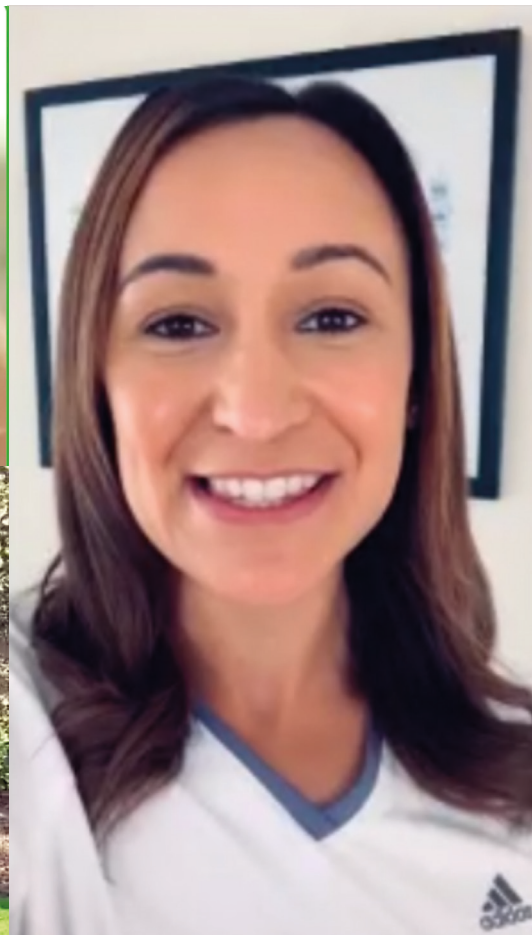
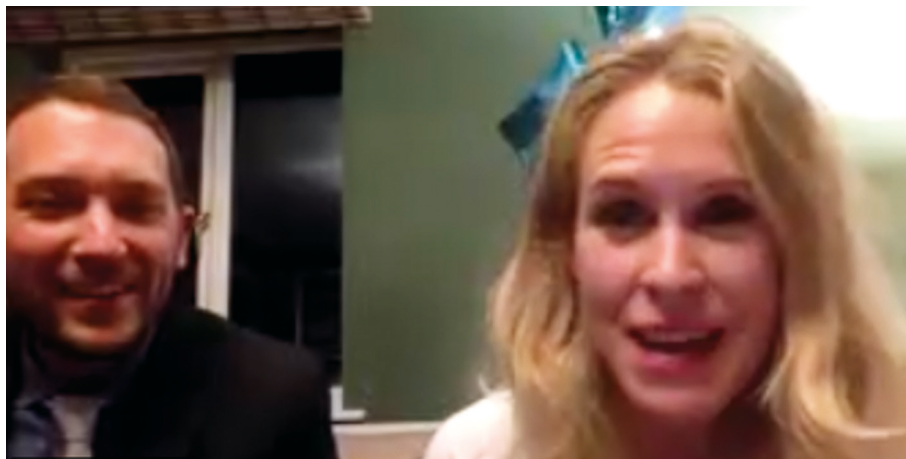


DORE DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

NO. 140 WINTER 2020

ISSN 0965-8912



Something funny going on

All is explained on page 9



Village Rumour Squad

Right, let's get this one out of the way first. They've been back open now (and closed again due to another lockdown at the time of writing) so the rumour has probably died of natural causes, but there is absolutely no truth in the story that the Hare & Hounds is going to be closed down and turned into private housing. I have traced the source of the story, which was fabricated by a customer who was totally fed up of being asked when the pub was reopening after lockdown. His story passed everyone along to me with questions as to whether it was true.

I'm surprised at the amount of traction this rumour seems to have gained, but think about it. There would have to be planning applications for change of use, and no doubt a campaign which would feature in several issues of Dore to Door before everything was resolved. It's not the sort of thing that the pubco could sneak under the wire with nobody noticing.

I guessed who had started the rumour as soon as I heard it. I was wrong, as it happens, but I was only wrong by about six feet along the bar, so I'm counting that as a result!

Of slightly more concern is an anonymous circulation that has been going around the village claiming that a village centre property is shortly to become a haven for drug dealing. A council-owned property is being repurposed to house the homeless, and neighbours watched things being carried into the house, spoke to the workmen (who were quite possibly on a wind-up themselves) and put two and two together to make five.

We've all had problems since Covid arrived earlier this year, and our council is no different. Despite government safeguards jobs have been lost, mortgages have been foreclosed and families have been driven apart by the pressures of lockdown. Those who have nowhere else to turn end up with the council's Housing Department which often has to find accommodation at very short notice.

A number of council properties around the city have been or are being brought back into use to help with the large increase in people seeking help this year. These properties may have been empty for some time as they each need to be inspected and improved to bring them up to current standards. This is the work that was observed by neighbours in the case of the Dore house.

We understand that this local property has been listed as suitable for families; in most cases this will be one or both parents with children, and if it hadn't been for the ill-informed and alarmist letter that's been doing the rounds it's unlikely that anyone would have noticed.

Disposal bins for 'sharps' are standard equipment for this type of accommodation, it doesn't mean that there is any expectation that they will ever be used. The Council don't know who will be living there, but they are definitely not selecting their worst cases and making sure that they are all put in Dore. Not all homeless people are class A drug abusers. It is likely to be a temporary arrangement and in the longer term the house will either be sold or returned to normal stock. And, in a perfect world, a housing officer would have knocked on the doors of neighbours and had a quiet word about the situation. We can only assume that this part of the procedure was lost somewhere in covid complications and with so many council personnel working from home.

As I said above, the circulation which has been going around was anonymous, signed only 'From your fellow local residents'. Nonetheless I've a pretty good idea who is behind it. Remember that incitement to commit a criminal offence is also an offence, and there is no need for gangs of vigilantes roaming Dore trying to sort things out themselves with pickaxe handles. Grow up.

And before anyone says anything, the spate of thefts from motor vehicles around the village in September all occurred before this house was let for the first time so can't be connected. I believe the police have caught those responsible.

John Eastwood

Raising Funds for MacMillan Cancer Care



Anne and Tricia with Julia, Community Service co-ordinator at Tesco Abbeydale Road which donated the hamper for the Macmillan raffle. The lucky winner was Jane Flint.

As many of you know, the last Friday in September has traditionally been the date of the big MacMillan Coffee Morning when all over the country people at home or at work raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Care. Thousands of families have experienced the amazing support and palliative care that the MacMillan nurses give to cancer patients and their loved ones. It is a charity that is very dear to us and our helpers and despite the pandemic we still wanted to find a way of raising money that would not contravene the latest Covid restrictions. So, how to do it?

Rather than have one big indoor event, ten of us decided to hold some mini, socially distanced gatherings in our gardens and invite five friends or neighbours for coffee and chat and an opportunity to donate to our cause. Fortunately, the weather in September was lovely and our mini coffee mornings were a huge success. For some guests it was the first time that they had met up with others since March.

We would like to say a sincere thankyou to all those who hosted the mini MacMillan coffee mornings, as well as to those who came along and contributed so generously. We are also very grateful to the many supporters who did not attend a coffee morning but sent donations for the charity. We must not forget Tesco which kindly gave us a food hamper for our raffle. At the time of writing the amount raised for MacMillan Cancer Care is over £1700, an incredible sum given the circumstances this year. Well done to everyone! We hope to see you all again in September 2021.

Anne Elsdon and Tricia Pitchfork

News from Abbeydale Rotary

Since its inception 40 odd years ago local Rotarians have been at the forefront in assisting the local teaching farm at Whirlow Hall. This has been in fund raising activities and in giving more practical physical assistance.

In these very difficult times Rotarians from Abbeydale still managed to organise a Charity Golf Day on 11th September at the Abbeydale Golf Club with all proceeds amounting to over £4,000 going to the Farm. 108 golfers took part in the event and they accepted without question the various restrictions forced upon them as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic

The general view by all at the end of play was one of congratulations to the Rotarians for their valiant efforts.

Anyone travelling to Dore and Trolley Station and awaiting onward transport will be able to rest their weary soul on a seat provided by Abbeydale Rotary and watch the flowers grow from a planter they also provided.

Ray Mellor

Cover: scenes from the 2020 Dore & Trolley Comedy Gala in September. Full report on page 9.

Where's the membership form?

As you probably know, if you rattle your November copy of Dore to Door each year a membership form drops out. Not this year, as for the first time joining or renewing your membership can be done online. Paper forms are, of course, still available on request, from The Village Greens and from the membership secretary.

Printing and putting the membership forms into the magazine costs the Dore Village Society around £200 each year. In other words, we need 38 members to join before we've broken even on the cost of making it possible for members to join.

Apart from that, the membership form has to be regularly redesigned to accommodate new regulations. GDPR was the latest of these, and it added a great deal of text to the form. Some people last year didn't realise that the form now has to be signed twice, the second time to give us permission for Gift Aid - basically so that we can claim back the tax on your membership fee.

We're grateful to Colin Robinson, recently retired as our treasurer, who has been working with our web developers this year to implement the online mechanism.

You can get to the form by using your computer, tablet or smartphone to go to www.dorevillage.co.uk/pages/how-to-join-the-society. From that page, click on either of the 'online membership form' links to get to the actual form.

When you get there, you'll find the form much as it was when you were filling it in with a pen. Select first whether you're a new member, or an existing member paying your subscription for 2021. The form can be used for one or two people at the same address, as was the paper version. The required wording under GDPR is beneath, and you can read our full data protection policy if you like through a single link.

After that, the form tells you how much the subscription will cost (£7, or £14 if two members) and you have the chance to add a voluntary donation if you wish. You will also be asked to tick a box if you would like your subscription to be eligible for Gift Aid.

The next thing to do is select how you want to pay. Selecting a single payment from your debit or credit card will take you off to the Virgin Money site and you can complete your payment there. Although we will get a message saying that you've paid, we are not given any of your banking details or card number.

If you pay by direct debit, you'll go to the GoCardless site to finish setting this up. In this case, the form you complete will not request either an amount or a payment date. Once your request has been received our Membership Secretary will email you requesting the date and amount of your payment. The advantage of this method is that you only need to do it once - your membership will then automatically renew each year.

All the sites, including our own, are secure - look for the padlock that appears in the address bar.

To make it even easier, we've prepared a handy QR code below so that you don't even have to type in our web address. Just point the camera of your smartphone or other device at the blocky thing at the end of this article, and you will be taken straight to the start of the membership process. Why not do it now, whilst you think of it?



That's it, and you've renewed your membership for another year without having to get out of your chair. No looking for your chequebook or a stamp for the letter, or having to wait until Friday before you can bring us cash.

However, if you prefer, printed forms are still available as mentioned above.

Happy joining!

John Eastwood

Make our corner pretty again

Dear Dore To Door,

I write to see if there would be any support amongst your readership to make improvements to the rapidly worsening outlook from the bench seats at the bottom of Newfield Lane. (Which I have heard called "Pretty Corner.")

The view from those benches was, until a couple of years ago, only marred by the sagging telephone/power line running between the two poles that neatly framed the outlook. The growth of several ash saplings has made the situation worse, so that currently, little of what is a really a wonderful prospect, is in fact available.

I do not think the saplings present too much of a problem, however the power line does. I suggest that if that line could be led down the upper pole, taken underground behind the stone wall, down to the lower pole, the world would suddenly become a much brighter place.

This however would cost money but with sufficient support, an estimate might be obtained from the relevant undertaking and if that proved reasonable, some form of local crowd funding might eventually enable that cost to be met and the work to be put in hand.

What say you?

Ron Walker

How about it? If you fancy helping with such a project please get in touch with Dore to Door and we'll pass your name on to Mr. Walker.

Dore Probus Club during Covid times

A few Probus clubs throughout the country have taken the view that occasional events may still take place without infringing the law or risking members' safety. In Dore, our meetings on the second and fourth Thursday of each month have not been held since March 2020, and the programme of visits had begun to look like window dressing. But the Committee, keeping a positive and patient watch on developments, met in September (socially distanced in a car park) and October (by Zoom) to discuss possible ways forward. The result, while hardly spectacular, is an effort to keep things moving under limited circumstances.

Our secretary has worked assiduously to uplift the spirits with collections of jokes (seemingly found in Christmas Crackers during the last two or three decades). We now have a regular online Newsletter, with hard copies to members without email. And as it's clear that meetings in our usual venue will be impossible for the foreseeable future, a series of zoom meetings and lectures is under consideration. Information about these and other developments, including visits, will be circulated to members via the Newsletter, and placed in general circulation via our website: doreprobus.wordpress.com.

Peter Beardsell
Vice-Chairman, Dore Probus Club

A note about notice boards...

Just a note to remind you how to get your club's/society's/other organisation's announcements into the DVS notice boards outside the Co-op and at the entrance to Dore Recreation Ground. On a couple of occasions recently I've found notices stuck to the front glass which not only obscures other messages in the boards, it also sends me for a bottle of glass cleaner to get the sellotape and blu-tac marks off.

The notice boards are updated each Friday. For your poster to appear, you can email it to me before 10am. If you're leaving printed copies, these can be put through the letterbox at the Old School. Please don't just stick the notices to the front glass of the notice boards - apart from anything else they don't survive too well in the weather at this time of year.

John Eastwood
editor@doretodoor.co.uk



20-20 Vision – Learning from Covid-19 and moving forward in Dore

The year 2020, the start of a new decade, will be remembered for the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. So much has happened since the early spring of this year that we are already starting to forget how it began. Recently, however, the Dore Village Society Committee has been thinking about how as a community we can learn from what has happened so far and look for better things for the future.

The first step seemed to be to help capture people’s experiences over this year by asking people for stories and accounts of what has happened to them and their friends and relations, and, in addition, to consult about ideas and suggestions about what could be done locally both to help now and to move on in the future.

If you have anything to contribute to this, please feel free to send these. They can be sent by whichever way you prefer – for example, email, letter, etc. - for details of ways to send them in, please see the text box below.

We would love to credit people with their interesting stories and good ideas but do feel free to send anonymously if you prefer.

We will then summarise and publish the key messages and use them to inform what could be done. This could be supplemented by a public meeting, and hopefully an exhibition, if and when circumstances allow.

Following on from this, we can look at ways in which we in Dore can positively commemorate 2020 by local projects to improve health and wellbeing.

Recent suggestions include:

- Improving access to the countryside for physical activity and exercise.
- Developing the Dore Recreation Ground as a physical activity facility for all ages (this could be a Memorial Initiative).
- Support for people isolated by shielding and living alone.
- Creating an archive, recording memories and experiences of this time.
- Becoming a *Healthy Village* – joining similar local initiatives focussing on wider health improvement in a locality.

Nick Payne

Abbeydale Squash and Fitness Club: Yorkshire Premier League Champions!



AS&FC is delighted to share the news that the Abbeydale Squash Club first team are the Yorkshire Premier League champions.

The club’s Squash Professional, Mark Tasker said: “The club enters teams in the different divisions of both the Yorkshire Leagues and the Sheffield and District Leagues, and to be crowned champions of Yorkshire is a great achievement, particularly as our teams are made up of home-grown players, many of whom have come through the ranks of our Junior Academy”.

Founded in 1934 as Abbeydale Squash Club, AS&FC is one of the oldest squash clubs in the country. Owned and operated by its members as a non-profit organisation, the club is friendly and family orientated. In addition to six squash courts (five glass-back courts and an all glass court) there is a spacious and well-equipped gym which includes a state-of-the-art strength and conditioning suite. Racketball, one of the fastest growing sports in the country, is also played at the club.

The club organises leagues for friendly competitive games and, in addition, there are group sessions where people can come along and play organised practices and games in a social setting – these are organised at different ability levels, so there is something for everyone (and all ages!).

The club is also home of MTA – a junior squash academy run by our resident professional, Mark Tasker, with classes for all ages and abilities from young beginners from age 7 all the way up to County and National level juniors up to 18.

Opened some twenty years ago, the gym has been expanded over the years and is extremely well equipped – including a dedicated ‘strength and conditioning suite’.

The gym is very popular with all ages (we have several members in their eighties!) and membership includes regular personalised programme reviews. Members regularly comment on the gym’s friendly and welcoming atmosphere where people can exercise at their own pace or make use of the services of the personal trainers who are based at the club.

AS&FC weathered the covid storm and reopened its doors at the end of July. During lockdown, the club took advantage of the period of closure to undertake improvement work including refurbishment of all the courts and redecorating throughout the club. Extensive measures have been put in place to make the club covid-secure with a one-way system, enhanced cleaning and handwash stations throughout the building. Even though Sheffield moved into Tier 2 in October, and then into Tier 3, our gym remains fully open and COVID-compliant measures are in place.

The club has various types of membership: Gym, Squash and Racketball and combined Gym and Rackets – there’s something for everyone. Membership also includes the use of the Abbeydale Sports Club Pavilion with its refurbished bar and restaurant (home of Omega at Abbeydale).

Come along and see what we have to offer.

Tim Eldridge, Chair, AS&FC
www.abbeydalesquashandfitness.co.uk

Please send contributions either:

By email to: 2020vision@dorevillage.co.uk

or

By post to:

**20-20 Vision, Dore Village Society,
 The Old School, Savage Lane,
 Dore, Sheffield S17 3GW.**

or

By hand to the letter box on the front of Dore Old School

If you have material that cannot be sent by post or email, then please contact us using one of the above methods.



DVS committee meetings

In recent months we have been holding our committee meetings via Zoom and we will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. Unfortunately our regular open mornings (Fridays and the first Saturday of each month) will not resume until we are sure they can be held safely. In practice this means when a reliable vaccine has been made available. However, if you wish to get in touch you can contact us by email, letter and telephone. Our details are on our website at www.dorevillage.co.uk/pages/contact-us and on page 7 of this issue.

Annual General Meeting

The delayed 2020 AGM will take place on Wednesday 13th January 2021 from 7:30pm. This will be held as a Zoom meeting and meeting papers are on our website at www.dorevillage.co.uk/pages/agm-and-trustees-reports. These include the agenda and our annual report and accounts. The agenda also appears on page 6 of this issue.

