



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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BULLETIN FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

News.

Monthly litter pick total - 122 against **99 bags** for the same month last year.

It is interesting that the government are now setting up a consultation into the issue of single use plastics! Let's see if that makes any difference. For those that are interested, **Morrison's** is now offering free water bottle fill ups at their petrol stations and in store in an attempt to get people to reuse plastic bottles rather than continuing to buy new.

Communication - Nita was without any internet for 6 days as a result of the recent **lightning storm** which hit the side of the cricket club hut and a lamp post in Griffin Road. This created several problems for the group with both getting and transmitting information. We need to look at other ways for contact so that, should this happen again, someone in the group can deal with the volume of enquiries and contact that comes in other than just Nita.

New Bench - As you know, we got a grant from the centre towards the cost of a new bench to replace the broken blue one. The council ordered this for us, and put down a concrete base and fitted the new bench on 5 August.

Nita has been advised that she is a finalist in the **Leicestershire Live Environmental Heroes awards** for 2021. The winner will be announced at King Power Stadium in Leicester on 23 September.

The **New Market** opens on 10 September. To celebrate the launch, visitors will have the chance to watch live entertainment, take part in giveaways, face painting, raffles and meet the traders behind the new stalls.

Gracedieu Priory – We were told of the presence of ponies on the field near and in the ruins, and also of the volume of vans and caravans on the A512 and reported this to the trustees of Gracedieu Priory to deal with. Thank you to people who sent information and several photos.

St Andrew's – 8 members of Friends of Thringstone met at the church on 21 August make a dent in clearing the weeds in the churchyard and also cut back overhanging bushes which hindered people trying to walk down the middle path and tidy up the vista from the front. We were thanked by Rev Darren who was having a meeting in the church at the same time. We understand that, in order to cut costs, the church no longer has their gardener mow the front of the churchyard (Main Street end), or down the side. It has been suggested that, rather than leave it as long grass, getting some bee bomb seeds there might turn it into more or a wild meadow and make it look better but we think this needs some work beforehand. We are going to see if we can get some help to get some pebbles to cover the graves near Charles Booth's (Shrewsbury graves in the main) to stop weeds coming back in that area. We did notice that the date of death for Mary Booth has now disappeared from Charles' gravestone despite the conservation work we funded a few



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years back. As this is a listed monument it has to go through various channels in order to be repaired.

Planting - Our new planting down Brook Lane (the little lane that runs down the side of Ruby's) was pulled up and thrown in the brook sometime between 2pm and 5.30pm on 16 August and again on 24 August by groups of young boys. Plants from outside no. 12 were also pulled up from planters and thrown into other people's gardens, and one plant put underneath the windscreen wipers of a car parked further up the lane. Children were seen in the area at the time. Some of the plants from the brook were retrieved and replanted and others planted by our gardening team for which we thank them. They also put a notice near the planting informing people that the planting was done in memory of someone in the village who had died. We were sent, via facebook messenger, descriptions of the youths involved in the 2nd incident, and this was forwarded to the police, as the kids also caused havoc in other areas of the village.

Scraptoft United FC is now playing their home games at Homestead Road. For all fixtures look on the Miners Welfare facebook or twitter pages.

Thringstone Members Club – there are now grab rails by the entrance steps to stop anybody else falling off the steps.

Thringstone Methodist Chapel – their last service was 31 August, and the chapel is now closed, which is such a shame, as it has served this village since it opened in 1863. We understand that the church hall is going to continue to be available for use until the end of the year at least.

Thringstone Members Club's event on 31 July to raise money for Ace Community Theatre made £575. Thanks to all who came and had stalls and supported the event.

