

Twynning Bulletin



**The Newsletter of
Twynning Parish Council
Issue No. 116
June to October 2012**



Two lovely photos: A Pochard Duck down at The Fleet, by Roy Thomas



and A Field of Poppies at Hill End, by Amanda Mooney

Content and Comment

In this edition we have included articles on several local people of interest. Two of them it is sad to say have recently died, but the others are happily still with us. Read their stories from Page 6 onwards.

Our footpath team have been working away clearing the verges on Brockridge Road and the area of land at Ratley Green. Well done to all of them for their hard work. See the photos on the front and back pages.

Are you concerned about the possibility of wind turbines near by? If so then read about it on Page 23.

It has been great to have photos sent in: perhaps yours will be in the next edition. If your club or organisation does not feature here then get in touch for next time.

Andrea Walton Editor

What's On

Affordable Art at Showborough House on now until Sunday 17 June on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Bank Holiday Mondays - 10-30am to 4-00pm. Free entry

Next Village Footpath Walk Sunday 24 June (meet at 11-30am at the Village Inn).

The Village Inn Charity Cricket Day 21 July

The Village Hall Food and Craft Fayres 10-30am-12-30 pm
Last Saturday of each month (except 20 October).

Jubilee Celebrations - Sunday 3 June from 12-30pm on the Green and all day Monday 4 June. See p 29

Autumn Fete Monday 27 August. See p 32

Parish Council Meetings. All are welcome to attend

Monday 18 June 8pm Village Hall

Monday 16 July 8pm Village Hall

Monday 17 September 8pm Ann Townend Hall

Monday 15 October 8pm Village Hall

TWYNING PARISH COUNCIL Chairman's Report May 2012

I am pleased to report that following the co-option of Mike Rushby and Geoff Cowper the Parish Council is now up to full strength. Mike returns after a short sabbatical and Geoff has been involved in assisting at the Village Fete for many years. Mike will be re-joining the minibus committee and Geoff will be one of the Parish Council representatives on the TRAC committee.

The Committee of the Sports Club at Puckrup has secured the necessary finance and the much needed renovation work is proceeding. The double glazing work has been completed and the Parish Council are pleased to pay that invoice.

By the time you read this we hope, that you have or have had a good Jubilee celebration. We owe a debt of thanks to Lorna Herold and her team for all the arrangements.

The next event is the Village Fete and Barn Dance over the August Bank holiday week end and once again we hope for the excellent weather we had last year. The fete is organized by the TRAC committee to raise funds for the much appreciated Children's Play Area.

Following pressure from many directions ,including the Parish Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council have issued a Stop Order in respect of work at Brockeridge common purporting to reinstate a track. The land owner has appealed to the Secretary of State against the Enforcement Orders and the Parish council will be making representations to the Planning Inspectorate.

The latest news on the planning application for the Wind Turbines is that it will probably come before the Planning Committee at their September meeting.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held at the Ann Townend Hall Church End on the 25th April in the presence of 23 members of the public. After dealing with the reports from Village organisations we had three very interesting talks: Firstly by Felicity Ebsworth on the history of Ann Townend; then from Frances Evans, of Tewkesbury Borough Council, on Promoting Community Development; and finally from Colonel Mike Bennett on the protection of War Memorials

The Annual meeting of the Council took place on 21st May when Councillors dealt with the allocation of responsibilities. I was re-appointed Chairman for the coming year and Dave Luckett was re-appointed Vice Chairman

In conclusion I offer my thanks and appreciation to all who support the Council in so many ways making it possible for us to carry out our duties for the benefit of the Village to the best of our ability. **D. Jeremy Horsfall**

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL - COUNCIL TAX

The Borough Council have managed to agree to a zero per cent increase in council tax for the forthcoming year (2012/2013). The authority agreed to continue last year's policy of not increasing the council tax during these tough economic times helped by compensation payments being offered to them by Central Government.

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL - JOINT CORE STRATEGY UP TO 2031

The Borough Council has recently concluded its first round of consultation on its plans for its future Joint Core Strategy which will cover a period of 20 years. This document contains proposals to provide housing over the joint core area (Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury) of some 40,500 new houses. There are four scenarios/options proposed within this plan, together with proposals for 46 hectares of employment land. The authority received over 3,000 responses to this first round of consultation. The next stage of consultation on the 'preferred options' is currently planned for summer 2012 but this may well slip into the Autumn due to the number of representations that have been made on this document.

Councillor Gordon Shurmer

Requisites for contented living by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

1. Health enough to make work a pleasure
 2. Wealth enough to support your needs
 3. Strength to battle with difficulties and overcome them
 4. Grace enough to confess your sins and forsake them
 5. Patience enough to toil until some good is accomplished
 6. Charity enough to see some good in your neighbour
 7. Love enough to move you to be useful and helpful to others
 8. Faith enough to make things happen
- Hope enough to remove all anxious fears concerning the future

Interesting local people



Dennis Arthur Bowles MM, MBE

Dennis Bowles, who died in March, aged 89, was a long term Twynning resident. As Area Scientist at the Severn Trent Mythe water treatment plant, he was responsible for water quality in the entire Severn and Wye Valley area. During his 47-year career, his only break in service was for five years of military service from 1942 to 1947, during WW2. His contributions to public service were recognized upon his retirement in 1987, when the Queen awarded him the MBE at Buckingham Palace.

But the medal of which he was proudest was his Military Medal, awarded for his role in the Italy campaign of 1943 when, as part of a forward reconnaissance battery operating behind enemy lines in the town of Molise, he and three others held their position under heavy mortar fire to direct fire from Canadian artillery. He then transported a wounded Canadian officer to safety under enemy fire.

When Operation 'Market Garden', the Battle of Arnhem, was launched in September 1944, his unit (3rd Battery, 1st Air Landing Light Regiment RA of 1st Airborne Division) was attached to a parachute battalion led by Lt-Col John Frost, which was tasked with securing the bridge over the Rhine and holding it for 48 hours until joined by ground troops pushing north. Immortalized by the film '*A Bridge Too Far*', this was the largest airborne operation of the war and, had it been successful, could well have shortened the war by six months. Airborne troops were flown into Holland aboard Horsa gliders, which also carried their jeeps and equipment. Despite being under fire along the way, they were among the first to arrive at the bridge, setting up a communications post in the attic of a nearby house, which had been commandeered as Brigade Headquarters. The operation turned into a massive disaster as two German panzer divisions, stationed nearby, drove a wedge between the landing zone and the bridge, thereby cutting off the brigade from the remainder of the force.

