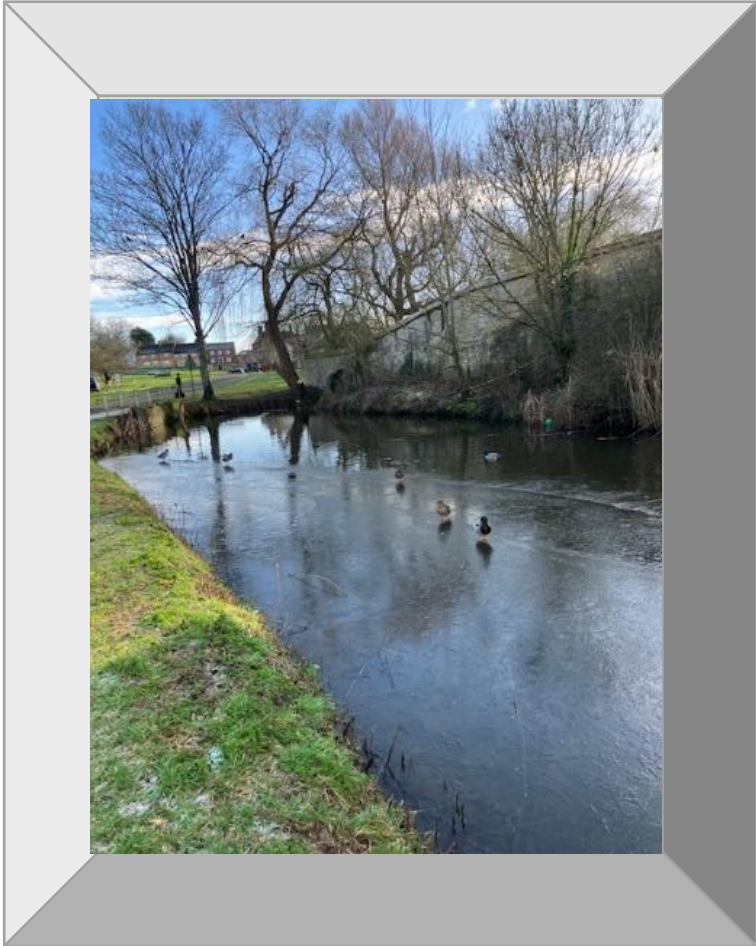


It's our Pond.....



Thornborough News

January - March 2023

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Thornborough Village Pond Project

The Parish Council is looking to make improvements to the Village Pond and to develop a pond management plan for its maintenance. The idea has arisen through discussion with residents of the village both new to the village and those who have been here for many years.

We are aware that we need to revive the pond to its former glory while enhancing the environmental benefits, reducing flood risk and making it a focal point to the village. Are you interested in the history of the pond, wildlife in the pond, or ways to improve the pond? **An Open Village meeting will be held in the Spring for all interested parties.**



In the meantime, please discuss any ideas, thoughts and relevant information with a member of the Parish Council or email the councillors heading up this project (Lynn Morgan, Richard Dove and Ray Goodger):

- Lynn.morgan@thornboroughparish.org.uk
- Richard.dove@thornboroughparish.co.uk
- Ray.goodger@thornboroughparish.co.uk

We need your feedback, thoughts and support as to the how residents would like to see this project developing.

Some thoughts and ideas

- We hold a meeting for interested individuals and special interest groups.
- We involve BBOWT (Beds, Bucks, Oxford Wildlife Trust).
- We consider decreasing flood risk to village by increasing surface area.
- We seek grant funding and volunteers to assist in long term plans as well as on ongoing maintenance.

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Reflection from the Rectory by Rev'd Jacqueline Dove

I'm writing this while flying up in the clouds on my way to SA to see my father who is unwell. The first thing that comes to mind being surrounded by clouds is George Capel who used to love to fly. I had the great privilege of taking the funeral of George on 16 January. George lived till 98 years of age and spent most of those years in Thornborough. The Capel's have links to Thornborough going back 300 years.

