

TEMPSFORD TIMES

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May/June 2010

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



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 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.** Articles for the next edition should be sent by **June 20th** to the Editor at 92 Station Road, Tempsford or by e-mail to alant@atuffnell.plus.com, and advertising enquiries to Jeff Cloughton on 01767 640624.

www.tempsford.org

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The Parish Council last met on 16th March 2010. Among the items discussed were:

Low Flying Aircraft Noise

A member of the public expressed his annoyance at this noise and advised the council of the steps he had taken to deal with it. He had contacted Central Beds amongst other authorities, and it was suggested that he contact the Environment Department of Central Beds.

Affordable Housing

Steps were being taken to meet with the land agents and the Wynne family to discuss the next steps in providing affordable housing in the village.

Central Beds Councillors

reported that there is going to be an average increase in council Tax of 2.95%. £12 million of savings have had to be identified to balance the budget. Central Beds is also not making funding available to parishes to oversee the repairs to paths etc.

Litter

Litter at the old station was noted during the weekend occupation by railway maintenance gangs. The Council agreed to communicate its concern with Network Rail and its contractors in order that they have more respect for our neighbourhood.

Children's Play Area

Repairs and alterations to the swings and slide in Church End play area are to be carried out within the next few weeks, and regular inspections by Councillors will be taking place to check that facilities are in good order.

Churchyard/Cemetery Matters

Some of the work by members of Shuttleworth college on the trees and bushes in the churchyard has been completed but the rest needs to be done and tidied very soon before the nesting season. The council expressed its satisfaction with the work done by the contractor in

maintaining the hedges and grass in the cemetery and so decided to the renew the contract for a further year.

Finance

The council agreed to pay off the rest of a loan that was taken out many years ago to purchase the cemetery extension, thereby saving a considerable amount in interest charges. It was also agreed to support the training of the clerk in paying the expenses for examination and registration fees.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be on 18th May at 7.30pm in the Stuart Memorial Hall, which will start with the Annual Parish Meeting.

Full copies of the minutes are available from the clerk or on the village website..

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Tuesday May 18th

7.30 pm

STUART MEMORIAL HALL

Your opportunity:

to hear the report of year's activities and
financial report from the Parish Council

and to raise matters of concern about life in
the village.

EVERYBODY WELCOME

ST PETER'S PARISH CHURCH,
Church Street, Tempsford
Priest-in-charge : Rev Margaret Marshall
Phone 01234 870363

Dear Friends,

The build-up to Easter is far less noticeable for most people than what happens as Christmas approaches. There is no frantic present-buying, no decorating or flashing lights, and food and family arrangements tend to be more modest. Yet this is the most important Christian festival of the year. Yes we celebrate the coming in human flesh of God's own son at Christmas, but Easter is the time when his true nature is made known and our own race is freed from the terror of death; we are promised a future beyond the grave and given evidence that we can trust, in the Gospel accounts of encounters with the risen Christ. It is wonderful news indeed – worthy of celebration... but not just with brimming glasses and roast dinners! The rising of Jesus from the dead changed everything: nothing could ever be quite the same again. Human life was given new meaning and value in what took place and it is for us to make some sense of the new perspective.

Although it seems to be over and done with twice as swiftly (Christmas goodies will be on the shelves again before we can blink!), the Easter season lasts for some six weeks. I think there are useful ways to celebrate for longer than a Bank Holiday weekend – I don't mean continuing to consume large quantities of chocolate! I think that we should be making especial efforts during these weeks to value one another, as Christ instructed us to do, and showed us by his self-sacrifice.

Now you may think that we are a community of respectful souls who need no improvement in this area, but there are insidious ways where we are less respectful of one another as human beings than we could be. For example: criticising other people's behaviour or unrealistically expecting more of others than we do of ourselves.

In some churches members make special efforts to offer hospitality during the Easter period, but I wonder if being more charitable is spiritually a more valuable exercise. Many outside the faith consider Christians to

be hypocritical: not consistently practising what they preach. I do not think this is entirely fair: Christians do not claim to be perfect, merely to be committed to a policy of continuous improvement. We consciously reflect on our actions and try to amend what we are... to 'do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with' our God. We are 'try-ers', even if we do not always succeed!

