



# The Friends of Thringstone



**'Working together to improve our village'**

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**Twitter address: [@Thringstone2](https://twitter.com/Thringstone2)**

## **BULLETIN FOR JUNE 2022**

### **News.**

**AGM** - Our hope to have a live AGM meeting this time were thwarted when we realised that it clashed with several Platinum Jubilee events. We therefore approached members via email, and all committee from the previous year were voted through, as follows:

Chairman: Nita Pearson	Secretary: Nita Pearson
Vice Chair: Geoff Wilson	Treasurer: Geoff Wilson
History: Ann Petty	Environment: Bill Enser
Publications: Janet Stevenson	Membership Secretary: Sue Rowbottom
Events Assist: Kathy Mardon	Thringstone Creates: Sarah Baxter
Admin Assist: Vacant	

The gardening team, book keeper and webmaster, all of whom we wouldn't be without, sit outside the committee structure, but we thank them for the work they do for the group.

**End of year accounts.** An examination of the accounts has taken place which concludes there are no reasons for concern. If anybody wants a copy of the statement, please contact Nita direct.

**Chairman's report** – Nita has provided a chairman's report [which is attached.](#)

**Monthly litter pick total – 119 bags** removed against **164 bags** for the same month last year. Nita had a call from the officer at NWLDC responsible for clearing flytipping in the village about the amount of regular tipping on the Dalkeith Walk car park. Efforts are being made to stop this, as it is believed to be the same person every time.

**Social meeting on 5 May -** Those people with emails will know this, but for the benefit of those that have paper copies of this bulletin, the following was agreed at that meeting:

- The rockery at the back of the Co-op – remove some of the stones, put good topsoil down, leave some of the bushes and plant new things. NOTE: We are now considering leaving this as it is and just tidying it up.
- The larger area around Bernard's tree – clear that back, expose the wall at the back of there, plant and tidy. Mike has secured the help of scouts and children from Maplewell School to help with this over a period of time. Janet Stevenson has a small bush she is donating to go there. If anybody loses a relative and wants to plant something around that area, they can as long as they contact us first and we can discuss what to do and where.
- Upper limit of spending for this project is £1000 although it is likely to only be about £300 for the topsoil etc.



- **Note:** This is prior to the recent vandalism of the wall - Nita had been in touch with the county council about the fallen stones from the Co-op wall. The county council say that the wall definitely belongs to the Co-op even though their manager has said otherwise. Nita therefore sent a copy of the county council's email to Co-op HQ and asked that the wall be repaired. Nita subsequently received a message saying that the facilities team would look to effect a repair.

**Gardening** – Helen, a volunteer who has agreed to look after the planting down by the church jitty, has tidied the top and bottom end of the patch, and is now away for a while. She has concerns about the amount of dried bushes just inside the churchyard by the fence, as she feels this area might be set alight. We are in touch with the church about taking this pile away and putting it into garden bins.

Mike and Anne planted marigolds and geraniums on The Green in our flowerbed there and planted a donated shrub down Drury Lane and other shrubs and plants down the left hand side of the lane. The work proposed to the memorial garden has been put back to the Autumn as there are lots of bushes with thorns at the moment towards the back of the area, and we have to be careful with health and safety if working with scouts/Maplewell students.

Subsequent to the vandalism down Drury Lane (see below), 2 ladies offered to replace planting damaged. Nita has been in touch with them about this, and thank them for their offer.

**Centre** – The coffee morning in aid of Grace Dieu Priory raised £186. Thanks to everybody who supported this.

Tom Walters is leaving the centre and an advert for a new Centre Manager was placed online on 19 May. For anybody interested in the position, please go to

[https://www.charlesboothcentre.org.uk/files/ugd/7088b2\\_a1fbf34147a14862b66355fa134acf5c.pdf](https://www.charlesboothcentre.org.uk/files/ugd/7088b2_a1fbf34147a14862b66355fa134acf5c.pdf) for details of the job description.

