

North Thoresby Community News and Directory



Edition 8 July-October 2023



Val Savage, who ran the shop for many years with her parents, opens the new Morrison's store in the Square – their 400th new store. The building has been a shop for at least 120 years.

Some of the 'Knit and Knatter' ladies who carried off first prize in the scarecrow competition for their spectacular decorations around the telephone box. Inset: A touching dedication to Lorraine Green.



Welcome

This edition of the 'News' includes everything you have come to expect – a record of activities and events in the village since our March issue, signposting of things to come, 'feature articles' and a directory of village groups: 'what's on where and when and who to contact'. Once the newly formed Parish Council become more established, we have offered to provide a platform for them, with their own section and editorial control. You'll notice some changes and perhaps a new approach to how we present the pieces included. This is due in no little degree to my new partner and co-editor in producing the publication, Alan Mitchell, who I am absolutely delighted to have onboard. We've greatly enjoyed throwing ideas around.

The core of the publication continues to reflect the activities of the community groups and organisations but wider subjects and 'features' have been gradually introduced in previous editions and this edition continues that trend. Nevertheless, we would like to widen the topics covered and we'll be delighted to receive suggestions for topics and your contributions – whether articles, photographs, poems, illustrations, or offer to become a reporter for us. See inside back cover for a suggestion to get you going and back page for our email addresses for your input.

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The Three Sasha's

Without warning, on the 24th February 2022 Russia invaded Ukraine. As of May 2023, depending on which statistic you believe, it is estimated that between 7 and 12 million people have been displaced. Each and every one of them is a person with a life, hopes, dreams and aspirations for their future. Each is linked to another and another until all of these personal connections spread across the world. Two of those displaced are guests here in North Thoresby, and it was my privilege to meet them and their gracious hosts recently.



Let me introduce you to two 'Sasha's'. Mum Oleksandra is a lovely young woman who escaped the war with her son Aleksander (a curious and sweet young lad who was chatty and as the saying goes, 'into everything'). They arrived in the village late one evening in May 2022.

Both appear settled and at ease. Mum Sasha sits on a comfy sofa whilst son Sasha is busy collecting remote controls to show me. When you discover the long and frightening journey that

brought them both to our village last year, you may wonder at the human spirit and be amazed at its resilience. I know I am.

That day late in February 2022 rocked the world, changing it forever. For those watching the shocking events unfold it was unthinkable. Yet we were safe and removed from the stark reality of war. For many in that besieged country, the lives they knew were over.

This family were torn apart with fear and uncertainty their unwanted companions for the next few months. On the day of the invasion mum Sasha, along with the rest of the world, hoped it would be over quickly and life would continue, but she was advised by a Ukrainian soldier that she should leave with her son. Soon. Russian soldiers and tanks were coming into their town and everyone feared for their lives.

The small and peaceful town in which they lived changed as the infrastructure immediately crumbled. Local banks and shops, and the large bakery factory, shut down. They had to leave their home, but also leave husband Sasha behind as he is on driving duties for the Ukrainian army. Heartbreakingly, they can only speak to him every week or so due to issues with the phone system and him moving around so much. I don't want to imagine what that must feel like.

Taking few belongings and concentrating on documents and papers that would prove crucial later in the journey, they left, fearing for their safety. Joining a convoy of others escaping the town they could see that the Russian army was everywhere. In a shocking and frightening moment, the lead car in the convoy and directly in front of the family, was attacked by a Russian tank. Terrified, they drove on.

Mum and son made it to a refugee centre in Poland set up in a closed shopping mall, with little money or possessions and fearful of their future. Several of the empty shops in the mall were designated by country of desired destination, such as France, Germany and the UK. The Sasha's lived for a couple of months with one kerosene ring to cook on and only intermittent phone access during the day.

Back in the UK, the Government launched a scheme for UK families willing to open their home to those displaced Ukrainians seeking safety here. One local couple who volunteered are Colin and Jill Goodwin.

Watching the events unfold before them, they knew they wanted to welcome those in need into their home. But the process was slow, and Colin joined a few Facebook pages, speaking to a number of people and trying to find a family who would be a 'good fit', so that this new situation would work for them all.



Colin and Jill

I found it interesting when Colin told me that “Many of them asked to go to London or a big city. They wanted to go to a city for work but didn’t know how expensive it would be”.

Searching for a place of safety for herself and her son Sasha contacted them. “I wanted to ask if they still had the space” she explains in good English. The room that the Goodwin’s had was available so after a few phone chats and trying to get to know each other just a little before either committed to the arrangement, both decided to put the process for them to come to this small corner of the UK into motion.

“Visas were a nightmare!” Colin explained. “There was a detailed 30-page document that has to be completed but it was easier for Sasha to send me the information required so I could do it for them as it was so difficult for them considering their situation in Poland.”

As she was taking their son out of the country, Oleksandra had to also provide a letter from her husband to say that he was happy for her to do so. Everything was submitted electronically and there was then a 3 week wait for the Visas to arrive. Apparently, this wasn’t bad as some of Sasha’s friends had to wait nearly 3 months.

