

THORNER NEWS



FEBRUARY 2022

CHAIRMAN'S INTRO

The newsletter seems to travel far and wide in the distribution. I recently received a call from a former resident of the village who left the area 60 years ago. He asked for further details of the cover photo and remembered playing in, and winning, a tennis club tournament as a young man. This month's fantastic image is kindly provided for free by local professional photographer, George Coppock.

After two summers of social inactivity, 2022 seems to be the year when the village calendar of events will restart. The Victory Hall is once again offering a full range of activities and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee is upon us in the summer.

A group has been established to coordinate a programme of events over the long bank holiday weekend starting with the bonus bank holiday on Thursday 2 June. I had the pleasure to attend a

meeting of around twenty of the usual suspects at the Bungalow in January where planning commenced for a weekend involving a picnic, talent contest, village fete and ball. I would encourage you to not only keep the weekend free in your diary to join your friends and neighbours at these events, invite extended family over but to also consider whether you could volunteer to help or join the organising team of one of these events. No previous experience is necessary and no references will be sought.

Anyone wanting to arrange other events through the year can come to the parish council for support. The parish council has a range of resources that we can assist you with and are keen to support organisers of community events.

Mark Harrison

GRIT BINS

During the last year we have tried to make sure that the various grit bins, dotted around the village, are in usable condition, and topped up with salt for the winter weather. The grit in them is there to be used to clear public roads and footpaths when ice and snow is forecast. You do not need to use a lot of grit; a tablespoon will treat an area of one square metre.

Leeds Highways refill the bins after periods of ice or snow. If ice or snow is forecast to last more than 2 days, Highways prioritise primary gritting routes and other busy roads. They will still refill grit bins during these periods, but it can take longer than usual.

You can let them know about an empty grit bin by email. Send your name, address and the location of the bin to salt.prov@leeds.gov.uk

Steven Wood



THORNER WALKING GROUP

Did you make a New Year resolution to take more exercise? Well, here's your opportunity. Thorne Walking Group meets every Wednesday for a walk of around four miles. We usually meet at the bus stop opposite The Fox at 1 pm, but sometimes start at nearby villages.

Once a month, for those that want to, we do a longer walk of eight to ten miles further afield.

I send a weekly email detailing the walks, if you want to be added to this, please get in touch - wendyeileenmiller@gmail.com

We'd love to see you at one of our walks. *Wendy Miller*

All council correspondence to the **Clerk: BARRY RILEY: thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com or 07444 791 956**
YOUR PARISH COUILLORS ARE: MARK HARRISON: 07788 443 884 // SCOTT MARSHALL: 07925 379 092
// DIANE GIBBINS: 0113 289 3883 // SHEILA LLEWELLYN: 0113 289 2515 // AMY LOBLEY: 07793 744 099
// TOM MYCOCK: 0113 289 2706 // STEVEN WOOD: 0113 289 3121 // ALISTAIR SCOTT: 07738 294 995
// ANDREW WALMSLEY: 07709 797 074. **Visit the parish council web site at www.thornerpc.uk**

ADOPT A PATH!

Thorner has a great network of public footpaths that help give easy access to the local countryside and link with longer routes. We can thank local farmers and Leeds City Council Public Rights of Way Team for helping to ensure that paths remain usable, and a small team of Footpath Volunteers supplements their efforts with trimming, way marking, stile repairs and surface improvements.

If you value walking for pleasure, maybe there's a path that you walk regularly. Would you be prepared to volunteer to adopt a path, and in your walks, remove small items of litter, do minor trimming of vegetation and notify the volunteer team when repair works or larger jobs were needed?

If you'd like to know more contact

Steven Wood - thornerwood@btinternet.com
or **John Calvert** - calvert.john@talk21.com



John Calvert

THE BOOK EXCHANGE

THORNER BUNGALOW, 31A MAIN STREET

It's just the time of year to establish the habit of regular reading. Make a little time on Saturday mornings 10-12 noon, to come to the Book Exchange to select a good book (there are plenty to choose from). When it's cold outside – what better than snuggling up warm and reading. All ages are very welcome: please bring your children along.

