



The Friends of Thringstone

'Working together to improve our village'

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BULLETIN FOR AUGUST 2024

Monthly litter pick total – 115 bags removed by 10 **people** against **155 bags** by 7 people for July 2023. One of our more prolific litter pickers is having back problems at the moment which accounts for the lower numbers.

Notes of meeting on 1 August – only 5 present, but 6 apologies.

Where does our recycling go to? We have heard people saying that our recycling is sent abroad, and some people have suggested they no longer wish to recycle because of the air miles this recycling then uses up. NWLDC tell us that plastics are collected from the NWL depot by Cello Recycling and sent to Manchester where it is made into pellets and then sold to make other items. Aluminium is collected by Swan Alloy and goes to Swansea where it is melted into large ingots. These then made into further aluminium cans. Glass is also processed by Cello Recycling and goes to Yorkshire where it is made into new glass containers on site. Steel is collected by Clearpoint recycling and goes onto Sims in Smethwick where it is made in bales to be reused. Cardboard is collected by Datashredders from Cambridgeshire, and then goes to various mills in the UK to be made into corrugated paper. Paper is also collected by Datashredders and then goes to mills to be made into toilet paper, wipes etc. Garden waste is taken direct by NWL to a composting facility in Lount operated by SUEZ. There it is turned into premium grade compost to be used on agricultural land. It is worthwhile pointing out that any recycling put into street bins does not get recycled, so please think about putting any cans, bottles etc. into the recycling stations on The Green and Henson's Lane, and use the cardboard recycling facility outside Thringstone Co-op rather than using the street bins. Ann said she had taken some recycling to the actual tip and was told to just put it with household stuff going to landfill.

Chairs Report

Emails received/sent: Usual exchanges of information. Various fly tipping reported, as usual.

Promotion: We have **757 X followers**, which is one less than last month, and **2,207 facebook followers**, which is 25 more than last month.

Other: Nita attended the Love Your Neighbourhood event on Melrose Rd on 6 July. It was a low turnout, but useful. She also attended the Charles Booth Pre-school fete at Gracedieu which was lovely, and nice to see so many from the village there.

Nita sent some details across to the council's **Community Focus magazine** and newsletter on our litter picking exploits. These should be in their August magazine. A similar article has been sent to Community Voice.

Nita has asked East Midlands Housing if they can deal with the overgrown hedge on the corner of **Booth Road**. It is so overgrown that pedestrians are forced onto the road, which is dangerous given the bend and lack of visibility to vehicle drivers anyway. They have said they are aware and have it in hand.

Welcome to our new member Cecilia Dean.

Meeting on 1 August 2024.

Charles Booth event – Our event on Charles Booth presented by Sarah Wise was fully subscribed. Around 14 people didn't turn up, but 4 who had said in advance that they couldn't come allowed us to



reallocate their seats. Another 3 were on the list for tickets were told we were fully booked, but 7 people turned up at the event on the off chance. The event went exceptionally well. It was lovely to see people meeting up others they know after a long time. Some people said it was 55 years since they'd been to the centre. People were full of compliments about the presentation and the organisation, and the centre team helped no end with everything. One lady posted on facebook that she had attended with her niece who is studying history at university and found it fascinating. She said she was born in Thringstone and had known nothing of what she heard that evening and was full of praise for the whole thing. We had arranged for the speaker to go around Gracedieu Manor and for her to also be taken to the churchyard to see the grave, for which she was very grateful, and thanks go to Janet and Ann for going with her on all this, and to Janet for picking her up from the station and returning her there after the talk. Donations made were very generous, we sold some teas and coffees and publications, and details of these will appear in the financial statement next month. After the event, we gave the spare tea, coffee etc. to The Old School House to say thank you to them for designing the posters and running off 30 copies for us to put up. Thanks to all who came to the event, helped and worked to make the event such a success. Nita did a set of debriefing notes, which are available to anybody who wants a copy, and were shared with the centre, and some of the suggestions going forward could be helpful to them. It also brought about an offer from the Trustees that if we wish to use their card payment system for any publication sales, they will deal with that, and then give us the money once the fee for using the system has been taken out. This could potentially lead to more sales, although the money for these publications would not be the full amount usually charged.