Colin and Jill were visited by Lincolnshire council as part of the scheme to ensure that their (beautiful) home was suitable for the two Sasha’s, and both hosts had to have DBS checks completed for safeguarding reasons.

In the meantime, still part of the Facebook pages and trying to assist others in similar situations, Colin was not idle. In the end he helped more than 15 other people to apply for their UK Visas. “I had experience of it so could help” he told me with a wry smile.

Sasha paid for their flights from Poland to Manchester but their gruelling journey wasn’t at an end even then. A bus from the airport to Manchester Piccadilly preceded meeting Colin and Jill for the first time in person at Grimsby train station just before 10pm one May evening in 2022. The journey from Poland had taken 48 hours, a long time for a single young woman and her very young son.

Colin and Jill had support from generous villagers via the power of social media whilst arranging for their guests to arrive. “It was great.” Jill told me, “We had lots of clothes for them both, and toys for little Sasha. Many were delivered straight to our door.”

As the war continues like their besieged country, their plans for the future are still unclear. Little Sasha will soon be of school age, but Mum Sasha doesn't yet know if there'll be a place for him locally. "Maybe Fulstow if not here in the village" she muses, obviously aware that in many ways the lives of all her family are still on hold.

"I want to go back home" she says, and I can see the sadness in eyes that have seen perhaps just a bit too much. This slight woman and her inquisitive son have endured so much in the last year yet were welcomed into their home by two *other* amazing people.

It was humbling to spend an hour in their company, and I'd ask anyone reading to try to do one thing. When next you are watching the news, hearing the daily statistics of this awful war, remember that behind every one of them could be a Mum Sasha, a single parent in an unknown country whilst Father Sasha remains in danger to help his country. Then there may be a Boy Sasha, displaced and growing up away from everything and (almost) everyone he knew, but who continues to explore his strange new place with childlike wonder and curiosity.

I know I will.

ARCM



[Another generous Thoresby resident, Emma Knight, opened her home for 2 spells over the year as she has done previously for refugees. Her family (since returned to Ukraine) were enormously grateful to Emma. The Ukrainian Mother is a writer and has published a book about her experiences here.]

Coronation Big Lunch

This event was held in the Village Hall and not on the cricket field due to unpredictable weather. On Sunday 7th May, many villagers packed up their picnics and made their way to a very festive Village Hall to join together to celebrate the coronation of our new king.



The event started with the new National Anthem followed by a great set of songs by the Primary Academy. For their last one, they were joined by the newly formed Thoresby Singers. It was lovely to hear both groups

united in their rendition of a new song Sing for the King. Thoresby Singers were accompanied by Graham Burrell who managed to keep us in tune as well as jolly!!



There were village groups represented in the form of W.I., who supplied us with some delicious cakes and bakes, and the History Group who had local booklets and cards on sale. The volunteers from the Primary school served hot drinks

which raised some funds for their Year 5/6 trip to Cornwall in July. Through the afternoon, there was a fun but challenging quiz, and a spectacular Crown Parade

by the children. A kiddies' craft table was set up and many children enjoyed colouring, cutting and sticking. The results of the successful Scarecrow Trail were announced, and certificates given to those who received most votes from the village.



First place was the Telephone Box, 2nd King Charles and His Guardian Angel, Joint 3rd Place was The Gardener's Handyman and King Charles. Outside, we had a bouncy castle and some old-fashioned games and also a vintage ice-cream van.



Our thanks go to all the helpers, who worked hard to set up, run and pack up the event, and we received some very favourable comments on the Village Facebook page.



**Just wanted to say a big thank you to the members of the events committee, the parish council and other village groups who organised and took part in today's coronation big lunch. It was lovely to see so many people enjoying such a nice community event.*

**I second this. What a wonderful community we live in. Thank you to all.*

**I would like to third this! The hall was full of happy people! Who needs the weather!*

Heather Howard and Sue Sanchez

North Thoresby & Utterby Academy Update

The Summer Term is traditionally a very busy time of the school year, and Summer 2023 will be no different!

SAT's Success



Both the **Year 2** and **Year 6** cohorts have recently completed their SATs and we couldn't be prouder of their hard work and dedication! To celebrate their achievements, the students were treated to refreshing ice lollies and an afternoon of fun and games. It was a well-deserved reward for their perseverance and commitment throughout the exam period.

Congratulations to all the students for their outstanding efforts!

Royal Celebration

All our classes were recently invited to a magnificent post-Coronation party held in the school hall. The students were treated like true Royalty as they enjoyed delicious snacks served by our dedicated staff.

The party was filled with fun and laughter and all of the students participated in games such as 'Royal Whispers' and 'Kings Heads or Tails'. To top it off, they were also given the opportunity to take a leisurely stroll around our beautiful grounds before heading home.



It was a delightful celebration that brought joy to all!

