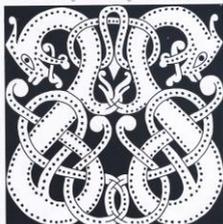


North Thoresby

Community News and Village Directory

Edition 6 November-February 2022-2023

North Thoresby Community Events Association



Can you spot anyone you know from this photograph of children dancing round the Maypole in the school, now the Wesley Centre? Sleeveless, 'Fairisle' sweater in the foreground suggests 1950s. This is one of the many photographs and postcards in our new publication, 'North Thoresby in Old Photographs and Postcards', available from McColls, £7 or at any History Group meeting.

The North Thoresby Community Events Association

Autumn is usually a very busy period for 'Events' and this year is no exception. One of our most popular events is the **Horticultural Show**, which was revived in 2018, many years after it had disappeared from the village calendar, by the endeavour, imagination and organising skills of Claire Cooper, Sue Sanchez and their band of helpers. Year-on-year this has grown, with ever-more entries and is an outstanding fundraiser for the Community Fund.

In September and early October, we held two **amazing concerts** in quick succession – 'Sage and the Others' (Sept 10th) and The Genie Lamps' (October 1st). Both wowed the audience with their virtuosity and play sets.

Early September saw the publication of another booklet by the History Group, **'North Thoresby in Old Photographs and Postcards'** and at the **History Group meeting on September 8th**, Elizabeth Kershaw and Ian Wright undertook a guided tour through the village's past, projecting the images on screen.

Community Choir The first week in October saw the first meeting of the new Community Choir, with Events putting the pieces of the jigsaw together to make this happen – linking a villager who first raised the idea, with the choirmaster Graham Burrell, then purchasing the appropriate music permissions and finally designing music booklets and getting them printed. All funded by Events. A wonderful turnout has resulted with well over 30 members attending. Public performances are planned over Christmas. A brilliant addition to the village's groups and associations.

Early in October, members of the **History Group** made a breakthrough in discovering **tangible evidence of medieval buildings** in the field to the north of St Helens and this has led to very promising prospects of archaeological investigations in the village during 2023. More detail; later.

North Thoresby's Thriving Community Groups On September 28th, representatives of virtually all of the community groups met in the Wesley Centre, and outlined their activities. This was primarily an occasion for the groups to meet and talk with each other, but we hope it will lead to an occasion when villagers can come and hear what the groups have to offer. **One of the main roles of the Community News and Village Directory is to ensure that the programmes and activities of the community groups, who play such a crucial role in the village, are easily, and regularly accessible, in a handy booklet, to all in the parish.**

North Thoresby Community Events: Supporting Community Groups and Village Amenities

In early autumn, 'Events' has been active in **supporting community groups and adding to community amenities**. A **£250 grant** has been pledged to the North Thoresby & Utterby Primary Academies to help fund a Christmas entertainment; **£100** to the Parents and Toddlers group to fund new toys and equipment; **£150** has been given to help support two Ukrainian refugees to settle in with their village host. Together with the Village People (see article elsewhere in these covers) **£600** has been committed to site a bench in memory of Dave Barnett, in the Memorial Garden, which owes its existence to Dave's foresight. Thanks to Tony Shaw, Clerk to the Parish Council for his liaison work. Events have a continuing commitment to fund the equipment of **Robin Kelly** who does such a great job tidying the village streets.

Events until Christmas

Leading up to Christmas, we have another music concert on November 26th with the excellent duo, '**The Mardy Johnny Depps**'; an entertaining and educational meeting of the History Group on Thursday 8th December with the East Lindsey **Lincolnshire Dialect Society**; and a **Charity 'Merry Christmas Variety Concert'** on Saturday 10th December (in aid of Sunflowers Action Group for Children and Action for Children). As we have done for the last 4 years, Events will string **Christmas lights** around the Square and will co-ordinate and collaborate with many community organisations in a **Community Carol Service** in the Methodist Chapel on Sunday 4th December.

More details of forthcoming events and community groups throughout this edition.

