# DORE DOOR

**DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY** 

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#### Dore recreation ground

As we go to press, contractors have begun work installing the first piece of new equipment for the children's playground, consisting of a double tower unit manufactured by Playdale. This will be followed by further items in the spring as money is raised, with the whole area eventually being fenced off.

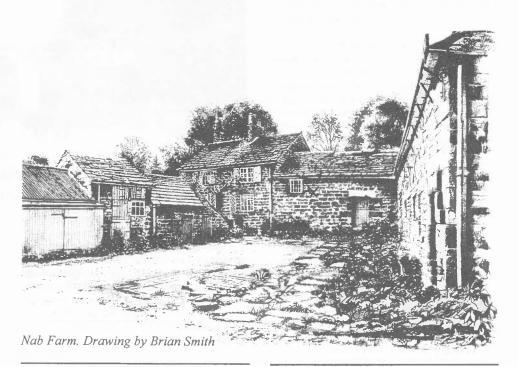
The Playground Action Group has been busy raising funds by running events and approaching local charities for grants. Several awards have already been made and the Dore Village Society has added £1,000. There is still a long way to go, so further donations or introductions to possible sponsors would be welcomed. In meantime the group would like to thank all those who have already given generously including everyone involved with the fun run, supporters of the playday and play morning, the local Scouts Group, and local Masonic lodge.

The main childrens' play area is only the first stage of ambitious plans to improve the environment of the recreation ground and its facilities for the benefit of Dore residents. It is hoped to landscape the area around the playground and to add attractions for older children including a basket ball court and adventure trail. After this there is work to be done on additional seating, drainage, footpaths, planting and installation of Dog Bins

The existing Playground Action Group is already involved with the Sheffield Park Users Forum, with a view to broadening its base to embrace all these aspects, but would welcome input and interest from others in the community. If you have a particular interest in our local environment or the recreation ground in particular, please talk to Sam Porter on 262 0385 or Julie Brooks on 262 0712. They will be glad to hear from you.

#### Can you help?

A research team at Jessop Hospital for women is looking for written memories and photos about giving birth locally or in hospital, care before and after birth and the early days of babies. The aim is to write a book on the history of Women's Health Services in Sheffield, to coincide with the opening of the new women's hospital at Stone Grove. Not all the stories will be published, but they will all go into an archive for future research. The research team can be contacted on 226 8311 or contributions sent direct to Born in Sheffield History Project' Jessop Hospital, Leavygreave Road, S3 7RE.



#### **Devonshire Terrace**

After what seemed an interminable delay, Devonshire Terrace is now one-way, with all the signage and street furniture this involves. It seems this was achieved relatively quickly by Council standards, much to the chagrin of the residents and shop keepers of Totley Rise, who have waited far longer for the road in front of their shops to be made one-way. As we move on to the next phase of our campaign for traffic improvements in Dore, we wish them well with their efforts.

#### **OPEN MORNING**

Dore Village Society Room Old School Saturday 12 December 9.30am to 12.30pm

#### **Access for All**

The Peak District National Park Authority has published a new guide giving details of over 70 recreational sites within the 555 square mile National Park where special provision has been made for less active, disabled, or very young people. This follows an access audit of sites within the park and a systematic programme of improvements.

Copies of the guide titled Access by All' are available from visitor centres in the park.

#### **Seasons Greetings**

The committee of the Dore Village Society would like to take this opportunity to send seasons greetings to all members of the society and readers of DORE to DOOR, wherever you might be.

#### **Community Honours**

The Government has stated a wish to recognise more people who contribute to local communities in the Queen's Birthday and New Year Honours lists.

If you know someone who has shown exceptional service to the community, nomination forms can be obtained from the Nominations Unit on 0171 276 2777 or 2778. Most applications will be dealt with within 6 months and if approved the name will join a waiting list for inclusion in the next honours list. To be safe you should allow up to 2 years in advance for someone retiring or stepping down from a post. Two or three letters endorsing the individual's contribution should be attached to the completed form. Nominees should not be told!

Voluntary work in the community or local hands on' service such as school-crossing wardens are recognised by an MBE. An OBE usually goes to someone who has excelled in a regional or county role for charity, public service or other capacity.

INSIDE: Traffic & safety; Customs of courtship; Letters; Planning Issues; The Wildlife Garden; Lead smelting (cont); Farming notes; Book Reviews; News in Brief; and much more......

#### A walk from Fox House

Let us enjoy a mid-winters stroll of some 7 miles around the woodland and moorland areas of the Longshaw Estates.

Travel by bus to Fox House, cross over the Hathersage Road and down past Longshaw Lodge to the main house or by car to the Longshaw Estate car park and then downhill to the house. The path passes in front of the house on the edge of the field, through a gate to the right with a har-har on your left then bearing right down to Longshaw Lake, (always a popular venue for ice skating, being high in elevation but safe shallow waters).

Continuing down hill cross the Grindleford Road over the wooden bridge and left onto the path leading to the start of Padley Gorge (National Trust). Head left through a lovely wooded track above the tumbling waters of the Burbage Brook, (feeder of the River Derwent). After a one mile descent we join a bridle track, turning right passing the imposing Padley Chapel and the enclosure behind of ancient ruins.

It was here that the Catholic martyrs suffered persecution in the 17th Century. On the other side of the track you will note the Peak National Park Rangers centre at Brunt's Barn (named after the memory of the late Harry Brunt, Deputy Planning Officer to the Peak National Park). Passing a few houses as we continue along the lane. To our right are the steep slopes of Bolehill Quarry (now disused). Here stone was dug for the building of the Derwent Dams, but now the entire hillside has reverted back to nature. One can still trace the old rail tracks around the woodland scene.

The track rises through woodland passing a cottage and Greenwood Farm, home of the

Elliott family. Note a strange carving on a rock to the right just before the farm. (I would love to know the story of this carved figurehead). A final gate to open and we join the main Hathersage A625road. (Maybe at this halfway stage we could stroll a few yards down the road for a welcome bar lunch at the popular Millstone Inn).

Cross the road to go along a track known as Booth's Edge, to the side of the road that leads to Ringinglow. After 250 yards and on our left a track points a marked route to the most impressive homestead of Scraperlow, shaped almost like a turreted castle. From there yellow markers show the route across an open moor and stiles to climb, to the next residence of Michell field. This once moorland working farm was the home of John Robinson, one of the real characters of the Hope Valley. I used to enjoy his tales, - alas, no more.

Past this now fashionable residence, the path swings to the right onto a track climbing steeply towards the Ringinglow Road with views towards Hathersage and the Hope Valley behind.

Passing the ruined homestead of Callow Farm destroyed by a landslip and under the shadow of the CUPOLA\*. At the top stiles takes us across the Ringinglow Road turning right to join an adjacent track directly under the bulk of Higger Tor. Parallel to the road,

this rises onto the slopes of Hathersage Moor. The ruined base stones of Higger Lodge must tell a story of early hardships on these wild hills. Pass a large sheep pen on our left and continue on a ridge line and rock strewn edge to the cleft of Win Yards Nick and then to the highlight of the entire walk, over Owler Tor, taking in the breathtaking views around Millstone Edge and the Surprise View.

Our next objective is the dominant grit stone block known as the Mother Cap below us to the left.

Linger awhile before descending the well worn track to the new extended car park along the A525 road. Cross over the road to the escarpment of Lower Owler Tor, note the plaque built into the rock enclosure (memories of an early walker). Head slightly left to a main track leading back to the Burbage Brook, then go upstream towards the popular Toad's Mouth and Burbage Bridge.

Turn right over a foot bridge and back into the Longshaw woodlands past a babbling waterfall and uphill eventually to our starting point. This walk is teeming with interest and another grand outing on our local hills.

John C Barrows

\* The Cupola- local name for track leading under Callow Bank Route from the Ringinglow Road to Hathersage.

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#### DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1017051

The Society aims to foster the protection and enhancement of the local environment and amenities within Dore, to encourage a spirit of community and to record its historic development.

#### Chairman

(Dore to Door & Dore Show) Mr J R Baker 236 9025 8 Thornsett Gardens, S17 3PP.

#### Vice Chairman

Mrs G Farnsworth 235 0609 11 Rushley Avenue, S17 3EP.

#### Treasurer

Mrs M Watson 236 5666 11 Cavendish Avenue, S17.

#### Secretary

Mrs A Slater 236 6710 6 Old Hay Close S17 3GQ.

#### Committee

 Mrs L E Baker
 236 9025

 Ms J Brookes
 262 0712

 Mr G R Elsdon
 236 0002

 (Subscriptions & Notice Board)
 Wrs V Malthouse
 236 6597

 Mr R Millican (Environment)
 262 0012

 Mr P Moore
 262 1555

#### **Traffic and Safety**

The committee of the Village Society would like to thank all the residents who recently took the trouble to complete and return the questionnaire on traffic and safety. A high proportion of the questionnaires contain valuable views and comments on the perceived problems and the possible solutions to them. These are being taken into account, by the committee, as it deals with the authorities.

Almost two-thirds of respondents selected as the main priority the problem of crossing Causeway Head Road near the shops. This crossing can be difficult, particularly when crossing from the shops side, when approaching traffic can be obscured by parked vehicles and manoeuvring vehicles only complicate matters.

The narrow section at the top end of Savage Lane came out as the second priority. Not only are the pavements narrow along this stretch of road but, opposite the Village Green, the pavement curbs are little higher than road level. Overhanging bushes can reduce the effective width of the pavement in places.

Two other matters were seen as lower order priorities; the parking of cars on the pavement (mainly in Devonshire Terrace Road) causes problems for pedestrians and those using powered wheelchairs. One's sympathy goes to the guide dog who is forced to take his owner on to the road in order to avoid cars parked on the pavement. If only it could speak! Crossing High Street near its junctions with Savage Lane and Townhead Road was also seen as a problem requiring a solution.

In a preliminary discussion with a council safety official, the Society has been advised to

deal with each of the matters separately. A draft document has now been prepared explaining the concerns about crossing Causeway Head Road and requesting means of reducing the hazards.

Many residents have suggested that any changes to the roads should be done in a way that does not spoil the character of the village. This is something that the committee fully agrees with and is also requesting.

#### What's happening to the 50?

Regular users of the 50 bus service will have noticed that a growing proportion of the weekday services are now being operated by single-decker buses. Although some may regret the steady disappearance of the double-deckers, with interesting views from the top deck, the introduction of the newer buses is a welcome move - even though, being longer, they present their drivers with more of a problem when negotiating the sometimes thoughtless parking in Devonshire Terrace Road. Nevertheless, the introduction of better buses provides us with an added incentive to switch from car use on those journeys which can conveniently be done by bus.

First Mainline (the Mainline company was taken over in July by the First Group, one of Britain's largest transport operators), says that the introduction of the single-deckers is part of the company's overall plan to replace all the double-deckers with singles. £20 million is to be spent over the next three years on fleet renewals; all of the new vehicles will have low floor easy entry arrangements and many are being provided with room for wheelchairs. Around 15 of the new vehicles will be of the articulated type to give greater seating capacity

for high density routes.

The single-deckers now being introduced to the 50 route, whilst not being of the new type, are very much more comfortable than the double deckers, easier to board, quieter and with very much cleaner exhausts. They also use 20% - 25% less fuel. The bus drivers also seem to prefer the newer vehicles which, being rather nippier than the double deckers, allow the scheduled service times to be kept rather more easily.

