



# The Friends of Thringstone



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

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## **BULLETIN FOR NOVEMBER 2022**

### **News.**

**Monthly litter pick total – 132 bags** removed by 7 people against 113 **bags** for the same month last year. Since we started keeping records, we've removed 19,055 bags of litter.

**Next meeting** – Given the lack of a bar option, we will not be holding a Christmas party this year at the centre. The next meeting will be 8 December in the house lounge and if anybody fancies bringing some nibbles or drink along to that, feel free.

**Last meeting notes:** For the benefit of those not on email, to which we have added updates.

**Hello Heritage** – We discussed whether people feel that they have seen all our archives before and that is why they didn't turn up, or whether, as it more probable, people didn't come out because of the demise of HM Queen or lack of visible publicity outside the centre. Nita understood that some other groups had relatively low turnouts and agreed to talk to NWLDC about the event, and its marketing for next year and how to improve the turnout. It was suggested that a walk at the same time might help, then people would come in after the walk. **UPDATE:** Nita has spoken to the council about this, and discovered that some groups cancelled their events, but those that went ahead seemed to have had a good day and turnout. It has been suggested that the event for 2023 might be held at a different venue, and perhaps have a specific theme around that venue, for example something at Thringstone Members Club could be about their Rangers Football team and the miners coming from Scotland and Durham, and something at Thringstone Miners Welfare could be about mining and also about football. **Please let us have your views.** We are not holding our breath, as when we put out requests like this we seldom get a response at all.

**Warm Hub at the centre** – Everybody was pleased about this new idea, and hoped that there might at some point in time be other help for local people like a local foodbank, which is being considered. It was mentioned that there is something at the Co-op, and we discussed how many crops are ploughed back in because they aren't the right shape/size and whether local farmers might work with the centre or others to give vegetables out to those needing them. It was wondered whether there should be a banner outside to advertise the warm hub for those not on internet etc. Nita said it was being mentioned in an article she had written which is likely to be in Community Voice in November and that should help get people in. At that point, we discussed the circulation of the magazine and streets/areas where it doesn't get delivered. Nita said that the magazine is financed through advertising, but would ask the people at the magazine about their circulation. **UPDATE:** If anybody fancies knitting hats or scarves to give to people who come to the centre for the warm hub, please go ahead and take to the centre office. Also if you have wool or knitting needles to donate, please take them to the centre. They also wish to put together a rack containing children's jackets and coats etc. If you have any to donate, please take them to the centre any weekday between 9am and 12 noon.



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**Green Shoots Scheme** – Bulbs are being delivered to Bill Enser tomorrow for him to put in down the bottom end of the village. **UPDATE:** Bill's delivery of 2 bags of daffodils arrived and were planted. The invoice from NWLDC is expected to follow shortly. We have also asked for some trees from the current NWLDC scheme. Bill is picking these up on 20 November for us and planting them.

**Santa Fun Run** from the centre – Nita had been in touch with various sports clubs about the run, and understands that Ingles FC may field a team for the event and the Football Academy at Gracedieu might also join in. It was wondered whether the pre-school would field a team. Nita said she would ask them, and also mention it to the scouts. She will also ask the centre about photos being taken on the day for publicity purposes.

**Christmas posters** – These are now with someone to put up over the November period. Nita will contact Thringstone Primary about the event and try to get something in the school newsletter and some posters in the school. This is on the 'to do' list. **UPDATE:** This was done on 20 October

**Coronation of Charles 3<sup>rd</sup>** – It was wondered if there are any plans in this regard for a village event. Nita said she had mentioned this at the centre, and hoped that all the venues might work together so that a programme could be put out with things not overlapping, giving people the chance to attend more than one celebration. She has spoken to the centre about what happened in 1953. **UPDATE:** The ceremony is going to be on 6 May which is a Saturday. If you know of any plans for village celebrations, please let us know.

**Gardening** – Mike said he had tidied up Drury Lane and The Green, and had offers of some more plants.

**Enrych singing group** – Numbers for this are low. Nita said she discussed this with the centre yesterday, and mentioned that a lot of people had said they can't come out on a Wednesday morning because of other things. The centre had said they would feed this back to the Enrych folk.

