



The Friends of
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

Chairman: Nita Pearson
20 Springfield, Thringstone, Leicestershire, LE67 8LT.
Telephone: 01530 223434
[mail to: nita.pearson@ntlworld.com](mailto:nita.pearson@ntlworld.com)

Visit our website at: www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk
We are also on facebook/twitter. Twitter address @Thringstone2

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6 FEBRUARY 2014 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Ron Hill, Roy Hill, Ann Petty, Bernard Lee, Janet Stevenson

Apologies: Tam Bream, Gillian Bates, Colin Draycott, Simon Jaggs, Ray Woodward, Dave Everitt, Leon Spence, Rowena Summers, Geoff Wilson, Geoff Walker.

Information/Discussion

Monthly litter total for January – 140 bags collected and removed which is 53 bags less than last month's total. We think this is because of the wet weather, rather than people having some sort of epiphany and deciding to be more environmental.

Big Book on Thringstone – Entitled Thringstone and Its People, this has now been completed and is ready for sale at the knockdown price of only £6. This book is a must for anybody interested in the village and its history. Since the Scottish in Thringstone book isn't now selling so readily, we were contemplating offering it at half price to anybody interested in buying the new book. Conversely, we could look at doing a set price for all our publications in one lot.

The meeting decided to offer the Scottish in Thringstone book for £1.50 to anybody subsequently buying Thringstone and Its People. It was also agreed, whilst stocks permit, to have a discounted charge for people buying sets of publications – Village Trail set £5, Memories set £7, Born and Bred set £6.

County Council's Green Plaque Scheme – thanks to anybody who nominated Charles Booth for a County Council green plaque. *Janet, Roy and Ann said they had put in a nomination. One had been put forward for the group as a whole, and it is understood that the Community Centre had also put forward a nomination. Nominations closed on 24 January and we now just have to wait to see the outcome.*

Litter Pick 8 March 2014 – This will start at 10am from The Green. All welcome. The event fits in with Climate Week which is 3-9 March. We have registered it on their website as taking place. We have also emailed the Air Cadets to ask if they want to help us.



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Roy said that Whitwick Scouts were looking (he understood) to help with community activities, and Janet gave a number for a scout leader to query this.

Presentation by Roy Hill

I am a member of the Patients Participation Group and Dr Hepplewhite's surgery at Whitwick. I have some information on the now not so new NHS 111 telephone system and thought it might be helpful to give some, hopefully, simple directions on its use. I do not profess to be an expert in this but I have received presentations myself.

The system received a bad press when it was first set up but has been operating in Leicestershire, behind the scenes, for some time now and quite successfully. We need to understand the changes happening within the NHS will have to happen if we want to keep effective, free at the point of use, service and this is one of them.

Essentially:

- If you are bleeding profusely, have chest pains, believe you may be having a stroke or heart attack or can't breathe then phone 999.
- If you are just ill during normal surgery hours you should telephone your own GP and they will give advice as to whether you can self treat your illness, need to come to the surgery, should go to the Urgent Care Centre at Loughborough or call an ambulance.
- Out of surgery hours the system changes so that if you call your surgery you will be told to call 111 or put through automatically. A call handler will then go through a series of questions with you to determine whether you can wait for your own GP surgery the next day or need immediate help. They will automatically call an ambulance if they think that is necessary, make an appointment for you to go to the Urgent Care Centre or a range of other options at their disposal. You will not get treated any more quickly if you just go to the Urgent Care Centre without an appointment. The call handler has a diagnostic programme to help them make decisions and has the back up of a Nurse Advisor and a doctor as well.

Chair's report

Nita is still not fully well but the following has been done this month.

Letters Received: none

Emails Received:

- Various – see sections below
- Invitation accepted to go to Timebanking meeting in March – businesses offering help to voluntary sector, which could include computer help
- Completed updates on our listings with Voluntary Action Leicestershire and Worldwide Volunteering.

.Emails Sent:

- Various to agencies about ongoing issues

Promotion:

- We now have 178 **twitter** followers which is an increase of 8 this month. We have 34 facebook followers and have only had 3 new followers on facebook in the last 18 months. We have been asked why we don't promote on facebook more, and this shows why. We reach a much wider audience with Twitter (95% of them being non-members) than we do on facebook, where most of the 34 followers are existing members, so know all our news.



