



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

Chairman: Nita Pearson BEM
20 Springfield, Thringstone, Leicestershire, LE67 8LT.
Telephone: 01530 223434
mail to: nita.pearson@ntlworld.com

Visit our website at: www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk
Twitter address: [@Thringstone2](https://twitter.com/Thringstone2)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1 AUGUST 2019 AT CHARLES BOOTH CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Ann Petty, Janet Stevenson, Mike and Anne Statham, Pat Hubbard, Shirley Gordon, Dave Everitt, Geoff Walker, Ray Woodward, Bill Enser, Gillian Bates, Ruth Dumbleton

Apologies: Tony Newton, Ron Hill, Bernard Lee, Tina Bakewell, Nigel and Mary Roberts, Geoff and Jane Wilson, Maureen Simm and John Jackson, Tracy Foulds

Discussions/Decisions.

Monthly litter pick total - 95 bags against **131 bags** for the same month last year.

Following on from the recycling comments made last month, we were told by NWL Environmental team that you can recycle all confectionery packaging at Belton Village Hall and posted this on facebook this with details to find out more information

here: <https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB/brigades/confectionery> ... We then received annoyed messages from Belton playgroup as it is their scheme, but they are closing for the summer to reopen on 2 Sept, and you can only drop off stuff during playgroup hours. We told NWL Environmental team to repost with correct information. We understand that Street Scene is changing at NWLDC. Jackie Sykes, who has been manager of the department for years is leaving, and the department are changing to only enforcement. This is a shame, since there has been a lot of community cohesion over the years due to Jackie's work which may now not happen at all. The Council offices are now a collection point for the **recycling of crisp packets**. All monies received from the Terracycle scheme will raise money which will be donated to Alzheimer's Society.

Tents – The large white FoT marquee is now being stored at the centre, as they use it at the music festival. With regard to a new pop up tent for events such as Picnic in the Parks, the last meeting said that the tent information we had been given was too expensive, and someone else agreed to look at a cheaper option. This has now fallen through. All members said they would look out for something about 3m x 3m with sides which was easy to put up for us to purchase going forward.

Tree planting on Lbro Rd – We were told by one of our members that someone from the county council was doing a survey on 24 July looking at planting trees. We have no details on this as yet, but have asked our county councillor to investigate further. Trees along the main road would be a great improvement and perhaps stop some of the parking on the verges, depending on where they are planted.

Petrol in brook – On 25 July we were told that, following some people working with chainsaws near the brook, a petrol can left there with petrol in it had been found in the brook and the petrol



had polluted the water. The lady who reported it to us agreed to report this to the environment agency, and a note of warning was put on our facebook page.

Other woodland issues - We received a message from someone asking if we could start a petition to get dog poo bins in the woodland to prevent people leaving smelly bags on benches on the footpaths and throwing them into trees. Nita replied that this had been discussed in the past with the de Lisle family and because the woodland is privately owned, the council would neither provide bins nor empty them. As a result, this idea was abandoned. Nita explained that there was a bin by the car park to the Bull's Head provided and emptied by members of Friends of Grace Dieu Priory, and another council provided dog poo bin at the rear of the bowling club on the walk across the football pitch to the woodland, which the council empty once a week. That took 6 years of campaigning on behalf of Friends of Thringstone for this latter bin to be sited there.

Charles and Mary Booth project – Pudding Bag productions are looking to start work on a film on Charles and Mary Booth using students from Grace Dieu Manor School. They want to meet with us to discuss the link between the Booth family and the centre, and a meeting is likely to be arranged later this month. This could be a really interesting project in which to become involved.

Music Festival – This takes place this Saturday. Friends of Thringstone will have a presence there, so please come and say hello. Anne Statham is still looking for books and DVDs to sell. If anybody can help, bring them along on the day if you are unable to take them to the centre tomorrow.

Hello Heritage – We are doing the Hello Heritage event again at the centre on 7 September, concentrating on drama societies and panto groups. We are currently in discussion with people connected to Hugglescote Dance and Drama about 6 children putting on a very small 20 minute show during the exhibition so that it is more interactive than would otherwise be the case. Can we ask please if we can have some **cakes** for this event? Anything and everything welcome. We also need a rota of people willing to **help serve tea**, coffee and cake from 12 noon until 6pm. **Please let Nita know what you can help with.**

Centre News:

The centre now has a **suggestion box**. It is on the door of the office, and suggestions of any kind to improve the centre are welcome. This box is also a post box, so if you come to the centre and the office is shut, you can leave your post in that box too.