After holding out for four days, the surviving allied troops at the bridge were taken prisoner. Europe was in disarray with enormous damage to roads, railways and bridges. The POWs were disarmed and told to make their own way back across Europe, which somehow they did, eventually reaching Ostend, where they boarded a ship to Tilbury. After his return, Dennis married his sweetheart, Joyce (she died in 2000). He was an avid sportsman and played football for Twyning, and cricket for both Twyning and Tewkesbury teams until his fifties. He was a founder member of the Longdon and District Probus Club, and Twyning Wine Club. Above all, he loved country life in Twyning and was never happier than when surrounded by his family and his many friends.



Tom Spry - 1926-2012

Tom lived in Twyning for more than 50 years. He will be remembered for his love of organic vegetable gardening. On many occasions he and Ann welcomed people into their garden on the 'Open Gardens' days. Tom always enjoyed the outdoor life, walking, cycling, and watching the many birds that visited the garden. He worked hard, and up to the age of 80 was still working and helping other gardeners, being a source of inspiration to many. Tom loved tennis and joined Twyning Tennis Club when it opened with lottery funding in 2004. He and Ann played for several years and entertained members on supper nights with their quizzes. When they stopped playing tennis they faithfully supported the Club by watching from the sidelines, come rain or shine. Tom will always be remembered for his pet phrase: 'let it bounce!' At the time of his death he had been writing down some of his memories for inclusion in the Bulletin.

Hilary Davies, from the Tennis Club, writes: "Tom was a great supporter of the Club, playing up to the age of 80. He was passionate about his tennis and as a spectator in his latter years encouraged others and enjoyed watching them play".

Twynning and the Lord Mayor of London



At certain stages during the ceremony for installation of a new Lord Mayor of London, he is required to kneel (first in the Mansion House, and then on the steps of St. Paul's Cathedral). In 1986, a special hassock for this purpose was

presented to the Corporation of the City of London by the Worshipful Company of Woolmen (one of the ancient city livery companies). In 2007, the then Lord Mayor suggested that an identical hassock should be made for use by the Lady Mayoress during the ceremony. There was an obvious candidate to carry out this demanding work: **Freda Jefferson of Twynning** is a skilled needlewoman, a former prize-winner at the Royal Society of Needlework, and the widow of Barry Jefferson (Master Woolman 1992-1993). Her task was completed on 5 February this year, having required over 1,500 hours of patient work, applying no fewer than 120,600 stitches of Appleton's crewel wool onto the canvas support. The sewing pattern was provided by the Royal Society of Needlework, and the design shows the coats-of-arms of the Corporation of the City of the London and of the Worshipful Company of Woolmen, emblazoned on a plain background. The colours of wool used were red, white, black, grey, ivory and gold (for the coats-of-arms) and blue (for the background). Once the needlework was completed, the upholstery was carried out by Graham Simpson of Theocus in Tewkesbury, using wool from the Commonwealth to fill the hassock. The completed hassock, measuring 20 x 12 x 8 inches, has now been presented at the Mansion House and will join its fellow during the Lord Mayor's Show this November.

Freda now has a fresh challenge – to conserve the 1986 hassock.

Bob Walton

The photo above shows the current Lord Mayor David Wootton with the Queen.

See more pictures in colour inside the back cover

Scuba Diving Adventure. Hilary Jones and her husband take up a new hobby in their mid-fifties.

It is a different world down there, deep below the surface of the sea. Above your head shining silver bubbles arise towards a golden circle of wave-broken sunlight. Below, in the dim depths, almost impenetrable by light, could lie the wreck of a sunken ship and before you on the sunlit reef, shoals of brightly coloured fish swim undisturbed amongst a variety of hard and soft corals. Swimming in the deep blue waters of the reef, you may catch a glimpse of the shadowy shape of a manta ray. No longer held earthbound you are weightless, able to move feely, almost like flying, to explore this new environment. At least that is how it felt eventually once we had finished training!

Why did we decide to dive in our mid-fifties? Why not? For the first time in our lives we had the means, the opportunity and fewer responsibilities. So rather nervously we signed up for the PADI Open Water Course at Black Rock Divers in Brighton. There we met with the people who would become our friends and instructors, with whom we would share ten years of diving adventures. We were a few years older than our class mates, but we passed the theoretical and pool tests with flying colours. However, open water training in rough seas and an ear infection meant that we eventually qualified in the warm clear waters off Malta on our first group holiday. Though exhilarated by our success we were still raw novices, having to learn the intricacies of the 'wheel' to calculate the safety factor in planning the depth and timing of dives in order to escape the 'bends'. For the same reason we had to perfect our buoyancy control to avoid rapid ascents.

Our first holidays took place in Malta and Gozo. In later years we spent our holidays in live-aboards on the Red Sea: small boats with about 20 divers, where the diving was more intensive and where we became Advanced Divers in 1998. Whereas the diving off Malta had been more scenic, with vistas of rock formations fading into the blue distance, here we were entranced by the variety of the bright colours and shapes of the shoals of fish and the corals.

Looking back over ten years, 154 dives and more than 100 hours spent under water, what do I remember best? Certainly the sinking feeling after forgetting to turn on my air before diving and when I found that my torch battery had failed on a night dive. Definitely the excitement of underwater encounters: manta ray. An enormous whale shark and a pod of dolphins. But most of all I think, is the sense of achievement that comes from making new friends and sharing with them the experience of discovering a new world.

Jubilee Wood

Work has continued to prepare the area of Ratley Green ready for the planting of the Jubilee Wood in November. The Woodland Trust are offering the trees and our bid for 420 trees will be considered in October. We are confident of a positive result.

Members of the Footpath Gang have been busy completing the clearance of the undergrowth after sterling work from the Community Sentencing Team. Most of the bramble is now clear and work is continuing to thin the elder trees and clear the remainder from the clutches of some very mature bramble.

