



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 NOVEMBER 2020

Monthly litter pick total - 108 against **99 bags** for the same month last year.

Did you know that **Little Yeo's Yogurt Pouches**, whilst unable to currently go for recycling in the red box, can actually be recycled. Please go to <https://www.yeovalley.co.uk/put-nature-first/packaging-and-recycling/> for further information.

NWLDC have said that all **cardboard recycling** from our collections stays in the UK and goes to either Birmingham or Kent to be made into new cardboard packaging.

From 1 October there has been a ban on plastic straws, stirrers and plastic stemmed cotton buds being made available by suppliers. This is part of worldwide hopes to reduce single use plastics.

Morrison's, Waitrose and John Lewis have said they won't be using glitter in own-brand Christmas products this year. The tiny pieces of plastic can wash into the environment, harm wildlife, and get into the food chain.

Thringstone Creates – On 16 October, the Coalville Times printed an article sent to them about the lockdown project run by Sarah Baxter, under the Thringstone Creates banner. We believe that Community Voice may also print something. Since the press releases were sent out, Sarah has put forward an idea to decorate homes and gardens at **Christmas** to follow on from the lockdown project. This new project includes making rag wreathes and other such items. Details were sent to members via email and also put out on social media, and lots of people have said they want to take part, including Thringstone Primary, Charles Booth Pre-School, Ruby's, Old School House and the team at George and Dragon.

St Andrew's church has refurbished main gates thanks to a birthday gift from Jan Cufflin. They are looking exceptionally nice, and also have finials on top of the gate posts.

Chapel Fitness Centre - now has the NHS Covid 19 QR code displayed, on the board in the entrance and the door into reception. This is only used with the NHS track and trace app, and is voluntary not compulsory, so people attending the gym are asked to please continue to scan into the gym as normal.

Thringstone Panto and Drama Society is sponsoring a puppy called Willow to be a guide dog and had a socially distanced fashion show at the centre in October. They are also putting on their Autumn **Murder Mystery** at the centre on 13 and 14 November. This will be to a reduced audience, due to covid and social distancing, and tickets are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads or by ringing 0333 666 3366.

Remembrance Sunday – the centre will be putting up their large poppies as usual around The Green. We understand that the Royal British Legion have downloads available of poppies for children to colour in and put in their windows. A lady on Main Street said she will play The Last Post after the minute's silence takes place, and we are suggesting that people might like to stand

outside their houses to mark the occasion at 11am. Many would have gone up to Coalville or Whitwick, but as these parades will not be taking place, may feel unable to give their respects, so standing outside your own home would be one way of taking part in a social distanced way.

Christmas 2020 – It has been suggested on social media that people in Thringstone might like to go outside at 6pm on Christmas Eve and ring a bell for 2 minutes to spread Christmas spirit ‘and help Santa on his way’. This could, the posting suggested, be a good memory for children and also the village community, as 2020 has not been a good year and this action would give sparkle, hope and show community togetherness. Anybody interested?

Centre things - Every Wednesday at 10am at Charles Booth Centre is a fitness class with Reema Bhakri called **Ladies Bhanga**. It is £5 for the first session then you have to prepay to continue. The Monday evening classes are not now at the centre, but can be accessed via Zoom.

Slimming World continues to operate from 8am on Saturday mornings at Charles Booth Centre and is following all covid guidelines.

Line dancing may be coming back to the centre on a Monday night sometime in the not too distant future. When this happens, we will post details on social media.

Enquiries have been made about daytime **Baby and Toddler signing** sessions in the upstairs hall. Once confirmed details are available, these will be posted out on social media.

Redecoration at the centre continues with the reception area, using similar colours to those already in place downstairs.

Centre News:

Chairs Report

Letters received: None

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

Promotion: We have **658 twitter followers**, which is 3 less than last month, and **1,426 facebook followers**, which is 22 more than last month.

Other: Forwarded NWLDC’s Community Response Newsletter round to everybody on email.

We have new members – Adrian and Kath Wells, Sandra and Mark Rawson-Gill and Kath Ingall. Welcome to them.

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,212.69		
Income		Expenditure	
Donations	£24	Broadband	15.00
Publications	£6	Money given to petty cash	20.00
total income to general fund	£30		35.00
		Total general fund at month end	2207.69

Publications Report

Money recorded above relates to last month’s sale.

Web Report

The website, which can be reached from www.friends-of-Thringstone.org.uk has been updated to include minutes up to May 2020. The webmaster is continuing to update the site now it has extra space.



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Police Report

One of our members who lives in Whitwick reported that some scrap items were taken from the back of his house without permission. These items were relatively well hidden. Where possible, the police advise that any items of value, even if just scrap value, are kept locked away. We have received the following advice from the police.