Exploring Coral Reefs and Climate Change

The **Riordan's** have been diving deep into the world of coral reefs and their connection to climate change during their trip to **'The Deep'** in Hull.



Through engaging lessons and activities, they have been learning about the impact of climate change on the pH of water, and the delicate balance of coral ecosystems.

It's truly inspiring to see our students developing a deep understanding of environmental issues and their commitment to making a positive change.



Transporting Back in Time

Hill's class embarked on a fascinating trip to the **Lincolnshire Road Transport Museum** where they had the opportunity to explore various vehicles used over the last century. From local county transportation to vehicles that travelled far and wide, our students gained a comprehensive understanding of the evolution of transport.

After lunch, they were even treated to a VIP ride in a 1927 Omnibus. The experience was filled with excitement as the vintage vehicle rumbled through the streets, creating lasting memories for all.



A heartfelt 'Thank You' goes to the volunteers who generously shared their museum and knowledge with our students.

More Summer Fun

We look forward to more exciting events in the remainder of this academic year. We had a fantastic Family Quiz Night on June 14th.

The Lincolnshire Fryer visited so that fish and chips could be ordered on the night Everyone was welcome so please look out for our next one and come along!



In July, the **Year 5s** and **6s** have an amazing 4-night trip to Cornwall planned. An action-packed adventure awaits – they'll need the summer holidays to recover!

Thank you for your continued support in making our school a vibrant and thriving community.

Tom Hawkins





Dick Appleton in Concert, North Thoresby Village Hall, April 15th 2023

Concert Reviews Village Hall April 15th and June 3rd

Dick Appleton gave a fantastic virtuoso solo performance, over 2 hours, to a full Village Hall, demonstrating his vast musical range, while also keeping the audience in stitches with his wit and repartee between the music.

A very special talent, a great favourite here, a lovely man. My favourite? His incredible version of the Beatle's Eleanor Rigby.

Dick Appleton is a hard act to follow, but **Jed Kettle**, his friend, and partner in the 'Neverly Brothers' duo, gave us another fantastic night's entertainment. Original compositions were sprinkled among the superb selection of classics – James Taylor's 'I've Seen Fire and I've seen Rain', Paul Simons, 'America'; Buddy Holly's, 'Everyday', Neil Young's, 'After the Goldrush', the Beatles, 'Norwegian Wood' and many more, all with a subtle, personalised arrangement. Musicianship of the highest quality and hugely appreciated. **IW**

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June	
THURSDAY 22 ND – SATURDAY 24 TH 7.30PM	THE SORCERER – NEW LONDON OPERA GROUP
WEDNESDAY 28 TH – FRIDAY 20 TH 7.30PM	SCHOOL OF ROCK - BLAZE YOUTH MUSIC THEATRE
JULY	
SATURDAY 1 ST 7.30PM	SCHOOL OF ROCK - BLAZE YOUTH MUSIC THEATRE
SATURDAY 8 TH 7.30PM	THE FLEETWOOD MAC AND TOM PETTY LEGACY BAND
FRIDAY 14 TH 7.30PM	“BIG NIGHT OUT” CHARITY VARIETY SHOW
SATURDAY 15 TH 7.00PM	GUITARMAGEDDON
AUGUST	
THURSDAY 3 RD – SATURDAY 5 TH 7.30PM	GREASE
WEDNESDAY 16 TH 7.00PM	OPEN MIC NIGHT
TUESDAY 22 ND 2.00PM	TONY CADDEN AFTERNOON TEA CONCERT
SEPTEMBER	
SATURDAY 2 ND 7.30PM	COMEDY HOT SPOT
MONDAY 4 TH – SATURDAY 9 TH 7.30PM	OPEN ALL HOURS – A LOUTH PLAYGOERS PRODUCTION
TUESDAY 12 TH 2.00PM	CURIOSITY BAND AFTERNOON TEA CONCERT
WEDNESDAY 13 TH 7.30PM	DOUG ALLEN
THURSDAY 14 TH 7.30PM	SNAKE DAVIS
FRIDAY 15 TH 7.30PM	WE ARE WHAT WE OVERCOME
SATURDAY 16 TH 7.30PM	FRAZER HINES WHO?
THURSDAY 21 ST 7.30PM	MAMA MIA SINGALONG
SATURDAY 23 RD 7.30PM	LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS
SUNDAY 24 TH 7.30PM	SCRATCH NIGHT
THURSDAY 28 TH 7.30PM	PRIDE & PREJUDICE

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Notes from the Orchard

Hello, and welcome to my little corner of the magazine. I'm Alan Mitchell and I was kindly invited by Ian (Wright) to contribute a piece about myself and my writing (*Thanks Ian!*). Now, I don't know how many other writers and poets there might already be in the village, but I'd hazard a guess that there are more than many might think.



I was introduced previously in another village periodical, but to remind you briefly, myself and my wife Lisa moved here with our second born Laura in July 2021. Since then, we've all dipped our toes into village life – I've even had a go at Bowls, something I've not attempted for 40 years or so! We all really hope to continue to get to know more of you in the future.