At this season of the year, when we are surprised again with the sheer wonder of new life, in nature and bursting from the tomb, and by the incredible love of Jesus, let's try especially hard, to love one another as we have been loved by him. Being more forgiving – partly because it's so hard to stop ourselves being the exact opposite – seems a perfect way to express our joy at the free and undeserved gift Jesus gave us all at Easter time.

With love, Revd Margaret

SERVICES AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

Sunday services are held on the first two Sundays in each month at **9.30am**

May 2nd and May 9th
June 6th and June 13th

Other services held every Sunday in the Benefice are as follows:

9.30 am every Sunday at All Saints' Gt Barford

11.00 am every Sunday at St Mary Magdalene, Roxton and

11.15 am every Sunday at St Edmund's Blunham.

Parishioners are welcome to attend any of these services.

Special Services

Ascension Day Eucharist,

Thursday 13th May

at St Denys, Little Barford at 7.00 pm

Feast Week Eucharist at St Peter's

on the evening of the Festival of St Peter and St Paul,

on Tuesday, 29th June at 7.30 pm

TEMPSFORD METHODIST CHURCH,

Station Road Tempsford

(part of the St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Circuit)

Minister: Rev Christine I Giles : 01480 473444

Church Steward: Stephen Gosling,

Biggin Farm, Station Rd, Tempsford 01767 640289

MAY AND JUNE SERVICES

**Everybody is assured of a warm welcome at all our services
All start at 6pm except where stated**

2 nd May	Section United Service at Tempsford
9 th May	Circuit United Service at Huntingdon at 6.30 p.m.
16 th May	Preacher: Mr. John Bridge
23 rd May	Preacher: Deacon Sue Roberts
30 th May	Preacher: Mr. Michael Benneworth
6 th June	Section United Service at Great Barford
13 th June	Preacher: Rev. Christine Giles
20 th June	Preacher: Mr. John Garner
27 th June	Preacher: Mr. Peter Adams

CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY

Thanks go to all those who came along and helped make the 206th Chapel Anniversary celebrations very special occasions in the history of the Chapel once again.

The visit of the Potton Salvation Army Band and Songsters on Wednesday, 24th March was a really enjoyable evening of music and song and thanks go to all those who came along to support this annual event and also to those who helped with the refreshments afterwards.

On Sunday, 28th March the Anniversary Service was led by Mr. David Bushby and it was a pleasure to welcome old and new friends who came along to help us celebrate.

CHAT CLUB

At the March get-together members enjoyed delicious hot cross buns with their afternoon tea and an assortment of chocolates to follow! Also in March members brought along their decorated Easter eggs and Mrs. Doreen Harrison kindly judged the entries. First prize was won by Mrs. Irene Odell, followed by Mrs. Carole Gosling and Mrs. Elaine Bettles respectively.

Chat Club will meet again in the Methodist Chapel Schoolroom on Wednesday, 26th May and Wednesday, 30th June 2009 from 2.30 to 4.00 p.m. If you would like to come along and join us you will be made most welcome.

TEMPSFORD METHODIST CHURCH KITCHEN AND TOILET RENOVATION PROJECT



Through your support with our fundraising activities over these past years together with the recent allocation of some grants we are getting some way towards the total cost of this project.

Our intention is to install a disabled toilet facility together with making much needed improvements to the present kitchen area which will give both existing and new users far better facilities.

We will keep you updated on progress.

The Anchor Lodge Hotel

Sunday carvery 12.30pm - 6.00 pm

Senior citizens 2 course lunch, set meal £6.50

Tuesday to Friday 12 noon to 3.00 pm

All fresh home cooked food

Function room available

Karaoke every last Friday of the month

Families welcome - en suite accommodation available
full English breakfasts - traditional pub grub - adult dining area
sheltered smoking area

Tel: 01767 640 801

TOOLS FOR AFRICA

I am again collecting tools to send to rural communities in Zambia. If anyone has any hand tools that they no longer have use for, preferably woodworking tools, I would be pleased to hear from you. Hand sewing machines are also needed. Age is not important as long as they are serviceable or can be reconditioned for further use.

I am hoping to get a batch sent in a container which is due to leave UK some time in July. If you are able to help with this please give me call on 01767 640624.

