



TABS

Thurnby And Bushby Society

No.103 Thurnby, Bushby and Scraftoft Newsletter Summer 2026



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Planning Update

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www.tabslife.uk



EDITORIAL

Uncertainty seems to be prevalent everywhere not only on the national scene but right down to local level. There is uncertainty as to what kind of local authority the Parish will be part of. There are three options being considered by the Government at the moment (search for “Unitary Authorities Leicestershire”) and the option chosen will be known perhaps this summer. The good news is that Parish Councils are not part of the proposed re-organisation, so anything it owns cannot be taken over by another authority.

National planning guidelines are also changing, which in turn will affect the HDC Local Plan which is also being currently considered by the Government. And at the very bottom of the hierarchy is our local Neighbourhood Plan which has to be compatible with everything! More help in all areas for that, particularly local knowledge would still be very welcome (see page 20).

Also, there is uncertainty regarding the effect of the steady slow creep of climate change. The Manor Field Pond seems to be turning into a seasonal pond. Already it has lost its water. So no more frogs, newts and nesting ducks or flowers such as flowering rush and figwort for example.

FROM THE ARCHIVE

Working on the Neighbourhood Plan has meant much use of the Village Archive for what records of the parish in the past exist, see page 21. In this issue we feature a former resident, Miss Hubbard, and the farmhouse and farm where she lived, see pages 16 and 17. We still urgently need somebody to help set up the Archive to make it easier to use, perhaps with a searchable catalogue. A project for a newly retired person?

TABS AGM

See page 15 for what the Society has been doing as well as producing the Newsletter. TABS’ main objective is care for the parish environment, looking beyond “lack of resources” as to why things don’t get done, see page 3. We would welcome more like-minded members on our Committee to help!

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Current major planning applications are still being processed, see pages 12 and 19. Developers who have submitted plans on land that has been suggested for housing in the HDC draft Local Plan may well choose to wait for a decision until after the Local Plan has been approved. Those applications that are not on such land may request a decision BEFORE the Local Plan is approved! Any approval by HDC is likely to come with hefty, expensive-to-satisfy conditions, especially any road building. So sheer economics will be the ultimate factor as to whether a development goes ahead or not!
More uncertainty!

NEXT ISSUE

Articles: All articles should be sent to Judith Lord

Advertisements: Enquiries for placing adverts should be made to Mike Lord

Contact: 30 Dalby Avenue, Bushby, LE7 9RD 0116 241 2377 mj.bushby@btinternet.com

Copy date: Copy for the next issue is due by 31 October 2026.

The TABS Newsletter is edited and produced three times a year by volunteers from the Thurnby and Bushby Society. It is printed by Norwood Press and distributed to every household in Thurnby, Bushby and Scraftoft. TABS gratefully acknowledges financial support from both Parish Councils.

LOOKING AFTER OUR PARISHES

Nowadays, with cut backs, every minute of a contractor's time has to be accounted for and common sense isn't allowed. This doesn't give a contractor complete satisfaction.

Repairing potholes is the glaring example of this. Only those marked can be filled even though there may be the beginnings of another one next to it and there's enough tarmac to attend to it.

Tree work is also very specific. For example, if there is a broken branch on an adjacent tree, unless that tree is on the schedule it can't be touched. The real problems come with the care of bushes. When is a bush a small tree or a small tree a bush?

Tree surgeons can not remove a dead bush adjacent to a tree they are working on because tree surgeons only look after trees. The village Greens in particular have suffered from neglect because some bushes/trees appear to be on nobody's maintenance schedule. TABS is looking into this.

Sometime it is even necessary to research land ownership to establish who is actually responsible for its care! This is the case with the steps at the end of Telford Way down the dismantled railway embankment to the Willowbrook Park. TABS is pursuing this as the steps need maintenance. Efforts are still in progress.

With care responsibilities currently divided, because of historical origins, between Leicestershire County Council, Harborough District Council and Thurnby & Bushby Parish Council, the standard of care might actually benefit from amalgamation of Authorities (not involving Parish Councils), whatever that might be, as then the muddle of who does what should be eliminated.

Some certainty may be established eventually

Judith Lord

HOUGHTON ON THE HILL VILLAGE HALL TEA DANCES

**Regular sessions from 2 - 4 pm
on the 1st Friday of every month.**

£5 per head to include tea and cake.

Further details from Franklin and Mary 0116 2418183 or
woodcock565@btinternet.com

All surplus proceeds to the village hall.



TABS TREASURE HUNT

After a very rainy day, the weather was good to us for the TABS Treasure Hunt. Our quest took us to the lovely village of **Burton Overy** where everyone thoroughly enjoyed the clever clues set by the Jollys and Bandys who created a very interesting and challenging hunt, while enjoying the local scenery.