Currently, we are following government guidelines and asking people to wear masks in the Bungalow. However, when this is no longer necessary we will return to offering drinks and biscuits, so for a small price, you'll be able to have refreshments whilst browsing.

If you would like to join our great team of volunteers who take it in turns to oversee these sessions, please contact us on thornerbungalow@gmail.com

Bev Cussans

THORNER VICTORY HALL TENNIS CLUB

The TVHTC wishes everyone a Happy New Year and is very pleased to see that club membership continues to rise and that Nicola Tweedy has an active programme of coaching, drills, and activities with some important upcoming events

The 2022 coaching programme began on Monday 10th Jan.

There will be a Junior Tournament Day on Sunday 6th Feb.

Orange Ball 1-2:30pm (£3 entry fee)

Green Ball 2:30-4:30pm (£5 entry fee)

Full Ball 4:30-6:30pm (£5 entry fee).

Please let Nicola know if you would like to enter
(n.tweedy97@gmail.com).

Nicola is also looking to run a LTA Youth Tennis Leaders course on the afternoon of Sunday 20th February 1-6pm (£30).

This is a practical course on court and is open to ages 11-18 years. The course is accredited by SLQ Sports Leaders to ensure that core leadership skills such as problem solving, communication, self-belief, teamwork etc are

embedded within learning on the course. Although this is the first step on the coaching ladder, it is aimed at all young people who wish to develop their leadership skills and is recognised by both schools and colleges. More information can be found by searching "Becoming a tennis leader" online or following the link at the bottom of this article. There would be opportunities for anyone who completed the course to help with younger aged sessions at the club if they feel this is something they would enjoy. Spaces are limited so please get in touch if you would like to book a space.

Members are reminded to "Opt-In" for the Wimbledon Ballot to increase our chances in the ticket allocation from the LTA.

www.lta.org.uk/workforce-venues/coach-teach/programme-development/becoming-a-tennis-leader/

Adrian Joyce

OVER 60s ASSOCIATION

FROM THE BUNGALOW:

So far this year, 44 residents have renewed their memberships which have been kept at 10.00 for another year.

Thursday coffee mornings are still very popular as are the fortnightly lunches.

January's discussion group was the most well attended to date. Great topics chaired by Ann Castle with delicious home baking from Barbara Wood the first Friday of every month, and all for just 1.00. Everyone is welcome to attend.

There are still places available at the armchair exercises on a Monday morning which is suitable for both ladies and gents.

Thanks to food donations from Sainsbury's at Colton, this is displayed outside The Bungalow every Thursday morning. Nothing is priced – we just have a donations box and leave it to people to put in what they want. To date we have collected £245.00 which is being donated to local foodbanks.

To see what events are at The Bungalow each week, please check the notice board outside.

Jason Falk

THORNER GREENWAY

In January 2008 the cycling Charity Sustrans, published a report on the feasibility of creating a walking and cycling route from Thorner to Cross Gates along the line of the disused railway.

The original scheme met with fierce opposition from some Scholes residents. The East Leeds Orbital Route (ELOR) cuts across the old railway line where the lie of the land is such there can be no provision for a bridge. As a result, the original route is not achievable.

In 2019 Sustrans updated their original report. Construction of ELOR opens new opportunities. The new road will have dedicated cycle paths on both sides, running in both directions. There will be a new Country Park at the end of Thorner Lane, opposite the Cemetery, and we now have the facilities of the Arium. I am sure there is widespread support for a safe secure (and level) cycling and walking route. If we cannot follow the old railway line all the way to Cross Gates station, are there alternative sections that could be developed?

The later appraisal by Sustrans considers several options to the original route. One of these is to follow the railway line to the Miry Carr footpath, to follow that path, and then to cut across fields to the rear of the Arium, and the new Country Park, with access onto the cycleways around ELOR, for those who want to venture further, including access to Cross Gates, the original intention.

