



The Friends of
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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Visit our website at: www.friends-of-thringstone.org.uk
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**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1 MARCH 2018 AT CHARLES BOOTH CENTRE,
FORMERLY KNOWN AS THRINGSTONE HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present: Nita Pearson, Mike Statham, Holly Kerley, Dave Everitt, Anita Jones, John Jackson and Maureen Simm

Apologies: Bill Enser, Gillian Bates, Ann Petty, Pat Hubbard, Tracy Foulds

Discussions/Decisions.

Birthday greetings – it was FoT's 13th birthday on 23 February. Nita put something out to that extent on both facebook and twitter, and got some lovely messages back.

Village Easter Egg Hunt – we have agreed to work with the centre on a project intending to draw children to the centre to pick up a sheet and go down the track in the woodland and back to the centre in order to get the chance of an egg. This event is on 29 March and starts at 10am at the centre until around 12pm and will be a free event. If anybody fancies helping with the event, please let us know.

Church Administrator wanted - The churches of St John the Baptist, Whitwick, St Andrew's, Thringstone and St George's, Swannington are looking for a part time Benefice Administrator (8 hours a week initially probably over two days). This is an interesting role, working closely with the benefice Rector (Vicar) and churchwardens to ensure effective communication and administration across the three churches. Much of the work can be done from home, although office space at the Vicarage is also available. Do you have excellent IT, organisational and communication skills and empathy with Christian values? Then please get in touch for further details in the first instance - Tel 07902 001740 or email admin@whitwickparishchurch.org.uk. This is a paid position with a salary of £3744 pa



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Message from the panto society – They are searching for 6 munchkins for their next show in June which is Wizard of Oz. They will need to be between the age 10 to 14, under 5ft tall and be able to sing in a group and follow simple choreography steps. Rehearsals are Tuesday and Thursday each week 7.30 to 10.00. If you know anyone who would like to 'follow the yellow brick road' and join this adventure then email Director Cheryl at chezcooper@icloud.com for audition details. Further info about the pantomime society can be found on their website www.tpads.org.uk.

Trustees for the centre – there has been a letter received asking us if anybody connected with our group or any other user group might be interested in putting themselves forward to be considered for the Trustees' board. The letter was sent out to all on email. If anybody has any interest, please contact Margaret Fern on margaret.fern@ntlworld.com

Monthly litter pick total – 110 bags against 157 for the same month last year. There was some flytipping on Melrose Road by the banking to the woods which then went into the bushes. Nita cleared this up – it was all household rubbish and lots of **very** smelly nappies. Some of the 5 bags split whilst being taken away which wasn't very pleasant to deal with. NWLDC informed. Other flytipping on Turlough Road and on Melrose Road was reported to NWLDC and the council are considering putting cameras in on Melrose Road.

There was also an incident on the A512 where a lorry shed lots of loose paper towels over the roadway and footpaths. Nita cleared up a lot of this by the George and Dragon and on the footpaths to the houses, helped by Bill Enser, and then NWLDC, who were told about it by Nita, came with a crew of 8 men and cleared the verges and hedgerows.

Marking the end of WW1 – we are in the process of putting together a bid for funding to NWLDC to allow us to put on an exhibition and also music event at the centre on 10 November to commemorate the end of the war period, and reflect the amount of optimism around at the time. Women in particular had undergone huge changes to their lives during the period of the war, and were now often working for a living. In addition, from November 1918, following the granting of votes for women over the age of 30, many women were looking more towards the future than at any time in the past. As you may know, we did a 3 day event in 2014 to mark the start of the war. For that event, we received £100 from EM Airport fund, £100 from St Andrew's, £50 from Coalville Rotary, £25 from Thringstone Co-op, the centre made a banner, and Kay at the shop provided biscuits and nibbles. As the event this time could include a band and dancing, we need to put in a larger funding bid, and NWLDC have one available, but this needs to be match funded. We will keep everybody posted on what is happening with this event and the bid for a grant. In the meantime, the centre has ordered a quantity of large poppies to go on lampposts for the event. This year is Whitwick Historical Group's 35th anniversary and they are planning an event to celebrate this in October. They would be pleased to join us but their input will be limited due to their other event. Their current thoughts are that they would be able to prepare two or three boards as part of your display



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which we have accepted. We will also be in contact with Coalville Historical Group to talk to them about this event. The WI have already been told, and the RBL and will also be talking to the art group to see if they have relevant art work to exhibit .

