



# The Friends of Thringstone



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

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## **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT CHARLES BOOTH CENTRE**

**Present:** Nita Pearson, Ruth Dumbleton, Mike Statham, Bernard Lee, Carole Cox, Ann Petty, Janet Stevenson, Geoff Wilson, Chris Ward, Maureen Simm

**Apologies:** Gillian Bates, Tina Bakewell, Ray Woodward, Jane Wilson, Dave and Julie Everitt, Bill Enser, John Jackson, Anne Statham, Pat Hubbard, Tracy Foulds

### **Discussions/Decisions.**

**Monthly litter pick total - 101 bags** against **138 bags** for the same month last year.

This morning a chap from **Bauble Yard** came out of the Co-op with a begonia plant which he gave to Nita to say thank you for litter picking daily and keeping the village looking tidy. Nita was quite overwhelmed.

NWLDC launched a **new recycling campaign** called Recycle More, aiming to encourage everybody in the district to recycle more materials, more often, making the area a greener and more sustainable place for all and to increase the recycling rate to 50% over the next 3 years. This roadshow did not come to Thringstone, but did go to Coalville. If you are interested in seeing the proposals, please go to

[https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/files/documents/recycle\\_more\\_the\\_plan/Recycle%20more...%20The%20plan.pdf](https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/files/documents/recycle_more_the_plan/Recycle%20more...%20The%20plan.pdf) You will see from there that recycling in NWL is the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the county, beaten only by Leicester city, and that in the district in 2017/18, 21,800 tonnes of refuse went to landfill. However, the highest areas for recycling in the district are 1. Breedon 2. Osgathorpe 3. Packington 4. Thringstone 5. Castle Donington. One of the plans for the future is to start food waste recycling. Other ideas are:

- Reducing the number of nappies that go to landfill
- Changing container sizes
- Encouraging reuse of items that might otherwise go to landfill
- Encouraging textile recycling through partnership with local charities
- Introducing household collection of batteries as part of the general household recycling at the kerbside
- Developing partnerships with local charities to reduce the amount of bulky waste which could be reused
- Target low recycling participation areas of the district.

Nita picked up 5 **extra litter pick sticks** from NWLDC, and has given 2 to Bill Enser for dealing with the litter down Lilybank and by the George and Dragon.

One of our members reported talking to a gent on The Warren on 24 August who had seen 3 girls in a car **dump a rather large rabbit** and drive off. The gent had managed to catch the rabbit, got



someone with a carrier to come down, and take the rabbit home. How sad that the girls concerned felt this necessary.

On the subject of The Warren, Nita had reported **fly tipping** to NWLDC which was building materials thrown into ditches, but was not aware that the council won't go into ditches so pass this on elsewhere. As a result of a number of comments made to her by walkers, Nita got someone to get the bags out of the ditches and put them by the roadside so they could be collected by NWLDC.

A lady called Fran Barney has contacted us through facebook to say that she is planning an '**everything green**' event somewhere in Coalville on 26 October and wondered if we would like to go along and talk about what we do. Nita has said that we could be interested and to let us have further details in due course.

**Conservation Volunteers** have a new conservation group to work in the Coalville area. They will meet on alternate Fridays starting on 13 September, and include tools and hot drinks as part of the volunteering package. For more details, please contact 07740 899693 or email [kay.thompson@tcv.org.uk](mailto:kay.thompson@tcv.org.uk) We understand that they want people to contact us directly so that we know how many people we are likely to expect. They will be meeting at Coalville Forest Adventure Park at 9.30am, and on the first occasion we will be working there too. We hope to be at this site often, but not every session.

Woodie and Nita went over to the PDSA on 19 August having also done some filming with BBC earlier for **Woodie's commendation**. This attracted a lot of positive feedback on social media and there was an article in the Coalville Times of 23 August and the Leicester Mercury of 22 August, as well as BBC, ITV and Radio Leicester coverage. Here is a link to the story from the PDSA site: <https://www.pdsa.org.uk/press-office/latest-news/commendation-for-woodie>

**Music festival** – thank you to Ann Petty and Gillian Bates for manning our stall on the day and to Ann for putting together a wonderful display of photographs of all the things that have been on at the centre since the handover to the trustees. People were interested in the folders full of archive material, especially school photos which are a magnet to people looking for themselves and their friends 'back in the day'.

**Little Acorns** pre-school provision at Thringstone Primary has now opened offering 30 hours for 2 and 3 year olds. Mrs Lisa Hickman is the pre-school manager, helped by Jo Kinsey and Mrs Harkins.