Nita has sent out press releases to Coalville Times, Coalville Nub News and to Community Voice magazine.

Nita has spoken with the man who did the audio recording for us, and he said it has turned out exceptionally well. He intends to put it into a file form to send to our web master next week, and then CDs will be made, and be available.

We are putting on a follow up event, based on Charles Booth's life in this area. We had provisionally booked the centre for Friday 8 November from 7pm, but given the closeness to bonfire night, are now looking to see if we can do it later in November. Nita will do the talk and Ann will be doing her usual wonderful displays. Dr Wendy Freer has said we can show the film she shot at Gracedieu Manor a few years ago with the children at what was the school there at the time acting in various roles. She will also come along to answer questions about the film. Further details on this new event will be out shortly, with booking details given.

For those that want more information on Sarah Wise, please go to her website which is misssarahwise.co.uk and for those that want to listen to a radio broadcast she did on the subject of Charles Booth about 4 years ago, please go to BBC Radio 4 – In Our Time, Booth's Life and Labour Survey.

Booth Poverty Maps – a gent who wishes to remain anonymous has donated to us a copy of the Booth Poverty Maps which also contains some of the notes made at the time the survey in London was undertaken and photographs. He has been suitably thanked.

Charles Booth pre-school – The recent fete at Gracedieu raised £700 which will go towards the provision of a defibrillator.

Bus service to Coalville – Marlene Reid Centre and People Zone have a new shuttle bus service arranged for Coalville, Whitwick and Thringstone starting on Wednesdays from September. People who want transport can have this from their doorstep by ringing 512456.

Centre – The coffee morning in July raised £136 for Parkinson's UK.

Dog poo bin by bowling club – This had not been emptied for 2 weeks and was overflowing for several days, despite Nita having removed in excess of 140 bags of dog poo from the bin. Nita reported to the council by phone and email, and was told that the bin had been emptied on 17 July, but it was in fact emptied the following morning.

Gracedieu Park Cricket Club - the cricket club have been forced to get a special barrel lock for the gate from the Bull's Head car park due to people coming with motor vehicles onto the pitch and

driving round. This happened twice in the week of 14 July, and had happened previously when a white van drove round the pitch on 4 June. Said van was later found burnt out in Swannington.

Invitation to Whitwick Historical Society event – We have been asked to put on a display at an event being organised by this group on 19 October between 10am and 4pm and have agreed to do this, with our display being centred around the panto.

What's On

Please be aware that this is not an exhaustive list, and various classes and group meetings take place on a weekly or monthly basis at various venues which are not listed here.

3 Aug – **Charles Booth Centre** – Bringing back the 80s – 7pm until late. DJ city disco. Tickets £10 from the centre office. Tickets include first drink on arrival – beer or single shot with mixer.

15 Aug – Trail Therapy **2 mile walk** in Thringstone from 9.45am. All details from www.peakrunning.co.uk/trailtherapy

17 Aug – **Woodstock in Whitwick** at Man Within Compass.

6 Sept – Charles Booth Centre – ONE NIGHT ONLY. **Thringstone Panto and Drama Society** present Deathly Convention. Tickets from 0333 6663366 or www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads

19 Sept – **Belton History Group** present a talk on the Titanic. 7.30pm. Queen's Head. Tickets £3.

Financial

.Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	3608.94		
Income		Expenditure	
Membership	£4	Broadband	20.00
		Insurance	£15.70
		Website renewal	£72.00
total income to general fund	£4		107.70
		Total general fund at month end	£3505.24

Web report

The webmaster continues to work on updates.

