

DORE to DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

No. 56 WINTER 1999

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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.

Dore old school

Dore Old School has served the village of Dore for nearly 300 years. Now a Grade II listed building, it continues to serve the community through a rich variety of activities, enjoyed by groups of all ages.

The Dore School and Charity Land Trust holds the school on behalf of the community and comprises 5 trustees including the local vicar, who is a permanent and ex-officio member.

Most of our readers will know by now that the Old School is soon to be restored, refurbished and extended under an ambitious plan to preserve and enhance its usefulness as a centre of community activity, well into the 21st century.

As part of the fund-raising effort in support of that plan, the Old School Appeal has commissioned professional artist Brian Smith to produce a superb watercolour painting depicting the Old School, sitting in the very heart of the village, with the King Egbert commemorative stone and the War Memorial in the foreground and the Parish Church in the background.

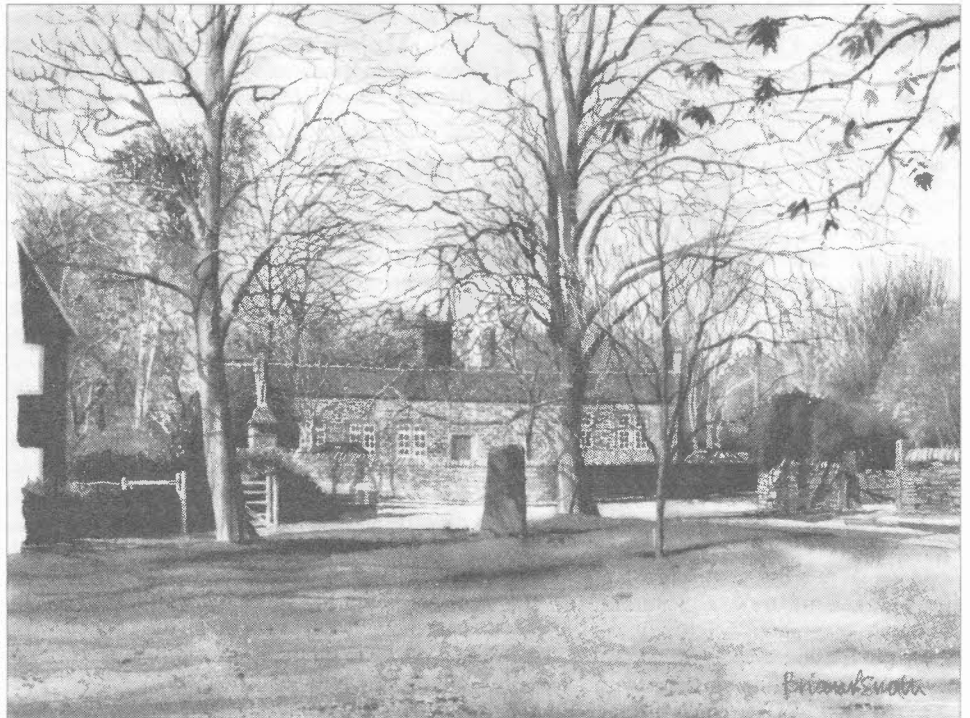
Prints of the painting will soon be published in a limited edition, each signed by the artist. So now you can lend your support to the appeal and have a beautiful and lasting record of the building as it stands at the millennium, for yourself and your family.

Signed prints, on 150gsm fine quality matt art paper, cost £24.99 each, or can be purchased mounted under an acid-free mount board in an attractive dark wood and gold frame for £44.99. (For postage please add UK £2.00 Overseas £ 4.00)

From 26th November onwards, framed prints of the Old School, together with a number of other views of Dore painted by Brian Smith, will be on view in Valerie of Dore.

If you would like more information about the Old School Appeal, or would like to order a print, please contact Graham Thorpe on Sheffield 262 0601, or write to him at: "Wayside", Blacka Moor Road, Dore, Sheffield, S17 3GH.

Ed. The small illustration of the picture on this page does not do justice to the prints, which are well worth seeing in full colour.



View of the Old School by Brian Smith, on sale in aid of the Old School Appeal.

49 days to the millennium

The year 2000 is only 49 days or so away. Not just a new year or even a new century, but a new millennium! Why all the fuss?

For some, the Millennium is just a date - nothing more and nothing less. In fact it's not a very accurate date, because most historians agree that Christ's birth actually took place around 3 or 4BC! And as the purists sometimes remind us, the calendar went from 1 BC to 1AD without a year '0', so 2000 years will not end until 1st Jan 2001. So for some it's simply a date and not a very precise date at that!

For others, however (and I include myself here) it is an opportunity. Billions of people will, in some form or another, be marking this date. Simply because of the significance of the number 2000 - and the change in millennium - people will be looking back, and looking forward. People will be asking questions about our history, and reflecting on what kind of future we're going to share.

All these things make them Millennium a great and significant opportunity to join with the rest of the world in seeking to make this world a better place. In short, it allows us to think about a new start.