Forward planning – 2 October at 6.30pm there will be a family fun race night for the Ace Community Theatre. Limited tickets available and ticket prices also include a light buffet. With 8 races, all with thrilling finishes up on the big screen, you are promised to have a fun time. Doors open at 6.30pm with the first race off at 7pm. Everyone is invited, tickets are first come first served and are £5 for adults and £2 for children from www.ticketsource.co.uk/ace

Old School House – The Old School House and Hayes Close annual awards on 13 August was combined with the retirement party for Jackie Needham who retired after 21 years service. The Theresa Dearden Award went to Carley Morrissey, Carer of the year was Jackie Needham, Special Recognition Award to Elisha McEwan, 10 years service award to Carley Morrissey and Kim Owens, 5 year service award to Jodie Robertson, Nicky Martin, Elisha McEwan, Sammy Hall, Heather Montgomery, Gina Montgomery and Patricia Hibbert.

Hello Heritage – Please have a look at our boards round the village. There are 4 boards all detailing the rich heritage of our village. They will be there from 4-18 September. An article on the new board about the diversity of the village was featured in Community Voice magazine for August.

Friends of Gracedieu Priory are joining with the Belton History Group to take part in the Hello Heritage Festival. There will be two open afternoons in St John the Baptist Church, Belton on Saturday 11 September and 18 September from 2.00pm- 5.00pm. There will be a display of old photographs, artefacts and books depicting the history of Belton and Grace Dieu. There will be an opportunity to visit the etching of the rude man of Belton in the tower and to see the bells. They will be showing 3 films about Belton and Grace Dieu and there will be a quiz for young people, Church members will be serving tea and cake and there will be a guided historical walk around Belton.

Gracedieu Priory Walk - Sunday 12th Sept from Bull's Head car park at 3pm down to the ruins as part of Hello Heritage. Cost £3. All welcome.

Coleorton Heritage Group has 2 walks from The Kings Arms in Coleorton on 4 and 7 September at 10am. These are history walks and include field walking. No cost, but booking essential from Sandra on 440000 or Terry on 835701.



Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's Christmas Fayre – 27 November at Charles Booth Centre between 11am and 3pm. Stall holders wanted. For more information, contact chair@tpads.org.uk

Ace Community Theatre is offering murder mystery auditions at Thringstone Members Club on 6 October from 7pm-9pm. For further details please contact acecommunitytheatre@gmail.com

Thringstone Luncheon Club – There was an afternoon tea put on for members of this group at Thringstone Miners Welfare on 22 August. 25 attended. The luncheon club starts back on the 2nd Wednesday in October at Thringstone Members Club. Anybody interested in coming along should contact Pam on 222558.

Ruby's has been awarded the Traveller's Choice 2021 by Tripadvisor, and are now amongst the top 10% of listings which was formerly known as a certificate of excellent.

St Andrew's – The eco-church initiative has raised enough to twin the toilet which enables them to build a life changing latrine in Motot, Jonglei, Urur, South Sudan. The fundraising won't stop there, as they are looking to twin their taps to again help the more vulnerable areas of the world access safe, clean water close to where people live. So far a quarter of the money has been raised.

Carols on The Green – This year's carols will take place on Friday 17 December meeting up at St Andrew's at 6.30pm. We will then walk and sing up to The Green and then go down Main Street, up Booth Road and end up at Miners Welfare Social Centre. Everybody welcome.

Charles Booth – From 13 August, the LSE has uploaded a further 317 notebooks to their website. You can now view and download the poverty, industry and religious notebooks. This is free to all on booth.lse.ac.uk/notebooks. This now means that nearly all the notebooks used for Booth's Life and Labour are free to download.

Centre things – Yoga flow classes now take place on a Tuesday from 6pm to 9pm. Interested parties need to book by texting 07800 636429

Open mic is back from 10 September starting at 7.30pm. Bar open. All musicians and singers welcome to come along, or just come along and listen to others.

Annie Duggan's **Juke Joint** with guest musicians starts back at the centre on 3 October, and then every Sunday thereafter from 3pm-6pm. All welcome. Bar open.

Chairs Report

Letters received: None

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

Promotion: We have **686 twitter followers**, which is 3 more than last month, and **1,620 facebook followers**, which is 17 more than last month.