A number of fires have successfully burnt off most of the collected waste. Geoff Morgan has kindly used his farm equipment to spray the rejuvenated nettle, which is now dying down. The Parish Council will (I hope) agree to finance the purchase of the weed killer. DL

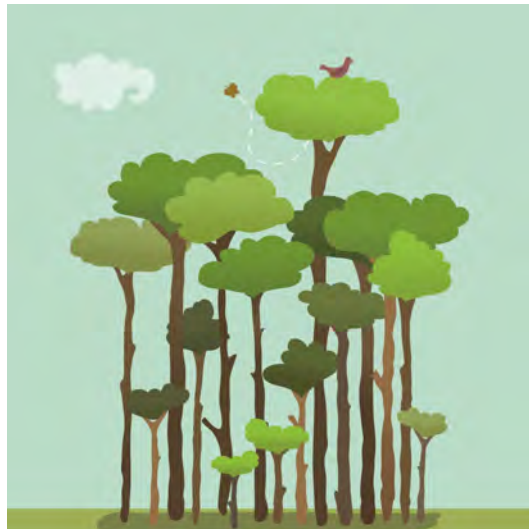
See the photograph on the back cover

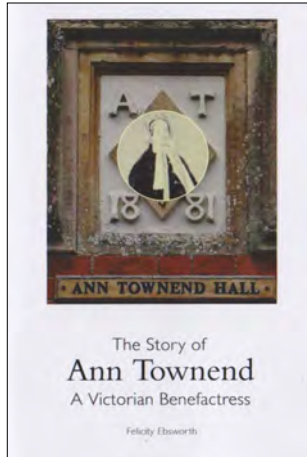
New Village Wood

Parishioners might like to take a look at the magnificent effort of Rob Brooks and family, who have already planted a new wood for the village in their large field behind Hillview Lane.

Some 2000 trees have been planted with paths laid aside along the lines of the footpaths. The recent rain will have helped enormously for the trees to become established.

We extend our thanks to the family for this most generous gift to the village.





Book Review:

The Story of Ann Townend, a Victorian Benefactress by Felicity Ebsworth.

Ann Townend Hall, close to St. Mary Magdalene Church, is a well-known building in Greater Twynning, but how many villagers know anything about the lady after whom the building is named? Felicity Ebsworth decided to find out, and what she discovered is revealed in this recently published 28-page illustrated booklet. The many interesting details about her life and personality also provide glimpses into Victorian times. The carefully chosen illustrations add a lot to the enjoyment of the account. Ann Townend spent most of her life in the north of England, she and her husband Charles making their fortune in the Manchester area from the manufacture of fustian cloth, a peculiarly Victorian enterprise. What interested me is that she and her husband did not move to this part of the world until 1874, when she was already 70 years old. They had no family, but lived in Puckrup Hall with a sizeable staff, and she remained there after the death of her husband in 1879. In 1880, she provided funds for a lifeboat in her native County Durham, but her later donations were all more local. These included money for developments to Tewkesbury Hospital (the Townend Wing), and improvements to Tewkesbury Abbey. I would have liked to have known more about “£50 each to The Philharmonic Society and the Rifle Corp” (*sic*). In 1880, Mrs Townend commissioned Collins & Cullis to demolish two cottages and replace them with two new buildings. What we now know as Ann Townend Hall was opened the following year as the Sunday School Hall with its adjacent caretaker’s cottage. The hall still houses the Sunday School, but is also used for a wide variety of activities. The cottage was sold in the 1990’s to provide funds for the improvement of the hall. Ann Townend died at Puckrup Hall in 1886 at the age of 84. As she and her husband had been so generous to Tewkesbury Abbey and to Twynning Church, I was surprised to learn that they were buried in Tewkesbury Municipal Cemetery. This thoroughly researched account is a valuable contribution to local history, and you can buy a copy from Allison’s Bookshop for a modest five pounds. RW

TWYNING VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (“VHMC”)

With the winter now behind us and the benefit of fully testing the new heating system and other modifications to the Village Hall installed during the 2011 refurbishment programme, I am pleased to report that the feedback from regular users of the hall has been extremely positive. We have had our teething problems, but on the whole the improvements have been very much appreciated and users have got used to the new systems and procedures which have been introduced. I am also pleased to report that the PV solar panels installed on the hall roof are generating a remarkable amount of electricity, even during the winter months, and we currently await our first payment from n-power, which is expected to amount to several hundred pounds.

We are seeing a marked increase in the number of private bookings for the hall especially weddings and private parties at weekends. Our aim is to promote the hall for this purpose as at present the hall is used mainly during the week. The optional bar facility provides Twynning Village Hall with a differential advantage compared with other venues in the area.

The VHMC has paid particular attention since the AGM in February to updating the Village Hall Terms and Conditions of Hire and the Alcohol Policy. Thanks to Jane Bowers, an elected member of the VHMC and our Bookings Clerk, Mary Shakespeare, who have spent a great deal of time on this, supported by Maggie Ball our Treasurer, (who is still working hard for the hall whilst recovering from an operation on her foot earlier this year), the final drafts of the revised documents were approved by the VHMC on the 15 May 2012.

Another initiative is to promote the use of the hall for events that benefit the community at large. A **‘Food & Craft Fayre’** organised by Nicki Halford, was launched on Saturday, 26 May. It is an opportunity for local companies and individuals to get together for a couple of hours to promote and sell their produce and crafts.

This will include breads, meat, vegetables, pickles, jams etc and a variety of crafts, cards and plants etc. The Friends of the Village Hall will be providing refreshments. So please come along and see for yourself if only for half an hour!!

The Food & Craft Fayre will take place at the Village Hall from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on the last Saturday every month i.e. 30 June; 28 July; 25 August and so on. If you would like to have your own stall, contact Nicki

Plans are still in hand to implement Phase III of the Village Hall refurbishment programme. Quotations are being sought for the refurbishment and decoration of the outbuildings and covered walkway with a view to having the work done during the Summer Holidays.

JOHN REYNOLDS
(VHMC Chairman)

Calling all Gardeners

The long verge at The Green end of Goodiers Lane belongs to Highways, but it is sadly neglected. We have been putting in plants to cheer it up, but would love some help from local residents. It is about 100 feet long and three feet wide, so quite big!

Do you have unwanted or left-over plants this year? They must be able to look after themselves and be reasonably hardy. The sun shines on the area for several hours a day (when it shines), and the soil is good if a bit dry.

So join in and make it lovely, a randomly planted space. Just come along and dig up a weed and replace it with something more attractive.

Andrea Walton

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE

It is now over seven months since Rev Sarah left and during all that time we have been fortunate to be looked after by Ven. Ron Hesketh. He has been active in all aspects of church life and he and Vera have also involved themselves in many community events. They are shortly to move into their own home in the village so we wish them a warm welcome and hope their time here will be happy and peaceful.

The regular services continue as usual:-

On each Sunday is a service of Holy Communion beginning at 9.30am.

Sunday School takes place on the first Sunday of each month in the Ann Townend Hall beginning at 9.20am.

The third Sunday of each month is our Family Service, which is followed by coffee and a chance to meet and chat and a stall in aid of the Acorns Children's Hospice.