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Other

- **Bauble** written and with people to deliver. Copies have also been taken to Snibston Discovery Museum, Coalville Library, Thringstone House Community Centre, Whitwick Coffee Shop and the George and Dragon.
- Both Janet and Roy are using our **smart meters**. Apparently one is now unusable because the battery corroded and has caused internal problems. We should have 6, but appear to only be able to account for 5, so if anybody else has one, please let us know.
- There were various discussions since the last meeting regarding working with young student volunteers on 1, 8 and 15 March as part of the **National Citizenship Scheme**. Various organizations and groups in the village put forward suggestions for things the students to do, and then the organizers said they couldn't get enough students to work with us!

Treasurer's Report

In 2012 we received £300 for publications from Woodstock In Whitwick. This has now been completely used – we printed Born and Bred 3, Memories 3 and Scottish in Thringstone out of this money, leaving £108.05 to go towards the cost of the new publication Thringstone and Its People, which we are told will cost £420 or thereabouts. We have sent a thank you to the Committee of Woodstock in Whitwick for their help.

The insurance for the group has been renewed and the premium has risen considerably from last year's £122.

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£3,272.53		
Income		Expenditure	
publications	£ 77.00	broadband and calls - Jan	£ 11.23
donations	£ 34.00	insurance (annual renewal)	£ 159.00
		research history book	£ 15.99
		Car parking	£ 1.00
		photos from slides	£ 4.00
total income to general fund	£ 111.00	total exp	£ 191.22
		Total general fund at month end	£ 3,192.31
		graveyard fund balance	£ 9.84

Publication Report – Roy Hill

The new book is selling well, with lots of positive feedback. We have contacted Ashby TIC to see if they wish to stock it, and free copies have been given to the library and school. One member gave us £40 on purchase of a book, so £34 went into the donations monies. Thank you. We also intend to give a free book to Jimmy Francis, who always gives us free copies of his books on Grace Dieu and football teams of the village.

There have been no sales at the George and Dragon, Community Centre or Member's Club. Nita and Ann have, however been busy with Nita having sold 15 to date and Ann 3. Ann has also sold a Memories 3 and Scottish in Thringstone.



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I have received an order via email for some publications that I shall now send and report the details next month.

All money has been paid the Treasurer

1 Memories 3, £2.50 1 Scottish £2.50, 15 Thringstone & its people @ £6 = £90 & donation of £34.

There were three books yet to be paid for at the end of January = another £18 to come

STOCK REPORT

	Community Centre	George & Dragon	Nita	Ann	Sundry people	Stock	TOTAL
Born and Bred 1	2	1	0	2		8	13
Born and Bred 2	2	1	0	2		28	33
Born and Bred 3	2	3	5	2	3	48	63
Memories 1	1	1	0	2		17	21
Memories 2	1	1	0	2		22	26
Memories 3	2	3	5	5	1	15	31
Scottish in T'stone	2	3	1	3	6	23	38
T'stone & its People	0	0	16	5	0	62	83
Village Trail 1	1	1	0	2		12	16
Village Trail 2	1	1	2	2		9	15
Village Trail 3	1	1	0	2		19	23
DVD	0	0	0	0		3	3
Graveyard Booklet	6	5	15	10		175	211
Sub-totals	21	21	44	39	10	441	576

Web report

The webmaster was contacted again last week to ask about updating the site, as nothing has been updated since August 2013. The situation remains unaltered, which is of great concern. *It was agreed to talk to the webmaster about the website, as it is not currently a good advert for the group. Janet expressed interest in learning about web design. Roy wondered if the website should be taken down until it is updated, but it was pointed out that we had only just paid for 3 years domain name.*

Community Report and What's On

This list has been compiled from information phoned or emailed to us, from facebook and paper/poster advertising and/or by going through the list of What's On from the NWLDC website. If interested in any of these events, please check with the venue concerned that the details are still correct.

A cheque for £107 was sent to **Christian Aid** from Thringstone made up of £50 collected at Carols Round The Tree and £57 collected at church. Thanks to all who contributed.

£350 was raised during the panto performances at the centre for **Lucy's Bluebird Trust** which is a charity connected with Lucy Rawlings who has a rare form of cancer. Thanks to all who contributed

New **confidence academy family kickboxing class** started 29 January on Wednesdays at 6pm at Thringstone House Community Centre. A 30 day free trial was advertised on facebook, but this offer may have finished. Please contact 07954 572025 for further details.