As of the end of the summer holidays the Charles Booth Centre hope to be in a position announce that there will be full wrap around care for children following the closure of the previous **pre-school**. This will be run by Danielle Gee under the name of Butterfly and most likely open from 8am – 6pm Monday-Friday. If you are interested and want more information please contact butterflypreschool@outlook.com. Mike said that there are still a lot of hoops to jump through with regard to any new preschool, and the trustees had yet to approve anything, but it was hoped that something would transpire to give a provision for the village.

The new **monthly coffee mornings** started on 12 July when £181 was raised for Marie Curie Cancer Care. Thank you to everybody who came along. The next coffee morning is 16 August when the charity is Forest Way School. All welcome.

The centre recently provided free refreshments for a team of **cyclists** who were coming through the village on part of a national bike ride.

Singer Annie Duggan is bringing her Mississippi inspired Juke Joint to CBC on the first Sunday of each month, starting on Sunday 6 October from 3pm-6pm. Tickets are £4. She will also be appearing at the music festival and at the beer festival in September.

Joanne Lowe from the **Rural Community Council** has been at the centre twice in the last month to offer help to unemployed people with their search for jobs through various schemes which she is able to access. She is thinking of coming again to the centre in September, but wants to meet with Nita first about how to target the area. A meeting is to be arranged. In the meantime, if you are interested in anything she can do to help you or your family/friends, please pop along and have a chat with her. Failing that, ring her on 01455 856315 or email jlowe@ruralcc.org.uk

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 **593 twitter followers**, which is 2 more than last month, and **974 facebook followers**, which is 21 more than last month.

Other: Nita finally finished scanning programmes from **Thringstone Panto and Drama Society** which were borrowed from Joe Wheatley and which he wanted back. There were 47 programmes and this exercise took Nita 8 hours to complete over a period of 2 months in her 'spare time'. These scans were then sent to Ann to save to our archives. We were also allowed to borrow 4 programmes from Joe Knifton which were also scanned and returned. From this we have been able to put together a list of members of the panto society from 1983 onwards, although we are still missing details of people from 1975-83 as we have not had access to those programmes. From these programmes we have come across quite a lot of old adverts which are always useful to see and have.

Nita and Ann went over to **Nottingham Trent University** to a conference on Migrants and Minorities in Mining, where Nita delivered a paper on Scottish and Durham miners coming to Thringstone. Publications were sold afterwards and people were most complementary. All other speakers were professional historians/[professors of history.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,596.26		
Income		Expenditure	
Memberships		Broadband	15.00
Raffle	£13	Reprint of Scottish booklet	19.25
Donation		Stationery	5.00
Publications	£25	Presentation	6.00
total income to general fund	£38		£45.25
		Total general fund at month end	2589.01

Publications Report

At the mining conference, Nita and Ann sold 4 Scottish in Thringstone and 6 Durham Miners booklets.

Web Report

The webmaster is still working on updating the site. Nothing has been added since February.

Police Report

As you may know if you have email, youths kicked out 5 of the struts forming the back rest to our blue bench down **Drury Lane** on 5 July. This was reported to the police with incident no. 19000350789 who then promptly filed the report through lack of information. The husband of one of our members then went down to repair the bench for which we thank him. Our facebook



followers told of 2 youths with scooters kicking the bin at the top of the church jetty, removing some signage from outside Thringstone Select and Save and taking it to Melrose Road, and then heading up to Thringstone Co-op at 11.24pm the same night. This was also relayed to the police. So we are told, someone kindly brought back the signage to Select and Save the following morning.

There continue to be problems with youths on the **cricket pitch**. On 19 July the police came, with dog handler, and removed some youths from the pitch.

Gent called Pete helping to cut down Himalayan Balsam from the **woodland** left his scythe, trousers and sharpening stone on the car park near the play area on Melrose Road and these were stolen. He is offering a £25 reward for their return. His number is 07980073467.

Community Report and What's On

Hatha Yoga which was at Charles Booth Centre has moved to Thringstone Miners Social Centre. The class is on Thursdays at 1.30pm and for more details, please contact Clare on 07722 996386

Thringstone Panto and Drama Society will be holding auditions at the centre at 7.30pm on 20 August. Interested parties should initially email chair@tpads.org.uk for further details. They have also announced that their 2020 panto will be Peter Pan.

