

DORE to DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

SUMMER 1988

The Village Society has now started a fresh programme of subscription collection, which is being organised by George Taylor. He has recruited a team of volunteer collectors who will be visiting households in the village throughout the summer.

The annual subscription is £2 per household and we think it represents good value for money bearing in mind the wide range of activities in which the Village Society is now involved. These include:

- Dore Festival - 11-17 July 1988
- Dore to Door
- Dore Show — 10 September
- Village Society Notice Board

In addition the Society does a great deal of work 'behind the scenes' including monitoring planning applications in and affecting Dore and keeping in regular contact with the Council and other bodies on matters ranging from the fouling of footpaths to obstetric and gynaecological services in Sheffield. Subscriptions are also used for 'one off' activities such as fighting complex planning matters like the recent Rycroft Farm proposals and the preparation of new publications which is now underway.

If you are out when the collector calls, you may pay by sending your subscription to his home address or by paying at Greens hardware shop on Causeway Head Road.

Finally, if you wish to help with collecting subscriptions George Taylor would be very pleased to hear from you; his telephone number is 350484.

Dore Festival

The first Dore Festival will be held in the week following the Gala. From Monday 11 July until Sunday 17 July many organisations in, and associated with Dore will be holding special events and there will be something for everyone to see and do.

The response has been very encouraging and it is hoped that there will be events of one sort or another throughout the week.

The event so far planned include open meetings, a coffee morning and bell ringing.

A full programme will be published in a special issue of Dore To Door which will be delivered in June.

If your organisation wants an event to be included please send details to A.C. Bownes, Limpits Cottage, Dore, S17 3DT.

Dore Show 1988

This year's Dore Show will take place on **Saturday 10 September** in the Old Village School on Vicarage Lane.

The list of classes, slightly revised from last year, is now available from Greens shop on Causeway Head Road, and will be published in full in the next issue of Dore to Door.

Last year we received nearly 370 entries and had about 1000 visitors to the Show, this year we want to improve on that, so please start thinking about what you can enter.

In particular we would like to see more examples of the wonderful floral art which so many in Dore are capable of producing. We are also hoping for better weather and are looking to local gardeners to enter in the vegetable and flower classes which last year were so disappointing.

New to this year's class list is a class for the best kept garden in Dore, which will be judged by the judges visiting the individual gardens. The Show Committee are busy working hard to ensure success for the Show, but more help is needed. If you think you can assist, please ring Andrew Bownes on 374101 or 374114 during office hours.



Mary Newsam

As the annual Scout Gala approaches we can anticipate the usual queue forming outside the tent of Gypsy Blythe. Mrs Mary Newsam has told fortunes at the Gala every year, bar one, since 1973. A local resident, whose garden adjoins the present gala field, Mrs Newsam was the seventh child of a seventh child. Her paternal grandmother married a settled gypsy from Yetholm in the border country. His name of Blythe is used by Mrs Newsam for her appearances at charity events. Other relatives have skills in reading cards, palmistry and astrology and were all practising independently and unbeknown to each other for some time before realising this common ground. During her years at Dore Gala Gypsy Blythe has told the fortunes of two French boys — in French and that of a Persian girl through an interpreter. She receives feedback from grateful clients as she goes about the village.

The family had fascinating links with the history of Sheffield. Mrs Newsam's maternal grandfather ran away from home and joined the policeforce in Sheffield. In the course of his duties he had the notorious murderer Charlie Peace in his care. The grandfather contracted smallpox in the outbreak of 1887, his wife succumbed to the disease and died. The policeman was sent to Totley to recuperate and also spent some time in St George's hospital. He was unfortunately killed in an accident with a horse tram in Attercliffe, when only in his forties.

