

DORE to DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

SPRING 1986

This is the first issue of DORE to DOOR, the newsletter of the Dore Village Society. DORE to DOOR will be published quarterly in March, June, September and December each year, and delivered free to every household in the village.

DORE to DOOR not only replaces the notices of meetings we used to circulate but also gives far more Local information. Our diary on the back page is for local groups to publicise their forthcoming events; if you have any events for the next issue, please contact Mrs S Wood on 366424.

We also want to improve communication - DORE to DOOR is very much part of that - and to ensure that our views on planning, transport and local facilities are heard. We have many ideas on these matters but also want YOUR views and ideas about what YOU want from the society. You can either write to the address below or ring one of the Committee - their names and telephone numbers are on the back page.

Finally we sincerely hope you enjoy reading DORE to DOOR.

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DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY
 SPRING MEETING
 30th April 1986 at 8 pm
 Old Village School

Speaker: Mr Peter Wright OBE
 Chief Constable South Yorkshire

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Has Dore more than its fair share of famous sons and daughters? We would like to hear of residents past or present who have achieved fame, or simply done something unusual. Can you help?



Dore has its own ice skating star in 18 year old Karen McCormack who recently won the Scottish Intermediate Ladies Figure Championship.

To succeed Karen needs not only technical ability, but an ear for music, the power to sustain her performance and an attractive appearance, and she finds that video-recording her skating is a great help.

Her trainers have included Gladys Hogg in London, Peter Grutter in Geneva and Ann Crompton, the 1984 British Olympic Coach who is her current coach. Karen has twice trained at the West German National Ice Centre at Oberstdorf where the facilities are excellent.

More recently Karen's arrival stopped action in Brendon Ingle's boxing gym when she began a 4 month winter programme to lose weight and improve her fitness.

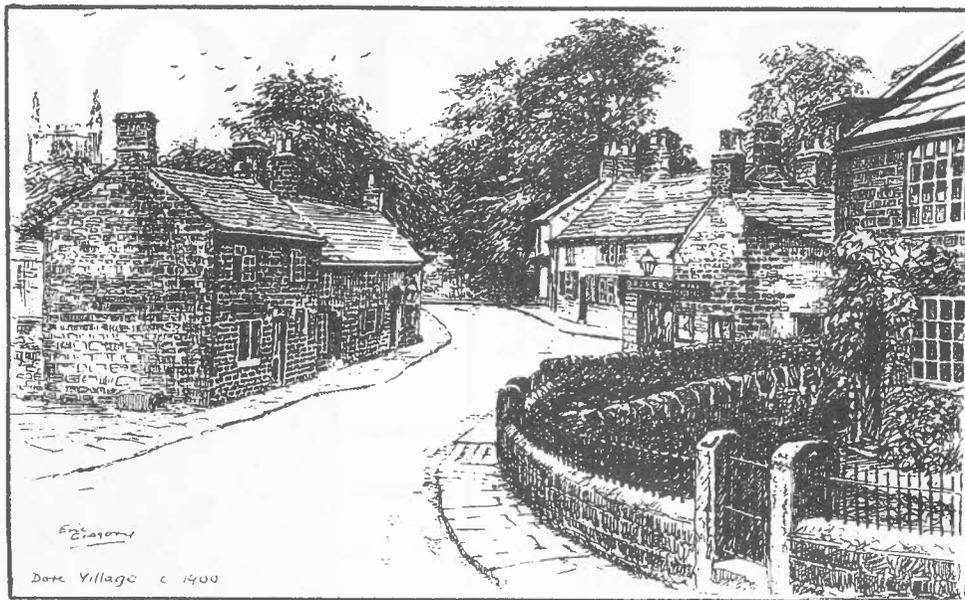
She has had great support from the young boxers there, and her strenuous off the ice training included exercises and 10 mile runs.

In spite of her very full schedule Karen finds time for charity work for the Children's Hospital, and in March organised a Mad March Disco at Josephines, with help from Dave Kilner, local presenter with Radio Hallam.