**Charles and Mary Booth project** – Nita and Ann have had a meeting with Dr Wendy Freer and Llynda Baugh about this project to film with Grace Dieu School students some of the life story of the Booth family. We have provided information that is new to the project, and will keep people informed when the filming takes place. It is hoped that there will be some filming at the centre.

**Hello Heritage** – This takes place on Saturday. Please come and support us. Opens at 12 noon and finishes at 6pm. At 3pm there is a display from Hugglescote Dance and Drama event team.

**Tents** – Several people had sent details of tents which were passed to the meeting to discuss. The general consensus was that we should look to spend no more than £70 and possibly also look at what Argos has to offer. Nita said she would try to do that in due course.

**Centre News:** As you will see from the community report, a Mozart spectacular is coming to the centre on Sunday 20 October. These are the same people who did the Mozart event in 2016, and which went down so well.

Mike said that there is a potential new playgroup being organised to run at the centre and a recent open day for this had gone down well last weekend. There are various hoops to jump through with Ofsted etc. and when a starting date is known there will be a lot of local publicity.

Marina Gore-Browne who is the president of Charles Booth Centre and a relative of Charles Booth himself has got engaged and will be getting married next May. She and her fiancé Edward are likely to be in Leicestershire in December, and it is hoped they may be able to come along to the carol festival at the church and centre on 20 Dec.

## **Chairs Report**



**Letters received:** None

**Emails received:** Various from people with whom we regularly share information.

**Emails sent:** Various to groups and individuals as usual.

**Promotion:** We have **593 twitter followers**, which is the same as last month, and **1003 facebook followers**, which is 29 more than last month.

Details of our Hello Heritage event on 7 Sept were printed in the CV Times of 30 August.

**Other:** We have a new member – Chris Wardy who joined us yesterday. Welcome to Chris.

### Finance Report

<b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£2,590.01</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Memberships		Broadband	15.00
Raffle	£12	RCC annual membership	60.00
Donation		Village Trail printing	28.00
Publications	£14.50	Ann Petty for stationery	14.98
<b>total income to general fund</b>	<b>£26.50</b>		117.98
		<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>2498.53</b>

Please note that there was a £1 discrepancy earlier in the year, so the above figures take this alteration into account.

### Publications Report

Ann sold a Scottish in Thringstone and Durham miners booklet, and Born and Breds 1, 2 and 3 and a graveyard booklet were sold at the music festival.

### Web Report

The webmaster is still working on updating the site. Nothing has been added since February.

### Police Report

Vehicle Crime - Glebe Road, Thringstone - between 8pm on 1<sup>st</sup> August to 8am on 2nd. Van parked on driveway of home address had the side door forced causing damage but no entry gained.

Criminal damage to pedal cycle left outside Chapel Fitness Centre gym on 12 Aug

Criminal damage / Arson - small fire on Loughborough Road on 7 Aug.

There was a police presence in Swallowdale on 21 August when someone was taken away from a property by police during the night time.

Our local Police Community Support Team will be at the offices of Whitwick Parish Council on 28 September at 10am. People wishing to talk to them will be made most welcome.

### Community Report and What's On

**Beauty and holistic therapy** is now available at Gary's salon 10 The Green, Thringstone LE67 8NR. This opened on 19th August and offers lots of treatments. For more information please call Joanne on 07734686259

**Thringstone Soul Club's** charity discos have thus far raised £262 for Breast Cancer Care. Thank you to all who support these events.



**Volunteers required** – St. Andrew's church is in need of volunteers to help clean the church once a month. If you can spare an hour between 10am and 12 noon on the last Saturday of any month it would be very much appreciated.

**Ride and Stride 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019 Help raise funds for your church!**

Almost 400 churches across the country will be open to the general public from 10am-6pm and all 3 churches in our Benefice will be taking part. Cyclists, walkers, runners, horse riders, mobility scooter drivers, etc are sponsored for the number of churches and chapels they visit on the day. Roy Webster has been sponsored for the last two years riding his static bike at SJTB Whitwick!

You can also be sponsored as a volunteer helping at one of our churches on the day. **Please take a sponsorship form from church or visit [http://www.lhct.org.uk/ride\\_stride.html](http://www.lhct.org.uk/ride_stride.html)**

6 Sept – **Friends of Holy Cross, Whitwick** – Summerstock festival – gates open 4pm. Live music from 5pm. Tickets £5 children £3.