Please send an email to agm@dorevillage.co.uk if you wish to attend and an invitation will be sent to you a few days before the meeting together with notes on how to participate.

If you do not have access to, or do not use, the Internet you can obtain a copy of the meeting papers from, and send questions or comments by post to, The Secretary, DVS, The Old School, Sheffield S17 3GB, to arrive no later than Wednesday 6th January.

Committee vacancies

There will be nine vacancies to be filled at the AGM. Two members whose three year terms expire in 2020 will be standing for re-election one is resigning, and four members who have been co-opted since the last AGM will be standing for election, leaving us two members short. If you would be willing to stand for election to the committee please let me know before 24th December and I will arrange for nomination forms to be sent to you. If you would like to know what being a committee member entails please either call me (0114 236 3598) or email me (keith.shaw@dorevillage.co.uk).

External Examiner

Our accounts have to be scrutinised each year to verify their completeness and accuracy, and to give our trustees, members, supporters, beneficiaries and the wider public, an independent assurance that the Society's money has been properly accounted for and that adequate records have been kept. This activity is undertaken by an External Examiner and for the last several years this role has been undertaken by Andrew Beard. He has now retired from that position and we are looking for a replacement.

The examination is a light touch scrutiny involving checking for specific matters. The role is clearly defined and does not involve forming an opinion as to whether the accounts are 'true and fair'. More information about the role can be found at <https://www.oscr.org.uk/guidance-and-forms/independent-examination-a-guide-for-independent-examiners/>

We have been very fortunate in having Andrew as our External Examiner. He has brought many years' experience as a forensic accountant and partner in a leading accountancy firm to the role and he has been a source of helpful advice and guidance on many occasions. Our thanks go to Andrew for his diligence and contribution to our work.

Membership subscriptions – joining and renewing online

Payment of subscriptions online has been available for some time. This has now been supplemented by an option to complete the membership form online as well, thus eliminating the need to fill in and post or deliver a paper form, hence the omission of the forms from this issue. Paper forms are, of course, available on request and from The Village Greens. More details can be found on page 3 of this issue.

If you pay by standing order can you please check that it has been amended to the new annual subscription of £7.00 per person which came into effect at the beginning of this year?

Christ Church Hall

We are awaiting a draft lease from the PCC.

Planning matters – a request for help

When the DVS was formed in 1964 it was originally conceived as a conservation group whose purpose was to oppose the destruction of historically important buildings in the village. Quite a lot has changed since then and we have broadened our remit considerably since those early days, but we still focus heavily on conservation and planning. However, our ability to do so effectively is significantly

constrained by not having anyone with planning expertise and knowledge of local and national planning policies on our committee, and our attempts to recruit someone to help with this have been unsuccessful

We comment on very few planning applications, and we raise objections to even fewer. Where we do make objections they have to be based on legislation and planning policies and so we are now seeking someone who, while not wishing to join the committee, would be willing to advise us on a case by case. If you can help with this please contact me via keith.shaw@dorevillage.co.uk

If you want to inspect current applications go to the Council website at www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/planning-development/search-view-comment

Christmas trees and lights

We are hoping to have Christmas trees and lights in the village centre again this year, continuing with at least one of our traditional celebrations.

Lantern Parade and Wassail Walk

Covid 19 continues to take its toll on organised events and both the Lantern Parade and the annual Wassail Walk have been cancelled.

Lastly

This is the last issue of Dore to Door for this year, let's hope that by the next one in February life will have returned to some semblance of normality and a vaccine will be available.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Keith Shaw

Dora





DORE

Village Society

Dore Village Society 55th Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the delayed 55th Annual General Meeting of the Dore Village Society will be held as a Zoom event on Wednesday 13th January 2021 and meeting papers are on our website at www.dorevillage.co.uk/pages/agm-and-trustees-reports. These include our annual report and accounts, and a proposed amendment to our constitution which deals with the disqualification of trustees in the event of non-compliance with Charity Commission requirements.

Please send an email to agm@dorevillage.co.uk if you wish to attend and an invitation will be sent to you a few days before the meeting together with notes on how to participate.

If you do not have access to, or do not use, the Internet you can obtain a copy of the meeting papers from, and send questions or comments by post to, The Secretary, DVS, The Old School, Sheffield S17 3GB, to arrive no later than Wednesday 6th January.

At the AGM we present the Trustees' report of activities and work undertaken and describe our policies for the work that we do and the way we spend members' money. We also submit our annual accounts for scrutiny and elect new Trustees to fill vacancies and to replace those retiring or resigning. At the meeting two Trustees will reach the end of their three-year term, Christopher Pennell and Philip Howes. Both are eligible to stand for re-election and are willing to do so. One Trustee is resigning and four Trustees who have been co-opted since the last AGM will be standing for election for the first time: Tim Ashman, Caroline Davies, Brenda Fryer and Nick Payne. That will leave two other vacancies to be filled.

Our work is defined and governed by our constitution and you can find this at www.dorevillage.co.uk under the tab "Dore Village Society".

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of the minutes of the 54th Annual General Meeting
3. The Trustees' report
4. To approve the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2019
5. To elect up to eight committee members
6. Amendment to the constitution
7. Any other business

Notes

1. The Trustees' report, the annual accounts and the Independent Examiner's report are on the DVS website at www.dorevillage.co.uk/pages/agm-and-trustees-reports and can also be obtained on request by email to agm@dorevillage.co.uk.
2. The Society's constitution requires nominations for election to the Executive Committee to be made no later than 14 days prior to the meeting. Consequently nominations, together with a proposer, a seconder and a brief résumé of relevant background must be received no later than 6pm on Wednesday 30th December 2020.
3. If you wish to stand for election to the committee nomination forms can be obtained from the DVS website at the URL above, or any of the current committee members (contact details are on page 7 of this issue). Nominees, proposers and seconders must be members of the Dore Village Society at the time of nomination and at the time of the AGM.
4. Completed nomination forms can be given to any other member of the DVS committee or delivered to our address: The Old School, Savage Lane, Sheffield S17 3GW.
5. A list of those nominated will be placed on the Society's website and noticeboards at least seven days prior to the AGM.

Keith Shaw, Chairman, Dore Village Society
120 Townhead Road, Sheffield S17 3GB
26th October 2020

Dore Neighbourhood Plan

Alongside parallel National and Sheffield City planning consultations, the City Council conducted a legally required public consultation on our Dore Neighbourhood Plan, opening on 14 September and closing on 26 October. The Council will collect the responses received, copy them to the Dore Forum's Steering Group and also pass them on to the Examiner appointed to consider whether our Plan meets the Basic Conditions statutorily laid down for Neighbourhood Plans. The Forum has to agree whoever is invited to be the Examiner, so exchanges are in hand between the Council and our Group on the appointment. Once started the Examiner will probably take about 5 days to formulate his views and will make a report available both to our Steering Group and to our two Local Planning Authorities. They will have to consider his recommendations which are either that the Plan is unfit to proceed to a referendum of Dore electors OR it is fit to go to referendum OR he recommends certain amendments to make it fit for referendum. The LPAs determine whether they can accept his recommendations and if not there are opportunities for us to question their decision. If all is well, we hope that the referendum can take place alongside the May local elections.

See pages 14-15

Help Our Local Shops

In previous articles we have urged people to support our local shops and businesses by continuing to use them, even when it is safe to return to the city centre or large supermarkets. We know how valuable it is to have a newsagent, greengrocer, chemist, florist, gift shop, hairdressers, pubs, Co-op and cafes in the heart of our village. But if they don't get the footfall they won't survive and won't be there when we need them.

But there is another way apart from shopping in them that we can help. It has emerged after talking to shopkeepers that some people are parking all-day in front of the shops. This minimises the opportunities for customers to park. This passing trade is vital for the prosperity of the shops, so please think before you block one of the spaces in front of the shops for a long period.

Plans to introduce parking restrictions on roads and parking bays in the village were rejected after a public consultation exercise a little while ago. Perhaps we need to revisit this to help our village centre thrive.

Colin Ross



2020 is a year the Choir will want to forget; as if not being able to sing was not bad enough we lost two valuable members.

Ian Powell sadly died suddenly. Ian was a member of the Choir for 16 years in the second tenor section, and he held the position of chief line steward keeping everyone in check on concert days and later became chairman holding the position for four years. Ian had a ready smile for everyone, was a keen team player and is an example to everyone - he will be sadly missed.

A week or so later our Music Director of ten years, Elizabeth Hampshire, succumbed to the cancer she had been fighting for the last 18 months. Elizabeth was the first lady Music Director the choir had; there were a few mutterings to start with, but they all soon disappeared and she became the life and soul of the choir.

We have always considered ourselves to be a decent choir, but Elizabeth added new dimensions of good sound

production, breath control, clear articulation, clear definition of the piece of music, showing the light and shade, creating the Dore Male Voice sound.

We are currently looking for a replacement, she will be a hard act to follow.

During Elizabeth's illness, the Choir has not been idling its time away. Thanks to the help of Vivien Pike (an old friend of the Choir), for which we are grateful, Fran Wells has been taking our rehearsals, and indeed took us through most of our recent concerts to date, sharing the rostrum with Elizabeth during our recent overseas tour to Sicily.

The Choir has been most fortunate and is very grateful for Fran's guidance, tuition and work in helping us progress with our music. He has brought a wealth of experience, following a long term, before his retirement, as Music Director of Bolsterstone MVC. Fran has kindly agreed to join the Choir's professional team as Deputy Conductor.

The Choir is planning a memorial concert, hopefully around May time 2021, covid19 permitting. Two of our old friends from the operatic world who you may have seen perform with us have agreed to take part, Neil Balfour and Lorna James.

Looking forward to happier times.

Ray Mellor
Vice Chairman and PRO

Councillors' Surgeries

At both Dore Old School and Totley Library are suspended until further notice. You may still contact our local councillors through the website at sheffield.gov.uk, but bear in mind that they are subject to the same restrictions as we all are at present.

Contact Dore to Door:

editor@doretodoor.co.uk

Tel: 07850 221048

Post: Dore to Door, c/o Dore Old School, Savage Lane, S17 3GW

Advertising - phone 07583 173 489 or email

advertising@doretodoor.co.uk

Distribution - Call Gillian on 0114 235 0609 if you haven't received your copy

Deadlines for the Spring edition:

Editorial - January 22

Advertising - January 18

Spring publication: February 19

Dore Village Society

Registered Charity No. 1017051

The Society is the designated Neighbourhood Forum for the Dore Area, with responsibility for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Dore. The Society also aims to foster the protection and enhancement of the local environment, amenities and facilities within Dore, to encourage a spirit of community and to record its historic development.

Membership of the Society is open to all residents of Dore, those who work in Dore and elected local council members for Dore. Membership is also open to Corporate Members representing societies, associations, educational institutions and businesses in Dore.

Current membership rates are £7 pa for individuals and £35 for corporate members.

Telephone numbers of Committee Members are below; for email, please write to firstname.surname@dorevillage.co.uk, e.g. keith.shaw@dorevillage.co.uk

Committee Members:

Chairman	
Keith Shaw	236 3598
Deputy Chairman	
vacant	
Secretary	
Brenda Fryer	236 5628
Treasurer	
Jen Donnelly	262 1861
Deputy Treasurer	
Colin Robinson	236 6592
Planning	
vacant	
Archives	
Janet Ridler	07963 727551

Membership

Joan Davis	07531 183438
Dore to Door	
John Eastwood	07850 221048
Environment	
Mark Ridler	07742 138200
Margaret Peart	
Neighbourhood Forum Steering Group	
Christopher Pennell	235 1568
Community Activities	
Philip Howes	236 9156
Nick Payne	
Caroline Davies	07764 169197
More in Dore	
Tim Ashman	07921 194063



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A right good night out, but in

Like many people I'd never heard of Zoom before March this year, and whilst I'm still no expert I have now used it several times for conference calls. It wasn't until a few minutes before the start of the 2020 Comedy Gala that I remembered that I'd only used it on the laptop, not my iPad. No matter, it only took a few minutes to install the app but by the time that I realised that the sound wouldn't play out through my Bluetooth speaker, it was too late to change. Theoretically I could have dug out my Apple TV from whichever drawer it is lost in and set that up so I could watch the Gala on television, but if I'd done that I would have missed the start.

No matter, logging in was a dream and went without a hitch. Once things started though, I was presented with a gallery of nine other cameras, all belonging to other audience members - the ones who had paid the extra fiver for a front row seat. There were more cameras - eighteen in total - but the gig was half over before I realised that you reached the second screen by swiping left or right, not up and down as I had been trying to do. So I heard the whole thing, but I only managed to see half of it. The person speaking went full screen intermittently, but then the app went back to gallery view and I had to go back to trying to find the matching picture that went with the voice.

First up, we went to Jon Richardson and Lucy Beaumont's front room in Hebden Bridge. Lucy got things started and it was a few minutes before Jon turned up in a dressing gown and looking as though he was ready for bed. "What are all you people doing in my living room?" he asked. We were off and running.

Lucy got things going with some observations on parenthood, and I could see several of the audience laughing in recognition of some of her remarks. She treated us to a hilarious tour of one of her child's books about toilet training.

The first act billed had been Matt Forde (who does a very good impression of Donald Trump if you haven't seen him), but Matt had to pull out at short notice and in his place we were treated to a few minutes with Kerry Godliman from her spare room and just before she went out for the evening. There wasn't any recognisably prepared material here because she and Lucy fell into chatting and the allotted time passed away in their discussion. It was amusing nonetheless, as Lucy and Kerry both seem to be naturally funny people.

Next up was Shappi Khorsandi, who has been one of my favourite comedians for several years. She seemed to be talking to us from a corridor somewhere using only a phone held at arm's length, and whilst we could see her she couldn't see any of us. She's another very funny person, and sadly, all too soon she had to disappear through a door behind her to go on stage somewhere.

We had an intermission, and Jon disappeared to put children to bed. He returned in a suit and tie, explaining that putting the kids to bed wearing a dressing gown and then reappearing ten minutes later to put the lights out wearing a suit had totally freaked them out.

The next act was Cornish comedian Harriet Dyer, someone who I haven't come across before. She submitted a piece recorded (for some unexplained reason) from her car, so she wasn't actually live. The monologue was rather stream-of-consciousness, funny but I can't remember her actually reaching a punchline before disappearing tangentially into another story.

The headline act of the evening was Middlesbrough-born magician and comedian Pete Firman, who was in his kitchen, performing through what seemed to be a laptop on the counter. Now, I've seen the magic trick of someone knocking a nail into their own head with a hammer several times, but this was proper close-up, with Pete leaning as close to the camera as if you were standing right next to him. Don't try this at home, kids!

Between all the acts were supporting messages from some of our local luminaries such as Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill, Nick Matthews the World Squash Champion, and what looked like a completely madcap band of ladies and a dog, called The Fickle Birds. I'm told they are from Dore, but I couldn't discover exactly where they are based from their Facebook page.

Lucy is from 'Ull, and rounded off the evening with a Powerpoint-driven rendition of 'The Nine Days of Christmas in Hull', constructed from some of the news items that have appeared in the local press there. By the end, most of the front-row audience were joining in. I expect that a lot of the invisible audience were singing along too; I know that I was!

The whole gig lasted over 90 minutes, and wasn't what I expected though looking back I don't know exactly what I was expecting, having never used Zoom as an entertainment source before. I didn't feel like I'd been to a comedy show, I felt more like I'd spent an evening in the pub chatting to all these famous people off the telly. There's an intimacy about this sort of setup, and I came away with a warm feeling inside that I'd had a right good evening. Let's face it, if this range of talent had been put together on a stage they could probably have filled the City Hall, but tickets would have cost considerably more than the tenner I paid. And I didn't have to drag myself into town.

I really hope they do this again, I'll certainly be there. And More in Dore's fundraising should have received a healthy boost, you can learn the final total from Tim Ashman's column on page 41.

John Eastwood

Dore Village Society 2020

Living Advent Calendar



Dore Village Society is looking for households and businesses to contribute to a Living Advent Calendar Trail, 2020.

We're going to create a trail of numbered Advent windows through the village, with a new window being revealed each day in December up to Christmas. Both households and businesses can take part.

It's been a very tough year so far but there are still things to celebrate and be thankful for and we can share how we feel about those things in our windows. You design your own window and reveal it on the date you have been allocated. The windows stay in place until January 1st.

If you're interested and want to know how you can take part, please email

DVSAdventCalendar@gmail.com

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Ash dieback arrives in Dore

Ash dieback disease is starting to have a big impact on Dore and will result in the loss of many trees. The most noticeable Dore victim so far is probably the large ash that stood on the village green and which has now been cut back to a tall stump before it became brittle and dangerous. Margaret Peart and I met with Catherine Nuttgens, the Community Forestry Manager of Sheffield City Council, in the summer to discuss that tree and its replacement. We walked down the Bushey Wood footpath and saw that most, if not all, of the ash trees we passed were affected by the disease. This indicates that there will be a lot of tree felling in Dore over the next few years. The loss of trees that people have known for many years, sometimes a lifetime, can be distressing.

It is thought that ash die back will kill 80-85% of British ash trees. It is one of our few native large canopy tall trees, therefore the visual impact on our countryside and urban areas will be huge. It is currently believed that up to 10% of ash trees may be resistant to the disease. These trees must be identified where possible and retained. They provide some hope for the future, but the Woodland Trust estimate it will take at least 50 years for the ash population to recover and estimate the cost to British society of ash dieback will be £15 billion.

Dieback is also known as Chalara and is caused by a fungus called *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*. It spreads by wind dispersal of fungal spores, which can travel tens of miles. It was first confirmed in Britain in 2012 and has spread from East Anglia. It is unclear how it first came here. It may have been through imported trees or by wind dispersal.