A new start is something that Christians should support, embrace and indeed take a lead in, as we seek to influence society both at

the macro and micro level, with the love of Jesus Christ. So the Millennium, on the one hand, is not particularly important; on the other hand, it is an opportunity for a new start. And I hope that Christians in the village of Dore will be prepared to allow themselves and their families to give a lead in all this, for if we are not prepared for a new start in our lives, how can we expect anyone else to do the same?

*Matthew Porter
Associate Vicar - Dore Parish Church*

Victorian Market

Friday 26th November is a big day for the village. From 4pm the High Street and parts of adjacent roads will be closed to traffic as a host of stalls are laid out for the evenings' Victorian Market.

From 6.30 - 9.30pm stalls organised by many local organisations and businesses will be open to the public, with many people wearing Victorian dress. There will be a band, choirs, stalls selling Christmas gifts and food to eat, bran tubs for children and adults, and of course Father Christmas.

Several local shops will also be staying open.

All proceeds will go towards the Dore Old School appeal.

INSIDE: Christmas Customs; Letters; Planning Issues; News in Brief; Doremouse; Book Reviews; Winter Diary; The Wildlife Garden; Jean Recalls and much more.....

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Christmas card

This years Dore Village Society Christmas card shows a drawing of the junction of High Street and Townhead Road, complete with our very own traffic calming measure - Don Fisher's ducks!

You can buy the cards in packs of 5 at Greens on Causeway Head Road, from Valerie of Dore, from the Dore Village Society room on 4th December or our occasional streets stalls. This is a card unique to the village and one we are sure you will wish to send to your friends.

Trees, bushes and shrubs

This year has been a real cracker for growth for most things in the garden - probably catching up after the recent dryer years. Whilst it's good to see such activity, some things can just get a bit out of hand. For example, you will see that a number of the street lights in the village are now obscured by tree branches. In some cases, the lamps are almost completely lost in foliage with little light actually reaching either the road or footpath. Who is responsible for getting something done about it? Either directly or indirectly, we all are.

If you have trees or bushes on your land that are causing an obstruction to the path or road or are obscuring street lights, it's your job to trim them. If this is not done, the Council have the power to do the work and then send you a bill for it. Don't worry, they would not do this without first pointing out the problem. In any case, they very rarely have to do as most people see to it themselves.

If the trees or bushes are on Council owned land, such as road verges, then they are required to do the trimming - provided, of course, that they are aware of any problems. If you see any such obstructions, ring the Council on 273 4567 and let them know exactly where and what it is. They are generally very helpful and seem keen to respond to such requests without much of a delay.

If you would like to talk to somebody in the Council specifically on this matter, try John Gilpin on 273 4150 who is the Tree Officer for this area.

Just another word about shrubs and bushes in gardens. Please give a thought to the pedestrians using paths and pavements past your house or garden. Mothers with pushchairs and toddlers need at least four feet of clear path width, the same as older persons in motorised wheelchairs. Guide dogs are trained to take their blind owners away from overhanging bushes and trees, possibly into the roadway, so make sure that there is also a minimum of seven feet of clear headroom across the path width. How about a final trim before the snow comes?

South West Area Initiative

It seems that members of the City Council may not always be sure that they are giving residents the things that they really want. The South West Area Initiative has been set up by the Council to create a stronger dialogue between Councillors and residents, with the first stage consisting of a series of six meetings

in the area.

At the meeting in the Old School in Dore, on the 26th October, the local councillors, led by Cllr. Kate Dawson, Chair of the South West Area Panel, explained that from earlier consultation, six topics came high on the list of priorities throughout the area with, a seventh being added as a result of an earlier local meeting. The Street Scene, Provision for Young People, Maintenance of Parks, Library Services, Traffic Measures and Local Education Issues were the six topics identified with Provision of the Elderly being the added one.

Residents attending the meeting were asked to give examples, within the topic headings, of the matters that concerned them locally - either in general terms or as specific points be passed to the newly appointed South West Area Officer. This area of the city is the last to have such an officer appointed, whose role will be to coordinate the Council's available resources to best deal with local matters. A draft Action Plan, available early next year, will be discussed at a second series of local meeting throughout the south west. A final version of the Plan will then form the basis of the officer's activities. The intention is for the Plan to be updated as priorities change.

The Area Initiatives scheme was set up by the previous Labour-led Council following governmental guidance and has been continued under the new Liberal Democrat regime. The principle must surely be applauded and, as residents, we have a part to play in its development and, hopefully, eventual success. We must hope that the Area Officer is allowed enough freedom and share of resources to deal with the priorities of the Action Plan.

It is hoped that greater publicity will be given to the series of meeting next spring, so keep a good look out for notices in the village if you wish to have your voice heard.

Abbeyle Hamlet

After the brief summer opening Abbeyle Hamlet and Shepherds Wheel are closed again to the public. Sadly there is no sign of any new investment in restoration or interpretive displays. The transfer of the hamlet to a trust seems to have been no great advance on the Councils previous neglect of this Grade I national treasure.

Editorial & Advertising

Dore to Door is published quarterly by the Dore Village Society and delivered free to over 3,200 households in the area.

