



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](http://www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk)**  
**Twitter address: [@Thringstone2](https://twitter.com/Thringstone2)**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2018 AT CHARLES BOOTH CENTRE**

**Present:** Nita Pearson, Ray Woodward, Tina Bakewell, Anita Jones, Bill Enser, Bernard Lee, Geoff Wilson, Ann Petty, Pam Porter, Mike Statham

**Apologies:** Paul and Karin Siddals, Ron Hill, Janet and David Stevenson, Gillian Bates, Mike and Ruth King, Shirley Gordon, Tracy Foulds, Maureen Simm, John Jackson, Nigel and Mary Roberts

### **Discussions/Decisions.**

**Monthly litter pick total - 118 bags** against **152 bags** for the same month last year.

Nita was contacted by EM ITV Central News to ask her to do some filming on the impact litter has on wild animals, birds and pets on 16 November, following another film they were doing on a deer being hit by a car having run into the road with a plastic bag on its head. Nita agreed and the film of her and Woodie litter picking and the interview on the subject went out the same night. They found out about us from our Litter Action UK site which then linked them to our FoT website. Every week Nita updates our Litter Action UK page with the number of bags being collected since we started keeping records. This currently stands at over 13,500 bags. Our newsletters are also posted on this page.

Someone is leaving mouldy bread near the bin by The Bull's Head. This bread can cause serious problems to dogs and other wildlife. We are trying to find out who is doing this, as it is always on a Saturday sometime between 7am and 9am.

**Publication reprints** – We only have a couple of Thringstone and Its People books left from the 100 we had printed in 2014. These usually sell well at events. We have made enquiries with the printers and the cost for reprinting 20 would be £108 which works out at £5.40 each against £3.63 each for the original print. The meeting agreed that we can order a reprint.

We have also run out of 3 of the set of photos we offer for sale – Carterdale, Viaduct and George and Dragon, but as these sell poorly, are not proposing to get others printed.

**Centre's quiz night** – Thank you to the team of members who represented us in the quiz. They came 5<sup>th</sup> which is the highest we have been for a while.

**Marking the end of WW1** – 200 people or thereabouts came to the exhibition, including the Ravenstone Cub troop who wanted to learn about their local history and do a project on the Memorial Clock Tower. This included, as one of the troop leaders, a young man by the name of Josh Crooks who, from the age of 9 for several years, took part in productions with Thringstone Panto and Drama Society and had very fond memories of the centre and TPADS. We got a lot of very good comments. The cake bakers and catering team excelled themselves again,



and the concert in the evening generated 43 attendees. Shirley and Julie also brought cakes which weren't expected. We sold several publications and received information from people who attended, including being given a map of the area at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Thank you to everybody that worked with Nita and Ann on this event, and to the other organisations that came along and joined in. It was very hard work doing a full day of events, but we hope that people felt it worthwhile. Nita sent emails of thanks to all the partners who worked with us on the event and to all volunteers who helped. We posted various pictures on the internet and on social media, and sent these also to our webmaster to put onto the FoT site. Instead of a press release, Nita wrote a letter to the CV Times to say thank you to people and emphasising the importance of remembering our heritage. This was printed in the edition of 15 November.

**Footpath from Thringstone School** – We understand that the school has been in discussions with Bellway Homes about the footpath running along side the school drive to the school as there is no pavement from the end of the path. This, along with concerns about lighting to the path, was raised with Bellway and the council prior to the houses being developed. The school believed it was up to Bellway to have the path adopted, and then become responsible for its upkeep and for health and safety matters, but Bellway have, however, confirmed that the responsibility still lies with the local authority. Discussions are being held about a gate to the end of the path to secure the school from intruders and the school has urged parents with concerns to contact the council.

**Ashby and Coalville Lions Santa Sleigh and carols** – The Santa sleigh is coming round the village on 19 December, which is the same night as the carols outside the centre, which leave from St Andrew's at 6.30pm.

**Grace Dieu Manor School** – the eco committee of the school has been in touch to ask if we will work with the school next Spring on a community litter pick. This might be during the daytime in the week and Nita has already discussed this with Pam, with a view to trying to arrange sometime on a Thursday or Friday so Pam can help Nita with any groups organised. The meeting were interested to learn that the school has an eco committee..