Chairs Report

Letters received: None.

Emails received: Various from people with whom we regularly share information. Nita also had an email from a lady who came to the Prominent Women exhibition last year from Hertfordshire, saying that she had written to NWLDC about our event, and received a reply back from Cllr. Richichi who is the chair of the council.

Emails sent: Various to groups and individuals as usual.

Promotion: We have 501 **twitter followers**, which is 8 more than last month, and **566 facebook followers**, which is 4 more than last month. We are continuing to post details of local events and also historical photos on both sites

Other:

- Nita has received calls from people who have read in the Bauble about help with family tree research, and has looked through graveyard records to find burial details for the Newbold and Murfin families.
- Geoff Walker has given us a copy of his latest children's book – Boot 2 – Ben goes to France. Thanks to him.
- We have two new members – Gerald and Elizabeth Burrows. Welcome to them.
- Nita will be going along to an event at Donington le Heath Manor House later this month at which we will be able to leave our flyer so more people are aware of what we do.
- Nita has a meeting with local neighbourhood watch, Thringstone Co-op and managers from HQ. on 7 March

Finance Report

Gen Fund held 1st of month (bank + petty cash + float)	£2,283.91		
Income		Expenditure	
Memberships	£14	Broadband	£10.50
Raffle	£11	Bauble printing	£38.10
publications	£8.50		
total income to general fund	£33.50		£48.60



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Total general fund at month end	£2,268.81
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Publications Report

Janet and David sold one each of all the village trails and a graveyard trail, plus a copy of Durham Miners to someone doing research into mining at Cardiff University.

Web Report

February's minutes are now on site, and the link has been changed to the centre to show www.charlesboothcentre.org.uk In addition the previously broken link to Thringstone Online history site has been repaired.

Police Report

- Vehicle Crime - Main Street Thringstone between 10,30pm on 31 January and 12noon on 1 February, a vehicle left locked and secure on driveway of home address returned to find entry had been gained by unknown means and property was stolen.
- Burglary Other Loughborough Road Unknown person has broken into the garage by forcing the front door and then forced the van door and numerous power tools have been stolen.
- Theft – between 6pm and 10pm on 12 February - a row of 5 new panels from fencing to a currently vacant rental property in Main Street had been removed and one taken by a local person for use on his own property.
- There is a burnt out car against a tree down the banking opposite the end of the football pitch near the Sustrans track. It is a mystery how the car accessed this area as there are no easy access points. This has been reported to both police and to the landowner.
- One of our members witnessed 2 youths causing damage to fencing down the church jetty and reported this to the police. This fencing belongs to someone in Badgerscroft. .
- Youths have been going round banging on glass windows to properties including businesses in the village. This particularly frightened one lady in a business on Homestead Road who reported it on facebook. CCTV images were shared with police.
- We had a facebook message to say that a man was caught trying car doors and going onto drives to try cars on Glebe Road at 3.20am on 25 February. He had a dog with him which he pretended he was looking for before he ran off. Reported via 999.



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Community Report and What's On

The Tilly Tots soft play at the centre advertised last month as starting on Tuesday 13 March now starts on Friday 6 April in the upstairs hall from 10am -12 noon. Costs £2.50 per child and includes free tea/coffee/squash. For under 6 month old children, the price is £1.50. For more details, contact the centre.

The Hare and Hounds is now offering a bar snack menu all day every day.

World Thinking day on 24 February involved Coalville and **Thringstone Guides** with the Heroes Project Team working on activities for guides, brownies and rainbows.