Thank you.
Jeff Cloughton



ROXTON
GARDEN CENTRE

We are pleased to announce

Dakins

Restaurant

Is now open for Traditional English breakfasts,
Daily lunch time specials, tea, coffee and
homemade cakes & pastries. Mouth watering
Sunday roast dinner all served in a beautiful
brand new extension to the garden centre
which includes new sales area full of fantastic
new and exciting products.

Bedford Rd, Roxton, Bedford,
MK44 3DY Tel 01480 212701

ST GEORGE'S DAY IS CELEBRATED IN STYLE

Giving the village a chance to celebrate St George's Day was Meryl Besant's idea as a new fundraising event for the Stuart Memorial Hall. The trustees decorated the hall with red and white flags and balloons and raised the England flag on the pole outside.

St George (Dave Goddard) opened the evening appearing with the slain dragon around his neck and the rest of the evening was filled with all things English. Various people spoke on their favourite English heroes – Jess and Clare Laurence chose Tommy Cooper and Mrs Thatcher, John Infield Sir Winston Churchill, Kay Quinn Florence Nightingale, Meryl Besant David Beckham, Steve Cooney Captain Cook and Betty Russell Delia Smith. Mrs. Thatcher received the loudest applause as measured by Simon Fraser's Clapometer. Two quizzes taxed the minds of everyone and the Kingfisher Players entertained with two sketches and the singing of "Rule Britannia!". A delicious English supper of sausages, jacket potato and baked beans followed by fruit crumble and ice cream was provided and then the Bedford Morris Men performed the traditional Plough Play and followed it with a couple of dances. The evening concluded with some traditional English songs and dances led by Adrian Besant. Thanks to everyone for helping in many ways; Phil Russell did a grand job with the raffle! The 70 people who attended the event agreed it was an entertaining evening and hopefully, St George, we will meet you again next year at the hall.



The Bedford Morris Men entertain (left)
St George's flag flies proudly from our pole (right)

Photos: Meryl Besant

TEMPSFORD FEAST WEEK

Monday June 28th to Sunday July 4th

Please try to support some or all of the week's events:

Provisional programme:

Monday	Family Rounders Match
Tuesday	Visit of Bishop Richard for Eucharist and Dedication of altar cloth
Thursday	Sponsored Knit-In
Saturday	Duck Race and Fete at the back of The Anchor
Sunday	Feast Week Service 9.30am July 4th

Leaflets giving fuller details will be published nearer the dates

Other info from: Steve Cooney 01767 640968
Shirley Sharman 01767 640990 or
Tina Goddard 01767 641053

Please sponsor the knitters by ringing
Dianne Hart 01767 640402

Offers of books, bric-a-brac and plants for sale at the fete
would be gratefully received by Steve, Shirley or Tina.

1000 ducks to be sold! Members of the committee will be
coming round to sell them to you.

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CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF SUE RYDER CARE AT MOGGERHANGER

Wednesday 12th May

30th Birthday Church Service

Priory Methodist Church, Newnham Ave, Bedford

Further details from Paula Priestley 01767 641044

Saturday 15th May

Ladies 10 Mile Midnight Walk

Bedford International Athletic Stadium Bedford

Further details from Danielle Brandon 01767 641044

Friday 21st May

Charity Golf Day

At Beadlow manor

Details from Tony Sharp 01767 262361

JOIN US FOR A ST PETER'S DAY CELEBRATION

At present restoration work on the parish church's splendid pipe organ is under way, through a generous donation from the Wells family. Work is also in train to provide the first in a set of new hangings for our smaller altar, which will include a decorative frontal (the coloured panel which hangs down the front of the altar), burse and veil (which are used to cover the communion vessels and contain the white linen square on which the bread and wine are prepared).

The Bishop of Bedford has kindly agreed to join us for a communion service on St Peter's Day (June 29th) at 7.30 pm and to dedicate the frontal and restored organ. Obviously this is a mid-week service, (bishops are very difficult to get on a weekend!), but we would like to invite everyone in the village to join us for this event. There will be wine and other refreshments after the service.

We hope it will be a truly celebratory occasion at the heart of Feast Week and that members of the village's community can come together to thank God for the life and witness of 'the big fisherman' to whom our church is dedicated, and to pray for the future of St Peter's Church

Revd Margaret

Driveway & Paving Doctor

Giving Driveways & Patios a new lease of life.

