



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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BULLETIN FOR JULY 2022

News.

Here is your bulletin for July. WE WILL HAVE A MEETING AT THE CENTRE ON 7 JULY at 7pm. ALL WELCOME. At this meeting we can discuss things mentioned here, and update ourselves on things happening in the village. No bar.

Monthly litter pick total – 127 bags removed against **131 bags** for the same month last year.

Thank you to everybody who has stepped up to help do more than they usually do in the litter picking front this last month, whilst Nita has been poorly. It is very much appreciated, and shows true community spirit.

Picnic in the Parks was very wet. Thank you to Ann Petty, Anne Statham, Tony Newton and Janet Stevenson for manning the stall. Nita had/has mobility issues so was unable to attend.

Tithe Close Jubilee street party raised £100 for Old School House in a raffle. Well done to them.

FCV International Football Academy, based at Grace Dieu Manor, has a limited number of scholarships available to local students to join their academy as a UK day student. This would combine full-time football training with enrolment on the NCFE level 3 extended diploma in sport and physical activity. Those interested should go to the FCV's website.

Visitors from Tennessee - As you may know, Geoff and Pauline Walker from Swallowdale have a huge following on Instagram. On 10 June, three lovely ladies came all the way from Tennessee, USA, to try "a Ruby's" fish and chips after following Geoff and Pauline on Instagram. They said they'd hoped they would bump into Geoff and Pauline by chance. Andy just had to set this meeting up for them and went to pick Geoff and Pauline up to surprise them. Isn't that wonderful!

Thringstone Pantomime and Drama Society have been awarded the Queens Platinum Jubilee Award for the charity work they do in the Community. They have been performing and supporting local charities since 1975.

Thringstone Panto and Drama Society have announced that they wish to sell their raised seating rows professionally made by a firm in Shepshed. Can be used in many different forms for seating/stand on so you can see everyone. Unfortunately they are having to sell as can no longer use at the venue. Please contact them if you think they may be useful to you or another group.

Railway service and town news- Government announced on 18 June that the campaign to reopen the Ivanhoe Line had passed the next stage of making its reopening a reality. The Department for Transport will now work with Network Rail and CRIL to work towards a full outline business case. A planning application has been put in by the owners of the shopping centre to build flats, bowling alley, restaurant, gaming area and mini-golf. Part of the Emporium will be demolished to make way for it. More on the planning portal 22/00819

Charles Booth Pre-School message- 'Charles Booth Pre-school Ltd is expanding. We are delighted to announce our children's nursery is expanding and will soon be opening as Grace Dieu



Manor Park Nursery Ltd, situated within the grounds of the former historic Grace Dieu Manor School. Although we are independent, we are proud and privileged to be working alongside the new proprietors of the school, FCV International Football Academy. The nursery will be registered for children aged 0-5 years. To express an interest or find out more, please contact Mrs Alison Simpson at Charles Booth Pre-school. Tel number 07732556219 or alternatively email alison@charlesboothpreschool.com or visit our website www.charlesboothpreschool.com

Gardening – Mike has continued to ensure that Drury Lane, The Green and Brook Lane are maintained and looked after. However, Drury Lane continues to be targeted by vandals (see incident reports)

Centre – Tom Walters left as centre manager on 28th June and got married on 29th. We all wish him well going forward.

What's On

17 July – **Gracedieu Priory Festival of Archeology** walk at 3pm from Bull's Head car park. £3

17 July – **Thringstone Members Club** – 12-2pm and 2-4pm. Carvery. Main course £8.50, 2 courses £11.50, 3 courses £13.50. Starters are leek and potato soup, prawn cocktail or garlic bread and mushrooms. Main course is beef or chicken with veg. Desert is cheesecake or sponge pudding. Bookings only. Ring 222737.