There are several symptoms. The most obvious in a mature tree in the summer is a thinning and dying crown. Other symptoms include leaves dying back and wilting and browning or blackening from their tips, and lesions and cankers on stems, branches and shoots. More information and photographs showing the symptoms can be found on Sheffield City Council's website at:

www.trees.org.uk/Trees.org.uk/media/Trees-org.uk/Documents/FC/Chalara.pdf

Sheffield City Council estimates that Sheffield will lose between 127,000 and 215,000 ash trees in the next 10-15 years. The loss of that number of trees will have wider ecological implications including a loss of habitat for species that rely on them, breaks in wildlife corridors where they interrupt woodland cover, and also carbon will be released when the trees decompose. In some places there may be advantages where, perhaps, meadowlands are opened up.

In leaf, ash is one of the easiest trees to identify because uncommonly for native trees its leaves consist of around six pairs of leaflets where the paired leaves are opposite each other on the stem and another leaflet sits at the end of the stem. Rowan (also called mountain ash) and elder have similarly configured leaves but do not grow as big and bear berries whereas ashes grow bunches of flat green-brown keys.

Diseased trees become dangerous as they become brittle and liable to lose branches or fall. The Council are surveying ash dieback within Sheffield with a view to felling trees before they become dangerous. Not all ash trees are of course on public land. If you have any ash trees on your property you should check them for ash dieback in case it could be a danger to you or your neighbours or their property, for which you may be liable. You also have a statutory duty to ensure your trees do not endanger or impede people on public roads or footpaths. If in doubt you should take advice from a suitably qualified and experienced tree contractor. It is best to take advice at an early stage as the trees may become too brittle to climb and specialist equipment may be required to to fell them at the later stages of the disease.

As for the Village Green, the Council have agreed to replace the ash with a lime, which will grow into another native tall broad canopy tree and a hawthorn, which is a native small tree or bush which is good for wildlife and well known for its "May" flowers. Sadly, it may be some time before we see another ash on the Village Green.

Mark Ridler

Artificial Grass

Anyone thinking of installing artificial grass might wish to consider the effect it has on the natural world. As more and more habitat is placed beyond the use of birds, insects and plants the decisions that each of us make have a direct impact on the abundance diversity of nature around us.

Artificial grass blocks the access of insects to the soil below. A real grass lawn provides habitat for burrowing insects such as solitary bees, but artificial grass blocks access to the ground for worms which will be starved of food. Birds such as blackbirds and starlings are unable to forage for worms or insects beneath artificial grass.

Artificial grass is of course made of plastics which will break down releasing microplastics through physical wear and exposure. These will pollute surrounding soils and water. Some manufacturers claim that the plastics are recyclable, but this would appear to be only through specialist processes. It seems likely that most artificial grass will become landfill within relatively few years where it could take 450 years to break down into more microplastics. It is better not to bring the plastic into production in the first place.

It has been said that artificial grass avoids

the need for herbicides and fertilisers, however a well-managed lawn and a lawn managed for nature should avoid the use of these or use to minimum amounts. A vibrant lawn for nature is a beautifully varied lawn containing wildflowers. It will provide nectar for pollinating insects and a variety of colours and heights and not the plain green unvaried type of lawn typified by an artificial lawn. It is a beauty that you can be proud of, knowing that you are contributing to the natural world.

End of season house nesting bird survey

Thank you to everyone who completed our house nesting bird survey in the spring. We have opened a new survey looking back over the spring and summer to obtain information about what happened over the whole of the 2020 bird nesting season. We would be grateful if you would complete the survey whether birds nested in or on your house or outbuildings or not. The information will be useful either way. If you would like to be sent details, please email us on dvsnaturegroup@gmail.com or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/88P9C62>

Mark Ridler

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Planting for next year

The Garden Club Committee has a wealth of gardening experience in its midst. In this feature of Dore to Door, Committee members wanted to share their favourite seed and bulb suppliers, local garden centres and gardening websites together with some ideas for online talks. We hope our suggestions will provide some ideas which may appeal to not only the experienced gardener but also to people who have recently become interested in gardening. Many of our "best picks" are small, specialist businesses.

Seeds

Autumn/Winter is always a good time for taking stock of what worked well in the garden this year and what didn't, as well as making plans for the future. As such, it is a good time for browsing seed catalogues or the online equivalent. There's nothing quite like curling up on a cold, wet day with a colourful catalogue; the glossy pictures can be highly seductive in parting you from your cash.

Seeds For Flowers: Look out for seed packets bearing a bee symbol indicating they are good for pollinating insects.

Special Plants www.specialplants.net/shop/seeds/

Chiltern Seeds has some rare seeds and lovely climbers you can grow from seed www.chilternseeds.co.uk

Plant World Seeds www.plant-world-seeds.com/store/flower_seeds/all_flower_seed

Plants of Distinction www.plantsofdistinction.co.uk

Seeds For Fruit & Vegetables: Garden Organic provides lots of tips and webinars on organic gardening www.gardenorganic.org.uk

Real Seed was rated Best Buy by Ethical Consumer Magazine, run by gardeners who grow and eat the produce from the seeds they sell. A great site for beginners with sowing guides and advice. Their bush tomatoes appear suitable for short summers of the Dore variety! www.realseeds.co.uk

Simpsons Seeds came in for high praise. They are a small company in West Wiltshire, specialising in seeds and plantlets for the Kitchen Garden. They have a range of chilli and tomato seeds and many of these can also be ordered as plug plants which are sent out in Spring. www.simpsonsseeds.co.uk

Sheffield's Rob Smith who won BBC 2's Big Allotment Challenge and spoke at the Club a couple of years ago. He is on Twitter and online (@RobAllotment and robsallotment.com) for lots of growing advice as he raises edibles throughout the year. Rob has links with Dobies Seeds and grows old and rare varieties.

Bulbs

By the time you read this article you'll probably have planted your Spring bulbs. There is, however, still time to plant tulips and they do seem to prefer to be planted in November/December and ideally on a thin layer of gravel to prevent the bulbs rotting. The most popular bulb suppliers recommended by the Committee and who offer bulbs for all seasons are:

Anglia Bulb Company is a small business with a beautifully presented website where you can choose your bulbs according to the month you're looking for more colour in the garden. The quality is very good, and pricing is competitive compared to some other bulb suppliers. www.angliabulbs.com

Jacques Amand supplies a wide range of bulbs for all seasons jacquesamandintl.com

Bloms Bulbs is the Rolls Royce of the bulb suppliers. They have a beautifully presented catalogue; the range is extensive and the quality excellent, but you will pay rather more. blomsbulbs.com

Support your local Garden Centres

Most Committee members like to make use of our two local nurseries. There's something nice about a browse around a

garden centre and seeing the quality, size and actual colour of what you're buying.

Dore Moor which gives Garden Club members 10% discount was recommended for its good supply of garden requisites such as containers, plant and lawn feed and last year stocked a really good peat-free potting compost. Staff are obliging and will deliver.

Bents Green Nursery tucked away at the end of Muskoka Avenue was recommended for select your own Spring bulbs, and their home-grown summer bedding plants and perennials. They are currently selling Christmas greenery and wreaths and will be stocking seeds from February. It is closed on Wednesdays.

Online Gardening Talks/Virtual Tours

In the absence of BBC Gardener's World, if you're in need of a gardening "fix" you can still hear expert talks and watch webinars on various aspects of gardening or guided tours of gardens. Some of them are available free whilst others make a nominal charge.

Since 1871 the Kew Mutual Improvement Society has been running an annual lecture season to boost knowledge of the plant and fungal kingdom. The Kew series is being presented live online for the first time in its near 150-year history. Lectures are presented by world-class leaders in science, award-winning landscape designers, and pioneering horticulturists www.kew.org/learning/talks-and-lectures/kew-mutual-improvement-society

Plant Heritage, a conversation charity www.plantheritage.org.uk

The National Trust is offering virtual tours of gardens and open spaces www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lists/virtual-tours-of-our-places

Win £25 – Garden Club Logo Competition

In anticipation of a successful relaunch in 2021, we are inviting entrants to design us a new Dore Garden Club logo. Our existing logo was designed by school pupil Harriet Ward to coincide with the launch of the Club, so over 12 years ago. The logo will be used on our annual programme and notices. The winning design should be capable of being scaled up or down in size. It could be black and white or in colour and should include the words "Dore Garden Club". The annual programme is quite small, in portrait format and is 8cm x 12.5cm high. Our notices and posters are either A4 or A5 size. Entries are welcome from adults and children and can be produced free-hand or using graphics software in your choice of media. Entries will be judged by the Club Committee and the winner will have the choice of a £25 garden voucher or a £25 book/gift voucher. Please email your entry to paulinedris@aol.com with your name and contact details. The deadline for submissions is 3rd January and the winner will be announced in a future edition of Dore to Door.

Pauline Drissell



The City of the Future?



Between 1st September and 13th October our City Council consulted the public on its first documented step towards a full Sheffield Plan to run until 2038. I say 'first', but in reality it replaces a previous attempt in 2015 to produce a definitive consultation document on the city's future called 'Citywide Options for Growth to 2034'. Five years later the Council is again laying out its planning vision for the future in recognition of the fact that in response to the 2015 consultation: "Sheffielders said loud and clear that they don't want to see building on Sheffield's countryside and the Green Belt. I don't either; I want to protect our environment as far as possible and we've taken a fresh look at whether more homes could be provided within the existing built-up areas of Sheffield to minimise the number of homes on the Green Belt." I quote Cllr Bob Johnson, Cabinet Member for Transport and Development, in his foreword to the September 2020 Issues and Options consultation paper. This was accompanied by a raft of supporting documents and evidence, including the first stage of a Green Belt Review for the city.

If you care about the planning rules which will determine how the city is developed over the next 15 to 20 years and, in particular, what might happen here in Dore, you might find it useful to read on. If you can't be bothered, think twice before complaining about what later happens.

The difficult reality facing the city is that it wants to work towards an inspiring vision for an environmentally sustainable city, while at the same time meeting a punishing Government target of delivering 40,000 new homes by 2038. This consultation tries to address this dilemma. It remains to be seen whether the collective 'wisdom' of the consultees' responses received by 13th October will help the Council find an acceptable solution. Amongst those responses were substantial contributions from

Dore Village Society and from the Dore Neighbourhood Forum. The Council's proposed vision is that: "In 2038 Sheffield will be a fair, inclusive and environmentally sustainable city. It will be playing a nationally significant economic role at the heart of its city region, with thriving neighbourhoods and communities, and have a distinct urban and rural identity." There was much in this vision and its supporting aims which we applauded, but there were areas where it lacked ambition and others which required greater clarity.

We felt that the Council needed to increase its ambition towards:

- Greater respect for the landscapes within which it sits, which is of course vital to Dore, locked between ancient Ecclesall Woods and the countryside setting of the dramatic National Park scenery
- Recognising the need to address the Sixth Mass Global Biodiversity Extinction (or the Anthropocene Extinction) which is devastating wildlife at home and abroad and here locally too
- Redoubling its efforts to combat climate change
- Valuing and protecting its green spaces and natural networks to offset the impact of development
- Ensuring that new jobs and new homes are as far as possible created near each other and near city services to minimise non-sustainable travel

We felt that greater clarity was needed:

- To explain that the reasonable aim to narrow the gap between wealthier and poorer areas of the city should be achieved by levelling up rather than at the expense of the former
- To ensure that the economic forecasting underlying the consultation is updated to take account of economic downturns arising from very recent CV-19 restrictions and from the impact of imminent Brexit, including whether all the 40,000 new homes will really be needed
- What further steps would be taken to ensure that the Green Belt Review not only tested sites against the narrow Green Belt planning purposes but also against landscape, biodiversity, recreational and sustainable transport criteria
- To recognise that the dominant housing need in Sheffield is for more affordable housing, and development must not be developer-led if that means more grand houses in the wrong places

So, boosting the ambition of the vision and clarifying its aims are needed, but there remains at the heart of the consultation a major spatial question: where should the 40,000 new homes be built? The Council posits three possibilities, all of which assume that 20,000 will be built in the existing urban and suburban brownfield areas excluding the City Centre (broadly the area within the inner-city ring road). Be under no illusion, this will require higher densities of development being accepted in our



urban and suburban housing areas. The question then is where will the other 20,000 new homes go? Option A assumes that the lot will go into the City Centre involving a lot more multi-storey building. Option B assumes that the City Centre will only take 15,000, leaving 5,000 to go into the Green Belt. Option C splits the 20,000, half and half between the City Centre and the Green Belt.

Cllr Johnson's assertion that he doesn't want to see building on Sheffield's countryside and Green Belt would be confounded by either B or C. So, this consultation requires respondents to argue cogently that 20,000 new homes can be sustainably provided in the Central Area if we are to avoid new homes spreading out into the Green Belt.

So, what has Dore said in response? We have stressed three points which the Council itself makes in its consultation document:

1. *"More compact cities, which have higher density homes, a mix of types of development, and good access to services and jobs, tend to have less of an impact on the environment than cities which spread out more."* (page 19)
2. Much of the city's Green Belt is too sensitive for development. (as said in the 2015 document and repeated in this document at page 41)
3. Sheffield has had a good reputation over recent years for having provided 95% of new homes on brownfield sites. This is a reputation they should avoid trashing over the next 20 years.

We have examined the Council's consultants' *'Sheffield City Centre Strategy – Capacity Report (July 2020)'* which demonstrates that the ambition to develop 20,000 new homes in the Central Area is feasible based on wide evidence of such developments elsewhere in the UK and abroad. So, in our view Option A is more than theoretically possible, viz. splitting the 40,000 target half and half between the Central Area and the rest of the already developed city.

However, we believe it is unwise to rely on everything going perfectly, because there may be complex problems involved in land assembly, master-planning new housing estates, securing developer support from the house-building sector and coping with post-Grenfell aversion to tall residential towers. This suggests the need to 'over-provide' to ensure that the target can be met without recourse to Green Belt developments in sensitive areas. We have therefore argued for a determined effort to remodel declining areas like Neepsend/Shalesmoor and Attercliffe where high density imaginative housing development with green spaces and gardens should be encouraged close to the city centre as mooted five years ago in *Citywide Options for Growth*. We also feel it would be sensible to develop the old Norton aerodrome site, which, although it lies within Green Belt, is in fact brownfield and could easily have good transport links.

The same could be said of some new housing estate extensions alongside those already in Mosborough. Between them these options could provide up to 7,000 homes, giving the Council the wriggle-room to reach 40,000 without extensive recourse to sensitive Green Belt.

What will alarm Dore residents is that the Council's Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment map includes 10 large sites marked grey in the Green Belt in Dore Neighbourhood Area. While these are not yet taken into account in the Availability Assessment itself, they are nevertheless mapped because they resulted from two Calls for Sites from landowners and developers to be considered for development. The sites concerned are on Long Line, also at its junction with the Hathersage Road, substantial land west of Newfield Lane and south of Hathersage Road, land east of Cross Lane, land north of Parker's Lane, Ryecroft Farm east of Rushley Drive and north of Dore Road and land south and east of Old Hay Lane. While these sites have been scored by the Council for how well they fulfil the purposes for Green Belt status, they have not yet been rated against the other important criteria I mentioned earlier. In the Neighbourhood Forum's response, the Steering Group carried out a rudimentary assessment of its own, pointing out that none of the sites met the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) criteria for considering which sites might be most vulnerable to release from Green Belt status, viz. those which were brownfield although currently located in the Green Belt and those which are well served by public transport; all of them in our view served very well the NPPF purposes set out for Green Belt; all were of high landscape value and formed the setting of a National Park; some had strong biodiversity value and formed part of green wildlife corridors; they all were protected in the draft Dore Neighbourhood Plan.

What is prima facie the case is that the Council are not overtly setting out in this consultative document to spread out into the Green Belt. However, there is a risk that some respondents may say – and the Council might ultimately agree – that they cannot be sure of delivering 40,000 new homes without straying into some Green Belt. Meanwhile it is incontrovertibly the case that the NPPF states that (at para. 137): *"Before concluding that exceptional circumstances exist to justify changes to Green Belt boundaries, the strategic policy-making authority should be able to demonstrate that it has examined fully all reasonable options for meeting its identified need for development."* Hence the importance of proving that housing need can be met within the city's existing developed boundaries. On top of all that we must as a community insist that the Green Belt to the west of the city is – on top of its powerful Green Belt purposes validation – also of hugely important landscape value in its own right as well as being the setting of a National Park.

Christopher Pennell





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Library reopening

On Monday 7th September we were able to replace the "Order and Collect" service that had been operating since July with an improved service that allows limited public access and limited browsing. Whilst proving to be hard work for the small team that initiated the service, it gave us an excellent opportunity to start bringing volunteers back to the Library and into the swing of things. As a number of our volunteers were either shielding themselves or a close relation, and many others fell into the vulnerable category, we realised at an early stage that bringing volunteers back would not be a straightforward exercise. The volume of work necessitated a third shift being brought in on Wednesdays to keep on top of the required "back office" tasks. As a result we were able to build up a large enough pool of volunteers to be able to move to the next stage.

In order to allow public access to the Library the layout has had to be significantly rearranged to bring in a one-way system and to enable proper social distancing. The opening hours are from 2 to 4pm on Mondays and from 10am to noon on Wednesdays and Fridays. We were able to resume offering photocopying facilities from Monday 21st September and from Monday 5th October reinstated limited access to the Public Network computers. These computer sessions will need to be pre-booked by telephoning the Library during opening hours.

The key points of the new system are:-

- All customers need to wear a face covering
- Hand sanitiser must be used on arrival
- "Track and Trace" details must be given (these will be destroyed after 21 days)
- All customers need to bring their Library cards
- Social distancing must be practised at all times
- Access is limited to 4 people in the Adult library and 1 adult plus up to 2 children in the Children's library (Couples count as 1 person as long as they browse together)
- There is a time limit of up to 15 minutes to select and check out books

Unfortunately, with the current status of the pandemic, there seems to be no possibility of resuming community activities before the New Year at the earliest.



You can still be assured of a warm welcome from our Volunteer team. We may look a little different but that is the safe way forward for us all.

AGM

The 6th Annual General Meeting of Totley CRIC took place on the 14th September using Zoom, which proved to be a novel experience. The meeting went surprisingly well and the meeting accepted the Annual Report and Accounts.