'As the evenings start to draw in, officers are reminding people to ensure their homes look occupied during the darker nights, so leave a light on if you are out, tell your neighbourhood watch if you go away, make sure any burglar alarm is on, and think about automatic lights that come on. Also prevent easy access to the back of your property by locking gates, and not advertising you are away on social media. You may also consider asking a neighbour to open and close curtains and turn on and off lights when you are away'.

Police have said that there was a theft of a catalytic converter from a car on Gracedieu Road in early October, where there were witnesses, but nothing further is known.

24-26 Nov – Charles Booth Centre pre-school's Forest School was vandalised with items broken and equipment stolen over the weekend. All the staff have worked extremely hard to make this a very special place for children to enjoy, explore and learn about outdoors. Polite signs will possibly now be erected, and the group are buying wildlife motion cameras, essentially for the children to see the wildlife, but also to monitor the site.

Community Report and What's On

Please check that these events are still on before venturing out to them.

13 and 14 Nov - Autumn **Murder Mystery** at the centre. This will be to a reduced audience, due to covid and social distancing, and tickets are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads or by ringing 0333 666 3366.

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

- **The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Record Office** reopened on Tuesday 13th October. This is a message we received: 'We've been working hard to ensure that visitors and staff will be kept safe during their visit, including installing glass screens and making changes to how we operate. Important information for all visitors:
 - ALL visits need to be pre-booked. As we need to limit the number of people inside the search room, we cannot accommodate walk-ins at this present time. Please ensure that you have booked a slot before you visit us. Bookings can be made up to 2 weeks in advance through the website.
 - In line with government guidance face masks must be worn whilst in the Record Office (unless you have an exemption).
 - Guidance from the National Archives recommends that archival materials need to be quarantined for up to 72 hours after use. This may mean that the availability of some records will vary.
 - Our opening hours have been amended slightly, but we are still providing our telephone and email help service, and we encourage you to use these methods where possible'
- Nita's article on **Fred Grice** in the October edition of Community Voice produced another two contacts – firstly Danny Springthorpe wrote to Nita as Fred was his grandmother's cousin (his connection being Hilda Grice). Some of the information given in the article was news to them and they were very pleased with the quality of the article. Nita sent them a copy of the 1939 register for 3 Whitwick Moor where the Grice family lived, and various additional information on Fred and his WW2 service, which she had stored on her computer, including photos, which were well received as the family hadn't seen any of them before. She then had a thank you message from a lady in Mossdale whose mother was Fred's sister.