Regarding fuel, First Mainline will soon switch all its fleet to low sulphur diesel which will reduce exhaust emissions even further. This fuel, which has been available to car drivers from Sainsbury's for over a year, will eventually be the only form of diesel fuel obtainable. It should cost no more than the standard diesel fuel and is becoming available more widely. The Repsol service station on Abbeydale Road now supplies it and it's likely to be available from other supermarket sites before too long.

#### Extra buses

From 19th October the 272 Sheffield - Hathersage-Castleton bus (stopping at Dore Moor Inn and the end of Long Line) will have extra evening services; Approximate time at Dore Moor Inn from Sheffield:- 6.40pm, 8.40pm & 10.40pm (operated by Stagecoach East Midlands) and improved Sunday service: Outward journey to Castleton times at Dore Moor Inn:- 9.20, 10.27, 11.20, 13.20, 14.27, 15.20, 16.27, 17.20, 18.50, 19.50, & 21.50 (operated by First Mainline), with the same frequency on the return journey and reckoning 8 mins from Ecclesall Terminus. Further details from the Busline (01246) 250 450.

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Gives the user unlimited travel on First Mainline buses within Sheffield for seven consecutive days.

7 Day Super ticket also available at £11.50 giving 7 days travel on all First Mainline buses in the Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield areas.

#### **Peak Christmas Long Past**

It is all to easy to imagine bygone Christmas scenes of true comfort and joy, and of course those in the great houses were privileged all the year round. The squires of old England celebrated much as did the Earl of Rutland at Haddon Hall in 1663, with an open-house hospitality famed throughout the Peak, when during the twelve days of Christmas no beggar or tramp would be turned away unfed. The Restoration had only recently permitted the return of extravagant traditions after strict and sober Puritan Christmases.

Haddon's accounts list servants' pay: 3s 6d for pulling fowl and poultry; 3s to the lad who turned the spit and a princely £3 to the cook. Guests could expect to be served the traditional boar's head - stuffed and presented with an orange in its mouth, venison, mince pies - which then contained minced mutton, and perhaps the wondrous Great Pie which contained a whole turkey stuffed with a goose, which in turn enveloped a partridge, itself wrapped around a plump pigeon!

Whole sheep and oxen were roasted daily and one essential seasonal delicacy was a peacock, stuffed and re-dressed in its plumage with gilded beak and tail feathers fanned wide.

The Earl was more than generous with his wine and Wassail Bowl of hot spiced ale, and he employed a piper at £2 to play for the male and female dancers who earned 10s and 5s each respectively.

Fifty years ago the Peak's grandest Christmas celebrations were surely those seen at Chatsworth House, were almost a hundred people spent the festive season. Relations and friends brought nurserymaids and nannies, ladies' maids and valets, necessitating three hundred or so basic daily meals topped up with at least a thousand mince pies, eighty plum puddings and about a dozen large Christmas cakes.

Fine Foods from

Dore Village Delicatessen
Telephone 236 8574
Suggestions for your Christmas Fayre

Oak smoked salmon, trout or venison, Parma ham, selection of fish and liver patés

Greenhead House Soups

Roast breast of turkey
Our own smoked, boiled and
honeyroast hams.
Roast local Beef
Homecured bacon, sausages and

Excellent choice of homebaked desserts (list available)

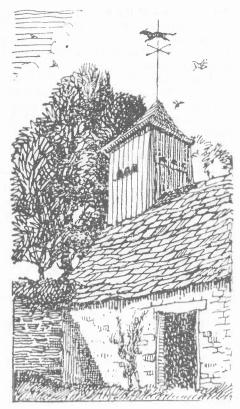
stuffings

Matthew Walker's Christmas puddings

Pollards coffee Longley Farm creams

Petits fours and choc mints

Biscuits and gifts for under the tree



This view was attributed to Dore in 1955 with the caption "Weather Vane, fox at full stretch. One of several at Dore near Sheffield". Can anyone identify where this was/is?

An early service in Edensor church heralded Christmas Day, and presents were distributed from the huge tree in the Painted Hall in the evening, when even the visiting servants were remembered. Boxing Day saw a Meet of the High Peak Harriers at Chatsworth and later in the holidays all the children from local schools were invited to tea and entertainment.

But there were Christmases equally distant in time from the seventeenth-century Haddon and twentieth-century Chatsworth which served only to mock the poverty of many, many more children, in a scenic corner of the Peak District, where numerous young lives were blighted in the cotton mills of the river Wye at the height of the Industrial Revolution.

Memoirs of one child apprentice tell how, in early December snowstorms, he was brought from a London workhouse to work at Litton Mill. Less than ten years old he travelled day and night atop a stage coach; with little food and thin clothing the boy was almost frozen to death before he arrived. He and his fellows never saw a fire and the following winter four boys trudgedbarefoot over the snow-clad hills to Taddington to beg an overseer for new clothes.

The half-staved children longed for Christmas with a pathetic belief in unlikely stories of rich plum puddings and joints of roast beef for all - the most wonderful and joyful thing that could befall us, to have a piece of roast beef'. Lo and behold, and just once, a joint was given and left to be roasted overnight by a couple of girls. In their excitement the other children could barely sleep but the following morning they awoke to nothing more than a charred cinder; the two young girls having fled their post after being frightened by a boggard' - a spectral dog common to Peak folklore.

But Litton's little children did receive a treat

on Christmas Eve when their year-round fare of water-porridge of oatcake was replaced by dry flour and a pint of ale. As for the spiced plum pudding of their dreams, it turned out to be a cold and soggy suet pudding with two or three currants in each miserable lump.

Away from the mills, Christmas meant a day off for most workers and was the time when parish charities were often doled out, whereby wealthier folk bequeathed practical relief - bread, coal, flannel or coarse cloth - to the needy.

Given in true Christian spirit as long ago as the 1600s, the charities have been slightly amended but are still in existence, an unbroken link with hundreds of Peak Christmases long past.

Julie Bunting

#### **Lip-reading Group**

Hello. My name is Judy and I am a Lipreading teacher in Sheffield. I'd like to explain what I do and how it may help you.

Maybe your hearing has changed, it's not as good as it used to be. Do you have to have your television on louder? Have you been issued with a hearing aid, but it's living in a drawer because you can't get used to it? Hearing aids are invaluable, but in a noisy shop or crowded place speech is still often incomprehensible. Perhaps you have Tinnitus? Whatever your problem Lipreading can still help you.

The most often said comment by people in my groups is When you are deaf, people think you are daft'. Maybe you have thought that! In a Lipreading Group you will meet other people with similar problems in a friendly atmosphere. Whatever your age, it is never too late to start or improve. It's nothing like going back to school; I try to find subjects to talk about which will interest you and help you to relax. There is also information on hearing aids, different hearing losses, problem solving and how to help yourself.

I hope I have interested you enough to take your courage in both hands and join us, you will have a warm welcome. A new group is starting on Wednesdays from 1.00/3.00pm. To serve the Dore/Totley area, and anyone in that part of the City. I have a room in the Mount Pleasant Centre on Sharrow Lane which is Room T4. Unfortunately this is upstairs but in the future, we may be able to get a room on the ground floor. The classes are free. You can start at any time during the year and come with a friend or partner if you wish.

If you would like to let me know you are coming, then I will look out for you. Please write to Judith Sutton, 16 McLaren Crescent, Maltby, Rotherham.

#### Millennium ring

Although Dore church bells are a historic and traditional part of village life, there are currently too few bellringers to keep the bells ringing regularly. The team practise every Friday evening, ring for the Sunday morning Service and for weddings. If you start now, you will be able to ring in the Millennium. Anyone can learn to ring, so if you are 11 years or older and are interested, please contact Richard Knights on 262 0948.

#### Down the pipe?

Have you wondered exactly what Yorkshire Water have been doing to the local water pipe system? Lots of holes with little fences round them and piles of earth don't tell you very much unless, of course, you ask. So we did.

Yorkshire Water has been undertaking a "£2.6 million mains rehabilitation project" in order to improve water quality. Apparently many of the older mains have built up a thick layer of encrustation in the bore of the pipe. Not only does this reduce the maximum water flow but it also tends to give the water a brown colour - something which is unpleasant rather than unhygienic. So, what do they do?

Step one, attempt to clean the pipe by passing a boring machine down it. This removes the encrustation but doesn't always leave the pipe in a suitable condition. So, step two is to pass a small TV camera down the pipe and have a good look at the condition of the pipe wall. Then it's decision time.

If the walls look reasonably smooth and in good condition, a foam swab is passed down the pipe to give it a final clean up before spray coating it with a one millimetre thick epoxy resin lining.

16 hours later the resin has dried and the pipe is ready for use.

So far so good, but what happens if the TV shows that the pipe is in poor condition. Time to get out the so-called "hydraulic bomb"! Sounds a bit drastic, doesn't it? Actually it's not a bomb at all but a cone shaped plug. This device, which is larger in diameter than the pipe at the wide end, is forced under pressure down the pipe, smashing it up as it goes and dispersing the broken bits into the ground around - to leave space for another pipe to be fed through. Blue plastic pipe is then pulled through and connected up. Job done!

Starting last August, over 60 kilometres of pipe is being given this sort of treatment in south-west Sheffield with the project due to be complete by July 1999. Yorkshire Water says that the project has a Customer Liaison Officer

on site to deal with local enquiries. If he cannot be contacted, try ringing the Helpline on 0845 1242424.

Another Yorkshire Water project due to start soon is a sewerage improvement scheme at Millhouses. At present, heavy rainfall results in sewerage finding its way into the River Sheaf - the pipes are just not large enough to cope. With the new scheme, a 1000 cubic metre tank is to be constructed which will collect the excess flow. The contents of this tank will then be pumped through a new pipe to be laid along Abbeydale Road to a point near the Tesco store where it will go into an existing sewer. Work is due to start shortly and will last about a year. Watch out for the road diversions!

We tend to give the water companies a bit of stick over higher water prices and fat salaries for directors but, at least, they are trying to get the old water supply and sewerage systems into a decent state at last. A bit of credit where due?



#### **Dore Service Station**

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year

# ristmas and the New Year



#### Seasons Greetings

from all the staff at

Dore to Door Catering

#### John Purcell

Gentlemen's Hairdressing, Ladies Spring Court Seasons Greeting to all our customers

#### Country Garden

Compliments of the Season to all our customers with best wishes for the New Year

#### JOHN CLARK DAIRYMAN

John and Sandra wish all their customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



#### THE VICTORIA WINE COMPANY

Merry Christmas to all our Customers from Allyson and Staff

#### THE TASTY PLAICE

Compliments of the Season to all our customers

#### Valerie of Dore

Send Christmas and New Year Greeting to all our customers

#### Dore Classics

Gillian sends Seasons Greetings to all her customers.



Wishing our Customers love, joy and peace at Christmas

#### Colin Thompson

Proprietor: R. W. Akitt
Seasons Greetings from your Family Butcher

#### DORE DENTAL CARE

Seasons Greetings to all our Patients from Dore Dental Care - Tel 2368402



Pre-war view up Abbey Lane. The post office and store on the corner is now a petrol station. Beauchief Hotel is just to the right of the picture. Note the trolleybus wires overhead.

#### **Reflections on Dore**

(We are taking this opportunity at the end of our twelve years of publication, to republish this article by Sydney Hoffman, which appeared in our first edition in Spring 1986 and seems as relevant and interesting today as it did then.)