**Centre news** – There is a **Santa Fun Run** at the centre on 9 December. Not interested in running? You can still take part. Marshalls are wanted (wearing FoT hi viz vests no less). If you think you can help, please contact the centre. The run is over 5k with a 1k option and the route was explained.

Nita, Ann, Tina and Mary attended the **centre's AGM**. Nita has copies of the handouts and brought them to the meeting. If anybody is interested, just ask.

The Christmas Crooners event last night had been nearly sold out and was well received. Nita had taken photos and sent out a press release on behalf of the centre.

### **Chairs Report**

**Letters received:** None

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

**Emails sent:** Various to groups and individuals as usual.

**Promotion:** We have **540 twitter followers**, which is 2 less than last month, and **727 facebook followers**, which is 37 more than last month. We are continuing to post details of local events, public notices and also historical photos on both sites.

We are getting a lot of facebook views - a post Nita did on our facebook page relating to car crime was seen by over 2,900 people.

We took a lot of information in to the new owner of Thringstone Village Stores and Post Office on our group and also some leaflets for the centre. The new owners are Kam and Sara Sisodia and they have a facebook page which is

<https://www.facebook.com/thringstonevillagestore/posts/2199864710251772> .

**Other:** Get well wishes go to our member Kathy Mardon who, on a short holiday to the Welsh mountains, broke her leg and ankle.



## Finance Report

<b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£2,780.71</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Raffle	11.00	Broadband	15.00
publications	90.00	Flier printing	15.65
Donations	210.00	Bauble printing (1750)	41.75
		Catering for 10 Nov	6.67
		Paper plates for 10 Nov	6.95
		Room rent for WW1 event	210.00
		Bunting for 10 Nov	7.49
<b>total income to general fund</b>	<b>£311</b>		<b>303.51</b>
		<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>2788.20</b>

## Publications Report

Nita sold the following at the WW1 event – 2 x WW2, a full set of village trail booklets, 2 x Memories 1, 2 x Memories 2, 2 x memories 3 and 1 x memories 4, 1 DVD, 2 x TAIP, and 2 businesses. Total £46.

Janet has subsequently sold 1 x TAIP, 1 x WW2, 1 x CD and gave away a graveyard trail. Total £10.

Nita also sold a full set of our photographs for £24 and a copy of Thringstone and Its People and Pubs in Thringstone at the discounted rate of £10 for 2 books.

**Web Report** – minutes for November and the winter newsletter need to be put on site. The photos of the centre's launch and our stand, photos taken of the litter pick with Consortio Security, the Miners' Gala, Nita's award, the Hello Heritage event, our stand at Whitwick Historical Society's 35 anniversary event, and our own WW1 event are to go on site shortly.

## Police Report

In the early hours of 4 November, a white M registration Peugeot car lost a wheel coming from the direction of Whitwick, hit the post box on **The Green**, narrowly missed hitting a parked car and ended up in the flower bed near the centre. The person driving was then seen running off, although the car was not stolen. Police were called and put tape round the vehicle which was removed 2 days later.

**Theft - Loughborough Road** - between 2pm and 4pm on 4 November. Scrap metal stolen from the front garden.

**Burglary - Priory Close** - between 9am – 6.20pm on 4 November. Entry gained from other gardens, and by smashing rear door panel. Untidy search made and jewellery, cash and sandwich toaster stolen. This was one of our members.

**Burglary - Ashdale** - between 12.49am -1.20am on 20 November. Entry gained to the property whilst the owner was asleep, the alarm was activated alerting the occupant who found them and gave chase. It would appear they were looking for his car keys as he has a top of the range car.

**Burglary - Glebe Road** - between 7pm on the 20 November and 7.15am on 21 November Attempt



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made to gain entry to integral garage - no further information available.

Vehicle Crime - **Rumsey Close** - between 10pm on 21 November and 7.30am on the 22nd. White Audi was stolen from the drive after breaking into house via side gate and kitchen door to get car keys. The car was found an hour after information was posted on facebook, by someone who saw it on the outskirts of Coalville, smashed up.

Burglary - **Griffin Road** (Bellway estate) - between 11pm on the 21 November and 6am on 22nd. Lock snapped on rear patio door, search made for keys of BMW which was then stolen from the driveway. We understand from facebook that the car was later found in Birmingham with its front bumper off and other damage.

