

Spring is here – hurrah!!



Thornborough News

April - June 2025



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Uncontested nominations notified on **11 April 2025**

Nominations are published by 4pm on **6th May 2025**

To find out more contact: Alison Robinson, Clerk, Thornborough Parish Council

Email: clerk@thornborough-pc.gov.uk or phone 077562471

Thornborough Village Hall

March 2025 Update



It's been an eventful few months at the Village Hall!

Huge thanks to everyone who helped put the hall back together after an external booking left the hall in a very poor state. As Steve Wilkins explained on eNews we have reviewed our procedures to avoid any repetition and thankfully had a sizeable deposit in place to cover the majority of the costs.

Thanks again to everyone who helped with the flood at the beginning of March - mopping, lending dehumidifiers and general cleaning. Luckily it was discovered in the evening or things could have been a lot worse! The culprit was a degraded hose to the dish washer which is once again back in working order.

Bookings continue to go from strength to strength and **if you would like to book the hall** or discuss requirements, please get in touch via the Village Hall website <https://thornboroughvillagehall.com> or **speak to the Hall Manager, Nikki Standing +44 7872 1948565**

The 59 Club

The 59 Club provides on-going funds for the Village Hall and costs just £5 per month for either the Wednesday or Saturday Club and you'll be in with the chance of winning £150. Just message me & I'll email the form **+44 778 8872717**.

Finally, a huge thank you to Bernard Garbe who has been a member of the Village Hall committee for many, many years (and a member of so many other village organisations too!) Bernard and Christine have now moved away from the village and we look forward to thanking him properly a little later on in the year.

Liz Julier - Village Hall Secretary

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC) Report

TPC has met twice since the previous edition of the newsletter, on 19 February and 19 March 2025. The most recent meeting was the final meeting of TPC before the local council elections on 1 May 2025.

The next meeting on 21 May 2025 will be the Annual Meeting of TPC - not to be confused with the Thornborough Annual Parish Assembly which is organised by TPC. All parish and town councils are required to hold annual meetings where governance is the main business focus.

TPC Extends a Warm Welcome to its New Councillors

TPC co-opted two new councillors at its meeting in February:

- **Richard Burdon** richard.burdon@thornboroughparish.org.uk
- **Michael Synnott** michael.synnott@thornboroughparish.org.uk

Thornborough Community Information Board

And here it is:



It's always great when all the planning finally comes together. With thanks again to the Thornborough and Thornton Fundraisers. Cllr Morgan also deserves a special mention as the driving force behind making it a reality. She wasn't alone of course receiving valuable input from Cllrs Dove and Taylor.

ENHANCING WILDLIFE HABITATS IN THE PARISH WORK PARTY

Sunday 27th April - 10am – 12 noon

Habitat Improvement and Tree work

We will be aiming to set up a wildflower area behind the bench by the Village Pond, and to trim a couple of trees on the Village Green that require attention.

Come and join us

Appropriate tools will be very useful.
Please wear gloves to protect your hands.

Anyone wishing to join us please meet by the Pond

We look forward to your support with this second work group of 2025.

Cllrs Richard Dove and Lynn Morgan

All Change...

The clerk's email address has changed and is now:

clerk@thornborough.p-c.gov.uk

The parish council's official address is also changing from 1 April 2025:

Thornborough Parish Council
PO Box 6562
Milton Keynes, MK10 1BZ

2025/26 TPC Meeting Dates

TPC meetings will again be held on the third Wednesday of the month, except in August, December and April when it doesn't normally meet. TPC meetings are held in Thornborough Village Hall commencing at 7pm.