Contact: Ian Wright, Editor iangwright@hotmail.com 01472-841786

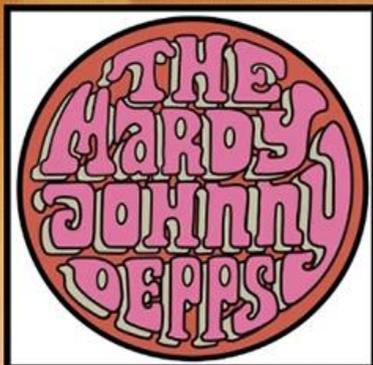
Website: <https://www.norththoresbyevents.co.uk/>

Facebook: @norththoresby events

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

Publishing dates in 2023 : beginning of March, July, November (3 editions a year). Our new logo represents the village's Viking past. Contributions, suggestions, feedback – always welcomed.

NTCEA presents....



The Mardy Johnny Depps

Local, highly regarded acoustic covers duo

Saturday

26th November

7:30pm

The Village Hall

Tickets - £7.50 each

Available from McColls from 4 weeks prior, claire.1940s@hotmail.com or on the door

Bring your own drinks & snacks



www.norththoresbyevents.co.uk



I appreciate that some villagers have found the font a little too small for comfort (an unfortunate consequence of having so much information to publish) so this edition has been produced in a much larger font to assist those with restricted sight. I hope this is now better for all. IW

The Horticulture Show 2022

Firstly, we would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone involved for their hard work and effort with all aspects of the show. Thanks to you, we had the best show ever with the most entries, most entrants and most money made since we reinstated the show in 2018 – a fabulous £568!

It was a long day for the organisers and volunteers, but we know that our efforts were very well received by all who entered and attended. The existing and new judges were brilliant, and it all seemed to run very smoothly. One comment from our team was “It was a super day, and the epitome of what village life should be about.” We both feel that we are getting better year on year, learning from our mistakes, and implementing improvements for each show. This year we added Highly Commended and Judges Comments cards as we felt it would be really nice to be able to give people feedback on their wonderful entries.

We have to work with the available space, so to be able to have the Art classes back this year, we had to limit the size of entries, so we had space to display them all. Each class had a general theme which was well received as the limitation on size was a tight restriction. We will continue along that vein for the 2023 show. We feel that September is the best time for the Show, therefore next year's show will be on **Saturday 16th September 2023**. We hope that you can all pencil the date in your diaries – we would love to see you there! **Claire & Sue** (seen hard at work below)



NORTH THORESBY COMMUNITY EVENTS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS...

A

MERRY

CHRISTMAS
charity concert

A VARIETY PERFORMANCE FROM 10 MUSICIANS

The Nukuleles - Ian Skelton - Joy Spredborough and
Martin Cambell - Inner Voice

SAT 10TH DECEMBER

7:30PM

THE VILLAGE HALL
NORTH THORESBY

All proceeds to Sunflowers Action Group for Children
and Action for Children

Name card

Raffle

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Please note: Advance tickets for the cabaret layout are limited to a max of 50 and there will be no entrance 'on the door'. This is because we need to have definite numbers in advance to arrange tables and table settings to best effect.

Action for Children and Sunflowers Childrens Action Group

Our Christmas Good Causes this year, chosen by the Methodist Church and Events) are two children' charities.

'**Sunflowers**' is a small, volunteer run, charity based in Grimsby, formed in 2019 to create special, inclusive events and activities for children who suffer from life-limiting or life-threatening conditions.

Action for Children is a national charity directly supporting over 300,000 children. The charity's UK Childrens' Emergency Appeal will provide essentials such as a food, electricity, gas, and other items directly to the vulnerable children and families who need it most.

www.sunflowerscharity

www.actionforchildren.org.uk



Members of **North Thoresby cricket team** – successfully promoted to the top division in local cricket for the 2023 season.

North Thoresby



In Old Photographs and Postcards

Forty pages of rare postcards and photographs, illustrating the village, starting at the beginning of the 20th century and including aerial photographs. An ideal Christmas gift.

£7 from McColls or at History Group Meetings

North Thoresby Embroidery Group was established 32 years ago, we meet in the Wesley Centre 6 times a year, three Saturdays in the Spring - January, February, and March and 3 Saturdays in the Autumn - September, October and November. Our tutor is Sheila Greenhalgh from Cleethorpes.

We have an average of 12 ladies at each meeting and we all work on different mediums of embroidery - goldwork, blackwork, stump work, beading. Some will produce a picture, for example, of their garden or from a postcard, and print it onto fabric adding stitches in various places. Some of our ladies enter their work in village Shows and there are several stitching exhibitions to see around the country each year.

