

Thursley Welcome Pack



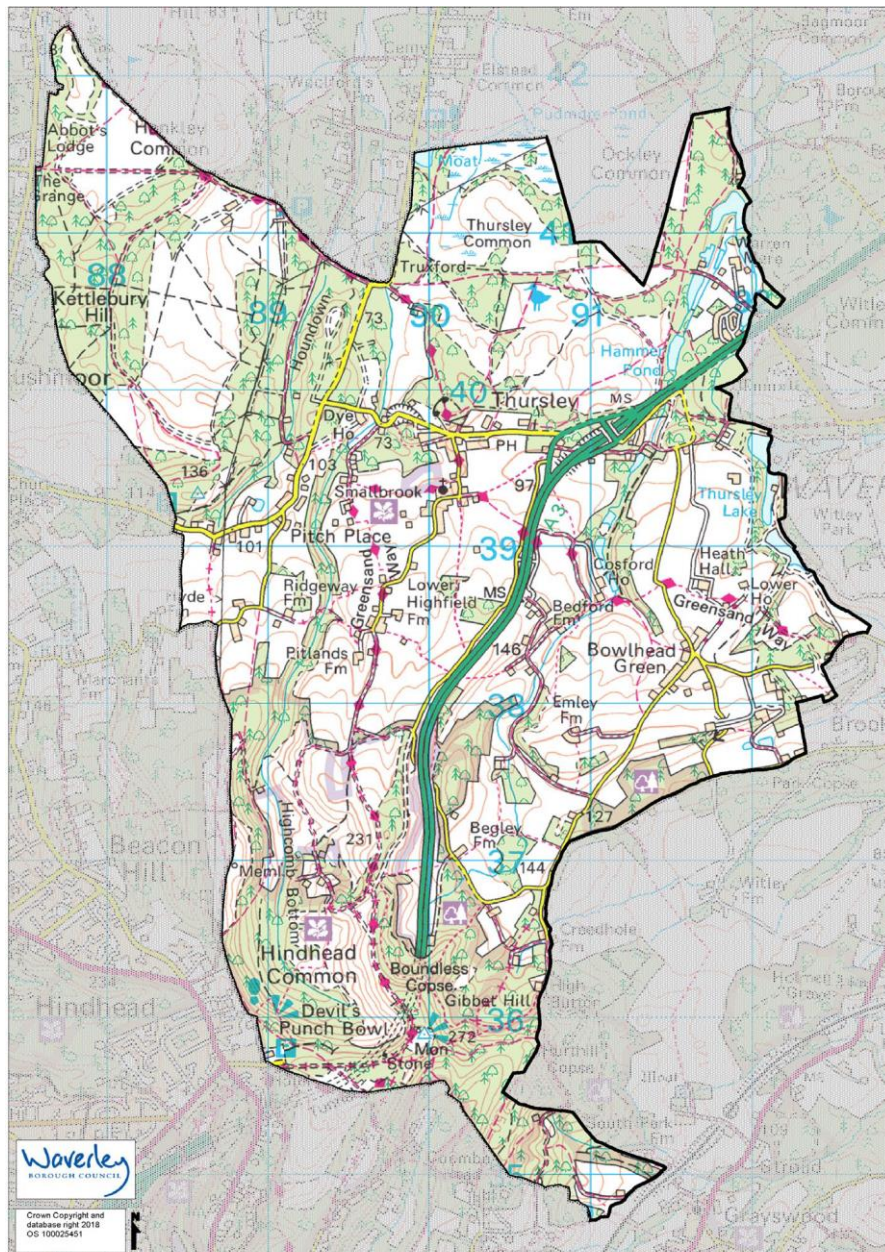
Thursley Welcome Pack

1.0 Introduction

Welcome to our parish! This document is intended to provide you with a brief introduction to the history and the facilities available in our parish.

