

DORE to DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

SPRING 1988

A special meeting of the Village Society Committee, held on Saturday 30th January has agreed strategy for the Society in a number of key areas.

Publications: The Society will assemble a History of Dore as well as publications on areas of particular interest eg buildings and local environment.

Planning: The Society is to seek to update the Conservation Area in consultation with the Council; produce a planning bulletin and guidance notes on traditional building methods and materials in the Conservation Area.

The Dore Collection: The Society will establish a collection of historical material including photographs, maps etc to be known as The Dore Collection, which it is hoped will be housed locally.

Communications: The Society is to erect a notice board in the Village (at a site to be agreed) for information of general interest and will appoint a Publicity Officer. In addition a written Annual Report will be produced and the possibility of having a stall (similar to the one at the Gala) on an occasional basis is to be investigated.

There were also a large number of other proposals but the Committee recognises that all cannot be achieved simultaneously.

The following were identified as priority tasks and work will start in the current year on each:

1. The launch of Dore Festival
2. Erection of a notice board
3. Review of publications
4. Construction of a Society information stall
5. Feasibility study on the establishment of The Dore Collection.

Ancient Trackway Threatened

Water Lane, which leads from Abbeydale to Ashfurlong Road and Cavendish Avenue, was part of an important ancient route linking Dore to the Parish Church at Dronfield and to the markets of Chesterfield. For centuries the inhabitants of Dore travelled this way for worship and finally for burial. Packhorses were used to transport items for trade. In addition the track gave valuable access to the fields around Ashfurlong. Heavy usage is evidenced by the sunken appearance at the lower end, caused mainly by packhorse traffic.

Before the buildings of the Sheffield to Baslow Turnpike road between 1812 and 1818, there was no highway through Abbeydale. The track crossed the River Sheaf and rose through Twentywell and Bradway.

It is of great concern that the upper section of this historic track is now to be metalled in order to give access to a new development at the rear of houses on Dore Road. The Dore Village Society has expressed its disquiet to the City Planning Department, that this should not set a precedent for further development which would endanger this valuable part of our heritage.

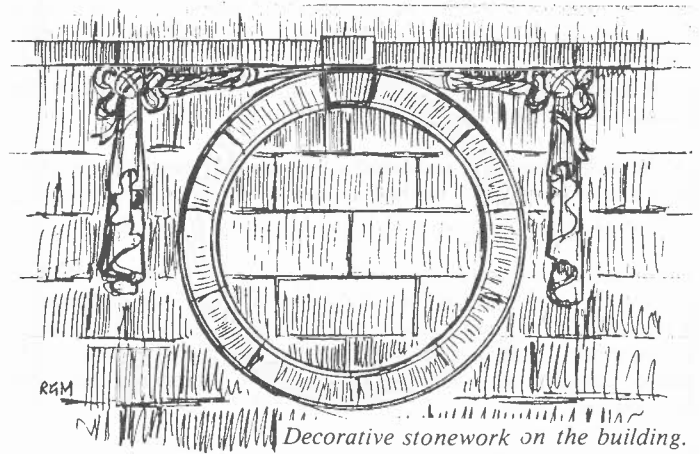
DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Spring Meeting

8pm Wednesday 20th April 1988

Old Village School

Speaker: Gerald Waite on *The Work of the National Trust.*



Decorative stonework on the building.

The Totley Library

Prior to 1934, when the Sheffield boundary was extended to include Dore and Totley, the Derbyshire County Council provided local library services in schools at Dore, Greenhill and Totley. These part time services, staffed by volunteers, continued under the auspices of the Sheffield Libraries, Art Galleries and Museums Committee until 1937, when paid staff were employed.

The decision to rebuild the Church School at Totley in 1939 meant that alternate premises were required. The unlikely rescue came from the City's Electricity Department. On the 16th December 1939, the Totley Branch library was opened in the former office and showroom attached to the Totley Electricity sub-station in Abbeydale Road South, for an annual rent of £15. In these cramped premises a part time service continued for many years, becoming increasingly inadequate with the rapid growth of the local population. Extended working hours did little to relieve the congestion.

