# North Thoresby Grainsby & Waithe Community News & Directory



#### **EDITION 10**

March to June 2024











**Previous page:** Top Left: Barbara Cooper pictured with the Memorial Tree, located in the Memorial Garden by the Parish Council and Events at Christmas time to remember 'those who have been loved and lost'. Top right: Academy pupils examine the woodland; Bottom left, Edna Procter who has lived her whole life in the village, near a photo of her parents, 1930s, at the opening of the Village History archive. Bottom right: Gill Robinson and Carol Pearson at the monthly Food Bank collection, Wesley Centre.

#### Reasons to be Cheerful

After the recent turmoil in the Village of North Thoresby, I thought of the very good things which go on here, to make it such a great place to live. I am personally involved in some of these activities which have enriched my life and made so many friends since I moved here in 2003. In no particular order:

Wesley Centre, weekly coffee mornings and services, occasional concerts.

Pop In Lunch Club, monthly. Sociable Soup monthly

Thoresby Singers and their concerts

The thriving Cricket, Football and Bowls Sports Clubs

The Knit and Natter group, Embroidery group, Art group.

The annual Art and Photography Exhibition

The Community News and Village Directory

'Events' Concerts and community events, lighting the Square at Christmas

The Rainbows and Brownies

WI monthly meetings and book group.

Table Top sales and Bingo

The villager who voluntarily cleans the streets

Food Bank collections monthly at the Wesley Centre

The annual Horticultural Show organised by 'Events' with so many exhibits in different categories, bringing together so many age groups

Church services every week and doors open to the community

The villagers who voluntarily help maintain the Memorial Garden

'Events' History Group presentations, archaeological dig, the publication of booklets about the village and creation of an Archive Centre.

The wonderful education being given to the children of the village

The Wesley Centre as community 'hub' – the Men's group, Thursday Get Together, Tuesday prayer meetings, Friday carpet bowls.

I am sorry if I have left some of the things you enjoy in the village, but hope this gives an insight of what North Thoresby means and the wonderful people who give their time and talents. **Di King** 

#### A Few Words from the Editors

The role of the Community News is to reflect the essence of what we consider to be the real North Thoresby; to advertise, report on and praise the activities of its civic groups and institutions, and to provide a historical record.

We make no apology for returning to the theme of community, time and time again in this publication, and we are proud to illustrate (as has been recorded elsewhere in this edition) what a truly vibrant and welcoming place North Thoresby is. The range of activities, clubs, interest groups, sports, and pursuits available for people of all ages, to meet and mix within North Thoresby could be considered impressive in a small town. In a village it is almost unprecedented. In a world, and a time, where much of the background noise to our lives is extremely challenging, there is so much here that can connect and uplift us, week-in, week-out, throughout the year.

In many ways, North Thoresby has preserved many features of an older form of village life. A village *can* still be a place where individuals – if they choose – are genuinely part of a community, where people collaborate and co-operate, and where individuals have spaces, and times, to interact in the wide range of common activities, led by active village groups, organisations and individuals, and underpinned by a common endeavour to make our lives fuller and more rewarding. A place where little things matter.

It is this sort of resilient place, old fashioned in the best of ways, that is reflected in Di King's 'reasons to be cheerful' list; then later in the publication, in Alan Mitchell's notion of 'community' as 'home,' and in all the 'What's On' details in these pages.

Yet, the 'recent turbulence' Di King refers to in the introduction to her list, does not fit well with this notion, and awareness of this has penetrated deeply into the community (and beyond). We have thought seriously about this before making any comment, and we will refer to one specific element only, in a context that has numerous strands.

We do not aim to provoke (it's time to move on), but we feel we have a duty to reflect a widespread view held in those community groups and

organisations most active in the village, and no doubt also by many villagers who have followed events in the age of social media with some bewilderment.

The bare facts are that late in January and early February, eight (of nine) Parish Councillors resigned in the face of what they experienced as a relentless campaign intent on discrediting them and dating back to before they actually took office in May 2023.

No rational person can deny that lines of decency and reasonable conduct have been repeatedly crossed over the last twelve months, social media has been weaponised, individuals treated with scant respect or courtesy, and with no consideration for their personal well-being.

Nobody should be subjected to this, especially a group of volunteers doing their best for their community. As a result, we have lost an enthusiastic group, full of ideas and plans (including the person who so ably led the campaign against the Beanland development), and a numerically stronger body of councillors than we have had for a very long time

Any Parish Council here is fortunate to have such an active institutional and voluntary sector and a Parish Council, intent on connecting with the whole community, can add great value to this network.

#### lan Wright and Alan Mitchell

As the Community News is published under the umbrella of North Thoresby Community Events Association (NTCEA or 'Events' for short) this article has been endorsed by the Events committee. Events is committed to the principle of collaboration and the Community News is always available to the PC as a channel of communication to the three villages.

Contacts: lan Wright <a href="mailto:iangwright@hotmail.com">iangwright@hotmail.com</a>
Alan Mitchell <a href="mailto:arcmitchel1962@gmail.com">arcmitchel1962@gmail.com</a>

Copies of 'The News' are delivered to every home in North Thoresby, Waithe and Grainsby. A digital version reaches a much wider audience.

#### **Village Threatened by National Grid Pylons**

Our village is under threat from 50m high pylons being proposed by The National Grid. The proposal is in the consultation stage and, by inspecting the routes they could take, it is possible they may be sited South of Grainsby Lane, then run towards North Thoresby passing our village just past the railway line on Station Road. The views looking North to Grimsby will be dominated by them.

