 19 at 19.00hours for Fizz and Canapes before departure at 19.30hours. Please contact Julia on 01832732283 or at ju.powell@btinternet.com to reserve your tickets for just £15, which includes a delicious 2-course dinner and plenty of entertainment. There will also be a well stocked bar to make those hours of travel fly by.

During the course of the evening there will be a silent 'Auction of Promises'

Restoration and Refurbishments – well the scaffolding has gone and the windows are back, looking magnificent, and the organ is fully restored and sounding really impressive.

To mark the occasion there will be a

couple of services/concerts to re-dedicate these icons of our church.

26th March is Mothering Sunday and Re-Dedication of the Windows – Bishop George Carey will be leading this service which starts at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome and there will be posies for the children to give to all the ladies present. Following the service there will be some refreshments and the opportunity to talk to the people who did the work.

Re-Dedication of Organ with a Concert – Saturday 8th April at 7.30pm in the Church. This is a **FREE**, but ticketed concert that will follow a short re-dedication of the organ by the Bishop of Brixworth.

The concert will be led by William McVicker with our own organists, Peter and David, taking part along with the choir. Refreshments will be available from our bar, during the evening. Due to the possible large numbers of people wanting to attend we will need to ticket this concert, so please contact Sharon Bell on 01832734997 or drsharonbell@hotmail.co.uk to reserve your tickets.

Family Communion with Sunday School - This service is held every 4th Sunday of the month, usually at 9.15am. The Sunday School is popular but some feedback has suggested that 9.15am is a little early for families, with young children. At our recent PCC meeting it was agreed to change the time to **10.30pm** to allow more families the opportunity to join us at this very informal communion service. We look forward to seeing you, and chatting to you after the service with refreshments.

Thank you – to everyone who joined us at the Quiz in November, we raised a little over £1000 for church funds.

The Carol Service collection raised £450 for Cransley Hospice, so thank you all again.

For Your Diary – A Masked Ball in the church on Saturday 24th June; more details in the next TT.

Contact us at: titchmarshtimes@gmail.com



Youth Group is thriving

WE ARE very pleased to say that the Youth Group membership has increased since September 2016 and we have enjoyed a number of activities and events such as playing tennis and cake decorating.

We had a busy time in December with a successful visit to Planet Bounce in Corby and a fun Christmas Party to end the year. Thank you to all those who supported our Christmas card delivery service – we delivered around 130 cards to village residents. We have the following events planned over the next few months:

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------|
| 3rd February | Activity to be confirmed | Clubroom |
| 24th February | Pancake Night | Clubroom |
| 10th March | Craft with Richard | Clubroom |
| 24th March | Mother's Day Flowers | Clubroom |

We update the Titchmarsh village website with confirmed plans, so please check this for the latest information.

We are always open to new suggestions for activities at the Youth Group, or if anyone would be happy to give up an hour or so on a Friday night and demonstrate an activity to the members it would be greatly appreciated, so please contact me.

For further information contact Geri Elliott on geri@teamelliott.co.uk or phone or text 07768 902024. Thank you.

Geri Elliott, Youth Group Secretary

Boobs and Brass is back

DUE TO popular demand I am organising a second Spring Concert at the Church (all proceeds to be divided between The Alzheimer's/Dementia Society and Breast Cancer. The concert

will feature the famous Boobs and Brass all girls band along with many other guests and is on Saturday May 13th (time to be published later).

June Dove

Shop Quiz

FEBRUARY 25th is the date for this year's Shop Quiz held in the Clubroom and starting at 7:30pm. Teams of up to 8 will compete for the prestige and honour of winning the Shop Quiz 'Lurve' edition.

Entries should be submitted to Sarah Fortesque via email — margotharrell@hotmail.com or telephone 732579 with details of team members or just to register your interest in being part of a team. We would be delighted to add you to a short table!

As per normal the entry fee is £10 per head. Hot food will be provided, there will be a bar and plenty of banter along the way. Eight rounds of not-so-fiendish questions to gently stretch those addled cells with a picture round is the standard offering and as always a twist along the way.

With themes in the past covering the Olympics, London Underground and frankly bizarre numbers this year's quiz is sure to be entertaining once again.

On a side note we would like to invite any interested parties to join us on our committee which meets every month on a Tuesday evening to discuss future plans and issues which come up from time to time. Please contact Nicholas Partridge for further information via email — NACPartridge@gmail.com

Can you help us?