Ever wondered who designed the distinctive gates seen if walking on the footpaths which run either side of the rectory? Well, they were designed by George who was both farmer and artist. George was well respected in the village and remembered for his natural charm and willingness to help. St Mary's church is particularly grateful for all he did to help with the restoration of the church bells. He is also remembered by those who have lived long in Thornborough for the times, when in the RAF, he would fly low over his parents' house, buzzing the village, for his mother's benefit. George is survived by his wife Margaret, son Martin, daughter Judith and grandchildren and great grandchildren. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

There have been a number of new arrivals to the village and it's been great meeting them at the monthly Porch Sales. They tell me they have been warmly welcomed which is great to hear. Sociologists tell us that as humans we are wired (created) for connection which is why the church, chapel, pub and other village associations are so integral to the village life people are looking for. Village groups are dependent on volunteers willing to give their time and talents if they are to survive. George knew this and set a great example to follow. **May you too follow in his footsteps and get stuck in to keep the community spirit alive.**

St Mary's Church – Services & Events



February	5 th	11am	Church and Chapel at the Chapel
	12 th	4pm	Messy Church
	19 th	9am	BCP Holy Communion
Ash Wednesday	22 nd	Noon	Holy Communion at <u>Nash</u>
	26 th	6pm	Deanery Evensong
March	5 th	11am	Church and Chapel at St Mary's
	12 th	4pm	Messy Church
	19 th	9am	BCP Holy Communion
	26 th	NO SERVICE	

News and Events

The Advent Carol Service was enjoyed by over 50 people from around the Benefice. A wonderful beginning to Christmastide.

This was followed by the Carol Service on the 18th of December where we were joined by some of the Lenborough Singers. A choir transforms a service every time and thanks also to Amanda Hodges for playing the organ. After the service mulled wine and mince pies were served to a congregation of 70+.

Finally, on Christmas Eve the Christingle service, always popular, with the church nearly full. It was quite magical to see the children holding their lighted candles held in oranges.

The church looked so special by candlelight.

Again, a triumph for our vicar, and a huge thanks to Pam King for playing the organ.

Thanks also to those who provided such beautiful flower arrangements to decorate the church for the festive season.

We also remember George Capel who has recently passed away. We would like to pass on our condolences to his family.

Thornborough Methodist Chapel



We are now well into the New Year and are looking forward to what it brings. Life for all us brings many things that we celebrate such as births & birthdays, marriages, anniversaries etc. The church celebrates many events too but its year is based on three liturgical seasons:

Advent & Christmas - when we prepare for and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Lent & Easter: **Lent** is a 40-day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday – the day before Good Friday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.

Easter - when we remember the Crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday but then celebrate his resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Pentecost - commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other disciples following the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus and it marks the beginning of the Christian church's mission to the world.

May you have much to celebrate this year, especially the three seasons above.

Drop-In: Held every Wednesday morning between 10.30am – 12.30pm where anyone can come along for a chat, meet 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 2nd Sunday of the month in the chapel room. *Please contact **Katy Morris on 07904 958033.***

Meet & Eat: For £5, this popular monthly event consists of a two-course lunch followed by coffee, mints and a quiz. *To book a place, please contact Katy Morris.*

Lyrics and Lunch: This monthly event is growing in popularity and is a time for carers to come with their loved ones, who have dementia, to share singing well-known popular songs and some kind of meal/snack and a short thought for the day. *Please contact **Katy Morris.***

Chapel Meeting Room: To hire, please call **Louise Springall on 02180 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:

Sunday 5th February	11am -United service in Chapel
Sunday 12th February	11am -Preacher Carina Shergold
Sunday 19th February	11am -Own service
Sunday 26th February	11am -Preacher David Teckoe

Please come along, you'll be most welcome.

Thornborough P WS

...enclosed field for your dogs to enjoy

Fencing starts in February.....

Thornborough Paws – two-acre dog walking field, hard core parking, fully fenced to 6' and available to hire.

Please keep your fingers crossed that the weather is kind to us and we'll open in March.

Updates via Thornborough Paws on Facebook and thornborough paws on Instagram.

Please like & follow to keep up to date with all the latest news.



Wednesday 1st February 2-4pm





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Liz: 0778 8872717



ilexcottagethornborough@btinternet.com

Thornborough Pre-School update by Jeneen and the Thornborough Pre-School Team



The children and staff are excited to be back after the Christmas break! We have enjoyed listening and sharing our news of what we have been up to during the festive holiday.

We have welcomed 3 new children to preschool in January which has been lovely.

We are also looking forward to welcoming a new manager to our setting after the February half term, we are very much looking forward to her joining our preschool family.

We are looking at WINTER this half term; the children have been learning about the changes in the environment that happens in Winter. We have been talking about snow, ice and rain. They have enjoyed creating snowman pictures which we have displayed for us all to see.

They have also been learning about the different animals that live in the Arctic with the playdough. We created an outside activity where the children have to find winter objects in ice and work out what makes the ice melt.