Since 2015 I've been publishing my own work online, on the Amazon Kindle store and in printed form. When in Essex (where we lived previously), I had several books in a few independent shops, cafés and delis and I really hope to be able to do the same sort of thing again here. My work is personal and introspective but (*I hope*) it can also be amusing and highlight areas and elements of life that might otherwise go by unnoticed. Like liquorice, Marmite and Prog Rock it's perhaps not for everyone, but I generally get good feedback and have found an (*all too small*) audience over the years.

This is just as well of course, as although I've diligently managed to escape any huge success or notoriety, my appearances on BBC Essex, Look East and BBC Radio 4 have helped me sell a few books which is great - it means we get some space back in the garage. You'll no doubt be happy to hear that I **still** have copies of just about every book I've published in the last 8 years, though mercifully some are only available in single numbers now.



Three of my poems regarding Queen Elizabeth II and her sudden passing in September 2022 appeared in the North Thoresby Magazine (sic) published in October last year. But for this piece I thought I'd share something a bit different with you.

On the left is the cover of my current collection of poems, released in March 2023 and available on Kindle and in print. The two poems which follow are from this collection, so I really hope you enjoy them!

The first one (RIGHT) is about my lovely daughter Laura. It's about parenthood, love and the continual passing of time.

An unexpected second child when you are in your late 40's was, to say the least, an adventure. But perhaps less so the school runs!

POINTLESS

Life's a game of Pointless
you live it round by round
Birth, of course, the first one
(you arrive with quite a sound!)

Early years is the next round on
you learn to waddle and walk
and then, to delight your parents,
you suddenly learn to talk

Then it's off to school with you
for a round that lasts for years
many things you encounter there
much laughter (and often tears)

The next round finds you working
(at least, that's always the hope)
After exams or a degree (or two)
you have to learn and cope

for this one is a long one (if lucky)
A career, a promotion or two
Maybe you'll have your own children
do the best that you can do

The next round is retirement
you hope it's a long one for you
Perhaps there's marriages, then Grandkids
a host of them, surrounding you

The next is the last you'll play then
it's different for all who must play
at some point (it's pointless pretending)
you finally have your last day

The rounds all played, the game's over
You never can win in the end
Just leave behind loved one's and mem'ries
you'll be judged on the love that you send

Home, Lincs, 1758
Friday 13th May 2022

BLOSSOM BEAUTY

So soon to be a teenager!
A birthday now in days
These years have run like water
always running, never stay

I see you in my heart and mind
a baby, young girl, now
You've changed and yet have stayed the same
blossomed beauty, and now, how

can I explain to world this love
this flame I hold, inside?
To merely say 'I love you' is not enough
and yet I've truly tried

to tell the truth, to show the signs
of a parents' love supreme
Darling daughter, happy day
I hope it's like sweet dream

Louth Academy Car Park, Lincs, 1500
Tuesday 22nd February 2022

I write about Laura a lot. Watching this amazing and resilient girl grow and blossom into the young woman she is becoming day by day is such a privilege.

My only regret? She doesn't clean her room often...

The second poem (LEFT) came to me whilst watching the show of its title, musing (as is my want) about how life has various stages that we all transition through, just like many game shows.

Anyway, that's all the space I have for now. I hope to make a return appearance in the future, and I thank you for your time today.

Take care, keep reading and if any other 'creatives' are out there and want to get in touch – please do!

Alan

In Focus: Matthew Durrant

Owner of Hall Farm, Ashby-cum-Fenby and the Halfway House

Matthew Durrant is a very successful, self-made, entrepreneur with deep roots in the village. He came here as an eleven-year old and, at the tender age of 26, he opened a small restaurant at Hall Farm (aptly named 'Roosters') in one of the former farms outbuildings. He had obtained City and Guilds catering qualifications as a teenager then 'learnt on the job', as a chef at the renowned George hotel in Stamford, quickly



promoted to restaurant manager, then to Leeds and then a position as hotel manager in Middleborough, part of the Virgin Group. He describes Roosters, established 30 years ago, as a very modest, small business in the early years, with himself and one full-time employee as front of house, and lots of part-timers – with a caravan for home for a good while. The business grew, to a considerable extent driven by the wedding industry, initially using marquees, but, in 2002, a barn was turned into a function room, the old restaurant was closed and the current layout took shape.

Hall Farm now hosts between 80-90 weddings a year with around 50% of these also including the wedding ceremony itself. The business maximises the potential for diversity – hosting christenings, conferences and training days.

Hall Farm also has 8 hotel bedrooms which also provide busy trade for the restaurant, with two additional holiday cottages due to open shortly.

Twelve years ago, Matthew took over what was then the 'The Granby' pub in the village. The building has quite a history – probably dating from the second half of the 18th century. The Granby appears in many historic documents, being a meeting place for the Manor Court, the location for sales of property or discussions of important events such as the enclosure of the village in the 1840s.