We all look forward to our embroidery days exchanging ideas and techniques. We are a very happy group of ladies and would give any new embroiderer a warm welcome. A packed lunch is required and a drink, hot water is available in the kitchen. The cost is £15 a day which covers the hire of the Hall and tutor fees. Our next date for 2022 is 19th November. Dates for 2023 are 28th January, 18th February and 11th March.

Contact Jacqui Toyne on 01472 840246

Table Tops

Table Tops were first started as Jumble Sales run by Jean Plaskit. It was then followed by the late Mrs Johnson in aid of the Children's Society. When she gave it up the Friends of St Helen's took it on for a short time but once the Friends disbanded, again the Village People took it on, adding bacon butties. Table Tops runs on the second Saturday every month to help maintain St. Helen's Church.

North Thoresby Bingo

Mrs Hippisley first started the Bingo when she was chairman of the Parish Council and ran it for quite a few years until ill health made her give it up. Then Allen Todd took it on and ran it for a few years. After Allen came Colin West who also ran it stepping down to play more golf. Then the Village People took it on and have been running it every last Friday of the month for over sixteen years.



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November, December & January

November

18th — 7.30pm SHADOWING HANK
 19th— 1.30pm & 7.30pm NEXT GENERATION DANCE SHOW
 23rd— 2.30pm MOLLY VERE AFTERNOON TEA CONCERT
 24th— 7.30pm GRAHAM FELLOWES FATHER EARTH FILM
 25th— 7.00pm FRIENDS QUIZ NIGHT
 27th— 5.30pm THE CAPTURED PRINCESS
 30th— 7.00pm OPEN MIC NIGHT

December

2nd— 7.00pm CAPTAIN CALAMITY SANTAMIME ADVENTURE
 3rd— 2.30pm & 7.00pm BLAZE CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION
 4th— 1.30pm CHRISTMAS BINGO eyes down AT 2.30PM
 9th— 7.00pm PAUL MAYHEW-ARCHER INCURABLE OPTIMIST
 12th— 7.30pm A CHRISTMAS CAROL
 17th— 7.30pm STEVE WALKER SWING BAND IN THE CHRISTMAS
 MOOD AGAIN

January

6th— 7.00pm CINDERELLA
 7th— 1.00pm & 6.00pm CINDERELLA
 8th— 11.00am & 4.00pm CINDERELLA
 11th— 7.00pm CINDERELLA
 12th— 7.00pm CINDERELLA
 13th— 7.00pm CINDERELLA
 14th— 1.00pm & 6.00pm CINDERELLA
 15th— 11.00am & 4.00pm CINDERELLA
 28th— 7.30pm ABBA SENSATION

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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. Melissa Porter 07840 125623

Facebook : North Thoresby Playgroup – updated weekly.

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

Regular Events

- 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 : Village Men's Group 10-11.30am.
- Thursday : Get-Together fortnightly, September to Easter at 2pm.
- Saturday : Collection for Food Bank. First Saturday of each month 10am-noon. Beginning Saturday 7th January 2023, 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.

Apart from Sunday worship and Bible Study, events take place at the Wesley Centre

North Thoresby & District Bowls Club

Bowling season has finished now, and we move to playing indoors for the winter. It is time for our Autumn bowling green maintenance; hollow-coring this year, a process which makes the grass healthier. On the social side, we added a new internal competition this year, Australian Pairs. Seven teams competed over fourteen weeks. It was great fun. In the Bowls Leagues we had another successful season, finishing second in the Louth Wolds League and second in the Grimsby & Cleethorpes Bowls League Div 1, which means we are promoted to the Premier Division next year. 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.**

North Thoresby Village Mens' Group

We meet every Thursday in the Wesley Centre (next door to the Methodist Church). The doors open at 10am, it's come and go as you please, but most people stay until we close at 11.30am. We don't have a set programme. We drink tea or coffee, eat biscuits and chat. It could be likened to the works canteen at lunchtimes.

Current affairs, sport, hobbies, politics, jokes, price of energy have all been discussed over the last few weeks. At the moment, the age range of our members is 60 up to 90+yrs but all ages are welcome as long as you live in the village. We do ask for a voluntary contribution which goes towards heating and lighting. £2 per week is suggested. **For further information please call Graham Pearson on 01472 841812**

North Thoresby Methodist Church Christmas Events

Saturday 17th December 9.30- 11.30am.
Carols outside the Village Hall with mince pies/ coffee/tea served inside. **Donations for Action for Children.**

At the Methodist Church - Christmas Eve, 6pm, Carols by Candlelight

| | | |
|----------------|------|----------|
| Christmas Day | 10am | Service |
| New Year's Day | 11am | Service. |

St Helens Church

Weekly services each Sunday at 10-00 am. Info on notice board in Village Square.