This month Karen enters the Scottish Senior Championship in Dundee and we wish her luck.

The Dore Village Society would like to thank the following for their kind sponsorship which has made publication of this first edition possible :

- Dore Male Voice Choir; 267th Sheffield (Dore) Scout Group;
- Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society; King Egbert School Assn;
- Dore Methodist Church; Dore School of Theatre & Dance;
- Dore Townswomens Guild; Local branches of the SDP/Liberal Alliance, Conservative & Labour Parties; Totley United Reform Church; and members of the committee.....



REFLECTIONS ON DORE

By Sydney Hoffman

When I had my first glimpse of Dore in the Summer of 1946 I had only just ceased to be a student. It was certainly a very different place then. The bus service was far from frequent and when I was turned off the tram at Ecclesall terminus I found it was easier to walk to Dore than wait for the next bus.

Petrol was rationed and no motor cars had been built for seven years, so very little traffic went past me. Dore was a place you could walk around without constantly scrambling on to pavements or flattening yourself to walls where pavements did not exist. I am perfectly willing to admit the enormous convenience which cars have given to a very wide section of the community, but there is no doubt that the tyranny of traffic has done much to make Dore a less attractive place.

A rash of bollards, notices and yellow lines has, has kept the main traffic thoroughfares open so that a flood of traffic can sweep through more or less unimpeded between eight and nine o'clock in the morning, but only at the cost of having a rather dangerous muddle of lay-bys outside the village shops and unsightly rows of parked cars on Townhead Road and other roads leading out of the village centre.

It was the traffic problem which involved the DVS in an exciting and dangerous controversy soon after its inception in 1964. The first secretary of the Society was a most enthusiastic, imaginative and original man called Michael Bassey.

The volume of traffic had increased greatly by 1964 and Dr. Bassey realised that it would double within a very few years. His answer was a scheme which would have partly pedestrianised the centre of the village by closing off a wide strip of High Street between the bottom of Townhead Road and the top of Savage Lane. Attractive as the idea might have been, it was made less attractive by the complicated one-way street system which he devised to go with it. It was all most ingenious, but we could not sell the scheme.

A large and turbulent meeting made it plain that the great mass of village opinion wanted nothing to do with it, and I seem to remember that the Chairman had to display some very deft footwork to save any face at all. Most people were moved by a deep feeling that they wanted Dore to stay exactly as it was. Ah, if only their wish could have been granted!

The village which I first saw in 1946 really was more obviously a village than it is now. It is true that in the twenties and thirties the bungalows and semi-detached houses had begun to creep up Busheywood Road and Furniss Avenue and out of the village along Limb Lane and Causeway Head Road. But behind these ribbons of development there still lay very large areas of land which were only gradually covered with streets, houses and gardens in the next thirty years or so.

The rough land of the Rush Leys was still to bear its crop of temporary pre-fabs, their life eventually extended long after they should have been replaced by the more attractive and substantial Council estate we have now. Unfortunately while the village was spreading it was also losing much of its heart. I make no criticism of the modern shops in Church Lane and High Street. They are not only well run, promptly and efficiently meeting local needs, but they are also, at worst, architecturally acceptable, and at their best visually attractive. (The DVS, incidentally, can claim a certain amount of credit for having consistently opposed for over twenty years any development great or small which would have made Dore an uglier place to live in.)

But no-one whose memory of Dore stretches back a quarter of a century can escape sharp feelings of nostalgia at the recollection of a village centre in which the picturesque cottages next to the Devonshire Arms and the more substantial cottages next to the Hare and Hounds helped to create a visual unity which corresponded to a somewhat more intimate social closeness than

exists now - a closeness in which church and chapel, village school, village pubs and humble village shops all played their part.

