



The Friends of
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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Visit our website at: www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk
We are also on facebook/twitter. Twitter address @Thringstone2

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7 APRIL 2016 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Nita Pearson, Tracy Foulds, Janet Stevenson, Bill Ensor, Bernard Lee, Nigel and Mary Roberts, Roy Hill, Geoff Walker, Pam Porter, Dave Everitt, PSCO Louise Paget

Apologies: Gillian Bates, Ron Hill, Mike Statham, Marlene Pearson, David Stevenson, Geoff and Jane Wilson, Ann Petty, Julie Everitt, Pat Hubbard, Pat Darby.

Discussions/Decisions

Mike Statham – Mike has been taken ill and is in hospital. Friends of Thringstone wish him well. We understood he had had one operation, and might be coming home soon, and then go back for another at a later stage.

Century of Stories – This group continues working on the banners, and also on war related poetry, for which we provided a poem published in Born and Bred 3 which relates to the war. We also discovered that the previous project, to write a letter as if from a boy going to war, went to the Lord Lieutenants Awards process and understand that, at some point, all entrants will receive a letter (which has been prepared) but they are waiting on the delivery of the small tokens of thanks which will go with the letters. Later on, they will produce a booklet containing all entries, and copies will be sent to all those who took part.

Music Festival – Meetings have been held to discuss the running of this on 6 August, and the centre is still looking for volunteers to help on the day and the day after. If you have an interest in helping with bar work, marshalling, general tidying and helping collect donations by going round with the bucket, please contact the centre and leave your details. The centre has agreed to spend £1,750 on putting on the event, and the committee of FoT has offered £250, so there is a budget of £2k. £1000 of that is already accounted for with staging, audio etc. Banners still need to be made and various other things purchased. FoT has a marquee and we might need to check this and offer it up for use on the day. Nita is in conversation with the person looking after our tent on this. *Nigel said that he has some excellent musicians coming along to the event, and the type of music crosses all types of genre.*



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Stepping out for a greener district



The Naked Truth – The centre has managed to get a preview show with the full cast and stars Vicky Michelle and Faye Tozer to come to the centre on 23 April. Tickets are available by booking on line through www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone. Many tickets have already been sold, given that the preview price is only £10 if booked in advance.

Nigel said that when the show goes to Loughborough in May, the price will be £23, so there is a huge saving to be made here, and the opportunity to see the comedy play before anybody else does. Nigel explained that you can book through the website or with him or with Lorraine. Some people seemed to have problems working out the website.

Monthly litter pick total – 167 against 224 in March 2015. This includes over 40 charity bags for Cancer Research and Genetics UK dumped behind bushes down the church jitty. On 20 March, someone sent Nita a facebook message and photo showing litter on the play area on Melrose Road, saying how disgusted they were about this. When it was cleaned up the following morning, we counted 94 separate items of children's litter, and put a posting about this on our facebook page, which was also picked up by New Spotted Thringstone. Many people said they were fed up with this sort of behaviour, but nobody has come forward to join our litter picking crew!

Clean for the Queen - Across the nation, on the main weekend of Clean For The Queen, over 300,000 bags of rubbish were collected by over a quarter of a million volunteers taking part in over 5,000 events, something which it is hoped to replicate next year. Our event was that weekend, on Saturday 5 March. We got 26 people to help us with the clean up, including 13 youngsters, 11 of whom were Thringstone Brownies. We collected 22 bags of rubbish. For the people that say there isn't rubbish in Thringstone because we litter pick so regularly, we hope that shows that there is ALWAYS litter in the village.

Ruby's fish and chip shop supplied us with 15 lots of free chips afterwards, for which we thank them on facebook, and thanks also to the community centre, for opening up especially for us after our litter pick to wash our hands, use the facilities and eat our chips in comfort. An email of thanks was sent to the centre.

