



# The Friends of Thringstone

**'Working together to improve our village'**

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## **BULLETIN FOR APRIL 2025**

**Monthly litter pick total – 175 bags removed by 46 people against 159 bags by 27 people for March 2024.**

**Meeting 3 April - 12 people, 3 apologies.**

**Spring Litter Pick** – Thanks to the 40 people who came out litter picking with us on 22 March. We believe this is a record. It was nice to see so many students from Thringstone Primary. Thanks to Caroline for helping with the issuing of the sticks etc., whilst nursing a broken wrist and also to Andy from Ruby's who extended his offer of free chips to the children to free chips for anybody who had been on the litter pick. 45 bags were collected, including items of wood, car parts, 2 tyres, a wheel drum, the carcass of a hosepipe stand and building material. Nita sent thank you emails to the school and to a lady in Belton who loaned us some children's litter picking equipment. Press releases were sent plus social media posts. Coalville Nub News shared details on their social media pages and it was in the Coalville Times of 28 March. Since the litter pick, Nita has been trying to remove rubbish from the cricket pitch and has been quite successful, but there is a lot still there. Caroline said that she would enquire of the council whether they had children's size litter pick sticks for future use.

**Recycling plans** - The government are to introduce a 'deposit return scheme' in October 2027. The scheme will mean shoppers can take their empty plastic bottles and metal drinks cans to collection points at shops and supermarkets to receive payment for recycling their containers.

**Walk to Work Wednesdays** – Coalville Can is encouraging people who walk into work in Coalville to consider litter picking as they go. People can then pop into their offices (former EMHA offices) and have a cup of tea as a thank you. If anybody wants to join our litter picking team, please let us know.

**Meeting attendances** – It would seem that most people who don't come to meetings are otherwise engaged with family commitments or work, whilst others live outside the area and many of our older members can't drive now. When we started, we used to do meetings at 6.45pm but changed it to 7pm to allow people more time when they came from work etc. It has been suggested that we consider zoom meetings, as People Zone do because of lack of numbers at their meetings, but many would find difficulty joining in with this. It was also suggested offering a couple of daytime meetings, which People Zone is also shortly trying, but this would cause difficulties with finding a suitable venue to accommodate us. We are therefore, for the time being at least, leaving the meetings as always the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month and at 7pm. Everybody is welcome to attend.

**Thringstone and Whitwick People's Zone** – The most recent meeting discussed the following as far as Thringstone is concerned. Their next meeting is 10 April.

**'Community Orchard'**: Following the survey at Bob's Closs alongside the Charles Booth Centre, the Woodland Trust have recommended that no trees are to be planted in order to protect the grass and habitats. The project will now focus on building some community planters and extending the compost area. Probation will be commencing Community Payback there shortly. There will be opportunities to get involved with some learning, planting and maintenance, so please reach out if any members of our group may be interested in getting involved

**'Crimestoppers'**: There has been a great response to recent Crimestoppers campaigns around ASB linked to illegal motorbiking and domestic abuse.



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'Thringstone Youth Group' at Thringstone Members Club – The group are still trying to iron out some details with this but hoping for the provision to start in May. It will initially run for 12 weeks into the summer holidays, after which it will be assessed to see whether it can continue

'Digital Divide' projects: GoLearn have been in contact with the Charles Booth Centre about delivering some internet safety learning. More details on this will be given if and when available.

**VE Day event 10 May** – We are offering people the chance to come to the exhibition we are holding downstairs at the centre between 1pm and 5pm and sit and knit poppies as part of the Thringstone Creates project if they want to do so. As you will know, we are hopeful of having a lot of poppies to possibly add to nets etc. at various venues throughout the village, as well as having more large poppies on lampposts in the streets (see below). We have asked the centre if we may have 5 tables for our display and also invited along the local Royal British Legion to see our exhibition and bring along any of their memorabilia for display. Mary Roberts has kindly given us some extra table coverings, some of which have Union Jacks on them, plus some flags, for which we are most grateful, as our old FoT tablecloth has been doing the rounds for decades. Nita has advertised the event with Coalville Nub News and intends to do mail outs to people nearer the date. If anybody has any photos of their family in WW2 they could lend to us, please get in touch.

**Banner** – Janet kindly organised the provision of a heritage banner from One Stop Promotions in Shepshed. The banner, which is 2m x 0.6m, will be used at the VE Day event, has peel off strips to allow us to remove dates and details of events and update them for the next event without having to get a new banner all the time. Thank you to Janet.