If you are interested in submitting an article or letter, have local news to report, or wish to place an advertisement, please contact the Editor John Baker on 236 9025 or write to:

The Editor, Dore to Door,
8 Thornsett Gardens, Dore,
Sheffield, S17 3PP.

[Email JohnBaker@tesco.net]

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Dore recreation ground

As we go to press, contractors are installing the balance of new equipment for the children's play area, which will then have a safety surface added and be fenced off to keep dogs out. The foundations for the basketball area are also well advanced. Once all the equipment is installed we will be looking at landscaping the surrounding area in keeping with the overall plan for the recreation ground.

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)

Mr J R Baker 236 9025
8 Thornsett Gardens, S17 3PP.

Vice Chairman

(Environment)

Mr R Millican 262 0012
16 Devonshire Drive, S17 3PJ.

Treasurer

Mrs M Watson 236 5666
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Mrs A Slater 236 6710
6 Old Hay Close S17 3GQ.

Committee

Mrs L E Baker 236 9025
(Dore Show)
Mr G R Elsdon 236 0002
(Subscriptions & Notice Board)
Mrs G Farnsworth 235 0609
(Planning)
Mrs V Malthouse 236 6597

A new year

It wasn't always New Years Day on January 1st.

The new year has, in the past, begun at many different times. In ancient Egypt the year began on September 21st and in Ancient Greece on December 21st, whilst March 25th was the usual New Year's Day for Christian communities during mediaeval times. The French Republican calendar started on the 22nd of September 1792, (the date of the declaration of the new Republic and eliminating Sundays), but was abolished by Napoleon in 1805. The Chinese New Year, part of their Spring Festival, falls in either January or February, determined by the lunar calendar, lasts for three days and is a wonderful family holiday.

The Gregorian calendar, instituted in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII, and now used throughout most of the world, put January 1st in the position of New Year's Day. It was immediately accepted by Germany and Denmark, by Sweden in about 1700, and by Britain in 1752. Its distinguishing feature is that a century year is a leap year if, and only if, divisible by 400. This gives a year of 365.2425 days when averaged over 400 years. When introduced, a discrepancy of 10 days had built up, which were eliminated by jumping from the 4th to the 15th of October. Julius Caesar's Julian calendar, established in 46BC had inserted an extra 67 days in 43BC to give a year of 365 days with an extra day each leap year.

The International Date Line, which runs down the centre of the Pacific Ocean, means

when the new year starts in Tonga, people in Western Samoa just slightly to the east will have to wait another 24 hours! Finally to cap it all, Newton's theory, that time is absolute, (meaning that a second as measured by one observer is the same as a second measured by any other observer in the universe) was, as every schoolboy knows, replaced in 1915 by Einstein's theory of general relativity, which states that two events which appear simultaneous to one observer need not be so for another. So when the new year is depends on where you are.

No matter when your New Year begins, it's a time to forget the past and look forward to the future so, "lets hear it for the year 2000 and the new millennium".

Roy Cannon

Busheywood crossing patrol

Parents have been worried about the Busheywood Road end of the footpath through from the schools on Furniss Avenue. Recently mud on the path and lack of traffic control on the road have made this way to school difficult. Responses to the recent Dore Village Society sponsored Walk-to-School Survey pinpoint this area as a longstanding problem.

The problem was raised with the Planning Department, who approached the developers of the sites on either side of the unsurfaced section of the path. The result is the now an excellently surfaced, well lit footway to Dore Junior & Infant Schools, Hopscotch Nursery and King Ecgbert School.

D.V.S. then talked to the L.E.A. about the urgent need for a crossing patrol on

Busheywood Road, who in turn asked Highways for a survey. Now Highways are to instal appropriate signs and the L.E.A. is to appoint a School Crossing Patrol Warden.

The patrol is to be at or near the point where Gilleyfield Avenue joins Busheywood Road, and operate from 8.25 - 8.50a.m. and 3.10-3.35 pm. Such patrols are a vital service to the community.

If you are personally interested, full training and uniform will be provided, job sharing is acceptable, but the maximum age limit is 65.

For further details please contact: Shirley Johnson on (0114) 273 5818.

Dore Parish Church

Plans for the Millennium

Millennium Eve. The Parish Church welcomes all who wish to count down the Millennium to join them under the Village Clock in the Churchyard from 11.30pm on 31st December.

Refreshments will be served and the area will be suitably illuminated! This will be followed by a short village service in church - suitable for all ages - at 12.10am (until 12.20am) for all who wish to pause at the beginning of the New Millennium and mark the occasion together by saying a few prayers.

New Years' Day 2000. On 1st January The Millennium Service will take place at 12 noon and a special peel of bells rung. This will coincide with similar services and bell-ringing across the nation.

Details of other services-over the Christmas and New Year period will be posted to all homes in the village in early December.