Anne, Philippa and Gill

Well done to our eventual champions Team Name **GAP** (as one member was missing) **Philippa Davis, Anne Sawford and Gill Dean** who managed to outwit the competition. We can't wait to see what they have in store for us when they host next year's Treasure Hunt!

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1st February 2026	EarthWoven
1st March 2026	Be Cky
5th April 2026	Paul Phillips
3rd May 2026	Steven Platt & Stephen Bailey
7th June 2026	Karyn A.
5th July 2026	Dorothy Platter
August 2026	Closed for Summer Festivals
6th Sept 2026	Tooth & Nail (Maria & Carole)
4th October 2026	Nic Gravestock
1st November 2026	Unruly Crew
6th December 2026	Maggie Lane

For details contact Malcolm & Lynn
Tel: 07508890398 Email: Malcolm6@btinternet.com



Thurnby & Bushby GARDEN CLUB



Let's grow together...

Programme July to December 2026

July 1st

Annual Summer Home Meeting

A very popular summer social event. An evening hosted by a club member. Supper, drinks and enjoying evening in the garden.

August

No Meeting

September 2nd

Jeff Bates – The Royal Gardens of Windsor

A welcome return of this popular speaker. Jeff's talk reflects on his time working on the Windsor gardens.

October 7th

Hannah Sylvester - Herbalist

A welcome return of this popular speaker. Hannah's talk includes a tasting session and covers further the benefits of herbs in our lives.

November 4th

Gary Lilley – Unusual Plants & Animals

Gary's talk covers his worldwide travels and the unusual plants and wildlife experienced.

December 2nd

Christmas Social Meeting

A festive get together, with an interactive quiz, nibbles and a glass to welcome the Christmas festivities.

The Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the back room of the Memorial Hall, Main Street. Doors open at 7.15 and the meeting starts at 7.30. All visitors are welcome, £2 per meeting, (light refreshments provided), raffle £1.

For more information contact the Programme Secretary: Angie on 07709 084129

Evington Garden Club

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month from 2.30 pm at Evington Village Hall, Church Road, Evington, Leicester LE5 6FA.

Non-members are welcome at a cost of £3.00.

18 th August	National Trust speaker	"Calke Abbey Gardens"
15 th September	Jeff Bates	"Colour in Garden Design"
20 th October	Angela Holland	"A Seasonal Talk"
17 th November	Russell Attwood	"Pumpkin Extravaganza"
15 th December	Caroline Roberts	"Pubs, Coffee Houses & Cafes"

For further information Tel: Sheelagh Lobo – 07890 591993.

SPRINGBROOK AND SCRAPTOFT W.I.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the lounge at the Scraftoft Community Hub on Malsbury Avenue, Scraftoft, LE7 9FQ. We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and our interesting and varied programme for July to December 2026 is as follows:-

7 th July	No Meeting at the Hub.
4 th August	Musical Memory Box a talk by Kyle Newman
1 st September	The Great British Sewing Bee by Mitch Bridgewater
6 th October	AGM followed by a CPR Demonstration by Lynn Morris
3 rd November	Beetle Drive

On the Saturday 5th September we will be having a stall at All Saints Church Scraftoft Coffee Morning. This will be our "Glad Rags and Handbags" stall selling pre-loved clothes and accessories which is back again this year by popular demand. Do please come along to see what's on offer.

As usual we have theatre trips and many other things planned, so do please come and meet our friendly and welcoming group. For more information, please contact Nina Daws on 07801268765.

Springbrook and Scraftoft W.I. wish you a happy and hopefully sunny summer.

Jane Elliott

THURNBY AND BUSHBY W.I.

We meet every third Wednesday of the month at 7:15pm at Thurnby Memorial Hall. Our meetings usually involve a talk, demonstration or practical activity and new members are always welcome. For more details, please contact Judith Heatley on 07963 158552 or email judithheatley2@outlook.com.

This is our programme for the next few months

July 15 th	Visit to Stoughton Church and Village
August 19 th	Moving Together
September 16 th	Social Evening
October 21 st	Women Spies in the Civil War
November 18 th	AGM and Christmas Craft
December 9 th	Christmas Party (please note that this is the 2 nd Wednesday of the month)

Events are published on noticeboards around Thurnby and Bushby.

