



THORNER NEWS

The Newsletter of Thorne Parish Council

NOVEMBER 2011

SNOW CLEARANCE OF PAVEMENTS

The Parish Council has decided to make provision for clearing and gritting pavements within the village over this coming winter.

The prolonged period of extremely cold weather, following heavy snowfall, which occurred last winter, resulted in many of our older residents being virtually housebound for a number of weeks.

The snow became compacted and turned to ice on most of the pavements making them impossible to walk on in safety and most people both young and old took to walking on the road as that was kept clear by the City Council.

We have expressed our concern to the Local Authority, attended a number of meetings regarding the clearance of pavements and understand that they have neither the budget nor resources to clear pavements throughout the city.

Traditionally the local authority would in years gone by assigned open backed trucks to travel down the streets with two or three operatives stood in the back casting grit off to each side across the pavements. In today's health and safety climate this is no longer feasible and would in any case not be possible due to the number of parked cars lining our streets.

The Parish Council has discussed making provision ourselves for the clearing and gritting of pavements over the last few months and finally decided at our last meeting to commit Capital funds for the provision of suitable equipment.

We are currently in the process of procuring an ATV (Quad Bike) with a snow blade and a grit spreader along with a supply of dry bagged rock salt which will be available for use by a team of volunteers from within the village this coming winter.

This will be an entirely voluntary effort and we as a team will endeavour to maintain a clear walkway on the pavements of the village whenever possible.

We have limited resources and will be relying on volunteers, which means we can give no absolute guarantee that the surfaces will be absolutely ice free, but hope they will be a vast improvement on last year.

We would however like to stress that residents should still exercise great care as would be normal in icy and snowy conditions.

A number of Parish Councillors have volunteered to get the ball rolling with this project but we do need a number of volunteers from within our community to help with the project.

Volunteers will need to be over the age of 25 years and have a current full driving license to take part. Full training will be given. You will need to be able to help for a couple of hours very early morning or late evening on a rota basis so if you fancy putting a little bit back in to your village please contact:

Ric Myers on 0113 2893118 or

Email: myers.thorner@btopenworld.com

THORNER PARISH COUNCIL

Residents can keep up to date with the issues before the Parish Council by checking the Agendas and Minutes of meetings, which go up on the Notice Boards and Web site as soon as they are available.

All residents are welcome to attend any meeting of the Parish Council (and you can come and go if you please). If you have any issue to raise you can inform the Clerk and the item will be put on the Agenda for consideration.

QUALITY STATUS

A Quality Parish Council is one that is regarded as properly and efficiently run, and one which communicates with, and represents the community it serves. Only a minority of Parish Councils achieve this status.

Thorne Parish Council was first accredited in July 2007. The accreditation runs for 4 years, so it has been necessary to re-apply this year. The criteria has changed since the original application was made, but I am confident that Thorne Parish Council meets the enhanced criteria. The application is currently under consideration. The Panel has sought additional evidence that the Council complies with the criteria, and that evidence has been provided.

VOLUNTEERS

The Parish Council is always appealing for your help and support. The various clubs and societies that contribute to this Newsletter are always seeking new members, or volunteers. Anthea Weaver, in the Parish Centre article, puts it so well - "Don't stand on the outside looking in"

Steven Wood

THE COUNCILLORS

Mr Tom A. Mycock (Chairman)
13 Kirkfield Lane, Thorer, LS14 3EP
Tel 2892706
tommy22246@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs Diane G Gibbins (Vice-Chairman)
Littlemoor Barn, Butts Garth Farm, Thorer
Tel 2893883
diane@g3-is.com

Mr David Ramsey
Pantiles, 64 Main Street, Thorer,
Tel 2892733
daveramseythorner@yahoo.co.uk

Mr Richard Myers
The Old House, 59 Main Street, Thorer,
Tel 2893118
myers.thorner@btopenworld.com,

Mrs. Val Forster,
2 Skippon Terrace, Carr Lane, Thorer
Tel 2892758
valforster@fsmail.net

Mrs Gwen Brown
Kirkfield House, Bramham Road, Thorer
Tel 2893372
gwenbrown3@btinternet.com

Victoria Goodall-Fawcus
Eltofts Farm, Carr Lane, Thorer
Tel 2892258
goodall.pc@btinternet.com

Graham F Castle
9 St John's Court, Thorer
Tel 2896922
gfc@jcourt.eclipse.co.uk

Dave Johnston
77 Main Street, Thorer
Tel 2892219
djohnston195@gmail.com

Clerk
Steven Wood
5 Camp Square, Thorer
Tel 2893121
thornerclerk@btinternet.com

ANN CASTLE WARD COUNCILLOR

Planning matters have been taking up a lot of the time of Harewood ward members over the past few months.

First of all we have had to consider the implications for the villages in our ward of the draft National Planning and Policy Framework (NPPF) which sets out the government's aspirations for planning, which is based on a presumption in favour of sustainable development and saying 'yes' to development where possible.

Then there is the Localism Bill on neighbourhood planning which puts forward the concept that neighbourhood planning is to give local communities the opportunity to influence the future development of the places where they live.

Harewood ward members have joined with the Wetherby ward members to appoint a 'Localism Officer' whose job is to help communities in the two wards to prepare neighbourhood plans. The officer has attended a meeting of the Parish Council, in order to talk about his work but if any groups or societies within the village would like the Localism Officer to come out to meet them, do please let me know and I'll fix something up

Ann Castle

CANNABIS LETTER

Although the letter about the dangers of cannabis, distributed with the last Newsletter, received a generally positive response, there was some negative comment.

Most drugs, whether legally prescribed or not, can cause side effects. The question is how the side effects relate to the condition for which the drug is taken. Few will reject chemotherapy because of the possible side effects. Cannabis may provide relief for a small minority of people. That relief may be worth the risks for those people.

On a recent holiday I read Sebastian Faulks novel "A Week in December" (published 2009). One of the characters is the teenage son of a very wealthy family, who experiments with drugs. He has a psychotic episode after trying "super skunk". The doctor treating him says "use of the drug (Cannabis) by teenagers is definitely very dangerous because their neuro-development is undergoing its final infinitely subtle changes". The doctor explains the difference between the modern drug, and the cannabis available to earlier generations, and the danger, particularly to a developing mind, or a mind susceptible to schizophrenia.

This was the message the Parish Council was trying to get across.

