

Have you Heard.....?

Thornton Curtis, Burnham and District Newsletter

Welcome to the spring edition of Have you Heard...?

Specifically for Thornton Curtis,
Burnham & District compiled with news
and events relevant to our community
and surrounding area.

If you have any news or events which
you wish to have publicised, call:

Marian 531558

Carole 531226

Peter 531252

or email:

thorntonhuntinn@thorntoncurtis.net

Deadline for next newsletter:

May 15th 2014

Congratulations to the Thornton Hunt Inn for winning:

**Highly Commended
Pub of the Year**

**“Select Lincolnshire Food &
Drink Awards 2014”**

Diary of Events

St. Lawrence Church Services

9.15am (communion) - 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

Church Open Days - 1st Wed, 3rd Sat, 4th Sun (9-4 pm)

Village Night

1st Tuesday of the Month at Thornton Hunt Inn, from 8.30pm.

A chance for you to meet your neighbours and members of our
community for a drink and chat.

May 12th Parish Council & AGM Meeting

At the Goxhill Parish Rooms, from 8pm anyone wishing to attend who
does not have transport can always have a lift from any of the
councilors.

May 16th Annual Community Art Exhibition

Tickets cost £5 and include wine and canapés. These need to be
booked by May 1st. Please contact Helen or Carole

May 17th/18th Annual Community Art Exhibition

The exhibition is free to the public from 12:00pm-5:00pm with
refreshments available. Anyone wishing to help with the event, either
by providing baking or helping serve refreshments or manning the
door, please contact Carole or Helen.

June 3rd Village Quiz Night

At Thornton Hunt Inn to start around 8.30pm. Teams of four, £1 per
person.

Nov 4th Village Quiz Night

At Thornton Hunt Inn to start around 8.30pm. Teams of four, £1 per
person.

NOTES FROM THE FIELDS

We have been very lucky with our winter weather in this part of Lincolnshire so far this year. Our spring crops and plants are waking up and starting to speed up growth. In the fields there is a real mix, with hedge plants still very skeletal with no buds next to very green wheat crops. Oil seed rape is even farther in its growth and almost in flower, whilst in the shelter of a dike primroses are in bloom.

The big plus for a stock farm has been the way our grass and clover fields have come through the winter, showing lots of nice early spring growth. This is just right for turning out our first batch of January born lambs. The dry weather and lengthening days have encouraged us to start our spring sowing: oats have been sown to grow for sheep feed. These delight the rooks who find the seed an easy meal, thus meaning bird banger ropes have to be put up daily.

The best example of a bird feeding happened straight in front of me on the side of the drive, when a buzzard swooped down and picked up a young rabbit as it ran for cover. So surprised was the bird by my truck being at the kill that it dropped the little rabbit and flew off. The rabbit however, was dead.

St Lawrence Church News

Good news on the **Church Roof**. Following the theft of the lead from the north aisle roof, we are now in a position to repair it with a temporary two layer felt system which should last for ten years. By which time there may be enough money to put a permanent roof back. The cost of this repair will be in the region of £6,000 so if you are able to support any of the fund raising activities this coming year it will certainly help towards the bill.

Plans for the next **Annual Community Art Exhibition** are well on the way, but there is still time to contact Helen Whelpton for an application form to exhibit paintings or crafts. Tickets for the **Preview evening Friday on May 16th** at 7pm cost £5 and include wine and canapés. These need to be booked by May 1st. The exhibition is free to the public from 12:00pm-5:00pm on Saturday May 17th and Sunday May 18th with refreshments available. Anyone wishing to help with the event, either by providing baking or helping serve refreshments or manning the door, please contact Carole or Helen.

Forthcoming weddings: Alice Katherine Spink is marrying Dominic Bunting on June 21st at 3pm and Dawn Elizabeth Farrow is marrying Duncan John Gardham on July 12th at 2pm.

Parish News

It has been decided to mark the **100th Anniversary of the First World War** by planting a tree beside the seat on Station Road together with some form of commemorative plaque. There will also be some repairs to the Lych gate which is the village memorial to those who fought in the wars.

The **village needs more helpers** who are willing to cut the grass in the playing field. Anyone who is able to help can contact Shirley Leech on 531480.

At this present time the **playing field** is devoid of any play equipment. However, if there was an interest in putting some swings or other children's equipment in there, the local authority has community monies available. Carole Couch would be willing to investigate this further but needs to know if people want it.

Poetry Corner

Please find below a lovely poem written by John Harrison Davey, farmer of the parish, whom joined the 10th Lincolns as part of the Grimsby Chums and served in France at the Somme. Born in 1893 he wrote this poem at the age of 20, 1 year before the Great War began. He was seriously injured in a forward listening post by a rifle grenade attack a few weeks before the big push. Whilst convalescing in hospital he heard that only 500 of his comrades had returned out of the 4000 of the regiment and other forces in his sector going over the top that day. He lived the rest of his life in Thornton Curtis making sure he made a difference.

When I read this poem, which I often do, I think of him telling his mother, my great grandmother, as he walked to Church along Main Street from Home Farm of his intentions to join up at Grimsby the next day. With hope in his heart and the love of his countryside, his farming and his family he was as good a man as any that stood in Kitchener's army the next day.

I cannot think of a more fitting memorial to him and his like than the hope this poem brings.

ED DAVY

AND LARKS BID WELCOME

*Black winter's gone, here now comes, smiling Spring
When primrose blooms beneath the old oak's shade.
Wild birds in all the trees around do sing
And wake the bluebells sleeping in the glade.*

*Off to the woods we'll go again to hear
The nightingale a-singing full and clear.
The blackbirds piping forth his rapturous notes
Into the balmy summer-scented air.*

*The dove as o'er his gentle mate he dotes
Cooing in sweet content without a care.
The rustling winds a-whispering in the elms
Telling of summer days that are to come.*

*Delights as these the ills of life o'erwhelm;
How full of wonder is the woodman's home.
The oak, his newborn leaves all fresh exposed
To April suns his golden glory throws,
Into the babbling brook whose waters flow
'Tween willow flower-studded banks enclosed.*

*At even, when the full moon meets the sun
And her varying shadows throw around,
When speckled thrush's evensong is done
O'er last year's leafy carpet footsteps sound
Of tiny fairy-footed mouse and vole,
Of stealthy fox, of furry dark-skinned mole.*

*As in the forest's gathering gloom they prowl,
Whilst overhead, the silent soft-winged owl,
'Neath glittering stars is searching for his prey,
Swiftly the hours of night are passed away.
The eastern sky again is dawning grey
And towering larks bid welcome to the day.*