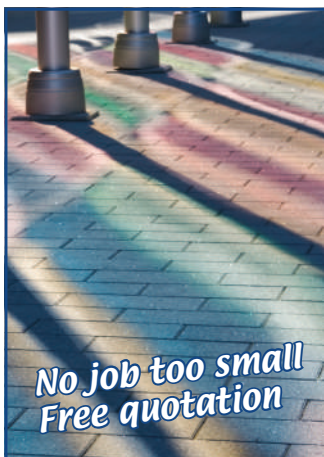


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SCRAPTOFT PLAYERS

The Scraftoft Players - yes, we are still around! In spite of everything that life throws at us, we are still performing a two night show every year, in fact we are going into our 35th year!

This year we produced a 'Holiday Special' and raised more money than ever before. Some of our cast do a first-class job of writing our comedy sketches, which turn into really good entertainment, so you can imagine the fun during rehearsals – it's a real hoot! But on the serious side, we like to raise money for Charity. We also don't leave anything to chance, so we carry a full insurance cover.

So why am I telling you all this? Well, we are hoping to gain a few more members. Maybe you might be interested in having a go at acting or singing? Or helping back stage - whatever it is, we could really use your help.

*We will be starting to plan a new show that we will be performing next year, so if you would like to know more, please contact:
Pauline Pearce, telephone 0116 2123180, for further details.*

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SCRAPTOFT PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

SUMMER 2026

COMMUNITY HUB

Sadly, the Community Hub has been vandalised by youths who tried to disrupt a WI meeting, left an outside tap on, tore up lighting bollards and part of the car park fencing. The parish council has had to pay for repairs, which leaves less money for community projects. The incidents, captured on CCTV, have been reported to the police and Harborough's Anti-social Behaviour unit.

Thanks go to the Hub Coordinator for securing compensation to replace the CCTV cameras from the parents of the youths who broke them.

A Youth Club consultation event took place on 19 February 2026, during half-term, hosted by Scraptoft Parish Council, two youth workers and two officers from Harborough District Council to find out what young people in the village want from a youth club to be hosted at the Community Hub. As a result, Young Leicestershire and Harborough District Council, with support from the Parish Council, are looking to recruit 2 youth workers to lead a youth club for young people aged 11+ on Fridays 5-8pm at the Community Hub. Please see the parish council's website or social media channels for further information.

Crown Hills Arts Society are running a series of craft workshops on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 1.30-4.30pm, with support from the Parish Council. Check the website www.crownhillartsociety.co.uk/projects-7 for details and booking.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Regulation 16 Consultation closed on 29 April 2026, and the Neighbourhood Plan has now been submitted for government examination.

COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Many thanks go to Lynn Morris for her service as councillor and for organising First Aid and CPR training sessions at the Community Hub. The council now has a vacancy for one parish councillor. If interested, please contact the clerk.

MOUNT WOODLAND

Please remember fires are not permitted in the woodland and do not use the woodland as a rubbish tip. Volunteers have worked hard to clear the woodland of rubbish and make it a pleasant space for residents. Please contact Harborough District Council on 01858 828282 to arrange bulk waste collections of items.

Thank you to residents who continue to report fly-tipping in the woodland and on Covert Lane.

Thank you to Tree Warden Deb Armitage for her work in keeping the woodland paths clear and the display of bluebells.

SCRAPTOFT EAST PLANNING APPLICATION 26/00289/OUT

Jelsons and Davidsons have now put in their planning application for 950 houses and a primary school on fields on Covert Lane/Station Lane. At the April Parish Council meeting, Scraptoft Parish Council voted to object, due to concerns about sustainability and transport, and have engaged planning consultants to help prepare the council's objection. There is still time for individuals to comment via Harborough District Council's planning portal: <https://pa2.harborough.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=TB26H1HWMKH00&activeTab=summary>.

SCRAPTOFT VISIONING

Thanks to those who visited the Community Hub on 29 April and those who completed the online questionnaire. Funding is coming from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to also develop a masterplan to identify a site for community/sports facilities which will complement existing facilities (including the Community Hub). It is a long term project to look at sports facilities in Scraptoft and whether it's possible to use either the existing rugby field (where the Stoneygate Rugby club were based, next to Jimmies) or an equivalent site and what sports residents would like, such as cricket, tennis, netball/baseball, multi-purpose courts, etc and a pavilion for changing rooms, toilets and possibly a food servery. For more information, please see the website: <https://investinharborough.com/sm> or QR code:



CLlr Emma Lee
Chair, Scraptoft Parish Council
councillorlee@scraptoftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Joseph, Parish Clerk, or Alka, Hub Coordinator
Scraptoft Community Hub tel: 0116 429 2403
clerk@scraptoftparishcouncil.gov.uk; or
hub@scraptoftparishcouncil.gov.uk

SCRAPTOFT RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP

We're sure that most of the residents of Scraptoft are now aware of our group, formed to oppose the building of 950 houses on land south of Covert Lane. We want to maintain this very important wedge of land, once deemed to be an area of separation, for generations to come so they can reap the benefits offered by the open space which is also home to an abundance of wildlife as well as being valuable farmland. Historic England has also stated that there would be a significant impact on the Scraptoft Conservation Area around All Saints Church were this proposal to go ahead.