Steven Wood

PLANNING

The Parish Council comments on all planning applications within the Parish, and sometimes on applications close by, that affect the Parish. Residents can follow details of planning applications by reading the Minutes of Parish Council meetings.

The Leeds City Council web site also provides information about all planning applications, and you can search, in the Public Access section of the planning section, by reference either to an application number, or the property address. You are now able to inspect the application, and drawings, as well as the Officer's report and other material relating to the application. You can check to see whether the plans have been amended, either before or after the decision, and you can check on the discharge of conditions.

EAST LEEDS EXTENSION

In 2004 the Parish Council engaged Consultants to represent the village at the Public Inquiry into the Review of the Unitary Development Plan (RUDP).

At that time the City Council was putting forward for development large areas of land between Seacroft/Whinmoor and Shadwell/Thorner.

Our representatives were able to convince the Inspector that such areas, which had previously been allocated for development, should only be released for development when it was necessary, and after other, more suitable, sites had been developed.

The last Government set targets for Leeds that were substantially higher (more than double) those the Inspector had to consider in 2004.

During the last 12 months various applications for planning permission have been made by developers, and refused by Leeds Planners. These included substantial developments at Boston Spa, next to the Church, and at Grimes Dyke, behind the Old Red Lion public house on York road. There have been a number of appeals, leading to Public Inquiries, and the decision in each case has gone against the City Council, and confirms the Council does not have a sufficient housing supply. As a consequence, Leeds has had to agree to the release for development, of Phase II and Phase III sites, including the East Leeds Extension.

The Government suggests that if more land is released for development, then there will be more houses for people to live in, and house prices will become more affordable. That is not borne out by the facts. There are currently permissions for over 20,000 new dwellings in Leeds, that have been granted, but where work has yet to start. Areas like Gipton and Halton, and the old Ordnance factory at Barnbow, need to be redeveloped. How do you encourage developers to develop these areas when there are Greenfield sites at Boston Spa and Thorner that are available? The same house might fetch double the price in Boston Spa, compared with Gipton, and be easier and cheaper to build and to sell.

Over the next few years the Parish Council will have to deal with a variety of consultations and applications. We

shall liaise with other local councils and community organisations – to share expertise, and perhaps to have more effect.

I am aware that this is a very important issue for many residents. I will endeavour to keep residents informed, either via the village website, or the notice boards, but I invite residents to confirm their interest to me direct, and I will endeavour to keep you informed electronically. I would welcome any support any resident can give.

Steven Wood

VILLAGE WEB SITE

The Village Website (www.thornervillage.org.uk) exists to serve the community, providing online news articles, announcements, events, 'Have-Your-Say' Forum, Parish Council information, agendas & minutes, not to mention the ability to read this newsletter online! The webmaster recognises that the website can offer a whole host of services to the village, and is interested to hear from any group or individuals who would like to have their own webpage on the site, or who have ideas for additions or enhancements to the website. To contact us, please go the home page at and click on 'Contact Us'.

Peter Wilby

ENFORCEMENT

The ongoing saga of Littlemoor Lane, and the buffer zone, continues.

GREEN TEAM REPORT

The bench by the ford has been renovated. It looks superb. This has been funded by the friends of Yolanda Beaumont, who ran the riding stable at Westways on Carr Lane for many years.

There are several older benches around the village that could do with similar restoration and the Parish Council would be pleased to hear from anyone who might like to fund one of them..

The area at the bottom of Kirkhills is now looking much tidier, now that the old bushes, that had become overgrown, have been replaced with grass. Flowering plants have been planted against the wall, to improve the appearance further.

For further information about the work of the Green Team, or with suggestions, or offers of help, please contact **David Ramsey (2892733)**

FLY TIPPING

The City Council is keen to trace offenders and take action against them. Please be vigilant, and if you see any suspicious activity please report this. Take the details of any vehicle involved, and report this, as soon as possible, to **-Environmental.Action@leeds.gov.uk** or **2224407**

SPEEDING

During the period of the Festival the police carried out a series of speed checks in the village – and a number of motorists were stopped. The majority of those stopped, were local residents. Some even said “but we live here”. The police will continue to carry out these checks on a random basis. The fact that you are local means that you have been warned – it does not mean that the speed limits do not apply to you

PARKING

Thorner was built before the reality of the two car family – when only the wealthy landowners could manage a horse and cart. There were no bottlenecks or congestion, and even if the police had had the means to check the speed of traffic, it would not have been necessary.

Consequently most of the older houses, and there are a substantial number, were built without proper parking provision. The occupants of these house may have no alternative other than to park on the street.

All that the Parish Council asks is that those who do have to park on the roadside do so with consideration for others, and, in particular, so as not to cause an obstruction or create a potentially dangerous situation. In the last Newsletter I highlighted certain areas where parked vehicles do make it difficult for traffic, and anyone who drives through the village regularly knows where these are. Remember that a visitor to the village may be taken unawares.

The enforcement of parking restrictions is normally undertaken by the local authority, rather than the police, but the local authority can only take action where there are restrictions on parking, e.g. yellow lines. The police are still responsible for other parking offences e.g. causing an obstruction, or parking on the pavement.

The parish Council has asked the police to take action against any vehicle which, in their opinion, is causing an obstruction.

If the parking situation continues to deteriorate then we shall have to consider yellow lines – and where will these stop?

POLICE REPORT

PCSO 816 Dan Sillers holds a surgery once a month, in the Over 55's building, in Main Street, next to the allotments. The police surgery is useful for voicing any concerns that residents may have – but not for reporting crimes.

Confirmed dates are: - Thursdays 3rd November and 15th December.

All sessions start at 10.00 am and are held at the Over 55's building on Main Street.

Do not wait until a surgery to see Dan. If you suspect criminal activity is happening in your area, call Wetherby Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) Office on **0113 2855374**

You can call the police at any time on **0845 606 0606** (you may ring this number to arrange a free Home Security check) or call CrimeStoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**

You can report minor crime online: and request a callback, or report lost property, all via <http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk>

Remember if you see something happening you think is not right then call **999** immediately.

Non Urgent calls **0845 6060606**.