**Funding for the centre** – Anne said that she had heard something about funding through ITV and the Lottery. Nita said she would mention this to the centre team. **UPDATE:** It was too late to apply.

### New information:

**Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's panto** for 2023 will be Pinocchio. This will run at the centre from 21-28 January and ticket prices will be £10 for adults and £8 for children with the exception of 26<sup>th</sup> when all tickets will be £7.

**Thringstone Miners Welfare** have provided us with litter picking bags, for which we thank them.

**Changing bus route** – From 22 October, the bus through Thringstone that previously then went up past the doctors and Mason's chemist into Whitwick Market Place now misses out that bit and goes to Coalville via Brooks Lane. That means people who need to go to the doctors/chemist or Whitwick Co-op will have a fair walk to get there. Lots of people have complained about this and Nita has written to the county councillor about this. If you feel likewise, please contact Leicestershire County Councillor Tony Gillard on [tony.gillard@leics.gov.uk](mailto:tony.gillard@leics.gov.uk) or if you are unable to email, take a letter in to Colledge's florists, and Sue will pass this on.

**Thringstone Members Club** - Starting on 7 November – **Jiggly Feet** – kids dancing with Miss Leanne. First week free - £14 per month, or pay as you go at £4.50 with siblings discounts available. Ring Leanne on 07791 705450.

Fancy a full **Scottish breakfast**? £5 every Monday at the club from 11- 1pm. Look good to us.

**Bingo** is still on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday every week with cash prizes from 8pm-9pm.

**Curry Night** – Thursdays 6pm-9pm - £7 with alcoholic pint, £6 with soft drink.

**People Zone** – Nita had a meeting on 20 Oct with 2 ladies who came up from London from Mapping For Change about the Whitwick and Thringstone People Zone. We have some surveys to complete which need to be done before 4 November. We get £1 for every survey completed that mentions our group as the source of the information getting to them. If you can fill in a form and get it back to Nita by 4 November, please let her know. You can also fill in a form online by going to <https://forms.office.com/r/U7paKYRGwX>



**Centre** - We understand that bar and events manager Carole Cox is leaving the centre on 16 November. She will be missed and we wish her well in her new endeavours. Her husband Geoff resigned as trustee in September.

**Wall by St Andrew's church** – On 7 October, prior to its recent collapse, Nita was contacted by James White of NWLDC about the ownership of the wall leading from Main Street to Loughborough Road, and known to us as the **church wall**. The council had been contacted over its dangerous condition, and were concerned over the safety of people using the public footpath. They were thinking of closing off the footpath and asking people to walk through the churchyard through railings which could be taken down. Nita told him of the article in the Coalville Times on 28 April 1911 which reads 'The annual vestry meeting at Thringstone was held on Thursday [27 April] in the vestry at St Andrew's Church. The vicar (the Rev C Shrewsbury) presided. The balance sheet showed an income for the year of £119 8 shillings and 11pence. After meeting the expenses, including £49 10 shillings 10½ pence on a **new wall**, there remained a balance in hand of £10 17 shillings 7½ pence. The vicar said he thought the financial position very satisfactory. But for the new wall, they would have had nearly £60 in hand. Reviewing the work of the year, the vicar said it was very satisfactory. They had had to erect a new wall and it was a great thing to have been able to pay for that out of the collections. The stone was to be paid for, and a sale of work would be held in June to assist the churchwardens' accounts. He also said that a new porch was in the course of being erected at a cost of £116 dedicated to the memory of the late vicar Mr E S Crane'. There is also an article of 23 June 1911 in the Coalville Times which we have mentioned before in our notes, confirming the sale of goods to help pay for the wall. This information confirms that the wall was built on behalf of the church and paid for by them in 1911. It does not, however, answer queries as to why the solicitors for the church have no record of ownership. On 23 Oct, around 3 yards of the church wall came down. Nita discovered this whilst litter picking and NWLDC/church were informed. The church continues to maintain that the wall is not their responsibility. We understand that Andrew Bridgen has written to the Bishop of Leicester.