A van went down **Swallowdale** during the evening of 24 November, hitting a parked car en route, and was then left behind a property in Melrose Road. It was removed by persons unknown over night on 24/25 November.

Vehicle Crime - **Henson's Lane** - between 6.30am and 7am on 26 November. A moped left secure on driveway was stolen.

### Community Report and What's On

**Grace Dieu Manor School's** Make a Difference Club were proud to present a cheque for £174.50 to Rebecca, ambassador for LOROS hospice on 22 November. A fantastic amount raised from their Tuck Shop fundraising in October. Well done MAD Club and keep up the good work!

**Thringstone Co-op** collected £200.12 for Royal British Legion's poppy appeal. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

**Thringstone Village Stores and Post Office** is now selling hot coffee and hot chocolate to take away.

**The Old School House's** 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary raffle raised £163 for the unit. Thanks to all who helped.

**Thringstone Primary** won a gold award in the 2018 School Games Mark. They also won a highly commended in the NWL School Sports Awards 2018. They were also notified at the end of November that they had got through to the judging round in the Aviva Community Fund.

7 Dec – At the centre from 7pm-8.15pm – **Pompom and Prosecco workshop** with Steph. Make a pompom and tassel bag. Cost £20 per person. Booking only on 07801 999282. This is an 18 plus age group event.

7 Dec – **Thringstone Primary's Christmas Fayre** – 3.30pm-5pm.

7 Dec – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – band night with Top Secret. 9pm

8 Dec – **Whitwick Scouts Craft Fair** – Scout Hut on Leicester Road. Open 11am – 3.30pm. All proceeds to Whitwick Scouts

8 Dec – **Old School House** Christmas Fair 1pm-4pm. All welcome. Hot food will also be available.

9 Dec -Charles Booth Centre – **Santa Fun Run**. 10am. 1k and 5k routes. Cost £5 per person, under 5s free. Tickets available at the centre, George and Dragon and Chapel Fitness Centre. Dress code: Red & White. FREE SANTA HAT FOR ALL RUNNERS! Christmas Fancy Dress Optional. Fun prizes to be won for best outfit and many more.

9 Dec – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Santa grotto and Christmas light switch on. 2.30pm

9 Dec – **St John The Baptist Church, Whitwick** – 4pm. Carols, mince pies and mulled wine. All welcome

11 Dec – **Film club at the centre**. Film will be Mama Mia, Here we go Again. Starts at 7.30pm. All welcome.

12 Dec – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – 2018 big quiz. 7pm

14 Dec – **Cliff Richard and Olivia Newton-John Tribute** at Charles Booth Centre. Top tribute artist Simon Goodall as Cliff. Tickets are £10 and available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or from the centre office.

18 and 19 Dec – **Bull's Head** – Pizza making party – 5pm-7pm. £7 per child to make a pizza. Price includes visit by Santa and party games.



19 Dec – **Carols At The Centre** – 6.30pm procession from St Andrew's up to the centre to sing carols and then go inside for entertainment from U3A choir and refreshments etc., to include home made soup

19 Dec – **Ashby and Coalville Lions' Santa Sleigh** will be coming round the village between 5.30pm and 8pm.

21 Dec – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Soul Night with Dave Taylor 9pm

22 Dec – **Thringstone Soul Club's Christmas Bash** – Thringstone Members' Club, 8pm – midnight. DJs are Steve Storer, Jed Purkis, Mick Smith and Steve Frost plus Jayne Lesley singing soul classics. Admission by ticket only. £5 in advance on 813531.

23 Dec – **Mince Pie Run in Belton** – 10.30am-1.30pm from Belton Village Hall. This is a partnership with Cycling UK East Midlands. Hundreds of local cyclists meet here, most having ridden from their home towns and cities for refreshments, a chinwag, and a warm. There is a tombola in aid of Rainbows Children's Hospice with lots of prizes. Over £500 was raised in 2017. All cyclists welcome. See [http://www.ctc.leic.org.uk/Mince\\_Pie\\_Run.php](http://www.ctc.leic.org.uk/Mince_Pie_Run.php) for a flavour of the event and some of its history.