WETHERBY CRIME PREVENTION PANEL

Thorner Parish Council supports the Wetherby Crime Prevention Panel, and will be providing a link to the Panel's web site from the village web site

Regular newsletters are issued, which are received by the Parish Council and distributed as appropriate

The Wetherby & District Crime Prevention Panel are available to give talks to groups, large or small, mornings, afternoon or evenings.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT (VDS)

The Thorner Village Design Statement was adopted by Leeds City Council as a Supplementary Planning Document in February 2011. Every household in the Parish should have received a copy. I have spare copies of the VDS, as well as the Parish Plan and Parish Plan Review, if you have moved into the village since these were distributed. Alternatively they are accessible on the Thorner village web site

Steven Wood

THORNER CALENDAR

This is a non-profit (I normally make a loss!!) project which I started four years ago. It is 12 shots of Thorner throughout the year, matching each month with a topical shot, and features houses, views and sights from the village from the past year.

You can now order a copy from John at the Post Office. The calendar is very popular to send to friends and relations abroad, (so John tells me!)

The price is £9.99 and the Calendar can be collected from the Post Office in Main Street. It can be ordered through www.lulu.com (though this incurs postage charges).

<http://www.lulu.com/product/calendar/thorner-2012/17813602>

Len Horridge

The Parish Council is grateful to Len for providing the photographs that are reproduced in this Newsletter, and for his help generally in distributing copies of the Newsletter to his neighbours

THORNER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETING/FILM NIGHT

On Tuesday, 15th November 2011

Doors open at 7.30pm

In the Victory Hall, Carr Lane, Thorner.

Raffle will be drawn at 8.00 pm.

Followed by a Film on Thorner Village Life over the past forty years, including the demolition of the railway bridge and threshing on Sandhills Farm.

In the Interval Free Refreshments will be served.

The evening will finish off with a Historical Film Show presented by Mr Paul Thompson of Scarcroft

Wine and Soft drinks on sale

Admission £4.00 Members £3.00

Everyone Welcome

If you would like to join the Society please contact

Gwen Brown **2893372** gwenbrown3@btinternet.com

Angus Yates **2892811** beverley.yates@ukgateway.net.

ST PETER'S (ANGLICAN) CHURCH THORNER WITH SCARCROFT

St Peter's goes to the Leeds Festival!!! In an initiative with the Methodist Chapel a prayer tent was, for the first time, provided at the Leeds Festival. The tent was popular with festival goers as a place to find peace and support (and a cup of tea!). Too often Christianity is thought of as something just for Sundays or happening only in a Church or Chapel – this work by the congregations of Thorne is a great example of what Christianity really represents. If you haven't read it already, do read Andy's amusing piece in October's Parish magazine about his experience at the festival.

Following on from the popular Italian, French and American themed evenings, a Spanish themed evening was held on Friday 23rd September at the Parish Centre. As ever the social committee and Intermezzo put on an event of great food and good music.

With the change in seasons – together with our Methodist family – harvest was celebrated with an all age service in the morning and later with a choral evensong following by a traditional harvest supper in the Parish Centre. The children, as ever, brought great fun to the morning service, the choir provided a truly lovely occasion in the early evening, and the harvest supper was a hearty affair thanks to the efforts of the social committee.

The ever popular Steeplechase Dinner is being held on Saturday 26th November – watch out for the posters giving details of how to get tickets, as they go fast.

Next month please come and join us to celebrate Christmas. As always there will be a wide range of services to celebrate this important time. All the details of the services will be published in December's Parish magazine and advertised on the noticeboards on the Church wall.

Last, but absolutely not least!! Thanks to all those villagers who turned out recently to help clear the churchyard. The churchyard is an important open space for the village – but over recent time, keeping it in order has proved an increasing challenge, so it was great that so many villagers responded to the call for assistance and gave their time to make a real difference to its care. We intend to have a clear up again in the spring, so watch out for the notices about – bacon and egg sandwiches for all volunteers!!
Shane Hayward-Giles 2896944.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Remembrance Sunday is on 13th November this year.

Organised by the Royal British Legion and led by the Leeds City Pipe Band, the annual parade up Main Street and the service at St Peter's are a proud part of Thorne's thanksgiving for those who have served our country.

This year the Legion would like to involve more villagers in the parade, which in the past has been just members of the Legion and the Scout and Guide movements. If you would like to join the parade please come along to the ford, where the parade assembles. The parade will leave the ford at 10.05, so please get down there a little earlier if you are joining the parade.

The Remembrance service will begin in St Peter's at 10.15 and complete at the war memorial. This year, for the first time, personal tributes (as well as those from the Church, Chapel and uniformed services) will be laid on the memorial toward the end of the service. If you would like to lay a personal tribute please do join the service.

Shane Hayward-Giles 2896944.

THORNER PARISH CENTRE

In an attempt to reduce the Carbon Footprint of the building some basic changes have been planned. The windows are to be double glazed in such a way that their exterior appearance remains unchanged. On the inside, the glazed units will take into account the age and features of the building. To further reduce heat loss, to soften the decor and to reduce the echo effect, curtains and some blinds will be installed. Care will be taken to keep disruption to a minimum.

PARTY TIME.

THORNER PARISH CENTRE is a great place to hold a party for children, at a cost of £35. For these and all other details please access www.parishcentre.org.uk or call **0113 2892578** or **0113 2893069**.

If you are wondering how to fit all the family into your home for a Christmas celebration, don't worry..... book the Thorne Parish Centre where space is not a problem. Why not arrange to see the building and discuss your requirements?

Still thinking of Christmas, don't forget to come along to the Parish Centre Christmas Fair on Saturday, 12th November, from 1:00 pm onwards. There will be things to win, buy, see and eat! We hope you and your family will join us.

Put on your dancing shoes for a 60's Disco on Friday, 9th December, 7:30pm to midnight. Best outfit wins the best prize! Tickets £10 includes supper.

TICKET OFFICE phone **0113 2893689** or **0113 2892653** or at the Drop-By (details below)

Much quieter than either a party or a disco, the Drop-By takes place on the first and third Tuesday every month. Any noise there is from chatter and laughter. It begins at 10:00 am and usually finishes after lunch at about 1:00pm. We use the Small Meeting Room at the Parish Centre; your first coffee or tea is free and best of all YOU are always welcome. Come with friends or by yourself to make new friends in what is always a relaxed atmosphere. The bus stops right outside. We look forward to seeing you.

Thorne is an amazing village with a multitude of societies, classes and clubs. All you have to do is take a look in the Parish Magazine where they are all listed and read their reports in this edition of the Thorne News. If you have some time, energy and initiative to spare and want to become involved in the village give someone a call. Don't stand on the outside looking in. If you would like to offer your gifts to the Parish Centre please contact the secretary on **0113 2892561**.