We took 17 photographs during the event, which we shared with the Brownie leaders. Press releases, with a photo, were sent to Coalville Times, Leicester Mercury, Echo and Hermitage FM, and photos put on our own facebook and twitter pages, sent to the webmaster, and also put on our Litter Action UK page. We also reported back on our event to Keep Britain Tidy's website who added our photo to their gallery and thanked us for our continued support. They also put our photo, along with many others, on their facebook page. We also put something on the Keep Britain Tidy twitter page (which got shared several times) and the dedicated Clean For The Queen website. We then loaded details and photos onto the Zilch facebook page and Spotted Whitwick's facebook page.

We also sent a press release to Oak FM and Coalville Eye to cover the wider area. The Coalville Times printed details as part of a collage of information on Clean For The Queen in their edition of 11 March 2016.

Thanks to Leon Spence for sending our photo to The New Spotted Thringstone facebook page from which we got an enquiry as to when the next one is – suggested they follow FoT on facebook and find out from there when we organize the next one. Another person asked if she could join a litter picking group, so sent her details of our group.

Despite our litter pick, the following day we still managed to pick up 3 bags of litter.



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We also sent an email to **Thringstone Primary**, with photos, telling them that we had cleared their driveway of litter and suggesting that they might like to work with us getting classes to clear up the drive on a rota basis, and that we would supply the litter pick equipment. We thought this would give children the realization that dropping litter has consequences. No response to that suggestion was received, but they did put photos and a write up in their March school newsletter for us!

Singleton's group at centre – Pam Clayfield wishes to set up a group for single people to meet others and have a fuller social life and make new friends. The centre is therefore looking for willing volunteers to assist in gathering together a programme of activities and events. The group may be mainly for younger people rather than the older age range, but this is not certain. They intend to meet in the bar lounge on a monthly basis, but no dates have yet been set. Anybody interested should contact Pam on 224767 or talk to Lorraine.

Chairs Report

Letters received:

- From bank about internet and free banking for accounts over £100,000. Not relevant!

Emails received:

- Various from people with whom we regularly share information.
- From **Community Matters**, an organization set up in 1945 to support and help the voluntary sector, saying that they were closing in March 2016 due to lack of financial help from government and local authorities. Sad day.

Emails sent:

- Various to local agencies, and to council regarding flytipping and other issues like lights out, the pot hole at the junction of Melrose Road and Lbro Road (Members' club end) and the damage to the Springfield street sign by a lorry turning round to get back to the Bellway Homes site which the driver had driven past. The sign was taken down within 2 hours of reporting. Since then there has been bunting put in the entrance to the site to make it more visible to people not knowing where they are.
- To **Gatling Gun Promotions** who were awarded £10,000 in a recent award scheme organized by NWLDC. They are hoping to make a documentary film about WW1, and having facebook messaged them in the past, and having then met them, we sent an email confirming that we would like to work with them on anything they feel relevant for their film.

Promotion:

- We have **363 twitter followers**, an increase of 9 this month, and **278 facebook followers**, an increase of 41 this month. *Nigel said that the increase in numbers is possibly because of posting details of events in the village and wider afield, which was attracting a different demographic.*

Other:

- Attended cheque presentation from **Bowling Club** and presentation of replica of Mayflower at the community centre. Ship is to stay at the centre on display.
- Attended NWLDC's **celebration of volunteering** at Radisson Blu with Ann Petty on 20 March..
- Met with Cllr. Alison Smith for a session of photos of some of the **planting** we did with the bulbs we got from NWLDC's bulb scheme.



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Finance Report

The accounts were closed at our year end on 31 March in order for a full financial examination to take place before the next AGM in the summer.

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,557.93		
Income		Expenditure	
Donation from Bowls Club	£56.00	Broadband etc.	£16.23
Memberships	£7.00		
Publications	nil	Ink for Nita	£25.00
Raffle	£8.99	Winter Bauble	£34.95
1939 register sales	£5.00	Centre copying	£40.70
	£76.99	Shrubs etc.	£5.28
total income to general fund		Total expenditure	£122.16
		Total general fund at month end	2,512.76

Publications Report

Nothing sold.

Web Report

The webmaster is still dealing with updates. This was discussed with him again this week.

Police Report – PCSO Louise Paget

Total crime on beat NN45 from 1st March 2016 to 31st March 2016 is 120 in total.

