

Thursley Welcome Pack



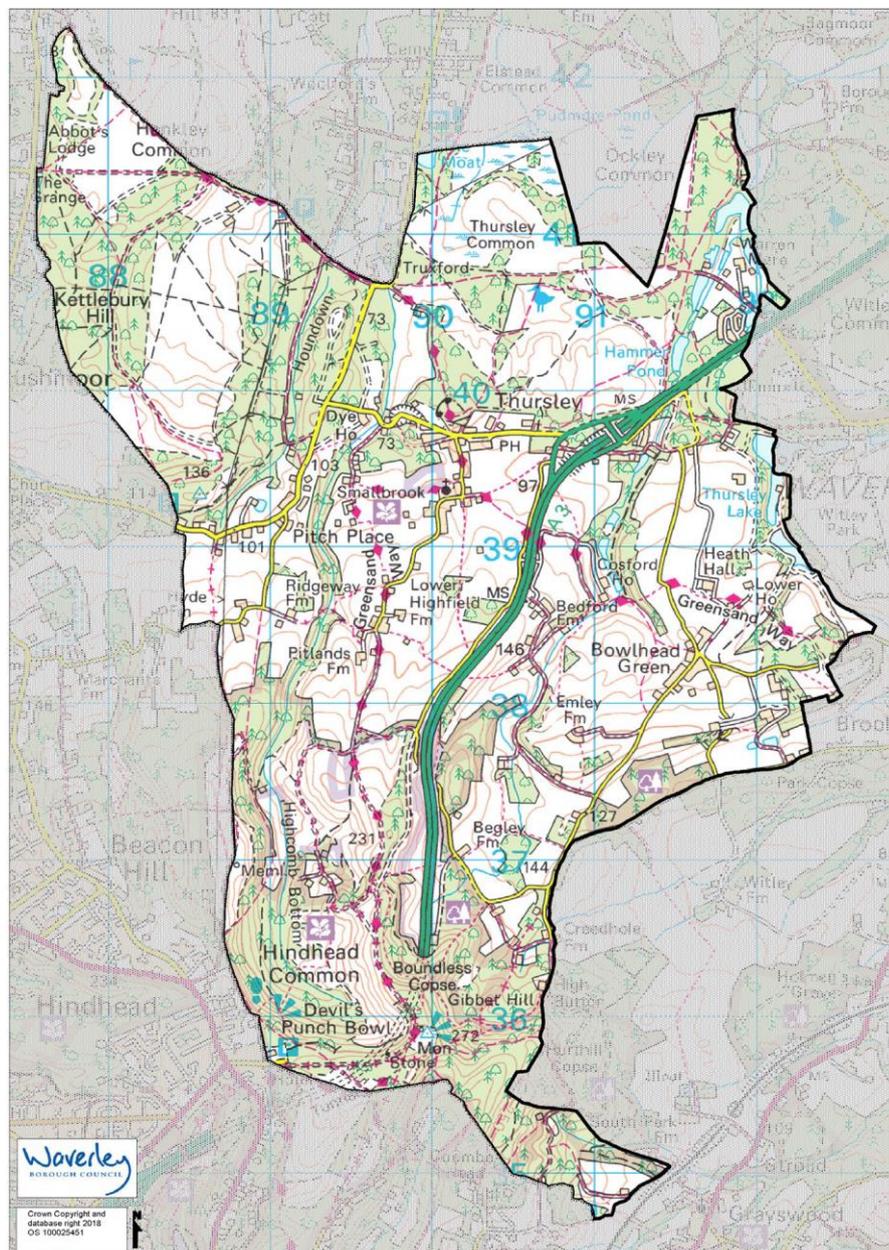
Thursley Welcome Pack

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.



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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*.

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 stage coach 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 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.

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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.helpinthurshley.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.

The local taxi services are:

- Godalming: Speedwell Taxis (01483-422222)
- 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 Elstead and in the locality.

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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. The Three Horseshoes has a shop too, and can order in for you if needed.

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).

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

- 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)

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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 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 slnews.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.

5.0 In EMERGENCY

The nearest A&E hospital is the Royal Surrey Hospital, Guildford, just off the A3 on the south-west side of Guildford.

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 apply heart 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 (It's 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 on line at:

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

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6.0 Reporting Faults

Potholes, Fly-tipping, Fallen Trees etc: Waverley BC has a good online fault reporting system which should get the problem dealt with quickly. See following link:

http://www.waverley.gov.uk/info/200313/about_your_council/921/report_it_online

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.