WE ARE Carolyn and Chris Judge, owners of the big newfoundland at the end of Polopit. We've been living in Titchmarsh for 2 years now and have made some wonderful friends within the village. We've just been informed that our tenancy is ending on 8th March, but are hoping to stay in the village.

We are looking for at least 2 bedrooms, decent kitchen, garden space and of course pet friendly. Ideally we would like to keep our rent at £1,000 or less. We would be willing to see any prospective houses. Please call us on 07475 830458 if you can help.

Clubroom News

THANK YOU very much to everyone who attended the events held in the clubroom in December. The Secret World of Charles Dickens proved to be extremely entertaining and very enjoyable. The Pantomime and the Christmas Pop-Up Dog were also very popular and well attended.

Your continued support at these events is really appreciated as it helps us to maintain the clubroom and ensure it continues as an important community asset.

Please see the village website for details of all the regular events which take place in the clubroom, including the new Pilates class on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. If anyone has any ideas for events or classes that they would like to see

offered at the Clubroom, please do get in touch with any member of the committee or email Val at the address below.

Don't forget, if you are looking for a venue to host your own event, we now have 2 rooms available: As well as the large clubroom suitable for wedding receptions, children's parties and other larger gatherings, we also have the smaller room which can comfortably accommodate up to around 15 people. If you would like to hire either the large clubroom or the smaller meeting room, please contact our bookings clerk, Val Sorrell at v.sorrell@tiscali.co.uk for details of prices and availability.

The Clubroom committee

Contact us at: titchmarshtimes@gmail.com

2016 Greetings: even better than last year!

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who used the phone box to send their Christmas greetings to village friends.

This year we raised £550 — £50 more than last year — so £300 will go to the Village Shop, £150 to the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance and £100 to the Youth Group.

Thirty-five cards were finally

placed in the phone box but a number of households generously donated without doing a card. Thank you to all those who fall into this category.

The cards were even more imaginative and colourful than the previous year and made a cheerful scene for the festive period.

Those who contributed are:

The Jeffries family
The Cooper family
Shirley and Ian Curtis
The Barber-Rowe family
The Stokes family
Alan and Julia Powell
Jane Newman and Mark Jeffs
Margaret and Michael Alderman
John and Viv Wills
The Henderson-Connellans
Bob and Myrtle Seery
Mel and Maggy Chapman
Lucy and Gary Whiteside
Bert and Pauline Ash

The Snelling family
Mary Cheney
Liz Townson
Paul and Christine Blackman
Anne and Clive at the D&P
Liz and Tony Knivett
Bob and Sheila Tyrell
Wendy and Jet Jeffries
John and Gina Gaskin
Antar Howarth and Alison Parry
Pat Bettsworth
Jim and Sara Bettsworth
The Fletcher family
June and Brian Dove
Gay and Kim Teese
Charlotte and James in Polopit
The Wickes family from Raunds
The Collini family
Albin and Clare Wallace
Martin Room
The Fortescue family
 Thank you again to everyone who supported us. Happy New Year!
Louise S, Louise J and Shirley



How well do you know your village?

HERE'S a little 'just for fun' quiz. Can you answer the following few questions about Titchmarsh and identify where the picture is? *Answers on back page*

1. Where was Potwell?
2. What significant village landmark was lost in 1991?
3. Who was John Creed's famous colleague?
4. Who is the bespectacled person commemorated in the west window of the church?
5. Where was the village fire engine housed?



Sight the site...

Most of you will have walked or driven past this wall, but have you ever noticed the year set out in different colour bricks?



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TITCHMARSH HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Locating the lost Manor House

In November, Clive Carter made a presentation on what he had discovered in his search for the last Titchmarsh Manor House. The talk was very well received with people impressed not only by the quality of his research but

also on how well he put it over and how surprised they were at his discoveries. There have been several requests for Clive to repeat the presentation and to this he has kindly agreed. So, if you missed it last time or you would like to hear Clive again, then please book this date in your diary, Thursday 23rd February at 7.30 in the

Clubroom. Entry is free and there will be no charge for refreshments.

In the light of Clive's evidence, the metal detectorists Nigel and Ray are conducting a search of the site to find if anything remains of what was a substantial property,

Footpaths

In case you are wondering what has happened to our attempts to get two lanes, Back Lane and Bird's Lane, classified as authorised footpaths, we are informed that the submission is still on the list for consideration though no date for a resolution can yet be given. We will let you know the outcome as soon as we hear.