A loyalty presentation took place at **The Old School House** on 27 February for Old School House and Hayes Close staff – Hayes Close is off Rosslyn Road in Whitwick. Staff members Lesley Mansfield (manager) Linda Montgomery (Care Team Leader) Ria Bromley (Care Team Leader) Jackie Needham (Support Worker) Sandra Bradley (Support Worker) and Lynne Stevens (Support Worker) have each served 10 years to Rushcliffe care. Their loyalty and hard work was rewarded by the company, with each receiving vouchers for £100. Staff also received a bouquet of flowers from manager Lesley Mansfield for their continued hard work, help and support to herself and all the residents. In total the 6 staff members have served over 100 years to both homes which were previously owned by a local couple prior to Rushcliffe Care taking over in 2008. Congratulations and well done

2 March – **Century Theatre, Coalville** – Finding Nana – A New Perspectives Production. More details from the theatre

2 March – **Black Horse, Whiwick** – Elvis Tribute, also featuring Neil Diamond and Johnny Cash. 9pm start.

3 March – **Harmony singing workshop** at the centre. £30 per person plus contributions to a shared lunch. 10am-4pm. More details from <http://folkonthefarm.co.uk/latest-news/young-uns-harmony-singing-workshop>

3 March – **Thringstone Members Club** – Eleanor Mattley in concert from 9pm.

5 March – **Park Hall, Whitwick** – free trial acting class for adults- 6.45pm-9.15pm.. Book on 07900 837888 or info@inkyblueproductions.com

8 March – **Tropic skincare pamper party** at the centre in the bar lounge. Starts at 7pm. All welcome. Free entry.

9 March – **Thringstone Members Club** – Soul Night. Starts at 8pm. £3 on the door.

9 March – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Jake Jones in concert

10 March – Open mic night at **New Inn, Peggs' Green**.

10 March – Mick's karaoke at **Thringstone Members Club** from 8pm

11 March – **Mother's day afternoon tea** at The Conny Club, Whitwick. £14.95 to include welcome glass of prosecco. More information from the club and to reserve your place.

13-17 March – **Coalville Amateur Operatics Society** – Sweeney Todd – Iveshead School, Shepshed, formerly known as Hind Leys School. Tickets from 834534. Tuesday - Thursday and Saturday Matinee are £11, Friday and Saturday night are £13. Concessions at £8.50 on Tuesday evening and Saturday Matinee.

16 March – **Century Theatre, Coalville** – Swan Lake – Vienne Festival Ballet – 7.30pm. More details from the theatre

16 March – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – The Bench That Rocked in concert at 9pm.



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17 March – Abba Sensation tribute at **Century Theatre** – 7.30pm start. Tickets £15 on the door. £13 advanced from the theatre.

23 March – Lets Rock 4 cancer with proceeds to Hope Against Cancer – **Hugglescote Social Club**. Doors open 7.30pm, with music starting at 8pm. Tickets £5

23 March – **Conny Club, Whitwick** – Jade Chamberlain as Kylie Minogue. Starts at 9pm. £5 entry. Members £3.

23 March – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Karaoke with King of the Road

23 March – **Century Theatre** – Lesley Smith as Peggy (Nicole) Knight whom during WW2 whilst working as a shorthand typist in France, acted as a courier taking messages often across the enemy lines. Starts 7.30pm. Tickets £8.

24 March – **Donington le Heath Manor House**, 11am – 4pm – Tithe Bar Tea Room - craft and artisan fayre with local craft people. Free entry and parking.

24 March - **Randell Motown evening** at the centre. Terrific evening of great entertainment from this sensational singer. Starts at 8pm. Tickets :£8 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone or direct from the centre, mornings only on Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

25 March – **Woodstock in Whitwick Easter Egg Hunt** at Whitwick Park. 11am-1.30pm. Refreshments and raffle

29 March – **Easter egg hunt** at the centre. Starts at 10am and goes on til 1pm. Come to the centre, pick up a quiz sheet, answer the questions as you go round the village, and then come back and get an egg if you win. Refreshments available.

