



THORNER NEWS

NOVEMBER 2020

CHAIRMAN'S INTRO WORKING FOR THE WHOLE VILLAGE

Unfortunately, by the time you read my Chairman's Intro we will again be back in a national lockdown and hence this electronic Thorner News. We intend to produce a second hard copy addition later this month, subject to satisfying any Government COVID 19 regulations, so that every household will receive a delivered and updated Thorner News in early December.

If we all play our part, then let us hope this will soon just be a reminder of how well together we managed to overcome this nasty pandemic.

Our special thanks go to the Feed the Need and Thorner Cares initiatives and the enclosed article will give you an insight into how they, as well as residents, supported our vulnerable residents magnificently during this time of need.

The full Council is now meeting remotely and, whilst not the ideal forum, we are getting on with our business and striving to achieve most of the goals we have set ourselves this year. These meetings are still open to the public and the Clerk will advise how to participate, should you so wish.

Now that we have gained the experience of working remotely we agreed at the Parish Council meeting held this month that it would be an opportunity to hold the next meeting in December as the belated Annual Parish Council meeting. This meeting will elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman to serve in office until May 2021.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we have created "Working Parties" that report back to the full Council for decisions. I can now confirm these Working Parties with each duly allocated Councillors.

Finance - Cllr's Scott Marshall, Steven Wood & Diane Gibbins.

Planning - Cllr's Sheila Llewellyn, Diane Gibbins & Alistair Scott.

Playground & Fitness Equipment - Cllr's Mark Harrison & Tom Mycock.

Maintenance - Cllr's Sheila Llewellyn, Alistair Scott & Tom Mycock.

Highways - Cllr's Scott Marshall and Steven Wood.

Gardens & Grass Cutting - Cllr's Diane Gibbins & Scott Marshall.

Newsletter - Cllr's Mark Harrison & Richard Clements.

Parishioners who wish to participate and contribute to any of the above should, in the first instance, contact the Clerk for more details.

We have also established excellent working relationships with the various Leeds City Council offices, namely Public Rights Of Way Office (PROW), Flood Risk Management (FRM), East Leeds Orbital Road (ELOR) representatives, as well as Yorkshire Rivers Dales Trust (Dr Marie Taylor), plus ongoing support from Cllr Sam Firth, our local Ward Councillor.

Andrew Walmsley has been appointed as our new Councillor and we welcome him on board as a valued member of the village farming community. I am sure Andrew's father, David, will be pleased and proud to see him following in his father's footsteps.

You can always contact our Clerk, who is there to support our Council, and will appropriately deal with any issues that you may wish to raise.

Please continue to read the rest of our Thorner News and thanks again to everybody for their contributions.

*Kind regards
Scott Marshall*

THORNER BECK GROUP

Following the article in last quarter's Thorner News, a new group has been established to help support the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust in their work with our community. Local volunteers will be helping this project by monitoring the impact of rain and flood events throughout the village, along Mill Beck, Thorner Beck, and their tributaries. In the future, it is envisaged that we will undertake conservation work alongside stakeholders in the village to ensure that the various watercourses in the village are as healthy as they can be - something we can all support given the charming character that our becks add to the village.

The initial focus is on Bottoms Wood, where monitoring will be ongoing in the coming months. We already have a small number of volunteers involved but would welcome more people joining us! If you are interested, please contact us at thornerbeck@yahoo.co.uk *James Steer*

CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL

The parish council would love to hear your feedback about our initiatives. Please email your views to thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com or in writing to the letterbox on the substation at the junction of The Paddock, Littlemoor Lane and Butts Garth.