Tracing one's ancestry

We still receive requests from people – many living abroad – who are trying find out about ancestors who

lived in the village. Our database and other records are now sufficiently comprehensive that we can usually help in their search. If we can help you in this way, please give us a call.

History in song

For the past year Les Ray has been working on a song cycle that encapsulates his own family's history here in the village. We are currently seeking funding to enable him to make professional recordings of his material so that it can become available to a much wider audience. This is just one of the projects that we are working on. If you are interested and want to learn more about our work, please contact one of the following:

Sylvia
[sylviaprestwich@aol.com]
or **07850841696, Terry**
[31 High Street] or
Ian [icurtis@sky.com] or
732999.

Locating the last Pickering Manor House
Who built it, when, who lived in it, where was it, what was it like, who pulled it down, why and when?

Whether you missed it in November or simply want to hear it again ...

Another chance to hear Clive Carter talk through his findings and explain the evidence
You may be surprised by what he has to say

Titchmarsh History Association
7:30pm Thursday 23 February 2017
Titchmarsh Clubroom
Free Admission and Free Refreshments

Clive Carter
M.A. F.S.A.

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In times past... War heroes

FOR the past couple of years we have been commemorating the terrible tragedy of the First World War. Many of the villagers who lived through those dark days would have remembered only too well soldiers from the village fighting in another conflict, the Boer War. Local newspapers recorded at least four young men who went off to fight.

Under the headline 'More Volunteers for the Front', the Mercury on 4th April 1900 reported:

Two sons of Mr Locksley of Titchmarsh sailed [from Southampton] for South Africa today on board Galicia. The brothers, Bosco and Frank, have joined the Leicestershire Yeomanry and paid their farewell visit on Saturday last.

We do not know how they fared but we do know of the happy return in September 1902 of two others, Harry Gray and Arthur Austin:

...they were met at the village entrance. The horse was taken out of the carriage [shafts] and the vehicle drawn round the village by men. The returning soldiers received a hearty welcome from many relatives and friends.

Contact us at: titchmarshtimes@gmail.com

Friends of Titchmarsh School update

THE RUN up to Christmas was a blur of activity for the Friends of Titchmarsh School (FOTS). We held our annual Wreath Night in the Church with the help of Michelle Crawford from Flowers From Eden. This was very well attended and hand-made Wreaths could be seen gracing many doors around the village over the Christmas period. With FOTS making well over £200 from the event. The date for next year has already been set as Tue 12 Dec, so pop it in your calendar now!



Look out for posters and updates on the Titchmarsh Facebook page for our Curry Night at the Bengal Brasserie. These are always enjoyable and well supported by the villagers and parents alike.

It is also that time of year again that FOTS are looking for donations for their annual auction. Therefore if you are able to offer anything please let Fiona Love Fiona.love@icloud.com or Julia Fletcher jmefletcher@me.com know. Perhaps you could offer a ½ day placement for a child at your work; provide coaching for a skill you may have; or anything else you are able to offer. All donations are very welcome. The auction will go live for villagers and parents of Titchmarsh pupils on the internet on the 31 Mar and some final lots will be completed as usual at the annual FOTS Quiz in the Clubroom on the 29 Apr.

Initial planning is also underway for the Treasure Hunt and Cream Teas afternoon. This

is open to everyone and will be held on 25 Jun, on what will hopefully be a lovely sunny Sunday afternoon.

Since our last update we have purchased a number of things from the school's wish list, these include new maths board games for Key Stage 2 pupils and some brand new torches and chargers. We have also just agreed to purchase resources to assist with the current Key Stage 2 topic of Electricity; including hand dynamos. We are also able to purchase more music stands to help our budding musicians and providing entry fees to the Oundle Festival for both pupil choirs and poetry recitals.

Finally, if you are on Facebook please sign up to our group FOTS-Friends of Titchmarsh School Group to get updates on all things FOTS.

Thank you all for your continued support and we will hopefully see you at an event in the near future.

FOTS

Happy New Year from Music Makers!



WE ARE thrilled to be starting 2017 with a virtually full class in Titchmarsh and only a few places available in our other classes too!

So much has been the demand, that Music Makers has started a class on a Saturday which means we now run 6 days a week, mornings and afternoons, so hopefully accommodate everyone's work/life patterns and importantly fit in with the little one's nap and eat times!

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported Music Makers this past year.