18 July, 25 July, 1 August and 8 August - **Thringstone Miners Social Centre** and Football Club summer holiday club. £20 a day. Free places for children on free school meals. For more details contact Ben on 07761 006909 or email ben@megastrikers.co.uk

21 July – **Gracedieu Priory Festival of Archeology** walk at 6pm from Bull's Head car park. £3.

Charles Booth Centre – new acrobatic classes starting for children aged 4 – 16. Please contact yvettedusol@hotmail.co.uk for further information

23 July – **Jobs Fayre** at Charles Booth Centre 10am – 12 noon. No appointments necessary.

Chairs Report

Letters received: None

Emails received: Various from people with whom we regularly share information. Various fly tipping reported, as usual.

Promotion: We have **706 twitter followers**, which is 2 more than last month, and **1,806 facebook followers**, which is 10 more than last month.

Other: We are sorry to report the death of our 2 of our members, John Brown and Barry Taylor. John had been connected to the community centre for decades and was well known and liked in Whitwick and Thringstone. Condolences to Sue, Toni and his family. Barry was well known locally for his connection to the Thringstone Methodist Chapel, and we send condolences to Florrie and his family.

Welcome to our new member Keith Wortley.

Finance Report

At an exceptionally wet Picnic in the Parks, we sold 1 x Scottish in Thringstone and 1x Durham Miners. Janet Stevenson subsequently sold 2 copies each of Born and Bred 1, 2 and 3.

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	2830.11		
Income		Expenditure	
Publications	£29.60	Broadband	20.00
Donations		Postage for publications	4.65
Memberships	£20		
total income to	£49.60		£24.65



general fund

Total general fund at month end	2855.06

Web Report

All the minutes are on site up to April, and work is continuing in other areas.

Incident Report

- **Cricket club** reported that kids are letting the tyres down on their main screen on a regular basis, which is causing delays getting the field ready for play. PCSO said that she will visit the cricket club, look at the den the kids have made, and talk to them and the club about their screen's tyres, as above.
- **A fight** took place on Lbro Road on 4 June. No further details known.
- 14 June – **dog walker** punched in the face by another dog walker in Gracedieu woods. Police involved.
- Police rang Nita on 25 June to talk about issues down **Drury Lane**, as the wall continues to be damaged, as does planting with younger children de-heading plants and pulling up others. Police say they visit, and have talked to some kids with bikes about the damage, but need people to report on the 101 number when they see things happening. They asked Nita to ask the lady who lives next door to report when she smells cannabis being smoked down there. Lady said she always does report when she sees things but seldom sees police.
- Over night on 29 June, more vandalism took place down **Drury Lane**. Plants and trees have been damaged/pulled up, flowers de-headed, and a general mess left. Nita has reported this (again) to the police, and posted her dismay onto social media. She has also contacted Coalville Times and Coalville Nub News to get them to print something. This may be giving more street cred to the perpetrators, but it has to stop.
- During the month, a person was assaulted on the car park to the **Co-op**, and there have been several instances of youths going into the store, filling up baskets with groceries and leaving without paying.

History report

- Nita has looked at the burial records in Whitwick for **Abraham and Ann Jesson**, farmers from Gracedieu, who died in the 1840s both aged 90 years and were buried at Whitwick. Both died at Gracedieu and both are mentioned in Thringstone and Its People. She also looked at the marriage record for **William Jesson** to Sarah Ann Gough on 18 February 1873. William's father is recorded as John Jesson, farmer of Gracedieu. William was 40 at marriage whilst Sarah Ann was 29. She was the daughter of James Gough, publican at the Rose and Crown, Thringstone, who by 1881 was living with his daughter and son-in-law at Gracedieu Farm. As previously mentioned in our publications, Sarah Ann and her father subsequently moved to Talbot Farm after William's death on 7 January 1887.
- Janet had two enquiries about the Born and Bred booklets from Patsy and Georgie, daughters of their author **Joan Brotherhood Blackey**, from which we have learnt more information about Joan. We had known she worked at Bletchley Park in WW2 (when she told her family she was in Woodhouse Eaves), but hadn't known that she was a code breaker with Y branch and her job was to take down German Enigma Code messages to help Alan Shearing work on his code breaking bombe. Messages were passed in a tray through a hole in the wall between huts 3 and 6, pushed with a brush handle and pulled back with a piece of string. She is mentioned on the Bletchley Code of Honour List. Her name, Joan Blackey neè Brotherhood, is also displayed on a brick in the Codebreakers Wall. Her parents never knew any of this and she only told her immediate family just prior to her death in 1989 in New Zealand. Joan's four older daughters all married at Thringstone Methodist Chapel and their children were christened there. Ann Petty has some archive information to share with Patsy, as most of the family's archives were lost in a fire. Ann has offered to send a transcript of Bill Brotherhood's WW1 diaries and also copies of some tapes.