By the time Matthew bought the pub, it was in a very poor state of repair and needed complete renovation, inside and out. It had had a rough patch for 10 or 15 years, with a subsequently poor reputation. This partly explains why the name was changed to the Halfway House, but Matthew also points out that it had long been called the Halfway House by locals, for obvious reasons, and an old photograph exists with 'Halfway House' appearing below the name 'The Granby' painted on the front wall.

Asked to describe the pub's approach, he describes it as a 'Steakhouse' – the 'hot rocks' method being a feature and a chargrill also available. Hot rock cooking, is the process whereby foods are cooked or grilled on a hot rock or stone that has been heated prior to the cooking process. First used centuries ago, the hot rock style of cooking has been resurrected. It is not only a unique experience, but it is a healthful one as well. It's a 'relaxed, informal place' is how Matthew describes the atmosphere created. Matthew prefers to employ locally and he specifically offers opportunities to 16-18 year-olds. After two-or three-months experience, he finds he has good workers for a couple of years.

Matthew says that covid has set back the pub industry – whereas Hall Farm has recovered and is trading above pre-covid levels, this has not yet happened with the Halfway House. He says both businesses face 'terrifying' cost increases - electricity costs alone are up two-and-a-half times, food prices have rocketed and while laudable, the rise in the minimum wage is another factor.

Like many successful businessmen, Matthew comes across as very modest and unassuming, very matter-of-fact. However, what is for sure, is that his achievements stem from a sound grounding and experience in the hospitality world, lots of hard work and long hours, good judgement and good management. With pubs closing at an alarming pace, we are very fortunate that we have two excellent (and quite different) establishments at each end of the village. **IW**

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Football Report

In the 2022-23 season, North Thoresby FC played in division 2 of the East Lincs Football Combination. After a disappointing start, losing 3 of our first 6 games, the run up to Christmas saw a run of winning results and we were mid-table going into the New Year. The Christmas break was extended by frozen and waterlogged pitches, and it wasn't until late January before games resumed. We had a run of 5 wins before losing to league leaders Grimoldby in the semi-final of our division 2 Cup at the end of February. For the rest of March, we continued our winning streak which moved us up to 4th place in the league.



In April, we still had 8 league games to complete before the end of the month, plus a Cup Final which meant we had to play mid-week as well as Saturdays.

The climax of our season came in the final week of April starting on the Monday evening when we played in the final of the Junior Challenge Cup against Louth Town Reserves under floodlights at Bradley, on their show pitch. In reaching the final we had beaten Grainthorpe, and division 1 teams Alford and North Somercotes. We started as underdogs but with determination and a large crowd of supporters behind us we ended up winning 2-1, picking up our first silverware for a number of years.



The last two games of the season were won and secured second place in division 2 and promotion to Division 1 next season. A very successful season and we will be looking forward to playing in Division 1 next season. Seasons Record: Played 22 league games; Won 17, Drew 1, Lost 4, Total points 52. **Dave Bedlow**

Pictured: Club stalwarts Jason Cooper and Dave Bedlow and the players at the presentation evening.

North Thoresby & District Bowls Club

There are two keys to playing bowls well – finding the right line and finding the right weight. This is easier said than done, especially for the beginner! The line is the path the bowl takes from the point at which it leaves the hand till it reaches its destination somewhere up the green. Bowling on the right line is the foundation of the game and essential for a good lawn bowler. How do you think you would do?

Anybody calling in at the club will find a member who will help them learn to play. The newcomer should dress in casual clothes with flat-soled shoes. Bowls vary in size to suit the size of your hand. We have plenty for you to try. The bowls season is in full swing now and runs until September. We have social bowling during the week at various times and on Saturday afternoon starting at 1:30pm. We compete in two leagues and have matches on Tuesday night and Wednesday afternoon. We also have internal competitions.

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.

Cricket Report

North Thoresby CC play in Division 2 of the Grimsby and District Midweek League – a step back after a season in Division 1. A wet April saw the postponement of the first fixture, so it was May 18th when the team took on Waltham Millers at Holton-le Clay cricket club. The opponents were all out for 72 runs and it didn't take long for Thoresby to surpass this total with overs to spare. On May 24th against Grimoldby 1st XI at home, we batted first but only scored 79 runs in 20 overs. A tight ending saw Grimoldby fail to score the 2 runs needed for victory off the last ball of the game. June has seen a victory over Western Old Boys but a first defeat against Springfield lbwest.

Two other local mid-week teams also play their home games from the Thoresby ground. All the teams' fixtures are posted in the notice board next to the field gate. Spectators are welcome with plenty of seating next to the pavilion with refreshments available. **Dave Bedlow**

North Thoresby History Group

Remaining Meetings 2023

Thursday August 10th ‘Doing Archaeology’ David Start, archaeologist and former CEO of Heritage Lincolnshire, takes us through the processes involved in archaeological investigations, with specific reference to our own project in the field north of St Helens.

Thursday 14th September, ‘The Witham: Lincolnshire’s River’, Jon Fox. A slideshow presentation from Jon’s book of the same name which is beautifully illustrated with his photographs.