We held our first, very well attended meeting for local residents on 24.04.26 at The Hub in Scraptoft where residents were able to discuss and make their feelings about the proposed building plans known.

If you are not already a member of the group and would like to join to receive updates on what is happening and information about future meetings, please scan the QR code below to take you to our WhatsApp group. Everyone is very welcome and the more support we have the better. Additionally, if anyone out there has any expertise in planning, ecology or transport/highways issues we would be very keen to hear from you as any input in these areas would be really appreciated.

SAVE SCRAPTOFT- STOP NEW 
WhatsApp group



Or: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/GQHSwsWChOG7rJgB33QObQ>

Also, a very important reminder for everyone, whether or not you are already a member of the group; if you have not already done so, PLEASE go to the Harborough District Council Planning website to submit an objection to the proposed

building plan as the more objections that are raised the more impact this will have. Instructions on how to do this can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/zqvxy>

Currently, the core committee of the group are working hard on preparing for the hearing on the Harborough Local Plan, in which Scraptoft East is named as an

allocated site for building. This hearing is due around October 2026 and Independent Inspectors will be assessing whether or not Scraptoft East is actually a sustainable and viable site for housing Their findings will be crucial as to how future planning on this site goes ahead. We will obviously keep everyone updated on our WhatsApp group, via email for those who have expressed a preference to be contacted in this way and in future meetings which we will advertise as widely as possible.

Assessments made by LCC Highways already show that the addition of another 950 homes in the area would result in 4,000 extra journeys a day, all exiting onto Station Lane!

Please help us to prevent Scraptoft becoming another area of urban sprawl with clogged roads and no infrastructure!

SAVE SCRAPTOFT CORE GROUP
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THURNBY & BUSHBY SOCIETY 58TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

28 MAY 2026

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Judith Lord

In its aim to care for the local environment the main emphasis is to continue to care for what we have got. This means making sure maintenance schedules of Leicestershire County Council, Harborough District Council and the Parish Council address what is required and actually happen!

TABS is keen to revive social events which had to stop with Covid. A talk on Country Railway Stations at the Memorial Hall was held and we were encouraged to continue to make a talk an annual event. The well-established Car Treasure Hunt was, as usual, enjoyed and well supported.

TABS takes an interest in all other aspects of the wellbeing of the parish. See details of the Society's activities in Planning, Environment, Newsletter, Media and the Treasurer's Report on the TABS website tabslife.uk/meetings.

None of the work this year could have happened without our small dedicated committee really working together. So, many thanks to everybody for being such a good team. We would welcome more like-minded people to join us!

TABS COMMITTEE 2026 – 2027

Chairman:	Judith Lord	30 Dalby Avenue	241 2377
Vice-Chairman:	vacant		
Secretary:	Jean Barbour	14 Fiona Drive	243 4175
Treasurer:	Bruce Wakley	20 Hollies Way	
Media Officer:	Beverley Lee	30 Fiona Drive	348 1554
		beverley.tabs.life@gmail.com	

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mike Lord	30 Dalby Avenue
Mohammed Docrat	19 Fiona Drive

DONATIONS

For funds to remain stabilised we would appreciate a steady stream of regular donations. Although the Newsletter is at the moment self-supporting, readers may still like to contribute to the cost which works out at roughly 78p per person for the 3 issues in a year. We would like now to build up funds so that various other environmental initiatives can be supported.

The Committee members will gratefully receive any donations, or you can give them to:

Mr Howell 55 Sedgefield Drive
Mrs Massey 12 Telford Way

For other methods of payment see the panel opposite

Please phone our Secretary if you can't use any of these methods 243 4175



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THANK YOU

MISS HUBBARD'S HOUSE

Miss Hubbard's House stood on the corner of Main Street and Court Road. It was L-shaped with part of it facing St Luke's Church and part facing towards the Dower House and Grange Lane and it created a narrow corner at that point. It was built in 1708 and its formal name was Thurnby House. It was originally a big farmhouse similar to Bushby House further east up Main Street which is still there today.

