



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](mailto:nita.pearson@ntlworld.com)

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

BULLETIN FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

Monthly litter pick total - 99 against **101 bags** for the same month last year.

Did you know that, according to Keep Britain Tidy, it costs every council £40 for each bag of litter they collect? Just think then how much Friends of Thringstone is saving the council - that is if they cleared litter at the rate we do!

The new poster for **Dog Watch School** has appeared on Melrose Road, as there has been an increase in dog fouling on that road.

In recognition of our litter picking achievements, we were awarded, by NWLDC, for one of their **Local Hero awards** on 27 August for keeping the area clear of litter.

We also understand from NWLDC that the **steel cans**, as against aluminium cans, collected from red boxes go to Doncaster to be recycled into steel billets. These are then used to make products for the aerospace, automotive and construction sectors in the UK and Spain.

On 25 August, a bin lorry emptying **black bins in Thringstone** had a small fire due to someone putting a lithium battery within their rubbish. These should be left out separately with recycling. For the last couple of months we have been feeding our litter numbers to **North Leicestershire Litter Wombles**. Another group called South Leicestershire Litter Wombles then collects figures from the data input form they have produced on google documents and announces figures for the whole of Leicestershire. In July, 1458 bags of litter were removed from the area litter picked, which is staggering, and 657 more than the previous month (we also gave our figures for this too). The litter situation continues to grow apace, which is an awful indictment on society.

Charity bins - We've had this conversation before, but please don't leave bags by the side of the charity bins if the bins are full. Nita had a conversation with the Air Ambulance chap taking stuff from Thringstone Members' Club's bins on 17 August. He said that the charity has to pay £120 a van load to dispose of these unusable bags legally as they are classed as contaminated and their contents can't be sold. He also said that he is amazed at what people are now putting in these bins, which ranges from wallpaper, through to grass cuttings, builders' rubble to a small sink which was stuck in one bin recently and took some getting out. Citing the difficulties taking things to tips as the reason one person said she was putting wallpaper from her lounge in there isn't a good enough reason for causing difficulties for charities.

The telephone box on The Green was removed this month following a consultation at the back end of last year. It was felt that nobody used it, and it was just somewhere to be vandalised. To a litter picker who used to shelter inside there sometimes when it rained, it was very useful.....

Thanks go to everybody who put money in the collection box at the Post Office to help Alice Montgomery after the fire at her house in Melrose Road. £162 was collected. She has now been temporarily rehomed within the village whilst work to her house is carried out by the council.



We were asked to help a local girl with her masters degree studies into the **use of libraries**. All members who have email were sent this direct. If you did not get it, and want to help, please contact Nita direct.

Other award winners - Chapel Fitness Centre got voted as Activity hero for putting things online for people to do during the lockdown, and lending out equipment. Tony Dandy was also mentioned for helping at the centre by distributing food parcels to the vulnerable and for putting in hundreds of hours redecorating the downstairs. Tony then received his own nomination and award from the same source. Well done to all of them. **Grace Dieuettes and Clare Spence** were also awarded the activity hero award by NWLDC for setting up the group of lady soft ball cricketers and building a substantial team. Well done to them too and nice to see the huge amount of people who turned up to their fun day and BBQ on 31 August. **Thringstone Primary** got awarded a local heroes award by NWLDC. The award reads 'Mrs. Roberts and all the teachers at Thringstone Primary School have done an amazing job throughout this difficult time. They've got most children back into school before the summer holidays, and when they weren't at school, they made regular contact and helped massively. They also delivered breakfast boxes every week and helped with vouchers.' Well done to Thringstone Primary.

Thringstone Members' Club has given a makeover to the function room, and is happy to take bookings. Covid guidelines are in place.

Drury Lane signage – Bernard took this away to touch up so you can read it and put it back at the entrance to the lane where it can be seen.

Bauble Printing – we have heard from our printers that they hope to be in a position to recommence in the print room some time in September. This could allow us to look towards recommencing Bauble printing and delivery. We will keep people informed.

Thringstone Miners Social Centre wishes to thank everybody who took part and supported their car boot sale on 8 August. £200 was raised for which they are most grateful. Their pre-school started back on 1 September.

On 17 August we were told that **free parking** signs had gone up in Coalville, with free parking on the car park from Iceland down to the rear of the emporium and behind Argos.

Centre News: Volunteers from the centre have delivered leaflets on crisis help for people with debt problems to various places in the village. This was also been scanned and put on the FoT facebook and twitter pages.

May Chadwick in the office has made a lovely **table runner** for the refurbished house lounge. Pictures of this have been shared on our social media pages.