23 Dec – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Flint Moore and Byrne at 4pm.

24 Dec – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Christmas Eve with Keith Buck. 7.30pm.

26 Dec – **Boxing day charity football match** at Thringstone Miners Welfare FC, Homestead Road. 10am – 1pm. The Hares 11 v Thringstone 11. Free entry, raffle and refreshments. Money raised from this will be split between MWJ07 in memory of Minnie, a local charity and a mental health charity.

31 Dec – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – NYE party with Emblem (Sheena and Keith) 9pm.

31 Dec – **Potential disco and party** at Charles Booth Centre with Papa G Events doing the disco. Kid's disco will be early doors. They need to know by 14 December if you are interested in coming along at £15 per ticket, under 14s free. Free drink on arrival. Ring the office to book on 222337.

19-26 Jan – **Aladdin at the centre** – Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's panto. Adults £8, children and OAPs £7. Ticket on the Monday will be £6 only. Tickets from 0333 66 33 66 or from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads). Tpads are delighted to announce that we will be supporting Sands as our charity this year. Sands is the stillbirth and neonatal death charity. They operate throughout the UK, supporting anyone affected by the death of a baby, working to improve the care bereaved parents receive, and promoting research to reduce the loss of babies' lives.

### **History report**

- In our last minutes we mentioned that William Warren of Finsbury House, Vaughan Street in Coalville, a pargeter, had been responsible for the **decorative plasterwork at the centre** in 1911 and were asked for more information. Mr Warren was born in Evesham in Worcestershire in 1861, and was married to Louisa. They had 3 sons and a daughter, but their younger son, William Francis died in Coalville in 1901 They had lived in Station Street, Loughborough from around 1887, and moved to Coalville around 1897. We are currently unable to find anything further about the family after 1911.
- Nita has had contact from Roger Potemans in Belgium wishing to find out more details on his great uncle **Frans de Mailly**, his wife Josephine nee Van Houtvin and their son Joannes de Mailly who were refugees to Thringstone in WW1. Nita has discovered they were amongst the people who were helped in 1914 by Charles Booth with land and seeds for them to grow produce. Newspaper articles suggest that the 6 Belgian refugees, 2 women, a man, a youth of 17 years and 2 infants, were housed in property owned by Frank Burton of Whitwick. One of the refugees housed was a lady whose husband was a soldier in Belgium. She had a photograph of him in a locket. Her house had been burnt to the ground, and she didn't think her husband knew she had come to England. That lady told journalists at the time that the Germans had pushed bayonets into children. One of the men went back to Belgium saying that England was too cold as they had no overcoats, but that he liked the hilly nature of Thringstone. Copies of Leicester Mercury, translated into





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French and Flemish were given to the refugees regularly. We now have a photograph of Roger's family, who around January 1915 went on to a farm in Kettering, before going to Poltimore near Exeter to finish out their time during WW1 before returning back to Belgium.

- Jonathan Rennocks has posted information to us relating to his grandfather's uncle, **Frederick William Lawrence Rennocks** (after whom Rennocks Place is named). It contains a certificate with signatures relating to a presentation of an alabaster clock given to Mr Rennocks in 1916. Signatures on the certificate appear to be William Abell, Benjamin Baxter, Herbert Bradley, Joseph Briers, Ernest Gee, Philip Neal, Herbert Reid, James Smith (Rose and Crown), Joseph Thurman, James Wilford, Ernest Watts, John Waldrum (Ruby's founder), someone Weston, Rev Shrewsbury and Henry G W Howe of Rose Cottage, Gracedieu Rd who ran a drapery in Market Street, Ashby. The certificate is from Thringstone Hall, as the centre seems to have been known briefly. Jonathan also sent a copy of Buffalo's certificates relating to James Smith as above, who was in the Beaumanor Lodge in 1915 where Henry G W Howe was also a member as was A H Chapman and Samuel Boot (who lived at City of 3 Waters).
- Nita has spoken on the telephone to a lady called Valerie Price, nee Jones, who went to **Thringstone Primary in 1955** and has fond memories of Don Hambleton who was head there, and Mr Carey. Notes have been taken for our archives.
- April 1902 – Milk seller **John Thomas Haywood** of Grace Dieu Road was summoned for selling milk of inadequate strength – he had put water in it. Fined £1 1s and same in costs. Also George Bancroft, purchased milk from wife and was told not all the cream was in there as it was sticking to the cup and sides of the pan. Deficiency of 16 per cent of milk fat. He had been in business with his wife for 25 years without complaint. Fined 10s 6d with £1 17s 6d costs or 7 days.
- Jan 1903 – **Mrs Booth** gave her annual tea party for the children of Thringstone. 300 children were seated in rows in the school and invitations went out to all the children in the village, irrespective of any religion or creed. Various cakes and buns provided by Mr Samuel Towle were served by members of the Booth family. Each child also got a bag containing half a pounds of sweets and two oranges.
- Jan 1907 – advert for **John Biddle Jnr.** Baker of Gracedieu Road, dealer in all kinds of corn, established 1857.
- Nov 1908 – Mr Edgar Stanley Boulter, headmaster of **Thringstone school**, was appointed assistant teacher of the art class at the Coalville evening school. The same month, at the St Andrew's Day festival, Mr Boulter made a successful first appearance in a play, portraying the character of Mr Turnpenny Dibbs, a retired moneylender, purse proud and vain.
- 23 June 1911 – **Stone wall by the side of St Andrew's Church** - The article tells of a sale of work held at the Vicarage the previous Saturday the object being to reduce a debt incurred by building a stone wall along the boundary of the church property. Mrs Booth performed the opening ceremony with her husband, Mrs MacNaughton and Miss Booth, and several others came to lend a hand.