All council correspondence to the Clerk: BARRY RILEY: thornerparishcouncil@gmail.com or 07444 791956
YOUR PARISH COUICLLORS ARE: SCOTT MARSHALL: 07925 379092 / MARK HARRISON: 07788 443 884 /
DIANE GIBBINS: 0113 289 3883 / SHEILA LLEWELLYN: 0113 289 2515 / RICHARD CLEMENTS: 0113 289 2489 /
TOM MYCOCK: 0113 289 2706 / STEVEN WOOD: 0113 289 3121 / ALISTAIR SCOTT: 07738 294 995 /
ANDREW WALMSLEY: 07709 797074. Visit the parish council web site at www.thorner-parish-council.org.uk



RAMSEY'S FOLD

The area now known as Ramsey's Fold, in honour of the many years of dedication to village maintenance by Dave Ramsey, is rented from Mexborough Estates by Thorner Parish Council for the enjoyment of the village, and will soon have a bench installed.

The area is set aside for wildlife and wild flora as a contrast to the trimmed and planned Millennium Green. With access down to Thorner Beck by the ford, this area is deliberately somewhat unkempt meaning it is alive with bees, butterflies and other insects through spring and summer. Native trees are encouraged and lightly maintained.

During the quiet time of winter, the maintenance working group will be installing a bench, removed from Millennium Green and restored. The bench is being provided to ensure there is a quiet spot to sit, relax and enjoy this space. We hope you venture down, pop in and take a load off to relax and enjoy nature. **Mark Harrison**

HIGHWAYS The Highways Working Party is responsible for various issues, including:

(1) SPEEDING

Following a serious road traffic accident (RTA) on Lower Sandhills, and complaints from residents, it has been agreed to monitor traffic (volume and speed) through the village, starting with Sandhills, but subsequently covering other roads considered to be a problem. Problems with the equipment have been resolved and surveys have started. We need volunteers to help. If you may be able to commit an hour or two to assist, please contact the working party lead, **Scott Marshall, on 07925 379092 or at scottmarshall2001@yahoo.co.uk**

(2) PARKING

The Working Party will liaise with the Local Authority and the police, as well as residents, to address the problems caused by inconsiderate parking, and parking generally, with particular reference to Main Street and Stead Lane.

(3) ROAD MAINTENANCE

The Working Party receives regular updates from Leeds about future highways repairs, and we have pursued individual matters to ensure maintenance work is carried out where required.

(4) BUTT GARTH/LITTLEMOOR LANE

Meetings have been held with various representatives of Leeds City Council, the Mexborough Estates representative and Yorkshire Rivers Dales Trust to address the excess water and silt that flows down the track from the old railway bridge in heavy rain, and which caused serious flooding in Butts Garth in 2019.

(5) EAST LEEDS ORBITAL ROAD (ELOR)

The members of the Working Party have been liaising with representatives of the contractors building the new road. Reports from ELOR are considered and publicised (e.g. on the village web site) so that residents are aware of the ongoing work, and potential problems

PLEASE if you wish to be involved in any of the work of this Party, and feel you have something to contribute, please contact **Scott Marshall, on 07925 379092 or at scottmarshall2001@yahoo.co.uk** **Scott Marshall**

FOOTPATHS

Our wonderful network of rural paths has been much used this year as more people have been at home and taken the opportunity to get out for exercise and fresh air close to home.

A consequence of this is the wear and tear on the infrastructure. A team of volunteers, with support from Leeds City Council Rights of Way Team, has over the year repaired various stiles, steps and 2 bridges, and, in addition, improved signposting and waymarking. (One stile step had to be replaced three times over three weeks due to, what appears to be, vandalism). We have cleared footpaths from overhanging vegetation, and this work continues, and there's more work imminent on repairing steps.

If you would like to be involved, when footpath maintenance work is planned, please send your contact details to [Steven Wood thornerwood@btinternet.com](mailto:Steven.Wood.thornerwood@btinternet.com) or call 2893121. Please use this contact also to report a problem with any path, or with any suggestions.