Alison Robinson - Clerk, Thornborough Parish Council

07756 247186 - clerk@thornborough-pc.gov.uk -

<https://www.thornborough-pc.gov.uk/>

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC) 2025/6 Meeting Dates

All Meetings commence at 7pm and are held in Thornborough Village Hall

TPC Annual Meeting	Wednesday 21 May 2025
TPC Meeting	Wednesday 18 June 2025
TPC Meeting	Wednesday 15 July 2025
August 25	No TPC Meeting
TPC Meeting	Wednesday 16 September 2025
TPC Meeting	Wednesday 15 October 2025
TPC Meeting	Wednesday 19 November 2025
December 25	No TPC Meeting
TPC Meeting	Wednesday 21 January 2026
TPC Meeting	Wednesday 18 February 2026
TPC Meeting	Wednesday 18 March 2026
April 26	No TPC Meeting

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Reflections from the Rectory by Rev'd Jacqueline Dove

I'm writing this on the 20th March which is the official astronomical start of Spring this year and what a beautiful day it is. I'm outside enjoying the birdsong and bright daffodils while also reflecting on the state of the garden.

It's Lent in the Church Calendar which offers the opportunity to pause and reflect on the state of our hearts. The prophet Ezekial, many thousands of years ago, speaking on behalf of God writes: *'I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.* This is the hope of Lent, that our hearts will be transformed to become more attune to the ways of God. A more modern 'prophet' Jimi Hendrix put in this way "When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace".

The world is in desperate need of 'hearts of flesh', hearts that recognise their human vulnerability and the human propensity to make a mess of things. Humility is in short supply. AI tells me that humility, the acknowledgment of one's limitations and a willingness to learn, fosters effective communication, builds stronger relationships, and promotes personal growth and empathy, ultimately leading to a more fulfilling and successful life. I would suggest that humility also helps us acknowledge our need for God's transforming love.

I have found it is through various prayer practices that I experience the transformative potential of God's love. One such prayer practise is **walking the labyrinth at the back of the Churchyard which I'm doing every Thursday morning at 9am during Lent which ends on Easter Sunday**. It would be lovely if you would join me there. I am also leaving reflections in the Church Porch for those who can't make 9am on Thursday mornings.

One of these Lent reflections posed the question: **Where do you see compassion, kindness, love, joy, or belonging? How can you join in?** I was quite surprised that my first response to this was the David Copperfield cast who are spending a lot of time hanging out in the church. This led me to remember the recent Safari Supper, the St Mary's Church Quiz and the monthly Chat-in-the-Chancel and Community Café. There is also Lyrics and Lunch, Meet and Eat and Wednesday Coffee Mornings at the Chapel. And of course the WI. I wonder if it is this community spirit the prophet Ezekiel is talking about? Happy Easter.

St Mary's Church Services and Events

April	6 th	11.00am	Joint service, Church and Chapel, at the <u>Church</u>
	13 th	10.30am	Benefice Palm Sunday Communion at Whaddon
		4.00pm	WILD at Nash Village Hall
	17 th	7.30pm	Benefice Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service of light and darkness at Thornborough
	18 th	12noon	Benefice Good Friday Reflection at Beachampton
	20 th	11.15am	Easter Family Communion with Easter Egg hunt
	27 th	4.00pm	Messy Church, at the Chapel
May	4 th	11.00am	Joint service, Church and Chapel at the Chapel
	11 th	4.00pm	WILD at Nash Village Hall
	18 th	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	25 th	4.00pm	Messy Church
Jun	1st	11.00am	Joint service, Church and Chapel, at the <u>Church</u>
	8 th	4.00pm	WILD at Nash Village Hall
	15 th	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	22 nd	4.00p	Messy Church, at the Chapel
	29 th	6.00pm	Benefice Songs of Praise (<i>Hymns and Pimm's</i>) at T'boro

News and Events

Thank you to all those who helped contribute to and participate in the Valentines Quiz. We are happy to report that just over £500 was made which will help to maintain our church. Huge thanks to those who donated a raffle prize, set up and clear down and gave advice. Special thanks go to Dan Goodger for his technical expertise and Des Coltman and Kay Quinton for presenting and setting an enjoyable quiz. Many thanks again for all your support. We hope to see you all again next year!