Incident Report

- 17 July – see above report on problem at Gracedieu Park Cricket Club.
- 18 July – large police presence at flat on Booth Road in the morning. Thought to have been a drugs raid.
- 19 July – Police attended Co-op car park over dumped and unlocked old Land Rover which had number plates relating to a Toyota. It was covered in mud, and was removed.
- 21 July – The police said that they were doing patrols relating to motorbike nuisance on Springfield, Thringstone on this day.
- 23 July – 2am. Land Rover stolen from outside a property on Melrose Rd.
- 26 July – A police beat surgery was held at the Co-op from 6pm-7pm. Nita promoted this around Neighbourhood Watch folk and all our email membership and on social media.
- 31 July – Amazon parcel taken by man on bike from someone's garden in Botts Way, Coalville. Man, who lives in Thringstone, captured on CCTV looking round the whole property and through the windows.
- 31 July – a man and his family, who appears to be the same man as the last entry, were filmed going through a skip on Rennocks Place and taking things away, but this also included a pushchair left



nearby. This was repatriated later when they were seen near the Co-op. The owner showed them the CCTV footage, and having claimed they didn't understand English, they gave the item back.

History Report

- In February 2020, Nita and Ann met with Professor Ann Oakley from London at Charles Booth Centre to talk about a book she was writing called **Forgotten Wives – how women get written out of history**. She was writing about several women, one of whom was Mary Booth, wife of Charles, and she said she would credit us with providing information. We have purchased a copy of the book and in the acknowledgements, it says 'At the Charles Booth Centre in Thringstone, the Friends of Thringstone community group and Nita Pearson and Ann Petty did an excellent job in enabling me to understand Mary Booth's work in the community'. On page 39 it says about the Charles Booth Centre being a smart white building and goes on to say that 'on a cold day in February 2020, I went there to meet two women, Nita Pearson and Ann Petty, who through their work for the centre are rich with information about Mary Booth' and then goes on to record some details. We are also mentioned in the notes and sources section on page 207 where unfortunately it credits our own archives to Charles Booth Centre archives, which is incorrect.
- We now have the **women's land army records** for the following people from WW2 – Katherine Baxter, 93 Main St, Elizabeth Croson, 19 Loughborough Rd, Mary Ethel Haynes, The Gables (left when she got married), Beatrice Annie Holland, 44 Charnwood Cottages, Hetty Hudson, 71 Loughborough Road (unfit to serve), and sisters Betty and Marjorie Sykes from 11 John Street who both left when they got married. 22 women are listed under Whitwick including Phyllis Lee of 202 St Mary's Terrace and Florence Helen Willmott of 25 Gracedieu Road, Whitwick, both of whom left when they married. A further 4 women from Belton are listed including Constance Mary Louise Darby of Gracedieu Cottage, Belton.
- **March 1940 – The Gables**, Main Street was for sale at the Rose and Crown. The sale included the old bakehouse, electric light, water from a nearby well plus the field adjoining the property which was 1343 acres.
- **Aug 1952** – For sale by auction at Queen's Head following the death of owner William Wilkins, **Primrose Cottage**, 85 Main Street. Comprises sitting room of 12 ft. 10 inches x 11 ft. 9 inches with fitted fireplace, living room 13 ft x 12 ft with fitted modern low grate fireplace and fitted cupboards, kitchen 10 ft 9 inches by 8 ft with fitted sink, main water supply, cooking range, copper and shelves, and pantry with fitted thrawl and shelves. Upstairs, 3 bedrooms, outside coal shed, brick and slate store and large kitchen garden plus valuable land adjoining with 33 ft frontage to Main Street and services laid on.
- **Sept 1983** – We have mentioned before that Thringstone held a 4 mile road race in the 1990s named after **Hubert Bancroft**. We have now discovered that he entered the 1st ever South Derbyshire Road race in Sept 1983 and in fact was the only entrant in the veterans field for over 55s. Hubert was at that time 71 years of age. He finished the 10 mile race in 1 hour and 51 minutes. Born on 13 July 1912 in Quorn, Hubert Charles Henry Bancroft lived at The Old Manor House, Brook Lane (the lane next to Ruby's). He married Evangeline Mary Button (known as Molly) in 1933 in Loughborough and had 2 daughters. He was a founder member of Coalville Harriers Running Club and had many successes in marathons. His training consisted of 13 mile runs through Charnwood Forest and he would cycle to events, riding up to 50 miles per day. His diet was well controlled and consisted of a lot of fresh fruit and vegetables which he grew at home, and he did not drink alcohol or smoke. He died after a short illness on 27 Feb 1988 in Thringstone.
- **Oct 1984** – Swallowdale's **Pauline Walker** raised £700 from a sale of handicrafts and rummage at a sale and raffle at her home, surpassing all her targets. The money went to the Groby Road Heart Link appeal for the children's cardiothoracic heart department.
- **Dec 1984** – A carol singing tour of Thringstone by members of **St Andrew's choir** raised a record amount of £223 in aid of the children's home at Woodhouse Eaves. Accompanied on the tour was a lighted trailer containing Santa and a Christmas tree. Church warden, Gladys Gee, said that the tour