We have received support from our local farmers and landowners, which is vital in helping keep the footpath network usable. In return it is important that those using the footpaths show proper respect. This means:

- Staying on the marked rights of way
- Keeping dogs under close control and removing dog waste
- Not cycling on footpaths – only bridleways are designated for access by horses and cycles, as well as walkers
- Using with care the stiles and gates, and not climbing over or damaging adjacent fences

CARR LANE SAFETY

In the last Newsletter we described proposals to create a footpath inside the hedge boundary on Carr Lane, to avoid the risks of walking the narrow road when going to or from the Scarborough Walk and Eltofts. Following the article, and a Facebook post, we received over 60 responses supporting the proposal, and once we can be sure the costs can be met, an application will be made. We have submitted grant applications, but, with the current crisis, priorities for funding are for Covid 19 related issues. It may be a little while before the money can be raised. If you wish to add your views to comments made please contact Steven Wood as above. *Steven Wood*

THORNER CHRISTMAS TREES - elves needed

Winter is coming . . . which can mean only one thing: Planning for the Thorner Christmas trees! Despite the disruption caused by the pandemic, the annual light display will be going ahead this year.

So, this means we need volunteer Elves! Last year was a great team effort with many kind helpers devoting a little time on a Saturday to help prepare and fit the Christmas trees along Main Street.

Whatever the Tier level we are in, we will be complying with all the current regulations and guidelines to keep you safe. Which does mean I will need a full list beforehand of those would like to help, so we can allocate tasks.

All it requires is a willingness to get prickled and possibly a little damp in the fresh air. If you can help on Saturday 28th November, please email david@the-llewellyns.com as soon as you can. Thank you! *David Llewellyn.*



PICTURE CREDIT: PETER WILBY



ST PETER'S CHURCH, THORNER

The pandemic means that it is difficult to plan in detail for what is usually a busy Christmas period. We currently envisage putting services on as follows:

The Christingle Service to be organised by the School. Details will be provided to families in the next few weeks.

The Carol Service will be recorded as a live service on 13 December and will then be broadcast on YouTube on 20 December. The need to social distance means that seating capacity at the live service will be limited. Those who wish to attend the live service should contact me to reserve a place.

The Crib Service will take the form of a series of YouTube videos in the "On the Sofa" style that Debbie and I have been providing over the past few weeks (see the church YouTube channel for more details; search "Elmete Trinity Benefice" on YouTube).

Midnight Mass and Christmas Day services will both be small services with a booking system in place. Details of how to book will come nearer the time. We hope to be able to stream these services live for anyone who is not able to attend, so that people can be part of the services from home.

We continue to publish daily reflections and to provide access to services through the YouTube channel. Please contact me if you would like to receive notifications by email of the reflections and services, as well as announcements and updates concerning services and events in church.

Andy Nicholson

VICTORY HALL

There is no doubt that the recent months have been a difficult and challenging time for us all.

The Hall has remained open for a range of activities and events, but on a reduced basis due to the ongoing pandemic. The Hall Trustees have been working hard to monitor the situation, paying close attention to the changing rules and guidelines and how they impact the usage of the Hall.

The priority is and always has been, the safety and welfare of all who visit to use the facility. As such, new guidelines have been put in place to cover such measures as social distancing and further more extensive cleaning. We rely upon those who visit to follow these guidelines and ensure the Hall remains accessible for all who enjoy it in this safe, compliant manner. As the situation evolves and dependent upon new restrictions being put in place, some activities and events might be subject to change or cancellation at short notice. We appreciate this can be frustrating, but please bear with us whilst we take a 'safety first' approach.

We will continue to use the Victory Hall website and our social media channels to update you on any impact. **Thorner Victory Hall. www.thornervictoryhall.com**

TENNIS CLUB

Following our major refurbishment last year and with the enthusiasm of our coach, Nic Tweedy, we are delighted to say we have seen a surge in club membership. An increased uptake in coaching, tennis drills and players on court, along with adult and junior competitions, making this one of our most successful seasons for many years. The Club's Facebook page posts regular highlights, and although COVID has curtailed some of our more social activities this year, we are planning to continue with a winter programme for those interested. We are a Covid safe environment, adhering to government and LTA guidelines. So, do come and see what we have to offer, we do have a very welcoming membership and if you would like to join please send us a message to **thornertennis@gmail.com. Georgi Sinclair**

JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

Hi everyone I hope you are all keeping safe and well and as active as possible.