Several people Nita has met whilst collecting membership monies suggest they don't know what is on at the centre because it is advertised only on one social media and on the boards outside. If you go onto the centre's website there is a calendar, with everything that is on at the centre, month by month. This is the link. <https://www.charlesboothcentre.org.uk/events-diary-bookings> Nita has worked with Tom to provide a list of things on at the centre currently, which is attached. We will, of course, when able, inform people of what is happening at the centre, and also post things on social media for those with access to this.

### **What's On**

3 June – Bull's Head – cake sale to raise money for Loros. Starts at 12 noon. All welcome.

6 June – Thringstone Trails walking group. Meet at 4pm at Man within Compass car park.

18 June – Thringstone Primary's annual fayre from 11am – 2pm.

19 June – Charles Booth Centre – classic car enthusiasts 10am – 1pm. All welcome.

17 July – Gracedieu Priory Festival of Archeology walk at 3pm from Bull's Head car park. £3

21 July – Gracedieu Priory Festival of Archeology walk at 6pm from Bull's Head car park. £3.

### **Chairs Report**

**Letters received:** None

**Emails received:** Various from people with whom we regularly share information. Various flytipping reported, as usual.

**Promotion:** We have **704 twitter followers**, which is one less than last month, and **1,796 facebook followers**, which is 21 more than last month.

**Other:** We regret to report the death of Julie Everitt. Condolences go to Dave and to Julie's children.

Welcome to our new members Emma and Adam Clarke and Michael Manning.

### **Finance Report**



Thank you to those people who have paid their membership again for the coming 12 months. Much appreciated. We still have some money to collect. 59p extra was found in our float money. This has gone into petty cash and is reflected in the starting figure given below.

<b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>2161.11</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Publications		Broadband	20.00
Donations	£89		
Memberships	£600		
<b>total income to general fund</b>			
		<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>2830.11</b>

### Web Report

All the minutes are on site up to April, and work is continuing in other areas.

### Incident Report

- 11 May – fight on **Dalkeith Walk** which saw a woman assaulted
- 13 May – several police officers, plus cars and a van around **Melrose Road** looking for someone with connections to the estate, on the run, who had been seen near John Street jumping a fence to avoid detection. He was allegedly found hiding in the boot of a car.
- 20 May – vandalism to the **Co-op car park wall** – around 20 boulders from the wall pulled off and left in Drury Lane, and some of our planting vandalised. All reported to police, and to Co-op, and sentinel set up so that the area can, once again, be monitored as this is not only criminal damage but anti-social behaviour. Kids congregate down the lane from around 8.30pm apparently. Subsequently a further 4 boulders pulled off just round the corner of Drury Lane. The Co-op arranged for a builder to repair the wall, which took place on 30 May.

### History report

- Nita spoke with Ismail Dale of Historic England about helping with a project involving **Thringstone Primary**, looking at Thringstone in the past as part of a heritage week. Nita offered our help with archive information should this be needed, and pointed out that the school should have a copy of each of our publications, and also have a good archive themselves.
- Nita was asked about the toll gates in Thringstone by Ian Smith from Portsmouth who is connected to **John and Catherine Tucker** nee Hewitt. She replied and also sent copies of various marriage and baptism records she had on file which form part of our archives, and also gave details of burial dates. Unfortunately, the graves at St Andrew's church seem to be no longer visible. We were sent a copy of a photograph of Elizabeth, Amelia and Catherine, the children of John and Catherine, who had died pretty close together – he aged 47 in 1884 and her aged 43 in 1885, possibly of scarlet fever. We were told that Elizabeth, the eldest girl, was a servant whose employer allowed her to take the other two to work with her, the youngest of whom was only 10 when her mother died. Elizabeth paid the rent on wherever they were living and kept all three siblings together. She married at St Andrew's on 24 November 1890 to David Henson, son of James Henson, farmer. The 1881 census shows Mr and Mrs Tucker together with Elizabeth and Catherine, whereas Amelia was living with her aunt, Mary Hewitt, another toll gate keeper, on Ashby Road, Thringstone. The youngest daughter, Catherine, was great grandmother to Mr Smith. Catherine is shown on the 1891 census as lodging with her sister Elizabeth, now Mrs Henson, where she was an apprentice dressmaker. She married on 19 April 1897 at Christchurch, Coalville, to John Heath, a soldier born at Richmond Barracks in Dublin. John Heath's father, William, was born in Thringstone. William had enlisted in Loughborough aged 18 in



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1860 and at one time had deserted. His punishments during his career included 50 lashes and imprisonment for 112 days. His career ended on 14 Feb 1882 and he spent most of his career in Ireland.