Dore was not without some sense of its own history. The Scout movement continued the ancient traditions of Dore Feast and the well dressers had brought in and brilliantly naturalised the folk art of the limestone villages of Derbyshire. But I believe that Dore here owes more to John Dunstan, a former Secretary of the DVS than to any other person. Though a Cornishman by birth he had a far greater knowledge and deeper understanding of Dore through its thousand years and more of history than anyone I ever met. His enthusiasm and scholarship inspired others, for he not only made himself the historian of the railway which passes through Dore and of Methodism in Dore and Topley; he was also the driving force which gave Dore a clearer understanding of the part it had played in Anglo-Saxon times when England was struggling painfully and fitfully towards national unity.

The commemorative stone on the village green (so handsomely designed by Bob Eldo Minns, an architect who lived in Dore till quite recently) will for me at any rate conjure up John Dunstan more vividly than it does King Ecgbert, King Eanred and all their shadowy Saxon troops.

A village needs a middle but it needs edges too. If you are not sure when you have left it, then it has probably just become another amorphous lump of suburbia. Dore has managed to retain its village identity because so much of it is surrounded by farmland, woodland and unspoiled moorland.

It would take an article much longer than this to describe the unremitting efforts of the Dore Village Society to resist developments which would have encroached disastrously on the rural belt. Most of the time we had an enlightened public authority on our side; sometimes, as on the two occasions when a determined attempt was made to hand over Ryecroft Farm to the developers, we had to take them on and beat them. Now that we have at last got a Sheffield Green Belt with statutory force the task should be easier, but that does not mean that great vigilance will not be necessary.

Let me hark back to the Dore I first remember. It was not only an infrequent bus service which cut off Dore from Sheffield. A mere dozen years before, Dore had been a Derbyshire village. Many of the who lived here regarded themselves as Derbyshire folk kidnapped by a City to which they had little or no natural allegiance. Dore, long accustomed to some measure of self-government, no matter at how lowly a level, lost its Parish Council and found itself tied to a dirty, sprawling industrial city with its heart half knocked out by war time bombing. All that is a thing of the past. Dore is now firmly part of Sheffield and the association has brought some very great benefits. We stand on the threshold of a new era of local government in which Sheffield is about to resume powers taken away by the South Yorkshire Council.

The Dore Village Society will have to learn afresh some of the channels for influencing decisions which bear upon our environment and quality of life. In some ways it should be easier. At any rate I wish the Society well because I remain convinced that it has an important role to play now and in the future as a focus and forum for the expression of local opinion.

Sydney Hoffman
Chairman, Dore Village Society 1964-1984.

The Village Society has produced a number of publications and brief details are given below. Copies are available from Green's shop on Causeway Head Road.

KING ECGBERT and the TREATY OF DORE: 30p

This publication by Hazel Hoffman, M.A., gives an interesting insight into Anglo-Saxon links with Dore.

THE ORIGINS OF THE SHEFFIELD & CHESTERFIELD RAILWAY. : 12p

This pamphlet by John Dunstan makes very interesting reading. You don't have to be a railway enthusiast to enjoy this publication.

FROM DORE TO DORE. : 98p

This publication edited by Betty Young and Elizabeth Garland is a useful guide to local walks. It also contains some very interesting snippets of local history.

THE STORY OF METHODISM IN DORE. : 50p

Written by John Dunstan this is a very well researched book on Methodism from 1790 to 1907. Makes interesting reading about local people establishing the religion in Dore.

During April a package containing all four of our publications can be bought for the bargain price of £1.50. This offer is strictly limited and on a first come - first served basis so please don't delay!

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DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

As part of Environment Week 1986, in conjunction with the Civic Trust an OPEN AIR MEETING has been arranged.

It is entitled Buildings in Dore and will take the form of a walkabout the village led by Mr. L.J.Conway A.R.I.B.A.

Please meet on the Village Green at 7.30 on Wednesday 7th May 1986.