**Publications** – Janet has managed to print off a copy of Village Trail 2 by scanning her copy and then running off the pages on her printer. We have looked at the hard drive we were given at the back end of last year, and discover that Village Trails 1 and 3 are on there, plus also what appears to be Memories Part 2 and part of Memories 1. Janet has now added Village Trail 2. Nita had a full copy of Durham Miners which is now also on the hard drive as we only have a couple of those left in print. We are still short of the other Village Trails and Memories 1.. Thank you again Janet.

**Letter from our MP** – Nita received a letter on 11 March dated 28 February from Amanda Hack MP congratulating us on our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. 'For a group to volunteers to continue showcasing the best of the village through local events, community litter picks, and highlighting the vast local history of the area is a testament to all the hard work that goes on. I wanted to thank everyone who has been involved over the past 20 years and those giving up their time now. I hope the organisation continues to go from strength to strength in the future, continuing to put the local community at the heart of everything you all do.'

**Author of book on Charles Booth** – Jess Squires, who wrote a book on Charles Booth, lives in Hastings and is visiting the area in late May. Coalville Can are seeing her and asked for our help so Jess could see relevant places. We were given one date, which then changed, and then another which was a Sunday which the Manor wouldn't accommodate so we are trying other avenues. The book in question is called The Streets of London, the Booth Notebooks and was written in 1996. It contains a series of walks around Booth's area of work. It is currently out of print, and Coalville Can are interested in rectifying this.

**Ingles FC** – advertising that they are looking for players for the U15s – new manager, training starts 9 April at 6.30pm-8pm at the Homestead Rd ground. Contact Jimmy Brooks on 07789 341518

**Gracedieu Woods** – A local man, keen to volunteer his services to help with forestry maintenance, asked Nita for contact details for the de Lisle family. He is studying schedule 9 invasive species as part of his degree and wants to rid the woods of these. He is particularly concerned about the SSI area and the area off Springfield which, back in the day, was a Tender Scheme winner, but where little management has subsequently taken place. Local residents are also concerned about the small fires being lit in the woods, which has been raised with the landowners. Savill's, who are the estate managers for the de Lisle family, replied that they are looking to work with established conservation organizations like the National Forest, Charnwood Geopark, Coalville CAN, and Greenlife CIC, and the estate hopes to sign up with them soon. These organizations are actively involved in conservation projects within the local area, including local woodlands and can provide the necessary



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guidance and support for those interested. Regarding ivy, the trees are inspected frequently (under a condition survey/H&S), and any required works are actioned promptly. Ivy is extremely beneficial to local wildlife. It provides nectar and pollen for insects during autumn when little else is available, and its berries are an important food source for birds during winter. Additionally, ivy offers shelter for insects, birds, bats, and other small mammals throughout the year. Whilst ivy is beneficial, Savill's periodically specify ivy removal to inspect trees, balancing this action against the conservation benefits of the ivy plant. To ascertain ownership and responsibility for specific areas, they need the gent to specify the location he is referring to. This will help provide accurate information and ensure that any conservation efforts are coordinated effectively. The prospective volunteer is considering his next course of action.

**Lilybank** – County Hall have issued a notice saying from 23 April for anything between 3 months and 2 days the road will be closed to all traffic for National Grid infrastructure maintenance.

**Gracedieu Park Cricket Club** – the 1st team start back at home on 19 April and the 2<sup>nd</sup> team on 5 May. The box units near the Bull's Head car park have been removed by the company who own them, meaning a loss of income for the club who charged for having these on the cricket club site.

**Centre** – **Dreambody Nutrition** are now offering sessions every Monday night at the centre between 6pm and 6.30pm. Drop ins welcome. E5. This is a support group for people wanting to reduce their weight. For further details contact Mills on 07495770224.