We would like to **start up the 'Mighty Mowers' group of regular churchyard maintenance** again. We trialled a section maintenance rota system last year and it was successful but **would need further volunteers to ensure all parts of the churchyard are covered. *If you could devote some time to clearing/mowing a small section of the churchyard please contact lau_payne@yahoo.co.uk*** to be added to our WhatsApp group. We shall be starting up our monthly Thursday evening churchyard rake and cake sessions shortly - more details to follow.

St Mary's Church is very pleased to be the venue for the forthcoming village production of David Copperfield on 9th & 10th May.

Dates for your diaries

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is taking place on **22nd May at 7.30pm**. The 2024 Annual Report including financial report will be available in the church two weeks before hand. If you would like to join the St Mary’s Electoral roll please contact Mary Parker on **meparker1@aol.com**.

Chat-in-the-Chancel and Market Stall – the 2nd Saturday of each month, 10 -12 noon at St Mary’s Church. A selection of homemade produce being sold to raise funds for the church and the opportunity for a chat with your ‘neighbours’ over a free cup of tea/coffee.



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Full Page	£15	£80
Half Page	£7	£40
Small ad	£4	£21

Charities and “Personal” Ads remain free of charge
(at the discretion of the Editor).



Thornborough Methodist Chapel

Don't you just love Spring? As we leave winter behind us, we are seeing more sunny days, lambs are jumping about in the fields and daffodils are everywhere. This fills our hearts with joy. Yet we can have joy in our hearts all the time if we give our lives to Jesus (Psalm 16:11). It is a joy that is everlasting and overpowering, that overrides all sorrow and sighing (Isaiah 35:10). Are you interested? Come to chapel and find out more, you'd be most welcome.

Our usual activities continue as normal:

Drop-In: *Held every Wednesday* in our lounge area **between 10.30am-12.30pm**.

Anyone can pop in for a chat, meet/make friends and have free refreshments.

On the second Wednesday of the month, we hold a Bring & Buy sale.

Messy Church: The Chapel, along with the church, holds a Messy Church for children from babies to 11year olds and their parents on the **4th Sunday of the month** in the chapel room. **Please contact Katy Morris on 07904 958033.**

Meet & Eat: For £6, this popular monthly event, usually held on **the 1st Monday of the month**, consists of a two-course lunch followed by coffee and mints. If you'd like to come, **please contact Katy Morris** to book a place.

Lyrics and Lunch: Another popular event, usually held on **the 4th Monday of the month**, is a time for carers to come with their loved ones, who have dementia, to share singing well-known popular songs, a simple meal of homemade soups, fresh bread & home-baked cakes, and a short thought for the day. If you are interested, **please contact Katy Morris for details.**

Chapel Meeting Room: To hire, **please call Louise Springall on 01280 816887.**

Chapel Garden: Please feel free to come and see the garden at the back of the chapel. There are a couple of pews and a bench to sit on.

Here are some of our future services. Please come along, you'll be most welcome.

Sunday 30th Mar 11am – Preacher David Teckoe

Sunday 6th April 11am – United service in St Mary's

Sunday 13th April 11am – TBC

Sunday 20th April 11am – Preacher John Boxwell with Holy Communion

Sunday 27th April 11am – TBC

Sunday 4th May 11am – United service in chapel. Preacher TBC

Sunday 11th May 11am – Preacher Carina Shergold

Sunday 18th May 11am – Preacher Paul Kybird

Sunday 25th May 11am – Preacher Andrew Shergold

A Busy Term Ahead at Thornborough Infant School!

This term at Thornborough Infant School, we're excited to be learning all about plants and growth! The children are exploring how plants develop and the importance of caring for our environment. We're particularly looking forward to being a part of the Thornborough Open Gardens, where we'll have the opportunity to showcase the knowledge and skills we've been developing in our garden.



In addition to our gardening projects, we have lots of exciting trips planned. The Key Stage 1 children can't wait to take the train to London for a day of exploration and learning, and Reception are thrilled to be working with the Head Gardener at Blenheim Palace to deepen their understanding of horticulture. Another highlight of the term will be our school trip to



Waddesdon Manor, where the whole school will enjoy a fantastic day out exploring the house and gardens on the theme of fairy tales.