We are now looking forward to our Spring term with lots of celebrations coming up.

Please keep a look out for details and the **date of our next fundraising event which will be the Easter Egg Hunt** - we look forward to seeing you all there!

We are also looking for a treasurer to join our committee team here at preschool. If you are interested or know anyone that is, please contact us on:- 07814137265 or email thornboroughandnashpreschool@gmail.com.



Update by Thornborough Staff

Happy New Year.

We are very fortunate this term that The Buckinghamshire Music Trust are coming into school to teach the children to play the violin.

The Reception children's topic is Growth and Growing and they have been planting cress seeds. The KS1 children's topic is 'Changes in Living Memory'. The children will be learning about Malala Yousafzai, David Attenborough and Greta Thunberg and in literacy, they are reading 'Bold Women in Black History' by Vashti Harrison.

While the Reception children have been listening and appreciating Vivaldi's 'The Four Seasons', the KS1 children are learning about Matisse.

Our Community Café resumes on Wednesday 1st February in the Village Hall, 2-4pm.

Open Gardens Update

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to open their gardens this summer - at the time of writing this the date has not been confirmed so keep an eye on eNews for updates!

We would welcome all offers of help, even if you are unable to open your garden:

- Providing plants for a plant stall - please plant a few more seeds than you need and pot them on for a good cause
- Promotion of the event - do we have contacts with local radio or papers?
- Sponsorship to help promote the event etc
- Help on the day will be essential - so if you are free, please join in

The next meeting will be shared on eNews, please do join in - all proceeds to the Village Hall Refurb Fund.

For further information please contact **Gwynne 01296 715550**.

Thornborough Flood Action Group report December 2022

History, Actions and the Future

On December 23rd, 2020, prolonged rain caused flooding in Thornborough, Thornton, Buckingham and the country at large.

Three properties were flooded in the centre of the village and two more at Thornborough Mill. Also several properties were flooded in Thornton.

We established a 'Section 19' investigation and report on this event. A Section 19 flood report is a public statement of the circumstances of a flood event, which establishes the responsible risk management authorities as well as the functions they have exercised or propose to exercise as a result of the flooding event.

Such a report was made by Buckinghamshire Council (BC) with the help of rivers authorities and Thornborough Flood Action Group (TFAG) and all the flood affected residents.

The Thornborough Flood Action Group was formed to work with Thornborough Parish Council (TPC), the Internal Drainage Board (IDB) and a number of Bucks Council departments.

During the subsequent visits by the various people responsible for maintenance, a number of road ditches and gullies were identified as needing work.

In June 2021 the IDB carried out clearing of the stream bed at Lower End and widened the stream upstream of the bridge. They also improved the stream downstream of Hatchets Leys Lane. These works should significantly improve the water flows out of the village centre.

The landowner of the field adjacent to Back Street cleared ditches within and outside his fields as part of the improvement works.

The Section 19 review was done by BC's Consultants and was then reviewed by TFAG and by the affected residents at Thornton Mill and House. The latter weren't too impressed.

This Autumn TFAG members with the very helpful support of the landowners inspected both brooks which join just upstream of the playing field with a view to identifying possible places where the flow could be temporarily delayed.

TFAG have spoken to all the landowners upstream of Tonne Brook entering the village and are delighted with the flood mitigation measures taken to slow the flow of water into the village centre.

Tonne Brook to the south of the Thornton Road enters the village at Bridge Street. The other stream to the north of the valley, Thorn Brook, enters via the ford in Back Street.

TFAG decided that there were limited further opportunities to significantly delay flows into the village and will instead focus on asking residents to be vigilant in identifying blocked flow channels and then reporting them to TPC for pushing BC to get them cleared.

The fact that Thornborough warranted the expense of a significant piece of scientific analysis and reporting should act as an incentive to BC staff to be quicker to respond to complaints. We hope...

TFAG expert and civil engineer (Crad Allerton – former Thornborough resident), Ray Goodger and Bernard Garbe are a part of the TFAG team and will be happy to advise homeowners in the village on measures that they can take in flood mitigation from the knowledge that we have gained in this investigation.

We are certain that there will be another flood event in the next few years – in any month of the year.

So our message is 'adopt a drain'. Blocked drains were a significant cause of the last flood. All drains have been cleared by BC in the last year, but residents can (and did) help significantly in clearing blocked drains thus alleviating flooding – but not all drains were cleared.