29 March – James Hickman and Dan Cassidy, folk duo at **Belton Village Hall**. Starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 with prior booking, £12 on the door, £7 concessions, £9 concessions on the door. Concessions apply to under 16s and over 65s.

30 March – **Black Horse, Whitwick** – Keith Buck and Wally Tolster – acoustic duo in concert – 9pm start.

13 April – **Comedy Night at the centre** – 7.30pm start. Great new comedy evening not to be missed. Tickets £8 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone or from the centre on 222337

13 April – **Craig Campbell's Easy Tiger world tour** at Century Theatre – Tickets £14 available on line or from the theatre on 278444.

15 April - **Beaumanor Hall, Leicestershire** – Friends of Thringstone will be exhibiting details relating to WW1 at the Leicestershire Archeological and History Society's event.

19 April – The Badapple Theatre Company at Century Theatre presents **Amy Johnson**. Tickets £10. 7.30pm start.

20 April – **Trextasy** at Century Theatre – tickets £22 on the door or £20 advance. Contact theatre on 278444.

28 April – **The Swinging Bass Band** at the centre – 7.30pm start. Tickets £8 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone or direct from the centre on 222337.

29 April – Hermitage Leisure Centre –**Antiques Fair**. 9am -3.30pm. £2.

11 May – **Talon Eagles Tribute** at Century Theatre – Tickets £18.50, advanced £16.50. Contact theatre on 278444.

18 May – **Griffydam History Walk** – 1.5 miles. Starts at 7pm from Top Road, Griffydam. Learn all about this hamlet and its history. Booking essential on 222833.

21 May – **Grace Dieu Priory history walk with Ann** – Meet at Bull's Head car park at 3pm. £3 per person.



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- 2 June – **Charles Booth Centre/community centre** – 1000 years of history with comedian and song writer, Anthony King. Starts at 8pm. Tickets £8
- 8 June – **Evening of Mediumship** at Century Theatre with Nikki Kit. Ticket prices yet to be advised.
- 15 June – Conny Club - **Robert Taylor as George Michael**. Tickets £5 on the door – members £3. Starts at 9pm.
- 29 June – Andy Crosbie as Elton John at **Whitwick Constitutional Club** (Conny).
- 29 June – **Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's** beetle drive at Thringstone Members Club. Only £5 to include a ham or cheese salad cob and a cake. Bar open from 7.30pm until 11pm. Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads
- 6 July – Conny Club, Whitwick – **Jamaican themed night**. Meal and entertainment for £14.95. 7pm start.
- 21 and 22 July – **Grace Dieu Manor** –Antiques and vintage weekend. Adults £3, children free, dogs welcome. Saturday 9am-4pm, Sunday 9am – 3pm. Further details from Guidhall Fairs on 01766 831800.
- 4 August – Thringstone Music Festival.
- 17 Aug – **Freddie Mercury tribute** with Joey Linden at Conny Club, Whitwick
- 18 and 19 August – **Woodstock in Whitwick**
- 27-31 August – **Art exhibition** at the centre
- 8 Sept – **Charity fashion show** at the centre. More details nearer the time.
- 15 Sept – **Hello Heritage at the centre**. 12 noon until 5pm.
- 29 Sept – **Evening of Mediumship** at Century Theatre with Gareth Lewis and Craig Morris. Ticket prices yet to be advised.
- 19 Oct – Abba Tribute at **Whitwick Conny Club**. More details nearer the time.
- 9 Nov – **Quiz night** at the centre
- 11 Nov – **Exhibition to commemorate** the end of WW1 plus tea dance at the centre
- 11Nov – **Antique and Collectors' fair** at Hermitage Leisure Centre 9am-3pm. £2.
- 16 Nov – Cher and Pink tribute at **Whitwick Conny Club** with Stacy Green. Starts at 9pm

History report

We will be working with the centre to put on another **Hello Heritage Event** this year – the date for the 2018 event being 15 September. The event will run from 12 noon until 5pm. Maureen said that she now has a copy of **burial registers** from 1967 onwards which she will share with our group.