The vicar explained the object of the sale was whilst their wall was not the great wall of China, it was the great wall of Thringstone. There were 330 tons of stone in it, it was 160 yards long and was the greatest wall in the place. They had already paid £49 towards the cost. The churchwardens, he thought, were to be congratulated on having paid that sum out of the collections, in addition to meeting their own expenses. The remainder of the debt was about £70 and their object that day was to wipe it out altogether, or to reduce it as much as possible. Mrs Booth said that the preparation for the sale of needlework must have been large and some were very beautiful and it was nice that women were still doing good needlework, as the art of needlework was decaying, and many young women were unable to do such work as was done by their grandmothers and great grandmothers. There were also stalls selling provisions, flowers, sweets, and tea and refreshments, plus a



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bran tub. Rain fell in the afternoon, and although badly needed, somewhat spoilt the proceedings.

- 1 Sept 1911 – obit for **James Peters**. For the last few years he has lived in a house on the forest side between Whitwick and Thringstone, but for many years he was the postmaster for Thringstone at the premises which in 1911 were occupied by Mr A B Ottey. He was formerly a member of the Thringstone Parish Council and in 1899 acted as vicar's warden at the parish church. For about 40 years he was secretary of the Whitwick and District Association for the protection of Persons and Property. He had fallen ill on the Tuesday, went to the LRI on the Thursday, had an operation, but then died on the Friday.
- May 1911 – sale through auction of dwelling house with blacksmith and wheelwright shops, stable and other outbuildings and timber yard then in the occupation of **Mr John Mann**. The property has a frontage of 37.5 feet to the main street in Thringstone and there is a good water supply on the premises.
- April 1912 – obit for **James Dolman**, who was born in 1834 and lived all his life in the house in Brook Street in which he died, a quaint little cottage between the brook and Thringstone railway station, and what is more remarkable still, his mother was also born in the same house and lived there all her life as well. She was born there in 1801 and died there in 1857. The late Mr Dolman's grandparents were former tenants of the house, and as far as can be ascertained it has been in the occupation of the Dolman family for 200 years. In his early days, he was by trade a stockinger, and used to work looms in his cottage and the adjoining one. The making of stocks was extensively carried on by many, for some being the chief occupation. Mr Dolman was also the secretary of the Charnwood Forest Rangers, Thringstone, Lodge of the Ancient Order of Foresters for 45 years, probably longer, a position which he gave up about 6 years earlier. During that period, the lodge was attached to two districts, formerly Loughborough and now Leicester. A short time before his death he was presented by the Order with the long service medal. Other members of the Thringstone Lodge at that time were William James Gough Waldram of Hollydene, Brook Lane, John Winter, James Gee, Henry Bradley, William Sykes, Albert Smith, Samuel Webster, John Webster, George Richards, John Kirby, Ernest Gee and Walter Watts.
- March 1915 – Obit for **George Gough** born 1843 died aged 72. George had been a roadman for the council and in 1911 was living in Bauble Yard with his wife Naomi and son George David Lawrence Gough, known as Lawrence. A further 3 other children had died before 1911. George was an old soldier with an interesting record, standing over 6 ft. in height which was rare in those days. In 1859 he joined the army, serving in the West Riding regiment for two years and in May 1861 was transferred to the East Norfolk Regiment. He saw a lot of foreign service, and liked to recount his experiences. He used to say how in 1865, when in South Africa, his regiment marched 190 miles through a desert, there being no railways. When on their way to South Africa, the sailing vessel they were in was nearly wrecked off Gibraltar, and it was a long, rough and tedious sea voyage during which they sometimes had to be strapped down in their cabins. In 1868 he fought in the Abyssinian war under Lord Napier, and for some time was on military service at St. Helena, from where he brought home several relics including a photo of Napoleon's tomb. He was invalided from St Helena to Ireland and then to England getting home on Dec 22 1871, having been in the army for 12 years. Gough used to say that in his day, it was customary for officers to flog the soldiers on the least pretence. Upon leaving the army, he lived for a time in Nottinghamshire, where he met his wife, but the bulk of his civilian life had been spent in Thringstone where for about 7 years he was roadman in the employment of Ashby Rural Council. He had been feeling unwell for some time, and on the Thursday, his son Lawrence, who was a sergeant in the Territorials at the time, was wired for from Epping, but arrived to find his father much improved. He got dressed and seemed well enough so that Lawrence left, but on Sunday the old man collapsed and died of heart



