



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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BULLETIN FOR DECEMBER 2020

Monthly litter pick total - 110 against **99 bags** for the same month last year.

Since we started keeping records, which is about 10 years ago, we have removed in excess of 16000 bags of rubbish from the village and surrounding woodland.

Friends of Thringstone website - For some reason, the new FoT website put together to update things has destructed, and because of lack of time in which to stop this, the Friends of Thringstone web name became no longer registered and our domain elapsed. Our webmaster has now retired anyway, so work is underway to try to get the website reinstated and updated, but members and the general public need to bear with us on this, as it isn't an easy fix. In the meantime, we would like to thank John Smith for managing the website for the last 15.5 years, and thank Mike King for taking a look at it right now.

Thringstone Creates – The committee has spoken with Sarah Baxter, founder of Thringstone Creates, and agreement has been reached to encompass Thringstone Creates as a sub-group of our own group. Sarah has been co-opted onto our committee, and the next project, to do a wall hanging for St Andrew's using designs from the gravestones, will see a possible funding bid being put forward to various bodies to help with costs. Sarah has been a member of FoT for several years, and is very well versed in the use of fabric and design. We welcome her on board. She intends to try to set up some Zoom meetings for interested parties. FoT committee, who have long since recognised the links we have and how artwork often helps illustrate history, see this partnership as a great step forward for both ourselves and Thringstone Creates, and are excited for the future.

Thringstone Co-op had a £110,000 makeover, which included a 3 window picture done by the children from years 5 and 6 at Thringstone Primary of the ruins at Grace Dieu. The shop is now selling hot drinks and snacks, but there are also 3 new recycling bins outside the front of the shop for general waste, plastics and cardboard. Will be interesting to see if this is used by folk given the amount of cans, especially, that were put in the bin on the car park. The shop has also erected a locked board on the car park called What On Around Thringstone for people to put posters in when there are things to advertise.

Thringstone Primary donated 77.1kg of food to Coalville Food Bank following their harvest festival. Thanks go to them for their donation. They also raised £139 at their dress up day. The school also took delivery of a wooden carved bird box, from Victoria's Vintage, which looks lovely.

Thringstone Miners Social Centre has received a £2000 grant from East Midlands airport with which they hope to be able to buy a new mower for the football pitch.

Remembrance Day 2020 - A strange period with no church services or marches on the Sunday, plus a lot of media coverage relating to the centenary of the burial of the Unknown Soldier in



London on 11.11. Thanks go to the centre for putting up poppies on The Green, the Sophie Claire and Fran Skinner (Main St and Melrose Rd) for sounding the last post etc., and also to the children from Charles Booth Pre-school for making poppies and putting them round the Millennium Stone on The Green on 11th. Many people made poppies and put them in their windows and stood on their doorsteps at 11am on one or both days to show their remembrance. Following on from this, well done to **Thringstone Scouts** who, to keep the tradition going of reading out the names of the fallen from the WW1 and WW2 plaques in St Andrew's church, produced a video of Joe Smith reading these out for Remembrance Day 2020.

Charles Booth Centre has decorated outside the building as usual for Christmas with the concentration being on the silver birch at the front. Others who have made their usual lovely display have been **Ruby's, Old School House, and Leicestershire Machine Movers** who, every year, decorate a very large tree in their garden so it can be seen from Loughborough Road as you walk down that end of the village. The owner of the business said there are over 4000 lights on the tree, and it was decorated by the local fire brigade, who he paid to do it for him. It is nice to see brightness in such gloomy times.

Unfortunately, the **Ashby and Coalville Lions' Santa Sleigh** will not be going round the village this year. They are, however, delivering some selection boxes to Key Stage 1 pupils at Thringstone Primary just before the school break up.

Proposed Care Homes in Main Street and Bishopdale - A plan to convert **75 Main Street** into a children's care home has been submitted to NWLDC. The property would cater for up to 4 children who may have behavioural and emotional development challenges, suffered physical/sexual abuse, been neglected/have a learning disability. Amir Abbasi, of Haven Care Group, Burton on Trent, has made the application. The plans are for up to 6 people living together with 4 children living in the children's care home. The children will be supervised by staff which would operate as a family dwelling, children will go to school in the day and support staff would maintain the upkeep of the property. The care provided would be 24 hour care, with a maximum of 4 staff being on duty between the hours of 7am to 11pm (shifts being from 7am to 3pm, 3pm to 11pm and a long shift from 7am to 11pm). There will then be a maximum of two staff on duty overnight undertaking a sleep in shift from 11pm to 7am. No staff would be living in the premises. This could allow for between 8 and 10 local people to take up new employment. Children placed in the home will obviously continue to go to school and will also maintain contact with significant family members, where appropriate. There will be CCTV and the submission maintains that there is sufficient off street parking for staff but local residents are not so sure and several have already written to NWLDC and other voiced their opinions on social media channels.