**Glass recycling bin** – the centre put out a notice on social media to say that this has been removed due to a change in legislation, but they hope that people still recycle their glass. It would appear that NWLDC had been monitoring the glass bank bins over the last few months, after reports from collection crews of contaminations in both glass banks. NWLDC attempted to combat this issue by locking the banks lids, but still this contamination continued so the centre was sent information on the removal of banks which would also combat extra waste being left at the side of banks. NWLDC have said that the centre is looking at their own contract for glass, cardboard/paper, and plastics with lockable bins. NWLDC removed their larger site glass recycling during Covid, and continue to phase out the remaining site of glass banks in our district. They believe that collecting glass at the kerbside through household collection from all residents will help reduce duplication of collections and their carbon footprint. Nita picks up a lot of glass bottles whilst litter picking (mostly vodka and wine to be honest) and will continue to do so and recycle these herself, as she always has done with anything that is able to be recycled. She has noticed a huge increase in the amount of glass bottles being left near street bins because the centre's glass recycling facility is no longer available.

**Holiday Club** - This Easter holiday, the pre-school will be welcoming children aged 4-8 to join them for some super activities including dance, forest school, bouncy castle, sports AND arts & craft. Open weekdays (excluding Good Friday and Easter Monday) 9am - 4pm for £20/child with additional hours available from 8am and 4-6pm at £6/hour. Spaces are LIMITED so to reserve yours, email us on michelle@charlesboothpreschool.com or call 07732 556219

**Panto news** – At the recent Pantomime Alliance Awards, the Thringstone Panto and Drama group won 3 awards – Unsung Hero (Vic Jamieson), Magical Being (Matthew Leeson) and Best Director (Mandy Baughurst). Well done to all and to the others who were nominated. Ace Community Theatre which works out of the members club did well too. Best Panto 2025, Best Script (Scott), Best Singing (cast), Best Dancing (cast), Best Animal (Kodie), and Best Under 11s (Elli J and Amelie). Well done!

**Insurance** - Nita renewed the insurance cover with Zurich who have reduced the level of public liability we can have. Volunteers are still covered for personal accident. The cost is now considerably cheaper than previously and payments will come out of the bank monthly on 10 months from 15 April.

**Remembrance Day** – Nita has a meeting on 4 April with the poppy co-ordinator to get more poppies for lampposts. Previously, the scouts have said they would help put these up in October.

### **Chairs Report**

**Emails received/sent:** Usual exchanges of information.



**Promotion:** We have **742 X followers**, which is 3 less than last month, and **2,337 facebook followers**, which is 7 more than last month. Facebook stats tell us that 72.7% of our followers are women!

**Other:** 2 local **fly tips** reported to NWLDC which were cleared and another 2 reported on 19 May. .

Wrote and submitted the **September history article** on Everard Merriman for Community Voice, one on The Co-ops for **October, Charity Gough** for November and **Faith and Hope Gough** for December. Also sent in **May bauble**.

**Welcome** to our new member David Turland.

### What's On

**Please be aware that this is not an exhaustive list. Some classes and group meetings take place on a weekly or monthly basis at various venues and are not listed here. Remember there is always a coffee morning at the centre on Wednesday mornings.**

- 7 April – **Park Hall, Whitwick** – discuss local housing plans from 4pm-7pm.
- 17 April – **Hare and Hounds** – Charity quiz in memory of Roger Springthorpe. Entry £5 per person, max 6 per team. Starts 7.45pm. Charities are British Heart Foundation and Dog Rescue.
- 18 April – Public worship for Easter on **The Green** at 12.30pm.
- 19 April – **Whitwick and Coalville Leisure Centre** – Spring gift and craft fayre with ACE community theatre. 10am-3pm.
- 20 April – **Charles Booth Centre** – 2pm-6pm – family disco and karaoke. Bouncy castle, Easter hamper raffle, candy floss and pop corn sale. Bar open. £1 entry per person.
- 10 May – **Charles Booth Centre** – 1pm – 5pm - Friends of Thringstone VE day exhibition with free entry. At the same venue from 3pm-5pm upstairs will be TPADs fundraising event with songs and afternoon tea at £12 per person. You need to book for this part of the event by going onto [www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads) or ringing 0333 666 3366.
- 10 May – **Thringstone Members Club** – Eurovision Karaoke 8pm.
- 11 May – **Swannington Open Gardens plant and veg sale** – 11am – 1.30pm Swannington Village Hall. More info from Sue on 07914 527291
- 24 May – **Charles Booth Centre** – Drag Bingo 7pm-10pm. Tickets £8. Cash only.
- 23-24 May – **Thringstone Members Club – Ace Community Theatre's Murder Mystery – Death by Chocolate**. Tickets £12 to include buffet from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/ace](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ace)
- 26 May – **Oaks Spring Fair** – Oaks in Charnwood. 10am – 4pm. A traditional country fair with fun for all the family including a fun dog show, classic vehicle display, steam engines, shopping stalls, food court, BBQ, bar and open church.
- 11-14 June – **Charles Booth Centre** – Oklahoma - 7.30pm. Took on 0333 666 3366 or go to [www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads).
- 21 June – **Thringstone Primary** – summer fayre. 11am - 2pm.
- 21 June – **Gracedieu Manor Park** – Picnic in the park with music, stalls, food drinks and more. 11am – 9pm. Tickets from <https://www.eventbrite.com/.../picnic-in-the-park-tickets...>

