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TEMPSFORD TIMES

Issue 17
Sept/Oct 2009

www.tempsford.org
The village magazine of Tempsford, Bedfordshire

AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN TEMPSFORD

has always been an issue, but how big an issue?

The Parish Council has initiated a
HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY
included as an insert in this edition,
to find this out.

Please read it through carefully and
respond appropriately

We are pleased to learn that the Estate has shown support for
affordable housing to be made available

TEMPSFORD TIMES is published bi-monthly by Tempsford Parish Council and St Peter's Parish Church, Tempsford, and is delivered free to all households in Tempsford. Please support our advertisers mentioning TEMPSFORD TIMES whenever you do so.

Articles for the next edition should be sent by Oct 20th to the Editor at 92 Station Road, Tempsford or by e-mail to alant@atuffnell.plus.com; advertising enquiries to Jeff Cloughton on 01767 640624. **Articles are accepted for publication on the condition that they are included at the publishers' discretion and may be edited if felt necessary. The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Parochial Church Council or the Parish Council.**

TEMPSFORD FEAST WEEK 22nd – 28th JUNE 2009. **(In aid of St. Peters Church)**

This year's Feast Week has been another great success, thanks to all in the village and beyond, who supported the various events.

On Monday 22nd about 80 people attended the family fun rounders match. It was great to see lots of children and new faces attending what was a very enjoyable evening. Plenty of barbecued food, cakes and soft drinks were consumed and everyone had a lovely fun evening. A profit of £54 was made on that event.

The next event was on Wednesday 24th in St. Peter's Church, when the knitters sat for two hours clacking their needles in the sponsored knit-in. Also on the same evening several villagers came along to have a practice at the ancient art of bell ringing. Jeff Claughton gave a short display of how the art is performed, with many people surprised at how much was involved. A few more villagers can now say they have rung the bells of St. Peter's, Tempsford. Thanks to Peggy Jackson, Linda Collins, Gladys Hills and Margaret Smith for knitting on the evening and a big thank you to Diane Hart for organising this event. Gladys Hills was presented with a pot plant for knitting the longest length in the two hours. Sponsor money has not all been collected yet, but is expected to be approx £150.

The main event of the week was the Duck Race and Fete, which was held behind the Anchor Hotel on Saturday 27th June. A variety of stalls were there to entice the bargain hunters: bric-a-brac, plants, books, raffle, cakes, adult and children's tombola and of course more ducks were on sale. With only minutes to spare before the race commenced, the 1000th duck was sold. The race was a bit slow this year, with a slow running river and a breeze blowing some of the ducks backwards and into the reeds. However, there was a clear winner. Number 383 came in well ahead of all the other ducks and this was owned by Gemma a co-proprietor of the Anchor Hotel, who won the first prize of £50.00. Number 139 came in second and Mr and Mrs Owen of 62 Station Road owned this and they won £25.00. Little Thomas Harrison of Blunham who owned the last duck won a set of wooden building blocks. Congratulations to all of them. A total profit of £1153.00 was made on this event, which was a fantastic achievement.

Overall we are expecting to make about £1400.00 over the whole week. This could not have been possible without the help of all the organisers and a big thank you is expressed to all of them - Tina & Dave Goddard, Chloe

PROJECT UGANDA : **A SAFE RETURN FROM A REWARDING VISIT**

Greetings to you all, not quite from Uganda as we have now returned safely and healthily from our Project Uganda trip.

For the 12 team members from St Neots Methodist Church it quickly became an uplifting and rewarding visit to St Thomas' Church of Uganda Secondary Girls School in Teso, in northern Uganda, where, in comparison with the south of the country, water and food are becoming increasingly scarce.