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

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

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

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

The volume of traffic had increased greatly by 1964 and Dr. Bassey realised that it would double within a very few years. His answer was a scheme which would have partly pedestrianised the centre of the village by closing off a wide strip of High Street between the bottom of Townhead Road and the top of Savage Lane. Attractive as the idea might have been, it was made less attractive by the complicated one-way street system which he

devised to go with it. It was all most ingenious, but we could not sell the scheme.

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

The village which I first saw in 1946 really was more obviously a village than it is now. It is true that in the twenties and thirties the bungalows and semi-detached houses had begun to creep up Busheywood Road and Furniss Avenue and out of the village along Limb Lane and Causeway Head Road.

But behind these ribbons of development there still lay very large areas of land which were only gradually covered with streets, houses and gardens in the next thirty years or so. The rough land of the Rush Leys was still to bear its crop of temporary pre-fabs, their life eventually extended long after they should have been replaced by the more attractive and substantial Council estate we have now.

Unfortunately while the village was spreading it was also losing much of its heart. I make no criticism of the modern shops in Church Lane and High Street. They are not only well run, promptly and efficiently meeting local needs, but they are also, at worst, architecturally acceptable, and at their best visually attractive. (The DVS, incidentally, can claim a certain amount of credit for having consistently opposed for over twenty years any development great or small which would have made Dore an uglier place to live in.)

But no-one whose memory of Dore stretches back a quarter of a century can escape sharp feelings of nostalgia at the recollection of a village centre in which the picturesque cottages next to the Devonshire Arms and the more substantial cottages next to the Hare and Hounds helped to create a visual unity which corresponded to a somewhat more intimate social closeness than exists now - a closeness in which church and chapel, village school, village pubs and humble village shops all played their part.

Dore was not without some sense of its own history. The scout movement continued the

ancient traditions of Dore Feast and the well dressers had brought in and brilliantly naturalised the folk art of the limestone villages of Derbyshire. But I believe that Dore here owes more to John Dunstan, a former Secretary of the DVS than to any other person. Though a cornishman by birth he had a far greater knowledge and deeper understanding of Dore through its thousand years and more of history than anyone I ever met. His enthusiasm and scholarship inspired others, for he not only made himself the historian of the railway which passes through Dore and of Methodism in Dore and Totley; he was also the driving force which gave Dore a clearer understanding of the part it had played in Anglo-Saxon times when England was struggling painfully and fitfully towards national unity.

The commemorative stone on the village green (so handsomely designed by Bob Eldo Minns, an architect who lived in Dore till quite recently) will for me at any rate conjure up John Dunstan more vividly than it does King Ecgbert, King Eanred and all their shadowy Saxon troops. A village needs a middle but it needs edges too. If you are not sure when you have left it, then it has probably just become another amorphous lump of suburbia. Dore has managed to retain its village identity because so much of it is surrounded by farmland, woodland and unspoiled moorland.

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

Let me hark back to the Dore I first remember. It was not only an infrequent bus service which cut off Dore from Sheffield. A mere dozen years before, Dore had been a Derbyshire village. Many of the who lived here regarded themselves as Derbyshire folk kidnaped by a City to which they had little or no natural allegiance. Dore, long accustomed to some measure of selfgoverment, no matter at how lowly a level, lost its Parish Council and found itself tied to a dirty, sprawling industrial city with its heart half knocked out by war time bombing.

All that is a thing of the past. Dore is now firmly part of Sheffield and the association has brought some very great benefits.

We stand on the threshold of a new era of local government in which Sheffield is about to resume powers taken away by the South Yorkshire Council. The Dore Village Society will have to learn afresh some of the channels for influencing decisions which bear upon our environment and quality of life. In some ways it should be easier. At any rate I wish the Society well because I remain convinced that it has an important role to play now and in the future as a focus and forum for the expression of local opinion.

Sydney Hoffman, Spring 1986 Chairman, Dore Village Society 1964-1984



#### Dear Customers old and new,

I'd like to extend an invitation to everyone in the locality to come and visit us at the Beauchief Hotel and Restaurant.

We've just finished a major refurbishment programme of the Restaurant, Lounge Bar and Conference rooms- it looks really great and definitely worth a visit.

In fact, we reckon that the fresh new look about the Beauchief Hotel and the first class traditional food and wine means we've got one of the more impressive settings in Sheffield.

For those of you who haven't been for a while you can rest assured whether you're celebrating, treating the family or in the mood for romance we'll take good care of you.

Also, we've listened to your views on food and returned the menu to a more traditional choice. We've even re-introduced the chocolate tray!

#### Have you booked for Christmas yet?

If you haven't, then give Andrew Taylor our Restaurant Manager a ring. We're open every day throughout December serving your favourite Christmas fayre.

This year we hope to have completed major landscaping of the gardens which will look a 'grand sight' from our soon to be upgraded bedrooms.

Come and sample the delights of Merchants Bar-known in the past as Michelle's Bar- but still part of the Beauchief Hotel. It's just the place if you're looking for somewhere to eat at lunch or early evening and it's proving to be a popular meeting place again.



An outstandingly attractive food serving area will complete the transformation in Merchant's Bar. This opens in December when an extensive menu offering light bites, sandwich platters, great main courses and a salad selection for most tastes is launched.

Pick up a leaflet about our Cabaret Evenings with all your favourite TV 'Stars in Your Eyes' contestants appearing including Marti Pellow, Cher, Meatloaf to name but a few. Or, if you feel like a 'different' night out, there's always our 60's and 70's disco party nights.

We've made quite a lot of changes but the name's still the same.

I look forward to seeing you.

Craig Dowie-area manager.



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#### **News** in brief

11 Million people took foreign package holidays in the first 9 months of 1998, up 13% on 1997.

The most popular destinations were the Spanish Baleric Islands - Majorca, Menorca & Ibiza, followed by the Greek Islands & Mainland Spain.

Children In Need. A needle point picture currently on display in Totley Library will be raffled for the charity on the 20 November enquires to the library please. At 10pm on the same day the landlord of the Castle Inn in Bradway undergoes a hair-raising experience for the same cause.

Abbeydale Garden Centre revived the harvest time tradition this year of giving to the poor, by inviting customers to fill a shoe box with items in aid of the Sheffield Cathedral Breakfast Project.

The recently released period drama "Elizabeth" was shot in and around Haddon Hall.

Lost and Found. Will Eileen May Thompson please collect her Birth Certificate which has been found and is now on the Old School noticeboard.

#### **Gala Day**

Winter's here, the maypole's been put away and the Recreation Ground is back to normal. Now we have recovered and the money has all been counted, I thought you would like to know what we have done with it. In addition to providing a major source of income to both the local Scouts and Guides, we are also able to help some of those less fortunate than ourselves. Through the Sheffield Scouts Raffle, which is organised by the Gala Committee in conjunction with Gala, we have this year been able to provide the following donations:

Local handicapped schools
Home Farm Trust
Porter District Scouts
Playground Appeal
£500
£100

In addition to this, other scout groups selling tickets retain 50% of the sale proceeds making another £700 going to charity.

The raffle prizes were won as follows:

1st - VIP day at Doncaster Races A Quarry, Fullwood

2nd - Helicopter Trip M Hughes, Walkley

3rd - Sports Club Membership E Frost,

4th - Hot Air Balloon Trip P Dale, S11 5th - 2 Theatre Tickets K Hart, Dore

I would like to thank everyone who supported the fireworks display in September and am pleased to report that this resulted in a further donation of £500 to the Playground Appeal. I am sure those of you who attended will agree what a splendid display it was, and I would like to thank the Chinese Fireworks Company for providing their display team free of charge on the evening.

1999 sees the 50th anniversary of the 267th Dore Scout Group, and planning for the Anniversary Gala has already commenced. We will see a slight change in the format to accommodate some of the things we are planning and enable our goal of providing family fun to be more fully achieved. More news next year. With the millennium approaching we are also planning something special for Gala 2000. So the next two years are very busy ones for the committee which I am pleased to say has attracted some new membership and is going from strength tostrength.

Thanks for all your past and anticipated future support.

Alan Robinson

Gala Committee Chairman

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#### **Whirlow Hall Farm**

"Sunshine Super Day" is how one local newspaper described Whirlow Hall Farm Fayre and we certainly won't argue with that. I feel sure someone must have been looking down kindly on usand decided to send us a little bit of summer, just for the day!

The Star Challenge Run and Junior Fun Run provided an energetic start to the day. Emlyn Hughes fired the starting pistol and Bernie Clifton was assisted in handing out medals by his friend the Ostrich. Peter McNerney of Yorkshire Television was our celebrity runner and would like it on record that he didn't finish last!

The Arena acts proved a huge success with the crowds, providing a real cross section of events

The De Ramos provided drama with their spectacular knife act, while Jack the Lappert faced vulture, transfixed the crowd with a rare demonstration flight.

It was a particularly super day for young children with no less than four clown shows, not to mention Ali Cardabra mingling with the crowd as "Charlie Chaplin". The Bucking Bronco was ever popular as were the Quad bikes and giant slide.

Among the hustle and bustle a little bit of latter day tranquillity was provided by the Woodland craft demonstrations. These included Wood Turning, spinning and besam making. The Top Yard was a haven of music and dancing with outstanding performances from the Brass & Steel Bands, Morris & Irish Dancers. A very appreciative crowd sat basking in the sun.

A vital £17,500 was raised, which all goes directly towards the trusts work with disadvantaged and disabled city children. The annual Farm Fayre is Whirlow Hall Farm's main fundraising event of the year. Details of how you can help or join in other fundraising activities, or to order your Christmas Tree and Barn Reared or Bronze Free Range Turkey, call Whirlow Hall Farm on (0114)235 2678.

Debbie Wheeler Events organiser

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#### **Winter Sports**

The winter sports season at Abbeydale Sports Club's is now well under way. The rugby, squash/racketball, badminton, hockey and table tennis clubs are keen to encourage members and supporters. If you would like membership or fixture details please contact:

Bill Oliver - Sheffield Rugby Union Football Club: 0114-255-6817

Mark Hornby - Abbeydale Squash/ Racketball Club: 0114-236-1354

Andy Pettigrew - Sheffield Men's Hockey Club: 0114-250-7188

Rachel Dawson: - Sheffield Ladies Hockey Club: 0114-250-0825

Gavin Johns - Abbeydale Badminton Club; 0114-236-8057

David Boote Abbeydale Table Tennis Club: 0114-235-0126

You can become a social member at Abbeydale for £35 a year. Ring 0114-236-7011 for details.

#### **Farming notes**

Enoch Powell said that a politician who complains about the press is like a sailor who complains about the sea. He could just as well have said it's like a farmer who complains about the weather.

They're all grumbling about the medium in which they've chosen to make their living. In the case of farmers they don't really complain about the weather any more than anyone else, in fact probably not as much.

Most people have very short term memories about the weather. The one consistent feature of our weather is that it's always changing, and that's the way we like it. By the time we've had the same weather for a week we've had enough and want something else. If we have a nice summer the water boards try to make everyone feel guilty for using up all their water. If we have a mild winter the gardeners complain that we've not had the frosts to kill off the bugs and fungal diseases. And right now everyone's moaning about the endless rain and saying they've never known anything like it. Of course they haven't because every year's different, and every year we know that one record or another is going to be broken.