Thursday 9th November, ‘Medieval Farming, with special reference to Ridge and Furrow’, Professor Mark Gardiner, University of Lincoln.

At our meeting on Thursday 8th June, **Dr Lisa Brundle, Finds Liaison Officer, Portable Antiquities Scheme, Lincolnshire County Council,** gave the group a wonderful presentation on **‘Notable Archaeological Finds in Lincolnshire’.**



There have been very many remarkable discoveries in Lincolnshire and Lisa brought a collection of exquisite Anglo-Saxon items including several brooches and a shield boss, together with numerous coins and beads.

The main archaeological site Lisa spoke about was Cammeringham, near Lincoln, where detectorists discovered a collection of weapons and dress accessories which, in turn, indicated an Anglo-Saxon burial. Eventually 24 burials



were discovered together with 150 items, dating from the 5th to 7th centuries. Items found included swords and knives, tweezers, a bone comb, 'girdle-hangers'. For those who use Facebook, type in 'Searching for Saxons'

into the search bar to access photos and videos of the project. Archaeology is our theme at the moment.

Planning for our own archaeological investigations in the field to the north of the church has taken big steps forward with archaeologist David Start, who made an examination of the site on May 9th, agreeing to supervise the project. Next step is to have a thorough survey of the site



which will require a geo-physical process – something which we may need to fund (it will probably cost around £1,000) but we have recently been put in contact with a professor at BGU (Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln) who has just received funding for high tech equipment to be used by local groups like

ours. At least, there is a strong possibility of digging test pits this year. As you will see above, in August, David will be taking us through the process of archaeological investigations and will examine why we think it is such an important site.

Above: Lisa Brundle, second right, discusses Anglo-Saxon artifacts with members of the History Group. The group has around 60 members, with a typical audience of 40 for the presentations. **All welcome. IW**

Save Our Bridge



This bridge that crosses the dyke between the football field and the rear of the Halfway House carpark is used regularly by the general public, dog walkers and football players. It is in a poor state of repair and is becoming unsafe. It isn't a recognised public footpath so is not the responsibility of any specific

body. I am appealing to any local business or a local tradesperson to come forward to help repair or replace the bridge before it becomes a liability with someone ending up injured. Otherwise, the bridge will have to be removed for safety reasons, losing this much used access to a walk around our village. This article has been posted on the North Thoresby Community site on Facebook and there were numerous offers to donate money so the next step would be to create a Just Giving page as well as looking into grants. **Dave Bedlow 07548127162**

North Thoresby Community Events Association presents...



A kooky brand of poppy, harmony drenched alt-country with lots of hot acoustic guitars

SAGE & THE OTHERS

**SATURDAY 1ST JULY
7:30PM - THE VILLAGE HALL**

Tickets £7.50 each from the shop, on the door or email Claire.1940s@hotmail.com

North Thoresby

Art and Photography Exhibition

Thursday 20th July to Saturday 22nd

At the Methodist Chapel 10am-4pm



Calling all Artists and Photographers.

**You are invited to exhibit your work at
the annual exhibition - all art media
accepted.**

£1 per entry. 10% commission on sales.

Up to 8 entries per person.

Entry Forms available from Morrisons



North Thoresby Embroidery Group

Back Row: Julie Ellis, Jacqui Toyne, Sheila Greenhalgh, Joyce Erswell
Seated: Pat Gladding, Pauline Johnston, Ann Richardson, Sue West
Four members were absent on the day the photograph was taken.

The North Thoresby Embroidery Group was established 38 years ago and we have seen many ladies come and go in that time, but Sheila Greenhalgh remains our tutor and we have one founder member. We meet 6 times a year in the Wesley Centre, in January, February and March and in September (this year 23rd), October (21st) and November (18th). The cost of each class is £15, and a

packed lunch is required. We stitch many different mediums of embroidery, get ideas from each other and get to know each other. We are welcoming and friendly. Why not pop in and see what we do – you may wish to join us and that would be lovely.

Jacqui Toyne 01472-840246
Sheila Greenhalgh 01472-602902



Members of Thoresby Singers take a break in rehearsals.

Thoresby Singers

Our community choir, the 'Thoresby Singers' started last September, aiming to encourage anyone who simply wanted to sing for fun and leisure, in a stress free environment!! We meet in the Wesley centre at 7.30, usually on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, and finish at 9.00. No singing experience is needed, no auditions, just enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. Last December we sang for 4 local Christmas events, and we are performing in concert with Caistor Male Voice Choir, on Friday, 20th October, 7.30 in St.Helens Church. We welcome any new members to the group, and if you are unsure, give it a try. You may surprise yourself!! Our next rehearsal dates are, June 29th, July 13th, then recommence Sept 7th.

Two other concerts for your diary - Sat, June 24th, 7.30, St.James, Louth, Louth male voice choir summer concert, and Friday, July 7th, Louth Town hall, concert by 'Find your Voice' and Louth MVC. Proceeds to prostate cancer charity.