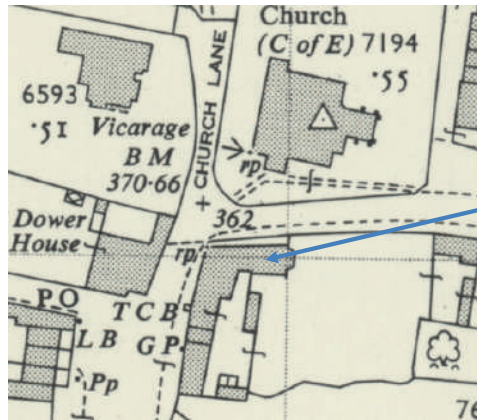


View from Main Street (*Leicestershire Museums Service*) View from Court Road (*Leicester Mercury*)

Miss Hubbard was Edith, the unmarried daughter of George and Ann Hubbard. George was born in 1834 in Market Harborough and he married Ann Sammons in 1864. He farmed in Evington before retiring to Thurnby House with Edith in the 1890s. He died there in 1904 and his widow lived there until she died in 1927 aged 89. They are both buried in Thurnby churchyard. Their unmarried daughter Edith continued to live there, and in 1939 she had with her a companion/paid help Alice Allen and a widow Catherine Mitchell. Edith's duties included looking after the poultry.



George and Ann Hubbard (from the *Goffe/Rivenhall/Hubbard family archive*)



Miss Hubbard's House

TCB Telephone Call Box GP Guide Post (OS map)

She died in a Nursing Home on Goodwood Road in 1956 aged 83. Her house was then pulled down for road widening. Church Green and the road down to St Luke's Close are on the site of the house and gardens. The farm included a plantation behind the Main Street cottages and a field to the south which are now occupied by St Luke's Close, Gilstead Close and the Scout HQ. An Iron Age/Roman site and burials were uncovered during the construction of St Luke's Close.

Former resident of Main Street Peter Pawley writing in the Winter 2001 issue of the TABS Newsletter described Miss Hubbard as follows:

"In her later years she became almost stone deaf and this added to the impression that she was isolated. In her earlier years, I understand she was a regular worshipper at St. Luke's but when she could no longer hear the preacher she ceased to attend but still felt it her duty to keep a check on who attended and spent her Sunday mornings at the landing window [which was opposite the church porch] noting who was passing to and fro on the churchyard path. The farmhouse kitchen was located on the actual corner with its window opposite the church gate. There was very little that occurred on that corner of which she and/or her maid were unaware. Isolated she may have been but there was very little she missed across those fields as well as her observations of village life outside her kitchen window."

Mike Lord from items in the TABS Village Archive, the Goffe/Rivenhall/Hubbard family archive, and Ancestry.co.uk

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Mulberry Planning Application

At the time of writing, we haven't received news as to when the Mulberry planning application for 900 houses in Bushby village will be heard. It is being assessed by HDC and might come up for a Planning Committee meeting in June or July – June 16th or July 21st. Highways and Severn Trent have still not put their reports on the portal so the application is incomplete.

The not so good news, is that the Government have passed a new directive that any planning application over 150 houses that the local planning authority refuse has to be referred to the Secretary of State. This (we think) means it would go to a planning committee and could be passed by HDC but if HDC refuse it then it gets sent to the Secretary of State. A blow for village democracy.

In the meantime, the Planning Advisor employed by the Parish Council has written to the Case Officer asking her to take into consideration HDC's draft Local Plan and the fact that it has been presented to the Inspectorate and does not have this land listed to be built on. The letter asks for the Case Officer to take into consideration the cumulative effect of the number of new builds proposed for our area. Do have a look on the portal as the letter has been uploaded.

Finally, can I say how amazing it was to see so many people turn up for the 'Houghton Round Walk' in support of the National Day of Action for the Countryside. It was a beautiful day, with barely a cloud in the sky, the birds were singing, blossom was on some trees – why would we want to lose this wonderful asset to our villages and build on these fields? Residents from Houghton also met us as they do not want to risk the area of separation being reduced. The loss of the fields would be such a tragedy for our community.

So, the battle rumbles on – we await the Case Officer's report and a Planning Committee meeting which we hope to get the opportunity to attend. In the meantime, residents can show their objection to this application by putting a comment on the portal – maybe about the value of the fields, the loss to the community or the cumulative effect on our village of 900 houses and other applications which have been submitted to HDC.

Let's keep trying everyone!

Melanie Wakley



Thurnby & Bushby Neighbourhood Plan

A big thank-you to everyone in the village who came to the Neighbourhood Plan Open event on Saturday 18th April and also to the hard-working team who put on the event.

It was well supported with the people attending enjoying looking at the displays and being interactive by making notes on post-its answering questions and sticking red and green dots on maps to show where they agree with new housing being built or not built. There was overwhelming support for protecting the environment and people recognising the importance of wildlife. Concern was expressed for flooding and for potential damage to the Parish's culture and history if new over-development is allowed to take place.