December 3rd-4th Narnia Festival in church with stalls and refreshments.

December 18th 6pm. Traditional Carol Service.

Christmas Eve 3pm Christingle Service.
Led by Rev. Jean Wrisdale

Christmas Eve 6pm Christmas Communion Rev. Paul Salmon

North Thoresby and District WI Programme

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| December 6th 2022 | Christmas Baking | Angela Hawkins |
| January 10th 2023 | The Katriane Duo | |
| February 7th 2023 | Annual General Meeting | |
| March 7th 2023 | My Glass is Always Half Full | Joy Wood |

Knit and Natter

Twelve years ago, two friends, Louise Turrell and Margaret Gibson, decided to liven up an afternoon each week by starting a knitting group. We started with eight ladies, soon increasing to twenty, most of whom are still coming along on a Monday afternoon from 2-4pm in the Wesley Centre.

We range in age from 60 to 92. Our star golden oldie, Joan Jackson, is nearly 93 and still knitting scarves for deprived children.

The group knit for charity and support any worthy cause, which includes the Shoe Box Appeal and Trina Wilkinson has knitted nearly 1000 teddies for this fund. We knit for Women's Aid, the Salvation Army, and premature babies at the hospital. Angela Padley crochets baby hats by the 100s and Winn Nilsson knits cardigans. The old peoples' homes receive blankets crocheted by Jean Plaskit.

Our latest project was making poppies for Remembrance Day and we decorated the village telephone box and fencing after our success with decorating it for the Jubilee.

Margaret Gibson Contact number 840698

The Community Choir 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month Wesley Centre, 7.30 £2.50 a session.

The Community Choir has quickly become established with over 30 members. Graham Burrell puts the group through their paces with great skill and humour. Early repertoire includes Bridge over Troubled Water, Fields of Gold and Edelweiss. Christmas carols too.

We look forward to their public debut.

Contact: Anita Briggs 840803 briggsa2@yahoo.co.uk

Football Report

For the 2022-23 season, North Thoresby FC, are back playing in Division 2 in the East Lincs Football Combination. After training and playing friendlies back in July and August, the league season started on September 3rd with a home game against North Cotes and then the following week against Grimoldby. Both these games ended up in defeats due to key players missing due to holidays and end of season cricket commitments.

Up next, Louth OB Reserves and with a strong squad we recorded our first win with a convincing 5-0 win. A 1-0 reverse against Grainthorpe, followed, in a game we deserved at least a draw. In the next fixture, in the Junior Challenge Cup, we were up against a strong Alford Town team, but we were more than a match for them, ending with a 3-1 win.

Back in league action the following week we recorded a convincing 6-2 win against Louth OB Veterans. Another cup week followed with an away game against North Somercotes in round 1 of the Village Trophy. A tight fought game right up to the final whistle but ending up with a 3-2 defeat. Into November, playing at home against Louth Town Development, we recorded our largest goal tally with a 11-1 win. So up to date after 6 league games with 3 defeats and 3 wins we have 9 points and sit in 6th place. **Dave Bedlow**

North Thoresby History Group

**Thursday 8th December East Lindsey, Lincolnshire
Dialect Society**

Village Hall, 7.30 £2.50 to include refreshments

Come along and hear how our recent ancestors spoke and communicated. A wonderful Christmas time entertainment – funny and educational. See separate boxes for examples

A Village Centenarian

We will shortly have a centenarian in the village when Robert Simons celebrates his 100th birthday in December. A lovely, charming man, bright as buttons. We have many *septuagenarians* (70-79), *octogenarians* (80-89) and quite a few *nonagenarians* (90-99) but I think Robert will be our only centenarian.