In 1971 the present site of the Totley Branch Library was purchased for £6,500 where the 'pre-fab' site has been developed. This pleasant building was opened by the City Librarian and Information Officer, Mr John Bebbington on Tuesday, 26th February 1974.

Totley Library will be holding a Craft Fair this summer in May or June. If you make corn dollies, paint eggs, spin or weave, decorate cakes, knit, crochet, make lace or any other sort of craft, we'd like to hear from you.

If you are willing to give a demonstration or if you just wish to display your handiwork, please get in touch with:-

Pauline Rosser, Totley Library, Telephone no. 363067

Dore Show 1988

This year's Dore show will be held on Saturday 10th September in the Old Village School. The format will be similar to last year, but hopefully with a little more space for exhibits and public! A revised class list will be available from Green's shop shortly.

Now is the time to plan your planting — we would like to see more entries in the fruit, vegetable and flower sections, weather permitting. Also if you are prepared to help with the organisation of the Show, we would be pleased to see you at the first meeting of the 1988 Show Committee, which will be held at 8pm on Thursday 17th March in the Village Hall, Townhead Road.

Badgers Under Threat

Badgers have been persecuted through the centuries, even giving rise to the verb 'to badger' someone. When it was done on a village basis once or twice a year it made little impact on the badger population, but now with increased mobility, the increased accuracy of digging of a badger with bleeper collars on dogs, and the financial incentive (badgers dug out are usually maimed and then taken to a baiting pit where sideline bets are placed on a succession of dogs set to fight), the problem is a real one. In the last 10-15 years there has been a great upsurge in digging, associated with the popularity of small sporting dogs. There is also the illegal practice of lamping at night, using lurcher dogs and stopping the entrances to setts while the badgers are out foraging.

Of the people known or suspected to be badger diggers, nearly 100% have a criminal record, so they are not the sort you want walking over your land.

The effects of this intensive disturbance have led to a dramatic decline in numbers. It is not just the taking and killing of the badger that is responsible, but dogs disturb or kill baby badgers underground. Furthermore, trauma upsets animal behaviour and almost certainly badger disturbance causes abortions, and interferes with the reproductive cycle.

In South and West Yorkshire the number of active setts has dropped to 1/3 of what it was 10 years ago and the number of animals has declined proportionately at the remaining setts as well. Even in those undiggable setts now in old mine workings, badgers are not immune from disturbance, for the diggers put dogs down to accustom them to going down badger holes.

Most diggers come from the conurbations. They are able to travel and having dug out most accessible setts in South and West Yorkshire, they are now digging much further afield; even remote setts in the North York Moors have been dug. Effectively all setts in Yorkshire and Humberside are at risk.



Although the badger nationally is not under threat and although MAFF's gassing and trapping measures against TB carried out since 1974 has only reduced the population in Gloucestershire and Cornwall by 1%, in Yorkshire with illegal gangs roaming around, there has been a 66% decline.

In August 1985, new legal provisions affecting badgers came into operation. Previously, prosecutions in a number of badger digging cases had failed because the defendants had claimed they were digging for foxes. The onus of proof has now shifted such that anybody, including owners and occupiers unless licenced from MAFF found behaving suspiciously near a badger sett can be presumed guilty until proven innocent. This is a measure of the seriousness with which Parliament takes badger digging. The other side of this coin is that for the police to prosecute successfully, they have to know a certain level of detail about badger setts in their locality.