The centre has put in **sanitiser stations** in 7 different places throughout the building, and are requesting that anybody who enters the building please wear a mask in order to minimise the instance of covid transmission. They have an extensive set of guidelines on the covid situation, which can be found on their website. <https://www.charlesboothcentre.org.uk/guidance-for-users-and-visitors>

We have spoken to the centre about coming back to **meetings** and the requirements for groups like ours for this to happen, given that cleaning takes place in a morning and then the centre is in use during the daytime. Details of the conversation were forwarded round our committee and a select group of members who usually attend meetings, and the general concensus was to not reintroduce meetings for the time being and see how things go. We subsequently got a letter and copy from the centre of their covid guidelines which accorded with the conversation we had. If any member wants to have a copy of the guidelines, please contact Nita direct.

Mary's sewing class will not be recommencing at the centre, as Mary has decided not to continue, which is sad. Her class ran for many decades.

We understand that the centre have a **new dance group** starting up on some evenings in the main hall (taking all the appropriate health and safety precautions of course) and the Slimming classes group are hoping to start again soon, although again they are faced with a lot of practical difficulties. Like FOT all the older age user-groups are holding back for the time being. All of this



means that the Centre is going to face some very major challenges soon if this situation carries on for many more months, which seems highly likely at the moment.

Nita had an email from **TPADS** who have told us that they started rehearsals at the centre at the beginning of August for a Murder mystery so are in on Tuesday each week from 7.30pm to 9 pm. They are just cleaning the chairs, tables and wiping the toilet upstairs after use, so have bought some cleaning wipes and hand sanitizer, as well as taking people's temperature too. Hopefully they will get to do a panto if they can, but it may be recorded online and put out to a paid audience rather than being live, depending on the situation in January.

We understand that **the pre-school** are doing well. They did interviews with the Coalville Times which was printed on 28 August and also one for September's Community Voice magazine.

Carole Cox is putting on a **MacMillan coffee morning** at the centre on 25 September with the pre-school crew. Starts at 10am. All welcome.

Chairs Report

Letters received: None

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

Promotion: We have **654 twitter followers**, which is 2 more than last month, and **1,386 facebook followers**, which is 18 more than last month.

Other: We are sorry to have to report the death of our member Alan Wileman on 11 August. Condolences go to his family and friends.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,267.69		
Income		Expenditure	
Donations	£10	Broadband	15.00
total income to general fund	£10		£15
		Total general fund at month end	2262.69

Publications Report

Nita sold one VT2 and one VT3 to a man she met in the woods who intends to write his own walking book of the area. The money for this will appear on the next statement.

Web Report

The webmaster has moved the FOT website to a new home, with plenty of space. However, some parts of the site are refusing to work properly... The links to "Thringstone Online", "Computer Help" and "Links" generate errors, which he hopes to be able to resolve. The rest of the site is (hopefully) working properly. He will try to do some updating soon.

Police Report

A Child's car was seat taken from the porch of a property on **Lbro Rd**.

There was a dog attack on **Melrose Road** - lady and her dog from Clyde Court were attacked by dogs belonging to man in nearby flat. Other people came to her rescue to get the dogs off her, as she had been knocked to the ground. Several subsequent police visits to the flat in question about the main dangerous dog took place. Same flat had an armed police response unit there, with police cars and vans, on 28 August. Two men were taken into custody and a vehicle removed.

The police have had reports about a little gathering of lads in their cars on **The Green**. They apparently come between 11:30pm and 1:30am but not in a regular pattern. They rev their



engines, shout and generally create a nuisance either on the Co-op car park or the one on The Green before they screech off into the night.

Our local PCSO would like to sign residents up to something Leicestershire Police are doing now called **neighbourhood link**. ' If residents sign up by giving me their email address they can receive from me the latest news, Scams, updates and event information direct from the beat team. If they would like to join please ask them to email me the following.

Name

Email address

House number

Post code

I'd like to know if there are any issues in the area they live which worries them to include speeding, ASB, drugs, litter and really anything at all. I should also like to know what they like about where they live.'

Lynette Rose – email - Lynette.Rose@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Community Report and What's On

5-9 Sept **Hello Heritage** in Thringstone – look at the boards around the village and find out more about the history of Thringstone.

25 Sept – **MacMillan Coffee morning** at Charles Booth Centre from 10am. All welcome.

18 Dec – **Carols at Miners Welfare**. Procession will run from St Andrew's at 6.30pm to get to the Miners Welfare for 7pm. Refreshments will be available, there will be a Santa grotto and a Christmas tree with lights.