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- Nita shared some photos and a copy of the bans record relating to the **Wilkins family** with a lady called Patricia Freeman who was also researching the family. She was initially reluctant to talk to us about her research, as she said that people are always offering to help with things, and then it turns out there is a huge cost. Our view is that it isn't all about money - we are there to help people with Thringstone connections learn more about their, and the village's, past. As part of our research, we discovered the inquest details for William James Wilkins, who was killed aged 7 in 1877. He was the son of William Wilkins and Sarah Adams who had lived for a decade or more in Belgium from around 1880/82. His inquest took place at Rose and Crown on 11 July 1877. It transpired that he was accidentally drawn between the body of a wagon and its rear wheels, having 'taken hold of a piece of iron at the back on which to swing himself' when the wheel caught his heel and dragged him to his death. A verdict of accidental death was recorded. This young man was the brother of the Wilkins brothers who helped with the Belgian refugees in WW1 offering translation services.
- We now have a photo of some of the veterans from the **remembrance parade** to St Andrew's in November 1978. These are: Jabez Emmerson, George Rowley, Alfred Hunter, Fred Wilde, James Coles and Roland Luther, all of whom were in their 80s at the time and seem to have lived in Coalville. We also have a photo from 1978 of **Thringstone Youth Club** members who took part in an It's A Knockout competition at Roecliffe Manor.
- As part of research into the **daughters of Rev Edwin Samuel Crane** of St Andrew's church, we knew that his daughter Mary Brilliana married Rev. Shrewsbury, but have discovered the fate of his other 3, none of whom married. Florence Catharine Crane born 2 Jun 1890 at St Andrew's became a children's nurse, and along with her mother, sister Henrietta and brother Samuel are shown on the 1924-1930 electoral roles living at Charnwoodale, Cademan Street, Whitwick. Samuel, however, moved out after 1924. In 1939, and also on the 1931 electoral register, Florence was with her sister, Henrietta Christina, another children's nurse, (born 7 February 1893) in Padstow, Cornwall. They were both retired. Florence died in 1959 in Sussex, and Henrietta on 11 March 1971 in Worthing. Henrietta left £33,205 according to probate records. The younger sister, Sarah Frances Louisa born at Thringstone Vicarage on 11 January 1896 became a sister in the Convent of the Holy Name in Ranelagh Road, Malvern. We don't know when she joined this order, but she was a bridesmaid for her brother Charles Edmond Crane in 1912 when he married Lilian Elizabeth Bartlett in East Sussex. She then appears in a list of people in Hyde Park Square, London in both 1929 and 1930 electoral registers along with Sir Henry Pelham Wentworth and Lady McNaughten for whom she appears to have worked, along with 2 others. She does not appear on the 1939 register. She travelled to do missionary work in Lagos in 1953 and on the ships passenger lists, she is down as both Sarah Frances Louisa Crane and also Sister Hilary of Convent of the Holy Name. She then obviously returned as in 1956 she left Liverpool for Freetown, Sierra Leone, intending to do missionary work to Liberia. During the 1950s the convent she represented took in young expectant mothers and looked after them and their babies. Sister Hilary died in Malvern, Worcestershire in March 1989 aged 93.
- We now have a photo from the Burton Observer of 14 Nov 1965 of the cast and back stage crew of **Thringstone Community Players**, who were putting on their first ever performance – Beside the seaside. We also have a photo of the cast of Murder Mistaken from 1970.
- On 17 November 1966 was an auction of 4 rented properties on **John Street**, due to the death of their owner A H Bentham. The net rental for the properties was £153 8 shillings. The auction was being held by W & F Armstrong of Loughborough. We do not know who A H Bentham was.
- **Thomas Toon** of Main Street, Thringstone found himself in debtors' court in 1913. He had run a fruit and vegetable business in Hotel Street, Coalville, but this had failed and he owed £186 15s. Mr Toon said that the business had failed because he had set it up on borrowed capital, turnover had gone down because of the coal strike, 1912 had been particularly wet so crop yields had reduced, and the business hadn't made enough to meet personal and household expenses. He had looked towards money lenders, but their rates were far too high to be considered. The matter was referred to the official receiver.



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- **Overseers for the poor and parish constables** - We have drawn up lists before of these posts, and one is published in our Thringstone and Its People book. We now discover from further research that in 1882, the overseers were Daniel Amos Webb (of The Willows) and Samuel Wayte (grocer, subject of previous minutes and parish constable in 1875), in 1883 Samuel Wayte and John Rennocks (landlord of The George and Dragon), in 1884 John Rennocks and Jabez Henson and in 1906 Jabez Henson and Joseph Burton. It is not clear which Jabez Henson is referred to, as there was a father and son of the same name. Parish constables for 1883 were Jabez Henson Snr., born in 1829 and blacksmith of Main Street and Thomas Gostelow (butcher) and in 1884 Thomas Gostelow and Jabez Henson Jnr. born in 1856 and living at that time near to Thringstone House.
- 9 January 1877 at St George's Vicarage, which was at the time in Thringstone, the death of Eleanor, 13 year old daughter to **Rev. Frederic Thorpe Pearson**. Rev Pearson, who was born on 10 Dec 1821 in Chelsea and went to Oxford University, became vicar at St George's in 1865 according to Crockford's Clerical Directories prior to which he had served in Pimlico (1852-8), Dawlish (1868-60) and Loughborough (1860-64). Rev Pearson died on 2 April 1893 at St George's Vicarage. He had married Louisa Leney in 1853 in St Albans, and had 17 children, including twins Ada and Sophie. At least two of his children, Arthur and Gertrude, died as infants in Dawlish. Three others, excluding Eleanor, died before they were 30 years of age. His wife Louise died in 1914 in Leamington Spa and interestingly left over £2,000 more than her husband had at his death. Rev Pearson's successors include Rev John Hooley Ella Bailey who appears to have taken over in 1895, having had several other churches, the last one being Burscough Bridge in Ormskirk. He was born in 1858 in Bromley and married Gertrude Elizabeth Tetley in Wellingborough, Northants in 1885. They had two children – Harold John Ella Bailey and Margaret Gertrude Ella Bailey. On leaving St George's, the family moved to Hereford. He died in January 1926 in Toxteth, Liverpool.
- During WW1, what is now Broomleys School was a VAD hospital for wounded service personnel, and records are now available showing details of the 80 people who worked there during the war period. Whilst there are no people who lived in Thringstone on this database, it is interesting to see that **Dr Robert Wyatt Jamie**, who worked with Dr Burkitt as doctor for this area from around 1891, was the senior surgeon at the VAD hospital from May 1917 and commandant of the whole hospital from 21 February 1919. We believe he retired during the 1920s. We also discovered that **Annie Moss**, wife of Walter Moss the local builder, who lived at The Grove, Swannington, was housekeeper at the hospital from November 1914 until July 1918. Records show that her work was specially commended.
- The Derby Daily Telegraph of 1 January 1930 tells the charming story of an 87 year old Derby man, Edward (properly Edwin) Brocklehurst of Darley Lane, planning to marry 59 year old **Thringstone native Annie Greenwood**, who was his housekeeper. Both had grandchildren at the time of their wedding. They had known each other for only 3 months, but were very happy in each other's company. Mr Brocklehurst's first wife had died a few years earlier, and other than a 10 shillings a week pension, Mr Brocklehurst had been destitute. He had spent some time in the workhouse, but decided that if he had a housekeeper, he could keep going, even though he would not be able to pay wages. Mrs Greenwood had her own pension, due to the death of her son, no name given, who had fought for the 2nd Sherwood Foresters and been killed in WW1, but she had no home. After the death of her 2nd husband, she had been a housekeeper in Nottingham to two elderly gents who had died, but was without a home, so the prospect of being a housekeeper for Mr Brocklehurst, and having a home appealed. The article says 'Their living room is just big enough to swing their Christmas kitten in. This kitten was given them by a neighbour 3 weeks ago and answers to the name of Kit.' They had organised a horse drawn carriage to take them to the register office, organised a bridesmaid (72 year old Miss Johnson who lived in the almshouses), and had a cake, a tin of salmon, bread and butter and 2 or 3 biscuits arranged for a wedding supper.