Two Trustees, Steve Wyatt and Phil Harris, retired on completion of their terms of office and were thanked by the Chair. Phil was especially thanked as he was one of the founding Trustees and his contribution has been huge over a wide range of activities. Chris Lansdown had been appointed as a Trustee in June by the other Trustees and his appointment as Trustee and Treasurer was confirmed at the meeting. Carys Hamilton was also elected as a Trustee.

Three other Trustees had been hoping to retire but in view of

the current difficulties caused by Covid-19 had agreed to stay on but not necessarily for a full 3-year term. This means that there is an urgent need for prospective Trustees to come forward if the success of Totley CRIC and the Library is to be maintained.



Look out for this colourful and special Lockdown Quilt behind the Library desk. It was donated by the #S17 Stay Home Quilt Project. We are proud to display it.

Norman Rolfe, Chair of Trustees



With the recent upsurge in Covid-19 cases it seems increasingly unlikely that any meetings will be possible until early next year so we will have to continue to monitor the situation.

The Committee are still hoping that we can hold an AGM next April and the pressing need for new people to come forward and help with

the management of the Group remains. The current committee members all have been in post for a number of years and recent requests for new members to come forward have fallen on stony ground. Most of the current members had been planning to retire in April had the AGM gone ahead then, and in the absence of any new committee members coming forward the Group may have had to consider dissolving itself.

The Committee is now hoping to be able to hold the AGM in April and the future of the Group will be the main topic for discussion. Those Committee members intending to retire this April still intend to retire whenever the next AGM is held.

In view of this the meeting will be open to non-members and we hope that anyone who might be interested in helping to ensure the Group's future will be able to come along. The eventual date of the meeting will be made known via the Totley Independent and our website, www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk.

If anyone would like more details about what being a member of the Committee entails, please contact me at n.rolfe@btinternet.com.

Norman Rolfe

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Firstly from me an apology! I was very chastened to realise that I had missed the last issue despite the very generous deadlines given by your fabulous editor. I believe it is the first issue I have missed since moving onto the area and can only blame the weird passage of time since March when all the months seem to have merged together and I've often no idea what day it is

let alone what date! I promise to do my best not to miss another issue.

As I write we seem to be about to move into a new phase of rules and regulations amidst an increased number of cases. Whatever your views on the virus and the action being taken, I urge you to find, digest and understand any new restrictions being put into place, particularly in regards to the socialising aspect and how this affects young people. Over the last few months we have seen a number of reports of groups of youths gathering on the Mercia playing fields and Dore Rec amongst other places. It's been interesting to see the divisions being created on local social media around these gatherings with convincing arguments from both sides as to why they either should or shouldn't be moved! However there are rules and I believe that most of the people reading this article have been sticking by them, please continue to do so. If you do have problems interpreting anything please contact me and I will try and translate into plain English for you.

Whilst on the subject of contacting me, can I please remind you not to use the number at the end of this article for your initial reports of crime or anti-social behaviour. Reports should be made through 101, through our online reporting system (SYP website) or, in life or property endangering situations only, 999. I cannot create incident reports and don't take my work phone home with me (I know – no dedication!) so it is not a 24/7 monitored number. Can I ask once again that if you do leave me a voicemail that you also leave a number for me to get back to you, it is immensely frustrating to reach the end of a message I need to respond to and find no number is given. Also on this

subject please do not place posts on the local Facebook page and assume that police will see them; I have read on a number of posts recently that probably someone may have informed the police about something although often find that no report has been received. If you do want to contact us through Facebook please follow the Sheffield South West NHP page, we can be messaged through there although again these messages are not monitored all the time.

If you're struggling to find an upside to our current situation, I'm pleased to say that burglary figures across our area are currently very low. I'd like to say that this is down to fine policing but it's more probably the fact that so many of us had not left our houses in months thus reducing the opportunities burglars would normally take advantage of. However as people are starting to head back into "normal" life we have seen a small pick up in numbers. As mentioned many times by me over the past few years please ensure you have upgraded your locks to the latest British Standard kite marked anti-bump and snap locks and that you make good use of timer lights and other aids such as TV simulators if you're lucky enough to be going out in an evening. I'll also give the age old reminder to ensure doors and windows are all locked and secure on leaving the house, on retiring for the evening or in fact any time you are in and not in sight of the windows you have opened. This is particularly important as we head towards Christmas and the contents of houses may become more tempting. If you still haven't signed up to SYP alerts please do so for early notice of any emerging crime patterns in our area. Go to www.sypalerts.co.uk or send your name, house number, postcode and email address to my contact address and I'll get you signed up.

As ever, and bearing in mind my words above please contact me if you need to on adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk or the mobile 07787 881945. It seems very early to say it but I hope you and your families enjoy the best Christmas you can under the circumstances!

Thanks for reading,

Adrian Tolson, PCSO 8136

South Yorkshire Police
Sheffield South West Neighbourhoods Team
Woodseats Police Station
T: 0114 2963684
M: 07787 881945
southyorks.police.uk

Dore's Militia

Using records from the Sidney Hoffman Archive, we can build up a picture of life in Dore in the period 1813 to 1816. It was a time of great unrest in Europe – Britain and France were at war, and Napoleon's Russian Campaign had just come to an unhappy conclusion.

The policing of Dore and Totley was carried out by a Constable, and between 1813 and 1816 that role fell firstly to George Marsden and then John Pinder. Before the 1829 Metropolitan Police Act, Authorities had few resources to cope with riot, crime and disorder. County parishes and smaller market towns had Constables and the local Watch which was essentially the same system as in Tudor times. Sometimes troops were called in to keep order. Local Militia were used to deal with local problems.

From the Records of the time, the Constable paid to the Local Militia the sum of £2 and 3 shillings (£2.15). The men who received this sum on 3rd June 1815 were Samuel Hopkinson of Totley, William Turner, Jacob Green, James Broom and Henry Wilkinson. They would all have volunteered, and although there might have been pressure to join the Regular Army this was not the rule, even though they were given basic Army training at an Army depot. Once that was completed, they returned to civilian life. At regular intervals they reported for military training, usually on a weapons range. There was an annual two-week training camp.

They received military pay and a financial retainer, a most useful addition to their civilian wage. Many of the Militia saw the annual camp as a paid holiday, and it was a very appealing prospect to agricultural labourers, colliers and the like who could leave their job and pick it up again.

From the accounts submitted for Militia expenses, the men were examined by a Doctor at a cost of 5 shillings (25p); for going under the Standard 2s (10p); Swearing in 5s; cost of Cockades 10s (50p); and most importantly, expenses for dinner and ale 18s 8d (94p).

Dorne Coggins



An example of a Militia cockade of the period which would be similar to those issued to the Dore Militia.

Canine collections and recollections

While taking early morning exercise walks in these strange times I've been struck by how "doggy" our area is. As many, if not more dogs than humans are seen pacing the streets. Rescue greyhounds I've seen reminded me of my first contact with these dogs when I was working on the railway in 1963. This was one Sunday morning when I was on duty at Southall station. A panicking inspector asked me to help locate some greyhounds which had arrived fresh from Ireland on the Rosslare to Fishguard overnight ferry. They had chewed through their leashes and escaped from the parcels office when the porter had unwisely opened the door to clear the fug of his Mick McQuaid pipe smoke. So, we available staff set off on foot along the line in both directions, but hardly at greyhound speed. On my own admission, and through simple observation, we were not the most athletic of men. I headed off west in one direction towards the goods yard and the gasworks area. The other posse worked towards the London direction, but to no avail. The sleek hounds were never seen again and probably ended up in the hands of some of the many greyhound owners and trainers in that area. We failed to collect, and so unfortunately did the consignee.



"Station Jim" of Slough

Then in 1968 I was working at the railway station at Slough (of "Come friendly bombs" fame) where I came into daily contact with "Station Jim" on platform 5. "Station Jim" had died in November 1896. He was a mongrel puppy in poor health who had been brought to the station in 1894. He was fitted with a harness containing a collecting box for the Great Western Railway (GWR) Widows' & Orphans' Fund. In his short life he collected about £40 for the fund and he begged, barked, played dead or stood on his hind legs for every donation received. Occasionally he tolerated a railway cap on his head or a clay pipe in his mouth. He spent time peering out from the booking office - as did I. Accounts suggest he had a reputation for climbing ladders, putting out lighted matches and growling displeasure at the sound of the Salvation Army band. "Jim" had been trained to move about the station only by using the footbridge and never crossing the running lines. A couple of "spur of the moment" solo journeys found "Jim" on one occasion alighting from a train at Leamington Spa and on another at Paddington, but his reputation saw him returned to Slough promptly. After his death, now in the guise of "Station Jim", he was stuffed and placed in a glass case on Platform 5 at Slough where he remains to this day, still collecting for charity 124 years later. As for me, how long was I on the railway? 6 feet 4 inches since you ask...

These sterling workers, initially known as "begging dogs" and later "collecting dogs", did amazing work starting in the latter part of the 19th century collecting for hospitals, lifeboat funds and other local charities. In 1882, a boat train guard based at Brighton

had the idea of training a dog to collect for railway orphans, and a suitable four year-old collie dog named "Help" was supplied by a local clergyman. "Help" quickly became a canine star and travelled for nine years throughout the UK and twice to France. His engraved silver-mounted collar and medal gave details of where further donations could be sent. Having raised over £1,000 for the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, "Help" died in 1891 and was stuffed to be displayed in a case at Brighton station where he could still attract contributions.

In 1898 it was reported that the stuffed collecting dog "Rattler" at Leamington Spa station was still doing worthy work in his glass case after his death. Rattler had started work at Leamington in 1886 having arrived with his master from a small station in Berkshire. At first, he was trained to collect pennies in his mouth which he took to the refreshment room and received a treat in return. His master then thought that Rattler could be used to collect money for the GWR Widows' and Orphans' Fund, and a collecting box was made for him and attached to his collar. Rattler collected £21 in 1894 and £10 before his death in 1895. Railway staff and friends then paid to have him stuffed so that he could continue his worthy work. The frame of the glass case in which Rattler was placed outside his master's office on the station platform carried a poem written by the station cab inspector as follows:

*Widows and orphans, their case I deplore,
Oft in my life I have helped them before,
Old pitiless death took all but my skin,
Lo! Here is my box; please drop a coin in.*

An Irish terrier crossed with an Airedale by the name of "Tim" stationed at Paddington from 1892 became a great favourite of Queen Victoria and the national press. Once, in 1896 "Tim" was cornered at the station by thieves and turned upside down in an attempt to get coins from his collecting box to fall out. He bit one of his attackers when released. By 1897, "Tim" had raised over £325 and was entered into the collecting dogs' category at the Ladies Kennel Club Exhibition at Earls Court. In May 1900 before a journey to London, the Queen asked at Windsor station that Inspector Bush with Tim should be brought to her Royal train saloon coach when her train arrived at Paddington. The Queen was duly met at Paddington by "Tim" with his collecting box on his back and a photo of himself in his mouth. Queen Victoria rewarded this enterprise with a pat and a sovereign in the box. It is not recorded if she accepted the photograph. The following month, the press reported that "Mr Astor the millionaire" had given Tim £200 as a reward for his hard work.

The same year "Tim" was on duty with the crowds at Paddington to greet the City of London Imperial Volunteers returning from the second Boer War. The soldiers had a mascot monkey which came face-to-face with "Tim", but "Tim" reportedly gave the animal a wide berth and some angry



"Paddington Tim"

stares. Despite increasing rheumatism, "Tim" worked until his death in 1902 and collected a total of well over £800 (over £100,000 at 2020 values).

Visitors to the York National Railway Museum may be familiar with Airedale collecting dog "Laddie" in a glass case in Station Hall. "Laddie" collected money at Waterloo station for the Woking, Surrey railway servants' orphanage and home from 1949 until 1956. He retired and lived at the Woking home until his death in 1960 when he was stuffed and put in a case at Wimbledon station where he continued to raise money before becoming a museum piece. A succession of dogs named "Jack" had worked the busy platforms of Waterloo. The first "Jack" started work in 1894 but was stolen in 1899. He was later found with 60 other dogs after a police raid on a den of dog thieves in Chelsea before being returned to his duties after a good feed of beef. He was to collect around £450 during his lifetime and Ascot race days were particularly profitable. Back at Waterloo, "Jack" gained a collar adorned with silver medals for each £100 collected in 1905 and broke records after the visit of the French fleet to the Isle of Wight and on a celebrity tour of the south coast. He was said to be able to distinguish between the sounds of coppers and silver falling into his collecting box, and the greater amounts got



"Laddie" of York

a more enthusiastic bark and a handshake. One-time Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald, en route for America, was approached by a descendant of "Jack" (also named "Jack") at Waterloo in April 1927 and was persuaded to put a half-crown in the collecting box. "Jack", whose eyesight was failing, had a deputy called "Jessie" who in 14 years had 53 puppies as well as raising £5,000 for railway charities. "Jack" was eventually retired to a glass case in which his coat faded from the light and needed to be re-dyed black by the taxidermist doing an overhaul. He now resides at the Bluebell Railway Museum in Sussex and still performs charity work. Another star dog at Waterloo was the St Bernard, "Mariogold of Clairvaux" who not only collected over £4,000 in her lifetime but starred in press advertisements for Bob Martin's Conditioning Powders (one a day)!

One railway company got off to a bad start in 1905 when their unnamed collecting dog at Northampton refused to work after its lunch at noon: the dog only collected £10 that year. Similarly, "Twister" at Merthyr in South Wales was both obstinate and lazy with a lifetime total of £9 which wasn't even enough to cover the costs of his food and the dog licence. On the other hand, "Roy" at Euston worked until retirement in 1924 giving one bark of thanks to Royal and civilian patrons alike. He raised over £3,100 for the Railway Benevolent Fund in his lifetime. Porter Edwards, who was "dog man" and Roy's handler, attributed his success at coaxing money out of people to Scottish ancestry! "Roy" refused to retire to the comfortable home found for him and ran away to his old place of work seven

times. Officials gave in and "Roy" saw out his days quietly back at Euston. He was succeeded by sheepdog "Rags" who was reported to have gone off message very early on in his career by standing on his hind legs to beg for biscuits at Euston station's many booking office windows. He eventually saw the light and returned to collecting the levels of donations achieved by his illustrious predecessor.

In September 1898, the mysterious death of "Charley" the much-respected white terrier collecting dog at Windsor station prompted a post-mortem examination. Some of Charley's donors had thrown coins at him which had been accidentally swallowed. Charley's stomach was found to contain six pennies, eleven halfpennies and various stones. Then there was another mystery at Kingswear, Devon in January 1905 when the station collecting dog "Jim" disappeared. Some days later he was reported as having boarded a ship which had brought coal from Tyneside. He was found on the ship after it had sailed back for more coal. After a brief cruise to Tyneside he was returned on the ship's next voyage. "Jim" was still working in 1909 when the Prince of Wales, the future King George V, left Kingswear by train after visiting Dartmouth. The Prince sent a coin for Jim's collecting box – one would hope it should have been a sovereign at least.

On the South Eastern Railway in 1909, a fox terrier sent from Yorkshire arrived to be collected at Bexley station by the gentleman who had ordered it. However, when he saw it he refused to accept the dog and said it could be sold off. No buyers were forthcoming so the station staff took it upon themselves to train the dog which they named "Spot" to raise funds for the Railway Convalescent Home at Herne Bay. A collecting box was made up and fitted and "Spot" worked the company's lines. He was rewarded with a silver-mounted collar and was enrolled as a member of the Brotherhood of Hero Dogs.

Competition was rife at Leeds station during the celebrations on the occasion of the coronation of King George V on 22nd June 1911. The North Eastern Railway fielded their retriever "Gyp" with brown leather saddle and two collecting boxes bedecked with red, white and blue ribbons. The Midland Railway arrived with their collie "Carlo" complete with a framed picture of the new King on his back and his collection bag in his mouth. "Carlo" took great exception to the frivolity and noise and became difficult to handle. However, he'd settled by the following year long enough to pose for a portrait of him in a green coat with a handler working for the Association of Railway Servants' Orphan Fund. This picture is now in the National Railway Museum collection.

Where is Sheffield in all this you might ask? Well, it seems that while collecting dogs may have paid occasional visits, our station appears never to have had its own collecting dog. But it did have a celebrated cat "George". His reputation for catching rats – up to five or six a night on average – was well-known beyond the city boundaries. Somehow, he was able to recognise and meet the trains with a restaurant car and the travelling chefs usually obliged with a snack. In the lean times when no restaurant car express was due there was the station refreshment room where he was always welcome. Sadly, in October 1930 George, in a moment of forgetfulness, cashed in his nine lives and was run over and instantly killed by the St Pancras to Glasgow express as it was entering Sheffield station. The restaurant car was noted for usually having turbot on the menu which may have been the motivation for this rash act. He did not suffer and his railway colleagues with all due ceremony arranged for his cremation in the firebox of a locomotive at the station.

There were many other collecting dogs such as Bill, Lassie, Prince, Rover, Gip, Smut, Buller, Spot, Taff, Vic and Nell who may not have achieved great levels of fame and publicity, but who nonetheless padded the platforms of the land and used their persuasive powers for excellent reasons. All of them begged, barked, offered paws and did other tricks in the name of charity. There's no doubt about the extent of the canine contribution made to railway welfare funds over many decades of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Mike Peart

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It was not the summer we would have liked, but my garden did not disappoint. By August, eighty-five species of native wildflowers had bloomed since the start of the year.

Early summer flowers included germander speedwell, wood cranesbill, tufted vetch, Jacob's ladder, foxglove, rock rose and the damp-loving ragged robin.

Later, I was really pleased with the border on the left of the garden alongside the largest pond. It was mainly a mixture of blues, purples and pinks and included betony, field scabious, lesser and greater knapweed, teasels, chicory and devilsbit scabious. In August, a recently planted pretty pink common mallow pushed its way up between some of the taller plants. Hopefully, the goldfinches will make good use of the teasel seeds in the autumn.