- 9 Feb – **Rummage sale for College Garth Kennels** at the Community Centre.



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Noon til 2pm. 50p entrance.

- 11 Feb – **Well Families Clinic at Thringstone Members Club**. 2pm-6pm. Free cholesterol checks, blood pressure checks and body mass index checks plus postural analysis screening, advice on stopping smoking, changing your diet etc. Fun exercise challenges to try plus free fruit juice.
- 12 Feb – **Coalville Library talk** – Excuse me Madam – all about the life of a store detective with Richard Papworth. 12.30pm-1.30pm. Library members £2.50 and non library members £3.
- 14 Feb – Valentine's Evening at **George and Dragon**. Tickets £35 per couple. 3 course meal including bottle of wine. Booking essential on 222282.
- 14 Feb – Valentine's disco at **Thringstone House Community Centre**. 8pm-1am. £3 on the door to include a glass of bubbly. Run by Delight Entertainment, the same people that did the New Year's Eve party.
- 15 Feb – **Modern Sequence Dancing** at Hermitage Leisure Centre with Barry and Jane Earnshaw. 7.30pm start. £5. For more information contact 07702 804746
- 18 Feb – **Beginners Geocaching in Grace Dieu Woods**. 10.30am start and £2 per person. Get more details on meeting point from NWLDC please, as their advert just says 'meet at Grace Dieu Woods' which could mean anywhere.
- 20 Feb – **Charles Hanson's auction house** is having an antique and collectables valuation day at Coalville Rugby Club with Vanessa Savage. 10am – 3pm. Come along and have a free valuation but any donations go to Hospice Hope. Call 837267 for further information.
- 20 Feb – Snibston Miners' Morning talk on **The Cold War** presented by Jed Jaggard. 10.30am £4 to include tea coffee and biscuits
- 22 Feb – Rendell – Soul and Motown at the **George and Dragon**
- 23 Feb – **Dog walk at Bradgate Park** with dog behaviourist Steven Havers. Meet at Newtown Linford car park at 10am. Cost £3. Will take about 2 hours.
- 23 Feb – **Afternoon Sequence Dance at Hermitage Leisure Centre** with Gary and Gwenda Cole. Starts at 3pm. Price £4.50. Further information from 07702 804746.
- 1 and 2 March – **Robot wars** is back at Hermitage Leisure Centre. 6pm on the Saturday and 12 noon and 3pm on Sunday. Tickets are children £10, Adult £12 and family £40 from the Leisure Centre.
- 7 March – lunchtime talk at Ashby library on **life in the trenches of WW1** with Nick Marshall. Library members £2.50, non members £3
- 8 March – Danny Fisher in the show Elvis versus Roy Orbison at the **George and Dragon**
- 9 March – Belton – **Centre Stage production** of A Woman's work at the village hall. This is a show with songs and stories from 15th century to date, detailing the work of women including mill workers, laundresses, lace makers, lavender girls etc. 7.30pm start. Tickets and details from 222897.
- 12 March – **Coalville Library Talk** – The village cinemas of Leicestershire with Brian Johnson. 12.30pm- 1.30pm. Library members £2.50, non members £3.
- 14 March – **Stephen Booth the crime writer** is giving a talk at Coalville Library from 12 noon til 2pm. Tickets £3 each from the library
- 17 March – **St Patrick's day** celebrations at the George and Dragon



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The Friends of Thringstone

- 20 March – Talk at Snibston on **The Bevin Boys** by Jed Jaggard. 10.30am. £4 to include tea, coffee and biscuits.
- 22 March – Mojo Hand at the **George and Dragon** for their 6th live show
- 23 March – **Wartime Leicestershire** – Beaumanor Hall on this Sunday from 10am-4pm. Free talks, free tours and free parking, all put together by Leicestershire Archeological and history society. Admission £5 and children free. Please reserve places for the talks via the website which is www.lahs.org.uk/
- 29 March – **Annie Duggan band** is back at the centre for a live show. More details nearer the time.
- 29 March – Sam Southall (brilliant young singer) at the **George and Dragon**.
- 30 March - **Dog walk at Bradgate Park** with dog behaviourist Steven Havers. Meet at Newtown Linford car park at 10am. Cost £3. Will take about 2 hours.
- 30 March – **Mothering Sunday** at the George and Dragon. Booking will be essential.
- 17 April – Miner's Morning at **Snibston Discovery Park** – talk and discussion by Jonathan Capewell about soldiers of the Leicestershire Regiment in WW1. 10.30am-12 noon.

