

# Have you Heard.....?

Thornton Curtis, Burnham and District Newsletter

## **February to April 2021 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:  
enquiry@thorntonthuntinn.co.uk

## **Diary of Events**

### **St. Lawrence Church Services**

Due to the virus the church will be closed until March 7th when  
it will reopen for public worship with a communion at 9am.  
The church itself will be open every Sunday for private prayer.

### **Village Night**

Cancelled due to current lockdown.

### **Deadline for next newsletter:**

**April 15<sup>th</sup> 2021**

### **Grimsby & Scunthorpe Telegraphy's**

The Grimsby Telegraphy can be pre-ordered for any day(s) Monday to  
Saturday.

The weekly Scunthorpe Telegraphy is available Thursday. All papers can  
be paid for on a daily or weekly basis & collected during  
pub opening hours.

To place an order, please get in touch.

**Thornton Hunt Inn**

## **Parish News**

A belated Happy New Year to everyone. Who would have thought we would be where we are, this time last year? But let us concentrate on the positives, of which there are many. As I walk every day with my husband and my dog I see signs of spring popping up in the churchyard and in gardens, snowdrops raising their beautiful heads to herald the changing of the seasons and birds singing their hearts out. It reminds me of W H Davies poem Leisure "What is this life if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare? No time to stand beneath the boughs and stare as long as sheep and cows". If lockdown has taught me anything it's what is really important. And there is so much to be thankful for. In this area we are ahead of the game with vaccinations, we are able to get out and about and walk the countryside and we are socially distancing meeting people on these walks. Rather than say what isn't good it's a time to appreciate what we have and celebrate what is good about our lives.

For those who do not know, there is a Village WhatsApp Group organised by Rosie Wright to help keep everyone informed of village matters. Not only does Rosie keep us updated with important information but it can also be used by anyone who has lost or found anything or needs help with an issue. All you need to do is send your mobile number to Rosie on 07795095270 and she will add you to the group. It pays to be informed.

For general information, there is a public footpath across the field from Laurel Lane to Station Road but recently some dog walkers have been walking around the perimeter of the field. The field has a crop in it and this week will see the arrival of a flock of sheep. Therefore the farmer has asked that people respect the livestock who will be in lamb and do not walk their dogs at this time.

Sadly there is an increase in litter along our highways so if anyone would like a litter picker and black bin bags to help collect the rubbish then contact Carole 531226.

The village seat next to the Church is badly in need of some TLC so if anybody has a bit of spare time, is handy at rubbing down and has some old paint that needs using up please feel free, especially when the weather improves.

## **Parish News**

**Zoom Parish Council** meeting is Tuesday March 2nd at 6pm

### **Snow Warden.**

The snow warden wishes to apologise to all the children in the village for successfully keeping the snow away from our area when all about are inundated with snow. However, he says don't be too upset as there is still time for snow so keep those carrots and bits of coal ready to build your snowmen. On a more serious note the grit bins are full and are there for all to use on public footpaths and roadways. A special thank you to deputy snow warden Roly who continues to salt the Dam Lane corner which has been vital as we have had a lot of black ice recently.

### **Lorries**

I am sure that everyone in Thornton Curtis is aware of the huge increase in Heavy Goods Vehicles rumbling through the village over the last year; however, what is not widely understood is what is causing this intrusive and unwelcome volume of lorries.

Several years ago, Drax power station pre-empted Government policy and began converting the use of coal into wood pellets as its energy source for generating electricity. The wood pellets come from Virginia in S.E. United States of America by ship into Immingham docks where they are discharged into huge silos.....unlike coal, wood pellets have poor combustibility and must be kept dry in both storage and transport. To this end special enclosed rail trucks were constructed and fleets of these deliver the pellets to Drax power station on a daily basis.

There is however, a SNAG. When vessels discharge at the docks, the silos cannot hold the entire cargo. The overspill has to be transported to a weather-secure site for safekeeping until required.

So, as a consequence, we have the following totally absurd and farcical scenario;

The overspill is moved by lorry to a warehouse at Goxhill aerodrome passing through Ulceby, Wootton, Thornton Curtis and Goxhill South End. Some weeks later, as the silos are emptying, the overspill is returned by lorry to Immingham docks back through the same villages. What this means is that every 25 tons of pellets requires 4 lorry journeys backwards and forwards between Immingham and Goxhill, overloading and damaging the country roads that are totally inadequate for such volumes of traffic and, furthermore, blighting the lives of all those who live along the route.

There must be a better way for Drax and Associated British Ports to conduct their joint business, starting with the question: Why cannot this product be stored on the docks? Their current business model represents commercial nonsense and environmental hypocrisy.

IT MUST BE STOPPED.

### **Wildlife at the Abbey**

Although we are now in the middle of January and sometimes have bright still mornings, one such morning this last week I looked out across the abbey field just as the sun was shining on the abbey and also giving a beautiful mirrored reflection of a slim and elegant white bird standing on the edge of a grassland pond. It was of course a little egret. They are very much like a grey heron but much smaller. They not only nest with the herons in the wood, but have taken to staying local all the year round, being able to find enough food in the wet areas of the farm. If you look in a bird guide book, it will tell you that they are migratory, spending their winters in North Africa and the Middle East, nesting mainly in Europe. Why have we got egrets at Thornton Abbey? 'Global warming'.

## **Church News**

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