The border on the right has more or less done its own thing since I allowed the grass along its edge to grow. This was later mown as part of the preparation towards a spring meadow strip next year. The flowers in the border will all have to be fairly tall so they are not hidden by the grass. It means that the white deadnettles will have to go elsewhere as they only grow to about 25 centimetres. Previously I had planted garlic mustard at the back of this border to support orange-tip butterflies. Their leaves are now full of holes - some like gossamer - as the caterpillars feed on them which bodes well for next year. Other plants there include greater celandine, a very attractive and long-flowering plant, hedge woundwort and beautiful



In the left border, bee-friendly swathes of purple betony and blue field scabious, with teasels and a lone foxglove at the back

nettle-leaved bellflowers which have both seeded there from nearby, and also ox-eye daisies, tansy, cow parsley, St. John's wort and agrimony. They can all be rearranged and more added to give an attractive border, along with some meadow cranesbill, a really beautiful flower that is begging to be moved from under the spreading branches of a hawthorn tree!

In the bed within the dry-stone wall on the left of the patio there is white clover, marjoram, and scarlet pimpernel (a very pretty little annual). Then a trellis supports honeysuckle and brambles, followed by small scabious edged with birdsfoot trefoil. The bed to the right of the patio is planted with red clover, small scabious and ox-eye daisies. Another flower appeared among them looking similar to common mallow but more purple. Further investigation proved it to be a cultivated variety, which I had suspected, so it was removed. One of the problems with cultivated flowers is that they can escape and displace our native plants which provide much more benefit nutritionally to our pollinators whose numbers are now seriously depleted.

On the patio itself, lemon balm, marjoram, small scabious, chicory and meadow cranesbill had all self-seeded in cracks between the flagstones where restriction of their root systems had stopped them growing too tall. They looked really pretty.

Last to appear were purple loosestrife, hemp agrimony, and common fleabane which all prefer a damp area. The first two were affected by the regular strong winds and heavy rain in August. They did their best to straighten up, but the agrimony did need some support.

All these flowers attracted many small bees and a wide variety of other pollinators, though this year there were far fewer bumble bees. Not many butterflies either. Hemp agrimony is favoured by the comma and small tortoiseshell butterflies. The latter have

been around, but not on the agrimony, possibly because they were attracted to a buddleia elsewhere, which they adore. However, not being native it would not provide them with the most beneficial pollen and nectar.

We did have the orange-tips of course, along with two gatekeepers and a few small whites. Not so long ago there were lots of butterflies around but the loss of native flowers and the use of pesticides on farmland and in gardens has caused a disastrous reduction in numbers, and on September 30th an e-mail from the charitable organisation "Butterfly Conservation" reported a further loss of 34% since 2019 - that's just one year!!!

Red spider mite attack conifer hedges in spring and summer and has been a problem here for many years. No doubt there is a chemical pesticide, but that would destroy many useful

insects. I have always used natural predators, which I order from a company that specialises in producing them, and they do keep it at bay. They are not cheap, but not damaging to other wildlife.

In autumn, many gardeners feel they must clear their gardens of dying stems, hedge clippings and leaves and a lot of it ends up in green bins. What a waste. It could all be put to good use in one's own garden where it will replace the nutrients lost supporting the plants during the past year and also provide shelter and food for many species of wildlife through the winter. Grass cuttings, stems and twigs can be piled under hedges and last year I put all

the cuttings from two hedges underneath them, saving me a trip to the tip. Leaf piles placed in a sheltered area and protected from rain may attract a hedgehog or small mammals to hibernate there, and will also be a haven for many insects.

Slatted wooden composters standing on soil are really good. With two, one can be filled during the year and turned into the second one in the autumn to give a very pliable compost a year later. It will be full of insects and worms and gradually become a sweet smelling, crumbly compost which will greatly improve the texture and nutritional value of the soil.

David Attenborough's recent television programme, "Extinction: The Facts", certainly put our situation very clearly, but there are many ways in which we can change the way we live in an attempt to address the situation before it is too late. One of them is the way we garden.

I can understand that many gardeners would find it very difficult to change what are the habits of a lifetime, but the loss of our pollinators is a very serious problem. Gardening organically and growing native plants could make a huge difference. For me, the rewards of wildlife gardening far outweigh those of an immaculate space full of foreign or cultivated trees, shrubs and neatly planted flowers, none of which will support much, if any, indigenous wildlife.

We are all frustrated at the different weather patterns we are experiencing at present and leading environmentalists are saying that we must go back to nature. I think they are right.

One lovely memory I have of this year is the volume and clarity of the dawn chorus at 4 o'clock in the morning. It was wonderful. I thought it must have been because there were more birds around than in previous years, but I heard later that it was the result of much better air quality due to the huge reduction of air travel during lockdown. Will it be as good next year? I wonder.

Marian Tiddy

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Starting to write this article I looked back to where we were at in the last edition way back in July – goodness how things change! There was a level of optimism back then, but now once again we are faced with more and more restrictions making socialising difficult.

At the end of the summer a couple of our lunch clubs talked about starting up, but the September restrictions put paid to that. As regards Transport 17, it would have been a considerable task to ensure the service we provided was safe for the very vulnerable group of people we transport. At the time the Management Committee took the decision that we did not have the capacity to embark on this process to put everything in place in case we were needed. Now of course we have the three levels or tiers and Sheffield is hitting a high category so getting back on the road is further away than ever.

You can't help but notice that the blinds at the office remained closed. However, Mike Roberts and Denis Dacey have been busy with the buses. They have been taking them out to ensure they are all ticking over and ready to roll when needed. You may well have seen them out and about. Despite all this we still seem to have had a number of problems with the batteries. It has been great to have Dick Butterworth's helping hand to sort things out. It would seem that the batteries are located in some strange places which are not easy to access. Thanks must go to the three of them for their time. As we would hope the 66 bus has sailed through its MOT, it's hard to believe we have had our newest bus for almost four years! How time flies. There are some repairs that need to be sorted including a replacement tail lift for the 10 bus, so this is a good opportunity to get these things sorted.

The 9th October was the closing date for applications for the Coordinator post. As I write we are shortlisting and hope to interview on 20th October. Some of our volunteers are involved in shortlisting. We are pleased to have the support of Joanna Woodward from People Keeping Well and Ian Jenkinson from Sheffield Community Transport in interviewing. They have a whole range of experience of the sector we operate in and we believe they will be able to assist us in getting the best person for the role. As we have said before this is an important appointment and comes at an exciting time in the development of Transport 17. It is an opportunity for the new post holder to shape and deliver Alan Jockel's vision, collaborating with other locally-based community organisations to assist those who need a helping hand to get out and about, which is so vital to their well-being. We look forward to being able to introduce the new person to you in the next edition.

Sadly, we have had to cancel the Christmas Fayre planned for 14th November. This is a huge blow for us. Even before the September restrictions were imposed it was decided in consultation with Ben and Scott at the Cross Scythes that it just wasn't feasible. They reiterated their willingness to support us in anything we might try and plan instead. Once again, we can't thank them enough for that.

Like so many local charities we will have a huge gap in our income for 2020. The fundraising subcommittee for Transport 17 have got their thinking caps on to see if we can come up with any alternative ideas to raise some funds. We do now have a JustGiving account, so if you wish, it is possible to make a donation online by going to www.justgiving.com/transport17tduk.

It would, of course, have been Totley Show at the start of September. For the last couple of years we have produced a quiz as a fundraiser and prizes have kindly been donated by local businesses. Jenny Nuttall has been beavering away in the background to create another one for 2020, so even without a Show or prizes we do have a Totley street names anagram quiz for a bit of fun. If you fancy having a go you can find it on our Facebook page and at www.transport17.co.uk.

Over the past few months we have received some donations from the Belbin family, Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Totley Rise Methodist Church and Bradway Community Association. We are so grateful for their support particularly in these difficult times.

The latest announcements seem to have caused so many of us to feel an increased level of despondency and mental health levels must be at an all-time low as once again our way of life is turned upside down. There are many concerns about people being able to

get out and about confidently and we are all so aware of the isolation people can be feeling. So many people are doing amazing things to support others. Whoever you are, wherever you are, everyone at Transport 17 hopes that you are all keeping well and healthy and we can't wait to get those wheels turning again.

Sandra Longley
(on behalf of the Management Committee)

Late news!

Transport 17 is thrilled to have been chosen once again as a Co-op 'local cause' for 2020/21. This means that you can support us just by doing your shopping and using other Co-op services! Transport 17 is one of the Co-op's local causes between 25th October 2020 and 23rd October 2021 so please help us to make the most of this opportunity by simply selecting us as your chosen local cause. Given we have been unable to have 2 of our usual fundraising events and missed the support from other organisations locally this will be a huge bonus for us.

As before when Co-op Members buy selected Co-op branded products and services, the Co-op will give 1% to a local cause. You can choose Transport 17 as your local cause by going on-line at www.coop.co.uk/membership, by phoning 0800 023 4708 or by emailing membershipcontactus@coop.co.uk.

If you're not a Member of the Co-op, why not join today? It costs just £1 to join and as well as helping to raise money for Transport 17, as a Member you'll have other benefits, including 5% back on selected products to spend on your next shop. You can join online, over the phone or by visiting your local Co-op and asking for a membership form. Our local Dore and Totley stores have always been a great help to us by donating raffle prizes and advertising our events and we know that they will continue this support so a big 'thank you' to them too.

Keep an eye out for further information and thank you for your support.

Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society

Those of us who have music as our main hobby are getting twitchy at the lack of opportunity to practice it. It is not only the music that we miss but the social contact. I appreciate that we are not alone and that everyone is suffering from the lack of social company. The Dore Male Voice Choir is in the same boat as us and I imagine TOADS has different but equal problems. I suppose most of you, like her who must be obeyed and me, have been doing what you can and having friends to tea or something stronger in the garden, but as the weather closes in and the nights get longer I guess we'll all try and be as safe as we can be. It seems that further restrictions make social contact even more problematic. No doubt we will be extra cautious and hope for the best. I feel very sorry for those people with no garden or balcony to enjoy. We have written 2020 off completely apart from the odd day out to somewhere almost deserted.

As far as the society goes, I doubt anything will happen this side of spring 2021. I cannot see us rehearsing anytime soon. Even when we are allowed to do so, us older ones may be reticent until we are protected by a vaccine. The government (who?) has issued guidelines for theatres and rehearsals but they obviously have no idea how choral groups, musical theatre and on-stage choruses operate. Facemasks if you get close to each other! Singers and dancers need lots of breath and masks restrict the oxygen flow and increase the carbon dioxide intake, an impossible situation for the likes of us. Can you imagine the leading lady and her beau embracing six feet apart with masks on – what fun. So, for now we listen to music and if we've the will power, practice, but we cannot wait until things are really back to normal.

Until the next time please stay safe, don't relax to the point of danger, keep the younger elements in check even though it is hard for them, and keep smiling.

Derek Habberjam

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A brief history of TOADS

We are often asked about the history of our society and, in particular, why we are Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society,



when we don't sing! The potted history below was originally written by Jeff Bagnall, our former chair, set designer and builder extraordinaire, updated by our current Chair, Sarah Scott, and now by me.

For many years, a shield painted on our proscenium arch proclaimed that TOADS was founded in 1959. During the mid-1980s, one of our members (the late Adrian Schofield) undertook some diligent research and determined that the society was at least ten years older. Moreover, its formation sprang from a public meeting as early as 1946.

In those days of austere post-war gloom, interest in 'Community Centres' was actively encouraged by the authorities. Many of the centres were sponsored by the Education Authority and the availability of Abbeydale Hall for a 'dramatic society' was the only catalyst needed by our founder, the late S. Gethin Robinson.

In its early days, the society made its own stage and produced many plays and sketches but soon outstripped the facilities available at Abbeydale Hall. In 1949 a public meeting saw the formation of the joint Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society - TOADS. By 1950 it was clear that the disparate interests of the two disciplines would mix as well as chalk and cheese and the inevitable split occurred. Fortunately for us, 'Geth' had the foresight to retain the TOADS title for the dramatic section although it was not until the 1960s that the split was completed when the Grand Opera Society was formed.

More recent research has now shown us that after the formation of a pure drama society (still, of course, called TOADS), the first recorded play presented was called "Young Wives' Tale" by Ronald Jeans, staged at the Union Church Hall on Totley Brook Road in June 1952. That first play was the forerunner to numerous drama productions, many staged in St Oswald's Church Hall on Bannerdale Road, the nearest suitable venue to Totley at that time.

In 1957, St John's Church built the Reverend Archer Memorial Hall on Abbeydale Road South and TOADS decided to use the new hall for their plays. The first production staged at that venue contributed its profits to the building fund.

In 1974 the need for a larger stage at St John's had been evident for some time. The members set to and built a three-foot stage extension, looking for all the world like a self-assembly Bailey bridge with the proscenium arch being replaced in 1986.

In 2009 the stage extension was replaced by a more modern, lighter-weight one, together with a new proscenium arch and lighting beam, all of which are still in use today – [or will be when we can resume performing!]

A point of interest for TOADS occurred in 1999 when we performed a play written by Hugh Steadman-Williams, called "Return Trip". Unbeknown to all of us, except Monica who was directing, the author had watched our production of his play, and invited the entire cast and crew to perform the play in a multi-national conference centre in Switzerland, all expenses paid!

So July saw us all flying to Geneva and then on to an amazing castle high up in the mountains where we performed our play in a wonderful theatre to a multi-national audience. We stayed for three days. What

an experience!

It doesn't end there, as we were invited the following year, 2000, to perform the play once again. We were very honoured and were delighted to accept.

From our researches into the history of TOADS it became clear that the year 2002 was the time to celebrate our Golden Anniversary. What better way to mark this milestone than to present, once again, "Young Wives' Tale." Whilst the play was considered dated in a modern context, we felt sure that our period offering was well in keeping with TOADS traditions. Moreover, the production served as a tribute to Geth and to his late wife Lil, remembered by many of our members and audience for her fine performances even when in her eighties.

Sarah Scott took over from Jeff Bagnall as Chair of the society in 2006, and stated at the time "I feel very strongly that we should remember and uphold the traditions we have built up as a society over the last half-century. We have a fantastic membership, with all ages included from 18 to 80. All of



us are passionate about producing high quality performances twice a year and deeply passionate about enjoying ourselves throughout the whole year with a variety of social activities".

This has never been more relevant than now, during the current Coronavirus pandemic! As everyone knows only too well, all Am-Dram productions have come to a standstill. TOADS has gone a full year without presenting a play or rehearsing for one.

Yet our wonderful members have kept in close contact with each other via Zoom on Tuesday evenings; our regular TOADS rehearsal night is quiz night. We have also done a Murder Mystery game, again via Zoom, which was great fun, and we have read a play, written by our very own Alan Wade, which again was huge fun. We plan to do more play readings and plan more Zoom activities. We all have our thinking caps on for more future 'events'.

Meanwhile we sincerely hope you are all keeping well and safe. It may be some time yet before we can continue as your very own Am-Dram society but be assured we will continue as soon as we safely can.

To paraphrase Arnold Schwarzenegger, "We'll be Back"!

Anne Bettridge



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Gardens, gardeners and goosegrass

While we were in lockdown it certainly made us look very closely at our gardens, or those of others on our hour-long constitutional. Not a weed dared raise its head in my own garden and my especial enemy was goosegrass, or as you may know it, cleavers – those sticky stems, leaves and seed heads that cling mercilessly to clothing as you pass them by. I'm not reduced yet to roasting the seeds to make 'coffee' as was done in the past, but in their green state lacemakers used to put them on the heads of their pins for extra padding and grip.

Such close attention to my garden has made me think about the occupations in Dore with a link to gardening. Up to the mid-1800s the luxury of having plants, shrubs and trees without an edible function was for the wealthy only. Ploughing competitions were more important than horticultural shows for flowers, fruits and vegetables, but that changed. The Archive team have also contributed to this article and Marianne Morgan found some great information dating from 1866 about the Ecclesall and Dore Horticultural and Floral Society. By 1869 there is reference to the Ecclesall and Dore Flower Show and this is an extract from the newspapers of the time:

'One exceedingly gratifying feature of the show was that several of those that competed in the cottagers' class were often successful in beating the gardeners of gentlemen living in the neighbourhood with them in the open class.'

Horticulture was a serious business. In 1800 the Head Gardener of Capel Manor (Near Enfield in London and the current home of 'Which' trial beds) had a series of rules drawn up with severe fines for disobedience. Some of the 25 rules were:

- Coming to work on a Monday with a dirty shirt.* 3 pence
- Coming to work any morning without shoes being laced or tied.* 3 pence
- Any person employed found gathering fruit with unwashed hands* 4 pence
- Smoking a pipe of tobacco in the hours of work.* 4 pence
- Neglecting to grease a wheelbarrow when requisite.* 3 pence

There are no Dore census records of any gardeners in the 1841, 1851 or 1861 censuses. Our first recorded gardeners occur in 1871 as James Pickerin aged 21 at Dorefields. He was born in Smalley, Derbyshire and his wife Mary, aged 22 is recorded as being born in Ecclesall, Sheffield. By 1881 James (Picking) had changed occupations and was working as a groom; and Charles Cooper, who was born in Reading, Berkshire, was working as a Gardener and living at Dore Lane with his wife Ann.

By then, in 1881, the picture changes. At number 74 Townhead Road – somewhere between Leicester Villas and the old Post Office (now known as Farm Cottage) was the home of John Bowler aged 65, born in Snelston, and his wife Ruth aged 64, born in Eckington. He is described as a Domestic Gardener and Ruth as a Gardener's wife. At Greenwood Mount in the centre of the village was George Bonnington aged 43 and born in Carburton, Notts. He is described as a Gardener in Domestic Service. His wife Sarah was born in Eagle, Lincs.

Finally, still in 1881, Dore Fields reappears as the home of Charles Cooper aged 37, born in Reading, Berks. He is described as a Gardener and his wife Ann, as a Gardener's wife. She was born in Worksop, Notts. Whilst their son, William Charles, was born in Dore it struck me that so far, all our Gardeners have been 'incomers', not local residents changing occupation. However, both widower father and son had moved by 1891 back to Worksop, the birthplace of Charles' wife. Charles was still a gardener and living at the aptly named Garden Row in Worksop.

