

How well do you know Thornford?

The Lock-down Quiz.

This *family quiz* is designed to help local residents look at, appreciate and understand some of the village's interesting history during these unusual times.

The quiz can be obtained upon request by e-mail.

Contact paul@sherbornewalks.co.uk or voice mail: 07989 453966 leaving your name & e-mail address. Tell your friends it's available.

As you walk, or cycle, around during your daily exercise allowance, see how many of the questions you can answer.

You might want to take a pen/pencil & note pad with you. There is an answer sheet on the on-line version. To save paper, I would recommend viewing the quiz on a mobile phone as you walk around.

Please follow the rules of social distancing as you walk around. All answers can be easily seen.

The questions are in a rough sequence to make a logical walk or cycle route. It is a circular route starting near the building below, but you can decide where you want to start.

I hope you find it enjoyable, informative and interesting.



Pencil sketches: prepared by Dennis Roberts, 1994. Deceased friend and neighbour who loved the village.

Written and prepared by village resident Paul Birbeck, South West Region Blue Badge tour guide and Sherborne Walks Associate.

www.sherbornewalks.co.uk

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Background information.

Thornford is a very old village. It's name simply means 'ford where thorn trees grow', from Old English *thorn* and *ford*. Mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086) as *Torneford*, the village was one of the many possessions of the Bishop of Salisbury throughout the Medieval period.

After Henry VIII closed all the monasteries in 1539 the power of the church lessened. The Digby family became important land owners after they bought the Sherborne Castle Estates in the early 1600's and by the C19 had a significant impact on the village. The Wingfield-Digby family still own much of the land around the village.

The village history is very typical of many Dorset villages. Traditionally, most inhabitants were agricultural tenant farmers or labourers who were employed on the lands of wealthy landowners.

During the 1800's agricultural labourers were often small-scale craftsmen & traders. There were periods of wealth and opportunity, but also severe poverty.

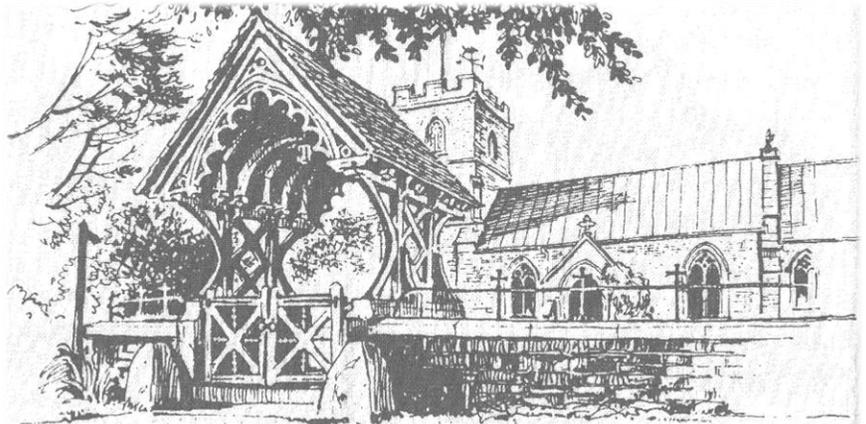
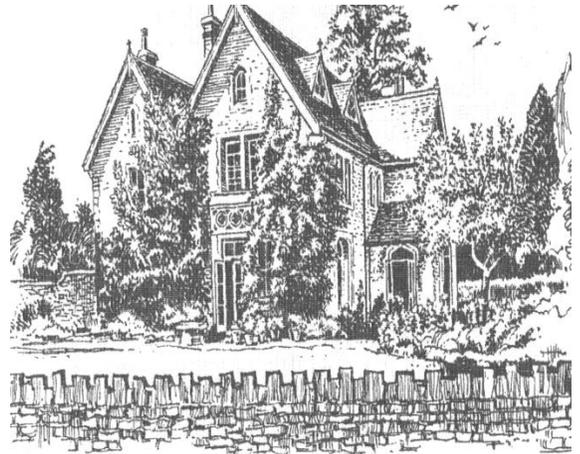
Villages were self-contained so members of the community provided services for each other. Some became carpenters, thatcher's, builders, butchers, wagon and cart makers, makers of farm tools & leather products like gloves. The introduction of farm machinery after the 1850's also encouraged new skills to develop and changes to the social structure of village society.