Activities in the Village Hall

- **Pilates:** Weekly, Mondays - 11.00/12.00 and Wednesdays - 19.00/20.00. Ruth Fleet 07885279099
- **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
- **Church Bingo:** Last Friday of the month Des Green 01472 840160
- **Church Tabletop Sale:** Second Saturday of the month. Starts October. Des Green 01472 840160

North Thoresby Art Group: Meets every Tuesday 1-4pm in the Wesley Centre to offer advice and encouragement to each other. Members work in a variety of media and bring their own materials and equipment. £5 per session. **Further information** please contact Judith Goodey on 01472-840461

North Thoresby Primary Academy Headteacher: Tom Hawkins 01472 840295 contactus@norththoresbyprimaryacademy.org www.norththoresbyprimaryacademy.org

North Thoresby, Grainsby and Waithe Parish Council

Website: parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/NorthThoresbyGrainsbyandWaithe

Email: norththoresbyparishcouncil@gmail.com

North Thoresby Village Hall Hire from January: First increases in 8 years and due to substantial increases in electricity and heating oil. 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

Sunday 4th December

Community Carol Service, Wesley Chapel 4pm

Conducted by the Reverend Susan Chambers and featuring a children's choir and the newly formed Community Choir. Short readings by representatives of the community groups. All very welcome. Collection in aid of Action for Children.

North Thoresby Methodist Church: Thursday Get-Together

This informal and friendly group meets every alternate Thursday afternoon from 2pm – 3.30pm between September and Easter in the Wesley Centre. It begins with a short time of worship followed by a speaker and tea/coffee, biscuits and chat. **Speakers until Christmas are:**

November 24th Audrey Foster – Christmas decorations using fir cones

December 8th Christmas Entertainment and buffet.

If you would like to join us – just turn up or phone for more detail. You can be sure of a warm welcome. Lynne Dudgeon 01472 840720, Elizabeth Kershaw 01472 840009, Ruth Constant 01507 607324

Thursday Get Together Spring Programme 2023

January 5th Rev Neil Vickers, Homelessness.

January 19th Ian Wright, With Hope and a Camera in India

February 2nd Jackie Newborough entertains us.

February 16th Rev. Joy Osborne – her book, 'An Inside Job'

March 2nd Sue Sanchez, Water Bottles and Brown Envelopes

March 16th Lynn Robinson - a musical afternoon

March 30th AGM & Fun Quiz

Lincolnshire Dialect Examples

Mog On - Move on. 'When I'm sick o' bein' 'ere I shall mog on.'

Mud - Might. 'I put me new dress on sea I mud ha' knawn ya was comin'.

Pag - To carry on the back. 'If you're tired I'll pag you for a bit.'

Back End – autumn. 'it's been a rare back end , but there's sum weather to cum'.

Arse-Fost – Back to Front. 'I knaw as e' can't read fer e' looks at a book arse-fost'.



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Discovery of Medieval Foundations in the Village

It has long been suspected that the field directly to the north of St Helens contains remains of buildings of historical significance – possibly the site of a Manor House, which would have typically been located near the Church and Tithe Barn. The existence, to this day, of two ponds, formerly fish ponds, in the field, add weight to the theory. There is also an ancient ‘bluestone’ in the field, which traditionally has been believed to be where the manor court was held – the steward, jury men and tenants of the Manor, marching in procession through the village to the stone in ‘Boundels Croft’ (corrupted today to Bond Croft) , each bearing a white hazel wand.

Our hopes of discovering evidence has been helped by the development of Lidar technology (sometimes spelt Ladar), whereby a location can be targeted with a laser from above and the time it takes for the reflected light to return to the receiver is measured. High resolution maps are then produced. Lidar maps of the field show interesting ‘lumps and bumps’.

However, our breakthrough has come with an entirely different approach – using the abilities of a remarkable local ‘Dowser’ - dowsing being a process by which a Y-shaped twig or rod is used to ‘divine’ water, or buried metals, gravestones etc. Scientific evidence suggests that dowsing is no more effective than random chance but that wasn’t our experience one Saturday in early October. The Dowser immediately identified stone foundations some 50cm underground – and a little digging soon revealed laid chalk foundations and stone post-stones indicating a doorway. We are now awaiting full and appropriate permissions to investigate further, with expert assistance from the County Archaeologists.

IW, History Group

Some Lincolnshire Dialect Examples

Izels: Particles of soot floating about in a room, indicating that the chimney needs to be swept. ‘That chimley’ll ha’ to be swep’ ‘cos there’s izels all ower the foniture.’