Congratulations go to Tom Walters, manager at the centre, and his son Wilf, for raising almost £2k by doing a 27 mile walk on 20 July across the Peak District for **Marie Curie Cancer Care**.

Thringstone School achieved Gold again for the 2018/19 School Games Mark.

3 August – **Thringstone Live Music Festival**. Gates open at 12 noon. First band on at 1pm.

7 Aug – **King's Arms, Whitwick** - Clairvoyance with Patrick Deadman starts at 7.30pm. £15 a ticket with audience limited to 20 people. Go into the pub to get your tickets if there are any left.

9 Aug - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club**. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

9 August - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome

10 Aug – **Meadows Nursing Home Fete** – starts at 2pm. All welcome.

10 Aug – **St Joseph's Tea Rooms, Oaks Road** – Summer Fayre from 10am-4pm. Crafts, games, rides, food and drink and music by Annie Duggan. Free entry.

13 Aug- **Film night at the centre**. Film is Fisherman's Friends. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle

16 Aug - **Coffee, Tea and Cake** - Charity fundraiser at centre 9.30am-12 noon for Forest Way School. All welcome.

17 Aug – **Thringstone Soul Club, Thringstone Members Club** – Tickets £5 in advance. 8pm-late. Raffle for Breast Cancer Care. Jayne Lesley singing motown classics plus resident DJs.

17 Aug – **Osgathorpe Hall** – 40s big band night. Tickets £15 to include food and access to licensed bar. Under 16s £7. £40 for family of 4. Doors open 7pm. Bands start at 7.30pm. Music from the Ockbrook Big Band dressed in US Air Force uniforms. This is a fund raiser for St Mary's Church, Osgathorpe. For more information, ring 07795 958980

17 and 18 Aug – **Woodstock in Whitwick** at Hermitage Leisure Centre, Whitwick.

17 Aug – Ibstock showground on Pretoria Rd - **Poppy Fields Music Festival** – raising money for ex-forces. 2pm-9.30pm. Headliners are T-Rextasy. Adults £15, under 16s £5. Free parking.

17-26 Aug – **Art Exhibition** at the centre. More details nearer the time

25 Aug – **Thringstone Members Club** – Fete frm 12noon until 6pm with line dancing from 1pm-5pm to raise money for Air Ambulance and Rainbows. All welcome.

29 Aug – **Charles Booth Centre** quiz night.

31 Aug – **Conny Club, Whitwick** – Take@That tributeband. This is an outside concert. 8pm start. £6 entry. £4 for members.

6 Sept – **Northern Soul and Motown** at Black Horse, Whitwick. 7.30pm til late.

6-7 Sept – Charles Booth Centre- **TPADS Murder Mystery** – Bring me My Spear. The local WI are celebrating their anniversary, but will this be the last time for one of them? Tickets £10 to include light supper. Starts at 7.30pm. Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads or from 0333 666 3366.