All are welcome at every service and event.

Special events include:-

Sunday 3 June 9.30am Parish Eucharist with the Church specially decorated in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee.

Saturday 7 July 7.30pm Concert in Church by the Silurian Choir.

Sunday 8 July 9.30am Parish Eucharist with a display of the ongoing work on the new Altar Kneeler.

Saturday 14 July 7.00pm Ann Townend Hall
Slides of the Holy Land presented by Angela Cole.

Sunday 22 July 9.30am Parish Eucharist
St Mary Magdalene's Day followed by a glass of wine and cake.

Saturday 1 Sept 10.00am to 6.00pm Church Tower open for access and for prospective bell ringers. Display in Church of baptism robes with flower arrangements.

Sunday 2 Sept Tower open again and continued Display in Church.

Saturday 8 Sept Cycle ride and walk for Glos Historic Churches Trust.

Ven. Ron Hesketh

Churchwarden

Churchwarden

Margaret Bailey

Chris Cole

Tewkesbury Hospital Friends

We have had a very successful season of sales of knitted items filled with crème eggs. Our team of volunteer knitters and stitchers have worked hard during the ‘hatching’ season and produced about 1500 items. These have been on sale at more than 16 outlets around the district and resulted in a profit of £1,008 for the needs of the present hospital.

Thank you for all your efforts and support once again.

We hope that all our workers will rally round next year when we hope to donate the profits to Acorns Children’s Hospice Trust. Next Easter, it would be helpful if anyone has any brightly coloured wool which they could donate. It need not be a full ball - oddments are useful too - but we do need 4-ply or double knitting wool.

If anyone is interested in knitting these animals or stitching them up and even if you are not a knitter but prepared to help, please contact Anita Haycock.

Village Walks



Near the Monks Pool

Our village walks continue, with one each season. The next one is on **Sunday 24 June** and will be starting at the new time of **11-30am** to allow for church-goers to join us after the service. We meet outside the Village Inn, and end inside it with a drink at about 1-00pm. Or book ahead for lunch.

The last walk was on 25 March and around 20 people and three dogs came along following the footpaths across fields near the Manor to Dingle Lane, and then up to Brockeridge Common, where we decided not to go amongst the cows with their calves for safety reasons, and returned safely across the Hill End fields to the Green.

Twyning Tennis Club

The summer season has started for Twyning Tennis Club and members are regularly enjoying their tennis. The ladies are taking part in the Gloucestershire League again and are entering two teams this year. Club tournaments run throughout the summer for singles and doubles and members arrange matches to work towards the finals in September. New members to the Club are always made welcome and there are ways of getting into playing for those who haven't picked up a racquet for years. We have coaching sessions for adults with our coach Simon on Wednesday and Friday mornings. There is also coaching for the children after school.

There will be an Open Day on Saturday 26 May from 2.00pm to 4.00pm when our coach Simon and members of the Club will be on court to welcome interested parties into playing. There will be games for the children and opportunities for adults to 'have a go'. There may even be some cakes!

If you would like to know more about the Club, please do get in touch and one of these trophies could be yours.



Hilary Davies
Club Secretary

French Club

French Club continues to meet once a month on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. Please ring for future dates as there may be some changes. We are a small group of people who enjoy practising French. We are all ages and abilities and enjoy talking about all kinds of subjects. Evenings are always fun and there is no pressure to speak if you don't feel like it. In the last couple of months we have enjoyed some French films and had a trip to the Roses.

If you'd like to brush up your holiday French or maybe are at school preparing for an exam do feel free to join us.

Ring Hilary Davies on

THE FRIENDS OF TWYNING VILLAGE HALL

Judy Marples organised a Gardeners Question Time event in March in the Village Hall. Duncan Coombs and Bob Hares, who are both well-known horticulturists from Pershore College, came and talked to us, answering questions, discussing problems and identifying unknown species. It was a fun evening and greatly enjoyed by all. Furthermore over £200 was raised towards our funds. By the time you read this we shall have had another fundraiser in the form of a concert by the Forest of Dean Male Voice Choir.

Anybody who is interested in joining The Friends please contact the
Chairman Maggie Ball

Twynning Wine Club

The Wine Club year started in January with our annual Wine Drive and competition for the Mary Johns Cup. Members sampled and judged wines made by Club members, the winner being presented with the Cup. The February Club meeting featured a presentation on, and tasting of, South African wines. This presentation was complemented by two Club members who had lived in the Cape area for a number of years, sharing their thoughts and experiences.

In March the Club had an illustrated talk by John Dixon, President of Tewkesbury Historical Society, on Tewkesbury pubs. It was a thoroughly interesting talk, and most members were surprised at the number of pubs that Tewkesbury has had over the years. Many buildings are still recognisable, even though they may no longer be performing this function (or service).

April found the Club having its annual skittles evening, this time at the Blue Bell, Ryall. It was an enjoyable evening in pleasant surroundings, and included a ploughman's supper. The man and woman with the top score each received a small prize.

The Club usually meets at the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of each month. Enquiries about membership are most welcome.

Roy Thomas. Secretary to Twynning Wine Club.

Have you seen the poster outside our Chapel? It says;-

‘God welcomes all sorts’

It pictures the “Allsorts” sweets!
This is also true of our Chapel – all are welcome to come and join us for any or all of the many activities that we enjoy. You will find all sorts of folk inside and what ever sort you are we welcome you!

On Sunday mornings at 10.30 we have our Worship Service and Sunday school.



Monday afternoons fortnightly we have an afternoon service open to all. Any visitors will be made most welcome and cups of tea and a chat always follow the service. Also on Mondays monthly in the evening a singing group learn new songs and pray together.

Wednesday evenings we meet for prayer and teaching at 7.30 either at Chapel or as a house group.

Friday mornings fortnightly we have Dinkies for pre-school children and their carers – come for a coffee and a chat.

Friday evenings are for youth either at TNT for “The Nearly Teens” or the alternate week for the older youth club.

