

North Thoresby 1940s Event

Information for Re-enactors

Main Events: Sunday August 26th - Monday August 27th 2018. Forties Dance on Saturday 25th.

North Thoresby is a historic village dating from Viking times in the ninth century, located just off the A16 between Louth and Grimsby in N.E. Lincolnshire. Louth is an attractive market town and well worth a visit. The coast is nearby and has attractive beaches and the visitor-friendly holiday resorts of Cleethorpes (15 minutes), Mablethorpe (30 minutes) and Skegness (50 minutes). The county town, Lincoln, is an easy 45 minute drive away (no traffic-jams here).

One of the catalysts for the original event was the wartime tragedy of a Lancaster coming down in the village centre during World War Two. There is a memorial in the village green to the crew. The 1940s Event has run for 10 years or so and has recently undergone a renaissance and expansion with an attendance of over 8,000 over the two days in 2017. While it is a varied family occasion we want it to become a more 'genuine' 1940s Event and have successfully focused on increasing the heritage aspect of the event. There is also a 1940s dance on the Saturday before the main event - tickets available in advance if you would like to attend - its always sold-out. The Event runs from 10-4.30 each day; the village is closed to traffic from 9-5. Re-enactors can set up on the Saturday evening or from 7.30 on Sunday morning. Generally, everyone leaves after the event on Monday, but arrangements are possible to stay on the cricket field on Monday evening. If you wish to stay in the area to visit the area - there are dozens of sites to choose from

The village centre - population about 1200 - is closed to traffic over the two days of August Bank Holiday. The village site is ideal for such an event with The Square and its seventeenth and eighteenth century buildings, at the heart of things with seating, music, dancing and entertainment, food and drink outlets, vintage vehicles, over 40 stalls on the village green, along the road and in the village hall. The Play Park is another large open space - this year, it is the prime site for re-enactors, their tents etc - and there is a nice walk through the village to the medieval St Helen's Church - another centre of activity. There are public toilets in the village centre as well as in the village hall.

We have a steam railway which runs trains to the next village. The New Inn is located next to the station and another focus for entertainment and stalls. A vintage coach takes passengers from the village centre to the station and New Inn, and pony and trap rides go from the Square to St Helens.

As well as The New Inn, there is another pub, The Half Way House, a small but well-stocked supermarket in the Square and a Post Office. Many residents set up their own personal stalls in their drives and this adds to the informal character of the occasion. The cricket field becomes the car park and a place for 'overnighting' if visitors have camper vans or caravans - the pavilion provides water and electricity - or visiting re-enactors can camp in the Play Park near their displays, equipment etc.

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