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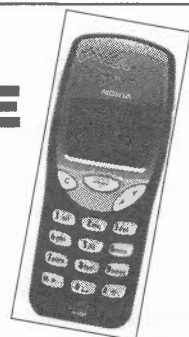
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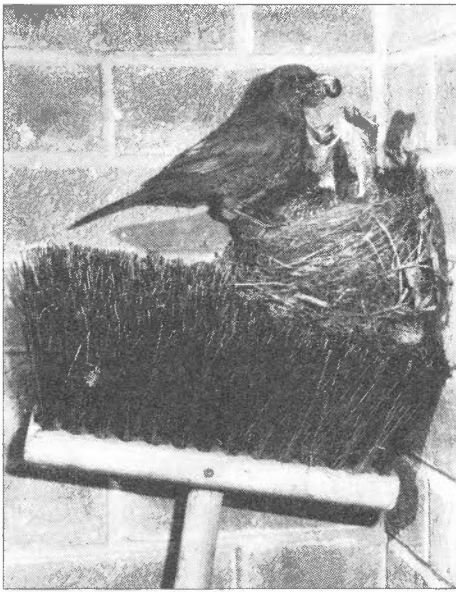
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Blackbirds nest on a broomhead. Alan Faulkner Taylor.

Unusual nesting sites

I came across my first example of an unusual nesting site when, as I was walking through a shelter belt in Rivelin Valley, a blackbird seemed to vanish inside the hole in an oak I had never seen a blackbirds' nest in a hole and have never seen nor heard of one since. Although I stayed in my photographic hide for an hour, no hen appeared - so I assumed she had been killed - probably by the local sparrow hawk.

My second unusual blackbird nest was brought to my notice by a colleague at my place of work.

The nest was perched on top of a yard brush leaning up against the corner in the wall of his house at Lodge Moor (see picture). All I had to do was to set up my Rolleiflex camera at 3ft, complete with flash and conceal myself in the entrance of his tool shed.

My partner in bird photography and I, had permission to take pictures in the grounds of

Oakes Park when it was owned by the late Mrs Bagshawe. One year a pair of jackdaws had tried to build a nest on the inside edge of a vent hole in the side of a barn, but every time the nest got to a certain height the entire structure collapsed down onto the floor. But after persevering for several months they abandoned the task.

The following year they re-commenced and the farmer gave them a helping hand by leaning up planks to contain the lower parts of the nest. Success at last and the jackdaws reared their brood.

Another friend tipped me off about a wren that had built its nest inside the watering can in his greenhouse. It only needed a single piece of hessian tacked to the roof, as my concealment when I took my photographs.

One of my friends, who always had an eye to business, took photographs of unusual nesting sites which would be published in the newspapers. His most unusual showed a swallow feeding its

young in a nest built on top of a large glass light shade suspended from a bedroom ceiling. The window was always left open during Spring and Summer.

Alan Faulkner Taylor

Ed. This is an extract from Alan's latest book which will be available in January price £22, so start saving now!

Letters

Dear Sir,

Time for praise for the Dore Village Society and for all the hard work and effort put in by the Committee to preserve the Village of Dore.

Thank goodness people care about what is going on around them and not just about furthering their own personal lifestyles. You all do an excellent job and long may you continue.

I lived in Dore for seven and a half years and have always been amazed at the wonderful community spirit that exists. My involvement with the Dore Playground Action Group made me far more aware of how people really are prepared to help others and not just themselves. The members of the D.P. Action Group developed a strong bond and we all became good friends with much respect for one another. I believe we made a pretty good team.

On a personal level I know I will always hold fond memories of Dore and of all the wonderful friends I made. Still, time to move on and my son, Tom and I, have moved to a village in West Yorkshire where I am relieved to know they have recently installed a new playground. Although the local school are raising funds to build a new library, so that should keep me going for a while.

All donations greatly..... sorry, it becomes a habit!

Thanks Dore. I'll never forget you, but as the saying goes, "When one Dore closes, another one opens".

Best wishes to you all.

Julie Brooks

(ex DVS Committee member)

Ed. Really our thanks should go to Julie, for her driving force in raising money for the new playground equipment, which will stand as a testimony to her efforts. On behalf of all the parents and grandparents in Dore, we wish her all the best for the future.

Dear Sir,

In the last issue of 'Dore to Door' you showed a sketch by Brian Edwards of inscriptions carved into the parapet of the river bridge below Totley Rise. For the historical record here are a few more inconsequential details.

There was of course originally a similar parapet on the Mill Lane side of the old road. A pair of these inscriptions were on this opposite side; I believe it was 'SHEFFIELD - BAKEWELL' on the Mill Lane side and the parish markers on the existing side. When the dual carriageway work was carried out in the early 1960s, someone with a sense of history (and who we should applaud) obviously saved the inscription stones from the demolished parapet and had them built into the surviving wall. I am fairly sure that this existing parapet was also entirely rebuilt to a steeper slope to match the new road levels.

Brian wondered why there is a blank stone between 'BAKEWELL' and 'PARISH OF TOTLEY'.

One notes that the last 'L' of 'BAKEWELL' is missing, it must originally have continued on another stone which was possibly lost during demolition. Perhaps the blank stone was put in its present position to allow room for the missing 'L' to be re-carved.