It's hard to imagine what our new landscape would look like. To put it into perspective the highest building in North Thoresby is St. Helens Church. This stands at 16m high. The National Grid are going to put their 50m high pylons 300m apart so try and visualise a view looking North, seeing something more than three times taller than our church running over the A16 to the corner of the village and on to Fulstow.

Campaign group No Pylons Lincolnshire has been analysing all available information to fully assess the impact of National Grid's plan for the county, and it's not big... it's HUGE! The 87-mile pylon route all the way through Lincolnshire see more than 17,000 acres of land gobbled up in associated substations, transformers, solar farms, battery and hydrogen storage and new gas-fired power stations. Much of this land is grade 1 arable land - the finest food-growing land in the country - about which Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said this week, "We need to increase food production, food security is really important and we need to protect our prime agricultural land for that purpose."

National Grid admits these new land-based projects have already been contracted to connect to its proposed Grimsby to Walpole overhead cables, even though it is only now engaged in first-stage consultation with the public. The proposed projects are by generating companies and subject to planning approval - but are made possible by National Grid's Grimsby to Walpole pylons link. Cat Makinson, of No Pylons Lincolnshire, said:

"We are all for green energy and fully supportive of net zero goals; but that which can be produced and carried offshore is by far the best solution to the energy and farming crisis. "This is not just about power from offshore wind farms connecting to a pylon chain through Lincolnshire from Grimsby to Walpole. It's much, much bigger than that. It's about all the land-based infrastructure - solar farms, battery storage, power stations and hydrogen plants - that the new overland line will attract. And it is not yet clear how all this new infrastructure will connect to the new substations. This will impact many thousands and not just those who might be close to the pylons route and decision makers cannot look at the pylons plan in isolation.

We are calling for joined-up decision making that properly balances the needs of agriculture and energy and is respectful of communities in Lincolnshire. "We aim to persuade Government to take a closer look at the offshore alternatives

No Pylons Lincolnshire has spent the past five weeks analysing every word National Grid has made public and attended its consultation events to quiz its personnel. It has learned that the areas of land needed for the substations will be much more than National Grid has stated when the likely requirements of the associated transformers, solar arrays, energy storage and power stations are included. National Grid declared that in Grimsby the substation requirement would be around 30 acres. But, when the land to be also used for connecting related projects is included, the total area expands to a huge 3,824 acres. The two substations for the Alford area - Woodthorpe and Claythorpe - expand to 6,804 acres, Weston Marsh to 6,259 acres and Walpole to 178 acres.

Gas turbine stations at Mablethorpe and Walpole will have hydrogen plants which have not been included in No Pylons Lincolnshire's calculations as their sizes have not been specified by National Grid and battery storage facilities for the solar farms have not been included. Peter Phillips of No Pylons Lincolnshire said: "These calculations are based on National Grid's proposals and connections list. You can add about 40 acres for the footprint of all the pylons, but the added infrastructure that these will bring is the real story. It's around 26 square miles - about twice the size of Lincoln and its borough. It's the second industrial revolution creeping up on us here in Lincolnshire."

Farmers are outraged by the proposals. Hazel Needham, a thirdgeneration farmer at Fosdyke, said: "Food will be replaced by a harvest of electricity. We will have to import more food that we can grow here in Lincolnshire and that will cost everyone more."

No Pylons Lincolnshire wants National Grid to answer questions placed by residents daily on its Facebook site:

What is the full cost of the pylons scheme? – not just the capital costs – using the Government's Treasury Green Book assessment which is applied to public projects such as this.

Is there a likelihood of over production of electricity? if all the new onshore projects come to fruitition, including any associated with the 17 other Great Grid Upgrade proposals around the country; what will happen to any electricity produced that exceeds UK demand.?

A campaign group in Scotland - Communities B4 Power Companies - quotes a report compiled by National Grid ESO which says: "The total transmission queue currently stands at 430GW and this alone represents over seven times more capacity that the current peak demand in Great Britain (of 58GW) and over four times more capacity than the potential peak demand in Great Britain in 2050 (of 98GW)."

Cllr Colin Davie, Executive Councillor for Economy, Environment and Strategic Planning at Lincolnshire County Council, added: "National Grid will destroy forever the beauty of the Lincolnshire countryside and use our best growing land by turning it into an energy production hub. It would come at the expense of national food security, unnecessarily destroying the Lincolnshire countryside."

No Pylons Lincolnshire is continuing to oppose the pylons plan and support instead an undersea route and the establishment of an offshore integrated grid to enable connectivity at sea of the current offshore wind turbines and others coming online in the future.

Lincolnshire's MPs and Lincolnshire County Council are opposing the pylons plan and Victoria Atkins, MP for Horncastle and Louth, has launched a short four-question survey for constituents at <a href="https://www.victoriaatkins.org.uk/news/pylon-survey-offshore-alternative">www.victoriaatkins.org.uk/news/pylon-survey-offshore-alternative</a>
She believes National Grid has not meaningfully discussed an offshore alternative and that Lincolnshire is being treated unfairly. She is calling for an independent review of the offshore alternatives.

No Pylons Lincolnshire is urging everyone to take part in the current National Grid consultation, which ends on March 13.

The easiest way is to email your name and the sentence "I strongly oppose National Grid's pylons proposal for Grimsby to Walpole" to <a href="mailto:contact@g-w.nationalgrid.com">contact@g-w.nationalgrid.com</a> or write to Freepost G TO W (no stamp or further address required) or ask for a feedback form by emailing <a href="mailto:contact@g-w.nationalgrid.com">contact@g-w.nationalgrid.com</a> or by phoning 0800 0129 153 to request a consultation pack with feedback form and a Freepost return envelope. **Colin Goodwin** 

#### **North Thoresby and Utterby Academy**



## A big hello from everyone at North Thoresby Primary

So far this Spring Term the children have been taking part in a range of exciting activities and learning experiences in school.

