



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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Chairman's Report for AGM June 2019

This has been another good year for our group, with **membership totals** continuing to be healthy although we have again lost some members this year through moving away and bereavements. **Our accounts** for our March year end show a profit this year of £138.17 which is less than last year.

Publication sales have been quite better than last year at £219. We continue to sell publications at events, as well as a result of various facebook postings. **Donations** of £61.60 have been received this year which does not include the money given to us by NWLDC for their 50% share of putting on our WW1 event.

We have continued carrying out regular **litter picking**, and carried out 2 litter picks, one with a company in Castle Donington and one with Grace Dieu School pupils. We continue to pick up a lot of litter, with our recorded total since we started keeping records now exceeding 14,200 bags. We also picked up sponsorship from **Red Bull** who gave us a crate of their drinks for our work in Thringstone.

Our **website** continues to be a good source of advertising. Over the year, we have also continued to use twitter and facebook as a means of advertising, and our **twitter followers** have increased by over 60 and and our **facebook followers** have increased by over 325 which is wonderful.

The history side of the group has continued to be very busy. We continue to work hard to unearth details of the village in the past, and we have again worked with NWLDC on their Hello Heritage Event in September, as well as putting on our own WW1 event in October. We have continued to receive a lot of information from external sources, and Nita has spent thousands of hours researching and recording more information on the village's past. She has also started writing a history article for the Community Voice this year.

We once again took part in the **Centre's yearly quiz** and worked with the centre on their music festival. We also had a stand within the Miners Gala part of 2018's Picnic in the Parks and stood at an event with Whitwick Historical Society.

Our Carols On The Green event went back to the centre and a lot of people came along to this.

Again we took advantage of the free tree scheme from NWLDC and the discounted bulb scheme.

Our book keeper, **David Stevenson**, handed over the book keeping role to Tina Bakewell in March. We would like to thank David for his work on the accounts for the last few years since he took over from Lis Muller.

Finally, our chair was awarded a Points of Light award in August by Prime Minister Theresa May and a British Empire Medal in the **Queen's New Year's Honours List 2019**. This was a complete surprise and Nita would like to thank the FoT members who nominated her for this award.

We would like to thank everybody who supports the group in any way at all. Without all this help and support, there would be no group, and we greatly value your contributions



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Big Tidy Award at the Keep Britain Tidy Jubilee Awards 2015
Winner of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2011
Winner of Gold and Silver RCC Village achievement awards 2010
Awarded Outstanding Achievement Certificate in the RHS Britain in Bloom Neighbourhood Awards 2009
Winner of the NWLDC's Footprint Awards under Partnerships and Community Groups 2009, finalists 2011 and 2013