6 Sept – **Northern Soul and Motown** at Black Horse, Whitwick. 7.30pm til late.

6-7 Sept – Charles Booth Centre- **TPADS Murder Mystery** – Bring me My Spear. The local WI are celebrating their anniversary, but will this be the last time for one of them? Tickets £10 to include light supper. Starts at 7.30pm. Tickets from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tpads) or from 0333 666 3366.

7 Sept – **Hello Heritage** at the centre from 12 noon. This event will be concentrating on detailing all the play and panto societies that have been based at the centre and will feature a rendition by children from the Hugglescote Panto and Drama group.

7 Sept – **Fun Dog Show at George and Dragon**. Starts at 12pm with judging at 12.30 and goes on til 4.30pm. £1.50 per class entry. Supporting pets in critical care.

7 Sept – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – The Cheeze

8 Sept – **Grace Dieu Priory Walk** as part of Hello Heritage. Meet at Bull's Head car park at 3pm. There is no charge, but a donation would be gratefully received. This will help in the upkeep of the site.

10 Sept – **Film night at the centre**. Film is All is True. The year is 1613, and Shakespeare is acknowledged as the greatest writer of the age, but disaster strikes when his renowned Globe Theatre burns to the ground. Devastated, Shakespeare returns to Stratford, where he must face a troubled past and a neglected family. Haunted by the death of his only son, Hamnet, he struggles to mend the broken relationship with his wife and daughters. In so doing, he is ruthlessly forced to examine his own failings as a husband and father. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle

12 Sept – **Charles Booth Centre** quiz night.

13 Sept - **Coffee, Tea and Cake** - Charity fundraiser at centre 9.30am-12 noon for Diabetes UK. All welcome.

13 Sept - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club**. 8pm til late. £3 entry.

13 Sept - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome

14 Sept – **St Andrew's church** will be open from 10am until 6pm as part of Ride and Stride. All donations welcome.

14 Sept – **Thringstone's Got Talent** at the centre

14 Sept – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – Rocking Horse

15 Sept – Coleorton History Group Walk – 2pm from the car park Coleorton Wood, Pitt Lane. Learn about the buildings and people who lived there. Dogs welcome. No cost but booking essential with Sandra on 440000 or email [heritagegroup@coleorton.org.uk](mailto:heritagegroup@coleorton.org.uk)

19 Sept - Coleorton History Group Walk – 10.30am from the car park Coleorton Wood, Pitt Lane. Learn about the buildings and people who lived there. Dogs welcome. No cost but booking essential with Sandra on 440000 or email [heritagegroup@coleorton.org.uk](mailto:heritagegroup@coleorton.org.uk)

20 Sept – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** - The Rebels

21 Sept – Hood Park Leisure Centre, Ashby – Oh What A Night – **Jersey Boys tribute**. 7.30pm start. Tickets £17.50. Contact 416499 to book.

21 Sept – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – Top Secret



- 26-29 Sept – Beer festival at **Charles Booth Centre**. £10 a day entrance but look out for the discount vouchers.
- 28 Sept - **Hare and Hounds** – MacMillan Coffee event 12 noon until 4pm.
- 28 Sept – **Lady Jane, Whitwick** – The Austrian Stones
- 8 Oct – **Film night at the centre**. Film is Stan and Ollie. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle
- 11 Oct - **Coffee, Tea and Cake** - Charity fundraiser at centre 9.30am-12 noon for Breast Cancer Support. All welcome.
- 11 Oct - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club**. 8pm til late. £3 entry.
- 11 Oct - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome
- 12 Oct – **Abba tribute** at the centre. Tickets £10 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre) or from the office, weekdays only 9-12 noon. The show will start at 7.30pm. **BOOK EARLY FOR THIS ONE.**
- 13 Oct – Antique and collectors fair at **Hermitage Leisure Centre** 9am – 3.30pm. Entrance £2
- 20 Oct – Charles Booth Centre – **Mozart evening**. Tickets £10 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre). Starts at 7.30pm.
- 27 Oct – **Halloween Fun Run** at the centre. Start time of 10am. Please come dressed in spooky costume. £5 per runner.
- 31 Oct – **Halloween family party and quiz** at the centre. More details nearer the time.
- 1 Nov – **Whitwick Conny Club** firework party. Bonfire starts at 7pm, fireworks start at 8pm, band (Analogue Haze) on at 9pm. £3 for adults, children free.
- 1 Nov – **Northern Soul and Motown** at Black Horse, Whitwick. 7.30pm til late.
- 2 Nov – **George and Dragon** – bonfire night.
- 2 Nov - **Sally Barker and Anna Ryder** in concert at Charles Booth Centre. Tickets £10. Show starts at 7.30pm. Tickets available from the office Monday-Friday 9am-12 noon or via [www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/charlesboothcentre)
- 8 Nov - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome
- 12 Nov – **Film night at the centre**. Film is A Dog's Purpose Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle
- 15 Nov - **Coffee, Tea and Cake** - Charity fundraiser at centre 9.30am-12 noon. All welcome.
- 16 Nov – **Annie Duggan's 40s night** at the centre. More details nearer the time.
- 18 Nov - **Soul Night at Thringstone Members Club**. 8pm til late. £3 entry.
- 30 Nov – Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's Christmas Fayre at **Thringstone Members' Club**. 12 noon until 4pm. Cakes, stalls, tombola, raffle and Santa.
- 3 Dec - Antique and collectors fair at **Hermitage Leisure Centre** 9am – 3.30pm. Entrance £2
- 10 Dec – **Film night at the centre**. Film is First Man. Starts at 7.30pm. Raffle
- 13 Dec - **Open mic at Charles Booth Centre** from 7.30pm. All welcome
- 13 Dec – Potential **Santa event** at the centre
- 14 Sept – Christmas Fair at Stephenson College
- 20 Dec – **Carols at the centre**. Procession leaves St Andrew's at 6.30pm to get to the centre for 7pm. Entertainment will be available after the singing at the centre.
- 20 March – **Easter Egg Hunt** at Stephenson College
- 3 August – **Summer Fete** at Stephenson College