We have reached the historical point in time when gardening was seen as an appropriate interest and pastime for the emerging middle class along with the start of suburban living. This coincided with having leisure time. They might not be able to have a live-in Gardener but could take advantage of the 'blossoming' access to garden seeds, plants and equipment.

Lawns were an essential part of the formal Victorian garden. The push mower for modest sized lawns was patented in Queen Victoria's reign.



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We would recognise all the common Victorian herbaceous border plants and these were generally grown from seed. Asters, begonias, calendula, chrysanthemum, ferns, fuschia, geraniums, primrose, snapdragons and, of course, roses became a familiar sight in the Victorian garden.

By 1891 there were 10 entries for Dore men who described themselves as Domestic Gardeners. They were of varying ages and experience with only John Bowler and George Bonnington remaining in place from 1881. At last we start to see Dore bred Gardeners appearing, but many are still 'incomers' from places with a tradition of market gardening. William Palham aged 26 was born in Stow, Gloucestershire. He was working at Brook House. By 1911 William's circumstances had changed dramatically. He and his wife, Rose, were now in Blackpool and William was working as a Butler, having started working as a young boy as an Agricultural Labourer in Stow.

Matthew Whittle, already a widower at 35 was living at the Licenced Victuallers Properties on Abbeydale Road, as was John Reddish aged 44 who was described slightly differently as a 'Working Domestic Gardener'. Charles Carvell aged 39 at Ashfurlong Cottages was from Guilsborough in Northants, his wife Sarah from Northwold in Norfolk and their daughter, Lilian Cable, was born in Brandon, Suffolk: a possible indication of how peripatetic was the nature of the job in Victorian times. William Lewis at Moor Bottom was born in Lincolnshire whilst William Buttery at Dore Moor was born in Hodnet, Shropshire.

Only William Taylor aged 19 of Barker's Row, the stepson of Peter Bishop, a scythe smith, was born in Dore. Even Charles Holding aged 19 of Town Street who was the son of John Holding, a milk dealer, was born in Baslow.

Gardeners were the boom employment by 1901. There were 14 in Dore who described themselves as Gardeners, with one of them also describing himself as a Coachman – that was Charles Hopper, born in March, Cambridgeshire who lived at The Coachman's House of The Elms. Who stands out here? Still there were many who were born in various parts of Britain. Frederick Bishop aged 19 lived on Townhead Road with his widowed mother, Mary. Mary was working as a laundress - an occupation often of necessity for widows - and was born in Birkenhead. Frederick was born in Dore. The youngest gardeners were the two sons of Joseph Wragg, farm bailiff, at Ashfurlong. Thomas was 15 and Frank was 13 and both were born in Dore. The oldest Domestic Gardener was Richard Coggon who lived on Wilson Hill (you know it as Savage Lane). He was 71 and born in Hepworth, Lincs, closely followed by John Unwin, 64, who was born in Dore. His address was given as 'Back of Devonshire Arms/Church Street.' Fred Drury of Townhead aged 19 was also born in Dore. The pattern is changing.

Also working in 1901 were Henry Thorpe of Chesterfield; John Gregory of South Leverton, Notts, one of whose children, Maggie, worked as an umbrella makers assistant; William Frith, boarding at Rycroft Farm, of Ecclesall; Joseph D. Peat at Greenwood Mount of Mansfield Woodhouse. George Bonnington and John Bowler had remained in the village. John Street, born in Norton, was working at The Firs on Dore New Road and William Bingham was on Vicarage Road.

Pub Quiz Question: When was the National Sweet Pea Society formed? Answer: 1901.

So, we move on to the last information from the 1911 census records and here the pattern changes. There are 23 men working here in some capacity in gardening. But there are new job descriptions emerging. For example: boarding with William Bingham, still a Domestic Gardener, is John Attlessey of Newmarket, Cambs who is described as a Nurseryman Gardener. So too is William Hasman living at Brookfield Terrace (now better known as the terrace block next to Leyfield Road on Devonshire Terrace Road). William was born in Brampton, Derbyshire. Robert Hancock of Townhead Road is a Nursery Gardener's Labourer.

The new job title of Jobbing Gardener applies to Henry Taylor of

Townhead Road; John Arthur Hancock of Brickhouses (though not his brother Edwin who is still described as a Domestic Gardener); and Charles Hopper, now living at Ashfurlong. Charles had been the Coachman to The Elms but as cars took over the role of coachman would become defunct.

John Thomas Taylor aged 18 and Edwin Andrew Taylor aged 13 of Church Street were both working as Domestic Gardeners. Their story is particularly poignant because both were to enlist and die in the Great War. Their names are on Dore's War Memorial so close to where they had lived with their parents.

The pattern of Gardeners from outside of the village continued. At Thorn Cottage, Moor Side, John Thomas Cooke was born in Metheringham, Lincs.; Thomas Batty at The Lodge, Standhills was born in Spalding, Lincs, John Kidd at Dore Moor House Lodge was born at Carleton, Yorkshire; and Ernest Crampton at Brinkburn Grange Lodge was born in Edwinstowe, Notts.

By 1924 the average weekly wage for skilled Gardeners was 38 shillings (£1.90) per week.

Pub Quiz Questions:

When did Plant Nurseries switch to using plastic pots? Answer: 1963

When was the first Garden Centre? Answer: 1964

When was the Fisons Gro-bag launched? Answer: 1974

Dorne Coggins and the Archive Team



A message from Dore Dental Care

We would like to reassure our patients that, as far as we have been advised, the practice will not close even as we enter Tier 3 restrictions in Sheffield. We now have all the correct PPE and procedures in place to operate safely. We may however be restricted to operating at our current level (emergencies and dental problems) for a longer period.

As a practice we are still prioritising dental emergencies but will hopefully be moving very soon towards contacting anyone who was in treatment before lockdown that is incomplete.

Once we are at a point where we can resume routine care we will first be prioritising patients who had routine appointments booked during and since lockdown. We will advise further on how these patients will be prioritised when we get to this point.

As many of you may be aware the practice has a new owner. However, Mr Meyer remains with us as a dentist at the practice and the NHS side will continue as normal. From the start of November 2020 we will be able to offer places at the practice on a private basis with our new owner Mr Dulay. Please contact the practice for more details on 0114 2368402 or contactus@doredentalcare.co.uk

For any further guidance over the next few weeks with regards to the local lockdown or our general operation please keep an eye on our notice board outside the practice, our Facebook page or contact us as normal on 0114 2368402.

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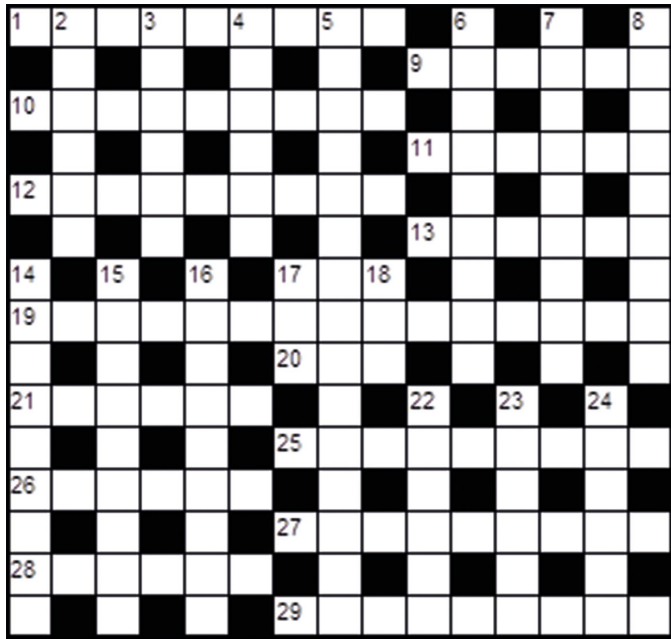
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Across

1. That man's in the country ballot (9)
9. Peter out, accountant in, it's just a pretense (6)
10. It happens following delivery of mail to South African city (9)
11. Structures created by Potter's games (6)
12. Essential, but tiny adjustment around English type of pit (9)
13. Strive to take the girl back to the capital (6)
17. Lever to take energy out of quarry (3)
19. This gives you the time of your life (10,5)
20. It gets chewed by this Yorkshireman being emphatic (3)
21. One adjudicating on dismissals (6)
25. Development about two students taking English test (9)
26. Hang close to cod fish (6)
27. Kept fool provided (9)
28. Required to be irritated when left out (6)
29. Solid back to front is hard to demonstrate (9)

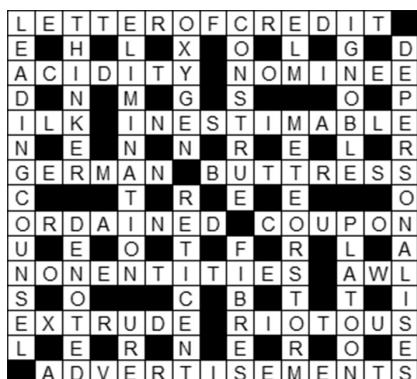
Down

2. Fixed back door keeping extremely turnable (6)
3. Not one of those two, with one going lower (6)
4. Last carriage to catch to the London area (6)
5. Is on such things for added comfort (7,8)
6. Musical number reveals top dressing (9)
7. Lousy porcelain is just a game (9)
8. Wine leads to bad golf shots and some birdies (9)
14. First character limiting profuse (9)
15. Cooking scampi, one has associations (9)
16. Enclosed reading, and start to research everything included by mixed school (9)
17. Important ratio, good to bad person (3)
18. Part of spring given rise to fruit (3)
22. State that it is in the style of 60's Jamaican music (6)
23. Budgie possibly has ordeal, even with another bird (6)
24. To get out, go backwards, right out (6)

Crossword compiled by Mavis

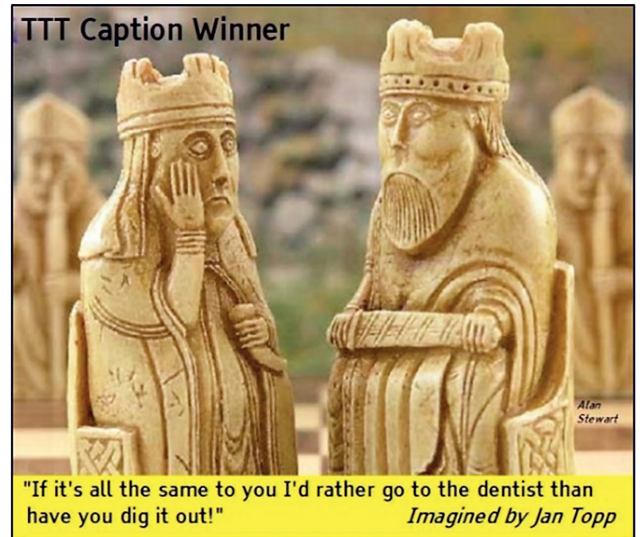
Answers will be published in the February issue

Solution to our Autumn crossword:



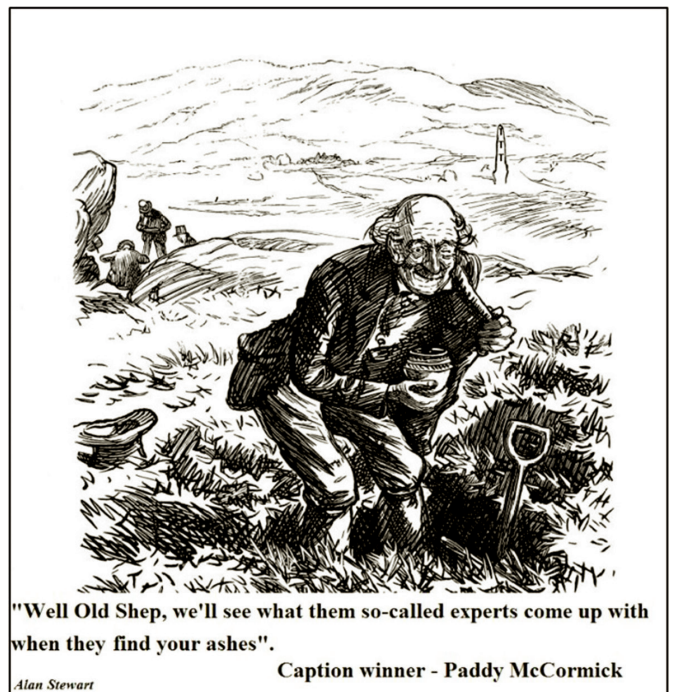
As you can imagine, being an Archaeological group in these challenging times has meant a few changes to our usual programme of activities. At this time of year, we would normally be mid-way through a series of talks, walks and be evaluating the results of a summer of digs in and around the local area. It is a bit challenging to do any of those things at the moment. However, The Time Travellers are optimistic that come the spring we will be 'back in business'.

In the meantime, our 120 members have had a few challenges put to them to keep the 'little grey cells' ready for recommencement of activities. The most recent has been a caption competition with an Archaeological twist. We asked our members to come up with a witty caption to accompany the image. Here are two of the most recent winning captions!



The Lewis chessmen are very recognisable 12th Century chess pieces carved out of walrus ivory. They were discovered in 1831 on Lewis in the Outer Hebrides. Many of the pieces can be seen either in the British Museum or the National Museum of Scotland.

Our second caption relates to Charles Keene (1823–1891). Keene was a well-known artist and illustrator in the Victorian era with many works being used in Punch magazine.



More information about what The Time Travellers will be doing and how to be added to our mailing list can be found on our website at www.thetimetravellers.org.uk.



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Snowpiercer going through Dore on 1st December 2010 (global warming - the line was shut for almost a week).

By March 2020 Hope Valley services were on their way up after badly delayed trains due to major floods in February. Small and aged Pacers on stopping services had all but gone, replaced by bigger 2 and even 4 coach trains. At long last the key commuter services to and from Manchester provided by TransPennine Express were reliably formed of 6 coaches. A really bright future stretched ahead, and we had a successful morning coffee stall.

We all know what happened next. Longer trains remained but services were reduced, and passengers deserted the railway. Services are now almost back to normal but only about 15% of commuters have returned. As each day passes more are settling into a permanent state of working from home. Flexible season tickets due in January may be too late.

Conversely, on fine weather days passenger numbers on the stopping services may be slightly up on pre-COVID. Perpetual 'holidays' for some have made the Peak District very popular. Nothing like enough for our longer trains to be called busy, and certainly insufficient to off-set commuting time losses, but sufficient leisure users to offer a glimmer of optimism. We seem to be seeing a small party of teenagers arriving each day from the Hope Valley, maybe going to a local school?

Is it safe to use trains? Yes!

Yes it is, as long as we all use common sense. Most trains will have plenty of space for distancing.

- Always wear your mask onboard trains, trams and buses - even if you think it's pointless it helps to reassure others who may be more vulnerable.
- When boarding trains towards the Hope Valley at Sheffield or Dore avoid the busier rear carriages of stopping trains. The one at the front may be almost empty so stand at the south end.
- Conversely, when joining TPE fast services to Manchester at Dore you can board coaches 4-6 through 4 at the north end of our platform. They're currently almost empty.
- Don't travel if you have the slightest suspicion that you may have COVID, or been in recent contact with someone who may have.

Services at Dore & Totley are running almost to the timetable originally planned from this May. No fast services are going through to Manchester Airport, all requiring a change at Piccadilly. (The 20.55 from the airport does stop here.) It's looking increasingly likely that Sheffield will not get direct airport services restored, so easing congestion on tracks around Manchester. The Sunday stopping service is now 2 in every 3 hours, so timetable checking is essential.

Those coming by car won't have difficulty finding space in the car park. It's noticeable that leisure users tend to come from areas much nearer to the station than commuters and more

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of them walk. A lot are dropped off or use taxis. When they do park there are likely to be more occupants per car than with commuters. There's also plenty of space in the cycle shelter.

Extract from Sunday Times – 23rd August, but clearly written before COVID:

“The best villages with train stations for part-time commuters

The Hope Valley line wends its way from Sheffield to Manchester Piccadilly (the train takes one hour and 17 minutes) calling at a series of village stations along the way. The first serves affluent Dore & Totley on the south-west edge of Sheffield, where there are 120 free car-parking spaces and six bike racks. Then there's the hardy — and stunningly picturesque — Peak District villages of Grindleford, Hathersage, Bamford and Hope. At busy times, the chances of getting a seat decrease the further towards Manchester you go.”

Hope Valley Capacity Improvement Scheme

We keep in regular contact with Network Rail and other parties, and monitor diverse other sources. We know that Network Rail forwarded their preferred design and build contract tender to the Department for Transport. We understand they sent it forward to HM Treasury for financial sign off in late September or early October and a decision is awaited. We can only hope there's still enough money at the bottom of the bucket for a Northern 'shovel ready,' job creating, infrastructure project. It may have been announced before you read this - spin doctors will be choosing their time carefully, no doubt.



Work on the air shaft on Totley Moss.

What we do know is that many little projects in our area are proceeding to make the major project proceed as quickly as possible. They will have needed doing anyway but best to get them out of the way. Over £1 million is being spent on the deepest Totley Tunnel central air shaft and drainage work inside the tunnel. It seems they may be abseiling down from the top – possibly 700 feet to track level!

Walkers may also have noticed work going on beneath the railway tracks where they cross the Limb Brook. Cofferdams were built at the Ecclesall Woods and Ladies Spring Wood end where the Limb Brook meets the River Sheaf, just above the weir supplying the Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet's mill pond. The water was then pumped between the two points to allow men to repoint the walls and then spray a protective concrete coating to keep it all in place.

We believe we may have seen the intended work timetable for the main project, but that can't be confirmed until finance is confirmed. When it is, more preparatory work will start to be done, although little major is likely to be seen until the project starts in earnest on 1st January 2022. From then work to prepare all the sites should take place so heavy construction can be done during the summer months. If all went to plan

the project might be completed by the end of June 2023 – it's intended to be a 15-month contract.