Adopt your local drain and keep it clear of leaves and other debris to help yourself and your neighbours. Contact me if I can help.

Thanks,

Bernard Garbe

07725 421534

Thornborough & Thornton Fundraisers

Well, there is so much to tell you all about; the fundraising committee have been very busy organising and planning future events. I think 2023 is going to be a very exciting time socially for the village and that can only be good for the community. The drive for all this activity is to secure the future of our beloved Village Hall and one of the benefits of this is the chance for us all to meet up regularly at many fun events.

Before telling you about the future, I need to tell you about this year's annual **Christmas Quiz**. Thank you to everyone in the village who participated and also to those of you that spread the quiz far and wide. This resulted in us selling over **600** quizzes and making a profit of over **£1,000** for the first time. I received so many lovely comments about how much people enjoy it and how it has become part of Christmas. The lucky winners this year were **Noel & Becca Hiorns** and **Rob & Alison Pearson**.

Village Christmas Tree: This year the fundraisers paid for the Christmas Tree and lights, then Carol and Rachael organised Carol Singing around the tree to recoup the costs. It was a lovely, if very cold evening - those who attended were warmed up with delicious, mulled wine and mince pies. Jacqueline led the singing, and the children had a wonderful time playing together in the snow afterwards. Following a collection and a generous anonymous donation, all costs were covered. It is such a lovely sight as you drive through the village in December and brings a smile to your face every time.

Mad March Mix: On **Friday 17 and Saturday 18 March** the Village Hall will host a marvellous mix of Drama, Dance, Music, Comedy and Readings. Those of you who remember these events from the past will know what a wonderful night's entertainment lies in wait. Rehearsals are well under way and having had a sneak preview of some of the performances I can guarantee a cracking night. Please do not hang about to get your hands on some tickets as this is bound to be a sell out! Tickets are available from Liz Julier, thejuliers@btinternet.com and **cost £10, £30 for a family of four and £5 for a child** (recommended age 8 and over). There will be a bar available on the evening.

Promises Auction: This much anticipated event will take place on **Saturday 20 May** and we will soon be confirming the venue. **We have already received over thirty promises but still need many more. The promises do not have to be big,** maybe *babysitting, gardening, baking, cooking, knitting, sewing etc*, in the past

we have had *an evening with a grumpy old man and a bottle of whiskey*, that fetched over £100 from a group of like-minded men, *pieces of art work* from local artisans, *holiday homes*, *wine tasting evenings*, *gardens thrown open for afternoon tea* to name just a few. So please put your thinking caps on and please let me know what you might be able to offer as a promise on, allan.fred.payne@sky.com. Of course, this is only one half of the event - we also need plenty of people to attend to make sure the bids get pushed up and we sell all the wonderful promises on offer! We will soon be selling tickets, which will include a pork roll or vegetarian alternative. **These evenings are great fun and there will be a bar available to help loosen the purse strings!**

Open Gardens: Plans are well underway to hold a Thornborough Open Gardens this summer although we still have to confirm a date. However, what we really **need are more people to offer to open their gardens**, we would like there to be *a mix of flower and vegetable gardens, quiet havens, manicured lawns, wild and formal gardens*, and size does not matter it is just as interesting to view a small, well-planned garden as it is a large, expansive one. If you would like to help us by throwing open your garden, please contact Gwynne: gwynnegrayson@aol.com.

Opera Dudes: More about this exciting event to be held in September soon.

As you can see, we have been working very hard to try and think of new and exciting ways to raise money and what we need now is your support to make all these events a success.

Ann Payne



Thornborough Arts and Crafts group

Tuesday afternoons 2.00 - 4.30 pm in the Village Hall. £5 per session.



Drawing, painting, sewing, knitting,
anything easily portable, whatever is preferred



Tea, coffee and biscuits

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC) Report

TPC met most recently on 18 January 2023. The draft minutes are published on the TPC noticeboard and website (see link below) about a week after the meeting has taken place and are then approved at the next meeting. The minutes provide the formal record of the business. The reports for the newsletter focus on the meeting topics that are likely to be of greatest interest or relevance to residents.

https://www.thornboroughparish.org.uk/Agendas_and_Minutes_36577.aspx

££££££££££s

The annual budget and precept have now been approved for the financial year 2023/4. The budget requirement to enable TPC to fulfil its statutory responsibilities is £32,510. The precept is the element of your council tax charge which the local council receives. The precept reflects the budget requirement less 'other income'. TPC's other income is predominantly the rent paid by plot holders, the Preschool and Thornborough Cricket Club that helps towards the costs of the allotments, sports field and pavilion. The increased precept for 2023/4 is £24,500. This is a 3.4% increase on the previous precept of £23,000. The estimated Band D property charge will be £78.96 – an increase of £2.66 for the year or 23 pence pcm.