#### Pancake Day Celebrations and Learning About Lent

Hills Class delved into the delightful tradition of Pancake Day! They not only enjoyed sampling four different toppings, but also took the opportunity to learn about the significance of Lent for Christians and its celebrations in various countries. Their exploration culminated in a fun activity where they charted each child's favourite topping, with jam emerging as the clear winner!

#### **Maths Adventures**

This year we have launched a new maths curriculum which has immersed the children in the world of mathematics.

Recently Potters Class have been engaged in hands-on learning with 3D shapes, which has also fed into their technology desian experimenting work. with stability and strength to design a new chair for 'Baby Bear' – a fun and educational journey into the world of geometry. Dahls Class have also



enjoyed their practical maths lessons, particularly those involving unit and non-unit fractions.



#### Valentine's Disco and Chinese New Year Festivities

Our Valentine's disco was a hit once again, with lots of dancing, games, and joy for everyone. Special thanks to Andy Carr and our

fantastic volunteers from FONTS for making the event possible!

Additionally, Hills class celebrated the Chinese (Lunar) New Year with gusto, enjoying yoga sessions, storytelling and even a 'dragon' parade around the school, followed by a delightful sampling of Chinese cuisine with children from Potters Class



#### Focus on Mental Health and Dental Hygiene

During Mental Health Week, the Riordans delved into the science of wellbeing, exploring the mind-brain connection, and crafting a special game to empower children to express their emotions. Our younger children also had a valuable session on dental hygiene, learning from a parent and former dental nurse about the importance of oral health.



#### Safer Internet Day and Environmental Exploration

On Safer Internet Day, the Riordans were hard at work analysing strategies for online safety, covering topics from cyberbullying to privacy concerns. Meanwhile, Dahls Class turned into environmental scientists during their trip to Willingham Woods, observing living things and learning about different ecosystems. The Riordans too have been deep in scientific inquiry, investigating the theory of evolution and exploring the effectiveness of different bird beaks.

#### **Engaging History Lessons**

Riordans Class delved into the depths of history, focusing on World War 1, and learning about trench warfare in their Conflict and Resolution topic. They looked at a diagram of a trench, learning about the details and method of construction and what conditions were like for the 'Tommie's.'

#### School Council

Our older school council members rocked the stage with an inspiring assembly, diving deep into the urgent issue of plastic

pollution in our oceans. Engaging, interactive, and packed with valuable insights – a call to action for a cleaner, healthier planet! It has been an exciting and enriching time at our school, filled with learning, creativity, and fun!



Above Left – more of the Chinese New Year
Above Right – Working on Evolution





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#### **The Village History Archive**

On February 14<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the opening of the Archive Centre in the Wesley Centre with a display of 150 photographs and documents stretching back to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with a particularly good selection from the 1940s and 1950s. Many of the 60 people who attended were able to see their younger selves in school photographs, Young Farmers activities or Sunday School trips.

The Wesley Centre was the village school until the 1980s and the Archive Centre is located in one of the upstairs rooms of what was once the Headteacher's accommodation, with a permanent display in the ground hallway, the walls going upstairs, on the landing and in the Archive room itself. Small groups were taken up and given a little tour and an explanation of the kind of documents we have in the Archive. We then had a session where long term residents were prompted to give us recollections of the village and some interesting and amusing revelations came forward. We are following this up with an oral history project where we will collect the memories of residents, some who have lived for over 80 years in the village.

What is an archive, why have we established one and what's in ours?

An archive is 'a collection of historical documents or records providing information about a place, an institution, an event, or group of people, or all of these'. An archive therefore 'preserves' what might otherwise be



lost by storing information and bringing information together, organised and catalogued, so it can be used as evidence in а historical narrative ('telling the story'), in our case, numerous aspects of the village and its people. For us, this is a long story indeed with finds of 'worked' flint quite common here and perhaps 4,000 years old; substantial Roman artifacts; evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlement in a settlement named after a Viking invader, and a population of around 400 at the time of the Domesday Book of 1086.

We are equally interested in more recent times – what social activities did people get up to in the nineteenth century or in the 1980s and 1990s; how and why did literacy progress in the nineteenth century; what did the village look like at the beginning of the twentieth century or in the 1970s or 1990s. Understandably, the nearer to events, circumstance, changes and experiences in their own lifetimes and their own territory, the more interest and excitement we get from our members, although we try to balance this with a wider perspective because we can only understand the history of our village in the context of wider events and circumstances.

We have a lot of material, and a lot of variety in our Archive.

Just a snapshot:
We have a collection of documents taking us back to the sixteenth century – transcripts of St Helens Church



records of births, marriages and deaths from the 1570s to the 1980s. In 1608, the King personally owned all but a small fragment of the land in North Thoresby through the Duchy of Lancaster; and a transcript of a survey of that year lists all the tenants, a description of their land and buildings and how much rent they paid. For a period either side of 1600, we have a transcript of the Manor Court, the institution which regulated the farming in the village. We have copies of the census for the village for 1871 (together with detailed analysis) and 1891.

We have a collection of extracts from the county newspapers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century which detail events in North Thoresby such as:

**Stamford Mercury 24th May 1839:** Disgraceful Scene – A prize fight took place on Sunday night in the village of North Thoresby near Louth, for a sovereign aside, between two ruffians – a celebrated boniface being Major-Domo of the affair.