History report

This has been an extremely busy and very productive month.

- We now have **photographs** of Jack Mee Kidger (farmer) and some of his family, most of whom seem to have married at St Andrew's. We also have some photos of St Andrew's in 1984, copies of recent photos of Andrew Bridgen at Thringstone Primary, and some photos of Jack Hall's shop (which was next to the Queen's Head and was later taken over by the pub). David White also gave us some photos to scan and 2 of his slides, which were taken into Max Spielmann in Coalville and made into photographs, including a photo of Di's shop on Main Street. We also had access to some old panto photos and some family photos from the Robinson family and some of the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 and Charles and Diana's wedding celebrations in 1981. Tam has also let us scan some of his family photographs of Grace Dieu Farm. David White has provided us with photographs of the wedding car from Walker's garage and of the twins, and photographs of Rene Kirby and her cottage which was somewhere between the garage and the George and Dragon. All these have added considerably to our archives and may be useful for future publications.
- **Interviews** carried out this month have been Sue Millership about the Robinson's from the woodyard near the George and Dragon, David White talking about running The Top Shop (Whitwick Moor corner), Pam Spence talking about her floristry business, Viv Emerson talking about the Maloney bakery, Shirley King about running the newsagents, Malcolm McGahan talking about owning the Top Shop and running it as a video shop, and Jimmy Wilkinson talking about his mother Netta and grandmother Janet Lacey running the village post office. Thanks also to Carole Hill for help with details on the butchers of Main Street. We have the typed up an interview of a man who came to Thringstone from Durham when he was 11. We now have the story of 3 miners who came here, plus the story of a man who came with his family as a youngster. We are currently following up leads given on others who may have a link with Durham and Thringstone.
- We were given deeds and paperwork to scan from **Chapel Fitness Centre** (thanks Tony) which has added to our knowledge of the owners of the chapel and thrown up the fact that the premises went from being a chapel to a printers, which is new information. We



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subsequently spoke to Claude Lawrence who took over the chapel from the **Wesleyans** and ran it for 4 years until BUSM went there. The deeds have also shown that a Wesleyan Trust was formed in 1822 relating to the land where the chapel is, which is a full 50 years before the chapel we know was built. It is therefore assumed another structure was there first.

- We have now established that the Twigg family kept **Glebe Farm** in the 1890s from discussions with the grandson of John Richards who was killed in the Whitwick Pit Disaster. His family was related to the Twiggs.
- We also now know from the **enumerator's books of 1911 census** that Sarah Jaquiss kept **Stoneycroft Farm** in 1911 and probably did so from 1881, having previously worked with her husband George as a green grocer somewhere near the Tollhouse Gate on Whitwick Moor. Stoneycroft Farm was somewhere where Millhouse Estate now stands. Two of her sons were millers, so we are now trying to work back to trace the workings of the mill near that site. We have copied all the enumerator's lists for 1911, so now know the head of the family for every address in Thringstone in 1911. We also have copies of the enumerators books of 1911 census for the parts of Whitwick which join onto Thringstone.
- **Trade directories** - we have taken copies of the Thringstone and Whitwick pages of Harrod's Trade Directory of 1870, Barker's Directory of 1875, White's directory of 1877, Wrights Directory of 1887, as well as Kelly's 1908, 1916 and 1941. We already had copies of Thringstone pages for the trade directories of 1846, 1856, 1862, 1891, 1925 and 1936..
- Ann attended the **Heritage Forum** group meeting. Discussions centered (for us) around the WW1 project with Thringstone information probably coming out in print in 2015 and an idea put forward by Kathy Belfield of the Tourist Information to ask councillors to consider using the name of a fallen WW1 hero on any new housing development where road names are needed. Another idea comes from Swannington who, as part of their WW1 commemoration events, are asking residents to put a notice on their house saying who lived there at that time if this is known.
- The Friends of Grace Dieu Priory have been working with **Thringstone Primary** on site to inform them of the history of the area.
- We have researched the stories of Reg Gee and Albert Ottey who both ran a **shoemaking** business from the Bauble Yard/Loughborough Road corner before Albert moved to work on Gracedieu Road. We are continuing to research details of anybody and everybody who kept a shop or a business in the village. This is proving very interesting.
- After hours of research on people who kept **the shop on the corner of Whitwick Moor**, and several wrong leads and misinformation (including wrong names and spellings), we have discovered that Mrs Split Curran' also known as Mrs Padyamore of whom we had been previously told (who was said to haunt the property and was exceptionally tight fisted with weights, hence the split currant nickname) was in fact Florence Elizabeth Weston nee Parramore, wife of John Harry Weston a former painter and decorator turned draper from Hugglescote. She is mentioned in several FoT publications but we did not know who she was until now. They kept the shop from at least 1925 until around 1936, after which Charles Haywood kept it. We have also discovered the full story of Freeson Yearby Moore and his wife Charlotte nee Belcher who kept the shop from at least 1941 until 1954 when David White took it over. Mr Yearby Moore had previously emigrated to Canada and served in the Canadian forces in WW1, coming back to the area in 1925. We had been unable to trace him before due to mis-information and his name being incorrectly recorded in