### Financial

|  |                |                            |                |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>.Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)</b> | <b>2424.42</b> |                            |                |
| <b>Income</b>  |                | <b>Expenditure</b>         |                |
| Publication sales  | £24.50         | Broadband                  | £20.00         |
| Membership   | £4.00          | Banner                     | £36.00         |
| <b>total income received</b>                                   | <b>£28.50</b>  | <b>Monthly expenditure</b> | <b>£56.00</b>  |
|  |                | <b>Total</b>               | <b>2396.92</b> |



### Website

The webmaster continues to work on further updates.

### Incident Report

- 13 March - Lady who lives near Thringstone Members Club and parks her car by the post-box on Melrose Road had her windscreen broken with a brick overnight. There were footprints on her bonnet and the windscreen wipers were also broken. Reported to police. Same night we are told there was an attempted break in at Thringstone Members Club. We are told that nothing was captured on CCTV but was on the CCTV at the Bull's Head where they also went. At 8pm someone kicked at the front door of a property on Springfield. Reported to police.
- 21 March – yet again the waymarker to the woods from Springfield was uprooted and thrown on the grass. This was put back by a local resident on 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- 22 March – in a case of mistaken identity, 4 lads, one with a weapon, seen chasing another lad around Melrose Rd area. Captured on CCTV. Police informed.
- 25 March – 4 year old Thringstone boy subject of a hit and run on Lbro Rd/Henson's Lane corner. Vehicle was a white transit. He has a broken ankle. Police engaged in house to house visits to see if anybody has CCTV footage.
- 25 March – shopping trolley full of goods taken from Co-op. Trolley dumped on corner of Henson's Lane and returned to shop on 27<sup>th</sup>.
- 27 March – 3 police cars and police van outside children's home at 107 Lbro Rd after incident.
- There was some general discussion at the meeting about some of these incidents.

### History Report

- Nita has spent many hours helping a lady with a family tree issue relating to her grandfather. His surname was Sharpe, but on all census info etc. he was down as **Redfern**. His parents weren't married until a year after he was born, and his mother's maiden name was Sharpe which explained the Sharpe. The family were then further interested in their ancestors, which lead onto other revelations. Family lived on Talbot Lane, Brook Lane, Whitwick Moor and The Green.
- **Dec 1916 – Harry Genders** from 'The Green, Thringstone' won £5 in a Pearson's Weekly competition. At that time, Harry was the manager of Thringstone Co-op. It would appear he travelled to Thringstone from Hugglescote, which is his address on both the 1911 and 1921 censuses. His occupation is listed as grocery manager, Thringstone Co-operative Society on the 1921 census. Hugglescote is also where his daughter Mildred was born – another daughter, Florence Mary, mentioned on the 1911 census, was born on 3 September 1910 and died aged 4 on 5 June 1915. Harry was born on 3 April 1885 in Tamworth. The 1911 census shows his address at The Privets, Forest Road, Hugglescote where he is living with his wife, Flora and Florence Mary. He had married Flora on 20 April 1910. Electoral registers suggest that at least until 1930 his address was 117 Forest Road, Hugglescote. He was admitted to the LRI on 29 January 1949 with leg injuries following a cycle accident and died on 2 February in hospital, presumably from his injuries. His address was given as 128 Ashburton Road, Hugglescote. We are not sure when he started work in Thringstone. His obituary said that he was a prominent member of Coalville Labour Party and Coalville Co-operative Society and that his daughter Mildred Daisy (known as Daisy) who was born on 17 January 1915 had married Sgt. Frederick George Bason of Lutterworth Police. They had two children, Jane and Roger. Harry left £1981 8 shillings and 5 pence. We have three photos of the Co-op, two pre 1925 when they moved to what became the post office on The Green, and one when that shop opened. We believe he is on all these photos, and have acquired 3 other photos of him, his wife and Daisy by contacting members of his extended family.
- Following on from the above, Nita has been doing more research into **Thringstone Co-operative store on The Green**. We know that the shop at 8 The Green was opened in December 1904 from previous research. In 1910 children connected with the shop at that time went to a party. In 1912, there are details of a court case relating to a theft from the shop in October by a lady from Whitwick.