2.0 Thursley Parish

Thursley has a comparatively small population (approx. 600) resident in one of the larger parishes (8 sq. miles) of the 21 in the Borough of Waverley, South West Surrey. The parish runs south from its border with Elstead Parish to the southern edge of the Devil's Punch Bowl near Hindhead. Many years ago, the parish boundaries of Thursley extended as far as Haslemere, but now they are curtailed. They run around Thursley Common, including Warren Mere, and cut across to Bowlhead Green almost to Brook, then back past Boundless Farm to the Devil's Punch Bowl. They then continue round the bowl to Pitch Place, down to Truxford and back on to the common again.



Thursley Welcome Pack

Thursley has a cricket green, a large recreation ground which allows parking and a play area upgraded in 2015 as a result of community funding. It attracts many visitors who come to see the village and the local commons via the extensive footpath and bridleway network. The Greensand Way runs through the parish. Bowlhead Green also has an attractive green and is more agricultural in character than Thursley. Pitch Place has Hankley Common to the north, the orchards and fruit farms to the south and tracks that lead to Hindhead Common and beyond.

In popular myth the name Thursley is of Scandinavian origin, meaning the “sacred grove of Thor”, the Norse god of thunder. In the 13th century it was recorded as “Thoresle” (Old English þunres leah), possibly referring to Thunor, the Saxon god of thunder. An outcrop of sandstone on a prominence on Thursley Common was believed to have been Thor’s Stone, created by a thunderbolt thrown by the god. This stone, the Cricklestone, now lies almost unknown since its reputation was transferred for literary purposes to a block of chert (alias the Pudstone) near Pudmore pond, in 1896 by the popular Victorian writer Baring-Gould in his book *The Broomsquire*.

The area has been settled for many centuries, with Neolithic and Bronze Age remains discovered around the Devils Punchbowl and on Thursley Common. The history of this part of England has been influenced by many invasions from the continent – first the Romans, then the Saxons and other tribes, then the Danes and more recently by the Normans (in 1066!). In earlier times, Thursley was part of the Manor of Witley. The Manor had many royal connections and dates back from before the Norman Conquest. Over the years the Manor passed through many different and illustrious owners including Kings, Queens, Earls, Lords and Baronets. Our history has been formed by the people and families that lived in the area through many centuries.

During the 15th and 16th centuries the woollen cloth industries flourished at Godalming. Although it was illegal to weave outside the cloth towns, two Surrey families, the Hookes and the Chittys, carried on the industry at Thursley. In the 17th century Thursley became a centre for iron smelting when the industry was flourishing with contracts from the Navy for cannon and shot. The iron mills were built near a brook on Thursley Common, which was widened in places to make the ponds, known as the Hammer Ponds.

Gradually the iron industry with its attendant occupation of charcoal burning died out, and by the end of the 18th century very little iron was worked. Thursley ironworks were the last to operate in Surrey. It is generally accepted that the first four cottages in The Lane were used as workshops connected with the industry, while the cottages above them were the dwelling houses of the workmen. The first metalled road was constructed in Thursley in 1749 and the Portsmouth road became a turnpike road in 1767 when travel by stagecoach became popular. The infamous murder of an unknown sailor in 1786 on this road is marked by a stone on Gibbet Hill. Naturally the Portsmouth road has always had its influence upon Thursley’s life.

St Michael & All Angels Church is of Saxon origin although it was enlarged and restored in 1860 and 1884. The building that now serves as the Village Hall was formerly the

Thursley Welcome Pack

school which replaced the Dame School in the churchyard. It was built of local bargate stone in 1843 and enlarged in 1854. After the school closed in 1959 it was decided to use the building as a community hall and money was raised by selling The Institute (now Prospect Cottage) and the site next to the Three Horseshoes Pub on which stood the old wooden village hall (now Tilhurst). The Institute was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, whose father leased The Cottage (now Street House). Lutyens also designed extensions to The Corner, opposite Street House. During both World Wars thousands of troops camped and exercised on Thursley Common. King Edward VII reviewed the troops on Thursley Common early in the twentieth century, a road being specially built for this occasion.