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documentation. We have shared our research of Freeson Yearby Moore with distant relatives of his who had previously drawn a blank with their own research.

- We have shared all information on the history of the Top Shop with the current owners.

Councillors' report – Leon Spence

District Council Budget

Since my last report to you the financial position at NWLDC has changed significantly. Additional grant funding from central government and use of the district council's own reserve now means that the Cabinet are in a position to freeze council tax for the coming year. They have also confirmed that proposed cuts to services (i.e. grant funding and concessionary charges) and increased fees (introduction of a 'green' bin charge and parking charges) will not now be introduced. The authority has confirmed that their proposal not to return to collect unemptied bins will be introduced.

County Council Budget

The County Council budget has also changed, although not as dramatically. Acceptance of the 'council tax freeze grant' means that the County Council will not be increasing your tax this year. However cuts will be made as previously planned.

In real terms this means significant cuts to the voluntary sector, highways, social care, libraries, museums and perhaps most controversially the part closure of Snibston.

Gas Issues

In the past week a number of residents have experienced issues with their gas supply. A small number of homes lost their supply altogether for a period on Saturday night whilst others were asked to reduce usage due to low pressure.

Engineers worked exceptionally hard to resolve the issue and I was liaising with them throughout the process. After carrying out numerous investigations I am informed that they located a crack in the mains on Gracedieu Road. I am advised that the leak would have been detected earlier had it not been for the sodden ground which resulted in the smell of escaping gas effectively becoming undetectable. Although the problem has now been fixed, should you smell gas please report the matter straight away.

The Fox

A planning application has been received to build 23 new homes on the site of The Fox. The application has been made by East Midlands Housing Association and will be a mix of social rented and shared ownership properties. If you have any views please don't hesitate to let me know.

Talbot Street Housing Development

NWLDC Planning Committee met this week to consider an application to build 8 homes on Talbot Street (next to Quiet Storm). Many local residents have been concerned about the impact of the development on highway safety grounds and on the possible impact on Grace Dieu Brook. I am delighted to let you know that the application was rejected.

Cats Eyes, Loughborough Road

I have reported to county highways the missing cats eyes on Loughborough Road which have resulted in small but deep potholes along the road. A highways inspector will visit the site and programme the job. It may be the case that the potholes will be merely filled rather than replace with new cats eyes

Street Lighting, rear of Bowls Club



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Nita and I have both reported a street light which has failed to the rear of the Bowl Club. I understand the light has now been fixed. If you have any complaints about street lights then please don't hesitate to let me know.

Casework

Apart from the above Dave and I have been doing our usual bits of casework around the village.

Police Report

None received despite a reminder going out on Monday. *There was general discussion about the amount of crimes unsolved, and whether people were willing to report things they see to help police with their enquiries or not.*

Gardening and environment

There is nothing to report from the gardening front. Litter etc. has been covered elsewhere.

Any other business

There was some discussion about whether certain areas of the village are likely to be built upon, and whether these form green wedge or not.

Next meeting : The next meeting is on 6 March 2014 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



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