- 7 Sept – **Hello Heritage** at the centre from 12 noon. This event will be concentrating on detailing all the play and panto societies that have been based at the centre.
- 8 Sept – **Grace Dieu Priory Walk** as part of Hello Heritage. Meet at Bull's Head car park at 3pm. There is no charge, but a donation would be gratefully received. This will help in the upkeep of the site.
- 10 Sept – **Film night at the centre**. Film is All is True. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle
- 12 Sept – **Charles Booth Centre** quiz night.
- 13 Sept - **Coffee, Tea and Cake** - Charity fundraiser at centre 9.30am-12 noon for Diabetes UK. All welcome.
- 13 Sept - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club**. 8pm til late. £3 entry.
- 13 Sept - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome
- 14 Sept – **St Andrew's church** will be open from 10am until 6pm as part of Ride and Stride. All donations welcome.
- 14 Sept – **Thringstone's Got Talent** at the centre
- 15 Sept – Coleorton History Group Walk – 2pm from the car park Coleorton Wood, Pitt Lane. Learn about the buildings and people who lived there. Dogs welcome. No cost but booking essential with Sandra on 440000 or email heritagegroup@coleorton.org.uk
- 19 Sept - Coleorton History Group Walk – 10.30am from the car park Coleorton Wood, Pitt Lane. Learn about the buildings and people who lived there. Dogs welcome. No cost but booking essential with Sandra on 440000 or email heritagegroup@coleorton.org.uk
- 21 Sept – Hood Park Leisure Centre, Ashby – Oh What A Night – **Jersey Boys tribute**. 7.30pm start. Tickets £17.50. Contact 416499 to book.
- 26-29 Sept – Beer festival at **Charles Booth Centre**. £10 a day entrance but look out for the discount vouchers.
- 8 Oct – **Film night at the centre**. Film is Stan and Ollie. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle
- 11 Oct - **Coffee, Tea and Cake** - Charity fundraiser at centre 9.30am-12 noon for Breast Cancer Support. All welcome.
- 11 Oct - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club**. 8pm til late. £3 entry.
- 11 Oct - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome
- 12 Oct – **Abba tribute** at the centre. Tickets £10 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre or from the office, weekdays only 9-12 noon. The show will start at 7.30pm. **BOOK EARLY FOR THIS ONE.**
- 13 Oct – Antique and collectors fair at **Hermitage Leisure Centre** 9am – 3.30pm. Entrance £2
- 27 Oct – **Halloween Fun Run** at the centre. Start time of 10am. Please come dressed in spooky costume. £5 per runner.
- 31 Oct – **Halloween family party and quiz** at the centre. More details nearer the time.
- 1 Nov – **Whitwick Conny Club** firework party. Bonfire starts at 7pm, fireworks start at 8pm, band (Analogue Haze) on at 9pm. £3 for adults, children free.
- 1 Nov – **Northern Soul and Motown** at Black Horse, Whitwick. 7.30pm til late.
- 2 Nov – **George and Dragon** – bonfire night.
- 2 Nov - **Sally Barker and Anna Ryder** in concert at Charles Booth Centre. Tickets £10. Show starts at 7.30pm. Tickets available from the office Monday-Friday 9am-12 noon or via www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre
- 8 Nov - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome
- 12 Nov – **Film night at the centre**. Film is A Dog's Purpose Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle
- 15 Nov - **Coffee, Tea and Cake** - Charity fundraiser at centre 9.30am-12 noon. All welcome.
- 16 Nov – **Annie Duggan's 40s night** at the centre. More details nearer the time.
- 18 Nov - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club**. 8pm til late. £3 entry.
- 3 Dec - Antique and collectors fair at **Hermitage Leisure Centre** 9am – 3.30pm. Entrance £2
- 10 Dec – **Film night at the centre**. Film is First Man. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle
- 13 Dec - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome
- 13 Dec – Potential **Santa event** at the centre



20 Dec – **Carols at the centre.** Procession leaves St Andrew's at 6.30pm to get to the centre for 7pm. Entertainment will be available after the singing at the centre.

