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# THRUXTON TIMES

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April 2026

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## From the Editor

Welcome to the April Issue of the Thruxton Parish Newsletter. Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Richard Munday, is stepping down after the May meeting as he will be re-locating out of the area. The council would like to thank him for his tireless work over the last few years for the Parish.

We will be seeking a new chairman to fill his big shoes over the coming months. We are still short of a full complement so please consider if you could give a few hours a month contributing to the community and apply to become a parish councillor. At a time when it feels like our communities are being impacted by decision makers elsewhere it is important we do whatever we can to protect and improve our little piece of heaven.

The government has announced that the new Unitary councils have been selected and TVBC was delighted to report that its preferred option of a Mid Hampshire rural council has been adopted. This will join Test Valley with the New Forest, Winchester and part of East Hampshire. This will hopefully help preserve the character of Andover and its surrounding villages.

We had a very good response to the recent Road Safety Survey with almost 50% of residents replying either online or by paper. Thank you to all those parishioners who replied, as this makes the application a much easier task to request to TVBC and Hampshire Highways to reduce the speed limits through the village.

## Diary Dates

### Thruxton Memorial Hall

**Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> Gardening Club**

7.15pm for 7.30pm

**Every week**

**Mondays**

**Board Game Group**

2pm - 4pm

**Wednesdays**

**Thruxton Loves Cake**

10am to midday

**'Library'**: whilst the telephone box library is temporarily not in use whilst undergoing repairs, a selection of books are available in the Hall on Wednesdays from 10am to midday.

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## Church Services

### St Peter & St Paul

**unless otherwise stated**

3<sup>rd</sup> May 9.00am Holy Communion

24<sup>th</sup> May 9.00am Morning Worship

31<sup>st</sup> May **Appleshaw** 11.00am

Benefice Holy Communion for

Trinity Sunday

7<sup>th</sup> June 9.00am Holy Communion

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**cont.**

The new door for the telephone box has arrived and is being made ready for its installation and arrangements are being sought to clean and re-paint the rest of the box. Hopefully all will be completed soon.

The never ending problem of the siting of the bin at the corner of Wiremead Lane and Amesbury Road has not been forgotten, and the council is still pursuing this with the relevant parties. We will prevail!

### **From the Editor, cont.**

Finally but not least, the Chairman gave community thanks to Ray Welch, the lengthsman, for his continued service to the village for the past 15 years. We wish Ray all the very best for the future.

### **Reminder!**

We still have a vacancy for a parish councillor, so please get in contact soon to avoid disappointment.

Please email the clerk in the first instance at [clerk@thruxtonparishcouncil](mailto:clerk@thruxtonparishcouncil)

Many thanks!

### **Parish Council Meeting April 2026**

The parish council met on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> April in the Memorial Hall. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Phil Lashbrook.

As usual, full Minutes will appear on the parish notice boards and website, but key issues discussed included:

**Public participation** – a parishioner asked if there was an update on the 30mph sign at the eastern end of the village. This matter is still progressing.

There is also an ongoing discussion about the obstructions residents have been placing on the grass verges on Stanbury Road, which can lead to damage to passing vehicles in the dark.

Cllr Donnolly is pursuing the matter with Hampshire Highways as there is not a simple solution as to how to deal with everyone's concerns.

- **County Councillor Report** - a third drainage pipe is due to be installed at Mullens Pond in the summer, which should empty directly into the brook. It is hoped that this will lead to less flooding in the future. Resurfacing works will also be undertaken at the same time on Amesbury Road.
- **Flooding** - There are currently no flood alerts and water levels were declining apart from one area where the level is nearly to the road.
- **Speed Awareness** – We have received a good response from residents and the data has now been collated. Hopefully this will support the council's application to reduce the speed limit through the village. Nearly 50% of residents responded and over 80% supported a reduction in the speed limit to 20mph in the areas highlighted in the survey. Traffic data received from the static cameras revealed that the average speed recorded was 26mph and an average maximum speed was 31.5mph. These results are good use for the application, as below 30mph will not then require additional street furniture, such as speed bumps and chicanes which are prohibitively expensive. The average cost just to reduce the speed signs could be in the region of £10,000. The new speed camera post and socket have been received and will be erected shortly. It is proposed that the sighting of the cameras be moved around the village on a regular basis to capture as much information as possible.

## Parish Council April Meeting, cont

- **Green Spaces** – The design for the new Jubilee Gate was presented to the meeting and the design will be added to the village website. It will also be made available to view at the Annual Parish Assembly on 11<sup>th</sup> May.

More funding will be needed and TVBC Community Engagement Team have been approached to help fund this.

Re-configuring of the slope and area around the new gate will hopefully be co-ordinated at the same time.