It doesn't look like the youth club will be able to restart this year due to the present circumstances but we are hopeful that things will change for the better in the new year.

In the meantime your youth club leaders and committee wish you all a Happy Christmas and we all have our collective fingers crossed for next year when we hope you will be able to meet up once again with your buddies for some fun activities. Stay safe.

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

THANK YOU ThornerCares & Thorner Feed the Need

The first national lock down impacted every single person in England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. We were all asked to stay at home, lives were disrupted, and the phrase key worker entered the vocabularies of many of us for the first time. A large number were advised to shield from Coronavirus and needed a support network to help them.

Many people around the world have been, and will continue to be, affected by Coronavirus whether directly or indirectly. In Thorner, two groups were created in a very short period: ThornerCares and Thorner Feed the Need. Both groups were voluntary compassionate groups who stepped up when it was needed and did amazing things.

ThornerCares was a network of volunteers created in just a few days to support the more vulnerable villagers, including older people and those who were shielding. A hot line was established where residents could contact the team and ask for help, and help was given in spadefuls.

ThornerCares started with an announcement at the Sunday morning service at St Peter's Church in mid-March, followed by a Facebook post later that morning. The message was that COVID was coming and, as a village, how could we come together to support those most vulnerable? 180 villagers quickly volunteered.

When the original request went out it was not clear what would be needed, but what was important was to provide a safety net so no one in the village had an unmet need nor was forgotten. Volunteers twice delivered leaflets to every home in the village to ensure that every villager knew that ThornerCares was there for them.

The group provided shopping, information, prescription collection, regular phone calls to support and check up on isolated villagers, organising mobile phone top-ups so shielding residents could contact family, providing access to cash and the like. The feedback ThornerCares got was that those they supported really valued the fact that they were being cared about, and that they always had someone to turn to as the helpline was open 24/7.

ThornerCares was led by **Shane Hayward-Giles, Karen McMahon, Simon Belcher, Jason Falk, Hilary Marsden** and **Peter Wilby**. It is impossible to list all of the volunteers as so many contributed so much and in so many different ways.

Within two weeks of setting up the support network, the organisers were approached to provide a delivery service for the GP practice when Thorner Surgery closed. A dedicated group of volunteers provided the service for sixteen weeks, delivering nearly a thousand prescriptions.

The volunteers provided information online via a dedicated website, as well as regular posts on the village Facebook page. Through these media, advice about accessing the local churches, the latest information from the GPs, advice on seeking help if suffering domestic violence, advice on keeping physically and mentally well, details of village/local shops and services, and accessing financial support were provided. The website also featured a handbook for volunteers to support them to work safely and effectively.

ThornerCares worked closely with Feed the Need throughout, and when Feed the Need closed, they worked with them to provide every user of their service with an information sheet of alternative supplies of meals, and brochures from a number of commercial providers. ThornerCares also benefitted from working with, or support from, St Peter's Church, Thorner School, the Over 60s, and the Community Fund.

While most of those who ThornerCares supported regained independence once the first lockdown ended and shielding guidelines were updated, three volunteers continue to provide regular significant support to those they met through ThornerCares, and other volunteers have stayed in touch with the villagers they supported.

ThornerCares was so successful, and professional, in its approach that it was awarded 'Trusted Organisation' status by Leeds City Council, meaning that it was seen as the primary support provider for Thorner residents by the council. ThornerCares succeeded because of the willingness of villagers to join together to support each other and is a real credit and achievement for Thorner.

While ThornerCares is 'quiet' now, many of the volunteers have indicated their willingness to be of service again should the need arise.

