



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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BULLETIN FOR AUGUST 2020

Welcome back to those not on email – Thanks to two of our members, we are pleased to be able to recommence our minute deliveries to people who are not on email so welcome back to you! For those who have been happy to give us an email address to use in the last few months, and to those to whom we have sent minutes by facebook messenger, we thank you and hope that you are happy for that to continue, as it makes it a lot easier for us with copying and deliveries. If you are NOT happy with this though, please let us know. Also, for those who are just back with us and paper copies, we are not collecting membership monies this year because of the need to go door to door and collect coinage. We are, however, happy to take donations direct to our bank account. Please contact Nita if you want details.

Monthly litter pick total - 115 against 95 bags for the same month last year.

13 bags of **flytipping** were found within the woodland, moved and then reported to NWLDC and Coalville Police. These consisted of drug-manufacturing related waste, which stank of weed, and was mostly plant off-cuts, empty bottles and cans.

Belton Litter Pickers have continued to do a fortnightly litter pick in the woodlands and down to the priory, but are now changing this to monthly. They have collected a good amount of rubbish, for which we thank them.

Coalville Tip reopens on 4 August with booking having been available from 24 July.

A litter campaign called <https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/dont-trash-our-future/> is available on line. This is a petition page with an aim to

- increase the maximum punishment for littering to a £1,000 fine or 100 hours of supervised community litter picking
- make it compulsory for local authorities to enforce the law on littering

If you are interested in signing this petition, please go on line and vote.

New litter signage was available from the council telling people that a local group had cleared an area. Nita asked for 2 of these, one for the streets, and one for the woodland, but got one, and after consulting the litter pickers, the sign was put up on the hard standing area on Turlough Road/Warren Lane, where there is always a lot of car parking and fast food dumped. Ann has ordered another one for **Gracedieu**.

On the subject of Gracedieu, Nita got a tweet from someone on 20 July saying that there were **trees down** and one blocking the path to the priory. Nita told Ann, and the Gracedieu estates team were brought in to remove the ash tree.

Great British September Clean – this litter picking campaign runs from 11-27 September. We will continue to litter pick as normal but if anybody wants to come along and join us, please let Nita know.



There is now a 131 metre **metal fence running** along the side of the path from the Bull's Head down to the cattle arch to protect people from falling when using the age-old cut through along the top of the lime quarry. This has been used for decades by locals, but as a result of health and safety concerns, and the fact that previous wooden fencing was removed by folk, the new green metal fence has been erected.

Well done to the residents of **Old School House** for being nominated as local heroes by NWLDC for their good humour during the recent lockdown.

During lockdown **The Old School House**, the team there have transformed one of the lounges and dining rooms into a live lounge and bar. After lots of blood sweat and tears they are finally finished, and would like to thank the staff for their work, and others for donations especially Aidy Di Gregorio , Stuart Turner, John Baker, The Birch Tree, Whitwick Constitutional Club ,The Blue Boar, The Bull's Head Thringstone, The Needle and Pin Loughborough, The Monastery Whitwick and Quackers.

Cricket started again at **Grace Dieu Park Cricket Club** on 11 July with a friendly amongst players. It seemed a little strange that the club house and changing rooms had to remain shut, but they all seemed to cope well.

Football training has also restarted on the Homestead Road pitch with 2 matches booked in (see community what's on). Sponsor for the next 2 seasons is **Ruby's Fish and Chip Shop**. The Miners Welfare have also said they are going to be putting on a **carol event on 18 December**, so FoT has decided to join in with that one this year rather than arrange something else, especially seeing as there might also be one at Gracedieu, and we didn't feel that the village can cope with 3 such events. There will be a lit Christmas tree, Santa's grotto and free refreshments.

Methodist Chapel – if anybody is willing to help the chapel with cleaning as a result of the covid situation, please let us know, as there are now far more cleaning regulations for such facilities, and a regular rota will probably be needed.

Centre News: On 4 July, Ruby's provided sausage and chips for lunch for vulnerable people in the village, which were delivered by volunteers from the centre. Thank you to all concerned. The panto society had a clear out of all their unwanted scenery, and made 'the prettiest skip' on 11 July.

20 July saw the opening of the new pre-school and holiday club at the centre. This was widely advertised and seems to have been well supported.

Whilst no official communication has been forthcoming, we believe that the centre staff are continuing to look to put together plans for reopening the centre to groups like ours, but appreciate that many groups may have severe concerns and reservations about coming to the centre in the remaining part of the year. Once more information is available, we will let everybody know.