The bridge with its parapets was most probably built when the turnpike road was constructed in the period 1810-18. However at that time Dore and Totley were not parishes, they were still part of the Parish of Dronfield. The parish inscriptions were probably carved in at a later date after Dore and Totley had become separate parishes in 1844.

Tony Smith

Ed. A few years ago the section of parapet concerned was struck by a car and fell into the river. We lamented the loss in 'Dore to Door' at the time, and how long it took to be replaced by the Council. It would appear that one stone was too badly damaged and had to be replaced by a blank one. Perhaps the Dore Village Society & Totley Residents should get together and arrange for a new inscription to be carved.

Dear Sir,

I thoroughly enjoyed reading your 'Dore to Door' Summer edition No.54, kindly sent to me by my sister.

As a transplant here, from Grenoside, its always good to read news of 'Back-home' as they say.

You mention the ringing of your church bells in January, for the millennium. How I would love to hear them. How wonderful for the whole of England to hear those beautiful church bells.

How and when was this unique title of 'Dore to Door' put forth for this paper.

Again I must thank you for some good historical reading and much more very interesting pieces of news therein. Good luck in getting more trains to stop at Dore Station.

God bless you all.

Sheila Todd-Taylor

Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada

Ed. Believe it or not, 'Dore to Door' has been running for 14 years this issue. As I remember it, a brain storming session of what was then an editorial team, sifted through a number of suggestions and settled on this title as being the most appropriate, even though the similar title 'Dore to Dore' was in use for a local walks book.

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Letters

Dear Sir,

Going back to the pre war years of 1937 to 1939 and possibly 40-41 was a period in my life that brings back happy memories of annual stays along with my sister Muriel with Uncle George and Auntie Mable at Newfield House, Newfield Lane.

Due to health reasons, I had to retire a few years early so my son in law gave me a computer. As I have no interest at all in games, I just started to put down a few memories and this has grown into quite a considerable file. Whether or not it will be of publishing interest or just go into the family history file, is anyone's guess.

The point of my letter is to call upon your readers to ask if any one happens to have any photographs of the house or immediate area. My uncle, George W. Bagshaw owned a company in the city by the name of Sheffield Wireless and Telegraph. For research reasons and also to follow his hobby as a radio ham, he had in the grounds of the house a big hut crammed with wireless technology and a huge pylon for his aeriels. I understand that this featured as a local landmark for miles around.

After much frustration with the housing development that has taken place on Newfield Lane and the fact that the Post Office returned a letter I'd addressed to Newfield House in July as 'unknown', I thought personal action would be the sure way of finding out what happened to the house. So when recently visiting my sister in Bents Green I decided that I would find out once and for all. Parking the car outside where I thought the house should be and taking my courage in both hands I

approached the front door and rang the bell.

Thinking that a quick introduction was necessary I advised the reason for my visit, and what a very understanding lady she turned out to be. It was Mrs. Jackie Hardcastle of, would you believe, Newfield House. On my return home I wrote to thank her and it was she who sent me various articles and copies of 'Dore to Door'. It was at her suggestion; I write to you in the hope for further information that would come my way to help in the writing and illustration of my Memoirs.

I hope that you and your readers will be able to help me in my quest and I would be more than happy to repay any reasonable costs for any copies of photographs that may be found.

**Peter Scott
Macclesfield.**

Ed. Any information via me please on 236 9025.

Dear Sir,

Dore is a delightful village. Properties are well cared for, gardens are beautiful. I am glad to live here.

One little blot on the landscape though, - the dirty street names. Some are hardly legible.

The other day, I saw a houseproud lady washing her outside paintwork. The part she had done looked as clean as the part she hadn't done. It looked as though she did it regularly and I guess the inside of her house was immaculate. But fixed to the wall of her lovely garden was a really filthy road name. It would have taken her two minutes to clean it with the equipment she already had in her hands. Well - five minutes if she had to go inside to get the Jif! And what about her husband, who no doubt washes his car down regularly at weekends - (? 2 minutes extra occasionally).

Some may say that this is the Council's

work. Well yes, but we all know they are stretched to the limit of their budgeting. Where people have bothered about this little matter, the corner looks sparkling and proud.

Come on citizens, open your eyes and don't be shy about taking the bucket and sponge through your gate.

Observer

Ed. We are pleased to publish letters without identifying the sender, provided their name and address is provided along with a request for anonymity.

Dear Sir,

Brian Edwards (Dore to Door Autumn 1999) asked about the stones on the parapet of the bridge over the Old Hay Brook at Topley Rise.

The parish marker and milestones must have been put in after 1924, since that was when Topley became a parish and one stone stated "Parish of Topley".

The reason for the blank stone goes back only a few years, when the storm blew down the great trees near the bridge and one fell across the parapet, dislodging some stones and knocking others down into the brook.

Council workmen later undertook repair work and replaced the stones incorrectly, with a blank stone as shown.

Roy Bullen

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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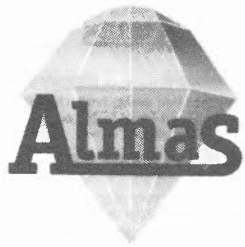
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People come to us for help when they are finding it difficult or even impossible to cope with the way cancer is affecting their lives.