Mary Newsam, the only girl amongst six brothers, was born in the mining village of Platts Common near Barnsley. She trained as a nurse in Chesterfield with further studies at Whips Cross Hospital in London. In 1938, the young Mary became a District Nurse in Sheffield. At that time the contribution to cover nursing at home was ½d per week — cases of pneumonia were attended free of charge. 30 nurses covered the domicilliary nursing service for the whole of Sheffield. Eight days before the Sheffield blitz in 1940,

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she married her engineer husband. Although arrangements had been made for Walsh's to move their belongings to the new home on Furniss Avenue, the vans had been requisitioned to evacuate children, so the couple had to do the removal themselves.

Mrs Newsam became a founder member of the Dore Townswomens Guild in 1961. The initial meeting was held in the village hall, when 150 interested ladies attended, of these 90 signed up to form the Guild. The speaker at the first meeting was Mr Wright, the headmaster of the village school and Mrs Newsam gave the vote of thanks at the end of his talk.

Mrs Newsam confesses that she cannot stop talking and that this is a family failing. She puts her talking to good use, giving talks on 'Plants in Medicine', 'Folklore' and 'Gypsies — history and folklore'. There is a great demand for her lectures — leading to commitments at least twice a week during the winter months. An amazing number of organisations have enjoyed these talks — from the more usual Townswomens Guild and Womens Institute venues to the Dairy Goat Society in Bakewell and a conference at Sussex University. She has spoken at meetings of the Gypsy Education Society and stood in for Geoffrey Smith at a gardening club.

Her background of folklore and herbal medicines has led Mrs Newsam to build up a wide selection of slides to illustrate the plants used. She grows herbs in the garden for her own use and find others growing wild. Sage and Bay have proved particularly useful for home cures. An annual trip to the Chelsea Flower show is a highlight of Mary Newsam's year. She is a member of the Royal Horticultural Society and the Botanical Society of the British Isles.

As you can see — there is a lot more to Gypsy Blythe than her fortune telling at the Gala.

P.S. Before the foundation of the Dore Village Society — the late Mr Newsam was a supporter of local causes. When the houses on Newfield Crescent were being built he collected signatures in support of keeping the entry to the footpath across the recreation field open. An enquiry was held and the result is evident to all who use this right of way.

50 Years Service

Many people give service to the community in one form or another without thought of reward.

Occasionally we are able to recognise this service and in some measure make some gesture in return. We in Dore Scout Group this year are able to do just that because it was 50 years ago this year when a thin boy in short trousers joined the cub movement in Sheffield. That boy was Sidney Crowson who is now the Group Scout Leader in Dore and is known to most, if not all, the village heading the Church and Gala Parades — which the latter is on Saturday July 9th this year. It so happens that Dore Scouts have arranged an exchange with a Scout Group near Chicago in America and we have arranged for Sid to join this momentous trip.

Sheila, Sid's wife decided to make it her holiday also and join the expedition.

We wish them both and indeed all of those on the trip an enjoyable time and one they will never forget.

John Giles,
Chairman

The American scouts and leaders will be given a full entertainment programme.

They will be collected from Baden Powell House in London on Friday 22nd July arriving in Dore around 8.30pm to meet their hosts. Saturday evening will be a barbecue and camp song session, giving the scouts an opportunity to get to know each other.

Following a quiet day on Sunday, trips to Bakewell, Chatsworth and Clumber Park have been arranged to physically exhaust and mentally stimulate the group.

Thursday will involve a cunningly devised treasure hunt and an overnight stay at Whitby Youth Hostel where we have booked almost the whole place. Friday we move onto York to visit the Minster, the museums and view an old English Town.

Saturday evening will be a farewell disco at the Scout Hut before final departure after lunch on Sunday.

Rowan School

Many people in the Dore locality may have noticed the little school on Durvale Court which is just off Furniss Avenue, and wondered what goes on there. After all, there are Dore Infant and Dore Junior schools at the top of the road, and King Egbert Secondary school!

Perhaps you have noticed the taxis and mini-buses that bring the children to and from school, and wondered where these children come from.