Other: **Pam Clayfield** who, with Ray Woodward, had the initial idea to start FoT, and was Thringstone Councillor for some time, died on 31 Aug. Our condolences to her family.

Finance Report

We have decided against renewing our RCC membership as we get nothing out of being a member. That said, many years ago, we did win an award through being part of the organisation.

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£3034.64		
Income		Expenditure	
Membership		Broadband	15.00



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	£0
total income to general fund	

NWLDC	330.00
	345
Total general fund at month end	2689.64

Web Report

Work is still underway to get the new website populated.

Police Report

There was a huge police presence between 5am and 6am on Tuesday 24 August on Dalkeith Walk, Shrewsbury Walk and Lbro Road, but we do not know why.

History report

- Nita has been asked to find out more about Holly Dene in Brook Lane. We believe the first occupants were William James Gough Waldram and his wife Minnie nee Webb. If anybody has other information, please let us know. We also helped with information on Ethel M Newton.
- Ever wondered about **the boundary marker** near the Millennium stone on The Green? This got there because of Steve Badcock. The post, made of cast iron, had stood for many years a few yards further along The Green- at the road junction opposite the turn into Brook Lane and had rusted, almost unnoticed, before finally toppling over in 1999 (no doubt with a helping hand - or foot - from some late-night passer-by). Concerned that such a hazardous chunk of metal was now left lying at the side of the road, and also conscious that it might carry some interesting historical significance, Steve dragged it over to the Queens Head public house (much to the dismay of the then landlady, Debbie Roberts!) where it was then stored in an outhouse for many months. There it may well have remained for posterity were it not for the idea of Mr John Bradford to take it home, restore it and approach the Local Authority to incorporate it as part of the Millennium site at the time they were carrying out paving work, simply on the basis that it had always previously stood thereabouts for as long as anyone in the village could remember!. Municipal consent obtained, John duly coated the post with black Hammerite paint before its re-planting, using white paint to pick out the raised inscription, B & Co BOUNDARY. It was then left up to Steve to find out exactly what significance the object may once have carried. The clue, "B & Co", led him to contact Bass Brewery, who confirmed that in 1933, they had sold a considerable portion of land fronting the Rose and Crown to Thringstone Parish Council for a nominal fee of £1 so that it might be laid out and used as a village green. The post had probably stood on The Green since Victorian times to mark the boundary of their ownership.
- We continue to try to discover the age of the **properties next to the Co-op**. No. 27 has 1753 on the front, although this cannot be verified as correct. We contacted NWLDC's conservation officer who told us that they have the row listed as mid 18th century which would agree with the 1753 date. They further said that there is an outside single storey from no. 25 (the blue house) which wraps around the rear elevation of no. 27 which suggests that, at some time, the properties were in the same ownership.
- **June 1905 – John Squires Snr. and Jnr.** were in court over poaching in Cademan Woods, part of the de Lisle estate. After hearing the evidence, and several witnesses saying that the two were not out that night, the case was dismissed. See later information on John Squires.
- **July 1910 –** A branch of the **Women's Unionist Association** was formed in Thringstone. A large number of women went to a meeting at the gymnasium attached to the community centre where Miss Janet Cooper the divisional secretary for the South Oxfordshire branch explained the objects of the association and received much encouragement from those present which included Mrs Macnaghten, daughter to Charles Booth.
- **June 1911 – Coronation celebrations** - A competition for the best decorations and the best decorated cycles took place, with prizes given out. There was a procession of decorated cycles



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along Lbro Rd, Henson's Lane, Main Street, Brook Lane and Gracedieu Rd to the community centre. Children's tea was served at 3.30pm and sports for children aged 405 took place between 4.30pm and 5.30pm. There was a public tea at 5pm and general sports at 6.15pm. At 8pm the children congregated to sing the national anthem and received buns and chocolate. Mugs were given to all the children. The secretary of the event was Mr G H Holloway and the treasurer J Gee. At the previous coronation, there had been fireworks at Gracedieu Manor and the grounds were thrown open, and the same thing happened this time, although they were delayed because of heavy rain on the Saturday they were due to be lit. There were also 2 band concerts which had to be postponed due to the rain. The full committee was G H James, J Henson, G H Hallam, J Winters, T G Haywood, F Brown, and members of the parish council namely J Gee, T Watts, B Baxter, E P Kidger, T Siddons and J Burton.