Unfortunately, although we have nice conversations and email exchanges with Network Rail and others, we've been unable to pin down exactly what facilities we'll have on our new platform, how they'll look, and what we can do to improve them. We're told that will come when the project is given the go ahead.

Separately, Network Rail's surveyors have still to check the extra support placed midway along the canopy before the temporary supports positioned in February can be removed.

Now the really good news - New trains!

On Sunday 13th September new (well almost new, two-year-old) Class 195 trains stopped here for the first time. They're quicker and more able to keep to the timetable, in theory at least. More than half of our stopping trains are now be operated by these. Why not try one – wearing your mask and at a distance, of course.

Meanwhile TransPennine Express services are running all but empty. Manchester city centre is all but deserted - apart from builders preparing offices that may never be occupied! When you can, why not take a day trip to Cleethorpes in a



Cleethorpes Pier. Look at all those social bubbles.

carriage almost to yourself for a walk by the sea with fish and chips on the pier? Our 8.05 departure gets there at 9.50 without changing.

Or take the 8.28 direct to Peterborough, Ely or Norwich for somewhere different and have a night or two away. Unfortunately, changes are needed to get back, but currently all trains have lots of empty seats.

COVID won't go on for ever. Slowly we must adjust and avoid the greatest dangers – and enjoy ourselves. Please take a safe, but almost empty train, because if we don't we'll lose them!

Finally, a note of thanks to James Bird of JA Bird Landscapes. Last year the frontage to the station was becoming increasingly overgrown, although it was in the station operator's contract to maintain it. Over two years we'd been asking for that contract to be fulfilled. James offered his firm's services without charge in exchange for some signs to make that known. It took months to get that agreed - until at the very last minute someone finally spotted that Northern were supposed to be doing it, and their sub-contractors now are.

Encouraged by this, the Friends have planted 600 daffodils and 1,000 crocuses around the station. Let's look forward to a brighter Spring.

If you're a Facebook user, you can find and join us by searching for FoDaTS. It's a very active group. If you're not on Facebook and would like more information, please send an email to our Secretary; njbarnes@outlook.com. There's lots of information on our website at; www.fodats.net

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With the lockdown lifted and the government giving us permission to eat at restaurants again, I thought it would be interesting to check out a Dore institution. The Dore Grill has been re-re-branded back to The Dore Grill, apparently with a new manager and a new chef. Cue a Saturday night date night!

The COVID-19 measures in place were impeccable, with hand sanitiser as we entered and clear instructions given by the staff, who were wearing clear plastic visor type masks. We were seated and offered menus and drinks efficiently, by a very friendly waitress – so all in all off to a good start.

At this point I will say that I have only eaten at the Dore Grill twice before – both times for set Christmas lunches. On both occasions the venue lived up to its reputation – good quality food, cooked simply but well and, overall, excellent value for money. The regular menu was apparently a bit of a throw-back to an earlier age when prawn cocktails, steak Diane and a sweet trolley were the height of sophistication! [And a bottle of Blue Nun! -Ed] However, I have never heard anyone complain about the quality or value for money.

With a new chef and the intention to provide a more modern take on the traditional, while maintaining the essence of the establishment, I was looking forward to reviewing the local eatery.

We ordered the bread tray to nibble on and a bottle of Rioja (£25) while choosing our food. The fresh bread, both white and wholemeal came with tapenade, olive oil, balsamic and butter and included lovely, crispy melba toast (£2.50). The menu pricing is very simple - £5 starters, £14.50 mains and £5 desserts for a choice of seven, eight and six respectively, plus steaks between £16.50 and £20.50.

I decided on the mushroom arancini to start, which was served with salsa verde and shaved parmesan. The crispy breadcrumb coating was perfectly crunchy and the mozzarella in the middle was molten as it should be, with a sharp salsa verde rounding out the flavour really nicely. My partner also went for a deep-fried dish,



this time the brie, served with a wild berry coulis. Again, a good example of this simple dish.

For main courses we chose lamb rump and duck. The duck was pan-fried and served with cranberry jus and dauphinoise potatoes. The idea for this dish is sound, unfortunately the execution left a little to be desired. The presentation wasn't particularly appetising; in fact, it could be described as messy and the cranberry jus was more gravy than jus with far too many cranberries. The duck itself was cooked through rather than pink in the middle, and therefore, in my opinion – overcooked. The taste, however, was good – well seasoned and for the most part, tender. The overly large dauphinoise turned out to be on the dry side with none of the creaminess that should characterise this dish.

My large lamb rump was served with creamed potatoes and a honey and mint sauce, and unfortunately didn't look particularly good on the plate. Like the duck, I would have expected the lamb to be pink in the middle, but mine came overcooked and under-seasoned and was therefore disappointing. The mash on the other hand was really good, the potatoes were tasty, well-seasoned and smooth and creamy. The biggest disappointment, however, was the honey and mint sauce. The sharpness of mint in a traditional mint sauce offsets and compliments the sweetness of the lamb. The addition of honey took away this attribute and made the whole dish way too sweet for my taste. Maybe this was due to the quantity of the sauce, which smothered the dish rather than complemented it.

Although tempted by the dessert selection, the disappointment (and size) of the mains meant that we decided against a third course. While waiting for the bill we were offered a complimentary glass of wine, which was a nice touch, and testament to the quality of the service.

Although this review sounds largely negative, I believe that the new incarnation of The Dore Grill has great potential. With a few tweaks and a little bit more care I think that this Dore village stalwart will be around for years to come. After all, the legendary value for money remains and at £66.50 for bread, two courses and wine, I will be trying this restaurant again with high hopes.

Hendo Nagasaki

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Councillors Update

At last! After many frustrating delays, the Sheffield Local Plan has been out for consultation which closed on 13th October. This is a very important document because it sets out the plans for housing in our city over the next 20 years. A Green Belt Review is part of this process. Sheffield needs 40,000 new homes over this time and the plan sets out options as to where these homes can be sited. Two of the options include placing a substantial portion of these new homes in the green belt and the Local Plan reviews a number of locations where that building could take place. Your local councillors will be keeping a very close eye on progress.

Full Council meetings have resumed albeit virtually. This has enabled members of the public to ask questions again, so feel free to exercise your democratic right and quiz the city council! Something we all need to be aware of is the strain on the city's finances due to the pandemic. Current estimates suggest an overspend of around £50 million this year and we need to make sure that the right decisions are being made on priorities. All three of us are actively involved in scrutinising different aspects of the Council and how it spends its money.

A lot of Council staff continue to work from home. This relies on technology always working efficiently which is not always the case! However, increasingly council services are returning to more normal conditions, but it will be some time before most staff are back in the Town Hall. Indeed, it is likely that as a result of the experiences we have all had during lockdown that some new ways of working will continue.

As we enter Tier 3 of lockdown, we need to be aware of supporting our neighbours in this difficult time. There are a

number of sources of help such as the S17 Covid-19 Community Support Group who have done excellent work throughout this period. The Council helpline number is 273 4567 and this can provide help and support in a number of ways.

We have reported on the need for a café in Whirlowbrook Park before. Like many things progress has slowed since March, but we understand the proposed café operator is still very much interested and terms for the lease are currently being negotiated. Here's hoping that 2021 will see its arrival.

Concern about speeding traffic is an issue that has been around for a while. Community speed checks have been suspended during the pandemic, but the Police have been doing some extra speed checks locally; such as recently on Dore Road. We are investigating purchasing another Speed Indicator Device from our Ward funds like the one on Baslow Road. These SIDs can be rotated around the area to speeding hot spots and are effective at reducing speeds.

An Ombudsman report on the highway trees issue has recently been published and widely covered in the press. It gives a damning picture of how Sheffield City Council handled the situation.

And finally... due to the pandemic we regret that our face-to-face surgeries remain temporarily cancelled but you can still contact us by phone or email. We look forward to hearing from you.

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to find all 50 trail boards. Maps and answer sheets available from our office at 2a Bushey Wood Road, S17 3LP. Whilst undertaking the trail please ensure you follow the current COVID-19 government guidance and remain socially distanced from other families. Return your completed answer sheet back into our office and receive a selection box. Hopefully this event will bring some Christmas cheer and raise vital funds for our school!

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Autumn Blues – dedicated to Whittington Goddard Associates by Barbara Stewart, a long standing client of WGA Ltd

The leaves are turning brown again, and summer's nearly gone
We're still in semi-lockdown, what on earth is going on?
These last six months have been a trial, a pain, it must be said
For you at Whittington Goddards, I'm sure you're seeing red
Work from home, wear a mask, not exactly fun
And all to keep the clients happy, (if that can be done!)
But I must say it was so kind, to send your friendly greetings
It cheered me up to think you've time between your Zooming meetings

(For as we know, your crazy world of markets, stocks and shares
Can bring you quite a lot of grief as well as shocks and scares)
And so I've spent some happy hours, staring at your portal
(I know my grasp of finance is enough to make you chortle)
For though I've dodged the virus and my health is not too blighted
My mental skills have dwindled and I'm feeling quite benighted
For my hopeless grasp of detail I will surely get short shrift
The paperwork's in chaos and the files are all adrift
Letters are belated, unposted and mislaid
My mind is in a muddle, have all the bills been paid?
Now Boris tells us six more months of misery to come
I used to be so jolly – now I'm feeling glum
And now I'm over seventy, I'm told I'm frail and weak
What happened to normality? – it's gone right up the creek
So bear with me, I'm in a mood, I want to stamp and shout
And I'll blame it all on Covid – of that there is no doubt!

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Socially-Distanced Football

Well I don't know about you, but I have to admit that I'm starting to get just a tiny bit sick of Covid-19. Obviously, I can only speak for myself, but the novelty has definitely worn off.

After spending the entire summer selflessly eating out to help out, I was really hoping for more in return for my labours than a seemingly infinite series of quiet nights in during the long winter months. More specifically – I was hoping for a return to precedented times.

Still, every cloud has a silver lining and I'm sure I'll be able to think of one before the end of the column...

At least the football's back on, bringing with it a semblance of normality to the lives of thousands of junior grassroots footballers across our city, and a small library of well-meaning if occasionally baffling advice from the Football Association for coaches to read, memorise, implement and - possibly - be tested on.

I really don't want to dwell on this - God knows I've spent long enough on it already - but I would like to share with you just one small patch from the Bayeux Tapestry of protocols and processes we've been expected to work with:

'On match days if a player is injured, coaches should administer first aid wearing appropriate PPE and maintaining 2m distancing at all times.'

Blimey!

Now, I'm never one to disobey an order but this really did stretch my non-magical abilities to the max. I'll never forget the look on the face of our under-21 centre-back, as I attended to his groin strain – in full PPE – from a socially distanced two metres, by hurling the ice bucket and firing Deep Heat in his general direction. He wasn't as grateful as you might imagine.

Seriously, it's literally not been harder to put a football game on this side of World War II, so hats off to the coaches, club secretary, directors and small army of Brunsmeer volunteers for making sure the matches happen.

And with the football back on, when the editor came a-calling this time for his 800 words there was actually something to write. That's almost as silvery as it gets.

Under-13s

If there is a man with the magical ability to deliver first aid from a socially distanced two meters, it's Barney Dodsworth, the indomitable manager of our under-13s. Testament to his wizardry is the fact that he has persuaded a business that closed over thirty years ago to pony up a shirt-sponsorship deal.

Back in the day, Redgates was a much-loved Sheffield toy shop and long-time sponsor of the junior football league. Barney's team have linked up with erstwhile Redgates employee Maggie Nunn, who funded the kit to commemorate the retail emporium and its contribution to the fabric of the city. Last year, Mrs Nunn arranged for a memorial plaque to be unveiled on the site of the former store on The Moor. Redgates might be gone, but it'll not be forgotten while the under-13s are banging the goals in.

Under-10s

Last year's under-9s had a very successful season, losing only one game prior to lockdown. They also reached the Final of the U9s Plate in March. It was a long wait until the final, but one that was to prove worthwhile as they ran out 4-1 winners. Such quality does not go unnoticed for



Brunsmeer Under-13s sporting their snazzy new Redgates sponsored strip.

long. In June, one of those bittersweet moments that every coach worth his salt hopes for, but also dreads, occurred when capable keeper Oliver Herrick departed having caught the eye of Premier League club Leeds United. We wish Ollie all the best at Leeds, it's a great opportunity for him and testament to the quality of our coaching staff at the club.

On a much sadder note, one of the team's players Jonah Buxton suffered a badly broken leg whilst playing the game he loves. The injury will keep him out of action for up to a year. The whole club wishes Jonah a full recovery and we look forward to seeing him in the famous red and black in the very near future.

Under-14s

Following hot on the heels of their Spring update, our under-14 team coached by Andy Campbell, Jason Brannan and Joe Hill have gone from strength to strength. They finished runners-up in their league last season, gaining promotion with a squad that included no less than eight new players. Moreover, at the time of writing they have the final of the 2019-20 League Cup next weekend. We wish them well, but the boys will definitely be well prepared despite the long lay-off. The coaches ran online video training for the team throughout lockdown, to ensure the boys maintained their fitness and developed their skills. It certainly proved a welcome break from home schooling!

Steve McKevitt

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September and October were rather hectic for me! Recently returned to work after a furloughed summer, both our children returning to school after the national six-month hiatus, and More in Dore simultaneously running the Aviva Community Fund Crowdfunder and organising the Dore and Totley Comedy Gala online event.

After all our previously organised events had to be cancelled earlier this year, I was hopeful that all the time and effort spent on these two recent projects would help increase awareness of More in Dore as a local community group along with our aims and visions for Dore recreation ground.

Dore and Totley Comedy Gala

Firstly I would like to thank the brilliant Lucy Beaumont for getting in contact with us originally, her help securing the acts for the evening and of course putting me in contact with the wonderful James Gill and Tim Lewis from Always Be Comedy, without whom the event would not have happened.

Secondly I want to acknowledge all the amazing local businesses who, despite the current situation, generously offered to sponsor the event – whilst Jon Richardson, Lucy Beaumont and Always Be Comedy offered their services for free, the other acts and technician for the evening did require paying. Sponsorship money from these businesses covered the costs for us (and added to the pot considerably), meaning all the money made from ticket sales could be used towards the playground rejuvenation project.

I would just like to say that we have a great selection of local businesses around us and now more than ever we should all be making a conscious effort to support them.

So I would like to give a massive thanks to our sponsors for the night:- Worrall Business Supplies, Taylored Personal Training, Brightman Clarke Architects, Styleicon, Paper Moon, The Dore Grill, The Devonshire Arms, Barlow Barton and Union Jack chippy.

My wife and I had watched an act on Always Be Comedy several weeks before to see how it all worked, despite this I was still unsure exactly what to expect on the night.

On the day there were a few very last minute changes and unfortunately we were not able to show all the videos submitted from locals (due to over running a bit), but I feel the evening went well and hopefully put a smile on your faces.

Finally, on to how much we raised... the grand total from ticket sales and sponsorship (after costs) was an amazing £3,040! Thank you so much to all who bought a ticket, helped out or supported us.

Aviva Community Fund

Our Aviva Community Fund Crowdfunder page ran for 41 days from the 26th August. We obviously weren't going to get the full

Oops!

No dozy parker this issue, but just as we were going to press this happened. Looks like the driver was trying to reverse because of cars parked on the double yellows outside the Co-op - again.

Just because you're 'only going to be a minute' doesn't make it alright. Buses and HGVs get stuck here regularly which gridlocks the village until the shoppers get back to their cars.

The cost of repairs to the bus shelter will be on all our rates next year.



amount for the playground through this and with all the current uncertainties I set an optimistic target of £5,000. In reality I wasn't expecting us to reach our target but thought it was worth a go regardless. So, on the 7th October when our Crowdfunder page closed, I was blown away that we managed to exceed our target. The final amount raised after transaction fees was a staggering £5,028.57! It was made up of around 50% donations from local people and businesses, and the other 50% from 'Aviva Employee Giving' donations and the 'Aviva Community Fund'. Again, I would like to thank everyone

that donated and our wonderful community.

You may be aware that as well as being Chairperson of More in Dore, I am also a committee member and Trustee of the Dore Village Society. It was announced during our monthly meeting in September that as the Dore Village Society has unfortunately not had its usual outings for village events such as Party on the Green, The Dore Show, or The Lantern Parade this year that they will be very generously be donating £7,500 to More in Dore for the playground rejuvenation project! A huge thank you to The Dore Village Society and to all the great work they do in and around Dore.

We have carried on conversations with Sheffield Council and Dore Primary School and as a result the school are now hoping to be able to hold a tree planting event at the recreation ground later on in the year as part of the year 6 John Muir Award. I've also passed them details of our local Sheffield Litter Pickers, so hopefully we will be able to organise a school or community litter pick there as well when restrictions allow.

We've also had a few new members join More in Dore, some of whom are currently working on a new fundraising event that all being well we can do in the new year. More details will hopefully follow soon.

We still have a long way to go to reach the £50,000 to £60,000 required to replace the whole playground with new and better equipment, but I feel like things are actually starting to happen now and these last few months have been a good start to getting us off the ground. As the council suggested a rolling replacement of equipment, we may be able to make some of these replacements within the next year. Stay safe and watch this space.

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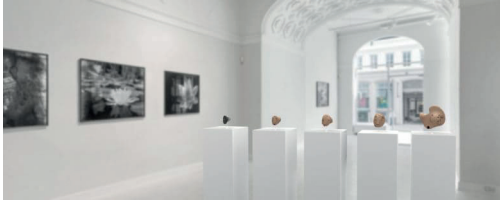
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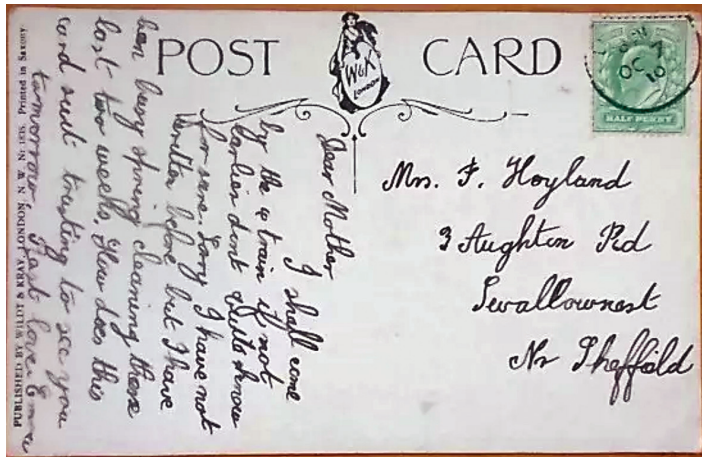
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A postcard from Dore



It was a cold evening in October 1910 when a young lady hurried down Townhead Road, hoping to catch the Post Office at the bottom before it closed. It was Friday and she wanted to post a card to her mother in Swallownest, to say that she would be going to see her on the Sunday, her only day off.