Thorner Feed the Need set up in the Victory Hall which has been forced to suddenly closed by the need to stay at home and avoid meeting indoors. The hall was originally built in celebration of the victory in WW1, another event that affected the lives of everyone in the country. Feed the Need took over the kitchen within two days of the lives of the nation changing. The hall now became the hub for an operation to feed those in Thorner who had been separated from their usual support network, the elderly, vulnerable or those who simply needed help.

Over fourteen weeks, the team prepared, cooked, and delivered over thirteen hundred meals. The team was formed quickly and extended not just to those in the kitchen, but order-takers, planners and delivery drivers and a fundraising team that supported the effort. Every one of those meals was provided for free and only voluntary donations were received.

Mark Darley, Mark Pickering, Steph Petch, Hattie Waterland, June Weatley, Tracy, Andrew and Cameron Morton, Gary and Nikki Johnson, Rob Staines and Thea Dodgson-Staines, Gill Hall and Elizabeth, Emma Waterland, William Darley, Lily Pickering, Sarah Worrel, Lucy Taylor, Katie Coppock, John and Catherine Wilson, Jason and Debra Falk, Thorner Victory Hall, LNER via Sara Borland, the teams at The Post Box Deli and The Fox Inn, Esme Darley, Charlie Waterland, Charlie and Judy Hammond, Carol and Don Orton, Chris Lord, Diane Eshelby, Hilary Marsden, Patrica Wood, Pete and Sue Schofield, The egg lady, Caroline Hullah, Rachel Williams, and Claire, Tom Kitchingman, Rob Staines of Stag Sportswear, Chris Ibbotson of Mr Mechanic, local photography stars George & Bella Coppock, Alistair Warren, Thorner Community Fund, Thorner Cares, Thorner Parish Council, GrillMarks, and Nova Scotia Farm Produce all came together to do a wonderful thing as a difficult time within our community.

For more information about what the Feed the Need team did, and what every one of the wonderful people above contributed, visit the team's web site www.dishestodinefor.co.uk/thorner.

Thorner Parish Council would like to say thank you to every one of the volunteers for both ThornerCares and Thorner Feed the Need, especially as we are back in national lock down. Thank you for everything you have done for this community, your neighbours, friends, and those you may not have known before, but who all benefitted from even a little support. It was a spectacular reaction and a sign of a great community.

Mark Harrison. Additional material provided by Shane Hayward-Giles.



NEW DEFIB ON CHURCH HILL

Jointly funded by the Local Housing Association Advisory Panel and Thorner Parish Council, the phone box near the entrance to school, at the top of Church Hill, is undergoing renovation to become home to a third defibrillator for the village. The defibrillator will be housed in a heated cabinet inside the phone box, which will have the glass signs replaced to identify it as containing a defibrillator. A new LED light will be installed that will operate on a timer switch.

This work involves repainting the phone box, installing an earth, reinstating the disconnected electricity supply, fitting of the light and cabinet, replacement of all windows, and the refurbishment of the door mechanism. A box will be attached to the rear to house the electricity meter and RCD. The first step is to repaint the box, which has been slowed by the autumn weather. We hope that this will be in place in time for Christmas and that it may help save a life one day.

Defibrillators can save lives. Below is the NHS guidance on how and when to administer CPR. A defibrillator should be sought if instructed to do so by the ambulance service. If you are administering CPR, send someone else to fetch the defibrillator. Do not stop CPR.

If someone is injured in an incident, first check that you and the casualty are not in any danger. If you are, make the situation safe. When it is safe to do so, assess the casualty and, if necessary, dial 999 or 112 for an ambulance. You can then carry out basic first aid. **For more info visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/first-aid/**

Mark Harrison



THORNER DIRECTORY_NOVEMBER 2020

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	Jason Falk	www.thornerover60sassociation.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	01132893850 / 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	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	Garry & Mandy	07475 106 830
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 / Over 60'S Centre

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

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