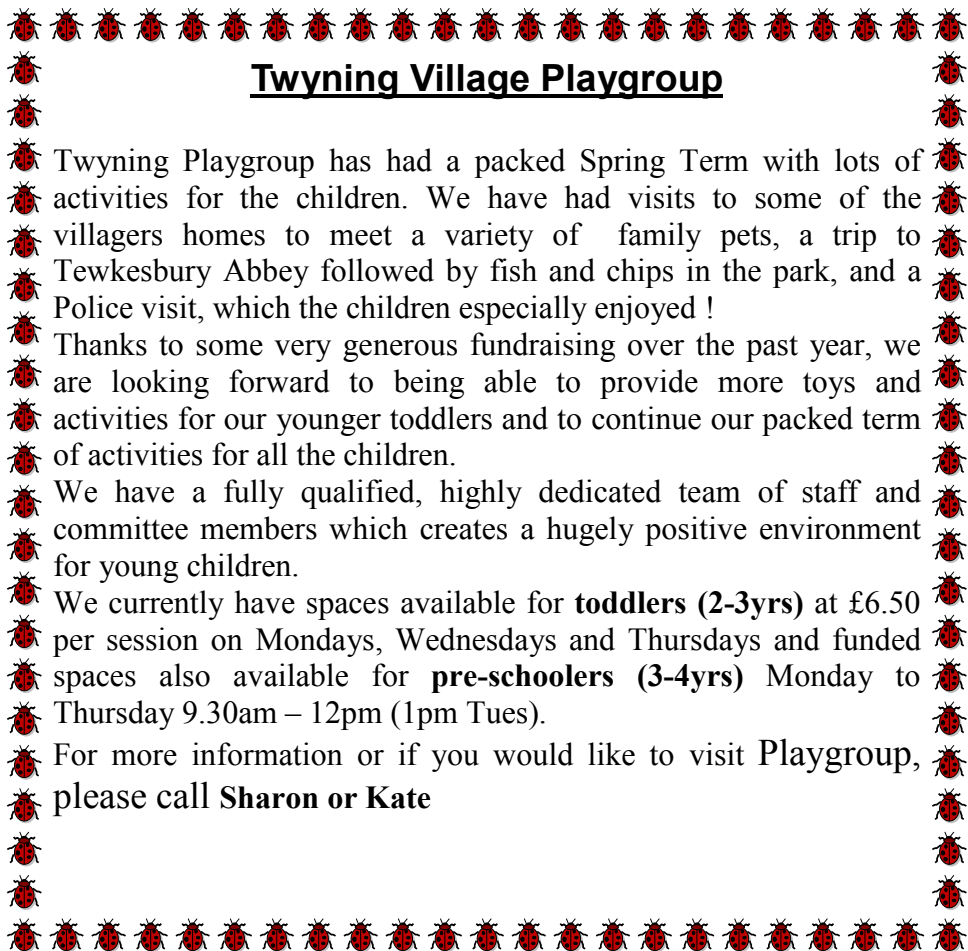
Saturday mornings monthly we have Friends and Heros for primary aged children – great fun had by all.

In July we are planning another afternoon to “Make a Mess” in Chapel.

It will be an Olympic theme with crafts, fun, stories and TEA! Look out for the date and time on posters around the village.

We do invite you all to join us whenever you can.
For more information please see our notice board or visit:

www.twynningchapel.org.uk



Twyning Village Playgroup

Twyning Playgroup has had a packed Spring Term with lots of activities for the children. We have had visits to some of the villagers homes to meet a variety of family pets, a trip to Tewkesbury Abbey followed by fish and chips in the park, and a Police visit, which the children especially enjoyed !

Thanks to some very generous fundraising over the past year, we are looking forward to being able to provide more toys and activities for our younger toddlers and to continue our packed term of activities for all the children.

We have a fully qualified, highly dedicated team of staff and committee members which creates a hugely positive environment for young children.

We currently have spaces available for **toddlers (2-3yrs)** at £6.50 per session on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and funded spaces also available for **pre-schoolers (3-4yrs)** Monday to Thursday 9.30am – 12pm (1pm Tues).

For more information or if you would like to visit Playgroup, please call **Sharon or Kate**

In June, we end our year with an outing to Urchfont, Wiltshire to join their Mothers' Union for an afternoon tea. We are being joined by members from the Abbey and the Rev. Michael and Jackie Cole, past vicar of their church.
After a summer break, we meet again in September.
If you are a new resident in Twyning or a past member of another parish, you will be made most welcome at any of our meetings.

Twyning Tots



I Hope you are all enjoying this lovely spring weather. Well, it's been a season of change with Tots (bit like the English weather), with a whole load of committee members leaving and a whole new bunch arriving. So, so long Hollie Rushby (Chair) and Vikki Kelly (Secretary) and thank you for all your hard work over the years, and hello Vicky Smith and Kate Masters. As yet though we have not found a new Chair so if anyone is interested in joining Tots then please do contact one of us.

Putting committee chit-chat aside the Easter egg hunt went down really well. Of course the younger kids enjoyed it, but because it was half term we had quite a few older kids there too who helped out brilliantly with the younger ones and made it great fun.

The pub quiz again was a real success. Cakes, wine and all sorts were raffled and all the proceeds went to Tots and the luncheon club.

Next we're celebrating the Jubilee with fabulous crown making, and parade about sessions. After that we're celebrating Fathers Day, so come along and see what lovely creative and slightly messy surprise we'll have for you.

Vikki Kelly

Yoga

There is a Hatha Yoga group meeting in the Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons. It takes place from 1-45pm to 3-15pm, followed by tea and biscuits. New members welcome. You will need to bring a mat and wear loose clothes.

Phone **Pippa** for information



TWYNING PLAYERS

***SECRETARY: Carol Chapman Anvil House, Church End,
Twyning, GL20 6DA***

TREASURER: John Salmon 8 The Mayalls, Twyning, GL20 6DT

Once again, thanks to all of you who came along to support our recent production of 'All Things Considered'. This was a black comedy with potentially controversial content – we do try to ring the changes and present a range of different plays for you to enjoy.

In the last bulletin, I mentioned BBC auditions for their Henry V film. Well, I'm delighted to report that three of our members: Rick Haines, Pippa Roome and Clare Burn were selected as extras and took part in the filming at Gloucester. Look out for them all when the film is shown later this year!

You may be interested to know that there is a major project underway in the county to produce the Gloucester Mystery Plays. These will be presented in two cycles at Gloucester and Worcester cathedrals in November 2012 and spring 2013. The plays have been rewritten in today's language, so have original scripts as well as original music and they'll be presented in traditional costume. There will also be a major medieval festival in Gloucester in June next year when the plays will be performed 'on wagon' as they would have originally been done.

Players are currently 'resting' and trying to keep up with our busy social calendar. Rehearsals for our December production will start in September – twice weekly on Sundays and Wednesdays. If you're interested in being involved in any way, just give me or any Player a call for more information.