Wildlife Liaison Officer
Chief Inspector Brian Nordew Rotherham 812282

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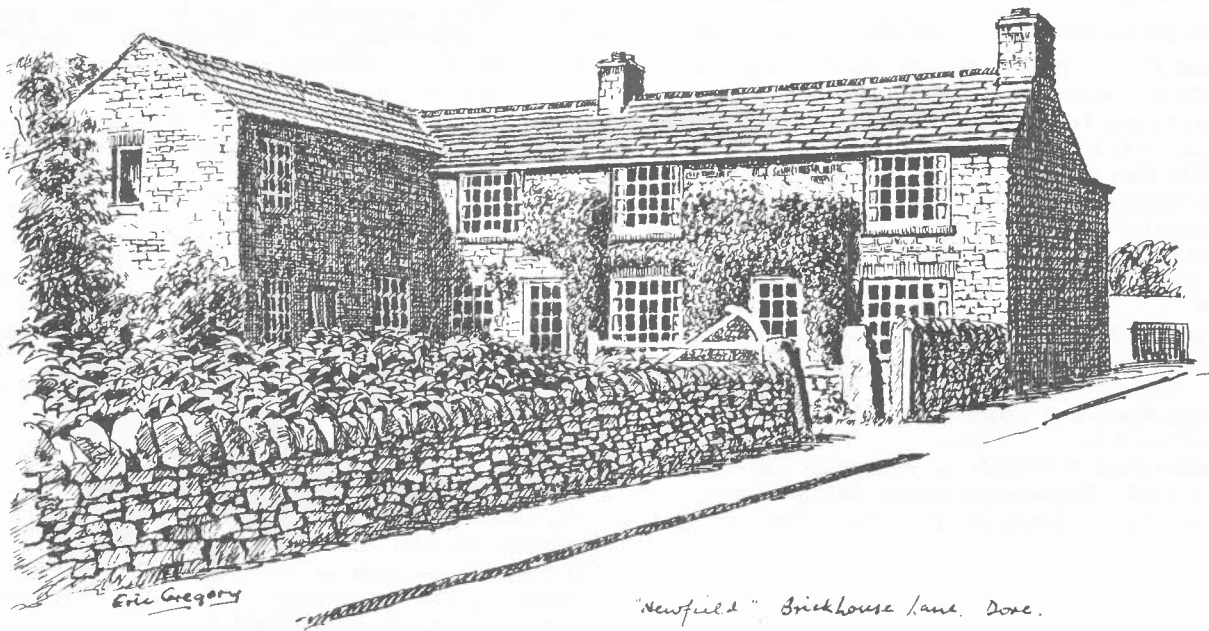
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"Newfield" Brickhouse Lane, Dore.

An Enclosure In The Family

Before 1800 the north western boundary of Dore Village extended no further than the present line of Heatherlea Avenue. Beyond this was the open heath and bracken of Dore Moor. Between 1814 and 1819 the New Dore Turnpike Road connecting Banner Cross to Fox House, by way of Whirlow Bridge and Dore Moor Inn, was constructed. Around 1820 the moor was further crossed in this area by the enclosure roads, then Whitelow Road — now Whitelow Lane, Red Car Road — Sheephill Road and Ringing Low Road — Long Line were built. Causeway Head road was improved and the typical straight enclosure road of Brickhouse Lane was constructed to connect with the New Dore Turnpike at Dore Moor Inn.

The Dore Enclosure Act was passed in 1809 and finally executed by 1822. The common land of the village was divided into allotments, the boundaries of which were required to be marked by walls or hedges and ditches. These divisions altered the appearance of the countryside by breaking up the large expanses of the open moorland. Several allotments were made on the southern side of Brickhouse Lane, Knowle Croft having remained in the ownership of descendants of the Gill family to the present day. At enclosure the croft contained a barn and cart shed. A cottage was built at right angles to the original barn. It would appear that this was done in stages, as on close examination the external stonework is in three differing sections. Internally the heights of the floors vary accordingly. The old bar had a stable and cowshed at ground level. The metal rod used to tether the cows for milking remains. Externally a stone staircase leads to a pleasant family room — converted from the hay loft in recent years.