- We were given a copy of the marriage certificate for **Thomas Jones** of Gracedieu to Mary Elveston in 1784 by one of our group. Thomas was the son of John Jones of Manor Farm, who witnessed the marriage and is mentioned in Thringstone and Its People. We were also given a copy of the marriage record for John Jesson of Gracedieu to Mary Knight in 1855, and John Henson Carter to Annie Allgood, plus a photograph of the grave of Thomas Kidger Ayre about whom we have written previously.
- **April 1863 – Thomas Gough of Thringstone** wrote a poem called Blighted Blossoms, which was printed in the Hinckley News of 18<sup>th</sup> April. The poem was written after Mr Gough scattered some violets on the grave of a young lady friend, name unknown.
- **Christmas 1870** – Details in various newspapers relating to festivities list farmers and butchers who had slaughtered stock for locals to purchase at Christmas. As far as Thringstone is concerned, the information included that **Mrs Hurst of Thringstone House** slaughtered 3 pigs and 6 sheep. We hadn't realised what Mrs Hurst farmed, but now we know!
- **May 1886 – Miss Arabella Sarrison** resigned from being head at Thringstone School after 6 years. Miss Sarrison was Scottish, and we know from the 1881 census for Thringstone that she was living with Wilson Hallam, grocer, in Main Street at that time, where she was listed as having been born in Edinburgh. Arabella Sarrison appears on the 1871 census in Leith, Midlothian (not far from Edinburgh).. Listed as the daughter of Sarah a widow and spirit dealer, 32 year old Arabella is shown as a shopkeeper. Her baptism in 1840 shows her father to have been Christopher (also recorded as Christian, a ship's master and spirit dealer, who died on 2 June 1864), and that she was born on 3 January 1838 in Leith. Both her parents were Welsh. The 1841 census shows her in Leith with her mother and sisters Hannah and Martha. We can only assume that she did some training to teach, as in 1877 she is a mistress at the Episcopal School, Leven Street, Burntisland, Fife, Scotland. She obviously then moved to England. Further research has shown that on 2 July 1900, Arabella took charge of Lusby School in Lincolnshire, Miss Bertha Proctor having left. She had previously been a member of staff there in 1899 (certified teacher 1<sup>st</sup> class). Less than 100 people lived in Lusby at that time. She is still there, living in Lusby near Horncastle on the 1901 census, along with Christian Lawrence, her great niece. She was still at the school in 1907 as log books available on the internet show this. Upon retirement, she moved to Barton Upon Irwell near Salford, and was living with her niece and husband Edward Lawrence and his family in 1911 at 37 Urmston Lane, Stretford, Manchester. She died there in the August 1911 and was buried in the local church on 2 September 1911.
- **April 1909** – Following concern raised by the church in 1907, a church circular was sent round the village asking for subscriptions to be sent to Rev Shrewsbury in order to buy land to **extend the graveyard at St Andrew's**. The area was around half an acre and £100 was needed to enable walls to be built, drainage sorted etc. John Kirby and Daniel Webb were also able to take subscriptions as church wardens and Enoch Briers, James Gee, Everard Merriman, William Jesson Gough, William Severn, William Waldram and John Winters would also take subscriptions.
- **May 1911** - As part of the organisation for the **Coronation**, the village was divided into areas where volunteers went to get subscriptions, and one of the areas included **Bauble Yard**. The information given says that the 4 properties in Bauble Yard were in the ownership of Mrs Brooks and included Mr Stinson's property. The chairman of the committee said he believed that there were 200 properties in Thringstone, and people going to these properties needed to ask occupants for subscriptions of 2 shillings to cover the cost of the event.
- **June 1911** – Joseph Biddle, father of **John Biddle**, baker of Gracedieu Road, was assisting his son in some repairs to the roof of John's house when he fell. He was badly bruised and shaken and Dr Burkitt was called, but he was found to have no broken bones and was sent home in a cab obtained by Mr Briers.
- **Oct 1915** – Charles Booth opened the **Thringstone Horticultural Show** in aid of the Leicester