The sad thing is that we don't seem to be allowed to enjoy nice weather any more, it's all the result of global warming brought about by us driving cars around and using electricity generated from coal and so we've all got to pay even higher taxes than we've got already. Back in the fifties people sincerely believed the bad weather was brought about by the H Bomb, and in another 50 years there'll be some other pet theory.

A few years ago the Farmers Weekly ran an April 1st story about how cows are causing global warming by their large amounts of flatulence. I've recently seen that idea being put forward in all seriousness. Someone even suggested that the dinosaurs brought about their own demise by this means.

There's no such thing as a purely objective expert any more. We've all got to live and anyone who goes around saying everything's fine and there's nothing to worry about here isn't going to get much of a research budget. The problem is that those sort of people are getting too successful at the expense of people actually making things. Every time there's a food or health scare the experts clamour for money to research it, and the councils for more inspectors.

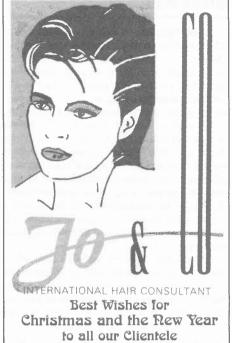
We're at the stage now where many small abattoirs have more inspectors than slaughtermen, which all puts pressure on them and eventually causes stock to be transported on longer and longer journeys to be slaughtered.

On our own farm we have inspections from water authorities to check there's no cow muck in the stream, and also the local environmental health for the same thing. Other environmental people come round about smells from muck spreading and others about smoke from the swill boiler. We've also had them round about bangs from the bird scarer. Ministry vets inspect the pigs and the swill equipment. Some one else checks the boiler. HSE men come round to look at PTO guards and ministry men look at the milking parlour. There's a girl who comes to look at the ear tags in cattle and another took samples of muck for leptospirosis.

There's a whole new field opening up with farm assurance schemes. We've had a man round to check conditions for dairy assurance but there are combinable crops sheep and cattle schemes.

They're also talking about whole farm assurance. But undoubtably the best of the lot is new cattle movement service. For 100 years there's been a system of moving pigs under licence as immortalised by Beatrix Potter in the Tale of Pigling Bland. But now the Governments brought in a system to register every single time an animal is moved any where in the country. The bureaucracy is stupendous.

The really depressing thing is that all this has happened at the same time as cattle prices have collapsed. You can buy a 3 week old Hereford heifer calf for £5 in Bakewell Market and it's estimated that the cost of processing the paperwork to move it there is £7. On top of that new ear tags cost £2 each. It was the BSE scare that was the impetus to bring the scheme in, but it's really the supermarkets that are benefitting. Theoretically when you buy a piece of meat now it should be possible to



Telephone 236 6208

trace the animal it came from, where it was born and all the farms it was reared on.

It's all part of the supermarkets increasing their stranglehold of the food supply chain. In the past the one thing small local butchers had over the supermarkets was that they knew where their meat had come from and by the new cattle movement schemes the supermarkets are trying to overcome this. Even so we are probably a long way off before they print the farm of origin on prepacked meat as this would put imported meat at a disadvantage, and they sell a lot of that.

A similar argument with eggs has been going on for years. The supermarkets have been dead against stamping the date of lay on egg boxes as people would be horrified at how old some of their eggs are compared with those in local shops.

Moral. Buy from your local shops.

Richard Farnsworth

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#### **Brook Hall**

Brook Hall stands well on the east side of Mickley Lane and just below the Cheshire Home. By a strange quirk, which may have arisen from an exchange of land, dating back to 1280 AD, the Hall stands in Totley. The original Totley boundary would no doubt have followed the Totley Brook but a few hundred yards south of Mickley Lane the line follows what I call the Tricket Brook, up the Tricket Wood and then follows the small escarpment past St. Georges Farm and then east up Mickley Lane, before cutting across to meet the small stream which then runs into Totley Brook. So, technically speaking, Brook Hall is a few yards outside Bradway and about 150 yards from the post-1935 Derbyshire boundary.

The earliest obvious record I have of the hall is its occupation in 1846 by Joseph Ward, a coal owner. It is quite probable that an earlier building, perhaps 18th century, stood here and that Ward altered and extended that building and added a new dressed stone facing to the facade as a plaque indicates. I do not know much about him, but one Joseph Ward, gentleman, of Bradford, near Manchester, laid claim in 1839, to the rights of common of Totley Brook Field, Middle Field and Low Field, an area of over 8 acres, then tenanted by local farmer Samuel Biggin. At that time there is no indication of a building on the site. Perhaps Ward extracted coal at Mickley pit? I have a suspicion that, despite the limited water flow of the stream running to the rear of the Hall, there may have been a dam nearby, and that at one time, a mill could have been sited in the vicinity.

There is certainly some evidence on the ground to support this view and the 1875 map indicates a shape that looks remarkably like a small dam.

Perhaps a reader has more information? Anyway by 1866 Ward must have died, but his wife remained until the following year, when Geo. Rodgers, manufacturer was installed.

The major change came in 1866 when Edward Taylor bought Brook Hall with seven and a half acres and moved in the Cherrytree Orphanage, whilst a new building was erected in the next field.

Subsequently, Brook Hall was owned by Cherrytree until its sale in 1976. In the meantime there were a number of tenants including Charles Hoyland, a Brush manufacturer of Sheffield, and later his son Edward. By 1900, Sheffield architect John Creswick Brameld was there and by 1907 was succeeded briefly by bank manager Sydney Arthur Robinson.

Mrs Frances Osborne and her daughter Miss Frances Marie Osborne, a teacher of music, took up residence and were there until at least 1920. Do any readers remember them or perhaps took lessons?

In 1930 Robert Benjamin Grayson moved into Brook Hall and stayed there until his death at the age of 84 in 1976. Up until that date the Hall had been leased from Cherrytree. Robert Grayson was one of Sheffield's oldest practising solicitors and worked from Paradise Square. He had started the firm after returning from service in the first world war. After his death the Hall was bought by his son Gordon, thus continuing a family connection which now totals 68 years.



Brook Hall, Mickley Lane.

Brook Hall has a lodge, built about the same time as Wards occupation and which for many years housed gardeners at Cherrytree, although from time to time, it appears to have been rented to various tenants. In more recent times the lodge has been extended to the rear.

Brian Edwards

Ed. Illustrations of Brook Hall and its Lodge appear in Brian Edwards book Dore Totley & Beyond' available price £ 8.90 from Greens' on Town Head Road.

#### Have you noticed?

This must be one of the wettest years I can remember, especially October. Everywhere is saturated and many local homes and businesses have suffered flooding or water damage. Clearly our local drains cannot cope, yet the Council continues to pass planning applications for new houses and extensions, all of which inevitably increase the volume of surface water, traffic on our roads, and demands for local services. We cannot not stop development or improvements to houses, but

surely there should be a wider consideration of the possible impact of any proposed development, before planning permission is granted, and a mechanism to ensure and fund a commiserate investment in local services and roads.

Talking of funds, the Council has been forced to retract it's extensive bus lane on Abbeydale Road South, but when they will get round to doing so remains to be seen! Meanwhile the conversion by Greenalls of Abbeydale Hall into a pub/restaurant for the over 35s market' can only increase traffic flows. Perhaps now the Council will get around to installing traffic lights at the bottom of Twentywell Lane, but I somehow doubt it.

Doremouse

#### Some Folk

Are you interested in Folk or Traditional music? If so you might like to contact the South Riding Folk Network on 247 0099 for details of all the events in this area and a copy of their regular magazine.



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#### **Dore Play Day**

The 19th August was a very memorable day for the Dore Playground Action Group. After much organising Dore Play Day had arrived, luckily on the hottest and sunniest day Dore had experienced this year.

9.15am. The Action Group arrive at the Recreation Ground to start the task of clearing as much 'Dog-poo' as they were able. After this the day just had to get better! Reinforcements began to arrive and it was all systems go-erecting tables, connecting electricity, water etc. The refreshment marquee going up, coming down, going up and at last staying up. The Bouncy Castle arrived and was going up, coming down, going up. We seem fairly organised, although there is still plenty to do. Where are the Park Rangers, Where is the Fire Engine?

10.45am. Fairly apprehensive, with only 15 minutes to go. Yes we have the Park Rangers, but no Fire Engine! Apprehension turns to very mild panic. Will we be ready and will anyone come? Then, emerging from the top entrance, a whole troop of children and adults (a day out from the Midland Bank Play Scheme) arrive. No turning back now and within minutes babies children and adults seem to be appearing from everywhere. The Fire Engine arrives and at 12.00, the ponies arrive

Time to take two minutes and survey the area - what a sight! Picnic blankets all around, the activities in full swing and so many happy smiling faces. Children playing, having fun, parents having a good natter, the helpers working tremendously hard.

In that two minutes we realised that the day was a SUCCESS.

Due to the glorious weather, further supplies of cold drinks were required. A quick run to a local shop was in order. No problem, because the centre of the village was almost deserted - the locals were at the Play Day.

3.30 - 4.00pm. We eventually wound down, and all concerned were tired, hot and weary,

but with very big smiles. Dore Play Day had been wonderful. We had raised £515 for the Playground and really made ourselves known.

The Dore Rec is such an asset to this village and on the 19th August we really enjoyed the community spirit that thrives here. Hopefully Dore Village will see how much we need this new Playground and what an ideal place Dore Rec is.

The time and effort provided by all the helpers is really very much appreciated and we would like to THANK YOU ALL for your support.

Julie, Samantha and Jackie Dore Playground Action Group.

Ed. The group has since held a further successful event at Dore Church Hall on 10th October. Donations to the Playground Action Group project can be made over the counter at the Midland Bank Branch on Causeway Head.

Road.

# Deadline for Spring Diary Events Friday

29 January 1999 Ring 236 9025 or write to the editor

#### Romania appeal

Thank you to all the readers who supported my request for material or slipper bags for the Romanian orphans.

The response was excellent (and I met some very friendly people) and bags and toys were taken on September 21st to an orphanage in Lugoj by a local businessman.

Because support in the whole region was so good, collection and distribution is now too big for the University and has been taken over by Child Action International, who will soon I hope, be contacting me, to bring me up to date with their needs.

Karen Dunn and Michelle Moore, the two Sheffield doctors who started the project, have been demonstrating aspects of child care to a Romanian psychologist, who has been in Sheffield for a week. An activist for disabled people, together with a student from Sheffield, have visited Romania to help with following this up. Application has been made to European Funds and to the Lottery for a funding to support the project.

At the moment, I don't know if more bags are needed, but I hope to give more information in the next issue.

Stella Wood

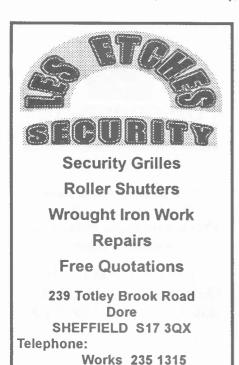
#### **Ladybower Challenge Walk**

Do you enjoy walking in the beautiful local countryside? Well, King Ecgbert School Association is organising a 24 mile Challenge Walk next May 15th. It will start and end at Wessex Building on Totley Brook Road in Dore, going out to Ladybower Reservoir via Burbage Rocks, and returning via Hope and Grindleford Cafe (for the bacon butties of course). There will be:

- \* checkpoints on route with free drinks
- \* free travel from checkpoints back to the finish for walkers wishing to retire
  - \* a cloth embroidered badge for all entrants
- \* a certificate if the walk is completed in 12 hours
- \* a Ploughman's platter and tea at the finishing point
  - \* First Aid personnel in attendance

There will also be a short walk of about 10 miles for those who don't wish to do the full walk.