Has your driveway/patio area moved, sunk, developed weeds, become



dirty, edging broken, cracked, need extending or just look tired?

Repairs Cleaning Re-sanding Sealing

**Blocks, Slabs, Asphalt, Concrete, Decking and Gravel areas can
be rejuvenated at a fraction of the cost of replacement.**

New Installations undertaken.

PEOPLE NEWS

There are several members of our village who are undergoing courses of specialised treatment and without wishing to highlight problems or names, we wish you all a good outcome from all your help. May you quickly return to good health.

We send our continued good wishes all our village friends who are in hospital or who are housebound:

Ron and Phyl Moore, Sam and Marion Knott, Kath Mardlin, Betty Ingram, Cynthia Jeffries, Adrian Jarvis, Alec Gore, Phil Plumb, Paul Bambridge, Andrew Myers, Ron Bettles, Dorothy Bettles, and Tracey Kennoy.

ROXTON AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Roxton and District Local History Group meet at 7.30pm at Roxton Parish Hall on the first Thursday of the month. In addition to monthly meetings with speakers the Group organises a number of social activities and summer visits and has an impressive library of local and general history books for loan to members. We are also keen to copy and store photographs and items of local historical interest. Visitors always welcome. Why not join us for our Summer activities?

May 6th MEETING CANCELLED (Election Day: Hall being used as a Polling Station)

June 3rd. “A Historical Look at Turvey”. In the 19th Century Turvey, beside the Ouse in the west of our county, was a centre for Bedfordshire lace making. Prior to our planned visit there in July, Alan Richardson, native of Turvey, will bring his slides and tell us the history of the village.

July 1st Visit to Turvey Morning guided village walk with Alan Richardson. Afternoon visit to Turvey House with guided tour. Lunch in a village public house.

For further information about the group activities contact Stella Gibbs on 01480 351931 or John Rogerson on 01234 871150.

MOBILE LIBRARY DATES

1.20pm at Station Road Notice board

May 17th

June 14th

June 28th

No service on May 3rd and 31st
(Bank Holidays)



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MUM TIME

Mum Time is a new group that we started a couple of months ago. After moving to Tempsford and complaining that there isn't a great deal to do we decided to form a group to bring together mums/dads and their children to meet other people in the village. We really felt that this would benefit our community and initially we were met with very positive feedback. Unfortunately due to a lack of continued support we are now meeting fortnightly rather than weekly.

It is a very informal group meeting at the Methodist Church on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month between 10.00am and 11.30am. We have toys for the children and refreshments for everyone. It is our aim that if we have more interest we would like to use the funds we have been raising for activities such as crafts and outdoor messy play in the summer and guided farm walks . This could be a really good group especially in the summer holidays when the older children will be welcome. This is for you so we would love to hear any ideas. Please see this as a drop-in and don't worry if you can't make the whole session. We look forward to seeing some new faces and meeting you!

Easter fayre We would like to thank everyone who attended the Easter Fayre on March 27th. It was a huge success and raised a grand total of £600! £500 will go towards the refurbishments at the Methodist Church and £100 is going to the Mum Time group who use the school room. A HUGE THANK YOU to all of those who made donations and helped out on the day, especially Carole and Steve Gosling. It was very much appreciated.
Zoe, Dani & Jo

PAMPERED CHEF

Thank you to those who attended the Pampered Chef charity event at the Stuart Memorial Hall, hosted by Jo Ball of Stuart Court. We all had a lovely evening although it would have been nice to see a few more faces, but we still managed to raise a respectable £80! If anyone is interested in hosting a party in their home either for themselves or for a charity of your choice please contact Jo on 640408.

STUART MEMORIAL HALL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held on Tuesday 23rd April.

It was reported that the hall had had another record year in terms of hiring income, with a good mix of regular bookings, and an increasing number of casual hirings from both local people and groups, and from more distant hirers. The web site was proving an extremely effective tool at attracting business.

Maintenance and improvement of the buildings fabric and facilities continued apace, with over £7000 being spent on these items in 2009.

The chairman of the Parish Council, Adrian Besant, expressed the appreciation of the village for the work done by this committee in preserving this important village asset.

