

THORNEY SOCIETY

Charity number: 298235

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 117 – OCTOBER 2010

Pigeons Farm & The Thorney Society



Present



A Christmas Fayre

Sunday December 5th 2010

At Pigeons Farm

12.00 – 4.00pm

**Cakes, paintings, jewellery, mirrors, plants,
Christmas gifts, mistletoe and more!**

**Face painting, raffles, games,
and lots of children's activities**

Nativity Barn with live animals

**Around the Christmas tree we will have carol
singing with the Abbey children's singing group
from 4 pm with
mulled wine and mince pies available**

Log fire

Christmas Trees for sale

Hot food & Bar



Tel: 01733 271020
www.pigeonsfarm.co.uk
info@pigeonsfarm.co.uk

Heritage Tour in September- from Dorothy Halfhide

On the Sunday of the national Heritage Open days, now coordinated by English Heritage, a free guided tour of historic Thorney was led by Dorothy Halfhide. 29 people took advantage of the opportunity, some living in Thorney, others former residents or descendants of Thorney people, and a few who travelled from outside the Peterborough area.



After an introduction on the Green, we went into the Abbey and looked particularly at the Millennium Tapestry and the memorials. Then we went through the Park and talked about the Duke of Bedford cottages before losing a few people (temporarily) who took advantage of tea and cakes at Ancarig Tea Rooms. The group ended up at the Museum to learn more about the background to our tour. Due to good weather and a very congenial group, this was a lovely Sunday afternoon.

Wife Wanted:- *Advert appeared in The Stamford Mercury 3rd Feb 1797*
This enterprising Fenman was looking for a wife!

A Wife wanted immediately for a sober steady healthful man in a little way of business.

No Objection if a Dissenter,
Or to a little money in business to enter,
A healthful middle-aged woman, if neat,
With an indulgent husband she will meet;
If she dare venture to send a line,
She will get in return a Valentine.

To save Imposition and Mistakes being made,
There will only be answers to letters post paid.
Direct to Omicron, Mr Mason's, Holbeach,
Lincolnshire

*Taken from Fenland Notes and Queries Volume II
pg 202 [Jan. 1892, to Oct. 1894] - Michael Sly*

Roddons on the web:

from Dinah Smith

News! Our paper on roddons has attracted attention and a piece has been written for "Our Amazing Planet" website - if you use Google and put in "our amazing planet roddons" you will see what has been written. I was on the phone to America for over an hour! Boston Standard (Lincs) newspaper also ran an article about them and Radio Lincs FM and Rutland. Good for the Fens!



School re-union happened at the Golf Club, Sept 25th

70th Birthday of the Duke of Bedford School

What an evening! MANY people, and lots of interest in the display of school photos provided by the Thorney Society. Really good atmosphere and all credit to Jacquie Fryett (nee Beeby) and Joan Greer (nee Chapman) who organized everything.

Jacquie Crockett, the new Head of the school, kindly brought some school log books, and says she is planning for the 75th Birthday celebrations already in 2015. If you would like to write something about the best days of your life at school, or your crush on a teacher, or your favourite activity (or your most hated!), no more than a page but a sentence or two if that's appropriate. Drop them off at the Museum, the Post Office, or 108 Wisbech Road, so that we can start collecting your memories before you forget!

Film Animation Weekend, September 25th/26th

from Sean Riches

So very grateful for the input of all those who took part over the weekend of film making. Also a massive thank you to the North Level Drainage Board for the loan of their very special room. We achieved so much more than I ever dared to hope. Everyone who picked up a pair of scissors has added to the project. With the last few frames shot on the following Sunday, we think we have it all in the can. Thank you!

We will crack on with the edit as soon as possible. Then we will need to record and add the voices. Maybe yours?



Big thank-you to Sean who is working really hard on this exciting project, and involving some totally new people. Looking forward to the final result.

Museum Garden

Thank you Margaret Dewing and another member who have both donated plants for the garden at the side of the Museum. Gareth has left the front bed empty for the season because we would like to replace the old lavender (Victorian) but hesitate to spend the money until there is more news from the City Council about the replacement of the museum steps and some paviers.



Thorney Library

From Sue Squires

My first recollections of the village library were two bookcases covered in wire doors, locked and only open on certain days. It was definitely there in the mid 50s. Needing books for homework I used Peterborough library but had to pretend I lived with my grandmother in Park Crescent, Peterborough - no, she didn't own a house there but worked as a cook and housekeeper for a prestigious Peterborough family.

From Jean Little and Margaret Gerber:

When the school children moved to the new school in 1939/40, the hall on the left became the Social Centre- Margaret remembers going there to Youth Club. The room on the right (now the Library) was used as a baby clinic, where Mrs Berry helped the Doctor: both remember taking their children there after 1955/57. They think the Clinic moved to the Social Centre when the library came, and Ruth Stachue says she was going to baby clinic on the left side in 1961, in the current Social Centre.

Did you recognize the picture of the house along W isbech Road in the last issue? It looks a little different with grass all around - Dr Andrew and Janet Knights' home, formerly Mrs Rachael Berry's house.



Christmas presents for anyone interested?

Cromwell's Settlers: comment from St John Burkett

"Many thanks for using my photos in the book, they look excellent. A super little book which shows that the Society continues to go from strength to strength."

Order on the Society website or at the Post Office.
enquire@thornesociety.co.uk



DIARY DATES 2010–2011

Dec 1st (Wed)	"New Archaeological Discoveries": students of Peterb. University Centre will showcase their work. St John's Church, City Centre. 1pm, free.
Dec 5th (Sun)	Christmas Fayre at Pigeons Farm, 12-4pm. Children singing, 4.15pm. Entry: adults £2, children free
Dec 8th (Wed)	Dr Jonathan Larwood, Specialist in Geology and Palaeontology, will talk about the new GeoPeterborough Group, their aims and the importance of Peterborough's geology. St John's Church, 1pm, free.
Dec 11th (Sat)	Christmas Tree festival at the Abbey, on the theme of "The Spirit of Christmas". If you would like to be involved with this please ring Dorothy Halfhide on 270908. Ideas and help would be welcomed!
Feb 1st (Tue)	Subs are due. An early reminder!! The Post Office will help.
Mar 3rd (Tue)	Memorials in Towns and Villages, Tony Stubbs. By invitation of Friends of Broadway Cemetery (fee £2 for non members), 7.30pm, St Mark's Church Hall, Peterborough.
Mar 5th (Sat)	***** Thorney Society Dinner ***** The Committee has decided to change the timing of the date for the Annual Dinner because this has clashed with other local annual events, so the dinner will be in March - put the date in your diary! Booking information in the New Year when the menu is finalised.
April	Society AGM
April 24th	Easter Sunday - Museum opens for the new season.

We are pleased to welcome new members

Teresa Fowler of Wisbech St Mary, Mr and Mrs Jim O'Neill from Orchard Court, Mrs Jacqueline Hanratty of Wisbech Road.