Royal Infirmary. He was thanked by Mr J Winters, chairman of the committee and Herbert Charles Peters of Main Street, secretary. Rev Shrewsbury presided over the event. A comic parade by members of Thringstone Cycling Club and others headed by the Coalville Coronation band was a feature of the event.

- **April 1916** – A meeting of the **Thringstone Buffaloes, Grace Dieu Lodge**, was held at The Queen's Head. The host was Mr Hallam who had decorated the lodge room out with garlands and flags of all allied forces. Brothers John T Briers and J Biddle were raised to the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree. Reference was made to the Red Cross appeal and subscriptions were at once forthcoming. Mention was also made of Brother Underwood who was very ill and the help given by other brothers.
- **March 1919** – **Sarah Gough** who kept a small shop in Thringstone was in court for failing to display the cost of onions and also for exceeding the fixed price for rice. Since her shop was so small, she was only fined 10 shillings 6 pence for each case.
- **June 1919** – **Thomas Hallam**, husband of Rebecca Hallam mentioned in a recent bulletin, was in court and fined 7 shillings and 6 pence for not sending one of his children to school. If he failed to pay, he would face 7 days in prison. In July 1912 and again in July 1915 he received a similar fine as a result of using foul language in the street.
- **Jan 1991** – The production of **Puss in Boots** at Thringstone Community Centre attracted over 1700 patrons, but the production did not go without incident. John Hulbert, press officer for Thringstone Panto and Drama Society, told that the curtains had refused to draw at the interval on opening night due to a problem with the tab run. On the Friday, the smoke alarm sounded at the end of the first performance, and everybody was made to leave the centre until the cause could be found. The fire brigade discovered that a piece of equipment used in the kitchen scene to provide a bang had triggered the alarm due to its vapours not being able to escape. The cast comprised of Deborah Knifton, Mandy McGahan, Claire Kendrick, Tina Hammond and Robert Waterfield, who also produced the show. Newcomer Steve Willars performed well as Lord Chamberlain.
- **Feb 1991** - The new **Meadows Nursing Home** opened its doors after a month of advertising for trained staff. Opened by Dr William Muir from Whitwick Health Centre, a plaque to his wife, who had died a year earlier, was placed in the home. The first guest appeared on 25 February and the home will accommodate 40 guests and 40 staff with matron being Sheila Davey. Owners of the business are David and Linda Bell from Nottingham. Mr Bell comes from Shepshed, and lived in the old house before the home was set up. The original Meadows had been a nursing home in WW2. The owners were optimistic about the future of the care home.
- **Feb 1991** – Laura Jones, aged 6, from Main Street was filmed by **You've Been Framed** for a TV appearance on the show with Jeremy Beadle. She had been cuddling her doll when its head fell off.
- **April 1991** – **Howard Rose** from Main Street died aged 49. He had suffered with poor health throughout his life, but with the help of his wife Carol, to whom he was married in 1964, and sons Paul and Lee had continued his love of football through being part of the management committee of Thringstone Football Club, before being forced to retire due to his health. Howard was born in Hathern, and had started a rock and roll club in that village in 1960.
- **August 1991** – An inquest into the death of two men, including 19 year old Edward David Freer of **Whitwick Moor**, Thringstone was held. The Ford Sierra car in which they had been travelling down Beacon Road in Woodhouse Eaves swerved and overturned. The accident happened at 9.45pm on April 27<sup>th</sup> and a witness saw the car coming towards him swerve and then disappear from view, ending up wrapped around an oak tree. Both men were killed at the scene. It was assumed that the car had caught the verge and in order to correct this, the driver, Simon Stuart Rogers, aged 20 of Ravenstone, turned his wheel but misjudged and steered to the other side of the road. The inquest gave a verdict of accidental death, and the coroner said that they would never know what actually happened.
- **Aug 1991** – The **annual Thringstone gala** organised by Margaret Fern and Pete Gough was cancelled due to lack of volunteers offering support. Only 3 people had come forward after a public request, and it was not possible to put the event together with so few helpers. The gala had been held over a week in August for 10 years.