It is of interest that where the cottage meets the barn, the builder was not concerned that the cottage wall butted part way across the barn window.

In 1871 the house was occupied by John Gill, a farmer of 17 acres and scythe smith, his wife, three daughters and an elderly visiting relative. The eldest of these daughters had married into the Ashby family. Thomas William Gill, born at the house in 1893, was the tenth of twelve children. He became a Monumental Mason and was later parish Sexton. When resident at Ivy Cottage, next to the Devonshire Arms, his wife Kate gave birth to their only child, Hazel. The family then moved to 104, Townhead Road, one of the row

of cottages beyond the entrance to the recreation ground. Hazel was the fourth generation of her family to attend the old village school; she progressed to High Storrs School and in the 1940's gained a place at Somerville College, Oxford. The trustees of the Village School marked their delight in this high achievement by presenting her with a watch, a travelling trunk and a bicycle. At Oxford Hazel met her future husband Sydney Hoffman. Following the untimely death of her parents in 1950 and 1951, Hazel inherited the house and croft. There was a considerable amount of work to be done. During the war the croft had been ploughed up and planted with oats. It was badly overgrown but with a lot of hard work was returned to grass and a small orchard was planted. The land to the side of the cottage had earlier been used for dumping of limestone chippings by a forebear who had charge of the roads. This proved to be a bonus, as the land is exceptionally fertile, providing a profusion of vegetables and flowers.

A conscious decision was taken that the intrinsic character of the house should not be altered by radical alterations. In a period when so much land in Dore has been sold for development, the site remains unchanged from the time of enclosure. This is not surprising when the owners are well known locally for their interest in the history and conservation of Dore.

Hazel Hoffman was for many years Head of the History department at King Ecgbert School and Sydney Hoffman a Senior teacher at High Storrs. Hazel remembers the village in the 1930's, when the old village families outnumbered the newcomers. Sydney Hoffman, conscious that the separate community of Dore was in danger of losing its identity in the suburban mass, was a founder of the Dore Village Society and its chairman from 1964 — 1984. He feels strongly that the village character should be preserved as far as is possible and that conservation should be viewed from the grass roots level.

The three Hoffman children are all following professional careers away from the area. Sadly it is unlikely that they will return to keep this unspoilt old building and croft in the family for further generations.

This issue of Dore to Door has been generously sponsored by Kaymar Coatings Ltd and Sheffield Tigers Rugby Union Football Club. Many thanks to Eric Gregory for his drawing of Newfield Farm and to Rochard Moffatt for the illustration of the old Totley Library. Editorial team: J.R. Baker, E. Brewer, D. Crookes and S. Wood.



Tigers

You May Have Seen The Lions of Longleat But What About the Tigers of Dore Moor

This summer Sheffield Tigers Rugby Union Football Club will celebrate 55 years at Dore Moor. Founded in 1932 by a Cafe owner and a Sports writer, the Club survived its first season on the tundra of Concord Park before renting a field at the rear of the Dore Moor Inn. Changing was in the loft above the pub stables and hot water was available only if the landlord didn't need to boil up his animal feed.

By 1937 the Club had outgrown the pub and leased the present grounds from the Hollis Hospital Trust. New pitches were laid, including a Cricket square, and a pavilion built in readiness for the start of the 1939 season. Herr Adolf's tour to Poland spoiled the party and it was 1947 before the Club could re-form and the new facilities came into use.

Despite raging inflation, economic depression, Rugby League on the Rates, American Football and the Dore Moor weather, the Tigers have survived and even prospered. The Club now own the grounds, with four pitches, training lights and a centrally heated licensed Clubhouse. The most important point is that Tigers has remained an open, independant Rugby Club — a situation which is now almost unique. Anyone can become a member, it is not part of a 'Sports & Social' complex and it does not have to share facilities with any other organisation.

