

Thorpe History Group Newsletter

November 2013

This is the first newsletter of the Thorpe History Group. We hope to produce it on a regular basis to provide details of future events and feature items of interest about the history of Thorpe. Contributions would be welcome.

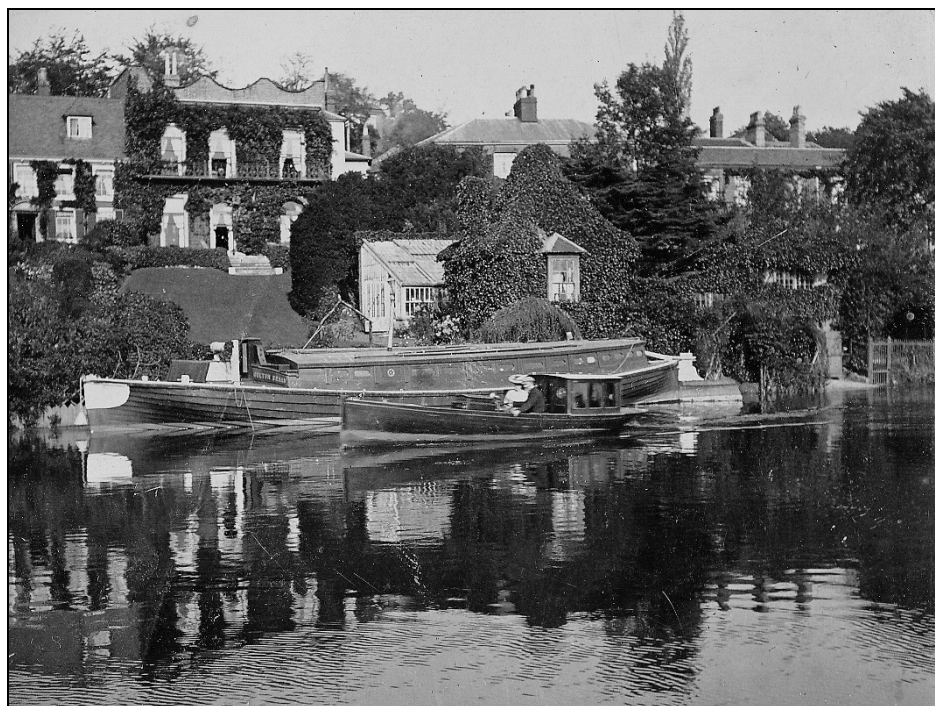
The inaugural meeting on Friday 18th October at the St Andrew Centre on Thunder Lane was attended by about 40 people and it was agreed to organise a series of events based upon suggestions made at the meeting and from the survey of those who attended. The steering group set up to coordinate things have drawn up a draft programme of events into 2014.

Our first event will be a talk on the History of the Rosary Cemetery on Thursday 14th November at the St Andrew Centre on Thunder Lane. To help with our costs there will be a charge of £3 per person.

Please note - the talk will take place at 8pm - not 7.30 as previously advertised.

Walpole House

The picture was taken around 1890 and shows members of the Hartridge family who lived in Walpole House (next to The Townhouse) with their wherry. The picture was donated to the Town Council's archive by their descendents, who moved from Thorpe many years ago, and who came across this and other pictures when clearing their mother's effects earlier this year. (We are grateful to the Thorpe Town Council for permission to use this picture)



What you told us

Thanks to everybody who completed the survey. Of about 40 people at the meeting nearly three quarters filled in the form. Three main areas of interest emerged - the rail crash of 1874, the war memorial and the things to do with the river including wherries. There were also several offers to give talks which we will be following up. There was a willingness on the part of all who responded to pay a modest subscription of £5 or £10 and we will consider whether to do this when we are more established.

Three members of the steering group have agreed to coordinate projects on those topics, so if you would like to help please contact them:

- John Balls will coordinate research on the war memorial and will be giving a talk on it next November.
- Joanna Barker will coordinate research on the rail crash
- Malcolm Martins will continue to digitise the Town Council archive.

Contact Details

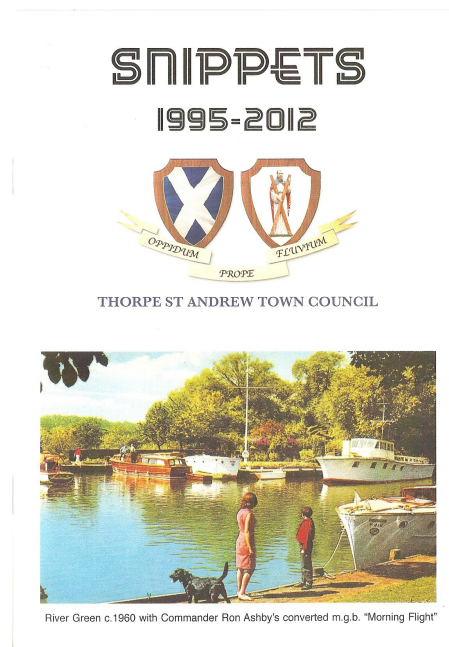
John Balls	01603 433712
Joanna Barker	01603 701587
Malcolm Martins	01603 437693

Snippets

If you don't already bought a copy 'Snippets' is well worth buying. Compiled by Malcolm Martins it is an update to the original Snippets published in 1995 to commemorate the centenary of the then Thorpe Parish council.

Malcolm has dipped into the council minutes from the last 17 years to provide a fascinating insight into the many and varied issues that have come before it. It is illustrated with images from the council's archive and includes a brochure produced by Caston builders when developing upper Thorpe.

Snippets, pictured, is available from the Town Council office by Sainsburys, priced £5.



Future Activities

As you can see the programme is rather brief at the moment but we are working to confirm speakers, dates and times for the talks and will keep you informed by email or post.

Date	Title	Venue	Time
Thursday 14th November 2013	Talk: History of the Rosary cemetery	St Andrew Centre, Thunder Lane	8pm
Friday 7th February 2014	Talk: St Andrews Hospital to be confirmed.	St Andrew Centre, Thunder Lane	7.30pm
April 2014	Talk: subject to be confirmed		
July 2014	Guided walk: to be confirmed		
September 2014	Heritage Open Day event: to be confirmed		
November 2014	Talk: The Thorpe War Memorial	To be confirmed	

Anybody wanting further details of the Thorpe History Group should contact Nick Williams on 01603 438766 or email him at Spinney72@aol.com