It is lovely to see mums, dads, grandparents and childminders returning with new siblings after enjoying it so much in the past with older children who have moved on to big school.

Anyone who hasn't been to Music

Makers before is welcome to bring your little one along for a FREE taster session. The class is suitable for birth to 4 years with singing, dancing, instruments, puppets, beanbags, parachute, bubbles, sensory lights and more.

We meet at Titchmarsh Pavilion on Thursdays from 9.15am until 10am during school term time. A big thank you to the Pavilion committee for setting the heating up so that it is roasty toasty when we arrive!

Music Makers sessions also take place in Grafton Underwood and Burton Latimer on Mondays, Kettering on Tuesdays, Mawsley and Barton Seagrave on Wednesdays, Titchmarsh and Oundle on Thursdays, Kettering again on Fridays and Glendon on Saturdays.

The cost hasn't changed in 8 years and remains at £4 per session for the first child and £2 for siblings over 6-months old payable half termly in

advance.

We also offer Music Makers birthday parties, with facepainting and balloon modelling alongside singing, dancing and games for 1-5 year olds; Frozen-themed Snowstorm Parties with the popular Ice Queen and Princess, a very huggable snowman, pass the ice cube and lots of snow for 3-8 year olds; and also Pirate Parties, Princess Parties and Disco Parties for 3-8 year olds. Snowstorm Parties can even take away all the stress of organising a child's birthday party by doing all the food, party bags and a super birthday cake.

To book a FREE Music Makers taster session or to find out more about birthday parties, please contact me at musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com, telephone 07815 293893 or message via Facebook at Music Makers Northants.

Naomi x

Contact us at: titchmarshtimes@gmail.com

News Round-up

Pre-school news

Happy New Year to you all.

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas Fair and all those of you that bought a tree from us. We raised a fantastic amount of £850. This is going to be put towards new toys and resources for our 2yr olds. A huge Thank you to all at the village shop for joining us in organising the fair with us and the church for allowing us to transform the church into a warm festive collaboration. We all had a fantastic afternoon and we hope you all did to. We look forward to doing it all again this year.

We welcome everyone back after the Christmas holidays and we are enjoying getting to know the new children that have joined us. We have places available if you or you know anyone who would be interested in joining the pre school. Please get in touch.

The pre school is looking forward to another exciting term we will be celebrating Chinese New Year and our usual Easter egg hunt on the last day of term.

We will be holding another fashion show in the spring. More information to follow in the next issue.

A LITTLE REMINDER TO ALL WALKING GROUP MEMBERS!

THE February walk will be on Saturday 11th, due to the majority of regular walkers travelling down to London for the Theatre Trip on the first Saturday of the month. Back to normal on 4th March. And don't forget, it's the AGM on Saturday 1st April!

Maggy



Picture of the Fayre by kind permission of Mr S. Claus!

Village Shop and Pre-School Christmas Fayre

CHRISTMAS has come & gone and, as we ease our waistlines or contemplate “Dry January” (whoever thought that could be a good idea?), we would like to say a big “thank you” to everyone who came out to support our Christmas Fayre.

We were treated to a gloriously sunny day and soon sold out of barbecued venison burgers and sausage dogs — all served up with a smile by Jo, Jeff and Lucy.

Once inside, after a quick tour of our festive stalls, there was plenty of opportunity to relax with a nice cup of tea and some homemade cake, or to conduct some serious research into the mysterious workings of the Beer-ometer.

Father Christmas was there to see a very excited throng of child-

ren as they queued to let Santa know what presents they hoped he would bring them for Christmas.

After some angelic performances from our two choirs, it was time for the raffle to be drawn before the Pre-School & Village Shop volunteers washed up and headed home for a well-earned drink... which reminds me - the most popular beer on the day was Nobby's American Pale Ale, closely followed by Big Bang Theory from the Nene Valley Brewery.

So... Thank you all for your support – over £1100 was spent on the shop stalls, and the profits were shared with the Pre-School. See you all again next year (look out for our chocolate fondue & mulled Wine!)



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2016 ended on a high note at our Christmas Party on 19th December with club callers and live music led by Kev Prigmore from Kelly's Eye. The seasonal buffet was a fantastic spread as always, and we all had lots of festive fun on the dance floor. That seems a long time ago now and we are already looking forward to a packed programme for 2017. Our Spring Dance will be on March 18th with guest caller Ray Goodswen and excellent band "Keeping Thyme".