In setting the budget and precept for the next financial year TPC was mindful that the current cost of living crisis is putting pressure on many households, whilst at the same recognising that its own bills are rising at an alarming rate. TPC has striven not to increase the precept more than absolutely necessary.

It might be helpful to mention some of TPC's more recent expenditure. For example, The cost of the tree work in the village and on the sports field was £1,700. TPC has spent nearly £1,300 in the past 3 months on statutory certification and repairs for the pavilion. The drought unsurprisingly resulted higher water bills and as for the cost of energy...

Avoiding a significant precept increase means TPC will need to apply for grant funding for any new projects or initiatives. TPC will also try to identify ways in which money might be saved if volunteers are willing to help with some of the maintenance tasks.

The Annual Activity Schedule

TPC has developed a new tool to manage its regular business and responsibilities. The purpose of the annual activity schedule is to ensure there

are lead councillors in place for those activities which need to be councillor led and, where relevant, information about community events can be made available in a timely way. For example, at its next meeting on in February TPC will discuss arranging a village litter pick in March. TPC will also start to plan the Annual Parish Assembly – formerly known as the annual parish meeting which tended to be confusing because parish councils are also required to hold an annual meeting. Whist irrespective of the name, responsibility for arranging the event nearly always falls to the local council, it should be a participative community event. Please do get in touch if you have ideas about how TPC can encourage better attendance and participation at the forthcoming Annual Parish Assembly. This is your village – TPC needs to know what is important to you and/or your family.

Thornborough Flood Action (TFAG)

TFAG has now submitted its final report which outlines just how much has been achieved since the flooding in December 2020. TPC is extremely grateful to TFAG and wishes to publicly acknowledge the important role it has played. TFAG suggests in its report that residents might be encouraged to ‘adopt a drain’ and be responsible for either clearing it if the problem is minor **or reporting blockages using Fix My Street <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>**. **We know Buckinghamshire Council is committed to continued increased expenditure for clearing drains as part of its work to help combat flooding so please do report any problems you come across** – it could make all the difference when there is extreme rainfall.

Alison Robinson

clerk@thornboroughparish.org.uk

07756247186

Editor’s Corner

New Contributors & Advertisers always welcome - please get in touch via tnewseditor2018@gmail.com. Please keep articles to a max of two A5 pages, otherwise I will likely have to edit without warning...!

Please send copy and Ads in either word or jpeg formats wherever possible to tnewseditor2018@gmail.com. We try to include everything sent to us but sometimes there is simply not room – apologies in advance.

Thornborough Cricket Club Update

With the start of the New Year and the longer days we start to think about cricket again, don't we?!!



Since the last edition of the village newsletter the club held its AGM on 25th November which coincided with England playing Wales in the World Cup which affected numbers who attended but the main roles within the club and voted for are:

Derek Davis remains as Chairman / John Osborn remains as secretary / we welcome Dave Owen into the treasurer's role / First team Captain remains as Ben Horton / His brother Sam steps up as vice captain / Andy Checkett as A team captain and groundsman / Ian McStraw for his input on the committee and of course Dave Wise for overseeing us all as President.

We will again be fielding 2 sides with the league due to commence late April / early May, the league AGM being in a couple of weeks when we should know more.

The first team is competing in Division 1 this season and the A team in Division 3.

In preparation for this we have **our indoor net sessions at the Royal Latin School for 6 weeks commencing Tuesday 21st February 7pm till 8pm, for a total of 6 weeks up to and including 28th March.** *If anybody is interested in attending, please contact me or any club member for details.*

Our successful 100-1 club membership is coming to an end so for the current year members will be approached to continue with their membership, which at £30.00 is good value and aids cricket to be played within the village.

Latest winners each winning £100.00 were James Montgomery in December (number 7) and Ivy McGrath in January (number 85) - well done to those two winners and all that won through the past year and all those that contributed in supporting the club.

We are always on the lookout for new players so if you fancy playing and dusting down your whites, please contact any member of the club who will make you welcome.