From this 14 crimes are in Thringstone (12%). Details have been supplied of 5 of these crimes only.

Assaults - 1 assault was reported and is still under investigation as the suspect needs to be spoken to.

Criminal Damage - 1 - an elderly lady in Heathfield who suffered a broken window due to someone throwing a piece of 2 x 4 through her window. This now been filed as there weren't any suspects and the bowling club's CCTV doesn't cover that area.

Vehicle Crime/Traffic Offences – 1 x Traffic offence and this was a RTC where suspect crashes car and runs off. He was detained a short while later and arrested.

Thefts - 1 x Theft From Motor Vehicle where a van on Clyde Court was broken into and tools stolen. No suspects so this has been filed.

1 x theft which is ongoing, and still under investigation.

There was general discussion on an organized crime group targeting vans in the area, and also about the fact that, when warmer weather actually arrives, it is best not to leave windows open when you are out. We were also informed that a person who was known to be stealing meat from local Co-ops had been arrested and charged with 12 offences.



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Community Report and What's On

Thringstone Primary has had a donation of logs from Chris Bond Agricultural Services. These logs are intended to be used to create a seating circle in the designated area in the school field put aside for Forest Schools.

The George and Dragon is now selling stone baked pizza to eat in or take away.

A total of £553 was raised by staff and customers at Hermitage and Hood Park Leisure Centres on a **sponsored cycle challenge** for Sports Relief.

The induction of the new Rector **Liz Angell** will be on Wednesday 15 June 2016 at 7.30 pm at St John the Baptist, Whitwick.

- 8 April - **Whitwick Constitutional Club** – Craig Harrison is Michael Jackson. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets £5 non- members, £3 members.
- 8 April – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – Spektrum in concert at 9pm.
- 9 April – **Hare and Hounds** – Race Night. Starts at 9pm
- 9 April – Mick's Karaoke at **Thringstone Members Club**. Starts at 8pm. All welcome.
- 9 April – **Big Band plug and play** at Lady Jane, Whitwick
- 13 April – **NEW beginners' linedancing class** at Thringstone House Community Centre. Starts at 7pm. Cost £4. For more details, contact Ann on 07914 358050.
- 13 April – **Quiz night** at Lady Jane, Whitwick
- 13 April – **St Andrew's Café Church** at Thringstone Methodist Church Hall. Starts at 2pm and the subject is local history with a talk from Whitwick Historical Group to concentrate on the Whitwick Pit Disaster of 1898. All welcome.
- 16 April – Church Hall, St John's Church, Whitwick (this is the old building on the brow of the hill of North Street) – **Auction** – viewing 4pm -6pm with auction starting at 6pm. All welcome. Proceeds will go to help fund the building of a disabled toilet at St John's.
- 16 April – **Old School House Thringstone's Open Day** – raffles, table top sales etc. in order to raise money for equipment for the sensory room. Open 12 noon until 4pm. All welcome.
- 16-17 April – Hermitage Leisure Centre grounds – **miniature train rides** from 11am-6pm as part of mini traction engine and vehicle rally. Refreshments available. For more information ring 07922 692076.
- 16 April – **Pete's Karaoke** at Thringstone Members Club. Starts at 9pm. All welcome.
- 16 April – **Lady Jane, Whitwick**, Drug Store Cowboys in concert.
- 22 April – **Thank you for the music Abba Tribute**, Whitwick Constitutional Club. Starts at 9pm.
- 22 April – Lady Jane, Whitwick – **Charity Race Night** with BBQ, raffles etc., in aid of Children's Trust Brain Injuries Charity.
- 23 April – **Thringstone House Community Centre** – It's A Woman Thing – Charity preview of a wonderful hit comedy play starring Vicki Michelle ('Allo 'Allo) and Faye Tozer (Steps). Starts at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets £10 in advance of £12 on the door. Book now at www.ticketsource.co.uk/Thringstone
- 23 April – **St George's day celebration** at Hare and Hounds, Whitwick. Starts at 3pm. Charity collections for RBL and Red Cross. Teas, cakes etc.
- 23 April – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – Mo Jo Hand – great dance band.