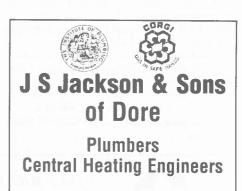
For both walks, it is up to you to decide on your route, but you have to check in at the checkpoints along the way. The cost of the walk will be £8.50. For further information or an application form, please telephone 236 7942 or send an S.A.E. to Mrs C Brewster, K.E.S.A., King Ecgbert School, Furniss Avenue, Dore, Sheffield, S17 3QN.



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#### **Historical Bradway**

In his introduction to his new booklet, *Historical Notes about Bradway*, the author Tony Smith says that every village should have a written record of its history, because so much knowledge dies with each generation. To his credit he has filled the gap as far as Bradway is concerned.

The booklet is written in the form of a tour around the Bradway area, guided by excellent maps showing all the sights of interest, which are then cross referenced with sections of the text. The result is both a reference source and an entertaining guide. Something that can be studied at home, used to satisfy a particular curiosity, or as a basis for planning local strolls.

From the brief history at the start we learn that the area is described in old documents as far back as 12-1300, with names such as BRADWEI, BRADWEY and BROADWAY. It was apparently on an ancient highway along the ridge of land running from Holmesfield east through Bradway to Gleadless and Ridgeway. Farms, small villages and hamlets developed along the route, which later became a turnpike. Thus Bradway was little more than a collection of dwellings until the coming of the railway and its tunnel, and then most significantly its incorporation within Sheffield from 1934.

The tour itself roughly follows the old boundary of Bradway, starting at Tinkers Corner, by way of the chemical yards on the boundary with Totley and mills on the Sheaf, to Twentywell Brickworks and the cottages and farms of Lower Bradway. Details are provided on each of the 49 sites with drawings and detailed maps of many. Something remains of most sites today, but some have already disappeared for ever.

There are also sections on the region around Bradway, the Parish of Norton, the five pubs of Bradway, the Greenhill Moor Turnpike Trust, shopping in Bradway and a full set of references.

In all 36 A4 pages of excellently researched information priced at £3. This is a must for everyone with an interest in the local history of this area of Sheffield and invaluable in setting in context the evolution of Bradway in relation to its neighbouring villages. *Historical Notes about Bradway* has already proved extremely popular. There are only a few copies left, in advance of a second edition, which can be reserved from the author at 29 Bradway Road, S17 4QQ.



Shepherd Wheel in action.

#### **Book Reviews**

Lift a glass to one man who knows his pubs! Sheffield's Forgotten Public Houses is a set of 20 colour cards, each with a potted history on the back, recently published by Michael Liversidge from Stannington. Over the years he has photographed some 700 pubs of which he calculates 200 odd have already disappeared, and it is from these the collection is drawn. The sets are available price £5 (or more ready framed) from Sheffield Scene, Surrey Street, or direct from Pickards Publishing on 275 7222.

Walk into any churchyard and you will come face to face with memorials to people past, which together provide a fascinating insight into how people lived and died, and most significantly how they wished to be remembered. Lest we Forget is a new book by Douglas Lamb - author of A Pub on Every Corner - which looks into the stories and history behind some of the Monuments and Gravestones in and around Sheffield.

The city has few major monuments, but hidden within it are plaques and memorials to many of the people who made Sheffield great or the ordinary souls who went about their lives largely unnoticed. This volume can

inevitably only scratch the surface of what is available and as such is the first of an intended series. Each chapter pulls together monuments and inscriptions under headings from the cost of coal to the Sheffield Flood, with each group set in general context and contemporary material used to expand on the inscriptions. The crowded little churchyard of Dore attracts four entries including a mystery as to why the Town Clerk of Wigan should be buried here?

This is not a history book, nor is it intended to be, but never the less it provides another key to Sheffields rich history, and if you are not already one to linger in a cemetery reading the gravestones and wondering at the stories behind them, you will be after reading this.

Lest we Forget is published by Pickards Publishing and is available price £9.99 from most large bookshops or direct from the publisher on 275 7222.

The Devil's Mill by Walt Unsworth, is a historical novel set in the Peak District area at the middle of the eighteenth century. A young lad called Jeremy loses his memory as the result of a coaching accident and finds himself at the mercy of the Poor Law rules and put to work in one of the cotton mills. An exciting story unfolds given greater depth by the inclusion of snippets of local geography and descriptions of the social life of the times.

Recommended reading for the National Curriculum (early secondary), the book is well worth reading at any level and would make an excellent Christmas present. The Devil's Mill is published by Cicerone Press, price £4.99.

#### **Abbeydale Hamlet**

After the brief summer opening Abbeydale Hamlet and Shepherds Wheel are closed again to the public ostensibly for restoration. No proposals or budgets have been published and it is not clear if the hamlet will open again in the spring. In the meantime there are worries about deterioration especially at the unmanned Shepherd Wheel site.



#### VISIT BRADWAY CRAFT FAIR SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER

This regular event will take place again in Bradway Scout Centre in the grounds of Sir Harold Jackson School, off Prospect Road, Bradway between 10am and 4pm.

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P.S The real fire will be with us in time for winter!

# **Customs of courtship** and betrothal

The desirability of a 'match made in heaven' has surrounded courtship with romantic superstition. Many customs were aimed at identifying a future spouse and were popularly practised in the Peak.

Many a girl who sat shelling peas would count the contents of each pod; if she found nine perfect peas and placed them over a doorway she could expect to marry the first man to come through the door. Dreams of a future husband were encouraged by sleeping with a slice of wedding cake beneath the pillow. Honeysuckle under the pillow led to erotic dreams, and a wedding would surely follow if honeysuckle was brought into the house - or if two teaspoons were accidentally placed in the same cup.

Over the centuries, many credulous folk have tried to encourage the affections of another with aphrodisiacs. The oyster still maintains its old reputation, but we have lost faith in tomatoes and potatoes, both still rare when they were favoured by the Elizabethans, who knew tomatoes as 'love apples'.

In Tudor times the plant called 'Bachelor's Buttons' was thought to have special powers, referred to in Quip (Greve, 1502): "Therebye I saw the Bachelor's butons, whose vertue is to make wanton maidens weepe, when they have worne it forty weekes under their aprons for a favour".

A favour was a token given to the object of one's affection, more usually a personal item such as a kerchief, ribbon or garter.

Bachelor's Buttons had a later history in connection with lovesick bachelors, who were advised to put a small plant in one of their pockets. If it continued to grow, he would soon be married.

#### Matchmaking.

The observation of some customs was set aside for certain days of the year. January 20th, the eve of St. Agnes, was deeply significant for any maiden who wished to dream of the man she would marry. A variety of ancient traditions survived into the late 19th century, usually involving a day of fasting and a short prayer to St. Agnes, patron saint of virgins, who had been martyred for her refusal to marry a man she did not love.

St. Valentine's Day's long associations with love are rooted in pagan fertility rites celebrated at the Roman Feast of Lupercalia, when lots were drawn for marriageable young women. The old traditions became more respectable as Christianity spread but St. Valentines Day continued to be marked by efforts at matchmaking.

The most magical night of the year for all supernatural assistance was believed to be Halloween, October 31st, when spirits were released from the underworld to walk abroad. Amidst many traditions were some related to divination. A Derbyshire maiden would seek an apparition of her future husband by placing a sprig of Rosemary and a sixpence beneath her pillow before going to sleep. Alternatively (or additionally) she could place her shoes in the form of a T' and recite - before getting into her bed backwards -:

"I cross my shoes in the shape of a T

Hoping this night my true love to see, Not in his best or worst array,

But in the clothes of every day".

The reflection of a future partner would also be carefully looked for in a candlelit mirror. Another popular Peak custom involved lining up a row of hazel nuts on the fire-grate, naming each one for a possible suitor and discovering the name of the lucky man by repeating: "If you love me pop and fly, if you hate me burn and die".

The more adventurous lass could walk to a crossroads at night-time, sprinkling barley and reciting:

"Barley I sow

Barley I trow,

Let him who will my husband be

Come after me and mow".

The bewitched man was supposed to appear behind her, mowing with his scythe. The same rite could be performed with hempseed in the garden instead. A Derbyshire lad who wanted a glimpse of his future wife was advised to walk down a lane scattering ashes or seeds, symbols of fertility since pagan times, and to look behind him for a sighting.

One favourite divination custom was reserved for Christmas when an ash faggot, bound with green twigs was burnt on the hearth. Each unmarried girl chose one of the bonds and she whose bond was first to snap in the flames would be the first to wed. Another way to bring your single status to an end was to touch or brush against the groom at a wedding, that happy occasion which is itself beset with more traditions than any other.

Julie Bunting



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#### A Grouse

Have you noticed the profusion of ragwort this year? Time was when no decent farmer landowner would tolerate it, and tore it out by the roots. Fair enough, whilst in flower probably no animal would eat it, but the danger lies when the plant dies down and grazing animals are finding fodder a bit thin on the ground. I understand one plant in a feed of hay can kill the animal.

Another plant has not been so fortunate and someone has spoiled our fun on Bridge Bottom. We were looking forward to popping the Himalayan Balsam seed pods, when lo and behold, they were removed, chopped down, pulled up - whatever. We think it's a beautiful fun plant. What has everyone else, seemingly got against it?

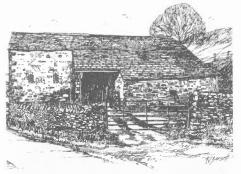
On my travels round the village I have noticed that a great number of car drivers accelerate when passing horse-riders, instead of slowing down, and I would ask all car drivers to be a little more considerate, especially on Cliffeside. (Newfield Lane). On another safety point, pebble drives and pathways are all well and fine, but not when the pebbles spread onto the pavement. They could be dangerous if an oldie slipped on them.

I much enjoyed the article by Albert in favour of the fox. I am always thrilled when I see a Mr Todd(Beatrix Potter), especially early in the morning on the rec. There has been a magnificent dog-fox there this summer. There seems to be an increase in the mole population in the rec as evident from the number of mole hills. We have also seen several dead moles. Is Mr Todd killing them? I believe that though animals and birds, ie. Owls and herring gulls etc will kill moles they will not eat them.

Regarding the letter from Trevor Denniff in the Summer issue, surely Mrs Jean Donne who now lives on High Trees, must be one of his cousins, her mother being May Rhodes nee Denniff. As one who had the privilege and honour to attend Syd's 70th, may I say how much we all enjoyed his and Sheila's company, on that night. The speech he gave off the cuff was brilliant. D.V.S. ought to have him speak at one of their meetings.

Finally congratulations on the progress so far of the one way system. Main Line drivers deserve a word of praise for the difficulties they have experienced in the past trying to negotiate the village traffic.

Jean Dean



#### **News in brief**

Whirlow Brook Nursing & Residential Home, which currently has one or two vacancies, is celebrating its first year on the 20th December with a party for residents and families

John Wade Singers will be performing Verdi's opera Macbeth on December the 3rd & 4th at St John's Church Abbeydale. Tickets from 236 0820.