A further submission relates to **1 Bishopdale** on behalf of the Horizon Care and Education Group of Lichfield. They wish to turn this into a care home for 6 people with parking for 4 cars. Horizon Care & Education provides support and guardianship for young people who have been adversely affected by circumstance and need a safe and secure place to live. The staff of Horizon Care & Education have been therapeutically trained and are supported by a fully qualified therapy team. They wish to provide a home for three young people between the ages of 8 and 17 from challenged backgrounds demonstrating varying degrees of Emotional Behavioural Disorder (EBD). There would be two on-duty members of staff operating on a shift system, providing 24 hour cover. Therapeutic support is to be provided as part of the Horizon Care & Education Group Limited's service with 2 overnight staff.

Thringstone Panto and Drama Society is looking for help with their 2021 panto season. They want scenery painters, front of house staff and backstage staff. Please contact them direct if you can help.

Carols on your doorstep – Hosted by Hermitage FM (99.2) on 16 Dec at 6pm, have a sing with the rest of your street – you can download carol sheets from www.doorstepcarols.co.uk



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Chairs Report

Letters received: None

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

Promotion: We have **663 twitter followers**, which is 5 more than last month, and **1,460 facebook followers**, which is 34 more than last month.

Other: Welcome to a new member – Janet Fairbrother.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,207.69		
Income		Expenditure	
Donations	£8	Broadband	15.00
total income to general fund	£8		£15
		Total general fund at month end	2200.69

Publications Report

Nothing to report

Police Report

We have been told about people driving round in Greenhill noting down homes which appear to have dogs so please watch for this. We were also told that a gent who lives on Main Street found the lock to his shed broken on 23 November, but didn't report this to the police since it didn't appear that anything was stolen.

24 Nov – reported by NWL Police on social media - having followed a motorbike which was travelling too quickly through Thringstone, Neighbourhood Patrol Officers stopped the bike, and discovered the rider had no insurance, so the bike was seized on Melrose Road. People commented on the post that they had seen this happening for some time, and one person claimed to have nearly been hit by the bike in her car.

We got the following email from police:

[We've not got anything for Thringstone - it's all in Whitwick.](#) Lots of shed break ins in Whitwick.

However, internet sources suggest that, in this area, crime is up 18% since this time last year with the highest rises relating to cases of violence and sexual assault. The internet site says in September there were events in Loughborough Road, Badger's Croft, Homestead Road, Tithe Close, Old Bakery Close and Melrose Road.

History report

- We were contacted by Phil Burke contacted us regarding a photo of **Thringstone Community Players'** show called Happiest Days of Your Life from 1956/7. In the photo is Anne Margaret Casey who was Phil's mother and her aunt, Phil's great aunt, Catherine Haywood. Phil reckons this was Anne's first performance, and she was only allowed to be in the play because Mrs Haywood (known as Bay) was the chaperone. Anne was born on 2 March 1941, married Ivor Burke in 1964 and died 28 June 2018. Ivor died in Whitwick on 26 Jan 1994.
- Colin Bakewell sent in a photo of Roy Burton in **Quaker Girl** and some information on the Thringstone production of **Rio Rita** in 1956: He was in that show and his father, Joe Bakewell, was the pianist for rehearsals and the show. Roy Burton was one of the leads and Colin had a minor part. It was produced by Ron Smith and his wife took a lead part in it. Norma Berry nee Savage was also a lead as well as Margaret Lilliman, who also used to be in Coalville Amateurs. Don Hambleton who lived at the Community Centre where it took place was the musical director. Another show Colin remembers doing was The Arcadians. He said 'I started in the orchestra



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playing the violin and then went in the cast because of the pretty dancers! My step mother Rita Bakewell played viola. Norma was in a singing trio called the Silvertones along with Margaret Smith and Margaret Lilliman, plus my dad as pianist. They used to go round the district and further afield performing on the club scene and I believe they even tried auditioning for TV at one point. Norma used to perform the old time music hall number, Sarah & 'Enery, with Roy Burton.'

- Ann has been up to **Mt St Bernard Abbey** to the public cemetery and taken photos of the graves of Jennifer Bream and various members of the de Lisle family for our archives.

Jan 1914 – Population of Thringstone is 1279.

Aug 1920 – **Mrs Mann** of Main Street returned home with her husband, a wheelwright, to find what she thought was a ghost on her bed. It turned out to be her neighbour, Agnes Tugby, lying on the bed, fully clothed. Drawers had been ransacked and Mrs Tugby was drunk. Mrs Mann claimed to the newspapers that she had been unable to sleep in the house since!

Nov 1922 - One of the shop managers of Leicestershire Co-operative Society, **Mr Hicken** of Thringstone, recently bought an old oak bureau at auction for 37 shillings and 6 pence. On examining the bureau at home, he discovered it had a secret drawer in which he found 2 gold £5 pieces and several George 3rd coins!