3.0 Local Church/Clubs/Amenities

St Michael & All Angels church and most of the local societies are based in Thursley and use the Village Hall. These include the Thursley Club, Fellowship, Cricket Club, Horticultural Society and History Society. Contact details for the church and clubs are detailed in the Thursley Parish magazine, which is easy to subscribe to (contact Tricia Horwood 01252 705171). There are also social events organised by the Thursley Village Hall committee.

There is a nursery for 1 to 5 years old children (Butterflies Nursery) which uses the Village Hall. If you are interested, contact them on 07827 786005.

Thursley Parish Council meets every month (except August) on the first Tuesday in Thursley Village Hall. Details about the Parish Councillors and recent minutes etc are on the website: <http://www.thursley-pc.gov.uk/>. If you want to be included on email distribution, send your details to Thursley Parish Clerk (thursley_pc@btinternet.com).

There is a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the parish, but it's best to register with Surrey Police's "In the Know" scheme (www.intheknow.community) where you can also register for Neighbourhood Watch.

There is no bus service in the parish, although there is the Waverley Hoppa service for Godalming that you could use. See the details about registering (free) at <http://www.hoppa.org.uk/> and the service schedule they offer.

You could also use Help in Thursley (HIT) www.helpinthursley.com which is a voluntary organisation which tries to link our village volunteers with those who ask for our help. It aims to fill the gaps left by existing services and not replace them. They can assist with transport to Doctors, Dentists, Hospital, Shops or indeed where you need to go. Call the Duty Officer on 07538 201276 and leave a message.

The nearest railway station is at Witley (for details of South Western train services call 0345-6000 650), although not all services stop at this station. All trains stop at Guildford, Godalming or Haslemere.

Thursley Welcome Pack

The local taxi services are:

- Godalming: Speedwell Taxis (01483-423333)
- Haslemere: Three Counties Taxis (01428-644321).

4.0 Local pubs, shops and suppliers

4.1 Pubs

The nearest pubs are the Three Horseshoes in Thursley, or the Dog and Pheasant in Brook, and they both offer nice food. There are several other pubs in the locality including The Cyder House Inn (Shackleford), The Mill (Elstead), The White Hart (Witley) and the Bel & Drago (Churt)

The Three Horseshoes Pub is a community owned pub 01252 703900

4.2 Shops

The nearest supermarkets are in Farnham (Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Lidl), Godalming (Sainsbury's, Waitrose) and Haslemere (Waitrose, Tesco, M&S). Slightly further afield, there are large supermarkets in Guildford (Tesco, Sainsbury's, Aldi) and in Aldershot (Tesco, Morrisons). There are useful local shops in Elstead, Milford, Farnham and Haslemere, and Guildford has many good shops and restaurants.

There are several take-away establishments locally. Two recommended ones are:

- Great Wall (Chinese take-away) in Hindhead (01428-606981).
- Pipasha's (Indian take-away and restaurant) in Churt (01428-712080).
- The Wharf (Indian Take-away) in Godalming (01483-422 555)
- Jeita (Lebanese Take-away) in Guildford (01483 567 813)
- Piazza Firenze (Italian) in Godalming (01483 418675)

You can arrange home milk delivery at Milk & More www.milkandmore.co.uk. Check if you are at an address they can deliver to. They also offer delivery of other groceries.

4.3 Doctors/Dentists/Pharmacies

The local doctors depend on which part of the parish you are in:

For Thursley: Springfield Surgery (01252-703122) in Upper Springfield, Elstead.

For Bowlhead Green: Witley Surgery (01428-682218) in Rake Lane, Witley.

There are dentists in Elstead (Elstead Dental Surgery), Milford (Hurst Farm Dental Practice), Witley (Witley Dental Surgery).

There are pharmacies in Milford and Witley, and Witley Surgery has its own pharmacy too.

4.4 Oil supplies

There are several oil suppliers and it often pays to shop around because rates vary. Try

Thursley Welcome Pack

- Boiler Juice (<https://www.boilerjuice.com/>)
- CPL Petroleum (0345 602 1106),
- Southern Counties Fuels (0345 600 4006)
- Linton Fuels (0345 600 6583).

The oil suppliers also offer servicing arrangements and various supply arrangements. There have been thefts of oil, so we would recommend you secure your tank (lockable cap) and fit a tank alarm.