Yours in sport

John Osborn (Secretary)

WI Report December– February 2023

Teresa Connolly, President



Festive enjoyment at our December meeting was provided by local Capella group, Gracenotes. They had joined us previously in June at our Jubilee cream tea event. A beautiful occasion indeed.

Unwrapped toiletries for the Mums in the Milton Keynes Refuge were collected too. Thank you to all who also donated items in the church porch. All most gratefully received by the Refuge along with the supermarket gift cards. Your generosity was overwhelming and much appreciated.

As we go to press our WI members will be meeting up in Stony Stratford to enjoy an afternoon tea celebration. More about that next time!

We look forward to welcoming our new treasurer, Bethan Telford, who will be joining us in February.

Speakers for the forthcoming months at our meetings are:

1st February Ladies of the Grand Tour, Jean Yates.

Tales of intrepid wives, widows, and mistresses.

1st March Giving your garden the designer touch, Maria Greenhill.

An opportunity to be inspired to create special places in our gardens

Thornborough and Thornton WI meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome. Most meetings are also broadcast via Zoom for WI members who cannot attend in person.

You can contact us via email at: thornboroughandthorntonwi@gmail.com or visit our website for further information about our Women's Institute (WI): www.thornboroughandthorntonwi.org

Additionally for any other enquiries, including our local catering provision, you can phone **Teresa on 07824 618579**

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY – KEEP THE DATES

EVENT	WHERE?	WHEN?
Community Café	Infant School	Weds 1st Feb - 2-4pm
Post Office	Village Hall	Weds 1st Feb - 2-4pm
WI monthly meeting	Village Hall	Weds 1st Feb - 7.30pm
Woodlands Volunteers	The Old Depot, Coombs	Sat 4th Feb - 9am
Shared Church Service	Chapel	Sun 5th Feb - 11am
"Chapel Drop-in" with Bring & Buy Sale	Chapel	Weds 8th Feb - 10.30-12.30pm
Post Office	Village Hall	Weds 8th Feb - 2-4pm
Farm Slice Pizza	Outside Village Hall	Thurs 9th Feb - 5-8pm
Messy Church	Chapel	Sun 12th Feb - 4pm
Post Office	Village Hall	Weds 15th Feb - 2-4pm
T'boro Cricket Club weekly Indoor Nets	Royal Latin School	Tues 21st February - 7-8pm
Post Office	Village Hall	Weds 22nd Feb - 2-4pm
Farm Slice Pizza	Outside Village Hall	Thurs 23rd Feb - 5-8pm
T'boro Cricket Club weekly Indoor Nets	Royal Latin School	Tues 28th February - 7-8pm
Community Café	Infant School	Weds 1st Mar - 2-4pm
Post Office	Village Hall	Weds 1st Mar - 2-4pm
WI monthly meeting	Village Hall	Weds 1st Mar - 7.30pm
Woodlands Volunteers	The Old Depot, Coombs	Sat 4th Mar -9am
Shared Church Service	St Mary's	Sun 5th Mar - 11am
Post Office	Village Hall	Weds 8th Mar - 2-4pm
T'boro Cricket Club weekly Indoor Nets	Royal Latin School	Tues 7th March - 7-8pm
"Chapel Drop-in" with Bring & Buy Sale	Chapel	Weds 8th Mar - 10.30-12.30pm
Farm Slice Pizza	Outside Village Hall	Thurs 9th Mar - 5-8pm
Messy Church	Chapel	Sun 12th Mar - 4pm
T'boro Cricket Club weekly Indoor Nets	Royal Latin School	Tues 14th March - 7-8pm
T'boro "Springtime Spectacular"	T'boro Village Hall	Fri 17th - Sat 18th March
T'boro Cricket Club weekly Indoor Nets	Royal Latin School	Tues 21st Mar - 7-8pm
Farm Slice Pizza	Outside Village Hall	Thurs 23rd Mar - 5-8pm
Final copy date for next Thornborough News		Sun 26th March
T'boro Cricket Club weekly Indoor Nets	Royal Latin School	Tues 28th March - 7-8pm
PACE - The Big Walk	Ridgeway	Sat 22nd April
T'boro Grand Promises Auction	TBA	Sat May 20th

Thornborough News is funded by Thornborough Parish Council and printed by Harlequin Press Ltd, 12 Bacon House Farm, Little Horwood, MK17 OPS.

Thank you as always to all our volunteer distributors.

Please contact Sue on 07305 009991 if you can help with delivering TNews.

The next Thornborough News will be the March/April/May edition.

FINAL copy date Sun 26th March 2023.