Not that Tigers are insular — it is the HQ of the Central Tech. Old Boys Association and the pitches have been used by Westbourne School for years. In summer the grounds are used for a variety of Caravan Club 'meets' and the MSC Annual Gala. We've staged Pop Concerts, Garden Fetes, Athletic events and Charity events — in fact we're prepared to consider any worthwhile cause. The Clubhouse is available for private bookings and is eminently suitable for parties, disco's, meetings, etc. with or without the bar — we even hosted a Business Conference last year. Ample car parking and no near neighbours to complain about the music volume, what more could you want?

Our latest venture is to try a 'Non-Alcoholic' disco for local teenagers, so watch out for the posters!

SHEFFIELD TIGERS RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB

Letters

Being still a relative newcomer to Dore (12 years), I think I am most fortunate to live in such a pleasant place. Dore still retains so much of its village atmosphere. I am sure most people would agree with me.

However, I am becoming progressively aware and saddened by the increasing amount of litter left lying around — especially in the village centre.

May I please make a suggestion? How about all the residents and shopkeepers each making themselves responsible for picking up litter from the pavements and verges in front of their own houses or shops?

Essentially Tigers is a family Club, running four Senior teams, a Veterans team, Junior Rugby (U17) and Colts (U19). In January last year we started Mini-Rugby, for the 10-14 age group, and this has now become a regular Sunday morning session, starting at 11.00 a.m. All are welcome even if they cannot tell a rugby ball from a melon. Enjoyment is the key, with coaching to develop individual skills and teamwork, followed by a hot bath or shower and a chip buttie — all free of charge!

New members are always welcome, either Playing or Social and the Club runs a varied programme of social events throughout the year.

If you would like to know more about what Tigers can offer please ring either Stewart Devitt on 304186 or Mike Joel on 368852 — or better still, pop up to the Club one Tuesday night or Saturday afternoon and see for yourself. If you would like to read the inside story of the Tigers, we've reprinted the Club History — available at £3.00 including p & p.

Dates to note:-

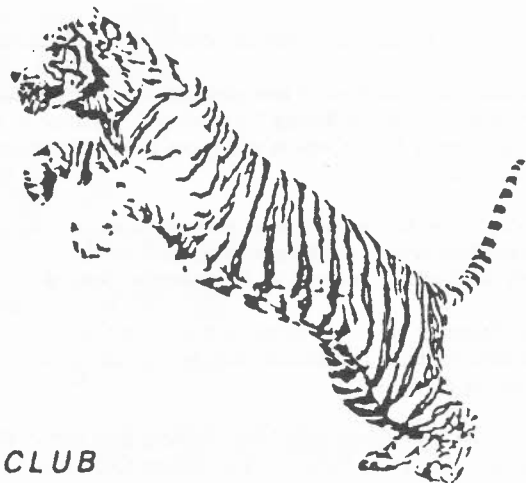
2nd
April Tigers Vets v Les Parroquettes, touring side from Lyon, France 3.00 p.m.

3rd
April A Tigers XV v South London Polytechnic — touring side 11.00 a.m.

24th
April Tigers Annual Seven-a-Side Competition, with teams from far and near. 1.00 p.m.

10th
May 'Tigers 10' — open ten mile road race attracting a top quality field of county and international distance runners. 6.00 p.m.

Tigers first XV games subject to re-arrangements after the recent inclement weather — see local press for details.



I know a lot of the problem is caused by lack of adequate public litter bins, but I understand your Dore Village Society Committee is looking into this at the moment.

I would also like to ask dog owners not to let their dogs foul the pavements and verges. In some districts, owners carry a small trowel in a plastic bag when exercising their pets. Please spare a thought for other pedestrians.

So! How about it? Let's have a clean up and, who knows, by next year, we might win the 'Best Kept Village' Contest — why not?

P.H.C.
(The 'New' Broom)

Dore Infant School

Dore Infant School has had a busy calendar of events since the beginning of the academic year in September.