Leeds have recently confirmed their intention to construct two football pitches on land to the rear of the Arium, in a field adjacent to Miry Carr. These will have a footpath/cycleway access from the Arium car park. They are willing to extend this route to connect

with the Miry Carr footpath. This will provide a safe, level, footpath link from Thorner along Miry Carr to the Arium and beyond that the new Country Park.

Could this footpath be upgraded to a cycleway?

Firstly, we would need to negotiate with the various landowners who own sections of the path, as they would have to agree. Secondly, we would need to agree the design and layout. Thirdly, we would need to raise the money to pay for the work needed (surfacing/fencing etc.)

There is a lot of work involved, and it will not be easy. I want to know what support there is from the village.

If you agree such a cycleway would be an asset for the village, please let me know.

If you would like to be informed of progress, please let me know. Communication will normally be by email and will be blind copied. My contact details are Steven Wood at thornerwood@btinternet.com

I would particularly like to hear from you if you would consider being part of a Working Party to progress the scheme. Initially I would propose to convene a meeting when the project will be discussed in more detail. This could include an early evening walk along the route.

Steven Wood



PLAYGROUND

It has been three years since the "trim trail" wooden playground equipment at Millennium Green was condemned due to rot and had to be removed. Since then, the Playground and Fitness Equipment Working Party of the parish council has sought designs and quotes from play installers for suitable equipment for a new under 5s play area to be built. They now have a design, installer, and price for fabulous new long-lasting equipment to put into this space, as well as creating a second, toddler-friendly entrance to the playground.

Unfortunately, since this time, a global pandemic and climate emergency has refocussed funding criteria with climate or pandemic recovery being the very worthwhile benefactors for most grants available to the parish council. The parish council have a savings fund for the playground, but also have multiple demands on limited resources.

The working party still hopes to initiate the installation of the under-5s provision this spring, should funding for the project become available. An application has been made to the National Lottery for £10,000 but this is a quarter of the cost of a high-quality provision. If anyone knows of any additional sources of grants or donations, such as an employer who will donate to good causes, please contact me or any member of the working party.

Let's see if we can get this installed before summer! **Mark Harrison**

MAINTAINENCE WORKING PARTY

During the winter months when the days are shorter and the nights are longer, there is very little maintenance activity around the village. The installation of the concrete bases on Millennium Green has been delayed because of inclement weather conditions. Once the weather improves, this can take place. The Picnic benches will not be delivered until late spring so there is no immediate rush to site the concrete bases.

In late November we planted into the three flower beds around the Memorial Gardens, we have dedicated the front flower bed for roses and these were funded by Thorner Parish Council. The remaining two flower beds were funded as part of our funding project by Leeds City Council. We are looking forward to a colourful display this Spring/Summer.

We continue to support biodiversity and we welcome Thorner Tree Group in helping us facilitate this. As part of their project and outcomes of the recent residents survey, they have planted into border 3 two Rowan Trees and 1 Crab Apple tree.

This border will also see the wonderful colourful wild flowers again as well as the two borders on the Millennium Green. There are also plans to plant up border 4 at the side of the Fitness Equipment.

During February we hope to put to out to tender Thorner Parish Council Grass Cutting Contract and we welcome any interested parties to contact: sheila.llewellyn@thornerpc.co.uk

It is hoped to repaint the village benches this year and there are one or two benches in need of repair. The railings at the Ford/Main Street are also in need of a repaint and hopefully we can get them repainted at the same time.

If you are in need of peace and tranquillity, then take advantage of the bench in Ramseys Fold. You will see a new wired fence (with access gate for maintenance purposes only) this enables you to view the area beyond for wildlife and plants.

It is hoped that this area will become attractive to wildlife and encourage biodiversity.

Happy new year to all and let us hope 2022 will be a good year for all.

