

Thornton Rust Institute



Chair: Sue Duffield | Secretary: Karen Raven

Newsletter | Issue 5 | August 2025

This newsletter enters its second year!

When the Institute Management Committee launched this newsletter a year ago, it was with the intention of providing quarterly updates and news directly from us to you. We have been delighted to see that the readership has continued to grow and to have received so much positive feedback. We always aim to keep the newsletter relevant and informative, so do continue to talk to any of the committee about things you'd like to hear about in future editions.

I am a natural organiser, so I enjoy being part of the committee as we plan and run activities, whether they are tried-and-tested events or new ones. It feels to me that over the last year we have offered a fantastic variety of events – and we still have a long list of ideas from the village we have yet to explore! It's a genuine joy and privilege to be able to contribute to our community in this way.

Rachel Newall

Dates for your diary

Things to look forward to in the coming months:

- **Afternoon tea** to say farewell to Carole Hudson, 2 pm on **Tuesday 2 September**. Please contact Karen Raven on 07557897747 if you'd like to come along
- **Macmillan Coffee Morning, 27 September**, 10.30 am. More details to follow in the September Thornton Rust Bulletin
- **Pie night, Saturday 25 October**, 7 pm. Save the date – details to follow
- **Skittles night, Saturday 15 November**. £10 per team, arrive 6.30 pm for a 7.00 pm start. Book via Martyn Donno on 01969 662649 or at martyn@donno.co.uk
- **Kennel Field Trust AGM**, 11 am on **Saturday 6 December**
- **Quiz Night**, 7 pm kick off on **Saturday 6 December**

Reminders and updates will be in the monthly Bulletin and the village WhatsApp group as usual.

What we are working on

Badminton, pickleball and whist continue to take place at the Institute on a regular basis, bringing in a steady and reliable income. We've also hosted two private parties and some business meetings (more on those at the end of this newsletter). Recently we hosted a flower-arranging demonstration which was very much enjoyed by all the people who attended.

Many of you will have noticed that the internal doors in the Institute are suffering at the moment. These beautiful wooden doors are part of the original fabric of the building, built in 1924, and the trustees of the Institute are keen to maintain their heritage. We have consulted with a range of experts about what is causing the disturbance to the paint, and are considering the options to treat and protect the doors for the next hundred years. It's important to us that we do this carefully, so please bear with us if the doors look a little sad for a while longer.

The new storage units have now been installed at the side of the Institute. The stock of sandbags – which are available for all villagers to use – have been moved into the units and are better protected from the weather. Work has also been carried out at the rear of the hall to provide screening for neighbouring houses and to allow some wildflowers to grow around the edges.



The weather might not have been brilliant, but that did not prevent the village barbeque from going ahead in June. The two Tims (McQueen and Kilvington) smiled and cooked on like professionals, whilst others stayed out of the wind and rain to prepare salads, potatoes and puddings.

It was a fantastically fun occasion and we had a full village hall for the evening. Something to repeat next year (is it possible to pre-order sunshine...?!)

Hiring out the Institute

Did you know that the hall can be hired for business meetings? Over the past few months we've been pleased to welcome the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the Millennium Trust for some meetings. The Institute is an ideal meeting venue and we are exploring ways of better promoting the hall for this purpose. In the meantime please spread the word that the Institute can be booked for meetings at a very reasonable rate which includes a choice of room layouts, WiFi, heating and use of the well-equipped kitchen.

If you know anyone who might be interested in finding out more about availability, pricing, or to book the hall, they can contact the letting secretary Martyn Donno on 01969 662649 or at martyn@donno.co.uk.

And finally...

We are eternally grateful to all the people who have donated raffle prizes, loaned equipment, fetched & carried, shopped, baked, decorated, cooked, washed up, laid tables, printed posters and helped out in many other ways. We are always happy to have more volunteers for events but appreciate that it's not always possible for people to commit in advance. With that in mind, as the committee begins the detailed planning for forthcoming events, Rachel and/or Rob Newall will start requesting help for specific tasks via the village WhatsApp group. But don't let that stop you from reaching out to us if you spot something on the calendar you'd like to offer help with – we are always happy to hear from you!

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