I was thrilled that so many people liked the 'Vision' statement which will be our guide for the N.P. for the future of the village. Teas and coffees were also served which made this an ideal opportunity for residents to chat with old and new friends and talk to the people working on the N.P. The event will give us good evidence for the Inspector – when we get to that stage – of us sharing the progress of the N.P with residents.

You may also have noticed the Environment Group working their way around the village holding clipboards, looking at listed buildings, heritage assets and taking pictures of some of our amazing views – a few of these were on display at our Open Event.

The Housing Group is just about to kick off and begin their work holding their first meeting in June.

The Young People in the village have also been working hard creating a logo for us to use on the N.P. We had nearly 200 entries for the competition! The N.P. team are busy looking through them and should be able to share the winning logo in the next TABS issue.

So, if you see any of the groups working around the village don't forget to give us a nod or wave and if you want to join in the fun do let us know and contact me....

Melanie Wakley - 07841 637988



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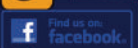
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WHAT WENT BEFORE?

The Neighbourhood Plan is progressing steadily, see page 20. Although the main objective is to establish how we want the Parish to be in the future, to do this means recording what we have in the Parish NOW! So, what recording has there been before?

1965 Thurnby & Bushby Women's Institute 50th Anniversary field survey

This was part of a country-wide survey to record the old field names before they were forgotten, as farmers now use Ordnance Survey field numbers.

1989 Thurnby and Bushby: An Appraisal

At the time there was growing pressure particularly for building in villages, especially those near Leicester. (Still true today?!) So, knowing other villages were producing Appraisals, Thurnby & Bushby thought it would do the same. Also, there was an awareness, to quote from the Introduction that: "... there was no recent, broadly-based and easily available description of Thurnby and Bushby containing information about life in earlier times."

This was the first comprehensive record of the Parish. It had no legal status, so therefore there were no restraints on its production. Lines of interest and enquiry were free to follow and it now makes fascinating reading.

January 2007 Thurnby & Bushby Parish Plan

Notice that the word 'Plan' is now in the title and it incorporates more of the thoughts from the associated questionnaire, including one for young people, and an action plan recommendation. There was some professional support. The Rural Community Council at the time was developing IT systems to help and they addressed copyright issues. They provided bespoke maps under the Leicestershire County Council licence. However, the IT software was all too late to prevent the need to process all 600 paper copies of the questionnaire by hand!

However, this was still prior to Parish Plans being able to be considered for legal status if compatible with a District Plan so there was freedom in how it was produced. Having said that, copies have been seen on the desks of Developers at Planning Enquiries. This Plan is still the latest comprehensive record of the Parish. From its date it can be seen that an update on the Parish is more than overdue!

2026/27 The current Neighbourhood Plan

This will now have legal status. So, in production there has to be an awareness of how information is recorded. Professional help is being used on how best to present the information to stand up to legal challenges, and how to follow an evidence-based procedure.

In this Plan, there will be a particularly thorough recording of all kinds of open areas and a review of our built heritage. This is where the knowledge of our readers and expertise when that section of the plan is being produced would be really welcomed. Please make contact with Melanie Wakley melanie.wakley@btinternet.com!

2040? Another revised record of the Parish?!!

Judith Lord (contact details on page 2)

NB. All the Plans, maps and supportive documentary material are held in the Thurnby & Bushby Village Archive

BISHOP STREET SIGHT LOSS GROUP

Losing your sight is hard to come to terms with. We know because it happened to us.

However, we found hope, friendship, laughter and lots of help. How – well we meet up every second and fourth Thursday in the month at Bishop Street café (inside the Methodist Church) between 10.00 a.m. and 12 noon.

Meeting people who know how it feels gave us a way not just to cope but to enjoy life Everyone is welcome – your other half, friends and anyone you like to bring but don't be afraid to come on your own.

If you ring Sharon, Chris or Wendy on one of the numbers below we'll make sure someone is there to meet you when you arrive and introduce you to some of our group.

Sharon: 07443 040079
Chris: 07821 728087
Wendy: 07973 265891

Wendy Martin



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NEWS FROM THURNBY & BUSHBY PARISH COUNCIL



TABS Summer 2026

As the 2025-26 year draws to a close, I am glad to report on the various developments and areas of progress made over the past year, as well as the plans for the year ahead.