For some it may be the shock of just being told they have got cancer. For others it may be the fear of surgery, radiotherapy or chemotherapy. Yet others may come for therapy to help them deal with some of the symptoms of the disease.

For everyone who comes to us we offer practical help and support to deal with the huge pressure of coping with the fear, insecurity and threat of change which cancer brings into their life.

Cancer can place a heavy strain on all members of the family and on relationships. Often a person caring for someone with cancer can feel alone and unable to cope. They too can come to us for support.

Patients are usually introduced to the Cavendish Centre by consultants, GP's and specialist nurses. Others contact us simply

because a friend has told them about us or they've picked up a leaflet.

Within a few days of getting in touch with us, patients are seen by one of our assessors. In a calm and unhurried full hour session the patient is given time to talk about their concerns and the sort of help they might be needing and a course of treatments is agreed upon. Following this, the patient is contacted by a therapist who will then, over a number of sessions, gently support them and work through the problem with them.

All our therapists go through a rigorous selection process before joining the Centre. Patients can be seen in their own home, at the centre, in hospitals or hospices. Our work is in conjunction with the patient's hospital treatment. We have good relations with all the major hospital trusts in the area and with the hospices.

Over the past few years our patient numbers have increased significantly and continue to do so.

Our major challenges for the future are to continue to develop our service so that we are able to reach more people, maintain our very high standards of professional care and expertise and raise sufficient funds to allow us to do this.

All our services are provided free of charge. However each session of therapy costs us over £40 to provide. This is why we need your support.

For further information or to make a donation, please get in touch with us at: The Cavendish Centre for Cancer Care, 27 Wilkinson Street, Sheffield S10 2GB. Tel 0114 278 4600 E-mail: cavcare@globalnet.co.uk

Hospitable hotel

The Beauchief Hotel is committed to supporting local organisations whenever it can. Merchants Bar in the basement sponsors its own football team in the local Sunday League, a theme carried through with the installation of a wide screen TV, according to Philip Dunn the new bar manager.

Angela Fry, of local fame, has recently taken over as front of house manager at the hotel, with responsibility for enhancing customer service. Along with seven other staff she spent Halloween night in the old cells at the Fire Museum on West Bar, to raise money in aid of St Lukes Hospice.

The hotel has even stepped in to provide a complimentary Christmas lunch to residents of a local old folks home.

Totley Library

More than books.

Did you know that in addition to thousands of books Totley Library also lends audio-visual materials?

Music: We have CD's and cassettes, varying from classical to pop, easy listening, jazz, country etc.

They are loaned for a week and the current charges are 80p for CD's and 30p for cassettes. There are concessions on the loan charges for people who are disabled, unemployed or over retirement age.

Videos: We have quite a range of videos, including popular feature films, children's and TV tie-ins.

They are all loaned for £1.00 or 50p per week. There are also educational or instructional videos on such subjects as gardening, keep fit, fishing and cookery as well as videos of local interest on old Sheffield or local football teams. These are loaned free, just like books. Videos can only be loaned to borrowers over 18 years of age.

Talking books: There is a range of recorded books, for both adults and children, which can be played on an ordinary cassette recorder. These are mainly fiction but there are also educational ones, e.g. helping to learn a foreign language.

Jigsaws: We have a good stock of jigsaws, which we swap with other Libraries from time to time.

They have all been donated and we would always welcome more, so if you have some jigsaws you no longer want, please think about the Library.

All of these items can be borrowed on your ordinary library ticket. If you do not have a ticket, you can join by bringing 2 items of identification to the Library. These must include your name and address and signature. You will just need to fill in a form and you can join on the spot!

If you have any queries, please contact the Library: Tel 236 3067

Pauline Rosser, Community Librarian

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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Well Dressing! Why?

It is 40 years since we well dressed. Quite by accident. It would have been impossible without the faithful committee who were totally devoted.

The Town Hall had decided that the old Scout Hut would not do, so we started raising money to build a new headquarters. Ken and Stan Brown borrowed £1,800 from B.P. House and the Jumble Sale of 1963 yielded £740 etc. etc. The Village was firmly behind us and in fact gave all the prizes for the Gala. The new headquarters were opened in April 1964.

However in 1959, the chairman, Bernard Coggins had wondered whether a well dressing example in the field, or a steam engine, would make people come out of town to support the Gala. A well dressing was decided upon. We were then in the Diocese of Derby so purists would be happy. My husband fetched me the only book in the library "The Beauty and Mystery of Well Dressing" by Crichton Porteous. It gave no practical help but established the fact that the screen was an altar piece and that water was the supreme gift of the Almighty. Years later, the door bell rang. A man on the doorstep said "I am Crichton Porteous and I've come to find you". I later gave my copy of the book to Anne Elsdon.

The new vicar Raymond Heawood had always wanted a service on the Village green and here was his opportunity. "I can't possibly do a service on a fatuous well" he said. Who had any idea about a service? My panic mounted. Arthur Farnsworth piped up that there was a 'well' at the end of the Village green where he had fetched water as a boy - he had lived with his aunt at Sycamore Cottage.