In September we welcomed 26 new children into school which brought our total number of children to 168.

An early event in the Autumn Term was our Harvest Festival. This year we invited staff and patients from St. Luke's Day Unit and the Cheshire Home at Totley, together with some of our parents to join us. After the service the harvest gifts were given to St. Luke's and the Cheshire Home.

We have raised money for the Ethiopian Literacy Fund 'Buy a Pencil' campaign and the Leukaemia unit at the Children's Hospital.

Our Autumn Fayre was very successful, thanks to the hard work and splendid effort of everyone involved. The children, particularly, enjoyed their sponsored event. The money raised from these two events went to the School Fund.

As one of our preparations for Christmas, we held a Toy Service in early December and the toys we collected were received by a representative from the Sheffield Overseas Aid Shop.

Our Christmas Play 'The Red Ribbon' was very much enjoyed by all who saw it. The children enjoyed taking part in it and were excellent.

Some very interesting topic work has been done over the past few months by the children. Visits have been made to the City Museum, Kelham Island and to other places of interest in and around Dore.

We have also been pleased to welcome visitors into school to talk to the children on a wide range of subjects.

The visits the children make out of school and the contact that they have with visitors all help to stimulate their work.

Two theatre groups have visited school in recent months.

In January we welcomed 17 new children to school and our Thursday afternoon sessions for Rising 5's continue. We hope to welcome 26 new children at Easter which will bring the total number of pupils in school to 207.

In recent months we have been pleased to have some pupils from King Egbert School working with us, and we also continue to work closely with our colleagues at Dore Junior School.

In the Summer Term we hope to hold two Open Mornings when all members of the community will be invited to come into school and see us at work.

As ever, we are very grateful for the help and support given to us by parents, the Dore Parents' Association and other friends of the school.

Mary Kitchin
Headteacher



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Dore Playschool

Dore Playschool is alive and well and living in the Village Hall!

Following months of uncertainty over the hall, Playschool is now looking forward to a more secure future, with the help and encouragement of the Village Hall Trustees and the family and Community Services Department of the City Council.

Children can come to Playschool when they are 'clean and dry' until they go to school. Usually they start on one morning a week and gradually build up to three. Each session lasts for three hours and is run by qualified teachers with experienced assistants. We aim to help each child to learn to share, to be sociable and self-sufficient — the three 'S's', rather than the three 'R's', which come later. From Playschool, they go to 'big' school equipped with skills acquired through structured play ready to listen, learn and work, reassured by the company of old friends and confident enough to make new ones.

Some of our earliest pupils are now at University, so not surprisingly our equipment is showing its age. We are planning a complete refurbishment. Can you help? We'd be grateful for sturdy outgrown toys, large and small, and left-over gloss paint in bright colours. We'd also like to adopt a 'grandma' and 'grandad' — not necessarily related! — to help us make new toys and maintain old ones. If you have woodworking or sewing skills and the time to use them we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Dore Playschool meets at the Village Hall on Townhead Road from 9am to 12 on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For further information contact Susan Joel, tel: 368852.

Graphics courtesy of the Sheffield Underfives' Information Service, Church St, S1.

Diary — Spring 1988

MARCH

- 1 **Christ Church Dore Ladies Group.** 'Christian Aid' Dr R. Barry. 7.45pm Church Hall
- 3-4-5 **'Too Young To Marry'** Dore Dramatic Society. 7.30 Church Hall £1 Concessions Thurs 50p)
- 4 **Nearly New Sale.** St. John's Church. Abbeydale Rd Sth. 7pm 30p inc. coffee. Proceeds: Lodge Moor Spinal Unit
- 5 **Grand Jumble Sale.** St. John's Church Abbeydale Rd South 11am 10p Proceeds: Lodge Moor Spinal Unit
- 8 **'Artist's Life in Sheffield'** Mr J. Scarborough. Dore Mercia T.W.G. 9.30am Methodist School Room. Members only.
- 9 **Potato Marketing Board.** Dore Evening T.W.G. Dore Old Church School 7.30pm.
- 19 **Jumble Sale.** Dore Parents Association. Old School
- 22 **'Our Visit' - Roger Pass Interior Design.** Christ Church Ladies Group. 7.45pm Church Hall.