Back at school, our forest school area is undergoing some exciting changes. The children are busy adding a new flower bed and a small pond, which will help us further our outdoor learning experiences. Thanks to generous grants from several charitable trusts, we'll also be replacing our old play equipment and transforming a large area of our outdoor space into an eco-area. We're incredibly grateful for this support and can't wait to see these changes come to life!



Alongside all of this, we're also undertaking much-needed work on our school toilets, ensuring that our facilities match the fantastic learning environment we're creating. With so many exciting projects on the go, it's shaping up to be a busy and enriching term for all of us. We're looking forward to sharing all of our progress with you in the coming months!

Dates for your diaries: The next Community Cafés are: Wednesday 2nd April, Wednesday 7th May, Wednesday 4th June and Wednesday 2nd July.



Thornborough Cricket Club Update

At this time of year, Thornborough Cricket Club is a hive of activity, with the new season – hopefully a drier one! – less than a month away.

This is an especially busy period for Andy Checkett, our hard-working groundsman, who can be found at the Sir Harry Moore playing field, bustling in and out of his equipment shed, most days. With the club's popular new junior section continuing to grow by leaps and bounds, Andy needs to produce a square robust enough to withstand an enormous amount of cricket. The early days of spring, after the grass has started to grow, are vital to achieving that.

Believe it or not, Thornborough will be running SEVEN teams this summer, two adult and five junior, including the newly-rebranded girls' team, the Thornborough Ravens.

The success of the junior section is testament to an incredible amount of hard work by Michael Ballinger, Dan Harrison and their growing band of regular helpers. It has played a big part in revitalising our club, with some of our top junior players already making their mark in adult cricket.

The club will also once again be running weekly Allstars and Dynamos sessions at the ground over the summer. Details for this year's programme – which aims to cater for all ability levels, boys and girls and a range of ages - were recently circulated.

We are lucky to play in a beautiful spot, so do pop down and give the Thornborough teams your support when the sun is shining. Broadly speaking, you can expect to see one of the adult teams in action on Saturday afternoons, with Sundays reserved for junior cricket.

Lastly, this is a good opportunity to say a big thank you to all our sponsors in the local community. As we all know, the price of just about everything has been going up in the last two or three years, and the goods and services we need to run a thriving village cricket club are certainly no exception. Without sponsorship, we simply would not be able to keep going on anything like our present scale. So, thank you – and here's hoping for a vintage 2025 season that will spread a little happiness and make the village proud.

David Owen – secretary (davidowen58@aol.com)

Thornborough and Coombs Woodland Report



Introduction of Wildlife Cameras in the Woods

Many of you will have noticed by the signage that wildlife cameras have recently been introduced into the woods. The primary aim of installing wildlife cameras is to enable us to see who we share the woods with and to ensure their well-being.

The cameras are strategically placed throughout the woods, often near animal trails, water sources, and feeding areas. Equipped with motion sensors and infrared capabilities, they capture images both day and night. They are sighted as far as is possible not to pick up human visitors.

To see the results visit the woodlands website at www.Thornboroughwoods.org.uk/Gallery. Here, you can see a collection of images and videos showcasing the beauty and diversity of the woodland's inhabitants.

Volunteer Work Parties in the Woods

The woodlands are maintained by a group of volunteers who work hard at keeping the woods a lovely place to walk. If you would like to help please come along to the depot for the following work parties. All are welcome and you don't need any special skills and there is usually a delicious slice of cake to reward your efforts.

Weekly - Monday mornings 9.30am – 12.30pm

Monthly – 1st Saturday of the month 9am – 12pm.



David Copperfield Production update by Cath Sayer

It's possible that if you belong to any committee or organization in the village – you will know at least one person who is involved in our DC production. The tentacles went far and wide and we've been rehearsing for a year (albeit only a couple of hours per week). So that this fairly massive project is now reaching some end dates – **specifically 9-10th May for the performances!!**

For reasons beyond our control, we can only offer a limited number of performances and by the time you read this, most of the tickets will have been snapped up. It's always a thrill to see a family member or friend (or neighbour's offspring) transformed into another human being, spouting words from another time and place, so we're not surprised the tickets went like hot cakes. However, it may be worth **contacting Ian Davies at daviesdave4@aol.com** to see if there are any returns, or if there's any way you might be squeezed in.