Church members and friends, (including several from Tempsford) helped raise over £20,000 to fund the building of a dormitory for the school. We didn't do any physical building ourselves, but rather encouraged and affirmed the work, effort and progress that all the builders were putting into it. Rev Chris Giles' husband, Derek, who oversaw the "spend", was able to confirm that the money we had raised had all been spent wisely and on the building itself. During our time there the walls were completed, the rafters put in place, the roofing sheets fitted, and walls, both inside and out, were plastered. On the last day we had the unveiling of a plaque which surrounded an all important brick engraved with the date. All that was basically left to be done was the screeding of the floor and the fitting of doors and windows. To God be the glory!

Much was done apart from the work with the dormitory: Lindy, our dentist, helped over 300 patients; we arranged and took part in games and sports activities for the girls after lessons; we shared in worship (and preached) in other village churches; lessons were taught and, yes, some sight-seeing and souvenir buying was done!

So much could be written, and in fact has; many team members kept a daily log. Several finished up with a thick book full of memories, events and feelings for possible sharing with us all. Digital cameras and two video cameras also played their part in recording as much as possible. It's going to take some time to wade through all of these to produce acceptable presentations but the team will be getting together to produce these, and we look forward to bringing those to you.

Adrian Besant (on behalf of the rest of the team)

STUART MEMORIAL HALL

Please remember it is your village hall and it is available for you to use.

Book it now for one of your events or family celebration or even just for a game of snooker.

Booking details and form are available on our website

www.tempsford-stuart-memorial-village-hall.co.uk

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Beaumont, Betty Russell, Maureen Gore, Diane Hart, Shirley & Paul Sharman, Dan & Paulina Clark, Linda Collins, Gary, Jo & Grace Blick, Susan Conway, Lionel Clarke, Irene Norman, Doreen Polehonski, Maureen Goddard, Gary Page, Richard Infield & Steve Cooney.

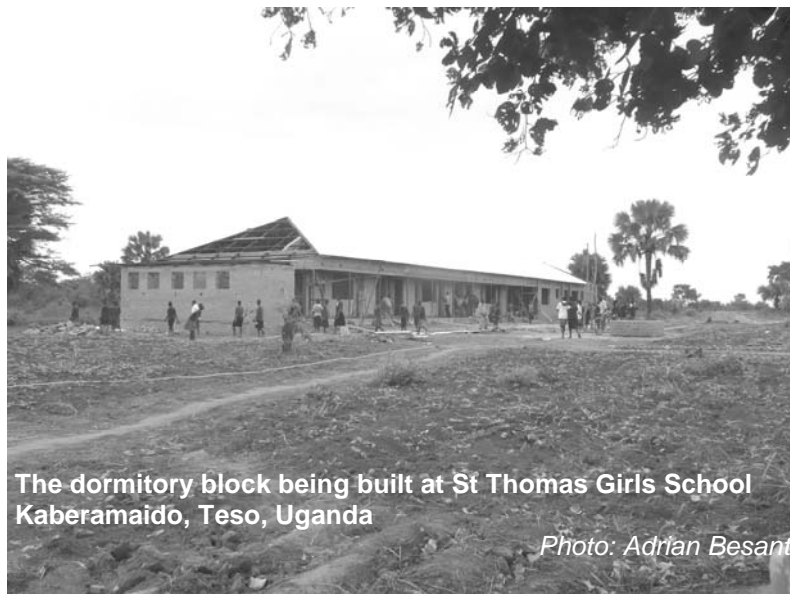
The biggest "THANK YOU" of all, goes to everyone who supported the events in any way, either by buying a duck or coming along to enjoy them. A big thank you is also expressed to the proprietors of The Anchor Hotel for allowing the village to use their grounds to hold the event and the Stuart Memorial Hall for loan of equipment.

DIARY DATES - Book these future events in your diaries NOW!

Sunday 8th November at 3.00pm - Remembrance Day Service
United Village Service at the Stuart Memorial Hall
Refreshments afterwards.