The auction of the Causeway Head Road toilet site, due to be held by Spencers on Friday 23rd October was cancelled. Offers for the premises (to be used as a retail unit) were suggested in the region of £10,000. Presumably offers are now by sealed bids.

The Ordnance Survey has published a new street atlas of Derbyshire including rural and urban street names. Interestingly the most common street name in the county is Church Street, there are 75, and the second most common is Station Road with 64.

Car travel has risen by 37% in the last decade, while bus travel outside London fell by 22%. In 1995/97, the average Britain travelled nearly 6,700 miles a year, an increase of 25% since 1985/86

The Water Vole is our fastest declining mammal with a 90% fall since 1988.

# Thirsting for your own private oasis?

If you've always fancied the idea of having a wildlife pond in your garden, but haven't the energy, time or muscle power to dig one, Sheffield Environmental Training may be able to help you.

Sheffield Environmental Training (SET) is a registered charity which runs training courses leading to the National Vocational

Qualifications (NVQs) in Environmental Conservation.

In order to successfully complete the NVQ programme, students have to undertake a

In order to successfully complete the NVQ programme, students have to undertake a number of practical tasks, such as building dry stone walls, planting trees and creating ponds. These tasks are designed to bring about lasting benefits to the environment and usually take place on sites managed by bona-fide conservation bodies.

This year SET has a problem. The tutors need to find at least two sites on which the students can gain experience of creating new ponds. As none of SETs usual clients have been able to help, the tutors are looking for private individuals who are interested in having a pond created on their land (in a garden or perhaps on a farm). Each pond will cover an area of between two and six square metres, depending on the space and materials available. It will be constructed by a small team of students (all responsible adults), working under the close supervision of one SETs qualified and experienced tutors. It is anticipated that each pond will be completed from start to finish in three consecutive days.

SET will provide the labour and equipment needed to complete each pond free-of-charge. The organisation can also provide free advice and assistance with designing the pond, choosing the best site for it and selecting plants to encourage wildlife. All the landowner has to do is provide a suitable site and a good quality flexible pond liner. SET can even help you to estimate the size and cost of the liner.

If you would like to know more, please contact Emma Dent on Sheffield 250 7955.

#### Cards for good causes

The Sheffield Charity Christmas Card Shop this year can be found in the Cathedral. The shop is open from 10am to 4pm, Monday to Saturday. On sale are cards from both national and local Charities. For information call Mary Watson on 236 5666.

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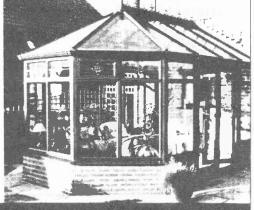
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#### The Smelting of Lead

This continues the article in our last issue written by Alan Faulkner Taylor.

Lead Smelting (part 2)

There came the stage where the supply of wood for white coal ran out in the Hope Valley - a near economic catastrophe, because the ore would have to be carried much further to the smelters.

After Hope Valley, the nearest woods for smelting, were in Dore, Totley, Cordwell Valley and around Linacre - another five miles up hill and down dale! Transportation of the ore over rough country was by packhorses, each carrying 10cwt, split between two panniers. Yet a cart drawn by several horses would have been able to haul several ingots, each weighing one fother (22cwt).

The kilns for making white coal are quite different on our side of the hill. How can we identify one? Without looking very hard, I have found over forty in Ecclesall Woods, but there are many more in other woods. These kilns differ from those where boulders were readily available, in that they were dug out as hollows, some 12 feet in diameter, going down into the clay subsoil, with the soil thrown up as a bank. Usually on slightly sloping ground, there is always a gap on the low side; for this reason archeologists called them O-sites', a name that still persists, although I prefer to call them white coal kilns'. We have to appreciate that the hollowed-out area would have been deeper when the kiln was in use. The gap between the jaws of the thrown-up bank would have been used to replenish the fuel inside the kiln. The fuel may have been coal.

Incidentally, the man who tended the kilns, (in Sheffield's woods there are always two within yards of one another), may have also tended a charcoal hearth at the same time. The latter are very difficult to identify, although I know three in Ecclesall Woods and each has two kilns within a distance of a few yards. Charcoal burning continued for a long time after there was no further demand for white coal.

The destination for the lead, mainly in ingot form, was London. It would have to travel over land to Blyth on the Wytham, because here was the nearest navigable river; thence it would sail to the Trent and then to the Humber where the cargo would be transferred to a seagoing vessel.

Alan Faulkner Taylor

#### **Historic Finds**

A picture of life in the Upper Derwent Valley over the last ten thousand years, has been revealed in a major study carried out by archeologists from the Peak District National Park Authority.

Their four year study revealed over 1,600 archeological features - a ten fold increase in the number of previously known sites. Amongst the items discovered were prehistoric burial barrows, Mesolithic camps, Roman settlements and Medieval farmsteads. The findings, which were funded by Severn Trent Water, the National Trust, Forest Enterprise and the National Park Authority, clearly demonstrate how the landscape had changed over a period of time.

When we look at the countryside we think

we are looking at nature, but in fact almost everything we see has been shaped by people over hundreds of generations. The survey shows the way different features relate to each other, how settlement patterns can be charted from Medieval times through to the modern day and how individual farms connected up to the moorlands for grazing and peat cutting. Overall it gives a picture of the landscape as a living entity that is continuing to develop today.

One example of this is at the remote Howden Clough, where the archeologists worked on the earliest lead hearth in the region to be excavated. It wouldn't have been found but for the erosion caused by grazing sheep. Pottery about 800 years old, as well as lead slag and charcoal were also discovered.

The work has been recorded in a bulky three volume report. Of the many features over 250 were of national or regional importance, including five scheduled ancient monuments and eleven listed buildings. Hopefully the information will enable the National Park to manage what is important for generations to come.

#### Open morning

The Dore Village Society room will be open to visitors on Saturday the 12 December from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Please come along to see some of the items we have added to the Dore Collection, to buy Christmas cards and other DVS publications, or to renew membership. Several members of the Society's committee will be available to answer questions or to collect information on Dore you might have.

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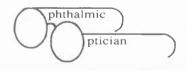
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King Ecgbert and his men? Can anyone date this pageant and identify the participants?

#### **Ecgbert & Eanred**

On the outskirts of Sheffield on Derbyshire side Stands a place that is well-known to fame, For historic events that took place long ago Between Ecgbert and old What's-is-name?

On Dore Village Green a monument says It took place in eight-twenty-nine, There's not many left can recall the event, I was only a lad at the time.

Now Ecgbert in Wessex was cock o' the walk, Eanred in Northumbria t'same. So when they got spying out each other's land, We knew we were in for a game.

Now Ecgbert came North and Eanred marched South, And it caused quite a tense situation, When Eanred's spies came and told that Ecgbert

Had got off at Totley station.

He marched up Ashfurlong and reached Village Green

As twelve a struck on Dore Church Bell. With lances and spears t'was a fearsome array And they'd brought bows and arrows as well.

Eanred came from Houndkirk and down Townhead Road

He was riding upon his white horse-Then he turned to the right and along Drury

There was no theatre there then, of course.

When he reached Village Green and saw Ecgbert's troops

Lined up with their spears and their lances, He got a queer knocking in both of his knees And he didn't give much for his chances.

When battle had raged for best part of an hour With Ecgbert on top plain to see,

The Vicar came out from the Vicarage and said;

"What say, lads, we stop for some tea?"

Now Eanred really was nobody's fool-He had heard of discretion and valour-He got down on his knees before Ecgbert at

And his face was a deathly-white pallor.

He knelt before Ecgbert with very good grace, Acknowledged him Overlord then and there; And when they'd both signed on the black dotted line,

They went off for a drink at the "Hare".

And now all you children who still go to school,

When history your teachers unfold About Ecgbert and Eanred and Dore Village Green.

You can say you've already been told.

Stanley Kenning

Stan wrote this wonderful piece of nonsense above 20 years ago when villagers performed Variety acts for the Parish Socials. We reproduce it again for those who missed it the first time around.

#### **Ecclesall Woods**

Ecclesall Woods is the largest and best remaining semi-natural, ancient woodland in Sheffield and widely recognised as one of the City's finest conservation areas. A future management plan is currently being drawn up for the Woods, taking into account the range of woodland flora and fauna, heritage features, human access and aspects of sustainable management. Copies of the draft plan are available at our local library, or the Central Library. Copies of a management summary are also available and this includes a response form enabling people to express their opinions and concerns about the future of the woods. These may be obtained from FEW (Friends of Ecclesall Woods) on 236 5126.

The Dore Village Society will be responding formally to the draft, to ensure that the wider needs of the local community are taken into account. A site meeting with council officials and FEW has also been held with a view to the society funding some footpath and access limitation work on our side of the woods.

One of the problems faced in the woods is tipping from adjacent gardens and in two recent cases using the woods themselves to obtain vehicular access for garden clearance. As owners of the woodland, any requirement for access by adjoining landowners/occupiers via the woodland must first be agreed with the Council, with the exception of statutory

undertakers, emergency services, or persons with a legal right of access as defined by the deeds to the woodland. In general access by private individuals for the purposes of general garden improvement etc will not be granted.

#### Jean recalls

Plans to refurbish the Old School took me back to my childhood there. On the whole a happy carefree time even though the war was on. We seemed a million miles away from that. Miss Dobbs taught the first class. She walked every school day from her home in Dronfield Woodhouse and back again and I don't think she ever missed a day or was late. I remember a large dolls house in her room, which incidently we were never allowed to touch. I have asked several times what became of the dolls house, but have never received an answer.

At the time I began school Mr Speight, the headmaster was preparing to leave to take up a post at Pye Bank council school and he was replaced by Mr Clinton. Mr Clinton left to go into the navy during the war and was killed on active service. He was followed by Mr Clarke. He was not a very fit man but was lucky to have the assistance of a very good teacher Miss Davies, who taught the top class. After Mr Clarke came Mr Wright, and the school finally closed in 1964.

The school had no hot water and the toilets were outside across the school yard. Dinners were brought in containers from the city and were served up by Mrs Cook and Mrs Walnes. Water to wash the dishes was heated up in an old gas boiler in the senior girls cloakroom. Health and safety would have had a fit these days, at the conditions. But I don't think anybody suffered.

When girls reached the age of about 10, they were sent one morning a week on the bus, which incidently only ran to Ecclesall, to Carter Knowle School for cookery lessons. This entailed a walk from Ecclesall Bus Terminus to Carter Knowle and back, rain or shine and woe betide anyone who missed the bus back to afternoon lessons. The boys at the same age went the bottom way to Carter Knowle. No mixing of the sexes for us.

There was one teacher none of us will ever forget. We were traumatised by her. She had a voice that might waken the dead and a temper to match. She was really sarcastic and cruel and would not have been tolerated today. I still get the shakes when I go into the big room in the old place.

I can visualise her sitting in the corner screeching like a banshee.

We received regular religious lessons from the Vicar, Mr Saxelby Kemp, and later from another character, the Reverend Thorpe, but more of him at a later date.

In 1882 it was noted in the school records, that the boys toilet had fallen into disrepair and was being used by the Master as a henhouse and in 1883, that the boys had only one seat and no urinal, the girls and infants had 2 seats but no partition as decency should allow. By 1885, some improvement had been made, but the boys were still exposed to too much view. Things were not much better when I attended. We certainly had no means of washing our hands. Did we have toilet tissue? I can't recall any.