DORE VILLAGE DIARY ← Spring 1986

APRIL

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| 1 Job Week, Dore Scouts until 7 April | 20 Local Ramble, Lib./SDP Alliance, meet at the Fleur-de-Lys, Totley 10.00 |
| 7 'The Mikado' Dore Gilbert and Sullivan Society, University Drama Studio at 7.30 until 12 April | 21 Public Meeting, Dore Labour Group, Lowedges School at 7.30 |
| 9 Talk on National Trust Property, Dore Townswomens' Guild, Old Village School at 7.30 | 22 Talk on Interior Decoration by Roger Pass, Dore Ladies Branch of Hallam Conservatives, Hare and Hounds at 10.15 |
| 10 A.G.M. and Social Evening, Dore Scouts Scout H.Q. at 8.00 | 24 Wine Tasting, King Ecgbert Association, at The Wine Schoppen, Millhouses, for further details ring 369268 |
| 12 Furniture Sale, Scout H.Q. 10.00
Dore Male Voice Choir Concert, Ecclesall Church at 7.30 | 25 Art Exhibition, Abbeydale Art Group, at Abbeydale Hall until 27 April |
| 19 Dore Church Ramble, for further details ring 95-416113
Jumble Sale, King Ecgbert Association Dore Church Hall at 2.00 | 26 Jumble Sale, Dore Scouts, Scout H.Q. 10.00 |
| | 30 School Concert, Dore Junior School Hall, until 1 May at 7.30
Spring Meeting, Dore Village Society, at Old Village School at 8.00 |

THE DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

AIMS

To preserve and enhance the amenities of Dore and to encourage developments which will improve them.

OFFICERS

Chairman: Mr. P.S. Dutfield, Telephone 36 Kerwin Drive 365850

Secretary: Mr. A.C. Bownes, Telephone 20 Causeway Head Road 352107

Treasurer: Mr. T. Cranfield, Telephone 128 Furniss Avenue 363915

COMMITTEE

Mr. J.R. Baker	369025
Mr. L.J. Conway	361189
Prof. J. Crangle	364113
Mr. D. Dean	368082
Mr. R.M. Fletcher	367826
Mr. P. Thompson	361616
Mrs. S. Wood	366424

HON AUDITOR

Mr. C. Danson 369611

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Annual - per person	£1
Annual - per household	£2

Cheques should be made payable to 'DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY' and sent to the Treasurer at the above address.

MAY

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| 3 Morning Market, Dore Townswomens' Guild, Old Village School, 10.00
Dore Church Maytime Dance, Dore Church Hall at 8.00 | 7 'Buildings in Dore' walkabout, Dore Village Society, meet on the Village Green at 7.30 |
| 9 Talk on Nicaragua, Bradway, Dore and Totley Peace Action Group, Abbeydale Hall at 7.30
A.T.C. Annual Open Night and Presentation Evening, King Ecgbert School at 7.30 | 10 Dore Male Voice Choir Concert, Loundsley Green Methodist Church, Chesterfield, 7.30 |
| 14 Talk on Crime and the Senior Citizen, Dore Townswomens' Guild, Old Village School 7.30 | 17 Morning Market, Mercia Townswomens' Guild Methodist School Room at 10.00
Jumble Sale, Dore Primary School Association United Reform Church, Totley at 2.00 |
| 27 "Reminiscing" Mrs H.Flavell, Dore Ladies Branch of Hallam Conservatives, Hare and Hounds at 10.15 | |

JUNE

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| 7 Dore Male Voice Choir Concert, Bents Green Methodist Church at 7.30 | 11 "Victoria" Dore Townswomens Guild, Old Village School at 7.30 |
| 13 Talk on Peace Education, Bradway, Dore and Totley Peace Action Group, Abbeydale Hall at 7.30 | 14 Summer Fair, Dore Primary School at 2.00 |
| 19 Dore Ward Liberals A.G.M. for further details ring 364970 | 21 Dore Gilbert and Sullivan Society Musical Evening, Dore Church Hall for further details ring 364246 |
| 24 "Whirlow Hall Farm Trust" Dore Ladies Branch of Hallam Conservatives, Hare and Hounds at 10.15 | 25 Dore Church Evening Ramble, for further details ring 364602 or 365308 |
| 29 Treasure Hunt, Dore Primary School Association, for further details ring 351470 | |