

# Thruxton Times

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Thruxton Parish Council

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email:  
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*Welcome to all our readers*

## Thruxton Parish Newsletter - February 2023

Where did January go? - it seems like yesterday that we were preparing the January newsletter and here we are in February. Time flies when you're enjoying yourself, or so they say. I hope you've survived the cold weather and short days of January and managed to stay clear of the various viruses that are doing the rounds - and, if not, that you haven't been too badly affected.

The recent cold snap emphasised the importance of keeping warm and well-fed, despite all the challenges of high energy prices and the rate of inflation that we're experiencing at present. If you or a neighbour need any advice or support through these difficult times please don't suffer in silence - the Parish Council can help you by accessing the various specialist services that are available. You can contact Tricia Harris in confidence for a chat about what help is available  
pharris@thruxtonparishcouncil.com

I attended a meeting of the Pan-Parish Forum with Southern Water recently and heard updates on the progress of their Pathfinder Project in this area. Unfortunately, the planned work to line the main sewer through Thruxton has had to be postponed to May or June due to the high ground water levels at present; however, the work to line lateral pipes (from the house to the main sewer) is going ahead and SW representatives will be calling at houses throughout the village to gain your agreement for them to access your drains. Remember that the drains under your property are normally your responsibility but SW are investing in improving the efficacy of the whole sewage system, including your laterals, so this is a good deal for home-owners.

Hampshire Highways have embarked on a major project across the county to fill

### Dates for the Diary

Every Wednesday	Thruxton Loves Cake 10-12, Memorial Hall
Every Friday	Yoga 13:30, Memorial Hall
5 <sup>th</sup> February	Holy Communion 09:00, Thruxton Church
22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Benefice Service 18:00, Thruxton Church
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Holy Communion 09:00, Thruxton Church

potholes. There has been a steep increase in the number of potholes reported, due to the recent wet weather followed by icy conditions which have caused road surfaces to degrade in several places. There are a number of reported potholes in the Thruxton Parish area so we look forward to seeing Hampshire Highways teams working in and around the Parish.

It continues to be a quiet time on the planning front with only one application received over the last month (for tree work in the conservation area). However, at the end of January some eagle-eyed residents noticed workmen's testing drainage on the field behind Stanbury Close indicating that developers continue preparatory work for a new planning application on that land. The Parish Council have asked TVBC Cllr. Lashbrook to alert them to any pre-applications that have been submitted and we will be alert to any further application being lodged. Our view is that a new application for development on this patch of land is inevitable (when not if) so we will remain alert and prepared to call another public meeting as and when an application is lodged.

Finally, you will be aware that local elections are being held on May 4th this year and this includes elections to the Parish Council. If you're interested in standing but would like to learn more about the role of a Parish Councillor please don't hesitate to contact any one of us. Further information about the elections will appear in the next 2 newsletters as well as the local press and social media.

Have a good month and best wishes from your Councillors.

Peter Christie - Chair of TPC

### Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council met for the first time in 2023 on Wed. 1st Feb. The following notes highlight the key points of the meeting but, as usual, full minutes will appear on the PC notice boards and the website.

- The main item on the agenda was an update from Hampshire CC Cllr. Donnelly regarding the plans for accessing government funding to boost investment in the regional economy and to support additional funding for adult social care. Cllr. Donnelly explained that Hampshire (like many other counties) has a significant funding shortfall of around £80million pa which is currently being covered by reserves - clearly, an unsustainable situation. HCC do not want to become a Unitary Authority so are currently in discussions with central government about creating a "Combined Authority" in order to access government funding of investments to drive forward the future strategy for the County. This body would have representatives from local authorities as well as the County to ensure democratic accountability for the expenditure. The PC will keep you posted regarding developments.

- TVBC Cllr. Lashbrook reported on new initiatives being pursued by Hampshire Constabulary following the appointment of a new Chief Constable for the County. The police are cracking down on night-time crime, thefts of 4-wheel drive vehicles, county lines drug activities and pick-pockets in Andover. There is additional resource being given to rural policing as well as more staff in Andover.

- It was noted that work to install posts to hold the new speed cameras

had been approved, despite an increase in costs and that this will enable the PC to finally implement the plan to operate speed cameras in the village. Cllr. Christie reported that Hampshire CC are actively considering a plan to implement a 20mph speed limit in all villages across the county; we believe this will be voted on in a County Council meeting this month.

- County Cllr. Donnelly agreed to chase Hampshire Highways on the repair to the roadside wall by the Village Green that has partially collapsed.