The other purpose of this notification is to offer heartfelt thanks to the families of the actors who've endured the loss of a family member on many a weekend, and to say hugest thanks to all those wonderful 'volunteers' who have taken on this massive challenge and with whom it's been an absolute joy to work.

We don't want to do any more bragging at this time (it's bad form and can jinx things) so there will be more of a write-up after the event.

DC Production Team

Cath Sayer, Ann Payne, Martin Boileau, Laura Bentley

— — — — —



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Thornborough & Thornton Fund Raisers update

Thank you to everyone who joined in the Safari Supper -
It was so good to see new faces joining in.

**The next event is OPEN GARDENS on 14th and 15th June.
Reserve the dates!!**

We continue to look for Volunteers to help on both or either day.

We do also need help with Promotion and Sponsorship, and if you think you might be able to help, it would be very gratefully received!

The current project is to provide the school with further educational activity equipment.

**The Summer Music event will be Saturday 30th August.
Save the Date & watch out for further details!**

Gwynne Grayson - Chair

A Note from Bernard & Christine Garbe

Dear Thornborough friends,

Christine and I moved to Thornborough in 1989 with our young family and have loved being a part of the community with so many friends here.

But our children have all flown the nest (for the last time) and it is time to downsize and pass Green Acres to a lovely new family.

We left on 17th March and are moving to Middleton Cheney - our daughter and grandchildren live there too.

We will of course visit Thornborough and events and enjoy meeting our old friends again in the future.

Thanks for all your support, it's been emotional leaving.

Best wishes, Bernard and Christine.

WI Report – March 2025 by Suzanne Osborn

I'm sure we're all looking forward to some warmer weather AND the amazing Thornborough & Thornton WI speaker's programme for the Spring!



2nd April - Sarah Treharne 'What's so great about Veg'.

Many of you will know Sarah who is currently studying to be a Nutritional Therapist so please come along to listen & support.

14th May – Resolutions. We will be debating & voting on which WI Resolution goes forward to the WI National Vote.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE - NASH VILL AGE HALL

4th June - Dr Emily Jennings & Dr Richard Allen 'The history behind our Thornborough Map'. Emily & Richard are part of the archivist team at Magdalen College Oxford and last year gave us permission to reproduce the Thornborough map that so many of us bought.

Meetings start at 7.30pm - everyone always welcome to come along to join us for a suggested £4 donation at the door.

Once again we've had wonderful range of speakers & events. 'Through the Looking Glass' run by Alice Woodyard gave us a wonderful meal in January which we are all hoping she repeats very soon. We have had two extraordinary speakers: Victoria Grainge "My adventures on the Mongolian Derby" which is billed as being the toughest horse race in history across 1000km of Mongolian steppe on semi wild horses, and in March, to celebrate International Women's Day, Claudette Deysel, who is the founder of Benjamin UK which provides therapeutic residential care for children aged 12 – 18. She brought a number of members of her team along which gave a real insight into the extraordinary work they do.

We have also started a new group where all members were asked what sort of activities they would like to do and the responses were wide and varied. The idea being that if you want to do something but haven't got anyone to do it with then there will probably be someone from the WI who wants to do it too! So far small groups have been to see the Robert Harris film Conclave and visited 78 Dergate in Northampton designed by Rennie Mackintosh.

Not sure what we are doing next but you are welcome to come along and join us!



TEA AND CAKE

in the Village Hall

Saturday 22nd March

What a turn out!!

Fabulous cakes were provided by a number of the Ladies of Thornborough and Thornton WI and all the c.£500 proceeds are going to Thornborough Lyrics and Lunch.

A special “shout out” to Suzanne Osborn for leading the charge!!