### What's On

3 November – **Charles Booth Centre – Film Club** – Downton Abbey. Film 7.30pm.

5 November - Firework display at **Thringstone Members Club**. Starts at 8.30pm. Tickets £6 family of 2 adults, 3 children, £2 per adult, children £1.

5 November – **George and Dragon**. Fireworks display plus live band The Mercians. Gates open at 4pm. Tickets for parking are £10 Bonfire lit at 7pm.

9 Nov – **Thringstone Members Club** – All Aboard the Shanty Ship – event put on by Folks on The Green. Starts at 7pm. Tickets £10 to include supper from [folkonthefarm.co.uk/latest-news/shanty-singaround](http://folkonthefarm.co.uk/latest-news/shanty-singaround)

19 Nov – **Thringstone Members Club** – Rod Stuart (a Rod Stewart tribute). Tickets £12

27 Nov – **Christmas craft fayre** at **Charles Booth Centre** presented by Thringstone Panto and Drama Society. 11am-3pm. Santa comes at 2pm.

3 Dec – Christmas Fayre at **Thringstone Members Club** 4.30-8.30pm. Grotto and carol singers

4 Dec – **Carols at the Priory**. Starts at 3pm. Parking at the bottom car park of Bull's Head.

11 Dec – **Santa Fun run** from Charles Booth Centre. Starts at 9am. £5 on the day for ticket. Teams or families can run for £15.

16 Dec – **Carols round the tree** at the centre. Leave St Andrew's at 6.30pm and walk to the centre singing carols. U3A choir will be part of the entertainment package at the centre.

23 Dec – **Soul Club at Thringstone Members Club** – Christmas party. 7.30-12. Tickets £6. Raffle for Brown Dogs Cancer Charity.

6 and 7 Jan – **Thringstone Members Club** – Ace Community Theatre presents murder mystery – The Sound of Murder. Tickets £8 to include high tea. Book online via [www.ticketsource.co.uk/ace](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ace)

21-28 Jan – **TPADS production** of Pinocchio at Charles Booth Centre. Tickets £10 for adults and £8 for children other than 26 Jan when all tickets are £7.

### Chairs Report

**Emails received/sent:** Various from people with whom we regularly share information. Various fly tipping reported, as usual.

**Promotion:** We have **726 twitter followers**, which is 10 more than last month, and **1,919 facebook followers**, which 6 more than last month.

**Other:** Nita has ordered trees for Bill Enser to plant as part of NWLDC's Free Tree Scheme. They are available from 20 November.

### Finance Report

Our account examiner may be leaving the UK and we have been able to fill this vacancy with the help of Andy from CBC. Many thanks to Anne for helping to sort this.

<b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>2822.40</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
		Broadband	20.00
		Reprint of some publications	30.20
<b>total income to general fund</b>			50.20
		<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>2772.20</b>

### Web Report

Nothing has been updated since March. The webmaster is still working on this.

### Incident Report

- 2 Oct – number plate taken off car on Priory Close and posted through the letterbox of another house on Glebe Road. Youths seen coming up the road in the early hours and various criminal damage noticed afterwards. We have heard reports of people seeing someone in their drive trying to get into cars around 4am on the Glebe Road estate. No cars were stolen, but please make sure you keep your car locked if left out in drives at night time.
- 8 Oct – 3 youths seen taking a motorbike and looking at cars (unsure of location). Motorbike found the following day in a field near the brook at the back of Swallowdale.
- Oct – car back window smashed on Thringstone Members Club car park.
- 12 Oct – Silver Peugeot stolen from Melrose Road.
- 13 Oct – Motor bikers in Gracedieu Woods from mid afternoon to early evening took to going along the railway line and throwing things at passing walkers as well as riding straight at people as they were walking in the woods.