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failure. George D L Gough married Lillie Burton in 1911 and lived out his life in Deal in Kent. He died in London in 1968.

- April 1918 – **Arthur Henry Towle**, son of Henry Towle, late of The Gables, Thringstone but now stationmaster of Nottingham, was awarded an OBE for distinguished service to his country.
- Doctors – **John James Serres**, brother to Edward Serres, master of Osgathorpe Harley School, practised in Osgathorpe from around 1885 to at least 1896 and travelled round area in horse and trap, including to Thringstone. He qualified in London in 1882 and the census for 1891 shows him in Osgathorpe at White House, Mount Pleasant with wife Edith, 3 sons and 2 daughters. He was born in Madras, India on 8 May 1857. Another brother Henry was a curate. By 1884 he was living in Stamford Bridgem by 1901 was living in Church Gresley, in 1907 was in Swadlincote and from 1910-1926 in Lincoln. He died 10 May 1931 at South View, Sea View Road, Skegness.
- June 1918 – **John Riseam** aged 70 from Loughborough and owner of property at Thringstone was engaged repairing the chimney at one of his houses in John Street occupied by Mr Henry Tolley when, owing to the breaking of a rope, the scaffolding gave way and Mr Riseam fell from the roof of the house into a garden, sustaining severe injuries, including a fractured jaw. He was attended by **Dr Silas Ethelbert Dunkin of Coalville** and taken to Loughborough Hospital. This Dr Dunkin of St Petroc, Coalville, which we believe, from the 1939 registers, was 21 London Road, Coalville. He was born in London on 26 March 1874, qualified in London in 1899, practised initially in Clapham until around 1915, and was still listed in medical registers at the same address in Coalville in 1959. He was married to Annette Haycock in London in 1900. She was the secretary of the local land army association during WW1 and organised the first poppy day collections in Coalville. He served on the council as a labour councillor for 14 years in the 1920s and 30s and was chairman of the council in 1928. In December 1936, the King honoured him with The Order of St John of Jerusalem in recognition of his 30 years' work with St John Ambulance, particularly as examiner and lecturer to the Coalville LMS railway men. By 1936, his wife was also a councillor in Coalville, and at the time was the only female member and served for several years. Both were also keen amateur actors and produced several plays for charity. His daughter, Annette, who married Bertie Rushton of Ashby in 1924, was a locally known amateur actress. Their son Silas William Dunkin was also a doctor working out of 8 Forest Road, Hugglescote before moving in the 1950s to 10 Wentworth Road, Coalville, which is where Silas Snr. died on 15 April 1965.
- March 1939 – **Edward Riseam**, brother of John (above) having died at nearly a hundred years old, had a large property portfolio in Thringstone which was up for sale at the Rose and Crown. There were two blocks of 9 rented houses each situated in John Street, the first of which were sold to Mr Alfred H Bentham, a general dealer of Hazel Hurst, Nottingham Road, Ashby for £1,210. The second block of 9 rented houses was sold to James Nelson, a fruit merchant of 226 Forest Rd, Coalville for £1,080. A plot of building land adjoining one lot with a total area of 1620 sq yards and a frontage of 141 ft to Lbro Rd and 92 ft to John Street, big enough to build 5 houses, was also sold to Mr Nelson for £79.
- 28 Nov 1924 – **Harry Aris** was acting as doorman at Thringstone House when there was an attack and the door was damaged. Mr John William Brotherhood was caretaker and he was also kicked. Press coverage says Mr Aris was 'a cripple'.
- 1925 – following a baby's death in Thringstone, nurse **Alice Concannon** attended as certified midwife. Born 30 March 1880, daughter of Michael Concannon who in 1911 was living in Parsonwood Hill, she enlisted onto the Roll of certificate Midwives on 21 February 1914. In 1939 she was living at 10 Parsonwood Hill, and on the Roll of 1944, her address was the same. She died in 1960 in Leicester.
- April 1928 – **Charles E Crane**, born in Thringstone, the son of Rev Crane, was appointed as clerk to the Justices. He had been articled to Mr W Beardsley of the firm of Woolley,