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(Clotted) Cream Teas and cakes for sale in the garden.

Join us or take it home with you.

Monday 28th August 2023

2.00- 4.30pm

36 Highfield Road.

**Delivery in village pre-order phone Heather
841127**

Top Salon (Unisex)

All aspects of hair and extensions.

Nails, Brows and Lashes.

The Square, North Thoresby

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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



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North Thoresby Community Events Association

NTCEA Website: <https://www.norththoresbyevents.co.uk/>

NTCEA Facebook: @norththoresby events

Chair: Claire Cooper Claire.1940s@hotmail.com

The NTCEA evolved from the organisation of the 1940s Event (2017-19)

Horticultural Show – annually, in September (September 16th in 2023)

Contacts: Claire Cooper (Claire.1940s@hotmail.com) and Sue Sanchez (sanchez.sue.g@gmail.com)

Village History Group – meets bi-monthly in the Village Hall, (with occasional extra meetings) second Thursday of the month, 7.30, £3 to include refreshments, under 18s free. All welcome. The group has published three history booklets of aspects of the village with another in process. Archaeological project also on-going. Archive Centre in the Wesley Centre. Contact: Ian Wright iangwright@hotmail.com

Publication of North Thoresby News and Village Directory –

currently 3 times a year March, July, November. Under review. Contact: Ian Wright iangwright@hotmail.com

Concerts and Other Events – ‘Events’ organizes a variety of events each year, especially concerts, including a charity fundraising Christmas Concert.

Community Fund – the Community Fund was established in 2018 and we use funds raised by our activities to help fund new activities, improve village amenities, support village groups and donate to good causes.

Enquiries to Sarah Middleton ntceasecretary@outlook.com

The aims of the NTCEA

- To enhance community life and individual well-being in North Thoresby by organising social, recreational, educational and cultural events.
- To raise and distribute funds, including applying for grants, to support village organisations, clubs, and institutions.
- To contribute to improvements in village amenities and facilities and to contribute to good causes and charities.

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. Melissa Porter 07840 125623
Facebook : North Thoresby Playgroup

Rainbows and Brownies: Friday Rainbows 5–6pm Brownies 6-7.30pm
norththoresbyrainbowbrownies@gmail.com

Sew & So's: Friday 9.30am. Heather Howard 841127

Carpet Bowls: Friday 2pm. Edna Procter 840340

Village Men's Group: Every Thursday 10 – 11.30am. Graham Pearson 841812

'Inner Voice': Contact Denise Padbury 07881 422648

Village Community Choir: Alternate Thursdays. 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.
- 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.

North Thoresby Methodist Church

Thursday Get-Together Autumn Programme

The Thursday Get-Together meets in the Wesley Centre at 2pm. fortnightly from September to Easter. All are welcome. Just turn up or for more details please phone: Lynne Dudgeon 01472 840720 Elizabeth Kershaw 01472 840009 Ruth Constant 01507 607324

Sept. 14th Rev'd Neil Vickers Homelessness
Sept. 28th Kathy Hart and Faith Faulkner Bee Keeping
Oct. 12th Karen Lepley Shoe Box Appeal
Oct. 26th Terina Dennett Scams and Passwords
Nov. 9th Elsie Butler Memories and Reflections
Nov. 23rd Nicki Hobern India
Dec. 8th Christmas Celebration

Music for A Summer Sunday Afternoon 2023.

The final event for this summer will be on **Sunday 13th August** at 3pm in the chapel when we will be entertained by our local group " Inner Voice." These concerts take place in the chapel at 3pm. There is no charge (a collection will be taken) and there will be a tea of cakes and tea/coffee. Just turn up, or for more information please ring: Lynne Dudgeon, Elizabeth Kershaw (see above) Faith Faulkner 01507 363626 Kathy Hart 01507 363626

North Thoresby and District WI

Meetings 7.30pm in the Wesley Centre on the first Tuesday of the month. Visitors are always welcome.

July 4th History of the Handbag Claire Manning of 'Sassy Spirit'.
August: No Meeting
September 5th Walking from Land's End to John O'Groats
October 3rd Show and Tell

St Helens Church

Weekly services each Sunday 10.00am. Information on notice board in the Village Square. **Friday 20th October Community Choir and Caistor and District Male Voice Choir, Concert in St. Helens.**

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
- **Slimming World:** Weekly, Fridays - 9.30/11.00. Sharon Grove 07801928671
- **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 begins September. Des Green 01472 840160

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. Calculations of length of booking need to include setting up and taking down time. Contact: Mark Wilson 0798442487 mark.caretaker@yahoo.co.uk

Sociable Soup

The Sociable Soup initiative has been a great success. It started in February as part of the Parish Council's Warm Space initiative and is well supported. All those who have joined us have insisted on putting in a donation, which means that we can continue, and it is paying for itself. It will begin again in September and takes place on the 3rd Thursdays of each month at the North Thoresby Village Hall, 12-2pm. A lovely friendly space, choice of 2 soups, bread rolls finished with tea and coffee with cake. Everyone welcome, no charge. **Contact: Heather Howard 841127**