April 1926 – A verdict of accidental death was recorded on **Thomas Isaac Fox**, aged 23, who had been killed by a missile falling down a pit shaft and hitting him on the head at New Lount Colliery. Mr Fox had been centre half for Thringstone House Football Club who postponed their match because of the funeral.

Oct 1927 – **Mr Harry Genders**, for 14 years manager at Thringstone Co-op Stores, was presented with a gold watch by villagers as a token of esteem as he left the village to take up a promotion to Hugglescote. On 31 July 1914, Mr Genders had made the local papers for stopping a runaway horse on The Green after it was startled outside The Queen's Head.

Aug 1929 - The Post Master General had approved the provision of telephone call office in Thringstone. A 3 minute call would cost between 7 pence and 2 pence, depending where the call was being made to with calls to Ashby, Coalville and Shepshed being the cheapest.

Sept 1932 – The churchwardens and council at St Andrew's have signed a petition asking for the installation of electric light in the church.

June 1933 – **Mr and Mrs John Hull** of Three Tuns, Main Street, were sheltering under an ash tree during a storm when lightning hit the umbrella which Mrs Hull was holding and threw them both to the ground, just minutes after Mr Hull suggested she take the umbrella down for fear of it being hit. 'We ran off up the road, and learnt that our neice, Kathleen Kidger, had been sheltering under the tree before us. When we got into the village, Maurice Maloney, Miss Kidger's brother in law, came running out of his garden, white in the face, and said he had also been struck by lightning.' A horse belonging to Mrs Hull's father in Cademan Street, Whitwick was also struck by lightning but was not killed. The tree, one of the largest in the district, was gashed from top to bottom and eventually crashed across the road, just minutes after the Price of the Forest bus had passed and traffic travelling to Whitwick had to be diverted along Main Street. Roadmen Mr A Wilkins and Mr T Grimley stood guard all night to ensure nobody else hit the fallen tree.

Jan 1934 – **Thringstone House** was host to a children's play called Amongst The Gibjigs of The Diamond Marble, in aid of LRI, Loughborough Hospital and Thringstone Trust. There were to be 3 performances. Those taking part included Joan and Mary Whitmill, W Franklin, T Mundy, H V Robinson, G Brooks, L Croson, I Toyer, Mary Illsley, W Lawrence, F Waterfield, Ken Robinson, P Pollard, L Stopp, A King and J Bancroft. The story was told in 2 acts with interesting scenes and dancing. There was an efficient orchestra led by Mr H Rudin with Miss Renee Watts at the piano.

Dec 1935 – Unemployed miner, **John Marsden Bradford**, aged 51 from Main Street, died whilst waiting to draw unemployment benefit at Pegg's Green. Mr Bradford was a widower and uncle to international footballer Joe Bradford, then playing for Bristol City. Ted Wardle, also of Main Street, said at the inquest that Mr Bradford had collapsed just as the clerk asked him his name. He had been complaining of back pain, which he put down to falling from a haystack the previous September. Sarah Bradford, cousin to the deceased, her home being where Mr Bradford had



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been lodging, said that he had appeared fine when he left on the Friday and Dr Garry said that Mr Bradford had completely recovered from the fall from the haystack and the cause of death was heart disease. The inquest gave a verdict of death by natural causes.

Oct 53 – Andrew Ford (43) miner of St Andrew's Close, Thringstone died in Leicester Royal Infirmary after a fall of stone whilst engaged in ripping out a coal face at New Lount Colliery

Feb 1958 - £271 out of a required £350 had been raised at this point for a new organ for **Thringstone Methodist Chapel** (Lbro Rd). Officers for the year were Mr A Sykes (jnr. trustees secretary), J W Burbank treasurer, A Sykes Snr. and T Brown society stewards, H Wright chapel steward, W Sykes and J W Brotherhood organists.

July 1958 – Work was being carried out to alter the **A512 at Gracedieu**. A couple of narrow S bends between high embankments were by-passed by taking land from the Gracedieu Priors fields. Old stone walls bordering the field were knocked down and used as ballast in the foundations of the new road. The priory was unharmed. It was expected that the completion of the new road would take a few weeks but many local people were upset at the demise of the old roadway which was originally made in pack-horse times to facilitate negotiation of the steep hill which would have been there in Wordsworth's day, at the time he visited the area and stayed at Coleorton. Since the Ministry of Works had taken over the responsibility for Gracedieu ruins much ivy had been cleared from the stonework.

Oct 1958 – Harvest Festival held at Queen's Head raised £41 1s which was split between the parish church, Wesleyan chapel, Methodist Chapel and Thringstone Old People's fund. The same event took place in 1959 with an extra shilling being raised.