Carol Chapman
Secretary

A review of The Twyning Players. May Production

I have been asked to write a review (my very first I might add) of the Twyning Players' latest production. This was a black comedy – 'All Things Considered' by Ben Brown -and a new departure from TP's normal May offering. Black comedy can be so tricky to handle as pace, right emotional presentation and getting those much needed appropriate laughs all need good direction and clever acting.

I went along to 'first night' and was disappointed to see numbers sadly low but I gather the following nights had good attendances. It was wonderful to see such polished performances from all the players and this might also reflect on a good casting choice and the work of director: Nici Khor.

Rick Haines performance of the lead role of David Freeman was extremely well acted, coupled with appropriate pace and sensitivity of the difficult subject of attempted suicide. How he remembered all those lines is a wonder.

Other cast members also gave very polished renderings. Nigel Guilding was excellent as Ronnie Drake (a bit of a *rake* – play on words on my part!). Loved Patti Canes' portrayal as Margaret, the Librarian. We saw Georgie Thwaites in a totally new role as Laura, an American – well done for keeping the accent going throughout as that's not an easy role to play. Others taking part, and who gave a very good supporting backing, were Ian Southall as Bob the electrician, Jodie Hopkins as Joanna, a student, and our newest TP member Pete Hallett as the Chaplain. Hope we will see more of Pete in the future and that he enjoyed his first venture with the TP.

To sum up – a very polished production, good direction and with just the odd prompt. I said to several friends that the acting was so good that it could easily have been performed at theatres such as The Roses, Malvern Theatre, Playhouse (Cheltenham), etc. So well done TP and may your good work continue.

Just send the word round to everyone that it would be really good for more Twyning People to support this very active and enthusiastic Amateur Dramatic team and let's give our full support to whatever they decide to produce for their usual Christmas performance. They truly attempt to give a very professional performance with everything they undertake.

Pippa Roome

Wind Farm update May 2012.

It is almost four years now since Wind Prospect Developments Ltd (WPDL) announced its intention to build three giant wind turbines around Harbour Wood between the villages of Upper Strensham, Twyning, Hill End and Stratford Bridge. In July 2008 the proposal was presented to Twyning and Strensham Parish Councils and followed up with a mail shot to all residents around the proposed site and an exhibition in Strensham Village Hall.

In February 2009 planning permission was granted by Tewkesbury BC for a wind monitoring mast which was erected in April 2009. Initially approved for two years, it has since been extended, upon appeal, until April 2013.

In March 2009 WPDL applied to Wychavon DC to build an access road from Upper Strensham, across fields and historic parkland to the proposed turbine site. This was refused by the Council in April 2009 and by the Planning Inspector in February 2010. Plans for the turbines were eventually submitted to Tewkesbury BC in December 2009 and remain undetermined at this time.

At this stage a date has not been set by Tewkesbury BC to put this matter before the planning committee but once we know when this will be, we'll let you know so that you can go along and demonstrate the level of local objection to this development. Remember, the proposed turbines are 126 metres tall which is almost twice the height of the wind monitoring mast (70m). In their application the developers say *"The turbines will be uncharacteristic and will dominate the site area and the immediate surroundings. The turbines will appear as large scale elements, with a strong contrast in scale to the existing site features including Harbour Wood."* (WPDL July 2009)

The visual impact of these industrial-sized turbines will be seen over a significant number of communities within the Avon and Severn valleys. WPDL say *"significant effects are only likely to be experienced by a limited number of receptors within 6 km of the site"*. By "receptors" they mean people.

However, there is still no access to the proposed wind farm site. Following refusal by Wychavon District Council for access from Upper Strensham WPDL have now outlined a proposed route from the A38 at Stratford Bridge. This would see a large track cut across the fields towards the north side of Ley Farm and then onto the site. To obtain planning permission for this they will need to apply to Wychavon and Malvern Hills District Councils, but so far no plans have been submitted.

Many of you will already have sent letters of objection to Tewkesbury BC, but if not, or if you want to write again it's not too late. This is your countryside and your home that could be affected by this proposal. Also bear in mind that this may not stop at three turbines. If permission is given, it would make further applications harder to resist.

Comments can be submitted online at www.tewkesbury.gov.uk by searching under ref 09/01189 or in writing to John Hinett, Senior Planning Officer, Tewkesbury Borough Council, Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury GL20 5TT quoting reference 09/01189.

**Generating Light on Landscape Impacts:
*How to accommodate onshore wind while protecting
the countryside***

In this report CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of rural England) argue that a locally accountable, strategically planned approach which takes account of landscape capacity and steers wind development to the right places will enable us to promote renewable energy, including some onshore wind, while protecting cherished countryside. The report builds a case for such an approach by examining how onshore wind proposals are currently treated in the planning system. It uses local examples provided by our branches and Planning Inspectorate appeal decisions.

Available on line from CPRE

THE social event of the year is back!!!!

Put on your checked shirts,
grab your partners by the hand and come along to our:

FAMILY PIG ROAST and BARN DANCE

There is music from "OCJ3" and the return
of the popular caller from 2010 **Chris Mulvey**
Saturday 25th August 2012.

The Marquee on the Green 7.30pm-11.30pm

Licensed bar applied for

It really will be an evening for the whole family so please put
the date in your diary and come along and support us

Ticket prices held!!!!!!!!!!:

Adult £13.00 Child 12 yrs and under £5.00
Tickets available from Lorna: . Don't miss out



Explorer Scouts

Extreme ESU has been very busy with activities this term and our numbers have grown to over 20. As one of four Explorer scout units within Tewkesbury District, we feel that it is better to have a manageable number of young people and continue to offer an interesting and varied programme. We are therefore declaring the unit full, and starting a waiting list.

We started the term with a fun ice skating evening in Malvern, and followed it up in March with an evening on the ski slope in Gloucester. All of the young people have, or will complete, a 2-day First Aid course, as part of their expedition training (and also a useful resource for the village!). We competed in the County Air Rifle competition and gained third place, but managed to hold on to trophy in the District swimming gala, despite several of the team members sustaining sporting injuries and being unable to swim. The unit has been taking part in the district and national Jubilee and Olympic challenges, with activities such as a fashion show, with clothes made from scrap material such as plastic bags, and building (and testing) bridges made out of spaghetti and lasagne sheets.