Chairs Report

Letters received: None

Emails received: Various from people with whom we regularly share information.

Promotion: We have **652 twitter followers**, which is 8 more than last month, and **1,368 facebook followers**, which is 28 more than last month.

Other: Completed a **survey from NWLDC** on how the covid situation has changed FoT (no newsletter, meetings, updates to people not on email, no membership monies collected) and what may change permanently as a result.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,182.69		
Income		Expenditure	
Donations	£100	Broadband	15.00



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total income to general fund £100

	£15
Total general fund at month end	2267.69

Publications Report

N/A

Web Report

The webmaster is still trying to get us extra space to continue his updating of the site.

Police Report

6 July – Three police cars blocked off **Henson's Lane** and were seen to be taking someone away. There continues to be an intermittent police presence on the **Woodside estate**.

Burglary 13-20 July - Fortnam Close - Unknown suspect has forced lock to garden shed and stolen road cycle. Suspect cut lock to gain entry.

Lady at 85 **Melrose Road** had a house fire when her fuse box blew up, meaning she and her children (and dog) are unable to return home for some time. We have asked the family if there is anything we can do, spoken to Rubys and Select and Save and arranged some food help via the Community Centre's team. We have also been contacted by the tenancy welfare team at NWLDC to see what else we can do between us.

Community Report and What's On

Thringstone Miners Welfare are running a car boot on 8 August from 8am. Admission £1. Cars £5, vans £10, car and trailer £10. All welcome.

On 9 August at 10.30am there will be a friendly **football match** at the Miners Welfare FC between Broomleys FC and Fullhurst and on 16 August a friendly between Broomleys FC and Kegworth..

5-9 Sept **Hello Heritage** in Thringstone – look at the boards around the village and find out more about the history of Thringstone.

18 Dec – **Carols at Miners Welfare**. Procession will run from St Andrew's at 6.30pm to get to the Miners Welfare for 7pm. Refreshments will be available, there will be a Santa grotto and a Christmas tree with lights.

History report

- There has been a new online issue of articles from **Burton Chronicle**, and from that we have discovered that, in addition to a large number of assaults and pub fights, in April 1860, **William Watson**, alias 'The Duke', of Thringstone was imprisoned for one month for being a pickpocket at a pub in the village. William appears to have been a married coal miner, born around 1823 at Staunton Harold. By 1881 he was living at St Mary's Terrace, just inside the Whitwick boundary.
- In 1866, the same newspaper reported that James Hopper, landlord of **Queen's Head** charged William Tugley with assault on 10 Sept. Mr Tugley was being violent in the pub, and the landlord felt disposed to intervene and got hit a violent blow during which his 'face was skinned'. Mr Tugley was fined £1 with costs of 14 shillings or 14 days imprisonment.
- From the same paper, in August 1868, **John Potter** was sentenced to 2 months' hard labour for non payment of a bastardy order which should have seen him pay for an illegitimate child. This is the same John Potter, groom, who was on trial for trying to murder his girlfriend Sarah Ann North in 1864, by cutting her throat with a razor in Whitwick Market place, as featured in previous minutes. The Potter family were horse dealers on Talbot Lane.
- The Leicester Chronicle tells that in October 1873, **Prime Minister William Gladstone** spent 3 days at Grace Dieu Manor staying with the de Lisle family. During his time there, he visited the priory and Mt St Bernard Abbey.,
- Again from Burton Chronicle, in May 1910, notice was served on coal miner **Joseph Haywood** of Thringstone who lived in a cottage on Talbot Lane which was overcrowded. The report says that



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the property had 2 bedrooms, but was occupied by Mr Haywood and his wife and 10 children. The 1911 census tells us that Joseph was married to Sarah Ann nee Gill, and his children were Herbert, Frederick, Arthur, Lilly, Maude, Joseph, Sarah Ann, Daisy, Isaiah and Albert, who ranged in ages from 20 to 2. The couple had had 13 children in total by that time, of which one had died and had at one time been living in Bauble Yard.