History report

- Nita's article on the MacNaghten family was printed in Community Voice for August. As a result of a copy of the article being sent to the great granddaughter of Charles and Mary Booth, **Prof. Clara Lowy**, we have had a couple of emails from her to add to our knowledge of the work of her mother, Bidy Youngday about whom we have spoken before due to her exploits in Berlin just prior to and during WW2. One of the things she sent was a video taken in the 1960s of the South Acton Play Ground which Bidy help provide. This is on Youtube with the link being <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WtopS7h6tF8> There is another film on Youtube of Terry Barker talking about his memories of the play ground. In it he said that Bidy Youngday started it off and worked with his father every weekend to get things for the children because 'she enjoyed helping people who didn't have a good start in life.'
- James White, conservation officer at NWLDC, who is working on lists of heritage assets in the district, asked Nita for details of where **Thringstone Co-ops** had been prior to 1945 as he had no details at all. This research threw up the fact that Coalville Working Men's Co-operative Society's first shop in Thringstone came in December 1904 to 8 The Green, then a purpose built shop was built and opened in 1925 which later on in years became Lucas Mart and then Thringstone Post Office. At the moment we have no idea when it moved to 12 Clove Place, and we have no photos of that shop as a Co-op before it became Body Toning Emporium. If anybody has any photos or memories of the Co-op in Thringstone, or of the Body Toning Emporium's shop before it became that business, please can you share these? We have photos pre 1925 and on the opening in 1925, with shop assistants on the photos. These have been shared to our facebook page. We also discovered that 83 members of Coalville Working Men's Co-operative Society went off to WW1 several being killed. This does not appear to include anybody from Thringstone's shop, although assistants from Bagworth, Hugglescote and Ellistown died. We were already aware that Arthur Caurah, who had a lot to do with the centre and lived on The Green, was the manager of the boot and shoe department of the main Coalville shop. In addition, we were aware that Wilfred Sykes, who was engaged to be married and was killed in WW1 on 26 Sept 1917 lived at Co-operative Cottages, The Green (nos. 8 and 10)



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- James White then said he was also looking at **post offices**, and where had the post offices been, so Nita gave details of the sites of the post offices, complete with dates where known. These sites were south side of The Green in the 1800s, then close to Bauble Yard on Loughborough Road around 1900, 20 Main Street, 113 Main Street, 6 The Green and now in its present position at the corner of John Street. She also gave details of all the post office officials we know about and their dates from the post office coming here in 1855. According to James White, once he had these details, the post office can be found on the 1882 map at south end of The Green (near Queen's Head which would fit with the Hallam connection) and the 1924 map shows the post office at 20 Main Street.
- The Leicester Chronicle of 24 March 1917 tells that inmates of Broomleys Hospital in Coalville were 'treated to tea at **Thringstone House** by members of the Institute there'.
- The Leicester Chronicle of 3 November 1917 records the death of **Mr Samuel Richards**, who in his youth was excellent at step dancing, and had a love of sport. He was 80 when he died and for many years an employee at Snibstone (Coalville West) Colliery. Records show Samuel was from Worthington, had married Alice Hallam Bradley in 1853, and was buried at St Andrew's on 1 November 1917 with an address of **The George and Dragon** which was where his daughter lived at the time. Prior to that, he had lived at Talbot Lane.
- The Leicester Chronicle of 17 November 1917 tells of the death of **James Bailey** of John Street. Mr Bailey had been killed as a result of a roof collapse at Coleorton Colliery. Joseph Walker of Leicester Road in Whitwick suffered some severe injuries and a broken leg in the same incident. James had been born in 1867 in Ashby and married Ellen Hibbert. They'd had 9 children by 1911 of whom 2 had died. Prior to living in John Street, the family had lived in Gracedieu Road. He was buried at St Andrew's on 18 November.
- Jane Hambleton, the 17 year old daughter of **Don Hambleton** of Thringstone school, had her picture in the Daily Mirror on 12 October 1968. She was being 'wired up' by her boyfriend, 24 year old research student Gareth Saunders, who was doing research into prevention and cure of back ache. Her bikini was wired up by Gareth at Loughborough University, and electrodes were placed on Jane's back to record the stress on her back as she picked up various weights. Gareth, who was taking his MSc was quoted as saying that many millions of working hours were lost to pack pain every year. Jane does not appear to have married Gareth. It is possible she married in London in 1974 to someone called Riani.
- Nita found the Metropolitan Police Pension records dated February 1912 for **Charles Holmes** born on 23 March 1862 in Thringstone. Charles was in Thringstone with his parents, Joseph and Rebecca, on Main Street until around 1887. Joseph was a miner and initially Charles went into the same profession. Charles is on the census with his parents in 1881 there. He was one of 9 children! He seems to have married Clara Sisson in 1884 probably at Coleorton, and had two children, George and Alfred, both born in Thringstone (1885 and 1886) and baptised by Rev. Crane at St Andrew's, at the time their father putting his occupation down as miner. He joined the Metropolitan Police on 31 December 1888, and lived in Isleworth, then Hammersmith and then Kensington. His wife, Clara died in 1906 in Fulham, and I think son Alfred also died, but can't say when, as he disappears from records, but in 1911 Charles says he only has 3 children and that would be George, Ellen May and Maud Annie. We have no idea what happened to George as he also disappears from records after 1901. By 1939 Charles had come back to Leicestershire and was living at 27 Moorfield Place, Shepshed with Maud and Ellen. He died on 23 September 1943 at that house and left £147 7s 11d to Maud who never married, and neither did her sister Ellen.
- **Gracedieu Manor Farm** was advertised as to let in several local papers in October 1895 with an available letting date of 6 April 1896. The distances from various stations were given and the farm was said to be 159 acres pasture and 67 arable. The agents involved were John German in Ashby.
- Adverts in the Burton Chronicle for July and August 1903 talk of parties being catered for at **Gracedieu Farm** by **Mr George Thacker**, with 100 visitors being able to be accommodated and teas provided at moderate terms. This is a new name to us. George seems to have been born in