The members of the unit have been progressing well with the Duke of Edinburgh Award, with several ready to start Silver. We have run a number of training, practice and assessed expeditions in various areas including Bredon Hill, the Malverns, Black Mountains and Brecon Beacons. The unit has been putting the lightweight expedition tents and cooking equipment, purchased with the proceeds of our fundraising events, to good use and the young people have been gradually acquiring their personal gear to be able to cope with the vagaries of the British weather. Our equipment was definitely put to the test during the expedition in the western Brecon Beacons. The weather was better than forecast on the Saturday, with no rain at all, but a terrific storm blew up overnight. The Explorers chose the position for their tents well, and managed to get a degree of shelter from the gale force wind. There was no sign of the weather improving at all for the second day and so the route was revised for safety, sticking to the shelter and better visibility of the lower ground and forests.

We are now starting the training and planning the Silver expeditions which will involve 3 days canoeing down the River Wye. The Explorers have also started the Skill section, which involves honing their cooking skills, creating a recipe book, visiting the butcher's shop and a hotel kitchen.

Dan Orchard
Explorer Scout Leader



**News from Twyning School's Eco
Committee**

Recently at Twyning School, we have planted some vegetables and flowers in our new planters. There is one planter for each class and each class chose what they wanted to grow. We paid for the planters with money from Kraft as part of our Health 4 Schools. We also made bird scarers from recycled materials and milk bottles. The Year 6 children drew planting plans to show what is growing, and where. We have enjoyed planting the seeds and watering them and look forward to eating them later on. Since we have planted the fruit trees and bushes last year, they have grown well and we should get lots of fruit from them. At Twyning School, we are now working towards our Green Flag to become a more sustainable school.

**By Hannah Goodman and Jared Tombs, Y6
Media Officers**

Twyning Rainbows

The Rainbow programme is called the Rainbow Jigsaw to reflect how the varied Rainbow activities link together to create a larger, balanced picture. There are four pieces: Look, Learn, Laugh, Love.

Creative skills are part of the learn section and during the Spring term Rainbows have been busy painting photo frames for Mother's Day gifts, making and decorating butterflies making Easter baskets and cards. We also learnt how to make a flag for the Jubilee

"Look" sent Rainbows on a silver coin treasure hunt. The Division is running a Community and Charity Challenge for the Diamond Jubilee and Rainbows have been talking about helping other people and what to do for the challenge.

Rainbows is about having fun and we really enjoyed making healthy fruit cocktails, acting out traditional stories and playing our favourite games

Rainbows meet on Tuesday evenings - contact **Martine**

Twyning Brownies

This term Brownies have undertaken a wide variety of activities including crafts, quizzes and challenges, badge work both individually and as a unit and also all of our favourite games. They were well represented at the Mothering Sunday Family Service at Twyning Church with the Brownies, enjoying taking an active part in both readings and songs. We have also had an enrolment ceremony for our new Brownies.

The Brownies enjoyed various craft activities including recycling wrapping paper for a collage, paper weaving, finger painting, Mothering Sunday crafts and designing and doodling around hand prints as part of our discussions on "Lend a Hand". This related to our plans for Thinking Day which occurs on 22 February. This was the mutual birthday of Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scout Movement and his wife Olave, who served as World Chief Guide. It is now a special day in guiding where Brownies all around the world are encouraged to think of each other.

Not surprisingly, chocolate has also featured at our meetings with Brownies making their very own chocolate brownies and for Easter creating a chocolate chicken from chocolate eggs, chocolate icing and chocolate buttons!

The Brownies enjoy working on badges and they all gained their Speaker badge, which included preparing a speech, reading a poem to the group and giving and receiving instructions. Much fun was had directing each other blind folded around the room relying on verbal instructions from a friend to get to the right place. Many of the Brownies have worked on badges independently including their cook, communicator, collector, horse riding and cycling badges.

Girls aged seven to ten can join Brownies – our meetings are full of games, activities and challenges. To reserve a place or find out more contact

Carole Clive . Twyning Brownies meet on Monday evenings

photos and info at: www.TwyningGuides.org.uk

JUBILEE WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS

SUNDAY 3 June 2012

12.30pm –**Fancy Dress Parade.** Royal Theme /1950's / Modern Day or simply "Union Jack"- it's up to you! Why not even put a float together?
Prizes for Best Adult and Best Child costume

1pm- The **procession of Vintage cars/Vehicles** around the green followed by Fancy Dress entrants

2pm- We shall be holding our own **BIG LUNCH**

4pm – The **Twyning Olympics** -with games and races for all ages and prizes will be available.

6pm-The bar will remain open into the evening and there will be **Music in the Marquee** from **1952 to Present Day**, so stay and enjoy the evening with friends

Monday 4 June 2012

2pm The festivities begin down by The River
"Twyning Flotilla" and Pig Roast at The Fleet

6pm We return to the Green and the marquee for our final event of the weekend with the **Live Broadcast of the concert from Buckingham Palace**

Festivities conclude approx 11.30pm

Tuesday 5 June 2012-

Clean Up!!!!

Thursday 7 June 2012 – Jubilee Quiz

Village Inn 7.30pm

Check the Jubilee Notice Board at the school for more details

Programme for Summer / Autumn



13 June Jubilee Meal at Ann Townend Hall

10 July Garden Party at Birds Farm

14 August Outing to Broadway, including lunch and a walk

11 September Talk “ Bulbs for a Spring Garden”.

Meetings are at 7-30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Village Hall. New members most welcome.

Children’s Society

This year’s box holder’s collection raised a fantastic total of **£547.27**. So thank you!

There are currently 44 box holders within Twyning but if anyone else feels that they too can help please contact me for a box. You just sit the little box on your worktop and pop some change in it when you can. The boxes are emptied once a year unless you request otherwise and really that is all there is to it!!

With thanks for your support

Lorna Herold

Twynning Scout Group – Ian Palmer 01684 296842

Please find a brief summary of our activities below. We are in need of more uniformed leaders especially in the Cub Section. Please get in touch if you think you can help.

Beavers - aged 6 to 8 – meet Tuesday 6pm - Kevin Tyson

For our Friendship Challenge, the Beavers got to know a little about Australian culture and the Shelterbox Charity who provide emergency shelter and lifesaving supplies for families around the world affected by disasters. We also had a great trip to Gloucester Fire Station where every Beaver Scout and even leaders got to use the hose (I think the firemen just wanted their cars washed!)

Other activities included our Healthy Eating Activities badge, and finishing off our IT badge. We squeezed in a district swimming gala and won for the second year running, and have just completed a fantastic camp in Bourton, with numerous activities and good weather.

We have a busy programme planned for the coming term which includes Bell Boating at Pershore, assembling tents and packing rucksacks as part of the Outdoor Challenge.

Cubs - aged 8 to 10 – meet Thursday 18:15 – Dave Green

Another busy term with the cubs completing their Global challenge badge.