Saturday 5th December from 10.30am to 12 noon - Christmas Fayre
Methodist Chapel

Sunday, 20th December at 6.00pm - Chapel Carol Service



The dormitory block being built at St Thomas Girls School Kaberamaido, Teso, Uganda

Photo: Adrian Besant

The Anchor Lodge Hotel

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EVENTS AT THE STUART MEMORIAL HALL

VILLAGE SHOW Once again the village show rapidly approaches and so you just have a few days to prepare your exhibits for the wide variety of classes that are on offer. From flowers to photographs, carrots to cakes or apples to art, there is a class awaiting your entry! Exhibits will be received on the day **September 5th from 10.00am to 11.30am** and the show will be open to the public from **1.30pm**.

We have some great prizes including vouchers for the Roxton Garden Centre, a meal voucher for the Wheatsheaf, a new cup for the children's handwriting classes plus a MacDonalds voucher for the best children's exhibit – plus the usual cash prizes!

The additional attractions this year include ferret racing, a free bouncy castle, games for the children, a china and glass stall, a wood-turner and a barbecue – and of course the ever popular tea room. If you have any items of china or glass that you would like to donate to the hall, please get in touch.

You can download a schedule, the colouring and the handwriting competitions from our website or alternatively ring Eileen on 640858 or Linda on 640968 for copies or details.

HARVEST SUPPER We are organizing a new event this year on **Sunday 4th October** when we shall be holding a Harvest Supper with musical entertainment. The supper will include a cold plate with cheese and ham followed by a dessert. Please bring your own drink as there will be no bar. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Blunham based group, the Moonlighters who will perform a variety of songs from their wide repertoire. **Time: 7.00pm for 7.15pm.** Tickets: £5 per person and can be obtained at the show or by contacting Eileen or Linda.

NICK GROUNDS December sees the welcome return of raconteur and flower arranger extraordinaire Nick Grounds with his new show. This is an evening not to be missed and not just for fanatical flower arrangers, but for anyone - male or female - who enjoys an entertaining evening out. There is also the chance to win one of Nick's fantastic arrangements as they will be raffled off at the end of the show. **Date: Friday 4th December Time: 7.30pm** (doors open from 7.00pm). Tickets will cost £5 each which will include a mince pie and a drink and will be on sale at the show.

The hall is extremely busy with bookings including on Thursday afternoons a dog training class, the dance school will be restarting in September and an Understanding Your Eating class will commence on Tuesday evenings at the end of September.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The most recent meeting of the council was on August 4th.

The two new Central Beds councillors, Tricia Turner and Caroline Maudlin, were in attendance and gave reports of the work of the new unitary authority.

Street Lighting The council agreed to progress the adoption of the remaining street lighting by the unitary authority.

Parish Action Plan Cllr Dan Clark gave an account of recent work (see elsewhere in this issue)

Children's Play Area Having had the new equipment put in place, the RoSPA report on the safety of the play equipment was discussed. Apparently part of the new equipment was at medium risk. The clerk was asked to write to the installers demanding explanation and rectification of this matter. The old swings at Church End need to be improved or removed. The Council agreed to look into how to move the swings forward and renovate them. Mid Beds Tigers have requested to hire the football field at the weekends. The Council is awaiting their agreement to the conditions of use that the Council has set.

Cemetery/Churchyard The work on improving the state of the plants in the churchyard should recommence in September. The grass cutting contractor had been asked to attend to the tidiness of the churchyard by spraying the weeds on and around the graves and improving the grass edging. This he has done to good effect. It was reported that there were several untidy plots in the cemetery but the Council agreed to check this out and rectify if necessary.

Finance The levels of insurance of council assets was checked before the accounts were accepted.

The Clerk announced that she and her husband were intending to move from the area, and so the Chairman expressed the council's sadness at her impending departure, its appreciation for all the commitment she has given to the work, and how much the council and the village has benefited from it. She will be greatly missed.

The next meeting of the Council is on Tuesday Sept 15th in the Stuart Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

TED STOCKER 1929—2009

The village was saddened recently by the sudden death of old Tempsfordian Ted Stocker.