Jean Dean



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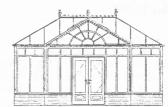
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#### The Wildlife Garden

It is perhaps self evident, but most of us would recognise there are many differences between us 'island folk' and our close neighbours on the continent. One contrast in particular is very apparent at this time of year. Whilst many French, Polish and Russian country dwellers will spend the early days of autumn gathering fungi, it is far more likely that over here, people will be out looking for toadstools as subjects for study or illustrations, rather than for the frying pan.

Slugs, and supposedly grey squirrels and deer, can eat most fungi with impunity. We, on the other hand, have to be very careful not to mistake 'Avenging Angels', 'Death Caps', 'Dung Roundheads' or the delightfully named 'Fairy Cake Hebelomas' for field mushrooms, unless that is, we wish to end up in the poisons

unit of the local hospital.

Although many of us would have second thoughts about eating wild fungi, a lot of people do however have less qualms about picking berries from the hedgerows. The idea that the countryside can provide 'food for free' has gained strength over the last decade, but is it really a free lunch?

The only reason that hedgerow plants grow huge numbers of berries is to ensure the survival of their species, the production of which involves vast amounts of energy. If a person collects the berries, it is unlikely that the plant's seeds will be distributed back into the countryside, and every berry removed is one less for our wild animals to eat. People have, of course, been collecting fruits from the countryside for thousands of years without any apparent detriment to our wildlife.

However, with all the miles of hedgerows that have been dug up over the last few decades, and scrub and woodland areas being built on, who knows how much British wildlife is suffering. This makes it all the more important to grow berry-producing plants in

the garden.

Our forefathers had a great deal of knowledge and understanding of the hazards of our countryside, gained through the necessity of having to rely on herbal remedies. At the end of the twentieth century, very few of us now share this knowledge, and one consequence has been an increase in the number of people being poisoned, sampling 'food for free'.

Whereas young children, who by their very nature are often attracted to bright berries or 'interesting' seeds and their cases, may well eat them thinking they are sweets, it is more likely that adults could misidentify the berries, leaves, bulbs or roots of a plant, assuming they are safe for culinary purposes.

As a gardener, you may think this does not concern you, but what are the potential hazards of the plants you grow, not only to humans, but also to domestic animals, pets and wildlife?

Over the festive season, many of us bring holly or mistletoe into the house, or are given plants with colourful berries as presents, such as Christmas Cherries. These should be kept well out of the reach of young children and animals. Pets left indoors have been known to sample berries, simply out of curiosity or boredom, with tragic consequences. Dogs have even died after eating mistletoe berries.

Birds show us which their favourite berries

are by the number of elder, cotoneaster, holly and ivy seedlings that pop up in odd corners of the garden, all from seeds distributed in their droppings.

This is no guide to the toxicity of a plant's berries or seeds though, simply because the birds are able to eat them. Elder flowers and berries are harmless once they have been cooked or fermented in wine, but can be quite poisonous if eaten raw, as are privet berries. Similarly, yew, which has the most toxic berries of all the more commonly grown garden plants, is harmless to birds as it will only release its poison if the seeds are chewed. Farmers are usually aware of the toxic nature of its berries and leaves, and take steps to protect their farm animals, but care should also be taken by gardeners when siting a plant, to ensure that these animals are unable to get access to either the leaves, berries or clippings.

For farm animals, the greatest threat doesn't come from eating berries in peoples' gardens, but from hedge clippings, such as privet, or garden plants 'dumped' on pasture land. The list of plants that have killed farm animals due to this thoughtless habit is wide and varied, including many of our most common ones; ivy, lupin and poppy plants, hyacinth bulbs, tomato foliage, rhubarb and rhododendron leaves. Wood can also be a hazard. Dogs have even been poisoned and died after retrieving sticks of laburnum wood which had been thrown for them. Whereas farm animals and pets, if poisoned, will in all probability receive veterinary care, it is unlikely that wild animals will, and one can only guess how many must die due to plant dumping in the countryside.

So, should we grow these plants in our gardens? It would be a Herculean task if we had to destroy every plant that is potentially hazardous to children or animals. The only practical solution is to teach children not to eat leaves, seeds or berries from plants, and closely supervise very young children whenever they are in the garden or countryside. As gardeners, we too should not disregard our responsibilities, and be careful where we grow plants with poisonous berries or those with toxic leaves or seeds, to ensure that they are sited away from the reach of youngsters, farm animals and even pets.

Of course, not all plants with berries are poisonous and many not only provide much needed colour in the garden at this gloomy time of the year, but also help birds survive the winter. Other plants have provided us with life saving drugs, such as salicylic acid from willows, which was originally used to develop that most popular of drugs, aspirin. It seems strangely ironic, that Van Gogh, who is world famous for his sunflower paintings, may have been influenced in his later career by treatment with digitalis, a drug derived from another plant, the foxglove. Excessive use of this drug has been shown to give rise to yellow halos in the person's vision. Could it be that this gave rise to the prominent use of yellow in his later paintings?

Y was a yew, Which flourished and grew, By a quiet abode Near the side of the road.

Dark little Yew!

Edward Lear, 'Y was a Yew'

Iack Daw

#### Making a will

Estimates suggest that only a third of the population has made a will, which seems to indicate we might be leaving things too late, or just don't care what happens when we die. None of us like to think about the inevitable, but if we care about our families or friends, or wish certain assets of heirlooms to go to particular people, making a will is the only sure wav.

Without a will you are said to die intestate and your assets will be distributed, not necessarily in the way you would have wished. Likewise obtaining probate and access to funds will take longer, perhaps creating difficulties for those you leave behind. So it is worth making a will or checking you existing one, it need not be expensive.

#### **Brian Edwards Exhibition**

There will be an exhibition of drawings of Totley and Dore by Brian Edwards, at Totley Library from Friday 20th November to Saturday 5th December. This will be the largest collection of Brian's work on this area ever to be exhibited; some drawings are from his books and magazine articles and others are unpublished. On Saturday 21st November, Brian will be present to answer questions and to sign copies of his books, (from 9.30-12.30).

There will be a talk by Brian at the library on Monday 30th November at 7.30, tickets will be available from the library. The subject will be Totley from the 16th century, with time for questions from the audience. You are advised to book early as there are only a limited number of seats.

Totley Library, Baslow Road is open Monday 10-7, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30-5.30, Saturday 9.30-12.30. Closed Thursday and Sunday. Library telephone: 236

#### **Cheese by Post**

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#### News in brief

A flying simulator has been bought for our local King Ecgbert ATC 366 Squadron with money raised by friends and family of Craig Barnett (killed in the Toronto airshow of 1995). A training room has also appropriately been dedicated and named after him, as it was here that his first interest in flying began. Now local youngsters will have extra help in this valuable organisation.

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#### Mill Lane flooding

In w/c October 25th the river confined by the manmade banks near Mill Lane took part of a garden, a section of tarmac path, wrenched the metal hand rail off the bridge (causing the public footpath to be closed) and demolished the 6 foot garden wall to the white house facing Baslow Road. A neighbour saw his garden shed merrily sailing down the river!

#### **Planning**

Abbeydale Hall. The proposal by Greenalls for a restaurant has been passed. As this was a large case in every way (numbers of objectors, number of meetings, size of funds available to the brewery) the notes and conditions are lengthy. These are available to read at the Dore Village Society office.

Causeway Head Farm Barn. An outline planning application has been made for a change of use from barn to dwellinghouse. The Society has sent a letter outlining some planning concerns.

Old School. The Planning Committee meeting to decide this proposal is scheduled for the afternoon on Tuesday the 17th November at the Old Town Hall.

Nab Farm. There has been some anxiety expressed locally concerning the wording of the planning proposal "Demolition of farm buildings. Erection of 2 dwellinghouses and 2 bungalows" The proposed demolition is of the L-shaped barn, for long held in place by tie bars.

Whilst some of this building (such as the North West corner) is strong, it is largely structurally unsafe and it is proposed that it will be rebuilt on new foundations to contain 2 residential units (these are the two houses referred to). The farm building would be left as now. The 2 bungalows are to be sited where the long cart shed is. 11 car parking spaces are suggested on the site of the outbuildings. To accommodate these changes the internal courtyard will therefore change but the view from the Green and Savage Lane will be largely the same as now, with only one window on the long wall. Our representations cover 6 issues. I) the number of units and therefore car parking and traffic danger, ii) the retention of outbuildings if possible, iii) preservation of the stone staircase to the barn, iv) retention of the gritstone paving to the yard, v) clarification of materials for the bungalows and vi) retention of some archeological features.

The Dore Village Society has in the past made applications for the property to be listed. When it wrote to the Conservation Officer last January with copies of the application to English Heritage for Nab Farm to be Listed, it was told that there was no chance of Sheffield doing a spot listing or Building Preservation Notice as it had so recently completed its survey (Dec 96) and that its inclusion in the Conservation Area was enough to safeguard it.

Totley College Site. This has been passed for 2 housing sites on amended plans which reduce the total number of houses. Lowfields to have 45 houses and Highfields 39. Plans are on view at Totley library. The Highways Dept have drawn up 4 options for the safe turnaround of buses instead of at the Cross Scythes. I) a layby on Baslow Road past Lane



Abbeydale Hall now destined to be a pub/restaurant. This illustration is featured on the Dore Village Society Christmas card, available from Greens shop on Causeway Head Road.

Head Road, ii) a mini roundabout at top of Hillfoot Road with a layby near Totley Grange Drive, iii) a layby in the grounds of Totley County school with a turn on Totley Grange Drive, and iv) a turn in the school grounds.

Thompsons Meadow. The 21 houses to be built here, behind the Totley Rise shops, have this ominous phrase written on the plan "No buildings to be located within 6m of river bank." It will need more than 6 metres to keep flood waters out as those on Back Lane found to their cost last month.

Whitelow Lane. We now have the answer to the mystery telegraph poles. A couple of months ago 4 poles were erected from the top junction seemingly going nowhere. Engineers tell us that the occupants of Whitelow farm needed another line for an ISDN and BT originally considered another underground line to be too costly. After several complaints they have revised that view.

The poles should shortly come down and enter the land of the Wombles.

Causeway Head Road. It might be thought that we already have road humps on the lower section of this road! I have sympathy for the cyclists, one of whom complained to Highways Dept this month and was told that resurfacing will take place about the time this magazine is delivered.

And nearby. The Peacock, Owler Bar. Listed Building. NPNED1098010. Proposal: Conversion of barn to hotel suites, extension to hotel and installation of fire escape staircases to existing hotel rooms. Holmesfield Vicarage and part of the garden to be sold by the Chapel Lands Trust.

The Rising Sun off Abbey Lane has approval for a plan to replace a glass conservatory with a stone built extension

Gillian Farnsworth

#### **Blythe Spirit**

T.O.A.D.S. Autumn Production is the Noel Coward improbable farce Blythe Spirit'. Last performed by T.O.A.D.S almost fifteen years ago, it is the kind of play that you can see again and again and still thoroughly enjoy. Who could resist the elfin wickedness of

Elvira, or the eccentric Madame Arcarti? And who could help but sympathise with Ruth?

Come and see for yourselves at St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South, from Wednesday to Saturday, November 25th to 28th, at 7.30pm. Tickets from Kate Reynolds, 2366891, or call in at S.E. Fordham Opticians on Totley Rise.