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1865 in Hartshorne. By 1911 George Thacker and wife Annie nee Smith and 5 children are shown living on Ashby Road, Gracedieu, where George is a grazier. A newspaper article from 1913 talks about a court case where George allowed his cattle to trespass onto the highway, and two further reports from 1916 talks about Joseph Staley Warrington of Belton suing Mr Thacker for various issues relating to ploughing fields, stealing hay, the use of a mare for stud purposes, and removing products. One report also mentions Albert Woolley, another farmer at Gracedieu whose land adjoined that of George. This is another new name but we are currently unable to find further information. Mr Thacker's first case was held by the petty sessions and dismissed and he lost the other case. During these sessions, both the chairman and judge said that Mr Thacker had several times contradicted himself in evidence and he was often off hand and had to correct himself. George appears to have died on 18 August 1939 at which time he was living at 115 Meadow Lane, Whitwick.

- From the Burton Chronicle 7 September 1905 comes a report on the wedding of Miss **Annie Vesty** of Gracedieu Manor Farm to Mr Walter Stinson of Sharpley House, Whitwick. The marriage took place at the Westleyan Chapel at Osgathorpe. The bride was given away by her uncle Mr Richard Handley Vesty (who was a prominent Wesleyan) and the chapel was decorated with palms and ferns by Mrs Brooks of Gracedieu Manor. Annie appears to have been born on 28 May 1881 in Kegworth to John William and Elizabeth Belle Vesty nee Walker, John being the older brother of Richard. In 1881, her father was a carpenter who employed others, and she had an older sister called Elizabeth Jane (known as Jennie) and a younger called Gertrude all born in England, but the family appear to have moved to the USA around 1882 where they took out a farm in Talbot, Maryland and had several other children. Annie must have stayed in the UK, as she is seen on census information with Richard Vesty and family from at least 1891. John William Vesty died in 1918 and Annie's mother in 1939. The Stinson family and their young son Walter Handley Stinson (born locally on 6 August 1906) seem to have also moved to Talbot, Maryland, USA in February 1908. They had at least 5 children in total and run a farm. Walter died in 1952 and Annie in 1962.
- From the Nottingham Journal of 22 August 1949 comes a report of the damage of 7 tons of oats at John H Woodford's **Manor Farm, Gracedieu**. We mentioned in our Thringstone and Its People book that we knew he had been there from 1946 but have never been able to establish the date on which he left. We know that in July 1979, the Bream family were still living at Long Folly Farm, Peatling Parva, as an article in the Leicester Chronicle of 27 July 1979 talks of Hon. Mrs Catherine Bream receiving her warrant of appointment from the county commander, Leonard Lee, at her first official meeting with the St John Leicester Area Presidents at Brigade HQ in Regent Road, Leicester. Mrs Bream had succeeded her mother, Viscountess Kemsley, and Richard Bream was reported to be a member of the council of the Order of St John.

Council report

Nothing received.

Gardening and environment

Bernard has continued to do bits of planting and weeding on The Green and down the church jetty. He is intending to move the fig tree which is either a self set or someone has planted in the Flower bed on The Green down to Drury Lane, as it is out of keeping where it currently is.

Next bulletin will be in October.