Emma Hoyland was from Swallownest, and had moved to Dore a couple of years earlier to work as a domestic servant to Archibald and Edith Laura Ogden who were newly married and living at Knolls Lea, Dore. He was an Analytical Chemist for a steel manufacturer, an important man. Now the newly-married Mr. and Mrs. Ogden had eaten their evening meal and he was reading the paper in front of the living room fire, whilst his wife was in the drawing room doing her needlepoint whilst she listened to the new phonograph they'd just bought. Gramophones they were called now - Emma remembered seeing the new word in the advertisement that Mistress had marked when they had been talking about buying it. Anyway, they were both occupied, giving Emma the chance to slip out for ten minutes before she went back to wash up, get everything ready for breakfast, see to the gas mantles and bank up the fires for the night. She sighed, maybe she would see her own bed before midnight.

She was in luck - although it was nearly eight in the evening the light in the Post Office was still on. She was glad to have written her postcard already, picking a cartoon one from Dore that she thought her Mum would find amusing.

"Dear Mother", she had written, "I shall come by the 4 train if not earlier, don't quite know for sure. Sorry I have not written before but I have been busy spring cleaning these last two weeks. How does this card suit? Trusting to see you tomorrow, Best love, Emma."

"Hello, young Emma" said Herbert Jackson, the Postmaster. "You're lucky, I was just about to shut up shop."

"Thank you Mr. Jackson", replied Emma. "I just wanted to

send this to mother, it looks like I might be able to go over and see her this week." She handed over the card, and her ha'penny for the stamp.

"It won't go till tomorrow now," Herbert reminded her.

"That's alright, I wanted to catch you tonight so the card went first thing in the morning. Mum should get it by dinner time."



Herbert Jackson, right, with his family outside Dore Post Office as it was in 1910. Herbert holds the hand of his daughter Catherine.

"Aye, you should be alright there", replied the Postmaster as he put the card in the sack for morning collection. "Right, I'm going to lock up and get some supper. You watch yourself going back, stop away from them in the Hare, it's Friday night remember and they'll have had a few broths by now."

Emma left, pleased that she'd made the Post Office in time, and made her way back up Townhead. She was from a large family with six brothers, all working down Kiveton and Brookhouse pits. Mining work was not very reliable, and though she was the only girl it was she that had the steadiest income. She shivered and pulled the shawl tighter round her shoulders as she walked back to more work, spring cleaning in October, and out of our story.

All this, if you forgive the artistic licence, actually happened; we know because we've seen the postcard. The cartoon on the front is politically outrageous by modern standards and we're not going to print it here. What's most surprising is that a young girl, 20 years old, would find it an appropriate picture to send to her mother.

Herbert Jackson was a cheerful bloke, well-known in Dore and widely respected. He remained Dore's Postmaster until 1916, when he enlisted and sadly died at the end of 1917 from wounds received in the mud of Passchendaele. (see Dore to Door 132, page 21.) Of Emma, we know no more.

It's surprising what you can find out from one little piece of paper, written over 110 years ago. A little window into the past.

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From Dore to Door #19, Autumn 1990

Memories of Dore

Mrs Irene Lonslow who still lives in Sheffield has kindly contributed the following memories of Overdale House to the Dore Collection.

The house that once stood in the area of land now known as Overdale Gardens was the home of a Mr. and Mrs. Richards who had been pawnbrokers in Sheffield during the 19th century. It was a large house, approached by a long carriage drive leading from half way up Drury Lane, where the gate posts still stand with 'Overdale' inscribed on them. The ground attached to the house covered a fair acreage, boasting an orchard, large rose garden, kitchen garden, large lawn, summer house, greenhouses, stables and potting sheds. Also a field which stretched down Drury Lane along High Street (?) towards Totley fields, all of which has now been built on. This field was used as pasture land for the horses. There were also three houses at the entrance of the drive to Overdale, one was occupied by the Richards son, Edwin, who was a Doctor at Firvale Hospital, now the Northern General. Another was occupied by the 'Streets' but the third I cannot remember.

My father came to work as a groom/gardener to the Richards family in the year 1907/1908. A house was built for him, adjacent to the large house and was known as Overdale Lodge. This house was double fronted with eight rooms, an orchard in front and large grounds at the back leading to the potting sheds, stables and through to the main garden.

I was born at Overdale Lodge in 1909, but due to the fact that my mother was very ill, I spent the first six months of my life with the Gibbons family, who were long standing friends of my parents from Belper and kept the Hare & Hounds in Dore. Our family now consisted of my parents Walter and Emily Ford, my sisters Gertrude (14) Constance (7) and myself (Irene).

The horse and carriage driven by my father was well known in the village. Twice a week he drove to Cherry Tree Lane, Sharrow, to fetch Mrs. Richards' daughter, Mrs. Pilling, who always brought me a box of King George chocolates every week for which I had to endure the process of being washed and combed to fetch. On one occasion the carriage was coming up Church Lane and I was playing in the farmyard facing the top of Church Lane (I believe the farm belonged to the Farnsworth family) when I spotted my father, stepped on the water trough to wave, and fell in. I was unceremoniously pulled out and taken back home to be dried.

My father was one of the first to grow a yellow tomato and Mrs. Richards was very proud that it had been produced in her greenhouses. My father grew flowers all the year round, he always wore a buttonhole, and I never went to Sunday School without a rose or buttonhole for the teacher, summer or winter. One Sunday I decided to go to the village shop, kept by Mr. Thorpe, to buy some sweets. Unfortunately when I got outside I bumped into my Sunday School teacher. Not wanting to be seen to be buying sweets on a Sunday I put them behind my back and walked with her along Church Lane. When we parted company I discovered that my sweet bag was empty, they had all fallen out on to the road.

Nursing sick dogs was one of my father's interests and it was not uncommon for us to have someone's ill dog. My sister Connie and I had to exercise them. By this time the First World War was pending, my father was asked to look after a dog for a Major who had been joined up. I took the dog a walk down the fields one morning, a farmer's dog attacked it and bit it severely in the neck, I was too young

and frightened to stop it, but I have never forgotten the incident, I still remember it if I walk into Dore from the Totley Brook bus stop. It took some nursing but it lived. My father also broke-in horses and trained dogs to the gun. Connie and I also had many a job to do, one of which was to weed the 2ft wide border either side of the drive up to Overdale.

Connie went to the village school and on one or two occasions I followed her only to be sent home. Finally they got so tired of doing this that Mr. Bone the headmaster said I could stay, so I started school at the age of three.

Once a year, maypole dancing was held on the village green. It was a spectacular occasion, looked forward to by the children, the girls wore white needlework dresses. All the village took part in it.

Christmas was a time for Sunday School Prize Giving, also an apple, orange, spice pig and a new penny.

Now the First World War was on.

My father had been kicked in the chest whilst breaking in a horse and it was said that this had caused him to get cancer of the oesophagus (whether this is true or not I do not know) but he went to the Sheffield Infirmary for an operation. Whilst my mother visited him, a journey which could take the best part of a day, I was left in the care of a Miss Heywood, who lived in Drury Lane. In a house nearby lived her sister, Mrs. Merrill. My father died in Dore in September 1916, a few days after the German Zeppelins were heard over Sheffield, and was buried in Dore Churchyard next to the grave of a friend called Page.

We then had to leave Overdale to allow another gardener to take over so mother, Connie and I went to Brinkburn Grange Lodge. Gertie by this time was in service. I can remember walking down Bushey Wood Road, which was mostly all fields, carrying two galvanized buckets containing the remains of our belongings. I was only seven and it seemed very dark and eerie as we made our way through the fields past the cows, to our new home. We stayed at Brinkburn Grange Lodge until the end of the war when the previous occupier came back from the forces. Brinkburn Grange was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Laverick (Mr. Laverick was the Managing Director of Tinsley Park Colliery Co.)

My mother then returned to Overdale as housekeeper to Mrs. Richards, this caused our family to split up. Connie (17) went into lodgings at a house in Green Oaks and I went to live eventually with my mother's relatives at Tuxford, not to live in Sheffield again until I was fifteen.

My mother stayed at Overdale until Mrs. Richards died around 1925, when the grounds were taken over by other people until around 1967 when the main house and lodge was demolished and the land put up for sale. It made bold front page headlines in the "Star" OVERDALE SOLD FOR £20,000 (I think my memory is correct).

My mother visited Dore frequently until she died in February 1941. She had visited my father's grave after the blitz and had a cup of tea with my old school teacher, Miss Unwin, then she came home and collapsed.

My sister, Connie, died in January 1984 and was also buried in Dore churchyard with my mother and father.

There are lots of names that came to mind, such as Marsden, Taylor, Marshall who kept the grocery shop facing the church and eventually, I am told, built a bungalow on the field which belonged to Overdale.

Hudsons who lived in the White Lodge and owned the art gallery on Norfolk Street. Mrs Hudson always spoke to me on my way to school and one year she gave me a Christmas party for my friends (but true to form on my way home I lost all my presents) and Deakins who I believe lived at the top of Totley fields. I do hope that although I have given it a lot of thought I have not put the wrong name to the wrong place.

New old pictures (and new pictures of old things)

As we're a little short on material again this issue, we thought we'd treat you to some of the old pictures of Dore that have come our way recently.

Pictures of old Dore come to us regularly, and this issue we are grateful to Rob Crosland who now lives in Berwick, but was a Dore resident until he was eighteen. (Not all these photos are from him.)

Anyone is welcome to send in similar pictures; we'll be pleased to receive the originals and place them in our archive. If you'd rather not part with the originals, then email editor@doretodoor.co.uk and we will make arrangements to scan them and send them back to you, wherever you are living now. If you're in the local area, you're welcome to bring your pictures along to the DVS office in the Old School by appointment, where we can take scans for the archive while you wait and you'll then be able to take the originals home with you.

Our first picture, above right, is somewhere that you probably recognise. It is labelled 'Brookfield Terrace', an old name of what we now call Devonshire Terrace Road. Leyfield Road is off to the left, where the single boy is standing. You can see that the further block of houses is still under construction, so we think that the photo dates from about 1902. Unfortunately we can't quite see what is on the other side of the road. Was the Co-op there by then, or were there other buildings?

The next two pictures, right, are possibly only a few days, weeks or months apart and, we think around 1970. The top one is no problem, you can stand on the exact same spot today. Beyond the petrol pumps are the roofs of the shops which used to stand where The Village Greens is now. The tall chimney directly above the left hand petrol pump looks like the chimney also in the lower picture, but there the shops have been demolished. The chimney belonged to the smokehouse for the butcher's which used to be on that corner. You can see the 'Shell' branded sign in both photos, but the pictures are taken from opposite sides. Do you recognise the lady in the picture? Do you remember whose car this was, with the registration number HWJ74C?

Finally, below are two more familiar views, firstly looking along Church Lane from the top of Savage Lane. We don't know the exact date but the corner cottage was demolished in 1964, so it's before then. I know that the view of Topley Rise isn't in Dore but it does show what Baslow Road looked like in horse-drawn days. I think this is a little up from Topley Rise shops, one of which you can just make out above the gate on the left.

John Eastwood





Do you remember this bus? A few clues in the photo - first of all, the picture was recognisably taken outside Sheaf Valley Baths, which opened in 1972. The bus registration though is several years older than that, and looking at the site cabins and construction equipment, the baths might still have been under construction when the photo was taken.

The bus is not in Sheffield Transport livery, which was cream or cream and blue at that time. It's a Routemaster of the type used by London Transport, and the logo on the side looks very like that of London Transport. Also, the advertisement on the visible side is for a newspaper called The Standard which has never existed in Sheffield - but there is still the London Evening Standard.

So, what was happening here? Was the Sheffield Transport Department buying retired buses from the London fleet and repurposing them for Sheffield use? And was the route to Dore ever a number 5? I only remember it being a 50 around that time.

The photo now lives in the Dore Village Archive, and we'd love to hear from anyone who remembers what was happening around this time. Are my deductions anything like correct, or is there another story entirely? Over to you!



Whilst we're on the subject of buses, how about this lovely model which turned up in an online sale a couple of months ago? It's modelled on an early - possibly very early - horse drawn bus, but what caught my search is that it is marked up for the route from Sheffield to Dore and Totley. You can just see 'Dore' marked on the front to the right of the driver. 'Totley' matches on the other side.

I don't think that there will be another one anywhere, my guess is that it was made by a home hobbyist craftsman at some time. Anyway, I negotiated a price and bought it. Dore Village Society are welcome to it if they're prepared to reimburse me the money I spent, but I don't think they have anywhere to keep it! It looks great on the top of my sideboard, so it can stay there for now.

Has anyone got a couple of 1/12 scale model draught horses for sale?

John Eastwood

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Dore's old pubs

Our thoughts turn to beer, the draught versions of which have been unavailable for much of this year. Most of you are familiar with the two public houses in the centre of the village - the Devonshire Arms and the Hare & Hounds, plus the slightly more distant Dore Moor Inn (now Ego Restaurant) on the main Hathersage Road.

There have been, at various times, a whole range of iconic public house names in the village. Where, for example, was The Bull's Head? Or The Mason's Arms? The Sportsman Inn? Or the Fox and Hounds? There was even once, a second Devonshire Arms.

We can track these providers of ales and beer through trade directories and census returns, and like most farming and industrial settlements of the period there was always a demand



for somewhere to quench the thirst after a hot day in the fields or round the forge. So, let's track down the second Devonshire Arms first.

That's an easy one because it is based on land ownership. Dore Moor Inn was on land owned by the Duke of Devonshire, and when ownership passed to the Duke of Norfolk the name was changed. Dore Moor Inn played a significant part in coaching times, being a main stopping post en route into the Peak District. It was also very busy on Sheffield's market days when farmers brought their stock in to Sheffield and stopped off to refresh themselves before moving on. Bear in mind that they thought nothing of walking ten miles or more with animals for a market day - and back again at night.

That brings us to 'our' Devonshire Arms. This public house, originally built as a beerhouse, is believed to date back to the 1700s and, as far as can be determined, has always been known by its current name, unlike the Hare & Hounds which has had a variety of names as time has gone by. Maureen Cutts, who was landlady there in the early 1980s, did a fair amount of research on the pub (poring over ledgers in libraries, no internet in those days) and I recall her telling me that she had traced there being a pub on the site as early as 1608, though it is doubtful that the current pub is the same building. Prior to being the Hare and Hounds it was the Fox and Hounds, and it is recorded as such in the Pigott's Directory of 1829 under the licensee Henry Elliott, who was also a stonemason. After that, it was briefly known as The Sportsman Inn under licensee James Ellis. Like many innkeepers throughout the 19th Century in census documents, James Ellis is described as 'innkeeper and woodsman'.

So we move on to the Bull's Head. In 1832 it was being sold at public auction as belonging to the estate of Thomas Short:

'consisting of a public house, known by the sign of the Bull's Head, situate in the village of Dore, in the county of Derby, together with the stable and outbuildings, and an excellent garden: also a cottage newly erected, adjoining the above, in the occupation of Dorothy Short.'

After consulting John Dunstan in the search for the missing Bull's Head, he suggested a possible location near the bottom of Townhead Road. It may also be the public house licence which was bought out by the landlord of the Hare and Hounds for a business opposite the Hare and Hounds, at which point the Bull's Head licence was discontinued.

Then there is the Mason's Arms. It would seem that one of the village pastimes was renaming the pubs because Thomas Short, landlord of the Bull's Head, is also recorded as being landlord of the Mason's Arms. Was the Mason's Arms a public house opposite the Hare, or was it simply another name for the Bull's Head?

In 'The Old Days in Dore, a History of Dore', drafted by John Hancock in 1896, he refers to a beerhouse being in an old thatched cottage which had stood at Nether Causeway Head, now known as East Rushley. This establishment was run by a man called Oats who had also run the fabulously named 'The Hog's Den' public house. This stood in the hollow near Whirlow Bridge, next to a field called St. Igna. That field is recorded on maps of 1927.

And let's not forget The Peacock, Dore, run by Peter Green and recorded in Glover's Trade Directory of 1829. This might be the Peacock of Owl Bar which was built in 1818, but as this is hardly in Dore it might be another mystery location.

Finally, there is the Fox House Inn, still there today and on the maps, in Dore. It sits on the very edge of Dore, of Sheffield and of Yorkshire. Today, the signboard of this inn features the face of a fox, but the inn has no association with foxes. It was originally called "The Traveller's Rest" but later named Fox House after the Fox family who lived near Hathersage. Until recently, the signboard featured a portrait of Mr Fox.

Fox House is one of the highest pubs in Yorkshire, at 406 metres (1,322 feet) above sea level. Like the Dore Moor Inn, it was a popular calling place for carrier carts and stagecoaches in the past, and also for illegally serving wagon drivers after midnight. For many years a large room at the inn used to be known as the "Duke's Room" because the Duke of Devonshire sometimes slept there.

Legend has it that one snowy night at closing time a man from Stoney Middleton set off for home, clearly intoxicated. The next morning he was found in a garden opposite, covered in snow but miraculously still alive. He was thawed out, fed and then sent off without any apparent ill effects.

If you know any more about any of these pubs, we'd love to hear from you. In the meantime - cheers! I'm off for a beer.

Dorne Coggins

**Additional material from John Dunstan,
John Eastwood and Keith Shaw**