Well, Rowan School, that's the name of the school, is a small special school for children who have specific learning difficulties — that means difficulties that are located in a specific area of learning, not the sort of general problems associated with mental handicap, nor those difficulties associated with a sensory disability like visual or hearing problems, or a physical disability. These children have specific problems in learning the communication skills of either speech and language, or the literacy skills of reading, writing or spelling. Because of their difficulties in these crucial areas of communication, they have great difficulty in coping with an ordinary neighbourhood school where nearly all the teaching and learning that takes place depends on the ability to understand, respond and interact through either verbal or written language.

If you were to visit this school, the major difference you would notice from your neighbourhood school would be the one of size. Although we have eight classes covering the age range from 4+ to 12+ years, there are only 64 children in the whole school. This is because each class is kept to a maximum of eight children. This may sound very generous, but by allowing time for our specially trained and experienced staff to work intensively with children on an individualised basis, we aim to give them skills and confidence they need to return to their local schools successfully.

The second difference you might notice is one of approach. In order to maximise the effect of the childrens' stay at Rowan — normally about 2 years — we have to work as intensively as possible around their problem areas. For those with speech and language difficulties there are two speech therapists working full time in the school alongside and with the teachers. Different teaching methods are also used, carefully worked out to match each individual child's needs. You will often find mums and dads, grandparents, brothers and sisters sitting in the classroom, talking to the teachers and therapists about their child's progress, or sitting helping them with their individual work tasks.

However, you will find many things just the same as any other school. The curriculum, the skills and knowledge taught, is much the same, with science, environmental studies, creative crafts and music, P.E., games and R.E. as well as the essential basics of reading, writing, spelling, and mathematics. The school year has the same concerts, outings, Harvest Festival, Christmas parties etc. and the children, although they come from all over the city — even one or two from Barnsley and Rotherham — they are just the same as all children.

Flight Path to Dore

You must, I am sure, be aware of the comings and goings of a helicopter which appears to be based on Newfield Lane.

It is a point of discussion in the village and there is some speculation whether or not this will become a permanent feature. Have we to accept that we live under the "Flight Path"?

I would be grateful if you have any information.

John Putsey
Newfield Crescent

Mr. Putsey is one of a number of anxious local residents who have contacted the Society with complaints about helicopter landings. A letter has been sent to the Civil Aviation Authority requesting clarification of their rules for helicopters overflying and landing residential areas, and a reply is awaited.

Approaches have also been made to the Planning Department but these have not yet borne fruit.

One local resident has contacted the Chief Fire Officer and a formal response is expected shortly.



The Old Village School

The old village school was the local primary school for Dore until 1965 when it closed and the new school was opened on Furniss Avenue. For several years it had been so over-crowded that some classes had been held in the Church Hall.

The school was never a Church school as many local people have assumed. It had been owned and run by the Trustees of the Dore School and Charity Lands since 1821. The misconception probably arose because for the last 70 years the vicar of the day has been chairman of the trustees, but this was in his capacity as a leading citizen.

There are references to a school as far back as 1720, but it was only in 1821 when the trusteeship was set up that regular records were kept. The first Trustees meeting recorded in the minute book is dated April 26th 1821, and the first entry says:-

'The proposition to be made to Mr Martin that he resign the School, School House etc and to receive an Annuity of £15 per annum, void by reason of his death'. So there was clearly a school prior to that. This was the time of the Dore Enclosures, and various areas of land were allocated to the school, the rents from which were to be used for running and maintenance, schoolteacher's salary, etc. The Trusteeship was set up at this time to administer all this. The Trust still owns the football field behind the Church Hall and some land at Roundseats Farm.

Interestingly, the third item in those first minutes says:- 'The commissioners of the Dore Enclosure be requested to allot the Green near the School-House to the Trustees of the School and Poor Lands subject to the use of the well thereon by the inhabitants of the Town'. After this there is no further mention of the Green for about 50 years. In 1955 there was a lengthy correspondence between Vicar Thorpe and the Town Hall over ownership. It is now registered as common land and the City Council is responsible for its maintenance.