Some labourers could gain independence by renting a few cows and working a small acreage of coppice woodland. They cut rods, poles & brushwood which were sold to make spars, sheep cribs & hurdles: small profit but working for themselves. Tenants might also earn extra money supporting the land owners passion for sport like shooting, fishing and fox hunting. Honeycomb Wood, seen on the hillside south east of the village today is a legacy of this period.

During the early C20th mains water, sewage and electricity had arrived by the 1930's. The village extended in size after World War II when small cul-de-sac housing areas were developed off Pound Road - a process that continues into the C21st.

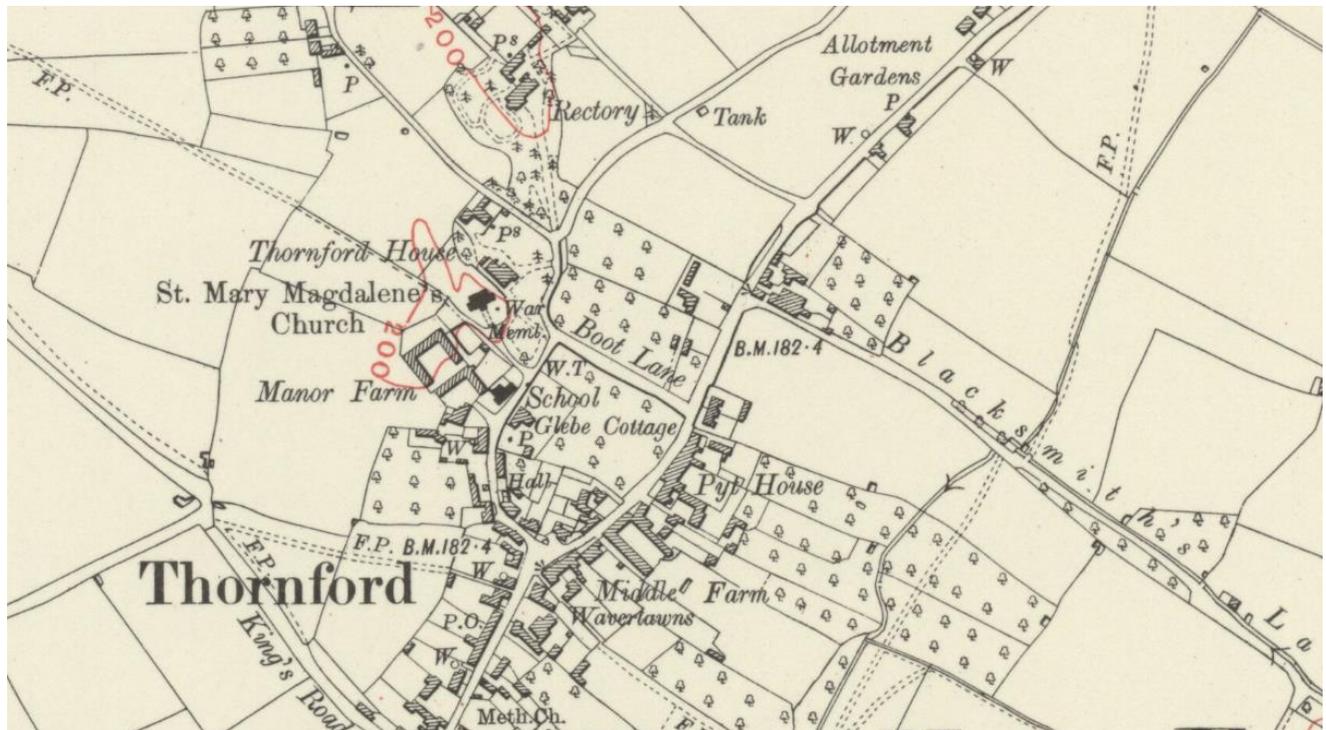
In the 1990's the oldest parts of the village were designated a Conservation Area, recognising the historical importance of many buildings.