APRIL

- 12 **'Easy Entertaining'** — British Gas. Margaret Pottinger Christ Church Ladies Group 7.45pm Church Hall.
- 12 **'Thimbles':** Miss M. Walker. Dore Mercia TWG. 9.30am. Methodist School Room. Members only.
- 11-16 **'Land of Smiles'** Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society University Drama Studio. Tickets: Mrs. Batey 365251
- 13 **Guild Associate Films.** Dore Evening T.W.G. Old Church School 7.30pm

MAY

- 7 **Jumble Sale - King Egberts School** 2pm St. John's Hall Abbeydale Road Totley

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

AIMS

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

OFFICERS:

Chairman:

Mr P.S. Dutfield
36, Kerwin Drive 365850

Secretary:

Mr. A.C. Bownes
Limpits Cottage 352107

Treasurer:

Mr. D. Powell
16, Durvale Court 351880

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Mrs. E. Brewer 360284
Mr. L.J. Conway (Planning) 361189
Prof. J. Crangle 364113
Mr. D. Crookes 351468
Mr. D. Dean 368082
Mr. J.W. Laver 361286
Mr. G. Taylor (Subscriptions) 350484
Mrs. S. Wood 366424

MAY

- 10 **Guide Dogs for the Blind:** Mr Clarke. Christ Church Ladies Group. 7.45pm. Church Hall.
- 10 **History of Greeting Cards.** Mr. Western. Dore Mercia T.W.G. Members only 9.30am Meth. School Room.
- 11 **Mr. A.J.J. Whitaker - Dore Evening T.W.G.** 7.30pm Old Church School.
- 14 **May Market.** Dore Mercia T.W.G. Open to the Public.
- 20 **May Hoe Down** King Egberts School.

JUNE

- 7 **Health & Beauty Show.** Lynda V. Price Christ Church Ladies Group. 7.45pm. Church Hall
- 8 **N.C.M. Reports** — Coffee Evening Dore Evening T.W.G. 7.30pm. Old Church School
- 14 **'The Royal Navy'** Mr. M. Barker. Dore Mercia T.W.G. 9.30am Methodist School Room.

Holiday Language Courses at Abbeydale Hall run from March 2nd for 10 weeks.

Summer courses from 27th April for 5 weeks.

W.E.A. Day Schools in: Painting & Drawing; Ikebana; Cake Decorating; Pressed Flowers April and May. Enrolment April 18. Contact Ian Horsfield on 368931 for details.

If you would like your event to be mentioned in The Diary — please contact Stella Wood on 366424 by April 20th.

News In Brief

Dore Dramatic Society is re-opening with a revival of 'Too Young to Marry' by Martin Flavin, adapted by Emile Littler, on March 3rd, 4th and 5th. This story of a Young Cinderella, 'Elly', determined to marry her Prince Charming despite family opposition is heart-warming and humorous. It is suitable for all age groups. See Diary for details.

Totley Library now offers a music cassette lending service. Emphasis will be on popular music but there will also be classical, country & western and jazz.

Letters

Owing to the recent publicity of the Hare & Hounds I and I am sure the 300 or more who signed the petition for the renewal of Mr. Kean's licence would go along with me in saying a few words in his favour.

Whenever you go in the Hare & Hounds for a drink or a meal the place is very clean and there is always a friendly welcome from Mr. Kean, his wife Sue and the staff.

He shows a great deal of interest in the village life and whenever he can he takes part in the village activities.

With luck we hope he will be in this village for many years to come and we wish Mr. Kean and his family well in the future.

A Dore Villager

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