The School building has certainly been altered and extended over the years although when it took its present shape isn't clear from the records. The 1821 meeting ordered that, 'Estimates for the erection of a school be procured and that a subscription be entered into for defraying the expense (sic) thereof'. But again, there is no further mention of this.

In 1848 Richard Furniss retired as Schoolmaster on a pension of £15 per year. His name still lives on as the author of the Dore Carols. The school seemed to be entirely supported by rents from the Charity Lands, which brought in around £60 per year.

After the Education Act of 1902 the School became Dore National School no. 118 and the Government now paid the teachers, but half the income from the Charity Lands had to be paid to the Government.

Mr Bone was taken on as headmaster. A man still remembered by the older residents of Dore, he retired in 1925, and was succeeded by Mr. Speight.

The Rev. Saxilby Kemp retired in 1943. His very last report of a meeting on Aug. 27th 1943, ends with 'It was also agreed to give Hazel Gill, an old scholar, a present of a school trunk on her signal success in getting to Somerville College, Oxford.'

In 1943 the Rev. E. Thorpe arrived and took control. In Feb 1957 the Director of Education wrote to him to say that the newly allotted post of deputy Headteacher should be awarded to Miss A. Davies. Although Rev. Thorpe objected to this, stating that the appointment wasn't necessary, he was out-voted.

Miss Davies was a very good and popular teacher.

In 1950 Rhoda Dobbs retired after 35 years teaching infants. She died 2 years ago at her home in Dronfield Woodhouse.

In 1953 Mr Wright was appointed head master, and held the job til the school closed in 1965. Vicar Thorpe retired in 1958 and Mr. Heawood moved in.

At the school closing ceremony the children were all given a meal in the Church Hall, followed by a play and recital in front of parents and friends. Mr Wright made a speech and presentations were made to the staff. Miss Palmer, with 23 years service and Mrs. Wilkes, with 19 years, were each given £20.

The building is now used as a kind of village hall. It was recently redecorated by the Community Services Programme and will be shortly recarpeted.

The rents and investments from land still belonging to the Charity are used to assist in the upkeep of the building.

The present trustees are the Vicar, Julian Young, Richard Farnsworth and Bessie College.

R. Farnsworth

Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of my wife and I, to thank everybody for the help and support of everyone in the village and surrounding areas who helped us in our recent troubles. It is nice to know that in the 15 months we have been here, we have made so many friends. I can also say on our behalf we hope to be in the village for many years to come.

Once again we thank everybody for their support.

Yours faithfully,
Susan & Norman Kean
(Hare & Hounds)

Farming Notes

March 25 is Lady Day. The day when new tenancies start and rents are paid. It was the day of hiring fairs, and when farms changed hands.

Sadly, Mr Philip Swift has just had to retire from Moorside Farm at the foot of Long Line, due to ill health. He and his family have farmed there for many years and the enormous number of farmers at his dispersal sale recently, demonstrated that they recognised it as an event worth travelling many miles to. Moorside Farm is owned by Sheffield City Council and it was expected they would follow their normal practice and re-let the farm by tender, which usually brings in offers of rent more than double that paid by the previous tenant due to the element of key money. These days there are so few farms to let coming on the market that aspiring farmers are prepared to pay far more than an economic rent in order to secure the tenancy. They then hope that over the years inflation will reduce the rent to sensible proportions. Or else at a rent review, held every three years, they can take the landlord to a rent tribunal and argue that he cannot afford to pay such an extortionate rent. This happened last year at Totley Hall Farm where the tenant got the rent he had tendered reduced by £15 per acre.

However, much to local surprise, the City Council have advertised Moorside Farm for sale. This represents a considerable departure from previous policy, which was never to sell land except for development. When they bought this land in the 1930s they paid around £50 per acre for it. It will be interesting to see what it makes now.