In our book Thringstone and Its People, we talk about Elms Farm and Jason Herriot Reeves White, who we believe was also at one time the manager at Snibston Colliery and we knew to be at Elms Farm in 1887. His wife, Mrs Louisa White who bought the community centre as **Thringstone House** on 9 September 1899 from Tom Hurst, and sold it to Charles Booth for £700 on 25 March 1901, was originally Louisa Knight of Stordon Grange, daughter of John and Ann, who, on leaving Stordon Grange, lived at Vine House, Osgathorpe. She was described on the deeds as Louisa White, wife of Jason Herriott Reeves White, Gentleman. She was born in 1852 and died on 11 September 1922 at Forest View, St George's Hill, Coleorton, now part of Swannington, where she seems to have lived for some years, previously living on St George's Hill with a Mary Tugby and her



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brother, John Griffin. When she died, she left £14,938 0s 4d. She was buried at St George's, Swannington on 14 September 1922. The census of 1911 tells us that she had had one child who had died. She had married Jason Herriot Reeves White on 26 August 1873 at St Mary's, Osgathorpe. The service was conducted by Rev Walter A Williams. The notice in the newspapers at the time of the marriage asked for no cards to be sent, which is rather odd. By 1881, the couple were living at Spring Cottages, Hugglescote. Jason was born on 24 April 1851 in Hoxton, Middlesex, the eldest son of John Puxley White, in 1861 the chief clerk to the Snibston Colliery company, and his wife Mary Ann. Mr White Snr. went on to become an accountant and farmer in Mount Pleasant, Osgathorpe, before moving back to live at The Scotlands, Hugglescote, to work again in the colliery business. He was a county councillor and alderman in 1892 and subsequently became a JP. Jason died in Northampton Lunatic Asylum on 29 December 1916. The last local census on which he appears is 1891 when he and Louisa were the farmers at Elms Farm, Osgathorpe. He is listed as civil mining engineer and farmer. They seem to have been there from at least 1885, as there are newspaper reports about the theft and killing of a lamb from Mr White at that time by a Mr Thomas King, who was sentenced to 6 months hard labour.

Jason was admitted to Wye House Lunatic Asylum in Kent on 6 December 1888 and was released on 11 May 1889. He obviously then came back to Elms Farm to be on the 1891 census, but was obviously taken ill again, as between 12 December 1892 and 10 January 1904, he was again in Wye House Asylum. We know he was in hospital at the Northampton Lunatic Asylum in Billing Road Northampton in 1911, as the census says his occupation was formerly mining engineer and states that he had been a lunatic for 52 years. Given that he was only 57 this is a sad record. We are unable to find out when he went to Northampton, but his probate says that is where he also died, and he left £6,359 11s 6d to his wife. He was also buried at St George's, Swannington on 2 January 1917. We are currently unsure when it was built, but Thringstone House was a farm and is shown as such on the enclosure map of 1807. At the time of the sale of Thringstone House to Charles Booth it had stables, gardens and outbuildings and was then in the occupation of **William Kirby**, and there was a butcher's shop adjoining it which was in the occupation of a **Mr Tolley**, possibly Henry Tolley who lived on Loughborough Road, Thringstone according to the 1911 census. Home Close, now called Bob's Closs was 3 acres, 2 roods and nineteen perches. The 1901 census shows William Kirby aged 66 living on Main Street, occupation gardener, with Mary Cooke as his housekeeper. On 23 August 1902, Charles Booth sold to the blacksmith **Jabez Henson** 134 sq. yards of the land around the centre. On 4 June 1909, **Ethel Annie Biddle**, wife of John Biddle of Gracedieu Road, bought 431 sq yards of the land and on 16 July 1909, **George William Ward** bought 659 sq yards of the land. He lived in Fern Cottage, which is the Victorian property next to the centre's entrance driveway.