We regularly update our website with information about our club, and details of other local dances and events. It also contains a link to our facebook page which can be viewed at <https://sites.google.com/site/titchmarshfolkdanceclub/>

Our February / March programme for Monday evenings is as follows

- 06 Feb Guest caller Lynne Whapples
- 13 Feb Valentines Cheese & Wine party with club callers
- 20 Feb Club callers with recorded music
- 27 Feb Club callers with live music led by Peter / Kevin
- 06 Mar Fish & Chip supper. Live music led by Peter
- 13 Mar Guest caller Ken Judd
- 20 Mar Irish night with club callers
- 27 Mar Club callers with live music led by Kevin

We meet at 8pm in the clubroom every Monday evening and regularly book guest callers and live music, with many social events throughout the year. New members are always welcome, no need to bring a partner as we're a very friendly bunch. Contact Kev on 01536 514023 or Jane on 01933 401349 for more info, or just come along and join in the fun.

Kevin Prigmore

Monday Morning Café

At St Mary's Church, Titchmarsh
From 9 - 11 am
Every Monday

Open to everyone - young, old and anything in between.

Tea/Coffee

Toys to keep Pre-schoolers and babies amused

Crafts, cakes, company and fun...we hope!

50p donations towards costs.

For further info...come along!



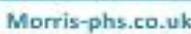


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The Christmas kick-about.

PFA update

On 3rd December Titchmarsh Playing Fields Association held a 'Christmas drinks and nibbles'. We would like to thank those who took the time to visit the Pavilion and share their thoughts on the way forward for the Pavilion and the playing fields themselves. Lots of ideas were shared and we are looking into various different events and activities that we could host throughout the year.

The main event for this year will be the return of the Titchmarsh 10km run. This is to be held on Sunday May 7th. We realise that this is different to the bank holiday weekend of previous years, however there is already a retirement function being held for the Reverend Jim Mynors on the previous Sunday. The Titchmarsh 10km road race and the 3km fun run will be run under exactly the same format as before. We will welcome any new and previous volunteers, to help us run this event as

smoothly as possible. Anyone wanting to enter should keep a close eye on the TPFPA website, as this should be up and running by the time the TT is published. Enquiries can also be made via e mail at pavilion-booking@titchmarsh.info please spread the word!! Sadly, we have decided not to run the cycle sportive but to concentrate on the 10k. As a new committee, this will be our first big event.

On Thursday 29th December we held a post-Christmas football kick about. This proved extremely popular with a turnout of nearly thirty people. Hot dogs, biscuits and drinks were served. It was a lovely sunny, albeit, crisp day. It was nice to see people from the village out for a walk with their younger children, dropping in for a cuppa! We intend to do this again probably during the Easter holidays and maybe a few extra activities for little ones, so keep an

eye out for the date in the next TT and on the TPFPA website.

The sub-committee that was formed to refurbish the play area, is looking into various grants that may be available to us to fund the new equipment. We are excited to announce, that we are inviting pupils of Titchmarsh C of E school, to get involved. They will have the opportunity to draw or design a piece of play equipment that they would like to see in our new play area. Any child that does not attend Titchmarsh School, that wants to have a go, can collect a form from the village shop.

Thrapston Town juniors are still enjoying their home games on our lovely pitches. Well-kept and maintained by the club.

Our next PFA meeting will be held on Monday 6th February, for anyone who would like to join us.

Deadline for the April/May issue of Titchmarsh Times is March 17th, 2017

Keeping fit in the New Year

THERE has been a great deal in the media about what we can do to keep fit and enjoy a better lifestyle.

Many of us enjoy a variety of outdoor and indoor activities to keep the joints moving. Dancing in many forms is a great way of not only keeping fit but meeting new friends, socialising and having fun. Many people enjoy ballroom, sequence, line dancing to mention a few. However, we must not forget one of our greatest traditions, ie country dancing which goes back hundreds of years.

Think of Pride and Prejudice and the happy atmosphere of your local Barn Dance. So why not come and join our friendly country dance group in Thrapston. We meet on the first and third Wednesdays at the St John Ambulance Hall 2-3.30. All dances are walked through with prompts given. A partner is not required.

If you need further information ring George on 01933 622827.

Answers to How well do you know the village
1 Polopit. 2 Cedar of Lebanon, believed to be largest in the county. 3 Samuel Pepsys. 4 Revd. Stopford. 5 The building currently housing the village shop
Sight the Site: The wall is in North Street.

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