A modern twist is the addition of milk quota. Quota sales and lease has become a business of its own and could easily add £50,000 to the value of the farm. As it is very unlikely this farm will be bought by a farmer due to the enormous distortion of values close to the city, if it is bought by someone who does not wish to produce milk what will happen to the quota, as it is only transferred with land? At a time when all dairy farmers are crying out for more quota, and the country is only 60% self sufficient in dairy products this

is yet another illustration of the ridiculous C.A.P.

If it is now Council policy to sell farms as they become vacant it will considerably alter the land ownership pattern in Dore and district. There is a strong danger of them being bought by speculators who will subsequently break them up into small high value lots. A case of asset splitting.

R. Farnsworth

The Greens of Dore

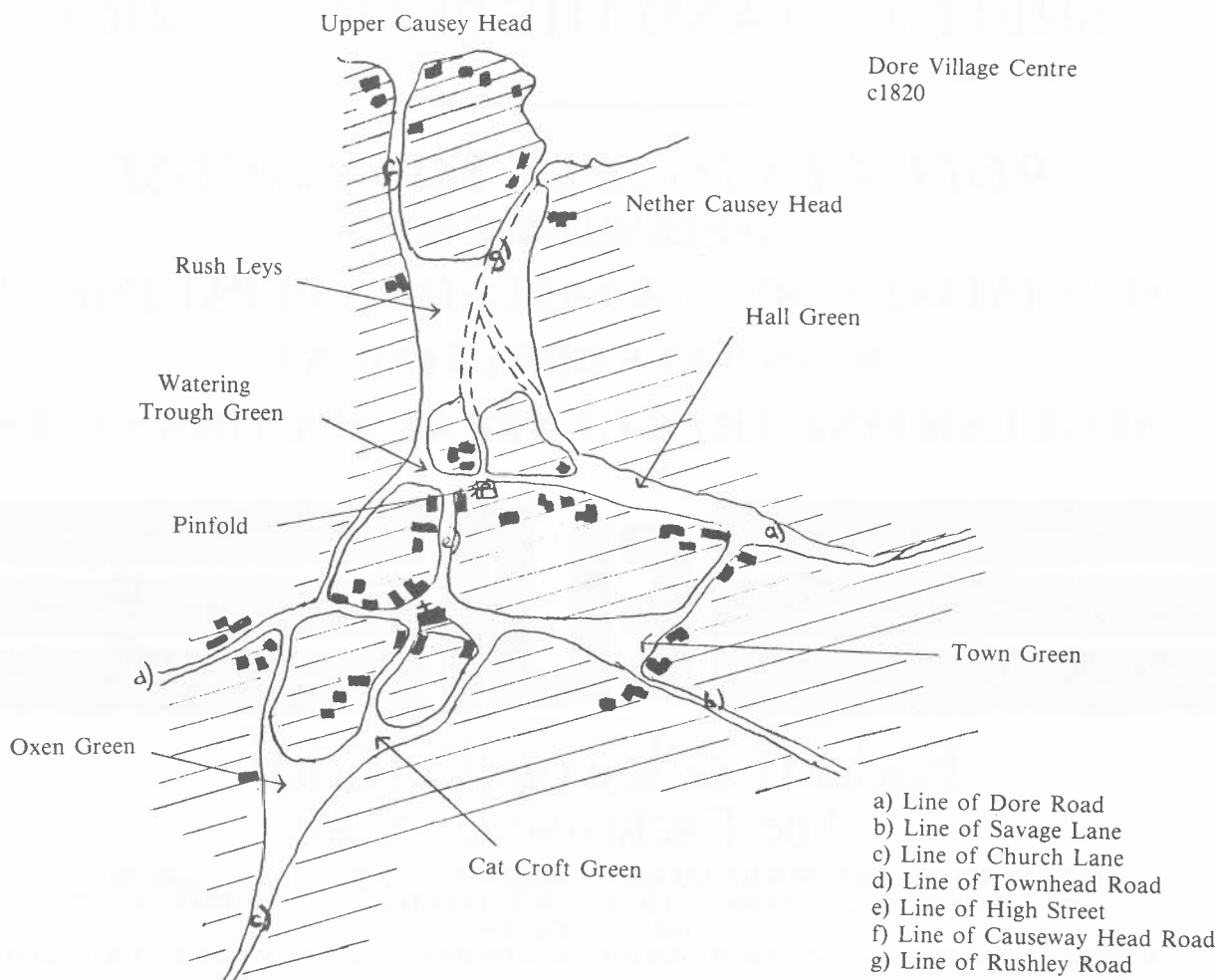
Prior to the enclosure of the common land by Act of Parliament, between 1809 and 1822, Dore was probably a 'green village'. The chapel was at one end of the Town Green with the houses having been developed around the several village greens. As the village grew the houses were built along the new lines of communication and the old greens were enclosed or included as part of enclosures.