- Another article from July 1910 shows that Thringstone had **5 orphaned children** who had been boarded out to foster homes by the Board of Guardians. Finally, in March 1910, Thringstone reported one case of **scarlatina** and one of **enteric fever**. The article says that Thringstone had also seen an epidemic of measles in 1908 and into early 1909.
- Like the rest of the UK, between **July and September 1911**, Thringstone was affected by the oppressive heat wave which saw temperatures across the UK soar to a maximum of 98 degrees Fahrenheit. Agriculture was affected as crops withered, dairy farmers saw milk yields reduce, there was a water shortage, and food spoiled easily and turned rancid causing problems for local families. The heat wave ended on 11 September when the temperature went down by 20 degrees Fahrenheit and rain spread across the country.
- In March 1924, **Frederick Hawkins and Annie Elizabeth Shaw** were married at St Andrew's. What was different about this wedding was the fact that both parties were deaf and dumb. The service engaged the help of an interpreter. Mr Hawkins was a well known local cricketer and carpenter. By 1939 the couple and their children were living at 34 George Street, Whitwick.
- **General strike of 1926** - a newspaper report in the Leicester Chronicle from 26 June talked about the terrible problems affecting the children of miners in Thringstone as many families who had 7 or 8 children were unable to feed them, despite dinners being provided at Thringstone House with food being cooked in the miners' families' own homes. It also reported that 6 young miners from Thringstone had joined the Army as they had been unable to pay their board. **The Daily Herald** reported on 7 June 1926 that hundreds of **miners** from Coalville, Whitwick and Thringstone who were part of the general strike marched on Ashby Workhouse to ask for help, headed by a band. The strike pay of £1 a week plus 2 shillings for each dependent child had been cut in half, and people were unable to cope.
- Nita found an article in the Leicester Chronicle from March 1927 relating to **Maurice Reginald Allen and his wife Rhoda Alice** who lived in Thringstone, and were the first people from the Coalville area to emigrate to Canada. They left shortly after their wedding. Mr Henry and Mrs Theresa Wheat, (her parents) also went with them. Mr Allen was a farmer. The banns index for St Andrew's show that they married there. Their son Harry was born on 16 Oct 1927 in Saskatchewan, Theresa Wheat died 15 August 1958 and Harry on 31 August 1971 both in British Columbia, whilst Maurice died on 12 September 1970 in Victoria, British Columbia and Rhoda sometime after 1988.
- The Leicester Chronicle states that in July 1927, over 100 members of the Leicester Guild of Cripples were taken by car by Leicestershire Automobile club for a trip round Charnwood to end with tea at **Gracedieu Manor**, courtesy of Mary Booth.
- Again from the Leicester Chronicle, in April 1928, **PC Ford** of Thringstone was presented with a grandfather clock with Westminster chimes from the people of Coleorton and Swannington where he was stationed from 1921-27.
- A notice in The Daily Herald says a caravan came to **The Green** on 19 July 1928 along with Ernest Winterton who was the prospective Labour candidate for Loughborough. He appears to have been a landlord in Market Place, Loughborough.
- In August 1929, according to the Leicester Chronicle, there were 6 cases of **smallpox** recorded from one house in Thringstone in a week. They were taken to Snarestone Smallpox Hospital. Vaccination was offered to other members of the household, but declined.
- From the **Leicester Daily Mail** of 30 October 1931 comes the story of **Daisy Smith**, aged 17. Staying with her grandmother in Thringstone, she applied for a job as maid to Ada Blythe of Coalville. Whilst there she saw a diamond ring, tried it on, and then found herself unable to put it back when her employer returned. As the prosecution pointed out that she had escaped from a



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children's home in Leicester a few days earlier to go to her grandmothers, it was felt that she should go back to a home, and was sent to another home for 2 years during which it was hoped that her desire for fine things could be changed and all she needed was discipline.