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was a great success. 'It seemed like everybody in the village came out to listen and make a donation, and we thank everybody for their support'.

- **May 1985** – The opening of the new **scout hut** in Thringstone was tinged with sadness given the recent death in March of Mick Moody former 1st scout leader of the troop. He had put a lot of work into fund raising for the new hut and his wife, Margaret, unveiled a plaque in his memory. The opening ceremony was carried out by Ray Saunders, commissioner for the Coalville area. The new building will house 18 scouts and a pack of 26 cubs.
- **Sept 1985** – Connoisseur's Wines were advertising as operating from **The Old Bakery, 137 Gracedieu Road, Thringstone**. The owner at that time, and in April 1986, was Louise Margaret Tuckley, who in April, having carried on her business for 6 months, was applying to justices to have a new liquor licence at Unit b, 229 Thornborough Road, Coalville, which was the business premises for Connoisseur's Wines at that time. The Gracedieu Road property was subsequently advertised for sale in March 1997, and the particulars suggested it was a 17th century building. At that time, it still had exposed beams and wood panelled staircase enclosure. It was for sale for £110,000. By August 1997, the property was in the ownership of A Hackett, who was advertising for a catering manager to work at a shop and establishment in Castle Donington
- **Nov 1986** – **Arthur Sykes** provided the entertainment at a Shepshed Loros fund raiser which included a 3 course meal. Mr Sykes had the audience in tears of laughter at his jokes and monologues. A total of £198 was raised.
- **May 1987** – A **European Eagle Owl** was reported missing from Thringstone. The bird had a 4 ft. wingspan, had long talons and was said to be 18 inches tall. It had flown out of a back garden in the village earlier in the week. Coalville police said people should keep their eyes out for it in their own gardens
- **June 1987** – 22 year old **Richard Grant** of Loughborough Road was saved from death after a freak accident in Denton near Grantham, Lincolnshire, when a mixer fell on him. He was found by ambulance officer John Howe lying in water at the site on Main Street, Denton. He had stopped breathing, and was clinically dead, until a defibrillator owned by the local rotary club was made available and a shock given which restarted his heart. He was then taken to Grantham and Kesteven General Hospital to recover.
- **Oct 1987** – Brothers **Peter and David Easton** were in an accident on the A512 near Gracedieu when they were hit by another vehicle. David watched in horror as his brother was dragged 30 yards up the road. Peter was taken to intensive care, whilst David suffered broken toes and leg injuries. David of Melrose Road said he went to help after a land rover overturned. The brothers had safely redirected about 20 vehicles away from the scene when the accident with the mini happened. The police were appealing for witnesses.
- **Nov 1987** – a pet dog died in a house fire in Thringstone. **Pauline Bolstridge**, and her sons Nigel and Russell had to grope their way down a smoke filled stairway to get out of the property, and husband Mervyn broke a window to jump down into the garden at the Main Street property. He then smashed the glass in the back door and went to find the family's 8 year old Yorkshire terrier Judy, but could not locate her. She was later found dead by firemen. Mrs Bolstridge said she woke to hear crackling, and upon going downstairs discovered that the furniture was alight. She ran back upstairs to alert her sons and husband.
- **March 1988** – 18 year old Nicky Spence, from **The Fox Inn**, was entered for the Miss Lbro Echo event. Nicky said she not only pulled pints but also rides horses and loves keep fit.
- **May 1988** – Thringstone's **Adrian Cross** and a group of Coalville fund raisers spent the bank holiday in a pot hole 50 feet below ground in Derbyshire, in order to raise money for ITV's Telethon charity.
- **August 1988** – Richard and Elaine Meason of the **Rose and Crown** organised a charity auction and disco using a huge marquee on the lawn of the public house. The aim was to raise money for local charities, amongst which the Coalville charity Daybreak, which offers respite care to family and carers of people with a mental handicap who would like to renovate a house they have with the proceeds. Geoff Tompkins from Daybreak was auctioneer and put under the hammer many items