After almost three years, the Council was sad to receive the resignation of the Chair, Chris Booth in January. The Council thanks Chris for his sincere dedication and commitment to the Council and community over the past few years, during which there have been significant changes and challenges. We are delighted that Chris will remain a Councillor and will continue to provide his valued contribution. The Council's new Chair, Melanie Wakley, has lived in Bushby for many years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role. Melanie's experience and interests, especially in environmental issues and overseeing the instigation of the Neighbourhood Plan, as well as the ongoing campaign against recently proposed large scale developments, brings vital insight to the Council. The Council was also delighted to welcome a new Councillor, Bruce Wakley, who also has comprehensive experience in local matters, having been involved with the TABS committee for several years. The Council wishes him well in his position

The Council has made significant progress with several projects and initiatives throughout the course of the year. The proposed outdoor gym for Manor Field has undergone several stages of planning and consideration, for which the Council applied and was granted £50,000 from the HDC Community Grant Fund towards the installation of the project in September. Once the lease agreement has been confirmed in the coming weeks, the installation will be scheduled hopefully in time for the warm summer months. The outdoor gym is a major achievement for the Council's wider aims to provide a variety of community based amenities, that are accessible and will benefit the wellbeing of Thurnby and Bushby's residents.

The open spaces on the Jelson development have also undergone a new lease of life, with the successful introduction of the wildflower area being a welcome addition, along-side the planting of a variety of new saplings to replace previously damaged or irrecoverable trees. Further bulb planting also took place around the parish back in November, with many of the parish's verges growing a flourishing variety of flowers back in spring.

Alongside this, the Council was delighted to secure the purchase of some land off Stoughton Road in January, which will be the focus of exciting nature-based projects over the months and years ahead. It is presently hoped that a wooded area will be planted there in due course, as well as an improved footpath route and access for residents. Any further suggestions from residents are always welcome.

NEWS FROM THURNBY & BUSHBY PARISH COUNCIL



Over the past several months, the Council maintains a strong concern and proactive involvement in the campaigns against a major development that is presently being considered for Bushby, which if approved would cause unalterable damage to the Community's rural heritage and landscape. In wider consideration of this and other future potential developments that pose the same risk, the Council has keenly pursued the initial stages of forming a Neighbourhood Plan, which if implemented, would ensure greater protection of the parish's rural heritage and boundaries. An Advisory Committee has been formed, with a Public Open Event successfully taking place in April and plans being made for the next stages. I strongly implore residents to support this initiative in any way they can, and to volunteer their time to making this happen, if available to do so. A way in which everyone has been able to participate in the process, is by completing the adult and youth questionnaires, that were delivered to every resident across the parish. The deadline for completing these was at the end of May, and the submissions will have a vital role in determining the priorities for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Looking to the year ahead, the Council are involved in ongoing discussions with HDC regarding the future of their land and assets within the parish, with the transfer of these freeholds to the ownership of the Parish Council likely to take place in the coming months. I expect residents may have questions about the Council's future intentions for these amenities, as well as the financial implications and impact on Council Tax etc. all of which will be presented to residents in due course. It is safe to say that the Council will continue to maintain and ensure these amenities are there for the benefit of all.

Contacting the Parish Council

The first point of contact is the Parish Clerk, Eleanor Preston, who will direct matters as needed.

Eleanor Preston, Clerk

[clerk@thurnbyandbushby-
pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@thurnbyandbushby-pc.gov.uk)

☎ 07738 445472

Melanie Wakley, Chair

melanie.wakley@btinternet.com

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You can also find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Thurnby-Bushby-Parish-Council/61566384143333/>

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Road Safety

With the
warmer weather

here and many of you heading out on road trips—especially those coastal getaways—it's a good time for a quick safety reminder:

- Check your vehicle before you travel
- Keep water in the car (for you as well as the car!)
- Plan ahead in case of delays or breakdowns
- A little preparation can make a big difference and help keep your journey safe and stress-free.

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Cricket Season in Full Swing at Houghton & Thurnby CC

The 2026 cricket season is now firmly in full swing at Houghton & Thurnby Cricket Club, with senior cricket getting underway in April and academy fixtures commencing in May.

As one of the largest and most active clubs in Leicestershire, Houghton & Thurnby fields an impressive 15 teams across its senior, academy and ladies' sections. With cricket taking place almost every day of the week, activity at both Wadkins Pavilion and Dixons Field in Houghton on the Hill is virtually non-stop throughout the summer months.

The Club's **1st XI** has enjoyed an outstanding start to the campaign under new captain Adil Ali. Competing in the highly competitive Everards Leicestershire & Rutland Premier League, the side currently sits amongst the top three teams in the division and has quickly established itself as a force to be reckoned with this season.

The **2nd XI**, under the stewardship of the Rt Hon Sir Dave Bennett of "Dirty Leeds" fame, has made a steady start and currently occupies a comfortable mid-table position. Similar progress can be seen in the **3rd XI**, captained by David Nathan, as they continue to build momentum throughout the season.

