

Village newsletter November 2015

Dear Residents

Let's begin with the good news which is, Steph is on the mend, but still has a little way to go. That's why the newsletter will once again be in the form of a letter and shorter than our usual ones which Peter produces so well.

In September, we held the annual Harvest service and supper in the church and once again it was well attended. A big thank you to everyone who helped, either by reading or by providing a wonderful cottage pie and/or delicious dessert. This was followed on the Tuesday by the Harvest auction in the Thornton Hunt. As usual, there was much mirth and frivolity and the evening was judged a resounding success. The actual auction raised £911, which is an incredible amount, and added to the raffle and the collection at the service, brought the final total to £1,500. This event is led by the community for the community and, as always, we like to give something back so the collection of £160 was sent as a donation to Christian Aid.

Sadly, in October, Mr Tuxford passed away. His daughter, Ann, has provided this eulogy for our newsletter.

JAMES HAROLD TUXFORD

James Harold Tuxford was born on November 13th 1921 at Church Farm, Broughton, Lincolnshire.

Much of his childhood years were spent in Holton-le-Moor, where he and his brothers, Wallace and Chris, went to school. With school days behind him, he became a poultry boy for Mr Smith of Yewfield Farm, and later moved with him to Villa Farm, Thornton Curtis. It was there that he met Vesta, when he took lodgings with her parents, Mr and Mrs Short. It was a romance set against the backdrop of war. They were married in Thornton Church in December 1944, when Harold was on leave from the RAF – the start of a happy marriage of almost 62 years.

Three years later their only son, David, was born – followed by two daughters, Ann and Helen.

As time went by, he and Vesta welcomed the arrival of three treasured grandchildren, Sarah, Richard and Chris.

Harold worked as a gardener at Thornton Hall, and later found work on Mr Mollet's farm at Wootton Dale. Although physically hard work, it was an idyllic setting and gave him the opportunity to observe wildlife at close hand.

Outside work, he had many and varied interests, archery, fishing, playing his harmonica and concertina music, dancing, local history, corn dolly making, ice-skating and cake icing.

Almost twenty years ago, Harold and Vesta moved to Keelby, but always looked on Thornton as their home village.

After a short illness, Harold died on October 21st. His lasting legacy will be his unflinching driving passions – his passion for Nature, for music, for family – and for life.

In October, defibrillator training was held in the church, and 9 residents attended. It was a very friendly event, with the trainer putting everyone at ease with his funny stories and easy manner. The defibrillator is sited at the back of the smoking area in the pub garden and has easy access. Should anyone require this facility, whether trained or not, all they have to do is dial 999 and describe the symptoms of the patient to the operator. It is the operator who decides if it is necessary to use the equipment, they will give the caller a code to open the box and everything else is explained in very precise terms so anyone can use it effectively. Let us hope that we will never have to test the training! October village night saw the return of the quiz, and what a return. 4 teams battled it out for the tin of Quality Street, keeping neck and neck with each section, amidst fun and laughter, keeping up their strength with the tasty sandwiches provided by Steph and Peter. In the end, it was very close but knowledge of what the Telly Tubbies call a vacuum cleaner won the day! (You can see how intellectual it is.)

The eagle eyed among you will have noticed that this year there was a poppy wreath on the Lych Gate which is the village war memorial to commemorate the fallen from both World Wars. We also asked if the names of the fallen could be included in the service at the cenotaph at Ulceby, and they were, and the church send a donation of £100 to the British Legion on behalf of the community.

[On December 1st at 6pm](#) there is another meeting of the joint group to discuss the possibility of employing a vicar to look after our local 6 parishes. This is to be held in the Church in North Killingholme and is a very friendly meeting. Svitlana and Carole will be attending if anyone would like a lift.

Village night is [on Tuesday December 1st](#) from about [8pm](#). Come along and meet the community in a very friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Newcomers to the village, it is a great way to introduce yourself and get to know what is happening in the village. Established villagers, it is just a great night to catch up with friends.

Planning Appeal – Informal Hearing: Planning permission for restoration of a former chalk pit to a conservation afteruse including the import of construction, demolition and excavation wastes Former Chalk Pit Thornton Road Thornton Curtis

Inspectorate's reference: APP/Y2003/W/15/3132053.

The appeal meeting is to be held in Scunthorpe at the Civic Centre [at 10am on December 3rd](#).

Christmas is fast approaching and there will be the usual Carols Around the Font with a bring and share supper [on Monday December 21st](#) in the Church starting [at 6.30pm](#). Everyone is welcome, and the mulled wine helps to lubricate the vocal chords and enhances the singing.

Escape the hustle and bustle of Christmas for a short while and join us for a Christmas morning service in the Church [at 9.30am](#). This will be a community service with many different people reading or singing or playing an instrument together with Holy Communion given by extension as there will not be a vicar present. We have held these services in the past and they really get Christmas off to a flying start. Father Christmas pops in beforehand to leave gifts beneath the tree for all of our little visitors, but he does ask that you let Carole know if you will be joining the service so that he doesn't miss anybody out. If you would like to read, sing or perform in any way, please contact Carole on 531226 [before December 15th](#) and your wish will be granted.

Arctic weather is on the way, so says the snow warden who avidly follows the long range forecasts, so his message is 'be prepared'. Remember to check tyre pressures, screen washer bottles and lights before setting out on a journey and take some additional warm clothing with you and a shovel in case you get into difficulty. Remember also to look out for your neighbours, especially if they are elderly. The parish salt bins are there for public areas and footpaths and can be used by everyone to ensure safety. The bins are situated next to the Church, on Roly's corner down Dam Lane, by the station and at Burnham crossroads.

It only remains for us to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Best Wishes

Carole and Ian