We have a collection of large sale posters advertising sales of land, timber or cattle in North Thoresby between 1902-1942, a sizeable collection of photographs from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, of both village locations and village people and excellent collection of group photos



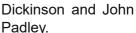
from the late 1940s and 1950s into the including 1960s school groups, Sunday School trips, sports teams. have a collection of news cuttings from the 1980s and 1990s regarding activities in the village like pantomimes and sponsored walks.

In 1965 and 1980, the Women's Institute produced wonderful 'scrapbooks' (actually large hardback albums) of the village – contemporary descriptions, of the village, photographs, maps and drawings. We have a nineteenth century fire sign that was originally on the shop – now Morrisons – and original calendars issued by village shops in 1891, 1914 and 1915. More up to date, we have a display of Claire Cooper's artistic posters advertising events in the village – and extracts from the Parish news in the 1890s as well as copies of the Community News in the 21st century.

The purpose of the Archive is to preserve not only documents from the past but also from today, which soon becomes tomorrow's past.

We have a silver shilling of 1698 discovered during the archaeological dig of October 2023. We have produced 4 substantial booklets of our own since 2021, drawing on many of the sources now safely in the Archive.

The collections made and saved by Elizabeth and Bob Kershaw have provided a nucleus of the material. Local Historian, the late Tom Wood was responsible for major work transcribing original documents so they are accessible today – including the Parish registers. Similarly, Doreen Tyson has transcribed the Wesleyan School log book from 1862-1900 and made extracts from the parish Newsletters of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Important donations of photographs, documents and newspaper cuttings have come from Barbara McKinnell, Gill Hubbard, Margaret Gibson, Chris Cliffe, Des Green, the Oxby family collection, Val Savage, Andrew





The Archive has been put together by a small dedicated team working with on Monday me afternoons for over a year - Anita Briggs, Janet Clarke, Tim Newcomb and Paul Smallwood. Claire Cooper has chased sources to provide information on the

'people in the picture' from a century or more ago. We are indebted to Alan Mitchell for donating a computer system to the Archive, and enormously grateful to the Wesley Centre for providing a home for the Archive.

Where to next? The Archive gives us a base to build resources and 'jump off' onto new projects, giving members of the group opportunities to be involved in research. An oral History project is already in its early stages and we will encourage History Group members to use archive materials

to undertake research topics – for example, tracing the degree of continuity of family surnames in the village from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards. There's work to be done on the origins of street names in the village and on the War Memorial. There are also considerable gaps in the Archive, especially more recent history and we will systematically put out appeals for documents from the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, and the first two decades of this century. We will hold a couple of open days this year to display the photos and documents and hope to link up with the Academy in their study of history. In time, we'll establish regular times when there will be access to the archives but in the meantime, I'm regularly there with volunteers on Monday afternoons from 2-4 and you can also contact me for your specific interests.

Anita, Paul and I completed a first step in using the archive to do research early in March by using the Parish marriage records from the 1570s to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to trace the growth of literacy – by law, brides and grooms had to sign or make a mark.

I'm sure many homes in the village have items which were once 'everyday', but are now of interest and we welcome any contributions. We can scan photographs and other documents and return them to you. We know where there is a good home! **IW** 

Photographs included with this article: Barbara McKinnell (nee Kane) and John Norris reunited with a 1950 school photo; some of the 150 photos on display; Sue Ash whose grandparents, the Roberts, owned the shop in the Square from 1898; a view of the permanent display and Archive Centre.

**The History Group** meets 8 times a year, on the second Thursday of the month in the Village Hall, 7.30, in the months January-April and September-December, with other activities in the intervening period. £3 No membership fee.

Special Meeting: **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** 'Village Voices : An introduction to oral history projects – kickstart our own projects. Wesley Centre 7.30

Thursday 11th April, Jon Fox, 'The Witham: Lincolnshire's River'.

Contact: Ian Wright iangwright@hotmail.com

### LOUTH RIVERHEAD THEATRE

## Coming soon April, May & June

#### April

11<sup>TH</sup>-13TH—PICCADILLY CIRCUS – SCRATCH NIGHT 2023

WINNER 7.30PM

17TH—WUTHERING HEIGHTS 7 30PM

20TH—QUEEN II 7.30PM

#### May

3<sup>RD</sup> - YOUNG FITON 7.30PM

4TH - COMEDY NIGHT 8,00PM

7<sup>th</sup> – 7ARAKAN AFTERNOON TEA CONCERTS 2.00PM

8TH - OLIVE BOY 7.30PM

11TH-MAYBE DICK 7.30PM

15<sup>TH</sup> – 26<sup>TH</sup> OLIVER! VARIOUS TIMES, PLEASE SEE WEBSITE

29TH - OPEN MIC NIGHT 7.30PM

30TH - ALFIE MOORE 7.30PM

31<sup>ST</sup> - ATOMIC PINK FLOYD 7.30 PM

#### June

1<sup>ST</sup> - STEVE WALKER BIG BAND 7.30PM

7TH - ALL REVVED UP! THE ULTIMATE MEATLOAF TRIBUTE

7 30PM

8<sup>TH</sup> - SEARCH FOR A STAR FINALS 7.30PM

14TH - A NIGHT WITH THE SOUL SOLUTION 7.30PM

20TH - 22ND HMS PINAFORE 7.30PM

29TH SOUNDS OF SIMON 7.30PM

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#### **Notes from the Orchard**

Hello, and thanks for not skipping over these pages! It was lovely to be asked to contribute to the ever-evolving Community News & Events magazine and I hope you find something in my little part of it to enjoy.



Over recent months I have been thinking about community and what ingredients are required to create a healthy one. As a family we are still new to the village, having moved here in July 2021, but we are leaving the safety of our garden and come out to explore and participate a little bit more.