### History report

- A recent press cutting from the local paper posted on facebook unearthed a photograph and interview with **Mr and Mrs George Wardle** celebrating their golden wedding. The article from 1949 stated that until around 1945, Mrs Edith Wardle of 17 Lbro Rd acted as village midwife, and had done for about 25 years. During that time, she estimated that she had delivered around 100 babies on her own, as well as having helped doctors with other deliveries. George Wardle and Edith Gidler were married on 26 June 1899 at St. Andrew's church, and by 1911 census had had a child who died, plus two daughters, Edith Beatrice born 7 April 1903 and Mary Ann born in 1905. Their son George William Dennis Wardle (known as Dennis) was born on 28 February 1912 and for some time worked on a dairy farm. The article says that they moved into 17 Lbro Rd around



1914. Completely untrained, and uncertified, Mrs Wardle, who was born in Breedon on 22 December 1879 but brought up in Jeffcoats Lane, Swannington, was looked upon as the village midwife until the National Health Act came along in 1946, and also helped lay out the bodies of people who died. George Wardle was born on 11 March 1876 in Main Street, Thringstone and started work as a door boy at Sth. Leicester Colliery aged 12. Walking 14 miles to work each day, George's wages were 1s 2d a day and he continued to work until he was 62. He was a keen footballer, and played for some time for the Thringstone Ivanhoe team. George died in 1956 and Edith in 1968. George William Dennis Wardle married Alice Mabel Bath in 1950 in Loughborough and died on 31 January 1988 in New Swannington. Edith Beatrice Wardle married Joseph Stone at St Andrew's on 26 December 1925, lived on Hermitage Road, Whitwick and died in 1983 and Mary Ann died unmarried aged 24 in 1929.