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- 29 April – **Soul night** at Thringstone House Community Centre. 8pm start. Tickets can be purchased at the centre or on line at www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone at £3 per person or pay on the door for £5.
- 29 April – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – 4 Shades of Grey in concert
- 30 April – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – Rockska, dance band
- 1 May – **Whitwick Constitutional Club's annual music festival**. 1pm-9pm. Charities who will benefit are Friends of Coalville Hospital and Air Ambulance.
- 7 May – **Plant Sale** at Coleorton Wood, Pitt Lane, off The Moor, Coleorton. Starts at 10.30am and finishes at 1pm. All sorts of plants and shrubs available plus planters and garden ornaments. Refreshments available.
- 13 May – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – 70s night with Jayne Lesley
- 15 May – **Grace Dieu Historical Walk** with members of Friends of Grace Dieu Priory. Meet at Bull's Head at 3pm. Cost £3. Children free.
- 17-21 May – **Cocacabana** the musical at Thringstone House Community Centre. Tickets £8, children £7. Starts at 7.30pm each evening. Tickets from 834575
- 18 May – **Walk around Whitwick** with members of Whitwick Historical Society. Meet at 1.30pm at The Old Station, North Street. Donations welcome. After the walk there will be light refreshments.
- 19 May – Walk through **Grace Dieu Woods** with the Ramblers as part of the National Forest Walk Festival. Meets at the Hare and Hounds in Whitwick at 7pm. This is a 5 mile walk.
- 20 May – Mizz Pink at Whitwick Constitutional Club – Stacey Green's Pink tribute act. Tickets on the door - £5 to non-members, £3 to members.
- 21 May - **Plant Sale** at New Lount Nature Reserve, Newbold Coleorton. Starts at 10.30am and finishes at 1pm. All sorts of plants and shrubs available plus planters and garden ornaments. Refreshments available.
- 22 May – **Walk round Blackbrook Reservoir** with the Ramblers. This is a 10 mile walk starting at 10am at Mt. St Bernard Abbey. The walk goes along the disused rail route with views of Fenny Windmill and then goes over high ground to the Abbey. There will be stops for lunch along the way.
- 22 May – Family fun day from 10am-2pm at **Thringstone Miners Welfare FC**. Fee entry. Penalty shootouts, bouncy castle, glitter tattoos, music, games and food. All proceeds to Asthma UK.
- 22 May – **Family Geocaching guided walk** from the car park at Field Entrance, Hermitage Leisure centre. Meet at 10.30am. Cost £2. Booking on 454606 is essential
- 25 May – **Buggycise Walk for Mums** – Meet at 10am at Hermitage Leisure Centre, and walk with other mums wanting to get back into shape after their 6 week check. Booking essential on 454606.
- 25 May – **Walk around Whitwick** – this is a similar walk to that on 18 May with members of Whitwick Historical Society. Meet at Old Station, North Street at 1.30pm.
- 25 May – **Whitwick Historical Group** is leading a historical walk round Whitwick meeting at their Old Station Close HQ at 1pm. Light refreshments afterwards.
- 26 May – **Swannington Incline walk** for 5 miles with the Ramblers. Meet at 7pm at Coalville Memorial Square.



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- 26 May – Black Horse Whitwick – **Haydock Races coach trip** - £15 for the coach with entrance to be purchased individually at the course. Contact pub for more details.
- 26 May – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – bank holiday mini beer festival and family fun day with live music
- 30 May – **Take Teddy to the Mill** – event organised by Swannington Heritage Trust. 2pm-4pm at Hough Mill, Swannington. Teddy themed fun with crafts, games and refreshments. Donations welcome. More info from 838331
- 6 June – **Fund Raising Quiz for The Old School House**, Thringstone's sensory room at Lady Jane, Whitwick starting at 8pm.
- 11 June – **Thringstone Primary School** fete from 12 noon.
- 21 June – **Friends of Grace Dieu Priory** relaunch event. 7pm at the school hub at Grace Dieu Manor School. All welcome. Refreshments provided after short talk and presentation.
- 8 July – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Elvis and Neil Diamond tribute with Dave Dixon
- 9 July – **Lesley Smith** at Grace Dieu Priory with a performance on Elizabeth 1. Starts at 6.30pm. Free, but donations requested.
- 13 August – **Woodstock in Whitwick** at Hermitage Leisure Centre. Starts at 1pm.
- 14 Oct – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – 80s night with Jayne Lesley
- 28 Oct – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Elton John Tribute evening