These are called Listed buildings.



How well do you know Thornford?

- Q1 I have a wind vane and a VR metal finial structure on top. I was built in the heart of the village for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in what year?
- Q2 I'm Grade II listed. This means I am one of 28 protected features in the village. My entrance has a golden crown above the door and inside is cabinet No CHT – 9297. What am I used for today?
- Q3 During the early 1800's I was the Church's answer to a public house. The tenant was required to serve coffee to any person, villager or traveller. Upstairs were two large rooms where people could sit and read the paper, meet and socialise. A wall marker to the right of my name tells you I was built in 1796. What am I called?
- Q4 Name one of the five buildings that are built on the site of the old village hall after it closed in the late 1990's. The 1937 OS map below will help you find your way around. Today, we look old but the new village hall only dates from the 1990's.



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- Q5a Cottage numbers 423, 426 have what bird emblem and what is in its mouth?
5b. Many listed buildings in the village start with which number?
5c. What do the emblem and number mean?
- (There are more similar door signs around the village? Mark them on the map).
- Q6 I've stood silent and unnoticed next to a wall in Pound Lane since the 1880's. In the past I would spring into life and be running when pumped. What am I?
- Q7 I've got black and white glass frames, a straw hat, hazel twigs hanging over my entrance and a natural wooden porch. I was made from rubble in the late 1600's. What is my name?

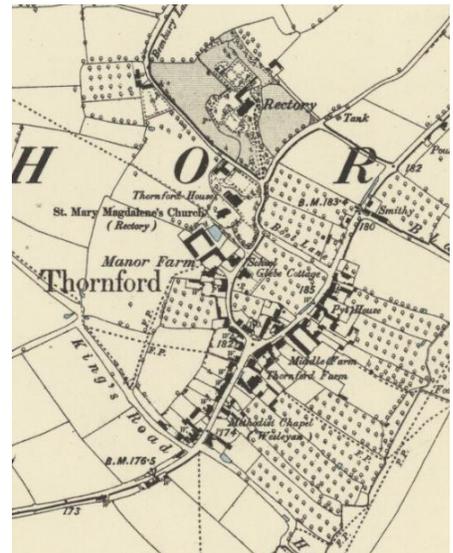
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- Q8 I'm newer than my next door neighbour and was built in what used to be their garden. I am in the land which would have supported the parish priest. What is my name today?
- Q9 I was built in 1862 and am a typical Victorian double gable fronted building with attractive red tile patterns. I was closed in 1975 when my modern replacement was opened. Today, my name gives a clue to what I used to be. What am I?
- Q10 I'm a very distinctive C15th perpendicular style building with bright blue guttering and a lych gate. My towering music can heard around the village and I can clearly be seen from across the fields to the north and west of the village. What is my name?
- Q11. Why is Serjeant Gilbert George Lane remembered in the village?
- Q12. My grounds are full of stone monuments and crosses. To the right of the doorway porch is a rare example of a "Tithe Tomb", with a hollow like a small basin in the top. In the past, tenants placed five shillings to prevent the Lord of the Manor taking tithes of hay during the year. Where are we?
- Q13. Scattered around the village, we could be Manor, Lower, Greenhill, Middle or Thornford. What do we have in common?
- Q14 I can be facing left or right but am always in the same position. We are particularly common as you walk along Blacksmith Lane and Longford Road. Where do you see these grey 'rifle' markers throughout the village? Do you know what they mean?