- We were aware that **Rev. Lawrence James Chesterman** who came to Thringstone on 10 October 1955 and left in 1960 to go to live in Dorset had previously been assistant curate to Rev Hollinshead at Hayling Island from 1952, but were not aware that he had been curate of a church in Braunstone, Leicester from 1949 until his move in September 1951 to Hayling Island. It was in Leicestershire that he became ordained and started his ministry. We were also unaware of his connection to St Alban's, where his parents apparently lived. The Harrow Observer of 28 July 1955 tells that Rev. Chesterman had taken a prominent role in life at the church in St Alban's, where he had been a server, Sunday School teacher, Secretary of the St Alban's Club and member of the Anglican Young People's Association. When Rev. Chesterman left Hayling Island, he was presented with a portable typewriter, his wife was given a bouquet and his 4 year old daughter Elisabeth was given a book. We believe that Rev. Chesterman was the son of Frederick and Louisa Chesterman. Frederick was a commercial traveller and Rev. Chesterman appears to have been born on 25 July 1916 in London. We believe that in 1939 he was a conveyance clerk at a solicitor's office, living with his parents in Harrow. He married Grace Courtenay in Portsmouth in 1949, his daughter Elisabeth was born in Leicester in 1951, and he died on 14 July 1998 in Salisbury, Wiltshire.
- Norma Woollerton, who spent her childhood playing with grandchildren of the **Booth family** when they came to this area during the war to stop at the centre had a letter and cheque to give to the centre which Nita picked up to take to them. Following that, other letters from the Booth family were given to Nita to scan, along with 3 photos which are now all in our archives. They talk fondly about their time in Thringstone and about Mr Domoney and the Willmott family
- Another recent facebook post asking about cricket at **Grace Dieu Park**, has thrown up some interesting information – Raymond Kimberlin was one of the first team at the end of the 1940s early 1950s, as was Sidney Fletcher, whose family used to help make the teas. David Hart played there from around 1980 with the Richards brothers, Wisehalls, Merison, Harpers, Albert Conkay, Brian Elson, Steve Davey, and Len Wass used to help prepare the pitches.
- Mr E T Coope, who lived at Gracedieu Manor in the 1870s appears to have been president of the Whitwick Horticultural and Industrial Society, who had annual exhibitions in a field belonging to Mr Hill adjoining Silver Street, Whitwick. In 1875, Mrs Coope won a needlework contest as part of this event, and best pigeons, fowl, dogs, cats, canaries and rabbits were part of the judging categories as well as vegetables, plants and flowers.
- **Warren Lodge** – This property lies along Warren Lane next to The Warren house and was bought some years back by John Poynton. It was then split into two houses. John and his wife still live in one. Believed by them to be the oldest house on Warren Lane, this property used to have very low windows. It is difficult to find who lived at the property prior to the 1860s as census information does not give full addresses, just Warren Hill. We have previously mentioned the James family in connection with Warren Farm, but this might have been Warren Lodge. On 8 June 1860, **Thomas James**, farmer of Gracedieu Warren is shown as having died at the age of 90 years. Joseph and Susannah James lived at Warren Lodge Farm with their family according to the census for 1861. Newspapers show that in March 1865, the death occurred at the property of 'the infant son of **Mary James**' who might have been the 18 year old daughter of Joseph James shown on the 1861

census. After George Pratt moved to 'Warren Cottage', according to the 1891 and 1901 censuses, George Cartledge, coachman and gardener, and his family were living at Warren Lodge. The 1911 census shows that James Charles Willmott lived there with his family. He was a domestic groom and gardener originally from Northamptonshire, and came to the property around 1909 using the birthplaces of his children to work this out. We know that prior to the end of 1926, a couple called George and Susan Tomkins lived there, and from the end of 1926, Charles Leslie Annable lived there with his wife Doris. He moved to Gracedieu Road and died in 1971. A newspaper article regarding a car accident in June 1934 said at that time a bus driver named John U Brown lived at the property with his wife Phyllis. By 1939 they had moved to 143 North Street. The 1939 register shows that at that time Thomas and Florence Ball lived at Warren Lodge. We know that Emily Josephine Westgate lived there for a time with her husband, Bryan Mathew Warren when her mother was next door at The Warren. They had married in India in 1945 and for most of their time there, Mr Warren was abroad. He died in Saudi Arabia on 5 May 1973 in a road accident.

- **The white house on Warren Lane** was built around 1906 by Charles Booth. He asked architect Harry Fletcher to build it so that the MacNaghten family (his daughter and her family) could have their holidays nearby whilst being close to The Manor. Standing on a rocky outcrop at the edge of the woodland, Mary Booth retired there once Charles had died. In 1910, a groom by the name of William Clarke was accused of breaking a window valued at 12 shillings and 6 pence at the property. Newspaper articles said it was the property of Charles Booth, and the man had come to the door asking for lodgings but had been turned away by Miss Saunders who worked for Mrs Booth. Clarke said he had also been turned away at Gracedieu Manor and that if he wasn't helped, he would break all the windows. As the man had 2 previous convictions, he was sent to gaol for 21 months' hard labour. We know that in the 1950s the house was also used by Grace Dieu Manor School for boarders. It is now occupied by a member of the de Lisle family.

### **Council report**

We understand that council tenants on the Woodside estate have received a letter stating that the demolition of garages is to take place at the end of this year, with a more definite timeline being given nearer the time. The company apparently involved in the demolition is the Midland and Northern division of European Asbestos Services who are based in Newport Pagnell.

There was some discussion at this point about how the areas will be left once the garages are removed.

### **Gardening and environment**

Bernard is still tidying, weeding and sorting the garden areas.

**Next meeting 3 October at 6.45pm at Charles Booth Centre. All welcome.**