There was considerable discussion about the lack of forward advertising for the film club at the centre. Pam Porter explained that she had been to a similar film club in Ashby which had shown a popular film and had drawn in crowds of people, whereas nobody ever seemed to know what was being shown at the centre, in order to make an informed decision as to whether to go or not. She also pointed out that the centre needed some more blockbuster films to show. Nigel explained that the centre usually get what they are given, but if anybody has any DVDs of films they would like to see at the centre, they would be pleased to receive them. He also mentioned that this is all run by volunteers, and the centre desperately needs more volunteers for many things, including the film club and promotional work. There was, at this point, considerable discussion about the use of social media and whether this meets all demographics.

History report

- We have been given details of **heritage awards** that are being put together by Leicestershire and Rutland Heritage Forum. This covers anything undertaken, including WW1 research and events, from March 2014 - March 2016. We are therefore submitting an application for consideration for our 3 day WW1 event in 2014. 4 copies of the 6 page application, plus a wealth of supporting evidence has to be submitted before mid May.
- We were given a **street map of Thringstone** from the late 1940s early 1950s by the facebook group, Coalville Past, Present and Future. Thanks go to them.
- We have spoken with Rachel Barber, the church administrator for **St John's in Whitwick** and also with Roy Webster who organizes the church café, and put ourselves forward to talk about anything relating to Thringstone history at their monthly meetings. Roy was unaware of Friends of Thringstone and their work to promote and protect our local history, and is now receiving our newsletter by email every month.
- The Community Centre received information from the **Booth family** on their family tree, which has been shared with us.



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- Whitwick Parish Council were asked to come up with names for **two new wooded areas**. These areas have already been planted and are at the rear of Hermitage Road and Green Lane. They will be named after Harold Smalley, who died recently and was a WW2 veteran, and Thomas Elswood Ashford VC who has a connection with Thringstone in that he married a Thringstone girl, lived down Brook Lane for some time, and his first child (a son) is buried in Thringstone churchyard. Thomas gained his VC in the 1800s in the Afghan wars of that period.
- We found a cemetery index on line for **Griffydham Methodist graveyard**. This index was compiled in 2013, and we now have a copy in our archives. Many people who ended up in Thringstone (like the Kidger farming family), have connections to Griffydham. The list also includes details of the grave of Thomas Hurst of Thringstone, born in 1807, who died on 18 November 1864. He is one of the Hurst family who owned Thringstone House. Also buried there is Robert Henson (blacksmith) of Thringstone, born in 1770 who died on 3 August 1848.
- In our book, Thringstone and Its People, we talked about **Talbot House Farm** on Talbot Lane, and the Gough family. By 1939, the farm was being run by Charles Illsley and his wife Annie Selina nee Minns who was born in Melton Mowbray in 1881. Charles was born in Moira in 1876, one of 5 children of George and Catherine Septima Illsley, who were also farmers for decades. Before coming to Talbot House Farm, Charles had previously farmed at Desford. Charles Illsley had two children, Gilbert Charles and Catherine Annie. He moved at some stage to live at Winot, West Leake, but died in Skegness Hospital on 18 August 1947. His wife, Annie Selina died in Leicester on 1 April 1976 and Gilbert who was also a farmer, died in Ilkeston in 1972. In 1939, Catherine was still at the farm with her parents and her daughter Josephine, having married Ronald Maura Dryden in 1934. Also known as Curley Dryden, he was a WW2 air force cross flying ace, and subsequently a highly regarded 500cc motor car driver. He was killed in an accident at Castle Combe on 6 October 1951. Catherine appears to have died on 4 November 1955 at Leicester General Hospital, and is recorded as a widow of 12 Havencrest Drive, Leicester. The Dryden's appear to have had only the one daughter, Josephine Maura Dryden born in Thirsk on 25 December 1934. She married Michael Jones in Loughborough in 1957 and died at the Countess of Chester Hospital on 27 October 2008. It is currently believed that after the Illsley family left, the farm was taken over by Mr and Mrs White, and their children Polly, Jack, Bill and Frances (and maybe another daughter) who also ran bed and breakfast and tea rooms from the farm. If anybody has any information on the White family, please let us know, as we do not know Mr and Mrs White's names, and only know that Jack may have died at the farm, Polly perhaps moved to West Leake, and Bill moved to Beverley in Yorkshire, and another sister moved to somewhere near Lowoods.
- David White has given Ann some old newspapers he had kept, in which there are all sorts of details. Included in this was the wedding photo of **Miss Millie Watson** and John Willie Smith in 1963, which then appeared in the Coalville Times of 25 March under the mystery photo section. As you will know from previous minutes, John Willie Smith died in May 1975 after being found in a well, and we have been trying to find information on Miss Millie, who ran the Sunday school at Thringstone House for some time. We found Miss Millie and her family on the 1939 register at Talbot Cottage, Talbot Lane, Whitwick. Millicent Mary Watson was born on 6 November 1910 at Church Lane,