For me, joining the History Group, giving the Bowls Club a go, and meeting the Editor of this great enterprise (Ian Wright), I have begun to feel a little more at home. Sadly, health issues limit what I can do, but I do what I can.

A community is much more than a collection of roads, houses, or a shop or two. It's the feeling you get when you see neighbours in the street or pass them in their gardens and pause to pass the time of day. It is the sense of extended companionship you feel when you drive by the Village Hall or the Wesley Centre and see the lights are on, there are cars parked outside and you know, you just know; that people are inside gathered for a variety of communal pursuits and activities.

Of course, we all belong, or become part of, a variety of communities across even a basic day – at home, whilst travelling, or at work. In fact, everywhere there are people congregated and connecting. A village is very much like a family, and like any family there are always differing views and agendas all mixing and percolating and connecting.

We moved from a small village in Essex because each time we visited this part of Lincolnshire and drove around this village we saw people greeting each other in the street and coming out of their gardens to chat to each other. We looked at the various clubs and events on the Village Hall noticeboard and we could see how vibrant and connected the village was, and we wanted to be part of that, to become part of the community of North Thoresby.

There is so much in this world that separates us, that silo's us into solo places and spaces. But one thing can connect us if we let it; a sense of community, a sense of belonging. A sense of being *home*.

I reviewed a few of my 2023 poems to find a couple which have a sense of community at their core.

A simple poem written in bed one April morning [RIGHT], was my first choice. I could hear the world outside in all its colours and sounds and revelled in not

#### **REPAIR SHOP**

Just little pieces of nothing brought to the barn that day Values are often in pennies with little for experts to say

yet ask what the owner is hoping and what The Repair Shop can do to fix these pieces of nothing with fabrics (and sometimes with glue)

Owners will leave them behind then the saddest of sights for to see Their patience is simply amazing you wonder at how that can be

The owners just sit and await it at home with a sad empty space Living with mem'ries and hopes, that the repair may just light up their face

The day comes to pick up this nothing we watch the reveal and then smile
The tears flow, these nothings' so precious
The Repair Shop will go extra mile

Home, Lincs, 2057 Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023

#### MORNING

It is the music of the morning daylight dapples through the sound of traffic moving, buses mainly hear their engines rumble round

streets of village, fairly few roads seagulls join in sweet refrain Drown out all but pigeons calling soft in morning, cannot name

the early birds who now seem silent chorus quiets, subtle hues daylight frames my single window hear the cawing, think of you

and now is done, the music over choir breaks to many parts and I am left in bed there reading needing not the day to start

Bed, Home, Lincs, 0633

having to get up when birds, buses and daylight burst into my room.

The second one [LEFT] is where I take a chance that some of you may know the amazing BBC show of the poems title.

The family stories behind the pieces brought so carefully in to 'The Shop' reminded me of personal and family history world events and people who may no

longer be with us, and of so many places changed forever.

Thank you for reading this offering from me. I was lucky to have won a couple of awards at the 2023 Hammond House International Literary Prize so I am feeling good about my various creative endeavours. I do enjoy sharing them with you and anyone who will listen (or cannot escape quickly enough!). Stay safe and be kind to each other,

Alan

#### **North Thoresby FC**

The football team have continued to make great progress into the New year, finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Division 1 of the East Lincs Football Combination before the Christmas and New Year break. Leading into 2024, there were very few games played due to waterlogged and frozen pitches. Play resumed, 7 weeks after our last game, on January 13<sup>th</sup> a 4-0 win against Grimoldby in round one of our Division 1 Cup. Two weeks later, we played Manby in the Quarter final of the Junior Challenge Cup, the cup we won last season. Unfortunately losing 2-0. The following week we went down to a heavy defeat against Clee town A in round 2 of the Division 1 Cup due to a depleted squad.

Now we can concentrate on winning the Division as we are well placed with 10 games left to play, having played 8 games with 7 wins and 1 draw giving us 22 points. We are only 2 points behind North Somercotes and Grimsby Borough Development, the present league leaders, with 4 games in hand. For both sports contact: Dave Bedlow davebedlow9@gmail.com

#### **North Thoresby CC**

With spring in the air, our thoughts are looking forward to the start of our cricket season, which this year will be in early May. Before then there is preparation needed to the outfield and the wicket as well as repairs and maintenance to the pavilion.

Thoresby CC who play in the Grimsby and District mid-week Cricket League have been promoted to Division 1 this season so will have some tough games to play against strong opponents. There will be games on our ground most weeks from May until the end of August with Newglaze CC and Beacon Hill CC playing their home games on our ground. Details of fixtures will be posted in the notice board. A reminder that spectators are always welcome and there will be refreshments available.

#### North Thoresby Embroidery Group Meetings 2024

19<sup>th</sup> October, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 7<sup>th</sup> December We meet in the Wesley Centre 10.30- 3 pm. £15 per day. Packed lunch and drink required. **Contact: Jacqui Toyne: 01472-840246** 

#### **North Thoresby & District Bowls Club**

Would you like to learn to play lawn bowls? Lawn bowls is a great game for all ages, inexpensive, not strenuous and easy to learn. We are a fun, friendly club where new members, both experienced and beginners are



welcome. We have social bowling during the week at times various and Saturday afternoons starting from April 20th at 1:30pm. We compete in two competitive leagues and have matches Tuesday night Wednesday afternoon. We also have internal competitions.

Pop along to one of our social sessions or come and meet us whenever you see members bowling. We have

spare equipment for you to use. We have plenty of room in our club for anyone who likes to challenge themselves by learning a new skill.