### History report

- If anybody wants to know what history has been in the minutes/bulletins but not made its way to publications, contact Nita who has all this on computer. This is split into various categories, is currently 230 pages long, and added to every month. There are also 23 pages of history notes yet to go in anywhere.
- Nita has upgraded her Findmypast subscription to pro premium, which allows her to download all the **Thringstone 1921 census** information without her having to pay £3.15 each download. If anybody wants to know about their family in 1921, please contact Nita who will be pleased to help. We have discovered that there were 3 families living at **Bauble Yard** – Sarah Biddle aged 75 and a visitor, Ernest and Clara Winters and their daughter Maude and Naomi Gough, 65, widow. Ernest Winters



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worked as a brick dresser for Newbold Glory Brick and Pipe Yard in Coleorton, which is a new one on us!

- The 1921 census for **Hugh Massey** and his wife Louie Maud (nee Webb from The Willows) who lived at Brookside, Gracedieu Road, showed that their son 8 year old son Wilmott was not at home at the time. Nita was asked to look at the census for The Willows, and it was discovered he was staying with his grandmother and uncle/aunts there. Apparently, he had had an appendicitis and nearly died. The house at Brookside, along with others, was demolished as part of the clearances in the late 1930s due to the poor state they were in, lack of amenities, damp etc. The census for The Willows shows that Edith May Webb was still a teacher at Thringstone school, that for Ivydene that Miss Annie E S Lee was also in the same position, and that Jimmy Lester, who lived at The Warren, was head. Nita received an email from a person related to the Webb family of **The Willows** in which he gave us more information on the family, and the inside of the property in the 1940s, just after the country toilets were replaced by a bathroom. Country toilets were a plank with holes in of various sizes to accommodate several people at any one time. Apparently, women often shared this, whereas men hardly ever did.....
- Nita has joined us to the **NW Leicestershire Heritage page** on facebook.
- Nita was sent a copy of a photo of **Ruby** of the fish shop by Jill Rose on twitter for our archives. Nita shared this with the shop who put it on their facebook page and shared it widely.
- As part of some research into the girls who were patients at Mary Booth's convalescent home in Thringstone, which included Effie Walton, Nita has found out a lot about the Walton family, as below. We will be posting about this family for the next few months, as there is a lot of information to share. **Charlotte Robinson** married **George Edward Walton** of Thringstone in 1891. Charlotte was 17. George was a miner, and the family lived at Fox Terrace, Main Street. They had 7 children – Edward born 12 April 1892, Effie born 14 July 1894, Clara born in 1895, Sarah Jane born 7 February 1897. George born in 1901 who died and was buried at St Andrew's in Thringstone in March 1908, John born in November 1904 who died shortly thereafter, and Violet born in Feb 1907 died April 1907 and buried at St Andrew's, Thringstone.  
**Charlotte** was quite a character whose name appeared in the papers several times. In December 1893, Charlotte, aged 19, was in court after having been the subject of a **vicious attack** whilst out bilberry picking near Spring Hill Farm, Whitwick, around 10am on 4 July 1893, 10 days before Effie was born. The court case was held in December the same year, and the judge heard that Charlotte had seen the man called William Dean, otherwise known as Willard Richardson, a Belper born miner at Whitwick Colliery whilst she was out collecting bilberries. He was also bilberrying, and said to her that there weren't many to be had to which she did not reply as she did not know the man. Despite the fact that Charlotte was heavily pregnant, Dean had then threatened her, pushed her backwards and sexually assaulted her. She said at the time that she struggled, shouted murder and screamed, but nobody was around to hear her. After he left, she said she struggled to her feet and wondered how she had managed to get home, and facing the court she admitted that the event had impacted on her and for that reason was, on the day of the court hearing, supported by her mother. During the hearing, Charlotte was described as seeming dazed and looking as if she were about to faint. Around 1pm on the day of the attack, Dr Burkitt had been called, and he found her nervous and exhausted, He saw finger marks on her body, several bruises, and she had issues with her back, which was causing a lot of pain. In mitigation, Dean said that he didn't know what had come over him, and having realised what he had done, and having been asked about the incident at work, he had left his lodgings and had gone on the run, sleeping in fields for a few days, before being arrested in Hugglescote. He said he **would not be charged with rape**, but admitted indecent assault. Given that he had been in prison for 20 weeks and the trial delayed, due to Charlotte having given birth after the event, the judge decided that he should receive a sentence of 12 months hard labour.  
In October 1899, Charlotte was in court again. She was charged by a neighbour, Mary Fewkes, of **assault**. Mrs Fewkes claimed that Charlotte had come to her door, shouted at her that she would lay her out for a corpse and tried to throttle her. Witnesses called did not attest to this, although they