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Swannington. She was the child of Charlotte Mary nee Thompson born 20 September 1880 in Swannington who died in 1956 in Coalville, and George Henry Watson born in Winchester, Hampshire on 3 October 1880 who died on 6 May 1965 at the Blue Boar Inn at The Rushes, Loughborough, although his home address was still Talbot Lane, Whitwick. Miss Millie had two brothers – George Henry born 11 July 1913 who in 1939 was working as a general labourer at a pumping station and whom we have thus far been unable to trace past this date, and Kenneth Henry who was born on 20 November 1920 and in 1939 was a shop assistant. Kenneth died in Leicester in 1976. In 1965, Miss Millie's brother, Kenneth was the publican at the Blue Boar Inn in Loughborough (now demolished) which is where his father died. Miss Millie died in September 1990 in Leicester. The photo in the Coalville Times showed Rev. David Barnes, John Willie's sister Gladys, as well as Frank Waterfield, John Willie and Miss Millie, George Henry Watson, Kenneth Henry Watson and Ann Allen..

- Whilst at Whitwick Historical Group, Ann found a list of Thringstone born soldiers listed as getting Chelsea Pensioners benefits and passed this information to Nita to research further. Unfortunately, most drew a blank other than **William Hayes** born about 1783 who seems to have served in the Napoleonic wars.
- Nita explained the hours and hours of work she had put in to help Bellway Homes with names of WW1 soldiers for the 4 roads to go onto the new Priory site. After a considerable amount of discussion on email and phone, Bellway Homes decided initially to go with the following WW1 casualties for road names on their new Priory site – **Amos Griffin, Ernest and Isaac Hall, Theophilus Jones and James Bancroft**, and gave Nita less than a week to find living relatives of these people, as they needed to put the details of the road names to the council and needed living family approvals in place. They had previously spoken to Michael Kendrick, but failed to tell him what names were finally chosen for use, or that they had spoken with us. Michael unfortunately put something into the Coalville Times asking for information on names no longer being used. We agreed with both Michael and Bellway Homes that, should people contact them with regard to information on the soldiers names, whether they are being used or not, this information will be passed to ourselves. Nita spent many hours researching and putting together family trees for these 4 families by going through birth, marriage and death records, census information and the 1939 register, trying to find living relatives. After hours of research, facebook postings, phone calls etc. she managed to find 2 people connected to James Bancroft, 3 people connected to the Hall family and several, eventually thanks to facebook postings, relating to Amos Griffin. This information was forwarded to Bellway. We then got a phone call from Bellway saying that NWLDC were happy with Theophilus Jones and Amos Griffin, but unhappy to use James Bancroft's name or the Hall brothers' name because of other roads in the LE67 area with similar names. Nita was then given 24 hours (because Chris Bray from Bellway Homes was going on paternity leave) to come up with 2 other names where living relatives were known and offered (again) James Gee and Robin Robinson, where we know there are living relatives in the village. We were told that James Gee would be OK, but not Robinson, and finally supplied with a list of names that might be acceptable. This included Lawrence Rennocks, who won a military medal and survived the war, and since we are in touch with one of his relatives, we suggested that name, and told his relative accordingly by email, and rang some Gee relatives about the use of their