- From the Nottingham Journal - In May 1934, **Bertha Leonora Pollard**, aged 4, who was never sent on errands by her parents, was sent by someone else and was knocked down by a lorry, and killed crossing a main road. The inquest said that she lived at 17 Council Houses, Thringstone and died from a fractured skull. The child's mother was heard to have asked why her daughter was sent on an errand which involved crossing 2 main roads. Mrs Selina Upton who kept a greengrocers' shop on The Green said that 2 girls had been into her shop and asked if they could run errands. She told one to fetch some tea, then she heard a commotion and went out to see one of the children lying in the road. The lorry driver, a man from Nottingham, said he did not see the child until she ran out in front of him, having come from behind a bus. He swerved to the left onto The Green, to avoid the child, but looked round and saw the child lying in the road. A verdict of accidental death was recorded. In 1939, the Pollard family were living at 32 Loughborough Road, Thringstone, and may have lived there in 1934.
- In May 1934, the Leicester Chronicle reported that **Thomas Hibbens** from Main Street, aged 41, was out cycling with friends when he complained of a pain in his side. He had just finished the climb of a steep hill and collapsed and died. We are unable to find out more on this gent.
- An article of 5 June 1935 tells that Thomas Lovett of Thringstone went to court to sue **Coalville Co-operative Society** over the death of his wife, who he felt had died through eating poisoned brawn. It was proven that she died through kidney failure, but since his 4 children were also ill, he was awarded 4 shillings in expenses. By 1939 he was living at Brooks Lane, Whitwick.
- The Illustrated Leicester Chronicle of 20 April 1935 reports a terrible stench and water supply issues to **30 council houses**, housing 72 adults and there only being a pump for 15 of these. Mr John Mee Kidger of Ashby Parish Council, under whose care Thringstone came at the time, said that Thringstone needed a deeper well. We believe the houses in question to be those at the bottom end of Main Street.
- An article from May 1937 talks of the retirement of **Sgt. Jones** who was retiring after 30 years' police service. He had been stationed in Thringstone for 13 years as a PC before being promoted and going to Walton on the Wolds and then Coalville for the final 6 years service. He was retiring to Ravenstone. We believe this to be William Henry Jones who appears on the 1911 census for Thringstone with an address of 'near The Green'. He seems to have been working in Thringstone from at least October 1908 when his elder daughter was born. He was born on 25 Dec 1883 in Gilmorton, and was married to Ada. During WW2 he signed up to the 1st police reserves and lived on Melbourne Rd. He died in 1965.
- From the same paper on 17 Jan 1939 is a report of a collision between a bus and a bridge on Hermitage Road Coalville, during which **Mr Fielding-Wright** of Main Street was injured. The bus had left 9.30am and had skidded and collided with the bridge. Along with the driver, conductor and 11 others, Mr Fielding-Wright was attended to at the scene by Dr Prys-Jones of Whitwick.
- Leicester Chronicle 3 August 1940 reported the death of **John Biddle**, who had been actively associated with both the local school and with St Andrew's in various capacities for many years. The report also said that he had been renowned in the village by inventing a **self-lighting cigarette**, and was connected with a local factory for their manufacture.
- March 1942 – **Roland Wyman** aged 39 of Thringstone was crushed by a fall of stone at Ellistown Colliery. Whilst initially sustaining no broken bones and only slight cuts, the weight of the stone made it difficult for him to breathe, and he died from suffocation. An inquest recorded a verdict of accidental death. The 1939 register shows him at 52 Loughborough Road along with his wife Florence and 2 children Valerie and Pauline.
- An article of 20 October 1945 reports that **John Henry Webb** of The Willows, Main Street, Thringstone had retired from South Leicestershire Colliery where he had worked as a clerk for 58 years. Director Herbert Wragg expressed his appreciation for Mr Webb's service at his retirement presentation. Mr Webb is featured in our book Thringstone and its People but we find it surprising



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that he worked for 58 years since he was born in 1874. That said, at the age of 17 in 1891, he is shown on the census as a colliery clerk, but it would be unusual for him to start at the age of 10. He died on 18 June 1954 leaving over £12,000 to his widow, Norah.