**Photograph**; Club President Sylvia Watkins and Team Captain Tim Prescott pictured with the Wolds League Winners Trophy won by the Club in the 2023 season.

For further information call **Malcolm Huson on 07701386540 or email us at Norththoresbybowls@gmail.com**. During the bowling season you can follow the internal competitions on Facebook. Search for North Thoresby & District Bowls Club.

The annual Horticultural Show will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September. Details in the July Edition.

#### **Pop In Luncheon Dates**

#### Village Hall 12 noon £5

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June

June 6<sup>th</sup> is the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day and the lunch will include wartime themed entertainment.

Thursday 11th July Grand Summer Lunch

#### **Sociable Soup**

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month we have the Sociable Soup at North Thoresby Village Hall. There is a choice of 2 soups, bread rolls, tea or coffee and cake.

Everyone is welcome – no booking necessary – if you have any specific dietary requirements please contact me and I will try and accommodate wherever possible. There is no cost. It is a welcoming, friendly warm space for all.

If you have any friends or neighbours that would like Soup, a roll and a cake but can't make it, there is an option for a take-away facility. You can bring your own containers or contact me and I can provide you with one.

Heather 841127.

The next dates for the Sociable Soup are:

Thursday 21st March - Thursday 18th April - Thursday 18th May 2024 - Thursday 20th June 2024 - Thursday 18th July 2024

#### St Helens Church

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** Easter Extravaganza 10.00a.m. -12.00 a.m. Church decorated with Eggs and Rabbits plus stalls. Bric-a-Brac, Cakes. Tombola, Raffle and Refreshments.

**Weekly Services** each Sunday at 10p.m. Information on Notice Board in The Square.

#### **Warm Packs**

Through North Kesteven District Council I have got access to applications for Warm Packs. If you need any of the items below or know of any friends, relatives or neighbours that would benefit from them, (you can apply for some or all items), please contact me and I will go through the application process with you/them and help with collection from the distribution centres. I can also provide a handy money saving guide. **Heather Howard** Heather 841127.

#### Typical items in a warm pack:

Blanket (double) --Carbon monoxide monitor-- Dynamo torch - Foot warmer (single use) - Hand warmers - Heated insoles (Ladies)
Heated insoles (Men's) - Hot water bottle - LED key ring torch - Radiator
Valve Key - Self-heating blankets - Sim card - Slow cooker Socks (extra thick) - Thermal gloves (touchscreen) - Thermal hat
Thermal scarf - Thermal socks (Ladies) - Thermal socks (Men's) Torch with batteries - Water saving brochure - Water saving device

#### **Prayer at the Wesleyan Church**

On the first Saturday of each month, the Methodist Church will be open for a time of quiet prayer between 9.30 am and 11am. Just pop in as you wish.

There will be a longer Prayer Day on Saturday13<sup>th</sup> July between 10am and 4pm. There are 'Prayer Boxes' on the chapel wall and in the Wesley Centre for anyone who would like a prayer to be added to our Prayer List at Sunday morning services.

#### North Thoresby and District Women's Institute

Meetings 7.30pm, Wesley Centre on the first Tuesday of the month. Visitors are welcome. Contact: Linda Dickinson 01472 840030

April 2<sup>nd</sup> Mrs Merryweather (alias Jackie Newborough)

May 7<sup>th</sup> Resolutions and Competitions

June 4th The Girl Pat – Pat Gardner

July 2<sup>nd</sup> Fraud – Kevin Johnson (from HSBC)

#### **Local Business Celebrates 50 Years of Operation**

This year sees Platers proudly celebrating 50 years in business. Started in 1974, by John and Betty Plater, as J W Plater Limited. Platers, has remained an independent family run business now into the third generation, trading as Platers Fencing and Garden Buildings.

Mark and Richard Plater now head up the Company, supported by Linda, Louise and Lily Plater and a fantastic team of staff many of whom are long serving employees. John, Betty, Mark, Linda and their family have lived in North Thoresby for over 19 years, with Mark and Linda's children attending North Thoresby Primary school.

Linda explains that the company offers domestic and commercial fencing and timber within the local area, operating across two sites with the main hub of the business being the Marshchapel timber mill. Here, they manufacture to order bespoke timber gates and garden buildings. The Grimsby sales office and yard is also home to the company showroom, where displays of garden furniture products as well as all the range of garden buildings.

Platers has a team of 24 staff, all highly trained in their respective areas of fence installation, manufacture and sales staff. The team are on hand for help and advice on any of the company's services and products and offer free, no obligation quotations, for all installation work, as well as free site visits for garden buildings.

The Company have supplied and installed storage sheds and fencing at both North Thoresby and Utterby Primary Schools over the years and supplied sheds, summerhouses and fencing at numerous villagers properties.

The family would like to take this opportunity to thank all their loyal customers past and present for their continued support. 'Here's to many more years of delivering quality and reliability to the local area'.





The Timber Mill, Church Lane, Marshchapel, DN36 5TW Charlton Street, Grimsby, N.E. Lincolnshire, DN31 1SQ



Tel: 01472 343459

Email: info@platersfencing.co.uk

www.platersfencing.co.uk

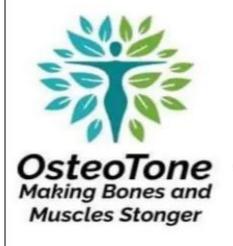
## Andy's Mobile Valeting

Tel: 07504861973

Prices for 2023

Full Valet: 4x4 or MPVs £40 Full Valet: Cars General Use: £35 £40 if used for Dogs

Detailed Wash and Hoover Service includes alloys cleaned and tyres and trims treated Vans 4x4s or MPVs £25; Cars £20





Fun classic aerobics with Mary on Wednesdays 9.30-10.30am in NT Village Hall. All levels of fitness and a variety of styles including my brand new OsteoTone. Call Mary 07837168454 over 23 years experience of running classes.