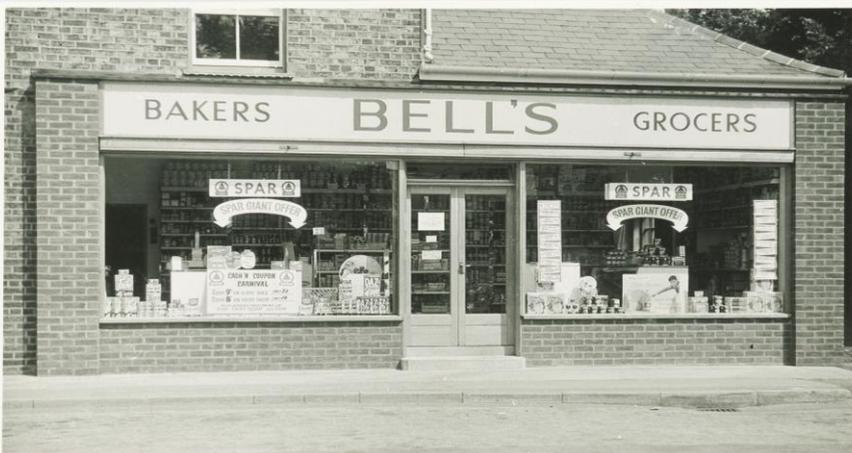
Kelter: Noun, rubbish. Verb, to throwaway as rubbish. ‘Chuck that kelter on the fire.’ And ‘she keltered him into the sea.’

Mattler: A match or equal to another. ‘If ‘e wants to feight I’m ‘is mattler.’



Robin Kelly does a remarkable volunteer job in keeping the Village streets tidy, especially when the leaves are falling.

'Events' are delighted to fund any new tools and equipment Robin needs, and he is seen here with his new wheelbarrow and rake



A view once familiar to many villagers – in the Square next to the Village Hall – 1980s ?



In our next issue, an 'In Focus' interview with Tom Hawkins, Executive Headteacher, North Thoresby & Utterby Primary Academies.

Music Review: Sage and the Others

On September 10th, this accomplished band performed to an appreciative audience in the Village Hall. The trio, led by a singer who had both vocal presence and personality, performed a selection of well-known standards from the past four decades, together with some of their own compositions.

They were three very talented guitarists, blending both their instruments and voices in smooth harmonies. The concert ended with a rapturous standing ovation.

As one who enjoys local and live music, I would have no hesitation in recommending them as worthy of a second visit.

Alan McKinnell

Retiring Chair

After 6 years as chairman of the 1940s Event and its successor, the North Thoresby Community Events Association, the time has come for me to stand down – every phase of one's life has a limited time span, and I have many commitments and interests which need a little more of my time - and a substantial 'bucket list' to work through.

In September 2016, with Kitty and I newly arrived in the village and innocently attending a committee meeting in the Village Hall, I was unexpectedly faced with a choice – to allow the 1940s Event to fold, or take it on. Quickly conferring with Kitty, we decided to go for it – what better way to integrate ourselves in the community? While there were many challenges ahead, we've never regretted that decision and it's never been a chore – in fact, it's brought us into contact with so many wonderful people and greatly contributed to the marvellous quality of life we enjoy here.

We have been very lucky indeed to assemble a dedicated, skilled and imaginative committee with Dave Bedlow, Claire Cooper, Sarah Middleton, Zoe Snell, Sue and John Sanchez, and Mark Wilson all serving for all, or virtually all, of my time here and others, including current members George Krawiec and John Norman have made very valuable contributions. Anything, and everything, we have achieved has been a team effort. It's also been a joy to get to know and work with all the community groups in the village - many of great longstanding. The village is, without doubt, a special place.

Of course, Kitty and I will continue to be involved in many of the activities and social groups here, and, along with a number of friends and colleagues, I have a pretty big agenda with the History Group, Archive Centre, production of a second volume of the village history and potential archaeological investigations in the village.

In many ways, community activists are swimming against the tide of modern life but it's ever more important in a world increasingly in turmoil, that at the smallest level of social life, community groups provide spaces and opportunities for individuals to come together, to build friendships and bonds of solidarity. In this respect, along with the other community groups, I hope we have made a positive difference here.

Finally, many thanks to so many of you who have made the return to our childhood home in North Lincolnshire (we were classmates in school at Barton Grammar) after over 45 years in the West Country, such a great pleasure. IW



Top: Coronation day celebrations at the Vicarage, 1953.

Below: Before the 1914-18 War, the annual Village Show attracted large crowds.