(The yellow line roughly shows my outline)

- Q15. We are varieties that included Fillbarrel and Cap of Liberty. Our small bright red fruit are shown to be flourishing in the fields marked with dots behind the black village houses shown on the 1902 O.S. map. (This map will help you answer a number of questions). The name of the first bungalow on the left as you enter The Drove also gives a juicy clue, but what are we?



For a longer walk, answer Q16. Go into *enaL yrubmeB* but don't do it backwards!

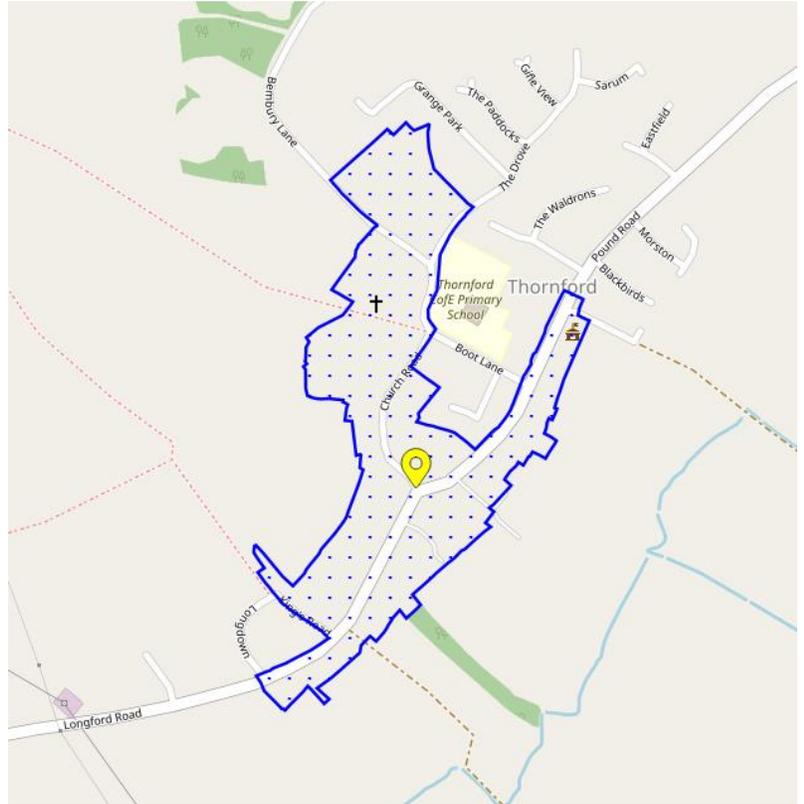
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- Q16 I was working in 1751 when a leat provided power to work my wheel, but by 1860 I was left unused after being damaged by a flood. Today only a weir, a footbridge and a nearby house name tell you what I used to be. What was I?

Or, walk into The Drove and at the metal railings turn right down the alley to The Waldrons and onto Pound Road. You're now on the edge of Thornford conservation area. (Marked blue on map)

Enjoy the variety of buildings and house styles.

- Q17 Explore the new Village Hall, Cricket Club & find the play ground area. Whose Golden Jubilee in 2002 does the attractive metal entrance celebrate?
- Q18 In the late 1900's there were two village shops. The bungalow on the corner of Pound Road and Boot Lane, opposite the car park entrance to the Village Hall, used to be a local shop and village sub-Post Office.