Ted was born in Sandy on 16th September 1929 to Bill and Dorothy Stocker. The family moved to Tempsford in 1931 when Bill and Dorothy took over the butcher's shop in Station Road. Ted attended Tempsford School and was a renowned mischievous young lad, frequently in trouble with the teachers and Dorothy Stocker spent many a time visiting the school to deal with her sometimes problem son! Ted left school aged 14 and went to work for Barkers at Cold Harbour Farm. He then went to work for his uncle at Hatch, eventually starting his own market garden business during the 1950's, building the business up to the 300 acres it is today.

In 1960 Ted married Judy and soon their two children Tony and Carol came along. Ted and Judy spent many of their happy holidays in the Canary Islands and Ted would quite often go off for a walk along the beach on his own, but Judy always knew what was on the other side of the sand dunes - the nudist beach! In 1988 Ted and Judy moved from the village to their new home at Oak Farm, Deepdale. Although they no longer lived in the village, both Ted and Judy were true Tempsfordians and supported and came to many of the functions in the village. Ted has been a judge at the Tempsford Show for many years, judging the vegetables classes and we are pleased to report that Judy and her son Tony will be judging the classes this year.

Ted's funeral was a testament to the great esteem he was held in by all that knew him, with standing room only in St. Peter's Church, Tempsford. Ted was a great wildlife lover and the collection in his memory was for Tiggywinkles which helps wild animals. Ted will be sadly missed by all who knew him and our thoughts and good wishes go to Judy and all the family.

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CHAT CLUB

On Wednesday, 24th June members spent the afternoon at the garden of Biggin Farm and enjoyed a Devonshire Cream Tea, together with assorted cakes and lots of tea relaxing in the sunshine and the company of friends. July get-together confirmed final arrangements for us all to go out for a summer lunch at the end of August.

Chat Club meet again in the Chapel Schoolroom on Wednesday, 30th September and Wed, 28th October from 2.30 to 4.00 p.m. Come along and find out what we get up to!

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL:

The Methodist Chapel is once again taking part in this very special project. We would like to invite as many people in the village, together with their families and friends, to join us. This year there will be no initial get-together at the Chapel but all information, together with leaflets and small gifts to start your shoeboxes will be available from 1st September from Carole Gosling at Biggin Farm, Station Road (Tel.No. 01767 640289). There is also a DVD available from Carole detailing the work of Operation Christmas Child. Why not get a group round to view the DVD and involve your friends in packing gift-filled shoe boxes. Each shoebox packed by you means one more gift for a child in need. Last year our village sent 106 gift-filled shoeboxes to the Christmas Child Appeal which was amazing.

Shoeboxes are small – but they can change lives. Your shoe box proves to a needy child that there is love in the world, and that they are not beyond its warm reach. **YOUR REACH.** Remember that every gift filled shoebox is a smile on a child's face and will be for some children the **ONLY** present they receive in their **ENTIRE** childhood. Please join us this year and together we can make a difference.

DIARY DATE: Filled shoeboxes can be brought to the Chapel on Wednesday, 11 November – more details in the next edition of Tempsford Times. However, I can tell you that we will have Bill Ashdown, the St. Neots Methodist co-ordinator joining us that evening - Bill travelled to Kyrgyzstan in February this year for 8 days, visiting 7 distribution sites delivering 90,000 shoeboxes. Come and listen to Bill's experiences and see the photographs he was able to bring back.