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- **William Hutchinson** – In January, Nita gave details of the Watson/Hutchinson family from **Drury Lane**. Further information has been found in the crime and prison punishment registers available online, detailing the 11 crimes which received a prison sentence and were committed by William and in particular those in 1865, 66, 70, 77, 80, 82, 87 and 88. These crimes were 14 days hard labour for resisting arrest, 7 days hard labour for being drunk, 1 month hard labour again for being drunk, stealing fish 14 days hard labour, stealing tea, candles etc 6 weeks' hard labour, stealing an overcoat ;6 months hard labour, drunk 7 days hard labour, drunk 1 month hard labour, stealing pitchforks 3 months hard labour, drunk 14 days hard labour. It is interesting that the 1865 crime also refers to William as William Watson, showing that the family interchanged these surnames. His final listings in 1888 tell of robbing Thomas Watts of Thringstone of a gold watch with violence, and also stealing hay making equipment, for which he received 12 months' hard labour.
- **1921 census** – Findmypast gave 24 hours half price access to the 1921 census in early June, so at her own cost, Nita downloaded details of the 4 households who lived on **Whitwick Moor** at that time. These were pensioners Agnes Harris and Emma Reynolds at an unknown number, William, Jane and Thomas King at no. 1 with their grandson Harry Aris, Alice Gee, her son Albert and daughter Amy at no. 5 – Amy Gee is well known locally for having been the warden at the community centre later in life, and at no. 9 Alf Sykes and his wife Jessie, who between 1930 and 1953 were the landlords at the Rose and Crown, and their children Florrie, Fred, Gladys and Jessie. At that time, Fred Sykes was an errand boy for Mrs Booth at Gracedieu Manor. His father, Alf, was an out of work miner from Whitwick Colliery.
- **George and Dragon** – an article from February 1876 suggests that the license of this inn transferred to John Prew. We can find nothing else to substantiate this, and thought that John Lawrence Rennocks was landlord from 1875-1884. A further article from April 1886 suggests a temporary transfer of license to John Stretton, who had previously been a landlord around the Swadlincote area. We believe that the landlords in 1886 were William Gostelow then James Horton Leeson. Further research is being undertaken.
- **Feb 1847** – The Law Chronicle, Commercial register and bankruptcy register – **Fisher Sharpe, book keeper of Thringstone** – bankrupt. Meeting to be held on 5 March 1847 in Exchange Rooms, Nottingham. Fisher Sharpe is shown in the 1841 census as living with Elizabeth Potter. He was born on 12 May 1804 in Coleorton and didn't actually live within the village, but in Rotten Row in Thringstone Parish, which was actually part of Coleorton. He died in September 1847 and was buried on 22 September at Coleorton. His obituary reads 'On 20th, at Thringstone, after a short but severe illness, borne with Christian fortitude, Mr Fisher Sharpe, in his 43rd year. Deservedly respected and deeply regretted.'
- **Dec 1862** – Auction of houses on **Main Street** – 3 houses in the occupation of William Grice, William Stinson and James Birkin plus land adjoining of 1 acre, 1 rood and 11 perches in the occupation of William Grice. Also 2 houses on Main Street in the occupation of Isaac Bakewell and Henry Matchett. No owners name given, but all seem to belong to same person.
- **July 1869** – Auction at the Rose and Crown of 8 cottages fronting onto **Main Street**, and apparently somewhere near no. 32, belonging to Francis Harvey of Burton on Trent, who appears to have been a publican and later moved to Thringstone and is buried at St Andrew's. Tenants of these properties were James Brown, William Trussell, Charles Hallam, William Newberry (mentioned in previous bulletins as having been involved in a fight) and 4 others.
- **May 1871** – Auction of 4 properties in **Main Street**, Thringstone tenanted by John Halliday and his wife, Elizabeth Peat and her daughter, William Upton and his wife and 6 children and Enoch Orridge and wife and daughter. It is unclear how much these sold for, but they obviously all belonged to the same owner to be auctioned together.
- **Oct 1871** – Two dwelling houses, with **blacksmiths and wheelwright shops**, garden, yard etc., presently in the occupation of Jabez Henson and Charles Mann were advertised for sale. This sale came about as a result of the death of the owner, Richard Henson.
- **Aug 1872** – To let, an old established **grocers shop**, opposite The Green, with house containing parlour, 2 kitchens, 5 bedrooms and a garden. Applications should be made to Mr Sketchley, Whitwick.