We asked the Town Hall man on Limb Lane if he could investigate and he sent a waller and a labourer who produced the well as seen today. The Health Dept. began to get excited and said old water courses were often contaminated. A water board man on the road said "Do you want some water running?" I said "Yes please" He sent a lorry and diggers who dug up the road and connected us to the mains and I was given a key to switch on and off. The 'once' well-dressing was such a success that I carried on for 15 years when problems forced me reluctantly to retire and Hilbre Marriot took over-again by accident.

I realised the screen was a visual aid to teach the children Village history and about famous achievers. I translated the 2 Kings onto the Federation Banner of the Townswomen Guild in embroidery in perpetuity. The screen depicting John Wesley had the chief Methodist of England preaching. The Centenary of the British Red Cross had the Bishop of Repton. In those days the clergy were fully robed assisted by a robed all male church choir of men and boys.

The early Victorian Vicarage (1840) came into its own when the Lowthers moved in with their 7 children. Anne was married from there. They had space. The Vicar's study looked onto the cedar tree and contained his piano. Dorothy Lowther's delicious strawberry teas after the service were quite something, the house being both spacious and gracious. I was saddened when the Froggats did not want it. It was sold and the money used to buy the modern house, in fact almost a straight swap. The new office had to be built later.

The Peace stone 1856 was of course

referring to the Crimean War. A certain Captain Ryecroft a relative of the then vicar's wife, must have come here to recuperate after the horrors of the Crimea.

Subsequently he was brought back for burial here with a glass panel over his face for all to see, including a small chorister called Arthur Farnsworth. It takes little to imagine Dore in its beauty of those days. When Savage Lane was opened up, the service was spoiled but not before we had peace and privacy for some years.

We were grateful for the advice given by Clarence Daniel of Eyam and the donation of their old board for our first pictures (now cut in half and the upper portion used by the Guides). He and his family were invited to a free tea (1s.6d) to the Church Hall! In 1957 at the Centenary of the death of Richard Furness, Arthur and his choir were asked to sing the Furness carols. Here was an opportunity to entertain the Daniels here. We went into church and Arthur played "Praise my soul the King of Heaven" which we all sang with gusto. Our tribute was successful. All collections were for charity. Only the Gala funds were for the Scouts.

Well dressing was a project the whole family could share. The school came up to draw pictures and write about it for me. My son Tim burst in and said "I just live for well dressing Saturday" I had a thankful heart.

In 1959 I went to help with the new large board at Eyam. A little boy stood next to me and I said "What's your name?" He said, "Richard Furness". I had come full circle!

Don Gordon took some wonderful slides, last shown to honour Syd Crowson's M.B.E. to a packed Church Hall. They raised a fortune for Oxfam over the years from the City to Barnsley, Rotherham even Doncaster.

My old Art master was delighted that his urging to me to 'draw big' had come off.

Betty Brown

Dore Choir 1940-47

As these were the War years, and our fathers were away, Arthur Farnsworth was very much a father figure. As well as services and practices where he taught us all to read music, there were many other social activities.

Following evening services, a group of us

plus the choir men, would gather at one house or another and sing together. One man who helped, lived at Bradway bank. He had only one eye and was married to an ex opera singer. The amazing thing about his house was that he had a music room and in it a tape recorder! Such an experience to hear our singing coming back to us!

I was in the choir from the age of 7 to 15. In that time I joined the cricket and football club.

Arthur also took us away on trips and ran Christmas parties.

I also remember chiming the church bells, as there was no one to ring them. Then climbing the tower and pelting the retiring congregation with snowballs!

Michael Beer (East Wittering)

Have you noticed?

This weather this year seems to have been ideal for trees and we have been treated in Ecclesall Woods to an amazing harvest of chestnuts, acorns and other fruits. I have never seen so many people laden with plastic bags full of horse chestnuts they have collected to eat. No doubt most of these will rot long before they are eaten, but never mind, there has been plenty for everyone including the squirrels.

Autumn has brought another treat with some of the best autumn colours you could hope for, followed by in the wind a blizzard of leaves. These are another of nature's bounty, and I always feel sad to see so many leaves on paths and in the road, destined to blow everywhere, blocking gutters and drains. Surely people could sweep up those outside their houses, saving inevitable problems later and use them to make excellent compost. What a waste.

Autumn reminds us that it is the end of another year and according to some views also the end of the Millennium. Looking back I suspect this will prove to have been the year of hype. First the solar eclipse (yawn), then the Millennium bug (squashed) and finally the commercialism and forced celebrations of the Dome etc. My guess is that the end of the year will prove another damp squib. Personally I am going to get as far away from it all as I can - Blacka Moor sounds attractive - and hibernate!