Sheila.Llewellyn



WORKING PARTIES

The Parish Council comprises nine elected councillors, and meets monthly, usually on the first Tuesday of every month. Much of the day-to-day business is handled by the clerk and working parties. The working parties report to the Parish Council, for decisions to be made.

Working parties can contain members who are not elected members of the Council.

The Highways Working Party comprises three councillors and one resident.

The Highways Working Party monitors a variety of issues, including all matters relating to

- highways maintenance issues, including flooding and rural footpaths
- the problems of speeding motorists and irresponsible parking
- crime

The Highways Working Party would welcome contributions from other residents, particularly those who live in areas of the village where they may feel underrepresented.

The Planning Working Party also comprises three councillors, but no other members. The Planning Working Party is notified of all planning applications, including applications relating to trees.

The Planning Working Party would also welcome help from residents, particularly anyone with expertise in planning matters

If you would like to attend a meeting of either working party, or more details, please contact the clerk at thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com.

Steven Wood

THORNER COMMUNITY FUND (TCF)

THORNER COMMUNITY FUND (TCF) IS RECRUITING – WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US?

You would be representing your village and doing important work.

The Thorner Community Fund (TCF) was established in 2003 through consultation and joint working between Rachel and Nick Lane Fox, Festival Republic and The Thorner community. The TCF committee is made up of a small group of volunteers from the village. Over the years around 20 different volunteers have served on the committee.

Our purpose and focus falls into two main areas:

Firstly, each year Melvin Benn and Festival Republic generously allocate a number of Leeds Festival resident guest tickets to the village. The distribution of these tickets to Thorner residents is administered by the TCF team in partnership with Festival Republic and the donations made against these tickets are held in the Thorner Community Fund.

We rely on an extended team of volunteers to complete the ticket distribution process with the team temporarily swelling to over 20 on the day of ticket registration.

Not only does this help us get an important job done in a short space of time but it also allows a cross section of the community to see our governance and systems from the inside and to assist us with year-on-year improvements.

Our other main duty is distributing the significant funds gathered from ticket donations to invest in and to add value to Thorner village. Traditionally, all village groups, societies, facilities, and community event organisers were invited to submit requests against the Thorner Community Fund for improvement and investment in the village. Since the Festival first came to Bramham Park, around 35 Thorner groups and facilities have benefitted from over £510,000 investment into the Thorner Village and community. Grant awards are subject to additional scrutiny by independent community representation, plus Melvin Benn and Rachel Lane Fox.

Since 2020 we have for now, with discussion and direction from our benefactor Melvin Benn/Festival Republic, changed the focus of grant funding towards projects within the village that will contribute towards the climate change emergency.

The committee currently has six roles: secretary, treasurer, ticketing, grants, database, and oversight/governance. The role of Chairperson is selected from within the committee every three years.

We are anticipating a vacancy for secretary and one for grants so would love to hear from people interested to know more about these roles. However, we are not limiting our current recruitment to two new people as we are keen to have a process of succession planning in place, to ensure continuity. Shadowing current members on one or more of any of the six current roles is on offer if you prefer to learn more about our work and assist on a role or roles before, at some point in the future, taking on the job that best suits you.

Some of the activities place a considerable demand on personal time. In addition, committee meetings, which are held during the evening, are typically two hours long, about eight times a year. Team working, supporting each other, and meeting deadlines are all crucial aspects of the work.

All new members need to be keen to support our current strategy of encouraging environmental/climate emergency projects in the village.

In the first instance we are looking for expressions of interest, as soon as possible. These are welcome from persons of any age and skill set, that have genuine enthusiasm and want to give something to our community. So, if you live within Thorner parish and would like to find out more, including full descriptions of each committee role or the one that most interests you, please let us know by emailing or by having an informal chat with any of our current committee members. After this, if you decide you would like to be considered, we expect to then ask you to make a formal application.

If there are residents who have experience and skills relating to the environment and climate change but are not able to commit to being a full member of the committee, we'd love to explore with you how you may be willing to contribute on a short-term or ad hoc basis.