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- **Dec 1918** – The funeral took place of 80 year old **John Henry Weston**, a prominent Wesleyan and one of the oldest inhabitants of the village. He had been one of the managers of Coalville's Wesleyan Day School for many years. Mr Weston was one of the committee dealing with the honouring of those men of WW1 who had won Military Medals.
- **1925 – Parish council elections** – elected were George Wilton, miner of Peggs Green, Albert Gough of Thringstone, James Gee colliery labourer of Thringstone, Albert Barlow miner of Thringstone, William Hutchinson, smallholder and carter of Pegg's Green and Charles Wm. Yearby miner of Thringstone. Ernest Brooks was not elected. He then complained that Mr Yearby, who was a parliamentary elector not a parochial elector, had voted for Mr Gough. Mr Yearby said that he had made a mistake, but the votes were unaltered.
- **1931** – Ethel Geary, nee Smith, wife of George Henry Geary who lived at **The Three Tuns** from 1921 died in June. She was 29 years old. The couple had married in 1917. We are assuming that they lodged at the beerhouse, as it was kept during this time by the Shelton family. In 1935, George married Margaret Kendrick. She was 12 years his senior. They moved to Charnwood Road, Shepshed.
- **Thringstone Football Grounds** – Thanks to Jimmy Francis we have a map showing all the football grounds over the years in the village. Thringstone House had at least four grounds
 1. Field at Turlough /Warren Lane (Charnwood Ground) 1957-58
 2. Field opposite Joe Hoult's Farm on Warren Lane early 1950's
 3. Field Gracedieu Road (Swallowdale entrance) 2 1959-61
 4. Whites Field - opposite Bobs Closs in the 1940's
 5. Homestead Road - Thringstone Imperial 1945 -1951, Thringstone Miners Welfare 1962 -2019
 6. Field behind the Thringstone Members club - Thringstone Rangers 1980 -1990's
 7. The Miners Welfare Field has been in existence since 1933 - Thringstone Imperial Football Club played on it in the late 40's and in 1950-51 and then for over a decade it was left as an overgrown recreation field before Thringstone Miners Welfare Football club made it their ground in the early 60's.
- **Nov 1952 – Gracedieu** – Members of the Thringstone Community Centre Drama Group have enlisted the help of Ronald Barker, the county drama advisor, in the production of the Beaumont and Fletcher's play *The Knight of the Burning Pestle* – hopefully to be held in the ruins of the priory as a Coronation feature. The playwright Beaumont had a connection with the property built around the ruins of the priory and it is hoped that permission will be obtained for the performance, which will see groups from Loughborough, Shepshed and Coalville invited to take part.
- **August 1988 – Thringstone's week long Gala** took place from 1 August with Brain of Thringstone quiz at the community centre. Other events were the 3 legged fun pub run won by Damian Wright and Jamie Ritchie, junior sports challenge, and an adults Think and Drive car quiz rally won by Gerald Bradford's team. There was a family disco at the centre on the Friday with fun and games for all, and the week of activities was rounded off with a gala on the football field after an official opening by Gala Queen Dawn Perry who arrived in a horse drawn carriage with 2 attendants. The gala started with a parade on The Green, a children's fancy dress, the winner of which was Sally Tabberer dressed as Little Bo Peep. Catherine Brand came second as Ding Dong Bell with Jodie White third as Little Red Riding Hood. The parade, led by Leicester Youth Marching Band, made its way through the village to the Gala Field followed by a procession of floats, whilst money was collected by 'ducks' and 'rabbits'. A prize for the best float went to The Queen's Head whose theme was pirates. The weather was hot and in the afternoon there was a display by the Skyhawks Aerial Team. The gala was interrupted by the collapse of Pete Gough, the public relations officer, who was taken to hospital with a suspected heart attack, but later released. At the end of the event, prizes were awarded to the winners of heats held throughout the week, and presented by Dawn Perry. Sunday saw the final event – a darts game. Gala chairlady Margaret Fern said 'The gala has been extremely well supported, and it looks like we drew in a record number of people. If these events are, however, to continue in the future, we need more committee members and anybody interested in helping, in any way, should contact me direct' The