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did see Charlotte hit one of the Fewkes boys and he hit her back. Charlotte said that Mrs Fewkes had hit her with a poker and she had then been set upon by the boys. Witnesses said that they had heard Mrs Fewkes tell her sons to kill Charlotte. Mrs Fewkes was fined 5 shillings and 6 pence and £1 4 shillings and 6 pence costs. Charlotte was found to be at no fault, and Mrs Fewkes was ordered to pay Charlotte's costs of 9 shillings and 6 pence also.

In 1906, Charlotte accused James Gee of **assault**. The matter went to court, but by that time, Mr Gee had paid Charlotte for her injuries, and so the matter was thrown out.

On 29 June 1907, both Charlotte and George were **arrested** by PC Atkinson and later fined for using indecent language in the street and were fined 13 shillings each in all.

From later information, it may be the case that Charlotte and George at one time kept a shop, presumably near The Fox in Main Street.

Charlotte died in October 1908 and was buried at St Andrew's. That same month, **George** was in court for **poaching on the de Lisle estate** on 19 October. When arrested, he said that the police should not make any bother, as his wife was dying, and the court heard that she had since died. He was fined 5 shillings and 5 pence. It was not his first offence as he had been in court for a similar offence in 1905.

- **Oct 1865** – Two Thringstone ladies, **Caroline Armston and Mary Orridge**, were **tripe dressers** in Thringstone, and not averse to having the occasional spat. Mrs Armston nee Wilton, born on 29 Dec 1830 and married to Daniel who was originally a grocer, had 5 children and lived near the Rose and Crown. Census information shows that her mother lived with the family. Mary Orridge nee Hibbert was a Thringstone woman, born in 1818, married originally to Robert Eames in 1843, but he died after she'd had one son called William. She remarried to John Orridge in 1846. They had 9 children and also lived on Main Street.

Villagers were either staunch tripe supporters of Mrs Armston or Mrs Orridge, but not both. It was common for the tripe dressers to have a set to about anything, and the women had not been friendly for some time due to being rivals in business. However, on 28 Sept 1865, it came to a head when Mrs Orridge walked past Mrs Armston's house. On seeing her rival approaching, Mrs Armston, engaged at the time in domestic tasks, went out of the back door of her house, took a dirty mop, and placed it on a chair, in order to obstruct the footpath. Mrs Orridge was brought to a halt, but on looking around, spied one of the village policemen. Drawing his attention to the mop, she asked him what she should do with it. He said he had no wish to be involved in their feud. He told Mrs Orridge to cast the mop aside and continue on her way, and at that point, went on his own way as quickly as he possibly could. The mop was then replaced by Mrs Armston, who then appeared with a tin saucepan and attacked Mrs Orridge about the head. Mrs Orridge resisted the best she could, and having a sugar basin which she had been carrying, threw this at Mrs Armston and put up a decent defence until Mrs Armston's mother, Mrs Ann Wilton, came to help her daughter by getting hold of Mrs Orridge's hair. This swung the battle. The matter went to court, where Mrs Armston and her mother had legal representation, but Mrs Orridge had none. She called Mary Moore and James Gough as witnesses to what had happened and to corroborate her version of events. Mr Gough said that he had seen the event, and that the women were always quarrelling. He saw the mop blocking the thoroughfare, and had seen the women hit each other. Agreeing that Mr Gough was a very reasonable man, which to Thringstone folk meant that he would not let his liking for tripe prejudice his evidence, the magistrates were asked to make a decision, despite some conflicting statements. They declared that those present had to pay 25 shillings each including costs. Mary Orridge stayed in Thringstone and died in 1897. The Armstons had moved to Hugglescote before 1881. Maybe they needed to get away from Thringstone! Caroline died in 1895.

**Next meeting 8 December in the house lounge. Starts at 7pm**