Documents kept by the centre show that **Ernest Aris** who lived in Church Lane, Whitwick and who died in October 1966 was chair of the governors at the community centre for a



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long time. It has been suggested that he was an MBE, although we can't find records to authenticate this, and had also served for decades on the management and executive committees

We have been told that **Roy Severn** ran the youth club at the centre in the 1950s. A gent called Kenneth Berkin who now lives in Kent used to help. If anybody has any further information on the youth club in the 1950s, please let us know.

We have been looking at the career at the centre of caretaker **Jackie Hurst** who left at the end of October 1966 and hadn't realised that he started as caretaker at the centre in 1925. In May 1966, **Miss Judith Stinson** resigned as deputy warden to get married to Stanley Buck, having worked at the centre for 2 and a half years. We also now understand that **Dr Muir**, who at the time lived in Homestead Road, was a governor at the community centre from 1967 at which time a Mrs A Smith was deputy warden. Dr Muir was chair of the governors for about 3 years in the early 1970s.

In 1971 the centre employed **Eric and Emma Butterworth** who did cleaning. We understand that they also helped with the bar and light refreshments. We are told that Eric Butterworth had been the caretaker at the primary school prior to working at the centre and Emma had helped at the school with cleaning. Born on 30 December 1919, prior to getting married in 1943 to Emma Roberts, Eric had previously lived at 78 Meadow Lane with his siblings, Jack, May who married Gerald Harris, and Arthur. He had been a builder's labourer. Later on he lived on Homestead road and then in the bungalow in the school grounds which were changed into the Sure Start Centre. He died there on 17 August 1978. Emma and Eric had 3 daughters, Pauline, Elaine and May. Pauline married Don Badcock, and her son, Stephen was the person who put together Thringstone Online history pages, which are now connected again to our website, as mentioned earlier, and who was a staunch supporter of St Andrew's church. We also now find that **Alan Lucas** from Lucas Mart was a governor at the centre in the 1970s through to around 1994.

Alan Randall, who was deputy head at the local school, was warden at the community centre in 1972 and 1973 and was followed by Ann Hicken.

Council report

NWLDC's crews on A42 have picked up 5 tonnes of litter in the last 2 weeks, with one week remaining on their annual clean....

Gardening and environment

Bernard continues to weed, prune and maintain our existing planting although not at present due to the weather conditions.

From research, we have discovered that Bob's Closs, the meadow at the rear of the community centre, and the area around Gracedieu Priory which includes the woodland edge are listed with the Wildlife Trust as Local Wildlife Sites (originally known as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation). There are lists of all flora and fauna on both sites. Having a site designated in this way is an important step in protecting natural heritage.



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Centre matters

The centre now has a full complement of staff, with the addition of May Chadwick as Management Assistant. She is married to the new caretaker, Geoff Chadwick.

Mike said that the financial situation is now more or less sorted following the transition period and things are now getting sorted. Ideally, the centre would like to recruit another 2 trustees who need to be people willing to work hard for the centre.

Holly said she is looking to get more classes on offer. There is already a yoga class on a Monday, but the centre needs other fitness classes in the daytime, and also things for young mums and their babies. She would also like to see after school classes on at the centre between 3pm and 5pm, and is open to ideas. Anita asked about play scheme sessions, and Holly said that she was looking to get a company in next year to run a play scheme set up, and wants the centre to also be busy at weekends. This is already happening however, as in February and March there has been something on at the centre every weekend, including children's parties. There are also a lot of events coming up that should appeal to a wide range of people, including comedy which is a new thing at the centre.

Nita thanked people for turning out in such terrible conditions to attend the meeting and to Holly and Mike for making the centre available for the meeting.

Next meeting is on 5 April at 6.45pm at Thringstone House/Charles Booth Centre.



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