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The manager of the shop had seen the lady, and the goods had been recovered. When the newer shop was to be built in 1925, the Coalville Times reported that the contract had been given to Messrs Robinson and Sons of Swannington, the amount being £1185 12 shillings and 6 pence. It was built to replace the shop at no. 8 which was too small to cope with the trade being generated. The press cutting said that the new shop 'will be for grocery and butchery on the site where the small butcher's shop now stands'. This is new information and we wonder if the butcher's shop there was already part of the Co-op's business. The only butchers we know about for certain operating in Thringstone itself were Edward Gough, who was the father of Faith, Hope and Charity (see later) but he died in 1884. He had a butcher's business somewhere on Loughborough Road, we think near to The Bull's Head, in 1881. David Gough, son of Edward Gough was also a butcher, and was living in Kirby's Yard in 1911 and 1921. That is an area which used to lie at the back of what is now the blue house on The Green but the 1921 census says his place of work was 'no fixed place'. We are told that the Clover Place Co-op was built around 1952/3 and closed in 1994, with the Body Toning Emporium buying it in 1999. People who worked at that shop included Eva Pepper, Ann Mitchell, Anne Wilkinson, Gloria Whitworth, Irene Starkey and Andrew Love.

- **Nov 1922** – The death was reported of **Faith Gough** who was born in 1845. She was baptised along with sisters Eve, Theresa and brother Edward on 2 September 1849 at St John's in Whitwick. Faith became a farmer and lived on Brook Lane. Trade directories published between 1900 and 1909 show her as a farmer and electoral registers show her address at Brook Lane in a house jointly owned with sister Charity with Belton records showing that both Faith and Charity had land at Gracedieu. The last census on which we can find Faith is the 1921 census when she was living in Brook Lane along with her sister Charity and a boarder called Arthur Hunt. Her occupation was listed as home duties, but she was at that time 75 years and 11 months. Faith died in November 1922 and was buried at St Andrew's on 2 December 1922.
- **Nov 1928** – The death was announced of **Hope Hallam**, nee Gough. Hope Gough was born in 1855, and was baptised at St George's in Swannington on 11 March 1855. Along with most of her family, Hope lived on Brook Lane, and on 7 November 1911, at St Andrew's, aged 55 years, she married Frances Hallam, an engineer aged 67 whose address was 'The Pumping Station, Swannington'. Hope moved there but he died on 11 October 1917. She moved back to live around the Brook Lane area and the 1921 census shows her as a widow living at Brookside, Thringstone. Hope died in November 1928 and was buried at St Andrew's on 22 November. Her death came as a surprise in the village, as it was a sudden illness, accelerated by an accident she had had a short time earlier. The facts were reported to the coroner but it was not deemed necessary to hold an inquest. We have no idea what the accident was.
- **Dec 1944** – An inquest into the death of **Charity Gough** of Thringstone, aged 81 heard that she died at the LRI on 30 December after a fall. Apparently, she had fractured a thigh and death was due to general debility accelerated by the fracture. Herbert Charles Peters, a nephew from Main Street, Thringstone said he was returning from work and saw three candles burning in his aunt's window. That was their sign that she was calling for his wife. She had fallen over a piece of linoleum sticking up from the floor. Herbert's mother, Eve Peters nee Gough, ran the Bull's Head for some time, and was the eldest daughter of the Gough family. The 1939 register shows Charity living on Brook Lane next to her nephew, who was only 15 years her junior, and his wife Edith. An obituary for Charity in the Coalville Times said she was a familiar and respected personality belonging to an old-established family. Charity came from a large family, and had other sisters as well as Eve – Faith, Hope, Theresa (who died aged 11) and Agnes (another farmer who died in 1898 aged 47 years) and brothers Edward, Adam, Herbert, Edgar, David, Albert and Benjamin.

**Next meeting 1 May at 7pm at Charles Booth Centre. All welcome.**