#### **Autumn Meeting**

The Dore Village Society autumn meeting took place in the Methodist Church hall with the speaker Simon Vincent talking about the Green Belt and the provision of housing into the Millennium. Simon is employed by Sheffield Council's Forward Planning Section, which covers the Green Belt, Nature Conservancy and Open Spaces policy.

Sheffield's Green Belt was provisionally established in 1938 and is one of 14 in the country covering 12% of the land. Their objective was to prevent urban sprawl, but also to facilitate access to the countryside, as well as provide for nature conservancy and agricultural uses.

Changes in the size of households, population changes and migration within the country have led the government to set new housing targets for every area. As Green Belts were not intended to be set in tablets of stone, there will inevitably be some changes, but hopefully in Sheffield most development will be carried out on so called Brown Land.

Even if the Green Belt here is not under serious threat, it seems inevitable that infill development, or re-development will continue in Dore. Unfortunately Dore does not seem to be seen as a community in its own right, but simply as part of a larger Sheffield zone. The result is that development may not be of the kind residents need, ie smaller premises for the newly married or retired. Following the meeting the Committee decided to try and draw up its own planning brief for Dore, taking into account Agenda 21 and the need to move towards sustainable development. This will be published for comment in due course and then referred to in future dealings with Sheffield planners. John Baker



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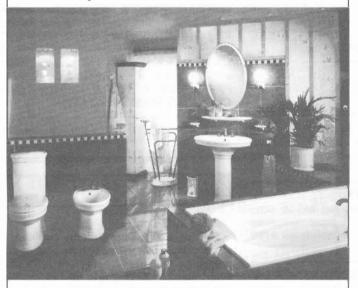
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PICTURE FRAMING. Local. G Thomas 236

#### Letter

Walking around Dore with my grandson, I was appalled and saddened at the state of the footpaths and grass verges, due to the thoughtlessness of 'Dog Owners' in Dore. We had to be looking down all the time to avoid treading in 'Dog Mess'.

Causeway Head Road, Brickhouse Lane, Parkers Lane and Rushley Road are just a few of many that are affected. When will these irresponsible 'Dog Owners' realise that this 'Mess' is a danger to public health and that they are also liable for prosecution.

A. Bird (Mrs)

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#### A walk from Fox House

Let us enjoy a mid-winters stroll of some 7 miles around the woodland and moorland areas of the Longshaw Estates.

Travel by bus to Fox House, cross over the Hathersage Road and down past Longshaw Lodge to the main house or by car to the Longshaw Estate car park and then downhill to the house. The path passes in front of the house on the edge of the field, through a gate to the right with a har-har on your left then bearing right down to Longshaw Lake, ( always a popular venue for ice skating, being high in elevation but safe shallow waters).

Continuing down hill cross the Grindleford Road over the wooden bridge and left onto the path leading to the start of Padley Gorge (National Trust). Head left through a lovely wooded track above the tumbling waters of the Burbage Brook, (feeder of the River Derwent). After a one mile descent we join a bridle track, turning right passing the imposing Padley Chapel and the enclosure behind of ancient ruins.

It was here that the Catholic martyrs suffered persecution in the 17th Century. On the other side of the track you will note the Peak National Park Rangers centre at Brunt's Barn (named after the memory of the late Harry Brunt, Deputy Planning Officer to the Peak National Park). Passing a few houses as we continue along the lane. To our right are the steep slopes of Bolehill Quarry (now disused). Here stone was dug for the building of the Derwent Dams, but now the entire hillside has reverted back to nature. One can still trace the old rail tracks around the woodland scene.

The track rises through woodland passing a cottage and Greenwood Farm, home of the Elliott family. Note a strange carving on a rock to the right just before the farm. (I would love to know the story of this carved figurehead). A final gate to open and we join the main Hathersage A625road. (Maybe at this halfway stage we could stroll a few yards down the road for a welcome bar lunch at the popular Millstone Inn )

Cross the road to go along a track known as Booth's Edge, to the side of the road that leads to Ringinglow. After 250 yards and on our left a track points a marked route to the most impressive homestead of Scraperlow, shaped almost like a turreted castle. From there yellow markers show the route across an open moor and stiles to climb, to the next residence of Michell field. This once moorland working farm was the home of John Robinson, one of the real characters of the Hope Valley. I used to enjoy his tales, - alas, no more.

Past this now fashionable residence, the path swings to the right onto a track climbing steeply towards the Ringinglow Road with views towards Hathersage and the Hope Valley

Passing the ruined homestead of Callow Farm destroyed by a landslip and under the shadow of the CUPOLA\*. At the top stiles takes us across the Ringinglow Road turning right to join an adjacent track directly under the bulk of Higger Tor. Parallel to the road, this rises onto the slopes of Hathersage Moor. The ruined base stones of Higger Lodge must tell a story of early hardships on these wild hills. Pass a large sheep pen on our left and continue on a ridge line and rock strewn edge to the cleft of Win Yards Nick and then to the highlight of the entire walk, over Owler Tor, taking in the breathtaking views around Millstone Edge and the Surprise View.

Our next objective is the dominant grit stone block known as the Mother Cap below us to the left.

Linger awhile before descending the well worn track to the new extended car park along the A525 road. Cross over the road to the escarpment of Lower Owler Tor, note the plaque built into the rock enclosure (memories of an early walker). Head slightly left to a main track leading back to the Burbage Brook, then go upstream towards the popular Toad's Mouth and Burbage Bridge.

Turn right over a foot bridge and back into the Longshaw woodlands past a babbling waterfall and uphill eventually to our starting point. This walk is teeming with interest and another grand outing on our local hills.

John C Barrows

\* The Cupola- local name for track leading under Callow Bank Route from the Ringinglow Road to Hathersage.

#### DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1017051

The Society aims to foster the protection and enhancement of the local environment and amenities within Dore, to encourage a spirit of community and to record its historic development.

#### Chairman

(Dore to Door & Dore Show) Mr J R Baker 236 9025 8 Thornsett Gardens, S17 3PP.

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#### Diary - Winter 1998

Totley Library:

20 November - 5 December. Exhibition of drawings of Totley & Dore by Brian Edwards.

Castleton Lights:

21 November - 5 January from 3.30pm daily.

#### **NOVEMBER**

14 **8th Dore & Totley** competitive festival of music, King Ecgbert School. Details from 236 6212

14 Christmas Fair. Dore & Totley U.R.C. Church Hall, 10.00 -12.30.

Annual Concert, Dore Male Voice Choir. Details 236 4367 or 281 6886

File Manufacture. Talk by Jim Nicholson for South Yorkshire Industrial History Society, 7.30pm Kelham Island Museum. Non members welcome. Local contact on 230 7693

Book signing by Alistair Heron of his book "Only one life - a Quaker voyage" at Totley Library am only Tel 236 3067

Support Group for Visually Impaired. Speaker Mike Pedley from Yorkshire Water. Meeting at 4 Grove Road, 11am. 255 0758

Oxfam. A talk by Mr Ray Norris for the Wednesday Friendship Group, Totley Rise Methodist Church, 8pm. All welcome.

Golden Jubilee Banquet. Leonard Cheshire Services at Baldwin's Omega, 7.15pm Tickets from 236 7491

Book signing by Brian Edwards at Totley Library 9.30 - 12.30.

21 **Pie & Pea Supper.** Transport 17, All Saints Church Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets from 236 2962

21 **Sheffield Bach Society**, Sheffield Cathedral, with Sheffield Bach Choir & Bach Players. 7.30pm. Tickets 266 8257

Folk Train with The Hope Valley Experience' Band from Sheffield 7.18pm but collecting at Dore. Refreshments (special beer prices) & more music at The Rambler Inn Edale, then 9.25pm return journey. More details on (01663 746377)

25-28 Blythe Spirit. T,O,A,D,S. Autumn production. St John's Church Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets from 236 6891

Table Top Sale. K.E.S.A. Wessex Hall, King Ecgbert School,

10am-1pm. Tables £5 booked via 236 2556 Craft Fair. Bradway Scout Group, Sir Harold Jackson

28 Craft Fair. Bradway Scout Group, Sir Harold Jackson School, Bradway, 10am - 4pm. Free admission.

Totley from the 16th century. Talk by Brian Edwards at Totley Library 7.30pm. Tickets in advance from library on 236 3067

#### **DECEMBER**

Talk, on Standing Conference of Women's Organisations by Mimi Johnson, for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, 7.45pm in the Methodist Schoolroom.

Argentina. A talk with slides by Jean Hodgkinson for the Wednesday Friendship Group, Totley Rise Methodist Church, 8pm. All welcome.

3 & 4 Verdi's opera Macbeth, performed by the John Wade Singers, St John's Church Abbeydale, 7.30pm in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. Tickets from 236 0820

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- 8 Christmas Party. Dore Ladies Group. Church Hall 7.45pm. Contact 236 5890
- 9 Support Group for Visually Impaired. Meeting at 4 Grove Road, 11am. 255 0758
- Open Morning. Dore Village Society room, Old School, 9.3012.30.
- Santa Special. Model railway, by Limb Brook on Abbeydale Road South, 2.00 - 5.00pm.

14 Councillors Surgery (LD). Totley Library, 6pm-7pm.

14 Informal gathering. (Displays, posters & conversation), South Yorkshire Industrial History Society, 7.30pm Kelham Island Museum. Non members welcome. Local contact on 230 7693

Folk Train with Coal Aston Carollers' from Sheffield 7.18pm but collecting at Dore. Refreshments (special beer prices) & more music at The Rambler Inn Edale, then 9.25pm return journey. More details on (01663 746377)

15 Christmas Concert. Loxley Silver Band, Leonard Cheshire Services at Mickley Hall, 7.30pm Tickets from 236 7491

15 **Christmas Celebrations**, Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, 7.45pm in the Methodist Schoolroom.

Nativity Concert. Totley Library, 10.30am. Tel 236 3067

#### **JANUARY**

Dore Playground Action Group, talk by Mrs Sam Porter for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, 7.45pm in the Methodist Schoolroom

11 Councillors Surgery (LD). Totley Library, 6pm-7pm.

Steam carriages of the 1830s. Talk by Francis Evans for South Yorkshire Industrial History Society, 7.30pm Kelham Island Museum. Non members welcome. Local contact on 230 7693

19 **Chocolate**, talk by Neil Gibson for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, 7.45pm in the Methodist Schoolroom.

26 Support Group for Visually Impaired. Meeting at 4 Grove Road, 11am. 255 0758

Folk Train with the Crazy Crow' band from Sheffield 7.18pm but collecting at Dore. Refreshments (special beer prices) & more music at The Rambler Inn Edale, then 9.25pm return journey. More details on (01663 746377)

30 Celebration Choir, Totley Rise Methodist Church, 7.30pm. Tickets from 236 4837

#### **FEBRUARY**

Medieval Churches. Talk by Paul Buckland for Hallamshire Historic Buildings Society 7.30pm Quaker Meeting House, St James Street. Visitors £2.

2 Homelessness & Youth Care, talk by Portia Wilson for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, 7.45pm in the Methodist Schoolroom.

8 **Councillors Surgery** (LD). Totley Library, 6pm-7pm.

16 Charcoal blast furnaces. Talk by David Crossley for South Yorkshire Industrial History Society, 6pm Holiday Inn Royal Victoria Hotel. Non members welcome. Local contact on 230 7693





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