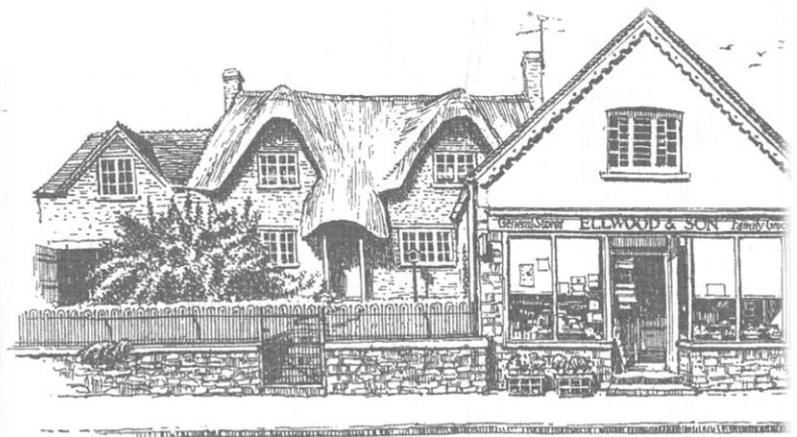


Today, further along the road, Sandy and Brian are important members of village life and community as they keep the other village shop open and have taken over PO duties. What is it's name?

- Q19 As you pass though the village on Pound Road, look up when you see the red bricks and you'll see my total is 21. In what year was I made? We are old Victorian farmworkers homes. *The next 200 metres is also a good area to answer Q13.*

The line of four cottages opposite Boot Lane were built on the site of the old village pub called The Old Boot, hence the name Boot Lane opposite.

- Q20 Carron Company from Stirlingshire gets emptied throughout the week. Who was the monarch (king or queen) when this was made?



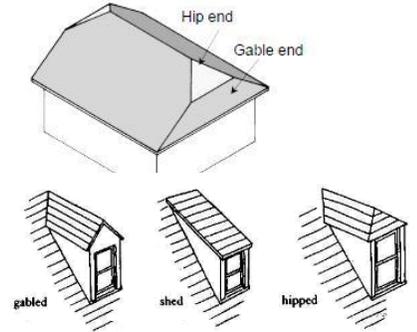
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Q21 To answer this question you need to know about parts of a house façade. Don't be put off, just read the red definitions as you look at the buildings along Longford Road.

We are a pair of typical C19 village properties, both shown on the 1902 map and are in the Conservation area.

We have *half-hipped* and *gabled ends* on top with two *gabled dormer windows*. (Look at the pictures opposite)

One of us has 3-light wood casements with glazing-bars, and two 2-light wood casements with glazing-bars in gabled half-dormers, (*Casements are windows that swing open on a hinge from a frame. Sash windows slide up and down*)



The other of us has a square bay window each side of the front door. *A bay window is a window space projecting outward from the main walls of a building and forming a bay in a room.* 3-light C19 casements, Gabled half-dormer windows have 2-light Yorkshire sliding-sashes with ornamental bressumers under the thatch. *A bressumer is a 'load bearing beam' which supports a building feature like a bay window or porch.* The front door at centre, is flush-panelled with 2 top lights, up steps. Gabled wood porch with carved bressumer.

Which number houses are we on Longford Road?

- Q22 John Wesley's message to the poor and low paid workers caused a number to be built in many Dorset villages during the 1800's. What was I before being converted to a residential property?
- Q23 Locals use me to relax, dig up the past and grow fresh fruit and veg. What am I? (You'll find another example of Q14 near my entrance).
- Q24 I am no longer able to serve you but can still get a mechanical health check here. You'll need to cross Longdown to reach me. What is the name of the petrol company that I used to sell and who owns me?
- Q25 After all that excitement you might need to turn around and book your drink or meal with Matt and Robbie. Take care not to be skittled over. Where do you need to go ?

If you want to check your answers, send them to me at paul@sherbornewalks.co.uk. They are also available at www.sherbornewalks.co.uk website where more background information can be found.

I would greatly appreciate any corrections or further information you may be able to provide. Once life returns to normal I would greatly appreciate an opportunity to meet with anyone who has stories, photographs and documents relating to village history.

After the lockdown is relaxed donations will be collected and donated to our NHS staff.

Thank you for joining our local community.

How well do you know Thornford?

Name:

Contact address/e-mail

Question No.	Answer
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