Annette Carr, Katie Coppock, Mark Darley, Gillian Riley and Wayne Young. Thorner Community Fund committee. January 2022.

thornercommunityfund@gmail.com

Gillian Riley

THORNER JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

The junior youth club meets in the Parish Centre each Tuesday evening at 6.30 pm for some fun activities including baking, table tennis, air hockey, computer games and socialising. We have recently run two art projects which were very much enjoyed.

We are at present running at capacity, but we have a waiting list for future members so if you wish to be added please pop down on a club night to register.

If anyone would like further information about the Youth Club, please contact Belinda Swift on 0113 2892946. *Marian Peaker*



NEWS FROM THORNER VICTORY HALL

In addition to our regular classes which are now well and truly 'back to normal' we are thrilled to announce the return of live events at the hall!

FRIDAY 6th MAY A NIGHT TO REMEMBER DAVID WALMSLEY

Come and join us to celebrate the life of the late David Walmsley, lifelong Thorner resident & Victory Hall supporter.

We are looking forward to a fantastic evening of live music from Citizen Smith, a 4-piece covers band. Their music combines an eclectic mix of modern-day pop/rock, with some classic rock, punk, indie and a bit of banter! David enjoyed the band's lively set when they performed at Thorner Beer Festival.

All proceeds from the evening will be donated to JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). David was committed to supporting JDRF after his youngest grandson was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes.

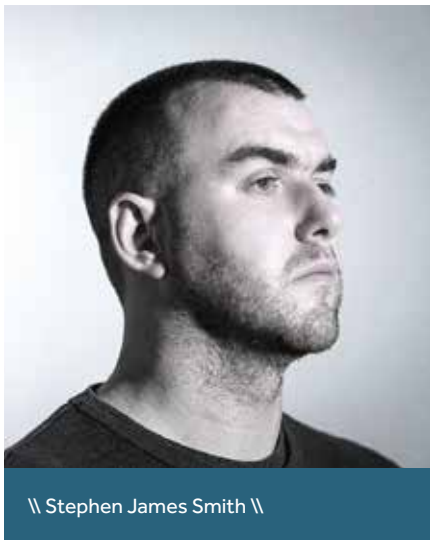
Tickets are just £10 and are available at www.thornervictoryhall.com/buy-tickets, or by calling 01132892733.

For more about the band or the charity:
www.citizensmithband.co.uk - www.jdrf.org.uk

TVH Trustees



\\ Citizen Smith
Thorner Beer Festival, 2018 \\



\\ Stephen James Smith \\

SATURDAY 21ST MAY STEPHEN JAMES SMITH

We are excited to welcome Irish poet Stephen James Smith for a return visit to Thorner. His performance here in 2019 was mesmerising; with new material and musical accompaniment this is set to be an unforgettable evening.

Tickets will be available from our website soon, or for more information email boxoffice@thornervictoryhall.com

"Passionate, witty, just plain great; this man's voice hops right off the page." - Roddy Doyle

REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE HALL

Don't forget that our regular activities are now back up and running! With classes including Pilates, Pickleball, and Badminton (not to mention our monthly Film Club) there's something for everyone here... And if you're looking for something we don't offer, please let us know – if a class can be found, we'll try our best to make it happen!