#### **Morrison's Boost**

It's 10 months since Morrison's opened their 400<sup>th</sup> new store in the village, so I recently asked Manager Wendy Conroy about the impact this has had. She told me:

'Since the change-over I think there's a positive impact within the village as we are now able to provide a much wider range of products. We



continue to listen to our customers and what they would like us to stock and are trying our hardest to bring these products into store. All the staff are much happier now we have a successful store and enjoy serving our customers'. Photo: Wendv and Keelv happy at work. IW

#### **North Thoresby Singers**

After a busy Christmas season, with performances at Marshchapel, Ludborough, North Thoresby Methodist Chapel and St Helens Church North Thoresby, we are back into our rehearsal cycle of 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month in the Wesley centre, 7.30 to 9.00 pm. We had a wonderful concert, to a packed audience, in St Helens with Caistor Male Voice Choir on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

We are always pleased to see new faces, you don't have to read music, just be enthusiastic! We already have bookings for October,(Turn Louth Pink, St James, 25 Oct) and Ludborough Carols and North Thoresby Methodists, hopefully both December.

Contacts: Graham Burrell 01472 840034 or Anita Briggs 01472 840803 briggs2@yahoo.co.uk.

### **The Saddlery Holiday Cottage**



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#### **Regular Activities in the Village Hall**

- Yoga: Weekly, Mondays 1.30/3.00. Janice Davy 01472 879828
- Exercise 2 Socialise: Weekly, Wednesdays 9.30/10.30. Mary Ramsden 07837168454
- Tai Chi: Weekly Fridays 1-2 pm Josh 07964712246
- Church Bingo: Last Friday of the month. Des Green 01472 840160
- Church Tabletop Sale: Second Saturday of the month. April to July Des Green 01472 840160
- Pop-In Luncheon Club Generally 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in the month (not Christmas lunch). Contact: Di King <u>diking216@btinternet.com</u>

#### North Thoresby, Grainsby and Waithe Parish Council

Website: parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/NorthThoresbyGrainsbyandWaithe

Email: norththoresbyparishcouncil@gmail.com

North Thoresby Village Hall Hire Main Hall: Non-Profit organisations £12 per hour; Commercial £15. Main Hall Day rate (up to 8 hours): £60. Block booking discounts available. Contact: Mark Wilson 0798442487 mark.caretaker@yahoo.co.uk

#### **Art and Photography Exhibition**

We are happy to announce that this year's Art & Photography Exhibition will be from **Thursday 20**<sup>th</sup> **June to Saturday 22**<sup>nd</sup> **June in the Wesleyan Chapel.** The Exhibition has grown steadily each year, attracting visitors from well beyond the village. The range of exhibits has also become more varied. Last year as well as paintings and photographs we were able to enjoy some stained glass work and metal sculpture. There will be another opportunity to watch Martyn sculpt his amazing paper angels. at work and local artist Lynne is going to demonstrate how she produces her amazing canvases.

Entries are encouraged from artists of all ages. Last year our youngest entrant was only 7 and our oldest well into their eighties. However, we would also like some entries from teenagers. Are you taking GCSE or A level Art or do you just enjoy Art or Photography? If so, we would love to see your work. It's not a competition, just an opportunity to share some of the wonderful Art and Photography produced in the village and possibly sell or purchase some, too.

#### **A Big Adventure**

The owners of the new village shop have embarked on a new path in their young lives which they describe as 'exciting, but scary.' Hardas and his wife Santok have been preparing for the March 9<sup>th</sup> opening for three months, living above the shop, completely renovating the property and organising the fitting out of the shop. They have come to us from Leicester, with family connections locally, as Santok's uncle runs a shop and Post Office in Binbrook. They have come from good jobs, Hardas with Asda and Santok in a Bank, but with encouragement from family they have taken a brave step in a new direction. While they have no experience in running a retail outlet, they have not been short of advice



as Santok's three sisters all run businesses. They have made applications to re-establish a Post Office in the premises, but this is still in its early stages.

This charming and enthusiastic couple, full of ideas, are not intimidated by the hard work in front of them, running the business themselves, without additional

staff, at least to begin with, and with opening hours of 7 to 7 Monday-Saturday and 8 til 1 on Sunday.

With two young children, 4-year old son Ansh and 7-month old sister Anya, they have wanted to move out of city life for some time and they already love being here, finding the village so friendly and welcoming and enjoying the clean air. They are



determined to be part of the community and Santok has already been to the Bingo, and Ansh is happily settled in school at Utterby.

Above: During the shop re-fitting a little bit of village history was briefly revealed **IW** 

### Yoga

#### North Thoresby Village Hall Mondays 1.30 – 3.00

#### Beginners and more advanced students welcome

Whatever your age or physical condition, yoga helps you keep in touch with your body and mind.