4.5 Wood Supplies

The wood can be purchased from a number of local suppliers, but you could try

- Shepherd Forestry (01483-428956)
- Oxenford Farm (01252-702109).

For a local chimney sweep, try Brush Strokes (01252-734764)

4.6 Waste Collection/Disposal

The dustbins are emptied biweekly - waste one week, recyclables the following week, and food waste every week. The pickup day is fixed for the year but there are typically changes around Xmas and New Year. Your day depends on where you live in the parish – see details from Waverley BC. There is a black bin for normal waste, a blue bin for recyclables (see list from Waverley BC but includes paper, glass and plastic bottles and cans) and green bucket for compostable food waste. You are not permitted to dispose of garden waste in the bins, so must compost it at home, subscribe to Waverley's garden waste collections service or take it to the nearest Civil Amenity site in Witley. Glass, newspapers and most other materials can also be recycled at the Witley Civil Amenity site or at the collection bins at the local supermarkets.

4.7 Newsagents

Weekly and week-end newspapers can be delivered to some parts of the parish.

For Thursley: contact Adnan at snews.mags@gmail.com

For Bowlhead Green: contact T E Francis, Witley (01428-682102) who will deliver to the bus shelter on the village green (you make your own arrangements to collect from there).

4.8 Internet

If you live on the western side of the A3, you will be able to get the Fibre to the Cabinet (FTC) broadband option. If you live on the eastern side of the A3, you should be able to get Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) broadband option. Check with your internet service provider.

Thursley Welcome Pack

4.9 Parish Magazine

Thursley has a monthly Parish Magazine which is usually available to purchase in the Three Horseshoes, or you can sign up for a direct delivery for £7.50 a year please message Jo Kelly to sign up or contact the editor, Tricia Horwood 01252 705171)

5.0 Local Walks

We are fortunate in living in an area with plenty of footpaths and bridleways covering this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in the Surrey Hills. There are several circular walks from the centre of Thursley or Bowlhead Green, both short and long distance. There are descriptive maps that can be downloaded from the Thursley PC website (<https://www.thursley-pc.gov.uk/Walks.aspx>), Witley PC website (<https://witley-pc.gov.uk/parish-area/walks-in-the-parish/>) and the Fancy Free Walks website (<http://www.fancyfreewalks.org/SurreyWest.html>). A copy of the map showing local footpaths, bridleways and BOATs will be provided separately if you are interested.

Any problems with the paths, stiles or signposts should be reported to Surrey County Council at <https://rightsofway.surreycc.gov.uk/>. Alternatively you could report them to Thursley Parish Council Clerk (thursley_pc@btinternet.com).

Please respect the Country Code – keep dogs under control in the vicinity of livestock, take your litter home with you and remember it is an offence to pick or uproot any wildflowers. Please close all gates behind you.

6.0 In EMERGENCY

6.1 Hospitals

Call **NHS 111** if you need medical advice or to tell you which is the best local service to offer you the care you need. If you need an ambulance, please call **999**. For illnesses that are not life-threatening you should first contact your GP surgery.

The nearest A&E hospital is the Royal Surrey Hospital, Guildford, just off the A3 on the south-west side of Guildford. There is also an A&E department at Frimley Park Hospital, just off A331. Between 9am – 5pm Monday - Friday, minor injuries can be treated at the Haslemere Hospital.

6.2 Defibrillator

There are also Defibrillators in the centre of Thursley (old telephone kiosk), Pitch Place, Warren Park and Bowlhead Green (the old bus shelter on the village green). Remember you really need to have at least one person providing CPR to the person in need, and another one to get the Defibrillator. **Call the ambulance FIRST** and then apply heart

Thursley Welcome Pack

massage to the person. If you have someone who can go and fetch it, the ambulance service will know the cabinet code and tell you (**2165** and then press the tick symbol). The cover will then unlock, and you can open the top and remove the Defibrillator. Instructions to use are self-explanatory, or you can look online at:

<http://www.sja.org.uk/sja/first-aid-advice/first-aid-techniques/using-a--defibrillator-aed.aspx>

6.3 Parish Salt Bins

Thursley Parish Council has installed 5 new Salt bins in the following locations around Parish:

- Just downhill from the bridge on Bowlhead Green Road (towards Brook)
- Just downhill from the bridge on Beech Hill (towards Park Lane)
- By the southbound slip road off A3 at the Thursley junction (alongside French Lane)
- On the bend of Bedford Lane as you go up the hill (towards the Bedford Lane properties)
- On the bend up Highfield Lane on the bank

I'm sure you won't miss them as they are in tasteful green! They are full of salt/grit, so will hopefully help in case of snow/ice if we get any. The bin is secured with a combination padlock (code **2165**) to try to reduce the risk of theft, vandalism and misuse (you'd be surprised what some people do in Salt bins!). The padlock is a little fiddly to get back in position but I'm sure you can manage it by flexing the plastic "tab" it fits through. Please let us know (via the Clerk's tel number on the bin or email to me) if you have problems. We'd like to ensure the bin is kept locked if possible. There is a telescopic salt shovel inside (attached to the underside of the lid). This should help you spread the salt.

The guidance on salt/grit use is that it should be used sparingly. The salt will melt the snow/ice and create a de-icing liquid to melt other snow/ice. Using large quantities is just wasteful and would result in unnecessary salt run-off pollution to the verges. It's best used as a precaution when there is a risk of snow or ice, but I imagine it will mostly be used after a snowfall or to clear a build-up of ice. It's not very effective on large layers of snow. These are best removed by shovel/plough and then salt/grit spread on the underlying road.

7.0 Reporting Issues

7.1 Potholes, vegetation and blocked gulleys

Surrey CC are responsible for roads (potholes, blocked drains) and vegetation (fallen

Thursley Welcome Pack

trees, overgrowing verges) and have a good online site for reporting problems. Potholes are usually repaired within 7 days (but be prepared to be persistent). Blocked drains usually require a jetter, so it takes longer, but get it registered as an issue and it will eventually get sorted. See following link:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/do-it-online/report-it-online>

7.2 Flytipping, dead animals, nuisance dogs etc

Waverley BC are responsible for a number of services, but you are most likely to use Environmental Services (fly-tipping, dead animal removal, abandoned vehicle, missed refuse collection etc) and have a good online fault reporting system which should get the problem dealt with quickly. See following link:

<https://www.waverley.gov.uk/Services/Pay-Report-Apply/Report-it>

7.3 Police issues

There has been a huge change in policing requirements and resources in the past few years, but Surrey Police are trying to do “more with less”. They are organised into three teams to cover the requirements for our area.

- **Neighbourhood Patrol Team (NPT)** who are responsible for providing 24x7 response across the Borough. The officers are responsible for attending all incidents and investigating “volume crime” matters.
- **Specialist Neighbourhood Team (SNT)** who provide a local policing presence across the Borough and are responsible for local engagement activity.
- **Investigation and Specialist Teams.** The division has access to numerous investigation teams, such as Criminal Investigation Department, Sexual Offences Investigation Team and Major Crime Investigation Team.

Although there are questions about Police responsiveness in the current situation, we are encouraged to report all suspicious behaviour or crimes as it helps build a picture of what’s happening and direct resources to meet the demands. In summary:

- In an emergency, always dial **999** and ask for the Police.
- If the matter is not an emergency, dial **101** to speak to an operator.
- You can also use www.surrey.police.uk to report incidents online, or to find out information about policing in our neighbourhood.
- If you are worried about reprisals (eg drug/ASB issues) use Crimestoppers www.crimestoppers-uk.org .
- For local issues or concerns (but **not** to report a crime or to get hold of an officer for an update on a matter being investigated), the SNT can be contacted at Waverley@surrey.pnn.police.uk .

Thursley Welcome Pack

7.4 Power Outages

Power distribution in our area is by Scottish and Southern Power. They have recently been working hard to make the network more robust, but faults still sometimes happen. In emergency, you can call 0800 072 7282 to report it or check on status.