- **Play equipment** - Parish Council signage at the play area has been removed signifying that the play equipment is no longer the responsibility of the parish council and has been passed over to TVSFT. However, there is a small amount in the parish council budget to be allocated to the play equipment on an annual basis.
- **Roads and Footpaths** - the parish council approved reduction in height of a tree on the small triangle of grass at the corner of Church St, to height of 4ft and hollowed out to then be planted with seasonal flowers etc. Volunteers would be sought for the planting. The council would provide a budget for the purchase of plants. It was mentioned that cars at the top of Stanbury Road were resulting in the obstruction of view for overtaking cars.
- **Phone Box** - The new door is being painted and completion of the restoration is well underway, kindly being undertaken by Cllr Odling.

- **Fete Update** - Cllr Earp suggested that the Scarecrow competition could be repeated this year. He will seek parishioners views.
- **Clerks report** - the website has been transitioned to a 'gov.uk' domain, a requirement for all parish councils and councillors will receive their new emails addresses shortly. The Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) and auditors recommended that all parish councils use a professional accounting software package and this has now been implented.
- **Community thanks** - Ray Welch, the Lengthsman, was thanked for his long service of 15 years to the village. Sue and Martin King were thanked for the litter picking that they regularly undertake.

### Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Thruxton Parish Council will take place on **Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7pm in the Machin room, Thruxton Memorial Hall**

### The Annual Parish Assembly

This will take place after the above meeting and will be held in the **Main Hall at 8.30pm. All welcome.**

Speakers kindly confirmed:

Peter Christie on behalf of Kimpton Primary School

Alex Thistlethwayte - The Circuit and Airfield

Ben Taylor - BARC, CEF

Janet Wright - Pilhill Brook Assn



## From the Hall...

Earlier this week, the last teaspoon found it's home; the drill, hammers, silicone guns and paintbrushes left the building and the Trustees are thrilled to announce – our new kitchen is in, up and running!!

This has been a long and difficult journey, but one look at the wonderful new cupboards and cooker make it all worthwhile. This has been a mammoth task for Gill over the last year and we are all very grateful for her continual efforts and hard work. We are also grateful to everyone who came to our aid to remove everything from the kitchen prior to work starting and then putting it all back again!

In other news; our monthly Movie Night showed a surprisingly amazing film last month (I went expecting to be very ambivalent) but sadly there were so few to enjoy it with me. At £6, to see some of the latest films on a big screen has to be amazing value. Do think about joining us.

**We are celebrating the gardens of Thruxton again this year on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July.** If you would like to consider opening your garden for what has become an extraordinarily popular event, please contact Louise or Gill to find out what's involved at [info@thruxtonmemorialhall.org](mailto:info@thruxtonmemorialhall.org).

We move into summer with a full list of activities in the Hall, but there is always room for your party or wedding. Check out our website for availability and all the other things that we offer at [thruxtonmemorialhall.org](http://thruxtonmemorialhall.org)

## Board Game Group

**Every Monday 2.00pm - 4.00pm**

We are a very relaxed, friendly group. If you don't know how to play we would love to teach you or you may like to bring your own game and teach us. It's not about the playing but the company and chat over a nice cuppa.

All very welcome.

The board game group would like to say a big THANK YOU to all the people who facilitated us keeping going whilst the village hall kitchen was replaced. For the paper cups, bottled water and encouragement, thank you Gill. Your help was very much appreciated by us all.



## Thruxton Loves Cake!

**Every Wednesday 10am - 12.00**

This is a coffee morning for the village and surrounding areas held in Thruxton Memorial Hall.

Come along and enjoy a warm welcome, lots of tea, coffee, cakes and chat! We also have puzzles and books from the library to borrow, as it is still under repair.



## Gardening Club

**Wednesday, 29th April**



A date for your diary, please make a note and come along.

We will be having a talk by Mic Laird, the Chair of the Andover and District Beekeepers Association, who will be raising awareness of the Asian Hornet, a very important subject.

The doors open at 7.15pm and the talk starts at 7.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to join us.

For further information please contact Louise on 07944 746 849 or

[louise.cushine@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:louise.cushine@hotmail.co.uk).

## Friday Night is Movie Night

When you have money and a wish to re-unite your favourite band - what could possibly go wrong. This comedy is sure to send you home with a smile in your step.



**Thruxton Memorial Hall**  
**Friday 24 April**  
**7 for 7.30 £6 on the door**  
**Bar and ices**



## Thruxton Memorial Hall Annual General Meeting 5 May 7.30pm

All villagers are cordially invited to our  
AGM

This will be an excellent opportunity for you to meet the Trustees and visit our new kitchen.

Everyone is welcome to join us for brief presentations regarding the Hall's progress over the year and to join us for a glass of wine to celebrate the grand opening of our new kitchen.

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 **Please Don't Forget**  
**The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> May at 8.30pm in Thrupton Memorial Hall. This is when Thrupton Parish Council will give its annual report on its activities. There will be refreshments after the meeting.**

**The Chairman, Richard Munday, is stepping down at this meeting and it will be your chance to say goodbye as he and his wife are moving abroad.**