- Nita found a full page article in the Leicester Chronicle of October 1950 about the **community centre** with photographs. This has been shared with the centre and saved in our archives
- **Thringstone Primary School boy's football team** won the Coalville and District Primary School's knock out cup in 1965. We now have a photograph of the team.
- We now have pictures of the **Community Players** at the centre in January 1967 with their production of Strike Happy. This is a new title to us, and in the photograph are Janice Webster, Jack Down and Jean Simmons. We understand their first performance in 1950 consisted of 3 one act plays.
- The Leicester Chronicle of 16 May 1969 has an article in it about a man called **Zaph Morley** of Shepshed, whose grandfather was Zaph Morley Snr. of Talbot Lane and Drury Lane, Thringstone. He remembers his Thringstone grandfather as a great big chap of about 18 stones, a miner with a reputation locally as a strong man. He could not remember Zaph being religious. One of Zaph Morley Snr's son, John died in WW1 in September 1918.
- Leicester Chronicle 8 August 1975 tells of the rescue of people from a boating accident in Barrow Upon Soar by **Peter Vince** of 87 Melrose Road. Peter gave CPR to a toddler who survived, but 2 people who were originally rowing the boat unfortunately drowned.
- Nita found and downloaded a lot of photos of the **Macnaghten family**, who are the descendants of Antonia Booth, Charles and Mary Booth's daughter. Included in these were pictures of Lady Magda Macnaghten, wife of Sir Anthony Macnaghten, who was Charles Booth's grandson, her son Malcolm Magnaghten and their families, and a photograph of Sir Arthur Douglas and Sir Edward Harry Macnaghten, cousins of Sir Anthony Macnaghten. These two young men were killed on The Somme in 1916. These photos have been given to Ann to go into the archives.
- Again sent to Ann to go into the archives, Nita found copies of photographs of Ellen Harper Doman and her husband **Samuel Wayte** who kept a grocery and bakery shop in Thringstone (Main Street before moving to St Mary's Terrace), together with photos of Samuel's parents, John and Frances, and pictures of 4 of Samuel's 9 children who reached adulthood – Edmund Doman, Francis, Maria and John. Grave indexes for St Andrew's shows their infant children's deaths - their daughter Elizabeth dying in August 1864 aged 4, Edmond dying aged 6 months in 1866, Mary Ann dying in March 1874 aged 4 months, their daughter Ellen dying in May of that year aged 2, and Theresa dying aged 6 months in April 1876. There was one photo with the couple, one with Samuel and his dog, one with him and some of his children and another of their son John as an adult. Ellen Harper Doman married Samuel Wayte on 18 June 1859 in Whitwick. Ellen was born on 13 Dec 1837 in Breedon and died on 13 Feb 1876 in Thringstone. Their daughter Theresa dying in April of the same year must have been hard on Samuel. Ellen's grave is to the side of St Andrew's church near the front path and between two yew trees, so isn't easy to read, but also records their 5 children who died in infancy. After Ellen's death Samuel then married Mary Alice Thompson from Worthington. She was 15 years his junior. Sam was born 11 March 1838, and died 26 Jan 1887, and was buried at St Andrew's on 30 Jan. When Sam died, he left £245 5s 4d to his widow. His obituary says that he died after a long and trying illness and had been a warden at St Andrew's church. He had also been the village overseer at one point, a parish constable at another time, and had put several organisations and friendly societies in place to help local people. 'He was a genial, kindly man, and ready to do anyone a good turn; the poor found a friend in him, whilst his retentive memory and ready wit made him a most agreeable companion.' Mrs Mary Alice Wayte continued to run the grocery business after Sam died for a while, then moved to Sitwell Street in Derby and remarried in 1890 in Derby to Thomas Taylor. Samuel's son, John Wayte, born in Thringstone on 9 May 1864, became a commercial traveller in the grocery business having had his own shop for a while, and moved to Leicester with his siblings, where he died on 11 Feb 1929.
- Nita has sourced and downloaded a photo of **Catherine Tucker** nee Hewitt who was married to John and kept the Toll Gate in Thringstone in 1881 down Brook Lane. Catherine was born in



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Snibston around 1848 and had been in service prior to her marriage on 1 Oct 1865. The couple had 5 children, two of whom died relatively young. Her husband died in August 1884, and she in March 1885. Both were buried at St Andrew's. We also have a picture of her daughter Catherine Hewitt Tucker, who was born in Thringstone and moved to Derby. Nita also found a lovely photo of **Elizabeth Baker** who married Edwin Hicken and lived at Brook House, Gracedieu Road, Thringstone. She died aged 88. The photo shows her as a very elderly lady and is charming.

- In addition to finding various other photographs, birth certificates etc. relating to people with a Thringstone connection online, Nita downloaded some Thringstone related stories from the Mirror, Sunday Mirror and its predecessor the Sunday Pictorial from the years 1932 (a win on a football competition for Gertie Gough of John Street), 1979 (wedding) and 1999 for our archives. She also found a clipping and photo of the wedding of **Ernest Moore of The Manor House**, Thringstone in 1929 to Annie Ingram. Nita also downloaded several photographs of Thringstone parades and carnivals in aid of the LRI in the 1920s and 30s and a lot of wedding photos from the 1960s and 70s.
- Nita was sent, via facebook, a picture of the **brownies** at the centre in 1977 with Elaine Bradford as Snowy Owl. This has been saved to our archives.

Council report

Nothing received.

Gardening and environment

Bernard has continued to do bits of planting and weeding.

Next bulletin will be in September.