Anthea Weaver

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH IN THORNER

Would you like to celebrate Christmas day with others in Thorner, or would you like a home cooked meal delivered to you? If so, we might be able to help. For the fifth year running there will be a Christmas lunch party in the village on Christmas day, if you would like to come, would like a meal delivered, or know of someone who might like to be invited please let us know.

Over the last four years we have had the loveliest time at Christmas with residents in Thorner who have wanted to celebrate in the company of others, or have wanted a home cooked meal, or who are carers and have benefited from some extra help and company on Christmas day. We always have room for new people to come and may be able to deliver a home cooked meal out to those who can't make it.

Festivities start at mid-day and finish late in the afternoon.

Who to contact to organise a place or a delivered meal: Sue & Shane Hayward-Giles; 289 6944; 'Monreith' Carr Lane; shanehaywardgiles@hotmail.com

Help needed: We have a lot of support to help make the day really special, but if you would like to offer something we would appreciate:

- help to transport people to and from the centre around midday or late afternoon
- donations towards the cost of the food (in previous years people have donated food and presents, but this year we would prefer some assistance with the budget).

Thank you to everyone who supports this event – as ever there is always a glass of sherry or spare mince pie going for those passing by on the day!!

Shane Hayward-Giles

ALLOTMENT REPORT

If anyone is interested in working an allotment, and for any other related enquiries, please contact **Diane Gibbins 2893883**

THORNER PROBUS CLUB

Probus is open to all retired business and professional people. The annual subscription of £25 includes entry to the monthly meetings, when coffee is served. The Club is seeking new members, so if you are interested please come along to one of the meetings, and find out what it is all about.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, at the Fox, starting at 10.30 am

Dr June Scott is the speaker for the next meeting on 8th November, and she is to talk on Milestones. Dr Scott will be accompanied by her husband, Mr. Lionel Scott, Barrister at Law.

The December meeting is on 13th December, and will be held at the Windmill, at Linton, and will be followed by lunch. A speaker has been confirmed, and the cost of the lunch has been set at £17.00

New and prospective members are welcome to attend

Steven Wood

THORNER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Thorner residents are a small group of volunteers who look after the green areas at the top of Church Hill. We also have regular walkabouts with East North East Homes Leeds and work alongside them with any other projects they might have.

Over 5000 bulbs have been planted. Some members of the association have been very busy and managed to plant lots of bulbs which include a variety of flowers planted all along the roadside on Bramham Road from the new Bus Shelter up to entrance to the garages. We have two wooden planters on Kirkfield Green. We have made nine flower beds on Kirkfield Avenue. Some of the bedding plants in the flower beds have been provided by Thorner Parish Council, many thanks to them

We now have a living Christmas tree on Kirkfield Green. This was made possible by a grant received from the Harewood Ward Councillors.

Please look out for the additional lights on the tree this year! Many thanks to the Thorner Community Fund for their help in the funding of running the lights

Once again we are pleased with the result of our efforts with the planting around the village signs on Bramham Road and Sandhills. We are now ready to re-plant the beds for the winter with Polyanthus, once again many thanks to the Parish Council.

One downside to our planting is that we were lucky enough to get 30 trees from the Woodland trust and we planted them along the roadside on Bramham Road up to the garages, but someone decided to pull them all up, but leaving the tree guards in place. This meant by the time we found they had been pulled out, the trees were all too damaged to be re-planted.

Gary Noble Chairperson

0770927430

VICTORY HALL FILM CLUB,

The Film Club is now well established, but there is always a need for more people to support the Club. Licensing laws require that the screenings are for Club members only, and it is not permissible to operate a pay on the door scheme. Membership costs only £20 for 12 months. Members may bring a guest for £3.

Future screenings are:-

TUESDAY 29th NOVEMBER - BRIDESMAIDS

TUESDAY 20th DECEMBER SOME LIKE IT HOT

TUESDAY 25th JANUARY - WEST IS WEST

TUESDAY 29th FEBRUARY - WOMAN IN BLACK

TUESDAY 28th MARCH - SARAH'S KEY

The Hall and bar open at 7.30pm., and the film is screened at 8.00pm. Details appear on the notice boards and the village web site, and further information is available from **Ros Ramsey (2892733)**

THORNER METHODIST CHURCH

Our Christmas Fayre will take place on **Saturday November 26th, 10am-12 noon**. Here we offer all sorts of goodies that you might wish to purchase as Christmas presents, plus our usual coffee morning, with cakes and produce stalls, and at which will be served our famous bacon butties, so do join us if you can.

On Saturday December 10th 2011, along with St. Peter's, we will be holding a **Carol Service on the Millennium Green from 3 - 4pm**. As usual, we will have a Band from the Leeds College of Music to accompany us, and mince pies and mulled wine will be served immediately after the event. A collection will be taken in aid of a children's charity, so please don't forget to bring a donation with you. We are very grateful to Cllr. Mrs Ann Castle, for supporting this event through a donation of money from the MICE fund (Members Improvements in the Community and the Environment grant) and also to the Parish Council for all the help that they provide for this event. If the weather is inclement, we will be meeting, as in previous years, under cover in the Boules Barn, so watch out for notices nearer the time concerning this change!

Finally, just a mention about the **The Village Visiting Scheme** which is available for ALL who need help in any way and is only too willing to help anyone who is in need. Is it for ME? If you are lonely or in need of some company or support, please contact us. If you know of anyone who is struggling to manage at home...please contact us. We are staffed by a group of volunteers of all ages who are very happy and willing to visit anyone in the village to lend a helping hand or a listening ear. We are happy to help with visiting the elderly, or young parents who are in need of some company or who are feeling isolated. We are available for hospital visiting, or visits after bereavement, to do odd bits of shopping or pick up prescriptions from the doctors etc. If you feel we can help you in any way, or if you'd like to volunteer your services, please contact one of the following... Angus & Beverly Yates, telephone:- **289 2811**, Maggie Hewitt, telephone:- **289 2421**, or Beverly Rutherford:- **289 2865**. Please remember, if there is any way I can be of help to any of you, you only have to ring me and I will do my best to be of assistance.

Yours in His service **Ann Johnson – Tel :- 2893532**
Senior Church Steward of Thorer Methodist Church

THORNER SCOUTS

Thorer Scouts, Cubs and Beavers are struggling to survive, due to the need for additional assistance.