This included the cubs learning about the charity ‘shelter box’ and the disaster relief work it does around the world , an evening all about world jamboree in Sweden and Swedish culture presented by Josie. The cubs also learnt about water aid including filtering and carrying your daily water supply. We finished by learning about the food and traditions of different countries.

We held a badge evening where Astronomy was a huge favourite.

Our leavers – Sophie, Greg and James ran an evening of games as part of their farewell.

During the term Twyning hosted the district cub quiz. It was great to see the hall full with teams from six packs tackling a range of challenges.

For mother's day, Maggie helped the cubs create a lovely present and card for their mums.

The cubs spent two evenings carrying out their home help badge. They are now capable of tidying their rooms, ironing, washing up and cooking beans on toast!

We finished the term with a pack holiday at Cranham. We had a spy theme with the cubs gaining their communicators badge. We made ballisters, crossed rope bridges and had a great camp fire. We finished the weekend using our last bit of energy on a 'wet' assault course

Sadly we said farewell to Kate (Pack Assistant) and Jim (Young Leader) this term. Gary joined us from Beavers.

Pack numbers remain very healthy so we continue to operate a waiting list for non-Beaver children.

Scouts - aged 10 to 14 – meet Thursday 19:30 – Adrian Clough

The scouts have worked on their Fitness Challenge and Aviation Skills badges. The Fitness Challenge saw the Scouts circuit training, footballing, swimming and performing Zumba. By measuring pulse rates and aerobic performance at the start and finish of the 5 week period, the Scouts have shown improved fitness levels.

We successfully defended our District Swimming Trophy by one point but were not able to repeat the performance in the District and County Cooking Competition but very much enjoyed competing.

With the rest of the Tewkesbury District we attended the St Georges Day parade in Tewkesbury Abbey.

We look forward to another busy term ; in particular a visit to see behind the scenes at East Midlands Airport, and the Malvern Challenge (a National scouting event held on Cleeve Hill in Cheltenham).

Twynning Village Fete

This year's fete will take place on Bank Holiday Monday 27 August 2012 and will start at 1pm. No matter how much planning is involved though, to ensure the fete is a success, we not only need to pray for good weather, we need to call on you for your continued support. We endeavour to put on an event which has something for everyone to enjoy. There will be a beer tent, car boot, charity stalls, side-show attractions and all the usual kids' stuff. Food-wise there will be our fantastic barbecue, refreshments in the marquee and, ever hopeful of it being a glorious day, the ice cream van.

We are very pleased this year that in the arena we shall be entertained by The Gloucestershire Morris Men. We shall also have the Tug of War Competition, a bird of prey display and of course our well known Egg Throwing Competition. We also have a very interesting campanile being brought to the fete this year by The Church Bell Ringers who will be more than happy to answer your questions and show you the bells.

It truly is a fun day for the whole family!

In the Marquee, along with the refreshments, we shall have our competitions which provide a real focal point for visitors to the fete to enjoy. We have reduced the number of classes this year but hopefully this won't deter your enthusiasm and we are hoping for a bumper number of entries this year! The entry fee per class remains at 50p so please take a good look because, hopefully, there is something for you!

The classes are as follows and entry forms will soon be available throughout the village:

Under 6 yrs

Picture of the Queen– any materials may be used

6-12yrs

Cake or 6 buns

Small Lego construction , which **must** include a moving part (and must fit in shoe box. NO KITS)

Cross Stitch Sampler 5" x 5"

Teens

Homemade dessert- Single person portion

Open Classes

Preserve-SWEET

Preserve-SAVOURY

Cake
Four Biscuits
Medley of three home-grown vegetables- (will be tasted)
Wine / Beverage (will definitely be tasted)
Photo-Theme: Jubilee Celebration

Special Flower Arrangement Class: OPEN

“Create a free-style idea with natural materials (fresh and/or dried plant materials and/or flowers) to symbolise the Olympics”

The design must at least have a length, width or depth of 30cm and can be any size bigger than 30cm. Creativity is the name of the game(s)

The entry for this class will be £2.00 and the winner will receive the *Challenge Cup*

Please don't worry if you are going to be away on the day as entries can be handed in beforehand.

So watch out over the next few weeks, you are sure to be approached in person to take part in our fete in some way.

Letters have been sent out to organisations/groups within the village but if you would like to hold a stall on the day please contact us and let us know your ideas. The Fete is a great opportunity for you to raise funds for your cause; all we ask is that 10% of your takings are given to the Fete organisers. We require written confirmation of your desire to attend as a permit will be issued.

Helpers

Our need for your help this year is even greater than normal. Unfortunately a couple of key members of our committee are not going to be around so we are going to need reliable help more than ever. If you would like to get more involved in the run up to the fete with the planning or you can spare an hour or two to help out on the day we would love to hear from you. Many hands make light work!

**For entry forms and general information please contact Lorna Herold
Keep your eyes on notice boards around the village for further Fete information.**

**Remember put the date in your diary now!!! Monday 29 August 2012
1pm-4pm**

twyningparishcouncil.co.uk.

This website has all the information that you want about the parish and its organisations including :

- Parish Councillors and their responsibilities
- Parish organisations including:
Business
Clubs
- Parish Initiatives including:
VHMC
TRAC
- Parish Services including:
Education
Transport
- History of the Village including:
Many old photographs

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Freda Jefferson
works on the hassock for the Lord Mayor of London 2012



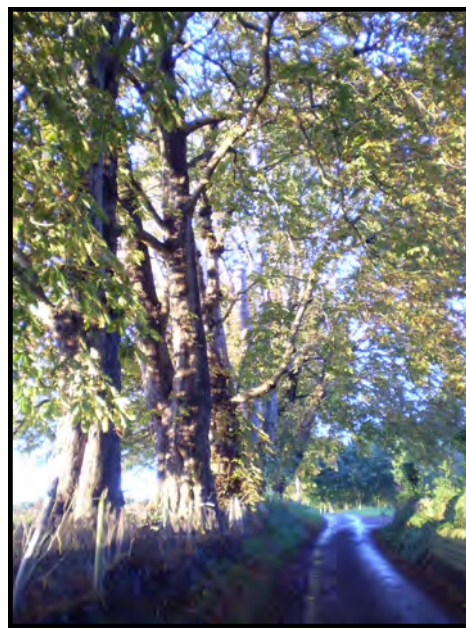


Jupiter and Venus over the Green

Roy Thomas



Members of the Footpath Team
at Ratley Green



The Road near Hill End
Amanda Mooney