- **November 1911 – Brothers George and Edward Gee, plus brothers David and Robin Robinson and Edmund Fewkes** were in court charged with damaging a holly tree whilst attempting to steal holly. There was damage to the tree, which belonged to Mr Paget of Belton, to the value of 5 shillings. Mr Paget's game keeper, George Corbett, said he saw David Robinson and Edward Gee up two holly trees between Belton and Tongue. When seen, Robin Robinson had shouted 'hey up' and all the men had run away. Two or three boughs had been broken off the tree. Robin Robinson and Edmund Fewkes were fined 7 shillings and 6 pence, or 3 days in prison, and Edward and George Gee and David Robinson were fined 10 shillings or 5 days in prison. Robin Robinson died in WW1 on 18 April 1916 and his brother David also served, but survived. For more information on Robin Robinson, please see details below.
- **April 1912** – The funeral took place of **Mr James Doman** of Brook Lane. He was nearly 79 and an interesting personality. For nearly 45 years he was secretary of the local lodge of the Ancient Order of Foresters, relinquishing the office 5 years before at which point in time he had been given a long service medal. He had lived all his life in the cottage in Brook Lane which had been in his family for about 200 years.
- **June 1913 – Brothers James, Edward and George Gee, plus Robin Robinson, Luke White and William Smith** appeared in court charged with using 2 dogs on the Diseworth Road to take game. George Pratt, gamekeeper, saw the group snare one hare, but they all scattered when they knew they had been seen. The group were later seen taking a rabbit from a drain, but claimed it had been a rat. A ferret was put in and a net over the drain, but the rabbit escaped. Edward and George Gee and William Smith were fined 15 shillings or 5 days, Robin Robinson who had been convicted before was fined 15 shillings or 7 days, and a warrant was issued against James Gee and Luke White, who did not appear. James Gee was killed in WW1 on 25 March 1918.
- **Nov 1913 -Brothers Robin Robinson and Henry White Robinson plus John Squires** of Thringstone and Peter King, Thomas Townsend and Thomas Stretton Platts of Worthington, were in court regarding night poaching in Breedon. George Henry Corbett, gamekeeper, said that at 3.30am on the previous Sunday he was going into a field to look at snares he had set when he saw some men, and recognised 5 of these. Some were carrying nets and others bags. He blew his whistle and they darted into Cloud Wood. He went back into the field and found 3 rabbits in a net and another 3 in a bag. All men were visited by the police, and refused to make comment. Mr Corbett said that it wasn't a foggy night, but he knew the men in question and had seen them running into King's house near the Traveller's Rest. In the house, he found nets, pegs, bags etc., and their clothes were wet. In court, all men said that they had been to Peter King's house, and had been out towards Staunton Harold that night. Henry White Robinson, who lived in Fox Terrace, against whom there were 21 previous convictions, was sentenced to one month's hard labour. Robin Robinson was fined 21 shillings and 9 shillings and 8 pence costs, or 14 days and John Squires, who also had previous convictions, 21 days hard labour. Peter King had 12 previous convictions and was sentenced to 1 month hard labour, Townsend, who had 5 previous convictions, was fined £1 11 shillings and 6 pence and 9 shillings and 8 pence costs, and Platts, who had 17 previous convictions received a sentence of one month hard labour. John Squires was killed in WW1 on 21 December 1917.