All of these groups have been running for many, many years in Thorer, due solely to those good people who volunteer their time to enable the youngsters in the community to enjoy and experience life as a scout, beaver or cub. If you have a few hours a week to assist the small hardworking band, please call **Julie Cole** on **2892200** or e.mail **juliecole06@btinternet.com**

Thank you. Honorary Brown Ale

MEXBOROUGH ARMS

Kyle and Phil would like to thank all our customers for supporting us during our time at The Mexborough Arms. As most of you will already know the pub has been up TO LET for the past few months and we have now left. But we have really enjoyed the past 18 months of running the pub, and have met some great people, some of whom will hopefully remain life long friends. Thank you to everyone who came to see us off on Sat 15th October when we had our leaving party. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome your new Landlord and Landlady, Colin and Vickie Fitzpatrick, and their manager Richard, who I am sure will receive the same nice welcome and support that we have.

We wish them all the best, and hope they have a successful future at The Mexborough Arms. They have assured us that they intend to carry on running the pub in pretty much the same way we have, offering Cask Ales, Quality home cooked food, Saturday entertainment, Wednesday quiz night and a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. They have also advised us that Sports will be back on, with additional Plasma screens, plus they are hoping to be able to slightly reduce the price of all draught products. Watch this space for new promotions/ offers/ entertainment they may have planned.

Finally we would like to thank Sue, Sandra, Claire, Demi and staff, who have worked hard and supported us during our time, and we would also like to wish them all the best for their futures.

Thanks

Kyle & Phil

THORNER YOUTH CLUBS

The Junior Youth Club meets in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings at 6.30pm for an evening of activities such as table tennis, snooker/pool, air hockey, art projects and baking. If you are seven years or older do come along and enjoy yourself, subs are £1 per session. Members are also looking forward to their annual Christmas meal at the Wellington in December. This year it is proposed to join with the senior youth club for this event.

We will be holding our annual fund raising raffle outside Thorer Stores on Saturday, 17th December 2011, and we are hoping it won't be as cold as last year! Your support will be very much appreciated.

The Senior Youth Club meets in the Victory Hall on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 9pm for members aged 12/13 to 19 years and is being run by Leeds City Council Youth Service. Do come along and 'chill out' with your friends.

If anyone would like further information about the Youth Clubs, please contact **Belinda Swift** on **0113 2892946**.

PLAYGROUND

The damage to the Adventure Trail has been repaired. Members of the Parish Council are currently considering a modest extension to the playground. Various items of equipment are being investigated, and costed, and enquiries are being made as to whether there might be some grant assistance – which would have a bearing on what we are able to spend. As always we are interested in your views, and welcome any support you might be able to give. Please contact Councillors Diane Gibbins or Dave Ramsey.

The playground is regularly inspected by members of the Parish Council, and subject to an annual inspection by experts, but if you do become aware of a problem, please contact a Parish Councillor so that the matter can be put right quickly, before a child is hurt.

PRECEPT

The precept is a levy on all council tax payers in the village, and is paid in addition to the standard Council Tax. The Precept is then paid to the Parish Council, and is the Parish Council's main source of income.

How the Precept is spent is shown in the annual accounts, prepared after the end of each financial year. These accounts are published. The accounts for year ending 31st March 2011 were published in the April Newsletter.

The amount of the Precept is determined at the Parish Council meeting in January each year, when the budget is set for the coming year. The precept is set to cover the expenses which the Parish Council is intending to incur.

In setting the Precept the members of the Council have to balance any desire to provide enhanced services, against a need to be careful, when many people are struggling financially, in difficult times.

It costs a certain amount to be a Parish Council, to do nothing. Once those basic costs are met, every penny raised goes directly into the provision of services. Therefore the value derived from the Precept increases as the amount of the Precept increases.

Would you like to see the Parish Council spend more? And if so, on what services?

BOULES SHELTER

Previous Newsletters have referred to an increase in anti-social behaviour in the village. Some of this behaviour has been centred on the boules shelter, by Heathcote Avenue. The boules shelter is on land held by the Parish Council and therefore the Parish Council felt obliged to address the issue.

The facility, which was the brainchild of David Fryer, and came together largely by the efforts of David and his team of voluntary helpers, is an excellent facility and is intended for use by the whole village, and this includes the youngsters in the village. There is no intention to deny anybody access to the facility. However those that use the facility must show respect for the property, and for those who live nearby. It is only when the behaviour

of certain individuals becomes unacceptable, in terms of being a nuisance to residents, or resulting in damage to the property, that action needs to be taken.

The Parish Council will therefore be erecting gates, so that the shelter can be closed off and secured when necessary. This is intended as an extreme measure, and will only be implemented when it is considered necessary, and even then only overnight. The police will have a key for the gates so that they will be able to secure the premises, if they are called out to deal with trouble.

The gates will be unobtrusive, and barely visible when not in use.

We hope that we do not have to use them.

The cost of the gates is being partially met by a grant from our local Ward Councillors

THEATRE VISIT

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Coach trip to see Leeds Gilbert and Sullivan Society perform 'IOLANTHE' will be on **Wednesday 7th March 2012.**

Further details in February newsletter but please put this date in your diaries! The coach was completely full last year so if you want to be sure of a place now, email Janet Johnston on janetmjohnston@btinternet.com or phone **0113 2892219** any time.

THORNER PRE-SCHOOL.



Charity Number 1036320

Pre-school opened its doors to the parents and carers of children attending the pre-school during October for their second Open Evening, giving parents and carers the chance to talk to staff about their children's early education. It was a successful evening with lots of positive comments and feedback from families attending. Thanks to all that came.

We held our AGM at the end of September. It was well attended by parents of children attending pre-school. If any community members are interested in joining our committee, contact **Belinda Bateson** on **0113 2892541**. All are welcome and your input is important to us.

We see pre-school as an important part of children's lives in the local community, and the committee is the backbone to a thriving pre-school.

Even though we have good numbers of children attending pre-school, we still have places available at all sessions. Please contact us if you would like to have a look around the setting or receive a prospectus.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Belinda Bateson and the Pre-school Team.

THORNER C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome back to the start of a new school year. We are delighted to welcome **Mr Coates** and **Mr Rolt** to our teaching team and also **Mrs Clarkson, Mrs Smith and Miss Freeman**.