History report

- Thanks to Alison Birkin who gave us 56 photos from her time with **Thringstone Panto and Drama Society** and some programmes. All of Alison's Billing family have been involved with the society. Alison started with panto about 40 years ago, but has other family connections in that her mother's father was Herbert Shelton who was in the Thringstone Jollies at the centre in 1920s and helped with subsequent pantos by playing the piano (for example in 1936 with Cinderella). Apparently, Herbert taught Frank Waterfield of The Queen's Head to play the piano and was quite an accomplished musician. He was born on 14 February 1899 and died in Leicester City General hospital on 30 September 1956. He married Alice Nora Gee on 12 July 1924 at St Andrew's. Alison's uncle is Clifford Shelton (who we have discussed before for his trumpet playing). Alison's mother Audrey nee Billing was chairman of the Thringstone Panto and Drama Society from 1987 taking over from Joe Knifton who had been chair for a couple of years and reckons that he was coerced into joining the group by Joyce Lucas. Audrey was also wardrobe mistress for years. She was also involved with earlier productions at the centre, as we have mentioned before with the concert called Kids Down Every Street in 1942. Alison's father, Raymond Billing, was chairman of the group from 1995-2004, and Alison's brother Andrew was chair for 2 years after that. Alison's great great aunt was Amy Gee who worked at the centre in the 1930s/40s. Her grandmother's sister, Ivy May Gee married Joseph Barkby from Coleorton and for many decades the couple ran old time dance classes from the community centre. They originally lived on Loughborough Road but eventually moved to the top end of Henson's Lane. Nita has shared information and subsequent photos with Alison. Geoff Walker said that Ray Billing had been a member of Shepshed Speakers' Club and also a member of local rotary as well.
- Thanks also go to the family of the late **Carole Hulbert** for the programmes from Panto going back in time, photos and press cuttings which include photos of Kay Fitt, wife of David Fitt who was warden of the centre in 1979, Joyce Lucas from Lucas Mart, Audrey Billing and Lorna Sykes who worked as wardrobe mistresses and various other people. Carole was chairman of Thringstone Panto and Drama Society for several years from 2007 and received a 25 year certificate from the society, as did her husband John. All photos have been scanned and returned to Carole's brother Robert Waterfield as requested, but the remaining details have gone into our archives.
- Following on from the mining conference at which Nita was asked whether the miners in this area had the same tools with which to work, and whether the lads in the pits showed any animosity against an influx of **Scottish and Durham miners**, Nita has interviewed Chick Robertson and the information he gave will go in our archives. In a nutshell there was some animosity because the miners got new homes whereas other local people who had just married still had to stay with in-laws, and the pits in Scotland no longer had pit ponies but had more modern machinery, whereas the pits here were larger in height so could still accommodate pit ponies.
- Following on from research for Alison Birkin, we have discovered more about Glebe Farm. Raymond Billing's parents from Glebe Farm were **Joseph Henry Billing** (known as Henry) born Osgathorpe 5 December 1889 who died at Glebe Farm, 37 Main Street, Thringstone on 4 February 1976 and Lily Bancroft born 28 July 1887 in Thringstone and who died on 22 May 1965. They married in 1916 in Loughborough. In 1939, along with their two children, James Arnold and John Raymond (known as Ray) they were at Snarrow's Farm just on the outskirts of Osgathorpe where he was the superintendant of the sewage disposal works and farmer. They moved to Glebe Farm in the 1940s. His parents were also involved with farming. They were Joseph Billing and Ruth Hallam. Joseph was born in 1848 in Naseby, Northamptonshire and he died July 1920 in Loughborough, but appears to have been in Osgathorpe since at least 1861. Ruth was born in 1850 in Osgathorpe and died 30 June 1924 in Osgathorpe. They married on 26 Dec 1870 at the church in Osgathorpe, and had 14 children of whom 2 had died before 1911, possibly Anne and Amos. Joseph was a blacksmith and grazier at Cottage Farm, Osgathorpe in 1911. Prior to that, he is lis-



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ted as domestic groom and farmer. From the 1861 census we can see that his parents were John Billing, a farmer of 36 acres and carrier, and Rebecca born in Frisby on the Wreake. John Billing was born in Cold Ashby, near Daventry in Northants in 1819. His wife Rebecca was born in 1815. They married in 1844 in Lutterworth and she was previously Rebecca Mays. She died in 1899 in Osgathorpe the same year as he died.