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- **Jan 1914 – John Squires** was in court again for poaching. He was ordered to pay his fine in monthly installments, as he said he was unable to pay in full.
- **Jan 1914 - Robin Robinson, Alec White and James Gee** were in court charged with using dogs to obtain game on 28 December 1913 in Shepshed on land belonging to Lord Crawshaw. Trevor Pratt, gamekeeper for Mr de Lisle, said that he had been told that there were 3 men on the turnpike with a lurcher dog which was the property of James Gee, and a terrier which was the property of White. The men were seen in a wheat field, at which time they spread out, and the lurcher got a hare which was found in White's pocket. Trevor Pratt said he had known these men all their lives and a constable then found Robinson and Gee, but White was not with them. Willie Pratt, butcher from Barrow Upon Soar, was in a cart and had also seen the men and watched them poaching. Robinson and Gee denied they were with White and Gee's dog was a whippet not a lurcher. Gee said he had seen Trevor Pratt, but Willie Pratt had not been there in the cart. Alec White said he had been and bought a newspaper and was reading that when he saw Trevor Pratt and he had had his 11 year old terrier with him, but had no game and had not seen the other two men. Robin Robinson said he had been out with Gee and his whippet, but not seen White and Gee said he had been out that morning, but not seen any hares. White was fined 10 shillings and costs, Robinson fined 30 shillings or a month in prison, and Gee was fined £1 including costs, or 10 days in prison.
- **May 1914 – James and Edward Gee**, plus Arthur Bishop of Whitwick were subject to a court case over game trespass at Osgathorpe on 20 May, the complainant being farmer Albert Moore of Belton. The charge against Bishop was dismissed. Neither James nor Edward Gee appeared for the case. It was heard that the Gee brothers were seen with 2 dogs beating in a field. They were fined 10 shillings and 3 pence and 17 shillings and 6 pence respectively, or 14 days imprisonment.
- **July 1915** - Thringstone soldier, **Robin Robinson**, sent home a piece of paper that he had picked up on the battlefield which was from a child in Loughborough. The paper said 'Churchgate School, Loughborough, 11 November 1914. Honoured Soldier, I am only a little girl aged 9 years old but I have had pleasure in making a pair of cuffs to keep the frost off. I hope you will come home safely and win the victory. I remain your little friend G Throne'.
- **Sept 1930** – The funeral took place of Mrs **Minnie Rosetta Waldram** nee Webb, wife of William James Gough Waldram, formerly clerk to Thringstone parish council and assistant overseer. Mr Waldram was at that time a dispatch clerk at Snibston colliery. Mrs Waldram, daughter of Daniel Amos Webb of The Willows, died aged 51 after a short illness and was interred in the graveyard. Mr Waldram subsequently remarried Frances Allgood in 1932 and lived at 61 Gracedieu Road. He died on 29 April 1959
- **Jan 1931 - Thringstone Girl Guides** produced a fairy play called Sleeping Beauty. Those taking part were Mona Lawrence, Sarah Smith, Jessie White, Hannah Holland, Cissie White, Irene Davenport, Joan and Mary Whitmill and Iris Bancroft.
- **Oct 1934 - Mary Ann Upton** was seen running from her home in Brook Lane, Thringstone, with her dress on fire. The 18 year old daughter of Harry Upton went to hospital in Loughborough to recover from her burns and shock. Mary had been standing with her back to the fire measuring her sister for a new frock when she got too close to the fire and the bottom of her dress caught fire. Mrs Upton said she had warned her several times about getting too close to the fire. Mrs Upton said it was very windy, and when she ran outside, the dress blazed up in no time at all and they had wrapped a rug round her to put out the flames. The baptism record for Mary Ann Upton said that the address of their property was Henson's Row, Brook Lane. We had previously been unaware of the location of Henson's Row. Another couple who lived in Henson's Row was the Howse family who are mentioned in the baptism registers for 1920..
- **May 1934 - Thringstone Girl Guides**, along with others from Coalville and Ibstock were involved in transmitting a Happy Birthday message to the Chief Guide in London by morse. The transmission started in Scotland and was intended to pass through Coalville to reach London by 17 May.

Next bulletin will be in October. Please try to keep safe