We welcome the following new children and their families who are starting in year groups throughout the school this September: **Kate Iden (Y5), Maisie Green (Y4), Joseph Syson (Y1) and the return of Keira and Mackenzie Warren (Y2)**

We welcome all our new Reception children and their families: Cameron Macleod, Charlie Wade, Matteo Clark, Charis Varley, Dougie Darley, Tyler McGraffin, Hannah Courtman-Stock, Annabelle Shepherd, Lexie Riley, Danielle Des Forges, Harvey Collinson, Archie Hall, Joshua Gales, Molly Grimes, Mia Bevons & Jakub McMillan.

In addition the following new starters already have siblings in school or older siblings who attended Thorner School: Cormac Harper, Cameron Santer, Archie England, Julian Vogler, Georgina Gibson, Miles Hall, Harriet Penny-Smith, Izzy Srinivasa, Evie McLoughlin, Ewan Howes, Harry Beagley, Aneeka Bhadal, Luke Millson, Hollie McLaughlin.

We are sad to say goodbye to Max Wheatley, Reece Kershaw and Mia Brennan we wish them well in their new schools.

During a very busy first half term back at school, the children have held School Council elections and House Captain elections and the following children were elected by their peers:

SCHOOL COUNCIL

| YEAR 1 | YEAR 2 | YEAR 3 | YEAR 4 | YEAR 5 | YEAR 6 |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Olivia Hostert | James Tucker | Ella Bowerman | Christopher Hostert | Kate Iden | Baljit Roda |
| Alexandra Hall | Beth Harrison | Elizabeth Roberts | James Richards | George Brown | Joe Bowerman |

I look forward to working with these young people over the coming year. They will have regular opportunities to talk with their peers and represent their views on what happens in school and at their next meeting the Chair, Vice chair, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected.

HOUSE ELECTIONS

| HOUSE | BLUE | GREEN | RED | YELLOW |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Captain | James Stead | Benjamin Walmsley | Esmé Darley | Ted Robinson |
| Vice Captain | Oliver Pickering | Amaara Baksh | Finlay Pollock | Jessica Ashworth |

Bulletin Bags

We will continue to run the bulletin bag system to send letters home on Fridays. This goes with the eldest sibling in school and needs to be returned on the following **Monday**. One bag is sent out per family to reduce unnecessary photocopying and waste. Please feel free to send in replies to teachers and any dinner money or trip money etc via this bag, as they are collected centrally and the money is passed on to Mrs Darley in the Office.

School Fund

We appreciate all the support we get from parents especially the £15 per family per year contribution to our school fund which enables us to provide many more exciting learning opportunities for your children, which our over-stretched school budget does not allow for. Cheques should be made payable to: *Thorner Primary School*. Thank you.

Parking

Parking outside school is a continual problem. Please take care when dropping off and picking up children that you do **NOT** park on bends, fully on the pavement or block driveways – particularly the school car park entrance. PCSO Dan Sillers had to issue one Parking Penalty Notice and two verbal warnings to parents on Monday 12 September and he will be patrolling the area again.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Tuesday 8 November | Individual Photographs |
| Friday 11 November | Remembrance Service Church 10:45am (All welcome – No Friday Assembly) |
| 14, 15 & 16 November | Book Fair (School Hall – after school) |
| Friday 18 November | Oak Class Assembly (9:00am main hall) |
| Friday 25 November | Non-uniform day |
| Saturday 3 December | Christmas Fair |
| Wednesday 7 December | Young Voices (Choir going to Sheffield) |
| Friday 9 December | Term Awards |
| Monday 12 December | Ash, Beech and Cedar Classes Christmas Party |
| Tuesday 13 December | Elm, Hawthorn, Maple and Oak Classes Christmas Party |
| Thursday 15 December | Beech and Cedar Classes Christmas Nativity 2pm and 6pm (School Hall) |
| Friday 16 December | Carol Service (Church - 10:00am) |

Mrs A Wrigglesworth Head Teacher

Thorner Church of England Primary School, Kirkhills, Thorner, Leeds LS14 3JD

Telephone **0113 2892541**

THORNER MUMS AND TOTS GROUP

The Thorner Mums and Tots Playgroup is held at Thorner Parish Centre every Thursday 9.30 – 1130 am. All babies, toddlers, mums and dads welcome. It is a good opportunity to meet local families too. Cost: £3 per week per family.

Tiny dancers, music and singing session every other week as well as lots of age appropriate toys provided.

Contact: **Katie** tel: **07809549759**

Email flossygreen@yahoo.co.uk

Everyone welcome, come and find us.

CRICKET CLUB

END OF SEASON REPORT

Despite our Indian Summer in October, it's now fairly obvious that summer has gone and, with it, a fairly successful season for Thorner Mexborough Cricket Club. I say fairly as we were slightly disappointed that only the second eleven gained promotion; the first eleven had a slight dip in form which stopped them, too, going up, but we should be proud to have had two top performing teams throughout 2011.

Thanks must go to all of the players and the captains for getting us through an unusually un-traumatic season, as well as to all the officers of the club, most of whom played, but deserve thanks for making the club run smoothly all summer.

We ended the season with a charity 20/20 game to raise money for two of our players, one sadly lost at a very early age and one we hope will recover from cancer. We raised £400 for cancer research and a very big thank you must go to the team members who did all of the hard work to get the day organised, and, despite the rain, to get a game in, which everyone enjoyed despite the sadness of the occasion. We'd also like to thank the villagers who turned up and were parted from their well earned money by our charity collectors!

The day was a great success and we hope to replicate it next year, maybe even with a "celebrity" village team (we just have to find a celebrity or two!).

So, as the nights draw in, we'll just leave you with one uplifting cricket thought: we're only five months away from next season!!

Len Horridge, Chairman 2892400

len.horridge@btinternet.com

THORNER VILLAGE SHOW

The Thorner Village Show took place on Sunday 4 September. Classes included produce, photography, flower arranging, arts and crafts, cookery, a children's section (where the miniature gardens were particularly beautiful), and a home-made beer, wine and tippie section which proved popular again! We had more entries and more people through the door than last year - over 100 people entered with more than that turning up on the day. We hope everyone who came along enjoyed the day.

We are a small committee and we cannot put this event on without the help of others in the village who give their

time and assistance very generously. The committee also worked very hard, to put on what we believe was a successful and enjoyable event.

Thorner Village Show Society is responsible for the organising of this event. If anyone is interesting in joining the committee or helping us in 2012 they would be very welcome. Please contact **Dawn Clarkson (07932 434109)** for further information.

Dawn Clarkson

THORNER TENNIS CLUB

Junior Coaching has been the success story this season - and it is continuing into the winter months.