TEMPSFORD METHODIST CHURCH
September and October Services

Everybody is assured of a warm welcome at all our services

6th September 6.00pm Section United Service at Eaton Ford
 13th September 6.00pm Preacher: Mr. Richard Crane
 20th September 6.00pm Preacher: Rev. Christine Giles
 27th September 6.00pm Harvest Festival Service (see below)
 led by Mr. Malcolm Sharp

4th October 6.00pm Section United Service at Great Barford
 11th October 6.00pm Preacher: Rev. Christine Giles
 18th October 3.00pm Preacher: Rev. David Shaw
 25th October NO SERVICE

Special Open Air Service –

Over 50 people came along to enjoy the picnic and informal open air service at Biggin Farm on Sunday, 9 August which was led by Rev. Christine Giles. The weather was glorious and very much appreciated by all who came along. Thanks go to everyone who once again worked so hard to make this annual event so enjoyable.

Tempsford Methodist Church



Sunday 27 September 2009 at 6.00 pm

Please come along and join our thanksgiving for another Harvest . Everyone welcome

All gifts of produce used to decorate the church for this occasion will be distributed later to the sick and elderly of the village

Don't forget to use the

Ivel Sprinter

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DAY	TO	LEAVES CHURCH END	LEAVES STATION RD
1 st Monday of the month	Tesco Goldington	9.20am	9.30 am
3 rd Monday of the month	Bedford	9.20am	9.30 am
Tuesday	Sandy and Biggleswade	8.50am	9.00 am
	Sandy and Biggleswade	11.19am	11.27 am
2 nd & 4 th Wed of the month	Cambridge	9.03am	9.10 am
Thursday	St Neots <i>Also stops at Tesco Eynesbury</i>	8.50am	9.00 am
Friday	Sandy and Biggleswade	8.50am	9.00 am
	Sandy <i>Also goes to Sainsbury's</i>	11.20am	11.30 am
Saturday	Sandy and Biggleswade	9.10am	9.20 am
	Sandy and Biggleswade	11.35am	11.42 am

Full timetable details on 01462 701323 or 01767 640873

FROM REV MARGARET MARSHALL

It is not everyone who thinks that travel 'broadens' the mind - some say 'narrows'! We like what we know and are happy, most of the time, to stick with it. The sense of security offsets our tendencies towards boredom; the comfortable is less taxing than the unfamiliar! I've just come back from a week in Finland. I have been there before, but not for some time. The brilliant white of the monumental Helsinki cathedral against a bright blue sky was practically as startling the second time around and all those steps just as hard on the legs!

Worship in the cathedral in some ways is quite similar to what we do here in the Riversmeet churches and in others it differs enormously. The Church of England has an agreement with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, signed in the ancient cathedral of Porvoo, which enables full communion between us, even though we are not all Anglicans! It was the reason I visited the country in the first place: I taught on a summer 'International Confirmation Camp', just after I was ordained Deacon. The building is nothing like our small, mediaeval churches, and its location in a huge square, opposite the university, could not be less like those of our benefice churches. The interior of the cathedral is very light, combining the austerity of the plain box pews with ornate neo-classical decoration - especially of the pulpit. Three enormous statues dominate: two are of Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon, important figures in the Reformation and development of the protestant churches and the third of Mikael Agricola a Lutheran Bishop who formulated the a written Finnish language and also translated the New Testament and Prayer Book.

Although the shape of the service, and even some of the ceremonial actions, are very similar, I found myself, from a distance, contemplating the richness of Anglican worship and what made me choose the Church of England over the 'chapel' of my youth. There is something quite 'other' about what we do in church on a Sunday. It is unlike what goes on in the world outside it. For me, this is as it should be. The words of one of my favourite hymns: 'Angel voices ever singing' speak of our intentions to offer to God the very best that we have, in music and word and thought and artistry - even though we are merely offering up to the Lord what is his own: 'of the best that Thou hast given, earth and heaven render thee'. The traditions of English hymnody, of choral singing and other church music, of a common Anglican liturgy, of gracious and dignified buildings and worship being conducted 'decently and in order' (as our Prayer Book directs) are all signs, for me, that what we are doing is something deliberately 'set apart'



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PARISH PLAN ACTION GROUP

Following a busy spring and early summer with very successful Parish Plan events, things have been a bit quiet lately as we analyse all of the comments received from the Planning for Real (R) events at the Chat Club and Stuart Memorial Hall and the RAVE bus events the children attended in both Church End and Station Road.