Learn how to: \*combat stress \*release tensions \*improve breathing \*increase your flexibility \*release stiffness \*improve mobility

For further information please contact Janice on 01472-879828 or jan.davie@gmail.com

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#### Village Groups that meet regularly in the Wesley Centre

Knit and Natter: Every Monday afternoon from 2-4pm. Margaret Gibson 840698

Women's Institute: 1st Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. Linda Dickinson 840030

**Art Group:** Tuesday 1 – 4pm. Judith Goodey 840461 **Needlecrafts:** Various dates Jacqui Toyne 840246

Parent and Toddlers: Mondays 9.30am. Emma Carey 0791009757

Facebook: North Thoresby Playgroup

Rainbows and Brownies: Friday Rainbows 5–6pm Brownies 6-7.30pm

norththoresbyrainbowbrownies@gmail.com

Carpet Bowls: Friday 2pm. Edna Procter 840340

'Inner Voice': Contact Denise Padbury 07881 422648

Thoresby Singers: 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. 7.30pm. Anita Briggs

840803

#### **North Thoresby Methodist Church: Regular Events**

Minister Revd. Susan Chambers Tel: 01472 696113. Apart from Sunday worship and Bible Study, events take place at the Wesley Centre. Sunday: Service every week at 11am. In the Chapel.

- Monday: Bible Study and Fellowship at 7.30pm.
- Tuesday: Informal Worship round the coffee table 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9.45am.
- Tuesday: Coffee Morning Pop-In. Coffee and Chat raising money for charities. 10.30 - 11.30am.
- Thursday: Get-Together fortnightly, September to Easter at 2pm. Contact Lynne Dudgeon 01472 840720
- Saturday: Collection for Food Bank. First Saturday of each month, 9.30am to 11am.
- Every Thursday Village Men's Group: 10 11.30am. Graham Pearson 841812

All are welcome at all these events. Just turn up or for more information please phone: Lynne Dudgeon 01472 840720; Elizabeth Kershaw 01472 840009; Faith Faulkner 01507 363626; Kathy Hart 01507 363626.

#### From Lincolnshire Newspapers in the 19th Century

**Stamford Mercury 24th May 1839:** Disgraceful Scene – A prize fight took place on Sunday night in the village of North Thoresby near Louth, for a sovereign aside, between two ruffians – a celebrated boniface being Major-Domo of the affair.

**Stamford Mercury 27th September 1839:** An inquest was held at North Thoresby before the coroner F.F. Goe on the body of a child named Stones, which came to his death by having oil of vitriol administered instead of an anodyne: the mistake occurred through the negligence of a shop keeper's wife named Dowse whom the coroner severely reprimanded. Verdict 'Accidental Death'. [George Stones was buried in St. Helen's Churchyard 25th September 1839, aged 7 months]

Stamford Mercury 4th June 1840: Teetotalism – On Thursday the 28th ult the second anniversary of the North Thoresby Total Abstinence Society was held. A numerous and well-dressed procession, headed by that zealous advocate, the Rev. J.M. Holt, and an excellent band, paraded the village, and marched as far as Ludboro' and back, after which they, together with a numerous company in Mr. Barker's spacious barn, partook of tea and cake. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, the above Rev. Gent in the chair, the meeting was addressed by Messrs Parker and Thompson, and the district agent, Mr. Leighs of London. A short time ago, the village of North Thoresby was called "Drunken Thoresby" but now it has cast off that degrading appellation and is termed "Sober Thoresby".

Lincolnshire Chronicle 27th August 1841: Yesterday night week, three cottages at North Thoresby belonging to William Glover of that place were burnt down. The fire is supposed to have originated from one of the occupiers having placed some kindling under the grate which ignited from some embers, and from which the chimney first took fire. The inmates, unconscious of the danger surrounding them, slept soundly until about two o'clock by which time the flames had made sad havoc with their humble dwellings, and had not they been aroused by some neighbours, it is feared that they would have perished in the flames. We understand that most of the furniture in the houses was consumed and in addition one poor man, a rag gatherer had rags to the value of £8 totally destroyed. We believe the houses were not insured,

consequently the loss is heavy upon the proprietor, who is an old man, and whose livelihood materially depended upon the rents therefrom.

**Stamford Mercury 22nd April 1853**: Strike of Agricultural Labourers – A general rise appears to be taking place in the wages of the labourers in the neighbourhood of North Thoresby. On Monday last a wealthy farmer of that parish was about to commence thrashing by steam, when all his hands refused to begin operating unless their wages were advanced to 1s 6d per day for women and 3s for men. The demand was acceded to.

Lincolnshire Chronicle 9th September 1853: William Croft Smith of the 'Granby Inn' in the parish of North Thoresby was summoned by the superintendent charged with drawing ale during divine service on the morning of the 28th of August. Fined £1 and costs and cautioned as to the manner of conducting the house in future.

The Hull Packet 16th June 1854: Fatal Accident – On Friday morning last about 10 o'clock Mrs. Ann Ingoldby the mother of James Ingoldby, carrier of North Thoresby was driving her son's cart to the market in his absence at the wedding of a relative and in crossing the railway bridge at the entrance to the town, an engine then passing under the bridge gave a sudden whistle, which caused the horse to shy and throw her out of the cart. She fell upon her head and the wheel of the cart passed over her neck. When taken up she was dead. At the inquest the jury remarked that over the railway bridge was the principal thoroughfare into the town, and being so near the station, there was a constant whistling of the engines and blowing off of steam, in consequence whereof the shying of horses in passing was of frequent occurrence, and, in some cases several very narrow escapes. They requested the coroner to write to the manager on the subject.

**Lincolnshire Chronicle 1st August 1868:** Sarah Bradley pleaded guilty to endeavouring to conceal the birth of her illegitimate child at North Thoresby on 12th July 1868. She was imprisoned for 12 months with hard labour.

With Thanks to Doreen Tyson. Many more in the Archive.

NTCEA presents... with Mostlyn Roper of Washboard Resonators & Rich Miller Saturday 23rd March 2024 7:30pm (doors open at 7:00pm) The Village Hall, North Thoresby Tickets £7.50 each from the shop or email claire.1940s@hotmail.com to reserve Bring your own refreshments



## North Thoresby Community News & Directory

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