The officers were all re-elected to their positions – Eileen Gosling continues as chairman, Linda Collins and Meryl Besant as vice-chairmen, Alan Tuffnell as secretary and booking clerk and John Infield as treasurer. Tim Sills stepped down as a trustee, having served on the committee for some thirty years, including many years as secretary. The chairman expressed the gratitude of the committee for his contribution, and presented him with a small token of their appreciation.

VILLAGE SHOW Our next event is the Village Show on Saturday 4th September. Hopefully you have all planted your sunflower seeds included in the last issue of the Tempsford Times by now. The schedule will be distributed in the village in a few weeks time, and as usual the classes will include lots of old favourites and some new ones. This remains our most popular event, so we trust you will give lots of thought to which classes you will be entering this year.

And just to remind you of two events later in the year –

Harvest Supper and Quiz on **Saturday 2nd Oct.** and a new venture, a professional Christmas Magic Show on **Saturday 4th December.**

THE BUNTING IS OUT

We had probably all got used to the idea that long, cold winters were a thing of the past. And then the snows came, and came again, and the cold winds and frosts persisted right through March. Inevitably, small birds suffered. Another outcome was that unusual birds began turning up in gardens. The fieldfare was one, and surprised a few people when they saw this large, colourful thrush up close. In fact it is a regular visitor in winter flocks from Scandinavia.

Mistle thrushes are early nesters. A pair built in my neighbour's apple tree, close to our back doors. Too close, perhaps. For some reason they abandoned the project. Perhaps the prolonged cold set them back, or they realised it wasn't such a good place after all. Birds learn from experience.

The cold weather delayed the return of our corn buntings to the village fields. But I was pleased when, as in most years since I've lived here, the blue-grass twang of the singing bird rang across the field once again in late March. This is a bird that has disappeared from wide areas of the countryside. They are now absent from Wales, for example. You may have noticed the media coverage locally and nationally of the enormous winter flock of corn buntings that gathered at a farm near Baldock. There were 800 birds at one stage, and they stayed for some days, feeding in stubble fields.

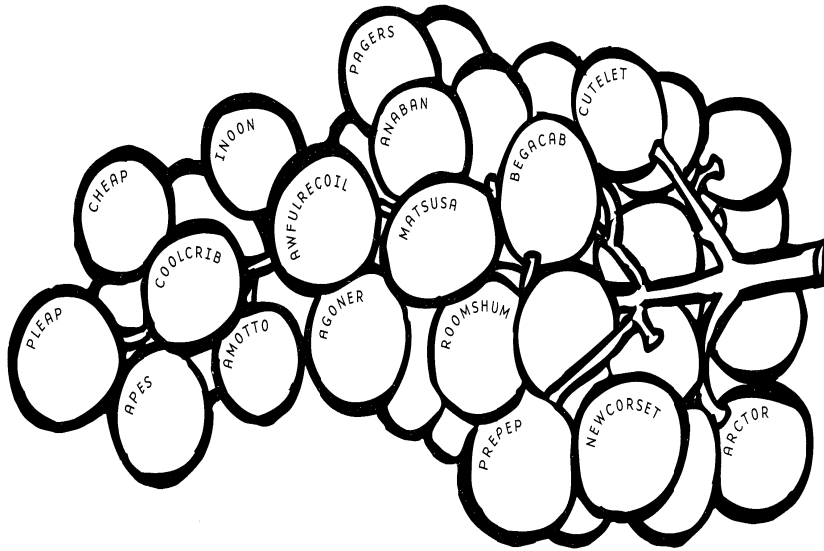
Perhaps our corn buntings were part of that gathering. Happily, there is something about Tempsford the corn bunting continues to like, and now they are back again to breed.

Free surveys for farmers

If you farm, and would like to request a free bird survey of your farm during 2011, you can email volunteer&farmeralliance@rspb.org.uk, visit www.rspb.org.uk/v&fa or call (01767) 680551

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Eat lots of this group of foods! Unscramble the letters in the grapes to find the names of some fruit and vegetables.



TARGET; How many words of three letters or more can you make from these 9 letters. All words must have R, the highlighted letter, in them; no plurals, no proper nouns.
Target : 20+ words, good; 30+ very good; 40+ excellent; 50+, WOW!

M	E	T
P	R	F
D	S	O