Jan 1959 - Choirmaster **Maurice Maloney** from St Andrew's church was presented with a scarf from the choristers for his birthday by Miss Blanche Watts. Lbro Rd Methodist Chapel raised £43 for Overseas Missions. The Youth Fellowship at Lbro Rd Methodist Chapel raised £93 for church funds. £95 13s 6d was raised at a Christmas fayre held at the community centre for the St Andrew's church organ repair fund. The faire was opened by Mrs C E Bream of Gracedieu Manor Farm.

Feb 1959 – Thringstone Youth Group meeting, over which Mr Roy Severn presided, councillor L Robinson spoke on photography. Members of Thringstone Methodist Main Street sisterhood held a meeting chaired by Mrs J Brotherhood and a biblical address was given by Mr Arthur Draper of Worthington.

April 1959 – The death occurred on 29 April of **William James Gough Waldram** of 61 Gracedieu Road. Aged 79, Mr Waldram was for many years a member of the office staff at Snibston Colliery and was also associated with St Andrew's church. During the war period, he was also a special constable. Mr Waldram had been married twice – firstly to Minnie Rosetta Webb (formerly of The Willows and mother to Catherine and Aubrey) who died on 12 September 1930 and secondly to Frances Allgood whom he married in 1932.

Sept 1959 – Thringstone Youth Club AGM elected the following officers for the year: Leader Roy Severn, Assistants Derry Baxter and Gillian Wilson, Miss Janet Noble secretary, Derrick Walton secretary. Representatives of the community centre committee were Brian and Miss Pauline Haywood. The youth club had a membership of 50.

Nov 1959 – Thringstone Community Singers, led by Ernest Aris (Chairman) and J W Brooks as compere gave a concert to residents at The Cheshire Home, Staunton Harold. Don Hambleton was conductor and Mrs R Brooks and Mr H Aris were pianists. There were duets by Eric Griffin and W Wilkins, solos by Pearl Horton and accordion solos by Carl Garrett. Thringstone Junior Handbell Ringers also performed.

March 1963 – Elms Farm, Thringstone sold at auction for £17,750. The farm was 136 acres.

Nov 1963 – the former **Wesleyan Methodist Chapel** on Main Street was up for sale with a site area of 168 sq.yds. The principle building was said to be 35 ft. x 23 ft. plus there was first floor accommodation. The property was offered freehold. The last service had been held in August.

March 1965 – Mrs Ethel May Platts, the daughter of **Edward Stanley**, a private in the Leicestershire Regiment born in Thringstone on 23 August 1876, was recorded as having his 'iron



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rations' from the Boer War, containing a dinner in one section and cocoa in another, plus his pay book, and a notebook in which he recorded events and thoughts. Mr Stanley, who had died in 1951 and had been brought up on Sandholes but lived in later years in Mammoth Street, Coalville, had used the iron ration tin as a nutcracker and light hammer, so it was quite dented. In his notebook/diary, he had written his income, but also recorded some debt. The death of a Private Russell on 10 October 1901 from accidentally being shot through the heart was recorded, and allowed Edward to indulge in writing some of his own poetry. Edward, who had worked at Whitwick Colliery, was present at the end of The Siege of Ladysmith and noted that scarcity of food had swelled the cost of things. Condensed milk tins had risen to 10 shillings in cost, a marrow was £1 8 shillings and a dozen eggs was £2 8 shillings. Our archives already contained details of his military career, including his joining up papers showing service from 1895, the fact that he was a Wesleyan, and had one blue eye and one brown. He appears to have been in South Africa until 1902.

May 1967 – After a cricket match on the Melrose Road estate, **Kevin Knox**, one of 5 children of Mr and Mrs W Knox, got a sharp rap on the head with a bat. In order to collect his thoughts, he went to Mrs Cooke's coke store, and fell asleep. When he failed to return home, volunteers were called upon and 3 police tracker dogs, police cars and officers with walkie talkies all took to the streets to find him, looking until well after midnight. Scores of men who had returned from a Friday night out went into the woodland in their suits to look for the youngster. Eventually, Inspector Brush saw a youngster coming out of a coke store, and it was Kevin. The close-knit community were praised for their help.

Council report

Planning permission has been put into NWLDC relating to 103 Lbro Rd (the large house on the corner of Henson's Lane). It is proposed to build a further 3 properties within the grounds of the retained house, although access to the site would change and there would become parking for 13 cars in total.. Further information can be seen by logging onto the planning application section of NWLDC's website.

Concern has already been raised by some local residents on the situation regarding on street parking, given the proximity to a construction company on Henson's Lane who have several vehicles which park on the street. One person thus far has written in with concerns over the development.

Gardening and environment

Bernard continues to do various weeding and tidying around the planted areas.

Next bulletin will be in January 2021. Please try to keep safe but have an enjoyable festive season.