



The Friends of Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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Chairman's Report for AGM June 2018

This has been another good year for our group, with **membership totals** reaching 148 although 3 of our 2017/18 members have subsequently died and two have moved away. **Our accounts** for our March year end show an income of £1076.50 against expenditure of £878.15 giving us a profit this year of £198.34 against a loss last year of £481.18.

Publication sales have been quite low at £159. However, we continue to sell publications at events, as well as a result of various facebook postings. **Donations** of £283.50 have been received this year, which again has helped with our bank balance, including money received from the Woodstock in Whitwick organisers. We have continued carrying out regular **litter picking**, but not carried out any community litter picks. Within the last 12 months, we have picked up and removed 1744 bags of rubbish from the village and woodland. 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 from 452 to 522 and our **facebook followers** have increased from 451 to 607.

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 this year have worked with NWLDC on their Hello Heritage Event in September, as well as putting on our own historical Prominent Women in NW Leicestershire event in October. During the course of the year we were asked to help provide names for the new Bellway site from a list of villagers who had fought in WW1, and as part of this put together details of their descendants. It was wonderful to then go to the opening event at the site in November and see so many family members there, some of whom hadn't met up for years. It was also a pleasure to be able to put together details of the life of Charles Booth and have his poverty maps on display at the centre's launch party in May. We have continued to liaise this year with members of the Booth family, and will do so gladly as we move forward. We once again took part in the **Centre's yearly quiz** and worked with the centre on their music festival and ran a volunteer event there in June. We also had a stand within the Miners Gala part of 2017's Picnic in the Parks.

Unfortunately, our Carols On The Green had to be cancelled due to dreadful weather and concern over health and safety issues.

We have continued to work hard on our gardening areas and took advantage yet again of the free tree scheme from NWLDC. Some bushes have had to be replaced, but we have managed well this year without any thefts from our planting areas.

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