Website: www.thornervictoryhall.com
Email: info@thornervictoryhall.com

Peter Schofield on behalf of Thorner Victory Hall Trustees

THORNER DIRECTORY FEBRUARY 2022

GROUP	NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
ART GROUP	Ada Percy	0113 2892653
BALLROOM DANCING	Kathleen Wilson	info@yorkshireballroom.com
BEAVERS	Lizzie Waddington	info@TASscouts.org.uk
BOWLING CLUB	Derek Potter	0113 2892055
BROWNIES	Chloe Burnley - Brown Owl	07795 545858 / cloburnley@gmail.com
COMMUNITY CHOIR	Pat Smith	0113 2892205 / pat.smith235@btinternet.com
CRICKET CLUB	Alastair Foster	0113 2892566
CUBS	Steve O'Boyle	info@TASscouts.org.uk
GARDENS/HEATHCOTE AVE	Diane Gibbins	0113 2893883
GP SURGERY - THORNER	Appointments	0113 8873322
GP SURGERY - COLLINGHAM	Appointments	01937 222841
HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Gwen Brown	0113 2893372
LOCKS HAIR DESIGN	Emma Martin	0113 2893330
MILK DELIVERY	TD Goodall	0113 2892229
MUMS & TOTS	Lizzie Waddington	07932 716016
ORCHARD OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB	Belinda Bateson	0113 2892541
OVER 60'S ASSOCIATION		0113 3458509 / thornerbungalow@gmail.com
PARISH CENTRE BOOKINGS	Peter Wilby - Treasurer	0113 2893845 / www.parishcentre.org.uk
POST BOX DELI	Rachel Bielby	0113 2893888 / www.thepostboxdeli.co.uk
PRE-SCHOOL	Belinda Bateson	0113 2892541
PROBUS CLUB	Jason Falk	0113 2892612 / jasonfalk@hotmail.com
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	Paul Oldfield	0113 2893210
SCOUTS	James Nehaul	info@TASscouts.org.uk
ST PETER'S CHURCH	Revd Andy Nicholson	0113 2892437
ST PETER'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL	Ian Holmes - Head	0113 2892541
ST PETER'S CHURCH MAGAZINE	Hilary Marsden - Editor	0113 2017144 / parishmag@thornerchurch.org.uk
TENNIS CLUB	Adrian Joyce	0113 2893499 or thornertennis@gmail.com
THE BEEHIVE		0113 289 3555
THE FOX INN	Richard & Tracey Clements	0113 2892489 / thefoxthorner@gmail.com
THE MEXBOROUGH ARMS		0113 2893863 / www.themexborougharms.co.uk
THE VILLAGE CHIPPY	John and Amanda	07869 823 099 / ajpvillagechippy@gmail.com
THORNER BADMINTON CLUB (PM)	Rosie Cooke	0113 2892351
THORNER BECK GROUP	James Steer	thornerbeck@yahoo.com
THORNER COMMUNITY FUND	Mark Darley	thornercommunityfund@gmail.com
THORNER FILM CLUB	Val Forster	0113 2892758
THORNER 7 ASIDE FOOTBALL	George Coppock	07960 407 745 / Thorner Facebook 7 Aside
THORNER OLD SCHOOL CHARITY	Eleanor Courtman-Stock	Eleanor_courtman_stock@hotmail.com
THORNER/SCARCROFT POLICE	Geoff Nottingham - PCSO	01937 2855360 / Answer phone 0113 2855374
THORNER RAINBOWS	Helen Rafferty	0113 2893694 / thornerrainbows@gmail.com
THORNER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION	Gary Noble	07709 274 530
THORNER TREES GROUP	Claire Evans	thornertrees@gmx.co.uk
THORNER UKULELES	David Stainthorpe	dave.cyclesense@icloud.com
VICTORY HALL	Jenni Lacey	07368 318 891 / bookings@thornervictoryhall.co.uk
VILLAGE SHOW SOCIETY	Michele Firth	0113 2892430 / michelefirth636@btinternet.com
VILLAGE VISITING SCHEME	Beverley & Angus Yates, Maggie Hewitt	0113 2892811 & 0113 2892421
WALKING CLUB	Wendy Miller	07905 501145
WEBSITE	Peter Wilby	Click on 'Contact us' at www.thornervillage.org.uk
YOUTH CLUB (JNR & SENIOR)	Belinda Swift	0113 2892946
MOBILE LIBRARY	FRIDAYS	9:50am to 10:20am / Opposite Mexborough Arms
POST OFFICE SERVICES	THURSDAY MORNINGS	10.00am to 12 noon / The Bungalow

If details need updating or you would like to add your group please email: thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com