Only the Town Green remains in much its original form, the chapel which stood in the position of the Old School and Hare and Hounds Car Park was replaced by the present church built in 1828 and the school was erected in 1821.

Hall Green was situated along the line of the present Dore Road. The name is probably due to its proximity to Dore Hall, which was demolished in 1840. This green became part road but there is still an area free from buildings giving access to the houses on Dore Hall Croft.

An aqueduct from the moors brought water to the village along troughs. A large water trough remains at the corner of Devonshire Terrace and Causeway Head Road, which was at the edge of Watering Trough Green. At enclosure Cat Croft Green was enclosed to become Cat Croft — although its shape was changed. It was probably at the junction of Vicarage Lane and Church Lane.

Oxen Green was on the slope down to Old Hay. Its name probably derives from the fact that beasts were tethered there. The pinfold in the centre of the village was a small area for rounding up stock. Rush Leys was a large area of common land. Two important tracks crossed the common — one towards Hathersage and the other towards Whirlow.



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DIARY — Summer 1988

MAY

- 14 **May Market**, Mercia T.W.G. Methodist School Room 9.30am Open to public.
- 14 **Annual Jumble Sale Scout H.Q.** 10a.m. to 1 p.m. Helpers required please.
- 14 **Scouts Monthly Waste Paper Collection.** Recreation Ground 9am to 11am.
- 22 **Operation Spring Clean.** Scout H.Q. Parents required 10am to noon.
- 24 **Keep fit with Jean Clarke.** Tuesday Group Dore Meth Church 7.45pm.
- 28 **Antique Fair** 85th St. John's Abbeydale Uniformed Parents Committee. St. John's Church Hall Abbeydale Rd South 10 am.

JUNE

- 7 **Health & Beauty Show.** Lynda V Price. Christ Church Ladies Group Church Hall 7.45pm.
- 8 **NCM Reports** — Coffee Evening Bring & Buy Evening T.W.G. Old School 7.30pm.
- 14 **The Royal Navy** — Mr. M. Barker. Mercia T.W.G. Meth School Room 9.30am Members only.
- 14 **National Trust** — Mrs. Gaynor Tuesday Group. Meth. Church 7.45pm.
- 16 **Waste Paper Collections.** Recreation Ground 9-11am.
- 21 **Open Gala Meeting.** Volunteers invited Scout H.Q. 8pm.
- 24 **Family Disco.** St. John's Parents Committee. St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South Tickets 350652.
- 28 **Amnesty International.** Rev. G. Froggatt Vicar of Dore Tuesday Group Dore Meth School 7.45pm.