Meanwhile, the **4th XI** remains a vital part of the club's player pathway. Captained by club stalwart Matt Baxter, the side provides many of the club's most promising academy players with their first experience of senior cricket. Currently competing in Division 9 of the Leicestershire & Rutland Cricket League, the team is focused on developing young talent, gaining experience and enjoying the game.

Senior cricket takes place every Saturday at Wadkins Pavilion and spectators are always welcome. *Whether you're a lifelong cricket enthusiast or simply looking for an enjoyable afternoon in the sunshine, there is always a warm welcome at Houghton & Thurnby. Visitors can enjoy competitive local cricket alongside refreshments from the clubhouse while supporting their local community club.*

The club's thriving **ladies' section** continues to go from strength to strength under the captaincy of Elizabeth Page. The **senior ladies** compete on Sundays and are performing strongly in both the Super 8 competition and the full 11-a-side league format. Their continued success reflects the tremendous growth of women's cricket at the club and provides an excellent pathway for the next generation of female cricketers.

*The **academy season** is also now well underway and the future continues to look extremely bright for Houghton & Thurnby Cricket Club.*

Supported by a dedicated team of coaches and volunteers, the club delivers coaching sessions three times a week alongside a busy fixture schedule across both Wadkins Pavilion and Dixons Field. With matches taking place throughout the week, there are opportunities for players of all ages and abilities to develop their skills, gain valuable match experience and, most importantly, enjoy their cricket.

The standard of cricket being produced across both our mixed and girls' teams continues to impress. Given the relatively small geographical area from which many of our players are drawn,

the depth of talent on display is remarkable and reflects the strength of grassroots cricket within our local community. It is particularly pleasing to see so many young players demonstrating not only excellent technical ability but also the values of teamwork, sportsmanship and commitment that are central to the club's philosophy.

At Houghton & Thurnby, we are constantly looking for ways to improve the experience for our players and members, and 2026 is no exception. One of the most significant developments this season has been the introduction of dedicated playing kits for our academy teams — the first time in the club's history that junior players have had the opportunity to represent the club in official match-day colours.

This milestone would not have been possible without the support of our generous sponsors. We would like to place on record our sincere thanks to Ambiance Hardwood Flooring, Belgrave Laser Clinic and BB's Café, whose support has helped make this project a reality. Their investment in local sport and young people is greatly appreciated and will leave a lasting legacy for our academy players.



HTCC Junior Academy 2026

The club continues to be built on the efforts of its volunteers, coaches, committee members, grounds team, parents and supporters, all of whom contribute countless hours behind the scenes. Their commitment ensures that cricket remains accessible to players of all ages and abilities and helps maintain Houghton & Thurnby's reputation as one of the most welcoming and progressive clubs in the county.

With senior teams competing strongly, the ladies' section flourishing and the academy continuing to produce talented young cricketers, there is much to be excited about as the summer unfolds. Everyone at the club looks forward to what promises to be another memorable season both on and off the field.

Arun Sarna

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Wings Quiz Answers

1. 1942
2. BHX
3. Just under 3.5 hours
4. Trains and Boats and Planes
5. Aerophobia
6. Peter, Paul and Mary
7. Lift, weight, thrust and drag
8. Paul and Linda McCartney
9. Emirates/Ethiad
10. Wright (brothers)
11. Harold
12. Speed of sound
13. A Horse

Wings QUIZ

All the questions or answers are something to do with aeroplanes or flying.



1. When was Stoughton airfield constructed?
2. If East Midlands is EMA, and Luton LTN, what is Birmingham?
3. How long did a typical Concorde flight from Heathrow to New York (JFK) take?
4. Dionne Warwick had a classic hit in 1966 with a song entitled “ and and Planes?
5. What is the usual term for a fear of flying?
6. Who had a 1969 hit with John Denver’s song ‘Leaving On A Jet Plane?
7. What are the 4 forces acting on an airplane in flight?
8. Which husband and wife team were founder members of the Wings pop group?
9. Which airlines sponsor a) Arsenal and b) Manchester City football clubs?
10. Orville and Wilbur (?) are generally credited with inventing, building, and flying the world's first successful airplane?
11. What is the name of the helicopter in Thomas The Tank Engine?
12. In aviation what is Mach 1?
13. In Greek mythology, Pegasus had wings. What kind of creature was Pegasus?

There is a pub outside Melton and a restaurant at Chatsworth called the Flying Childers. This refers to a legendary 18th-century British thoroughbred racehorse, widely considered the first truly great racehorse and the fastest horse in England during his time. Bred by Colonel Leonard Childers and owned by the Duke of Devonshire, he remained undefeated throughout his career and set records for speed

Hope you enjoyed it. Summer 2026



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