The Men's team enjoyed the matches in the Barkston Ash League - without enjoying much success. Some younger players were introduced, taking some of the strain off the veterans in the team.

There is a general meeting of the club taking place in November, to give members an opportunity to say what they would like out of the Club.

During the winter we are running Club sessions on Thursday afternoons at 1.30 pm

There is always room for new members. Anyone interested in joining please contact me or any member.

Terry Smith 2892205

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Thorner & Scarcroft Branch

Secretary: J.C. Levick, 9 The Close, Thorner, LS14 3EF,
Tel : 0113 2892461 e-mail:- julian@jclconsultancy.co.uk

During the two weeks leading up to Remembrance Sunday our members along with those nationally will be selling Poppies in support of this year's campaign.

Please be generous in your giving, remembering our serving men and women in Afghanistan and other areas abroad, along with those who have returned from the front line with horrific injuries.

Arrangements for our Remembrance Day Parade and Service on the 13th November are as last year, leaving the Ford at 10.05 am. with the Leeds Pipe Band, for a service in St Peters Church at 10.15 am. All are welcome.

Our members are to support the Thorner school on 11th November from 10.00 am at St Peters when they hold their Remembrance Service.

The annual dinner takes place on Friday 18th November at the Anchor – Whixley. Members wishing to attend should contact the secretary with their remittance and menu choice.

The traditional Christmas Social will be held at the Mexborough Arms, on Saturday 17th December commencing at 12.00 noon.

Consider joining? membership is open to both gender; contact:- **Julian Levick** – Secretary on 0113 **2892461**.

THORNER OLD SCHOOL CHARITY

This Charity is able to offer grants of up to £250 towards the costs of further education, for residents of Thorner who have attended Thorner school, and who are in their 2nd, 3rd or 4th year of higher education.

Further information from, or applications to, Mrs Alison Wrigglesworth, at Thorner school, Mr Richard Myers, 59 Main Street, Thorner, or Mr Richard Hall, the secretary at 48 Kirkfield Lane, Thorner

LEEDS FESTIVAL 2011

The main stage was in a different position, which meant residents were able to enjoy some of the music without having to buy a ticket, and it rained. Nevertheless there were no more serious problems reported to the Parish Council and the organisers appear satisfied with the way things went.

We have agreed to meet with Festival Republic in the spring, when the arrangements for the 2012 Festival will be discussed. These discussions will obviously reflect on the experiences of the previous year. If you do have concerns, or aware of any potential problem, then please let me know, so that these issues can be addressed.

Steven Wood

THORNER ART GROUP

Now that we are well into the Autumn term it is pleasing to note that our waiting list has several new names added since September. Once again we had a morning with Bruce Mulcahy, presenting us with an exercise on shapes within boats at different angles. This made us all realise how inaccurate many of our attempts are!

We look forward to a new artist's visit later in October. Mildred Foster uses a variety of materials in her work which will be a different approach for several of our group. We will be going to the Beehive for our Christmas dinner in December.

Anyone interested in joining us should please contact me on **2892718**

Mary Fox

THORNER BOWLING CLUB

The 2011 season ended in early October. The club had its most successful year for a long time with three teams being promoted into higher divisions. Competitions and social events were held at the club throughout the season, and the club remained home for Leeds Juniors, who are managed and coached by club members.

We now have some of the finest bowling facilities in the area, but unfortunately continue to struggle to attract additional members who are needed to bolster our present membership of around 30.

Information concerning the club is always available from

Derek/Jill Potter 2892055 or **Chris Fussey 2893103**

THORNER GALA

Next year we will run the event to coincide with the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

SAVE THE DATE June 2nd 2012 12 – 4PM

Contact

Jo Thompson **2892238**, Steve **2892095** or Cathy Deneven **2892578**

or email us at **thorner.galateam@googlemail.com**

LETTER FROM YORKSHIRE WATER

Last year was one of the coldest to hit Yorkshire for some time, with temperatures in parts of our region reaching - 19C. Thousands of people were left with frozen private supply pipes and no water. As a result, this year, we have launched our new 'Wrap Up' campaign to help customers prepare their homes for winter.

The campaign provides customers in the region with help and advice around how to protect their pipes, how to defrost their pipes, and what to do if they have a burst. Most people will remember the weather that engulfed the region last year. Our colleagues worked really hard throughout the winter dealing with a huge increase in the number of calls from customers, with 50,000 calls in December alone. 15,000 of these related to frozen customer supply pipes.

We also dealt with a record number of bursts. In a typical December, we would expect to fix around 600, and last year this topped 2200 because of the constant freezing conditions!

This year we are determined to help the people of Yorkshire and ensure they are well equipped with all the information, tools and know how to make sure that when the snow strikes again they will be in a much better position to cope with it.

It would be great if you could promote the campaign's web address where there is a lot of useful advice, -

www.yorkshirewater.com/wrapup

We are also well underway with getting ourselves ready for another winter. We have an extra 200 four wheel drive vehicles on stand-by to ensure we can get to the more remote areas of the region and we have extra resources already in place to deal with more calls and respond to the predicted increase in burst pipes.

If you have any queries about this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Daniel Klemm,

Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Yorkshire Water

Tel: 01274 692532

Email: **daniel.klemm@yorkshirewater.co.uk**

If you spot a leak please report it immediately. Call us on 0800 57 3553 or go to

<http://www.yorkshirewater.com/leaks>

Don't forget to request your free water and energy saving pack- it could save you money on your utility bills and help you conserve water.

<http://www.yorkshirewater.com/savewater>



Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Since the last edition of the Thorner News, a considerable amount of further planning and organisation has taken place, in order to ensure that everyone in the community will have the opportunity to be able to participate in, and enjoy a period of celebrations befitting the occasion.

The proposed programme as published in the last Thorner News has indeed changed to reflect public opinion, and which is detailed below.

A number of sub-groups have been established to address individual planned activities, such as fund raising sponsorship and advertising, the Grand Diamond Jubilee Ball, the Sports Day, The Art Exhibition and an event for the elderly in the Parish Centre.

It is the intention to present a Commemorative Mug to all children in the Parish under the age of 15. Thorner Primary School will be seeking to provide details of all children attending the school, and which will include those children who are not resident in the parish. It was agreed as appropriate, that all children attending the school should receive a mug, as they may well indeed be involved in parts of the celebrations.

To ensure that all children receive a commemorative mug, there will also be a returns slip calling for names, issued with the next Thorner News early in the New Year. This may duplicate the details from the school, but can be easily reconciled.