JULY

- 5 **Cake Decorating** — Maggie Peart Christ Church Ladies Group. Church Hall 7.45pm.
- 9 **Monthly Waste Paper Collection.** Recreation Ground 9-11a.m.
- 9 **Annual Gala Parade** 2.15pm. Evening Barbecue.
- 10 **Annual Well Dressing Service** Village Green 3pm. Cream teas in Methodist Church Hall by Tuesday Group.
- 11-17 **Dore Festival.**
- 12 **Mystery Tour & Supper** Tuesday Group. Meet Methodist Church 6.45pm.
- 12 **Victorian Costumes.** Mr. R. Young. Mercia T.W.G. Meth. School room 9.30am. Members only.
- 13 **Birthday Evening.** Dore Evening T.W.G. Old School 7.30pm.
- 23 **Garden Party Action Aid Stall, Punch & Judy, Clairvoyant, Teas etc.** Abbeydale Hall 2pm.

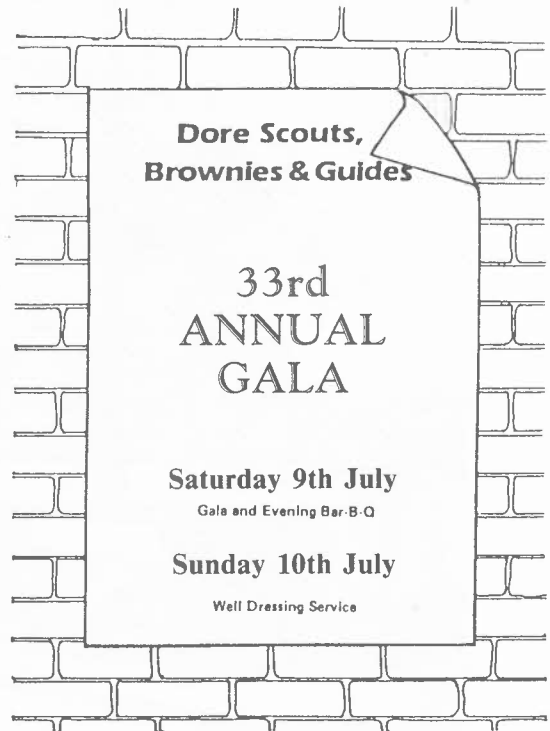
Clean Up Dore Campaign

Congratulations to P.H.C. (The 'New' Broom) who in your Spring issue of D to D, under the heading of 'Letters' comes forward with the good idea of Dore people doing something about the litter that spoils many parts of our village.

It has become accepted because nobody seems to be doing anything about it. If there is litter on that grass verge...if there is screwed up paper round that corner....of there are empty drink cans thrown under those bushes....what the Hell! If we don't appear to care why should they worry!

I know that the responsibility of keeping the streets tidy is that of the City Council but there is a limit to what they can do, particularly if as soon as they have cleared away one lot of rubbish some people scatter more of it about. It is up to us to indicate that we are not going to stand for it any longer. And the only way to do this is by example, i.e. keeping our own immediate surroundings clean and tidy. Having said that I know there are some 'black spots' that are nobody's personal responsibility, such as the area around the bottom of Causeway Head Rd./Rushley Rd., etc. Alright...then lets have a go at it. All it needs is a few gardening tools and a large plastic bag and we are away! Who's for a working party some Saturday morning? Just send in your name, address and phone number and we'll take it up from there.

R.Hobson
18 Rushleigh Court
Phone 360540



"If you would like your event to be mentioned in the Diary — please contact Stella Ward on 366424 by 13th July."

Notice Board

The Village Society is to put a notice board to keep you better informed of happenings in the Village.

It is expected that the notice board will be erected by mid-June on part of the land owned by the Gas Board on Devonshire Terrace Road opposite the bus terminus.

Thanks are due to EMGAS for permission to use the site and to Don Dean for his efforts in arranging the construction and erection of the board.

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

COMMITTEE

Mr. J.R. Baker 369025
Mrs. E. Brewer 360284
Mr. L.J. Conway (Planning) 361189
Prof. J. Crangle 364113
Mr. D. Crookes 351468
Mr. D. Dean 368082
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Mr. G. Taylor (Subscriptions) 350484
Mrs. S. Wood 366424