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Beardsley and Bosworth of Lbro and opened a practice at Coalville, extending this in the 1920s to acquire the practice of Messrs Smith Mammatt and Hale in Ashby. Mr Crane lived in Ashby, was a well known freemason, and at that time was in his second year as Worshipful Master of the Gracedieu Lodge. He was largely responsible for the formation of the Coalville Permanent Building Society, was a director of the Coalville Brick Company, solicitor to the Midland Mining Officials' Association and an official at the Willesley Park Golf Club.

- April 1933 – **Gracedieu Cricket Club** secured a field near the Bull's Head so that they could carry on. They had always played in the park in front of the manor, but since the manor was taken over for a school, the ground was no longer available. They were then told that the field had recently been mowed, so they would have to wait until 1934 before using it. The field was well known to older folk, who had played on it 40 years or more before.
- Jan 1939 – **Albert Gough** died. He was 74 and ill for about 2 days. He had been the sub postmaster in Thringstone for over 30 years and for some years was chairman of the Parish Council, a school manager and was very active in raising £100 for the LRI. As a boy he was apprenticed to Enoch Briers, cabinet maker, but later joined the Metropolitan Police in which he served for several years, and was on duty in London at Queen Victoria's jubilee in 1887 for which he received a medal. An accident compelled him to leave the force and return to Thringstone, where he had been residing for 42 years. He had one daughter, Elsie May, who was employed at Miss Webb's in Hotel Street, but was at the time suffering from a fractured arm sustained in a fall on a pavement in Coalville.

### Council report

NWLDC is consulting on proposed changes to council tax which are planned to come in effect from 1 April 2019. The proposed changes are removing council tax discounts for second homes and increasing council tax bills for long-term empty properties. Owners of properties affected by these proposed changes will be informed about the consultation which runs until 25 November 2018. Ray W said that next year will be an election year, and NWLDC is part of a new trial where you can only vote if you take your polling card with you to vote.

Ray W also said about a serious accident on the boundary of Thringstone. A young woman with an infant in the car left the road on Talbot Street just into Whitwick and her car ploughed into someone's garden and fence post. The woman was taken to hospital with head injuries and the child put into care. The police think, from the damage to the car, that the woman was travelling at between 50 and 70 miles an hour going out of Thringstone and caught the kerb which caused the accident to occur. There was general discussion about cars 'playing chicken' in that area and someone regularly drives part way down the cycle path and part way on the verge rather than wait at the traffic calming. There followed general discussion about poor driving, and awful parking, especially outside Thringstone Co-op.

### Gardening and environment

Bernard continues to weed, prune and maintain our existing planting.

The group then enjoyed a variety of hot and cold food, biscuits, cakes and deserts brought along to the meeting, for which Nita thanked everybody.

**Next meeting is 3 January 2019. We would like to wish our members a wonderful Christmas period.**