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In the same paper dated 21 January 1930, there is an article telling how, having seen the previous article, a crowd of people gathered and pelted the happy couple with confetti outside the Becket Street register office when they married. He had broken the record for the oldest bridegroom by 8 years. Two of his granddaughters (Mrs Arthur Pegg and Mrs Morley) and 2 great granddaughters, one aged 6 and the other a baby in arms, attended the ceremony, but the couple arrived half an hour early, Mr Brocklehurst having wound up the clock the night before and apparently altered the time! Mr Brocklehurst had trimmed his beard for the occasion, and Mrs Greenwood wore a brown coat and hat and had a gold chain around her neck. Because of his deafness, the ceremony took longer than anticipated, and several times Mr Brocklehurst had to hold his hand to his ear to hear but this was overcome when the registrar wrote down the questions and gave them to Mr Brocklehurst to read so that he could answer. They said afterwards that they were intending to start married life on £1 a week from their respective pensions – this would equate to around £64 today. Knowing this, the registrar waived his fee. The press took photos, and the couple went away in a taxi, paid for by friends. On returning home, the couple found that a friend had added to the wedding breakfast by providing a cake, oranges, chocolates and sausage rolls. Records show Mr Brocklehurst was born in Belper on 26 December 1842 and died on 16 August 1934 aged 91. He had worked as a railway labourer and latterly as a gardener's labourer. He had had 8 children, of which one died young.

Unfortunately, we are unable to find out who Mrs Greenwood was. One family tree suggests she died in Macclesfield in June 1982. Another website says she was originally Annie Moore born in 1871 in Thringstone to James Moore and Alice Monks, but we can't find anything from that either, and the only Moore born in this area in 1871 was Harriet Annie Moore who was born in Hugglescote. We do not have details of her son without a name to go on, and have looked through census information and the Thringstone war dead folder, and cannot find a match.

- From the Derby Daily Telegraph of 8 September 1937 we learn that James Maitland Stinson of **Rye House, Thringstone** was fined 20 shillings for driving a lorry at a speed exceeding 20mph at Stanton by Bridge on 7 August. Stinson said that his speedometer was out of order, which he had not realised. The magistrates did not endorse his license because it was a first offence. By 1939 Mr Stinson, who was born in Thringstone on 23 Nov 1909, was living at Stoneycroft off Lily Bank.
- July 1966 – **Sale of The Gables, Main Street**. The advert for the sale says the property was built in 1682 and has exposed ceiling beams throughout and a garden of half an acre. Downstairs is hall, living room, drawing room, study and small study and on the first floor 3 bedrooms and attics. Outside is a garage, wash house, coal house, greenhouse and shed. The estate agents were John German in Ashby. No price is given for the property, but it is said to be ripe for conversion.

Council report

The county council seem keen to continue to push for a unitary authority, which would mean NWLDC and the county council combining. Many people feel that this is not a good idea as it takes away local opinion. No doubt things will progress in due course.

Gardening and environment

Bernard continues to do various weeding and tidying around the planted areas.

Next bulletin will be in December. Please keep safe and follow the lockdown measures.