On Monday 4th June, there will be a Classic Vehicle display on both sides of the Main Street, reflecting the 40's, 50's and 60's era. Leeds City Council is in agreement, and the police will, at the time, assist in ensuring effective coning to allow these classic vehicles to park for the day for everyone's enjoyment.

Needless to say, the cooperation of the residents of Main Street will be paramount, not only to ensure that any vehicles normally parked on the street, are 'put away in the garage or driveway- or somewhere else', but if anyone (not only on Main Street) has a large driveway or other space, and would be so good as to offer it for those with vehicles who don't, then this would be very much appreciated.

Ideas and applications for funding are being pursued, but if anyone would like to suggest ways of raising monies to contribute towards the various cost elements, then please get in touch.

As with the annual Thorner Gala, there will of course be a need for many more people to help out on the various days with logistics, transport and the like, so if anyone would like to assist, it would be appreciated.

A special commemorative brochure including the programme of events, will be produced to mark the occasion, and we would welcome as many volunteers as possible to assist with the selling of this brochure in the community.

The proposed programme now looks like this:-

Saturday 2nd June 2012

Daytime

Thorner Gala 12.00 to 16.00.

Full details in the commemorative programme.

Crowning of the King and Queen of Thorner, (chosen by the school)

Evening

Grand Diamond Jubilee Ball in the Victory Hall with high class entertainment and silver service catering

Sunday 3rd June

Morning

Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Cubs & Beavers in uniform to march from the ford to the church. service

Afternoon

Parish Centre Tea Dance/Whist Drive, Fashion Show, Beetle Drive, Bingo, sing-along with archive film show etc.

Art Group exhibition in St Peter's Church, continuing into Monday & Tuesday.

Jubilee Walk from Parish Centre to Jubilee Bridge and return with refreshment stops en-route

Traditional children's/parents and adults sports day on Millennium Green.

Churches Together service at 17.00 on Millennium Green.

Food and Bar

Evening

Free open-air Intermezzo Concert at 19.00 on Millennium Green

Monday 4th June

Morning

Judging of the "Best Decorated House"

Late morning onwards

1952 era Classic Vehicles display on both sides of Main Street

1951 Double-decker bus giving rides through the village

A "bring your own food" street party(s) focused on Millennium Green. BBQ's will be provided for people to cook their own food.

A "Thorner HAS Talent" event will be held, where any of the many people in the community with any kind of flair can entertain the crowds.

Guided tours of the historical places in the village

Watch this space for a possible surprise!

Evening

Nation-wide beacon lighting on the church tower – time to be decided by Palace Office representative, followed by a celebratory peal of bells

Grand Theatrical Pyrotechnic Show (Firework Display !) on the 'Sledging Field', to close the celebrations

It will hopefully be a very full programme, with a "recovery day" at the end. It was felt better to provide something to give everyone the choice as to what they would like to see and do, rather than letting the opportunity to be part of a celebration which many will never again see in their lifetime pass by.

This will be a truly historic occasion and a wonderful opportunity to remember and celebrate the Queen's dedication to this country and to her people, and it is hoped that every single member of the community will be in the village, cooperate, enter into the spirit of, and enjoy what is hoped to be a memorable event.

If anyone would like to make any comments or ask any questions on these initial suggestions, or offer assistance then please send an e-mail to david.fryer1@tesco.net. Ring on 2893067, or drop a note through the letter box at No 20 Main Street.

David A. Fryer

Diamond Jubilee Flag Pole 2012 Proposal



To commemorate Thorner's celebrations marking the Queens Diamond Jubilee in June 2012 it is proposed to erect a permanent flag pole adjacent to the Boules area.

The 8 meter flag pole is constructed from white glass fibre and utilises an internal halyard system to ensure security of the flag to and create little or no wind noise. The supply and installation will be by Harrison Flagpoles of Darlington who are the leading UK manufacturer of quality flag poles www.flagpoles.co.uk The image gives an idea of how the flag pole would look. The cost of the project will be met by individual subscriptions and will not involve any public funding.

The Parish Council has given its support to the proposal and there have been no adverse comments from residents. If you would like more information or to comment, please email William Heaton at wheaton@saville-heaton.co.uk

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

The Newsletter is published 4 times a year. The next Newsletter will be distributed during early February, and contributions are welcome.

Steven Wood, Clerk to Thorner Parish Council
5, Camp Square, Thorner LS14 3BX Tel **2893121**
e-mail thornerclerk@btinternet.com

THE FOX

Hello everyone, Its Debbie from The Fox here.

I just wanted to bring everyone up to date with what's happening here.

Steve and I will be leaving The Fox by the end of November. We have been in Thorner for six and a half years now, and over these years we have met lots and lots of fantastic people. We have had loads of fun and will miss everyone. All of our customer's have given us such amazing support.

We have had the support of the whole community on our charity fun days enabling us to raise huge amounts of money for Martin House Children's Hospice which is close to our hearts.

We could never begin to name the people we would like to thank so we would just like to say a MASSIVE THANK YOU to all of you who have helped make The Fox a great place to visit.

As most of you will already know we will be leaving you in the capable hands of Tony and Lucy. Many, Many Thanks Debbie and Steve.

Over to Tony.

Hi there,

well most of The Fox customers already know me as I have been working here for the last six months. Lucy and I have every intention of carrying on Steve and Debbie's good work, without changing too much. We will still be doing the Quiz and Play Your Cards Right on a Monday night. We have the Open Mic Night every second and last Tuesday of the month, so if you can sing or play an instrument please come along and entertain us. I am sure Lucy will be giving us a few songs once we settle in.

Our dominos team will still be playing on Thursdays so if you like a game of fives and threes, pop in and let us know, we will always welcome new players.

Things will run pretty much as they did before but of course we also have our own ideas to add. We will start by doing some bar snacks at lunch time. Things such as Homemade soup, Jacket potatoes, Panini's, pie and peas and sandwiches. We also have a fresh coffee machine and will be offering free WI-FI. We have a few other ideas which we will introduce once we are settled in.

A definite date for your diary is Thursday 22nd December when St. Peter's Church Choir will be singing Christmas Carols. We look forward to that.

Please look out for posters and A boards that will let you know what's happening and when.

We look forward to spending our first Christmas and New Year with you here at The Fox so do pop in for a drink and get to know us.

Looking forward to your company.

Tony and Lucy.