- **Bertram Alfred Keen** was headmaster from 1929-1949. A strict disciplinarian and very liberal with his use of the cane both during his time in Thringstone and before when he taught in Woodville, he did have a softer side. Prior to coming to Thringstone he is recorded as having won second prize at an Ashby photography competition in 1906. In 1911 he won first prize at The Ashby Horticultural Society's flower show and industrial exhibition for his fuchsias and also for his window plants. He was also the accompanist at school concerts in Ashby in 1908 when the children performed Cinderella and at a general choir concert in 1913. We know he also worked with Thringstone Players, the panto society of the time, as their pianist for a while, being quoted in newspaper articles as working with them on their production of Cinderella in 1933.
- James Lester was headmaster from 1915-1928 and retired to live in Torquay. He was very involved with local issues and was Secretary of the Coalville branch of the Royal British Legion and chairman of the Coalville Liberal Association. We had previously only known that he was also vice chair of the management committee of the local Co-operative Society.
- **Nottingham Review 23 March 1836** – 'Last week a gent from Thringstone called upon Mr Wilcox, a Wesleyan local preacher of Lbro, to ask him to preach the sermon at Thringstone on Easter Sunday next for Thringstone's Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. Mr Wilcox agreed, but then received a letter saying that the Wesleyan superintendant was not agreeable because Mr Wilcox is a Warrenite.' The 'Warrenite Agitation' of 1834-5 was named after Dr Samuel Warren who was Manchester based, and resulted in the formation of a breakaway Wesleyan Methodist Association. Samuel Warren (1 April 1781-23 May 1862) was expelled by conference in 1835 on account of his attitude to the establishment of a theological training college in Manchester. Many sided with Warren and then started a revolt against others in the Wesleyan church, with several reforms proposed.
- **Leicester Chronicle 3 Jan 1880** – The Wesleyan Choir from Thringstone raised in excess of 10 guineas by their Christmas carol singing, which was handed over to the church trustees. 'The choir sang with that taste for which they are noted, enjoying the efficient tuition of Mr Andrew Hurst'. This is the son of Mary Hurst of Thringstone House.
- **Talbot House Farm** – We knew that Thomas Potter who kept the Fox until 1873 when he died had a connection to William and John Potter of 'the famous Talbot Lane Horse Repository' and also knew that the Potter family had a connection to Talbot House Farm, but now discover that the horse repository was at Talbot House. In the Leicester Mail 10 March 1866 is an obituary for someone called Samuel Bonnett of Whitwick who was connected to Whitwick Colliery Company and was quite a big name at the time, during which it says: His wife was the daughter of the late Mr William Potter of Talbot House, Swannington and sister of Mr John Potter'.
William Potter, obviously John Potter's father, is the same William Potter of Coleorton on Talbot Lane who was a publican aged 60 in 1841 with a wife called Elizabeth who is 65. That said, it needs to be remembered that ages in the 1841 census were often rounded up or down. He is on the 1851 census, with a birth date of 1784, with his son and various others on Talbot Lane as a horse dealer and farmer and the 1861 census as retired farmer of Talbot Lane. William Potter died on 14 May 1861 at Talbot Lane, Swannington leaving effects under £7k to John Potter, his son.
John Potter was a horse dealer in 1861 living in Swannington village with his family. By 1871 he is with his wife and daughter and listed as farmer, landowner and horse dealer. The family has a governess and 4 servants. We know from newspaper articles that he was at Talbot House Farm in 1868 as he sold some cows at that time. He seems to have died suddenly on 3 Jan 1877, as there is a sale of 15 hunters, and it says as a result of the sudden death of John Potter of Talbot

House, with tack, clothing and saddlery being sold at a later date. Newspaper articles from 22 November 1866 and 16 November 1877 state that John Potter also owned Red Hill Farm. All farms, horses and livestock were to be sold following the death of Mr Potter in 1877. Mrs Potter later sold one of his horses in 1878 at which time she was still at Talbot House Farm. John Potter was born in Coleorton in 1807, had a wife called Eliza Jane who was nearly 20 years his junior, one daughter called Constance Eliza, and left his wife in the region of £9k.. Eliza Jane moved from Talbot House to Swannington House, and then West Kensington, London and Maida Vale. She died 29 March 1890 leaving £14,583 12s 2d to her daughter Mrs Hamilton Luard Begbie of St Michael's vicarage, Stockwell, Surrey. Constance had married at Swannington on 27 Oct 1882. Her husband Hamilton was a retired army major in 1911, and they were living with their son. They had had 2 children, one of whom, Gwendoline Mable, had died. She died on 21 Jan 1945 at Eton.

- **Red Hill Farm** – It is interesting that the Potter family had more than one farm, and there seem to have been continuing links between Talbot House Farm and Red Hill Farm. This was owned from the early 1900s until at least 1914 by Arthur James Gough, son of George Gough of Talbot House Farm born 14 March 1871. Arthur and his wife Rosa (nee Fewkes) had at least 8 children. He died 20 April 1951 at which time he lived at The Grange, Seagrave having moved some years earlier to Billesdon. It should be remembered however, as mentioned in our book Thringstone and Its People, that in 1881 the farmer there was Thomas Wain who also worked as a grazier and milk seller. He went into liquidation in October of that year. Born in 1831 in Barton on The Beans, before taking up farming he had been a grocer in Heather. He died on 13 May 1891 at which point in time his occupation was brick burner. He left £200 5s 6d.

Council report

Coalville Park has been issued with a Green Flag Status. This means that high standards have been made after years of trying (to get the same as most of the green spaces in Loughborough).

Gardening and environment

Bernard is still tidying, weeding and sorting the garden areas.

AOB

There was some discussion on the recent heavy rainfall and the resultant problems to sewers. Nita said that once again the sewer outside 132 Loughborough Road had lifted and it was reported similar issues had happened on the Coverdale estate and down Main Street.

Nita said she had been contacted by a gent who may want to help tidy up the natural area we look after down Main Street.

Next meeting 5 September at 6.45pm at Charles Booth Centre. All welcome.