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ranging from furniture to toys, raising £290. The evening disco was provided by Whitwick Youth Club, and a fun quiz was hosted by Mr Tompkins. The Meason family are well known locally for their monthly charity fund raising, which, prior to this event, had raised £300.

- **Aug 1988 – Thringstone’s 8th annual gala** saw record crowds. Launched at the playing fields, many organisations and groups provided entertainment on floats with the Queen’s Head float winning the prize for the best – their theme was The Armada. Sky Hawkes from Derbyshire gave a display of remote controlled planes and helicopters and other entertainment came from the Leicester Youth Marching band, with swingboats, bouncy castles, stalls and roundabouts for the children. Gala Queen, Dawn Perry, was carried to the gala in a horse drawn carriage, and over £500 is expected to have been raised for Cancer Research and other charities and organisations. The gala was the culmination of a week of fund raising and events with a general knowledge quiz won by a Measham team, and a car rally.
- **August 1988 – The George and Dragon** organised a bank holiday fun day to raise money for the junior football team. Landlord Jim Martyn offered children a bouncy castle, which they enjoyed between showers, plus an enchanted tree. Later in the afternoon, 8 teams of boys, many the sons of players from the main team, competed in a junior knockout. The winning team, by 224 points, was Kirk Henney’s side. In the evening there was a disco and BBQ.
- **Sept 1988 – Gracedieu Park cricket club’s** annual fete offered the usual stalls plus a demonstration by Ashby Rescue Station on safety aspects of the coal board, and another demonstration by Coalville Fire and Rescue. Music was provided by Stanton band, and in the afternoon there was the usual tug of war competition for the Len Unwin Trophy. The fete was opened by cricket club gala queen Tracey Preston.
- **June 1989 – local artist Chris Reddington** will be at the scout gala in Thringstone with her pen and ink prints, some showing historical buildings to be seen around Leicestershire. Railway buffs will be particularly interested to see all the stations between Shackerstone and Charnwood Forest with each edifice drawn with remarkable precision. These items can be seen at the car boot at the Miners Welfare Ground from 2pm. All proceeds go to scout funds.
- **Sept 1989 - The Hubert Bancroft Memorial Race** was won by Mr G Lowrey who clocked in at 22 minutes and 40 seconds, heading the 71 runner race. Shields were awarded to the oldest and youngest runners – 73 year old Ernest Bancroft, brother of the late Hubert who made a time of 41 minutes and 7 seconds, and the youngest was 5 year old Alex Perry.
- **Oct 1989 – Rose and Crown** are putting on a fund raiser for British Heart Foundation. J Swingler’s colourful steam engine and fairground organ will be on The Green on 21 October to raise more funds. The recently held Harvest Festival raised £176 for the local children’s Christmas party.

Next meeting 5 September at Charles Booth Centre in the house lounge at 7pm