

NOTES FROM THORNHAM

Delivery drivers and visitors can be forgiven for their confusion at the seemingly arbitrary numbers attached to many of the older cottages in the Thornhams and surrounding villages. These are in fact estate numbers, allocated to the tied cottages once owned by the Hennikers and lived in by workers at



Thornham Hall, on the Estate and on tenanted farms. The numbers were invaluable for the organisation of rents, repairs, leases and so on.

Starting with number one in Thorndon High Street the numbers march in an orderly manner through Braiseworth, Mellis, Stoke Ash and possibly other surrounding villages. At about 169 they enter Thornham Magna, before ending in the 220s in Thornham Parva.

Originally all the Estate cottages were painted Suffolk pink and were marked with small oval plates screwed to front doors. The plate for 219 shown here is a rare survivor. Other pictures show the glorious variety of later replacements on just a few of the cottages continuing to use their old numbers.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS IN THORNHAM ● **Sunday 3rd:** Zillionaires and refreshments, Village Hall, 4-7, free ● **Friday 8th:** Tour of Britain cycle race, Magna approx 12.19, Parva approx 12.23 ● **Tuesday 12th:** Magna Village Meeting, 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Clerk Tina Schwarz 01379 788207 ● **Saturday 16th:** Tabletop sale, Village Hall ● **Friday 29th:** Village Hall film, 7.30, £5, *Their Finest*