Must Have Diary Dates

EVENT	WHERE?	WHEN?
		2025
Last Date to apply to be a Local Councillor		Weds 2nd April - 4pm
Buckinghamshire Local Elections	Village	Thurs 1st May
T'boro & Thornton David Copperfield Prod'n	Village Hall	Fri-Sat 9th & 10th May
T'boro Open Gardens	Around the Village	Sat-Sun 14th & 15th June
T'boro Junior Cricket Festival	Harry Moore Playing Field	Sun-Mon 25-26 August All Day
T'boro Fundraisers Music Event	TBA	30th August
T'boro Annual Fun Runs	Village Green	Sun 7th Sept - 10am



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Any questions – 07788 872717



LOCAL EVENTS DIARY – SAVE THE DATES

EVENT	WHERE?	WHEN?
Chapel Weekly Drop-In	Chapel	EVERY Weds - 10.30-12.30
Woodlands Work Party Volunteers	The Old Depot, Coombs	EVERY Mon - 9.30-12.30
Community Café	Village Hall	Weds 2nd April - 2-4pm
Last Date to apply to be a Local Councillor		Weds 2nd April 4pm
WI monthly meeting	Village Hall	Weds 2nd April - 7.30pm
Woodlands Work Party Volunteers	The Old Depot, Coombs	Sat 5th Apr - 9am
Joint Church Service	St Mary's	Sun 6th Apr - 11am
<i>Chat in the Chancel & Market Stall</i>	<i>St Mary's</i>	<i>Sat 12th Apr - 9am - Noon</i>
WILD	Nash Village Hall	Sun 13th Apr - 4pm
Benefice Maundy Thursday service	St Mary's	Thurs 17th Apr - 7.30pm
Benefice Good Friday Reflection	Beachampton	Thurs 18th Apr - Noon
Easter Family Communion & Egg Hunt	St Mary's	Sun 20th Apr - 11.15am
Habitat Improvement Work Party	Village Pond	Sun 27th Apr - 10 - Noon
Messy Church	Chapel	Sun 27th Apr - 4pm
Buckinghamshire Local elections	Village	Thurs 1st May
Woodlands Volunteers	The Old Depot, Coombs	Sat 3rd May - 9am
Joint Church Service	Chapel	Sun 4th May - 11am
Community Café	Village Hall	Weds 7th May - 2-4pm
T'boro & Thornton	Village Hall	Fri-Sat 9th & 10th May
David Copperfield Prod'n		
<i>Chat in the Chancel & Market Stall</i>	<i>St Mary's</i>	<i>Sat 10th May - 9am - Noon</i>
WILD	Nash Village Hall	Sun 11th May - 4pm
WI monthly meeting	NASH Village Hall	Weds 14th May - 7.30pm
TPC Annual Meeting	Village Hall	Weds 21st May - 7pm
Annual Parochial Church Meeting	St Mary's ?	Thurs 22nd May - 7.30pm
Messy Church	St Mary's	Sun 25th May - 4pm
Final copy date for next Thornborough News		Sat 31st May - 8pm
Joint Church Service	St Mary's	Sun 1st Jun - 11am
Community Café	Village Hall	Weds 4th Jun - 2-4pm
WI monthly meeting	Village Hall	Weds 4th Jun - 7.30pm
Woodlands Volunteers	The Old Depot, Coombs	Sat 7th Jun - 9am
WILD	Nash Village Hall	Sun 8th Jun - 4pm
<i>Chat in the Chancel & Market Stall</i>	<i>St Mary's</i>	<i>Sat 14th Jun - 10-Noon</i>
T'boro Open Gardens	Around the Village	Sat-Sun 14th & 15th June
TPC monthly meeting	Village Hall	Weds 18th Jun - 7pm
Messy Church	Chapel	Sun 22nd Jun - 4pm
Benefice Songs of Praise Hymns & Pimm's	St Mary's	Sun 29th Jun - 6.30pm

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**Please contact Nikki Standing on 07872 194856 if you can help
with arranging & delivering TNews.**