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ancestor's name. Nita was also asked to contact the families of the Hall brothers and James Bancroft, thank them for their help, and explain that their family's name was not being used now and why.

During this lengthy process, Nita also shared our information on the Griffin family with their relatives, as they knew little about Amos Griffin and also shared with them copies of newspaper cuttings relating to Amos. In 1912 he was put on probation for 6 months for being complicit in stealing a bike, pump and lamp left outside Gracedieu Halt. In 1915, just before he went to try to join up to go to war, he was taken to court, along with several others, for playing football on the highway in Thringstone. He was let off with a warning. We also realized that the poem in Born and Bred 3 mentioned above in Century of Stores was written as a tribute to James Bancroft, so shared that with his relatives, as they had not seen it before. We also contacted the NE WW1 Memorials website editor with copies of the school logs relating to Theophilus Jones, which they had not seen before. They replied that they have tried to find living relatives for him for over 20 years, and had drawn a blank.

- We received 2 photos via facebook of two children, one taken in about 1990, en route to **Thringstone Primary** for their dressing up day and another of one of these children's violin practice. We also received a photograph of Mr Short's class at Thringstone Primary in about 1976.

Councillors' report

- NWLDC is interested in what people's views are regarding their website, what alterations they would like to see so that they can report things more easily, and access information. If you want to complete their survey go to https://consultation.nwleics.gov.uk/chief-executive/web-improvements/consult_view
- There have been issues regarding a van parked next to a yellow grit bin on the Glebe Farm Estate, which is being investigated further.
- The County Council is asking people's views on the future of communities and wellbeing services. These include things like libraries, museums, the records office, care on line, and various learning services. If you want to put your views across, please go to

<http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/have-your-say/current-consultations/communities-and-wellbeing-consultation>

- Dave Everitt has been investigating the planning agreement in place with Thringstone Co-op with regard to the route delivery vehicles should use, and this precludes them using Lilybank/Main Street. All vehicles have to use Loughborough Road, and also have to reverse into the car park at the shop in order to be able to drive out going forwards. *Bill Ensor said that a lorry with Co-op logo had only today gone up Lilybank. He also said that there are now quite big trenches where the lorries have worn away the banking, and it was quite dangerous to walk up from the George and Dragon in the dark because you can't see where these trenches are.*
- Dave said that he is trying to get two benches placed in the village for people to use now they have to walk up to Loughborough Road to access bus services. He is hopeful of getting one bench on the Glebe Road estate and another where the old phone box used to be opposite the Booth Road junction.



The Friends of Thringstone
Winner of the Big Tidy Award at 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 and finalists 2011 and 2013





The Friends of Thringstone

Gardening and environment

- Box shrubs were purchased to replace some on **The Green** and plant elsewhere and some bulbs were planted to replace ones that died by the Springfield entrance signage.
- Thanks go to Jenny Walker for donating **various plants** to us this month, which Bernard is planting in various places. Thanks also to John Carr for the large number of aubretias that he donated.
- Bernard has tried to mend broken **litter pick sticks**, and has succeeded in all but one case. Thanks go to him, and also to him for making 8 bird boxes to put up in Grace Dieu Woods. The de Lisle family is aware of this and very grateful for his work.

AOB

There was general discussion about the value of dogs in calming down children with ADHD and other such issues, and the fact that the centre should be dog friendly, as long as the dog is well behaved. Nigel said this matter would be brought up at the centre's forthcoming project meeting.

Next meeting is 5 MAY 2016 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre.



RCC

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