Pop-in Luncheon Dates 12-2pm Village Hall

- Summer Lunch July 13th
- August 3rd
- September 7th
- October 5th
- November 2nd
- Christmas Lunch December 14th

North Thoresby Horticulture Show

16th September 2023

Class List

Flowers

- Vase of mixed home grown flowers
- Home grown pot plant
- Three home grown cut Dahlias

Floral Art

- 'How peculiar' - An arrangement in an unusual container
- 'Keep tri-ing' - An arrangement of 3 flowers and foliage
- 'Posh frocks & sharp suits' – A buttonhole or ladies corsage
- An arrangement of foliage, seed heads and berries in a jug

Fruit & Vegetables – All entries must be home grown

- Heaviest Onion
- Two Cooking Apples of the same variety
- Two Dessert Apples of the same variety
- Two Pears of the same variety
- Heaviest Marrow
- Longest Runner Bean
- Three Potatoes of the same variety
- Three Tomatoes of the same variety
- Any other vegetable
- Wonky fruit or vegetable
- Three soft fruits of the same variety

Craft – ALL ENTRIES MUST BE HANDMADE BY THE ENTRANT

- Any item machine sewn
- Any item hand sewn
- Handmade greeting card
- Any knitted or crocheted item
- A cross stitch, tapestry or embroidery
- Any item of handmade pottery or decorated ceramics

Any item of handmade woodwork

Any item of handmade jewellery

Cookery – PLEASE LABEL EACH ITEM

A small flask of homemade soup

A quiche of any variety

A jar of savoury preserve

A jar of sweet preserve

Three scones of any one variety

Three biscuits (one type)

Three pieces of a tray bake

A carrot cake

Any individual sized dessert

A 'free from' sweet treat (ie. Gluten free, sugar free, lactose free etc.)

Art - All entries to be portrait and A6 size – 14.8cm x 10.5cm

A person – any medium

An animal – any medium

A tree – any medium

Children's Classes – will be split into age groups depending on entry numbers

Make a bookmark – Key Stage 1 age children

Make a pompom pet – Key Stage 2 age children

Make a collage of your favourite meal on a paper plate

Three homemade decorated Rice Crispy or cornflake cakes

Entry forms are to be put through the Village Hall letter box with the fee in the attached envelope by 13th September. Late entries may incur a higher class entry fee.

On the day, entries can be brought to the Village Hall from 9:30am and must be in place by 11am for judging to commence. The venue will be closed during this time and will re-open around 1:15pm. The raffle will be drawn at 3:30pm and trophies will be presented at 3:45pm.

Please leave your entries on display until the end of the show at 4pm before collecting them.

Contact: Sue Sanchez – 01472 841184 or Claire Cooper – claire.1940s@hotmail.com 840595



A Theme for Your Contributions: The Lincolnshire Coast

We invite you to submit a contribution on this theme – a photograph, a scan of a sketch or painting, a poem, a description of a location you love, an experience you've had. See back page. We'll use everything we receive in the print or digital version. Here's my contribution above.

Last Light: The Lincolnshire Coast near the Fitties

This is an atmospheric winter image of a dilapidated fence on the coast just above the Fitties, taken just before the light faded. There's lots of contrast in the image, the light picks out the detail in the fence and there's bags of texture in the grass. The fence gives a natural leading line and it's important to keep some of the horizon in the shot and a glimpse of the water too, in order to give a sense of context. 'Coast' may bring to mind big landscapes and skies but may equally focus on details like this or on the activities of people. **IW**

The Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting - for the Parish of North Thoresby, Grainsby and Waithe **Monday 19th June 7.00pm** at North Thoresby Village Hall. There will be refreshments from 6.30pm.

From 15th June there will be regular **Parish Council Surgeries** held, so you can meet the Parish Councillors and speak to them directly, please keep an eye on the Parish Council Website for further details.

To contact the Parish Council you can use the email addresses on the Parish Council Website for individual Councillors or the clerk clerk@norththoresby-pc.gov.uk, or drop any communications into the letter box at North Thoresby Village Hall.

The Community News and Directory is produced and published by the NTCEA, and financed by advertising revenue.

Contacts: Editors Ian Wright, ianwright@hotmail.com
and Alan Mitchell, arcmitchell1962@gmail.com

NTCEA Website: <https://www.norththoresbyevents.co.uk>

NTCEA Facebook: [@norththoresby events](https://www.facebook.com/norththoresbyevents)

Copies of 'Community News' are delivered to every home in North Thoresby, Waithe and Grainsby, with additional copies available at both Morrisons and the Village Hall. For Digital version see website approx. 2 weeks after print version.

If you have an idea for an article, or piece you'd like featured in a forthcoming edition, please drop us a line as we would love to feature as much local content as we are able too!

Created and Crafted in North Thoresby

Issue 8



Summer 2023