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- **Aug 1991** – **The George and Dragon** tenants, Sue and Jim Martyn, were in the Loughborough Echo to say how upset they were at the 150% rise in pub rents by their landlords Bass Breweries. They had been advised by their accountant to give up and move out, or faced bankruptcy, but did not want to do this. However, they did leave in 1992 and moved to Swallowdale.
- **Oct 1991** – **Thringstone Community Centre's** warden, Lynn Goulbourn, was requesting adult artists to come forward to paint murals on the stairway walls to the upper hall, under the direction of a northern artist, and using scaffolding. It was felt that this would brighten up the area and give it some interest. In November, it was reported that a project with King Edward V11 had seen the stairway to the upstairs hall get a new sky blue ceiling and a mural based on Province in France painted on the walls. Bernard Dong and Joan Murphy helped with the artwork
- **April 1992** – Ashby's United Biscuits lorry drivers, **Roy Smallwood** of Thringstone and Tony Lawson of Swadlincote, gave up 2 weeks of their holidays to take 3 portable classrooms to Moldova in the north of Romania to be used as remedial classrooms at an orphanage. Once on site, the men stopped to help build a playground at the orphanage.
- **Jan 1994** – **Thringstone Community Centre** has carried out various alterations to provide a more disabled friendly environment. The bar lounge was altered to provide double space when needed and a ramp gave better access to the main entrance. Ruby Leeson from TADDAC the local disabled group said that the alterations made it easier for disabled people and their carers to come to meetings at the centre. The group offered computer and board games, crafts, speakers and days out with members ranging in age from 45 years to 85 years. On 2 February the centre was offering a tree planting meeting with planting to take place in March. The warden of the centre, Lynn Goulbourn, was asking for volunteers from the community to help plant trees in Bob's Closs. The management committee had agreed to this, and she was hopeful that the scouts and primary school children would be involved. Janice Kerby, project officer of Landmark North West came to the meeting arranged, and said that oak, mountain ash, field maple, silver birch and crab apple trees would be the best to be planted, given the existing flora and fauna. The planting was arranged for 27 February.
- **Jan 1994** – **Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's** production of Tom The Piper's Son, which marked their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary performance, was hailed as the best ever for costumes and storyline. Credit was given to newcomer John Croson who played two parts, to Joe Knifton and to 'dame' Robert Waterfield, who also produced and directed the show.
- **Nov 1994** – Thringstone Rainbows had a new temporary leader - Pat Hibbert replaced Miss Karen Smith. Karen had been leader for 6 years and was taking a break. There was concern that, should a new permanent leader not be found, the rainbows would have to close. The rainbows were formed in Thringstone in January 1992 and met at Thringstone Primary school on Monday evenings.
- **Dec 1994** – Local councillors **Adrian Cross and David Taylor** (who later became our MP and at the time was also chair of the Rural Issues Working Party Group) stated to local media their concerns over accidents happening around Thringstone Green following an accident to Jean Leigh from Glebe Road who was hospitalised after being hit by a vehicle. In March, in the same vicinity, a local girl Nichola Pollard from Melrose Road was hit by a car driven by another Melrose Road resident and taken to hospital with a broken leg. The accident happened at 6pm at The Green. Since 1991 there had been 21 reported injuries to people following traffic accidents around The Green. County Councillor Adrian Cross called for traffic calming measures in the village in order to protect the public. David Taylor, district councillor for the village, said that many petitions had been sent to the council about the issue of traffic on Main Street, Loughborough Road and The Green. David Taylor said that the number of incidents vary from a few near misses to more serious accidents within the space of a few hundred yards and he was no longer prepared to take 'no' for an answer when raising the issue in council meetings.

A social meeting may take place in July. Please look at your emails to see date, details etc.