- The Clerk has been trying to obtain quotes for ground-works to St. John's Lane but has been unsuccessful so far. Cllr. Odling agreed he would chase up some people he knows to respond to the request.

- The Clerk also agreed to obtain quotes for work to continue the programme of street light replacements, taking account of the availability of energy efficient lighting options that are now available.

- Our hard-working Clerk also agreed to look into the possibility of arranging first aid training for residents and to include training on the defibrillator located at George House. She will approach St. John's Ambulance for details and costs of such training and, if viable, the PC will publicise the training.

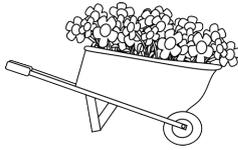
The next meeting will be held on Wed. 1st March 2023 at 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall - all are welcome to attend.



### Email scam

We've been advised that a new email scam is circulating that you should be aware of. You may receive an email claiming that direct debits to the DVLA have been refused by your bank and asking that you re-submit your bank details. Please delete the email immediately without responding otherwise your computer will be infected and your personal details at risk.

## Thrupton Gardening Club



Our last meeting on 25th January was a very interesting one. Mark Porter entertained us with tales from the National Garden Scheme, who they support and examples of what you have to achieve to register your garden for show with them.

There is no meeting in the Hall in February, instead we will be visiting Chawton House to see their display of Snowdrops. Our next meeting in the Hall will be on Wednesday 29th March and we will have Ted and Keith and Gardener's Question Time.

Anyone wishing to join the club should contact me for details - Louise Cushine 07944 746849



## News from the Hall

Considering the time of year, apart from a little bit of roof mending we've had a good month.

Thrupton Loves Cake every Wednesday morning continues to thrive with 25 people attending one cold frosty morning recently. So many thanks go to Janet, Brenda and Louise for their hard work and cheerful atmosphere.

Another great film Fisherman's Friends 2 was enjoyed by 18 people. I love the informal nature of the cinema with a bar and ice creams in the interval. Our next offering will be on the 24th of this month so do consider coming along.

If you've been spring cleaning recently look out for our planned tabletop sale on April 16th and for the energetic and social minded there will be a band night on the 4th March, the very popular band Nocando will be playing for us.

Finally, it's been great to see a flurry of bookings for parties this year especially from local people. Do use us for your next celebration. [www.thruptonmemorialhall.org](http://www.thruptonmemorialhall.org)

# Brushes Up

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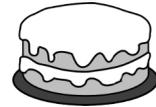
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## Thrupton Loves Cakes!



Thrupton Loves Cakes wishes everyone a very healthy and happy new year.

A coffee morning for the village and surrounding areas in Thrupton Memorial Hall.

Every Wednesday morning, 10 until 12.

All are guaranteed a warm welcome with lots of tea, coffee, cakes and chat!



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## Message from Thruxton Church

In this season of Epiphany we might ask what epiphany means. It describes an occasion of great revelation but its origins are in the Christian season of Epiphany which follows directly after Christmas season in the church calendar. It is the time when the Magi visited the baby Jesus – who actually was a bit more than a baby by then because it took them a while to get there – and worshipped him as king. The great revelation is God coming to us in human form. This is a truly remarkable event: a real epiphany.

So, what's so remarkable about Jesus? In this age it might be construed that Jesus is no longer relevant nor maybe was ever relevant if he is a fictitious character. I believed that once. He's always known and loved me and now I

### **Pete Fletcher**

Specialist in lime wall construction  
and repair  
References from many Thruxton  
residents on request  
[petehsr@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:petehsr@hotmail.co.uk)  
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know and love him. He is always close to each of us and wants to build relationship with us. Paul, writer of the epistle, or letter, to the people living in Philippi, the Philippians, had something to say to them about his relationship with Christ. In the prior passage Paul lays down his credentials for being a somebody in the society of the day. He had the lot: he was a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews, Pharisee, zealot, persecutor of the church and blameless in the eyes of law. In that context he writes this:

"yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord." Philippians 3:7-8.

I have been pondering how strident a declaration that is. It is one thing to regard gains as nothing, but much greater to regard these credentials as loss. What gains had he from this surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus as Lord? It is an extraordinary statement. As I ponder my own relationship with Christ and how it has been building since that wonderful day when I learned he is real, I realise that I, too, want to keep striving for that deeper relationship where I might count as loss all my credentials. It is my prayer that you too come to have that surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus which regards as loss all the credentials of worldly identity.

Rev Sarah Sarah.fakts@outlook.com.  
07340 887402.

**If there is anything happening in the village that you want to shout about please send your piece to [thruxtontimes@gmail.com](mailto:thruxtontimes@gmail.com)**