Our latest event on July 4th was a joint event with those setting up a P3 group within the village, a parish walk. The walk started at Gannock Castle and took in Church End, Millennium Garden, Roxton Lock, the river walk and then on through Station Road to the level crossing where we ran out of time. Accompanying the walkers were the very knowledgeable trio of Steve Halton (P3), Conor Jameson (RSPB) and Steve Cooney (History) who provided interesting facts as we walked though the parish. We intend to continue this walk late September/early October to take in the excellent wildlife habitat and history of the airfield. Please keep a lookout in the Biggleswade Chronicle and on posters for details confirming the date nearer the time. We look forward to seeing a healthy number of you joining us on this walk.

Behind the scenes the Parish Plan steering group is working hard to compile the big questionnaire which will seek to establish village opinion on the suggestions that you have put forward in all the previous events. Hopefully this questionnaire will be hand distributed in October when you will be given a few weeks to fill it in after which we will be around to your front doors to collect it. This is the opportunity for each resident to drive the development agenda for Tempsford into the future so we urge all villagers to fill in the questionnaire to make Tempsford's voice heard, loud and clear, giving a strong mandate to the Parish Plan.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the Parish Plan please get in contact.

Dan Clark
Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Group
01767 641115

from worldliness. Together all the elements demonstrate that we return the love which God has so generously offered to us, in creation and in his costly commitment to our salvation.

Going away provides opportunities for reflection, as well as for physical and spiritual refreshment. My recent experiences of participating in an international Eucharist in Helsinki Cathedral, and of witnessing a 'youth mass' at the Mikael Agricola church, have certainly stimulated my thoughts on the essence of Anglican worship..

I hope that in the Autumn we might begin to consider together what makes worship excellent and dynamic- of course we will all have different opinions, which will make the debate more interesting! - and how we might, in our own churches, truly make ours rendering 'of the best' that God has given back to him.

With love in Christ, Margaret

RIVERSMEET BENEFICE SERVICES

	Blunham	Gt Barford	Roxton	Tempsford
Sept 9th	8.00am HC 11.15am HC	9.30am FS	11.00am HC	9.30am HC
Sept 13th			11.00am HC	9.30am HC
Sept 20th	11.15am HC	9.30am HC	11.00am FS	
Sept 27th	11.15am HC	9.30am HC		
Oct 4th	8.00am HC 11.15am FS	9.30am FS	11.00am HC Harvest	9.30am HC
Oct 11th	11.15am HC Harvest		11.00am HC	9.30am HC
Oct 18th	11.15am HC	9.30am HC Harvest	11.00am FS	6.00pm HC Harvest
Oct 25th	11.15am HC	9.30am HC		
Nov 1st	8.00am HC	11.00am Patronal		

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PEOPLE NEWS

Congratulations to the two couples who were married this summer:

Tara Kier and Matt Creese

Kathryn Jefferies and Ian Keighley

We wish them long and happily married lives.

Our best wishes go to the many friends of the village with health problems or who are house bound:

Angie Archer, Philip Plumb, Marion and Sam Knott, Wendy Bettles, Cynthia Jefferies, Ron and Phyl Moore, Bessie Darrington, Kath Mardlin, Betty Ingram, and Paul Bambridge

TEMPSFORD PARISH CLERK VACANCY

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- Hours are 18¼ per month including a bi-monthly meeting.
- The successful applicant will be required to work from home.

For further information please email: clerk@tempsford.org

POLICE SURGERY

The mobile police surgery will be in the village on
Monday September 28th from 6.20pm to 7.20pm

MOBILE LIBRARY DATES

The Central Beds Mobile Library visits Tempsford on the following alternate Mondays:
September 7th and 21st and October 5th and 19th from 1.20pm to 1.45pm

It parks opposite the phone box in Station Road