proceeds of the gala will be split between a national charity and groups and individuals within the community who need individual support, such as the Christmas meal (see later entry).

- **August 1988 – Thringstone Show Committee’s fun run**, sponsored by EMEB, attracted lots of runners. Starting from The Green at 11am, the run went along The Warren and Sharpley, returning via The Dumps and Carterdale and ended at the community centre. Youngest competitor was 5 year old Alex Perry, with the outright winner being Coalville Harrier’s Ashley Long with a time of 22 minutes and 30 seconds. He was awarded the Hubert Bancroft Memorial Trophy. Mr Bancroft, who died last year, was a keen runner, who continued running until aged 75. Chairman of the committee, Bill Clooney said ‘This is one of 5 events organised by the Show Committee aimed at promoting the community centre. Proceeds go to seniors in the village and we distribute food parcels at Christmas to help others less fortunate.’ £300 was raised on the day.
- **Oct 1988 – The Queen’s Head** held a 24 hour darts marathon to raise money for cot death alarms for the LRI. The event raised £1600, which would purchase 4 monitors.
- **Oct 1988 – Thringstone’s Horticultural show** was said to be the fastest growing show in the district with a record 345 exhibits this year. All vegetables were to be raffled at an auction at the community centre. The Garden News Top Trail Award went to local man Mr Holmes, and the most points in the event went to Mr N E Price also from the village. Mrs A Bateman arrived with her still warm fruit cake with a minute to spare competed in each section and won!
- **Dec 1988** – 75 Thringstone residents sat down for **Christmas dinner** at the Community Centre with entertainment by the newly formed Swannington Brass Band Group. There was a prize bingo, limericks were told by Arthur Sykes, and comedy sketches were performed by the Haywires. The party was organised by the **Gala Committee** who provided the meal from funds raised during the year. Chairlady Margaret Fern praised the work of the 1st Thringstone Guides who worked very hard to make the day a success.
- **May 1990 - The Bull’s Head** was up for sale as ‘attractive premises in generally good condition with garden, carparking and space for further expansion and suitable for external catering trade. Good sized living accommodation with central heating. Offers invited in excess of £220,000.’ One of the 3 landlords in 1990 was Alan Wright, who we believe was the Greenalls Inns business development manager for this area during the whole of the 1990s. We believe he lived in Oakley Road, Shepshed. No further information is currently available.

Details of the next meeting in August will be posted out to those on email later in July.