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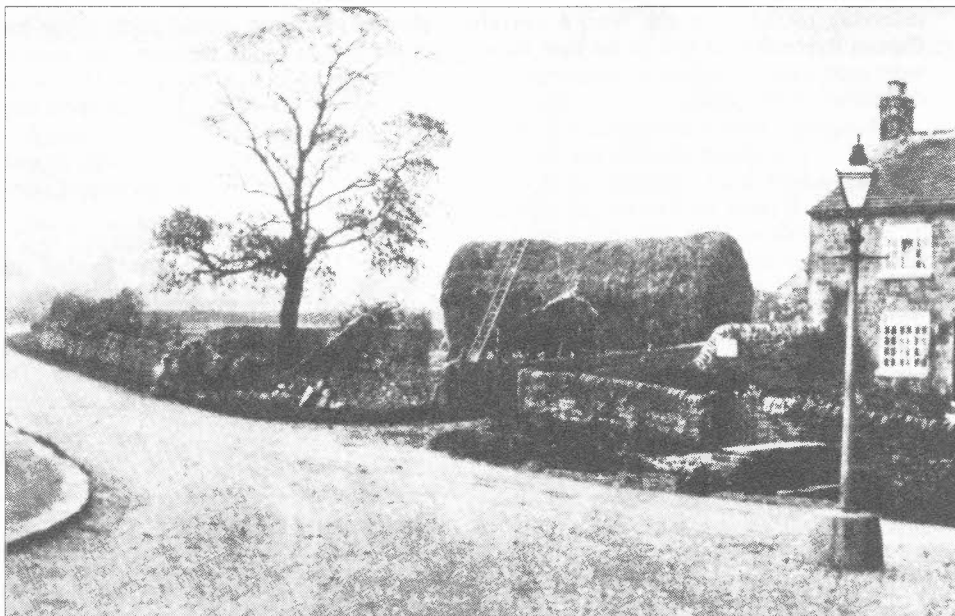
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An early photograph of the bottom end of Causeway Head Road, with Limpits cottage to the right Limpits Cottage and Green's Shop from the 1960s - see article by Jean Dean.

Scout Post

Once again the local Scout Groups are taking part in the Scout Christmas Post scheme. Special stamps will be on sale locally. Greeting cards only can be sent under the scheme to all of Sheffield, Rotherham, Dronfield and Chesterfield as well as some outlying areas.

Open morning

The Dore Village Society room will be open to visitors on Saturday the 4th December from 10am to 12noon. Please come along to talk to members of the committee about local issues or the history of the village, to buy Christmas cards and other DVS publications, or to renew membership.



VISIT BRADWAY CRAFT FAIR SATURDAY 27 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.

Many quality handcrafted Items including some new products.
New and second hand books. Cake stall. Refreshments. Raffle.

Bring this Magazine for a free entry to the raffle

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Limpits Cottage

The old photograph on this page is Limpits Cottage in the early 1900's. There are as yet, no buildings on Causeway Head Road, which at that time was known as Corsey edge. Green Brothers Builders yard was at that time the yard to Limpits Farm; as can be seen by the haystack.

This is now the home of Graham and Max Swift. The Swift family have lived there a good few years.

Limpits Cottage at the time of the photograph was the home of Madam Healey, who gave piano and elocution lessons. She was grandmother to Howard Evans who lives with his wife Lorraine and son Philip on High Street.

After Madam Healey, the cottage was home to Mr and Mrs Kinder. Lilian was daughter to the Swifts. The Kinders later moved up Causeway Head Road and eventually became licencies of the Norfolk Arms at Ringinglow. Don and I had some great times up there. The Kinders had one son, Malcolm.

Chippy Holmes and his wife lived in the cottage in my young days, (many moons ago). They kept the chip shop - a wooden hut on the site of Jim and Dick's garage.

The second photograph is from the 1960's and shows Green's original shop. Green's have not yet started their new building and there is no evidence of the public loo. The tree is on both photos though and is still there. The trough at the side of Limpits gate has also vanished by now.

Jean Dean

Norwegian Sketchbook

Brian Edwards will shortly be publishing a new book Norwegian Sketchbook, Voyage to the Top of the World' with a first edition limited to 500 copies. Each copy will have a signed sketch, exclusive to that particular copy, will be numbered and signed.

Norwegian Sketchbook' will be an account of a journey on the postal steamer up the Western coast of Norway, through the Lofoten Islands, round North Cape to the Russian border and back.

This 11 day journey was undertaken by Brian in May 1999 and he made a record in pen & ink, water colour and camera. The 84 page hardback book has 33 colour and 86 black and white illustrations. Due to be published in early December 1999, the book will retail at £28.90 with a pre-publication price of £24.00, including p&p for orders received by 1st December 1999. Orders to: Brian Edwards, The Coach House, Main Street, Great Longstone, Derbyshire DE45 1TZ, tel: 01629 640 752.

Local views

From 26th November onwards, framed prints of the Old School, together with a number of other paintings by Brian Smith, will be on view in Valerie of Dore. Brian will be demonstrating his craft at "Living Crafts" in Meadowhall Oasis from November 22nd to 28th and at a "Chalk & Cheese" exhibition at the Clocktower Gallery, Northern General Hospital, from January the 10th to February 17th. Brian can be contacted on 274 7339.

Gala Day

As hoped, I am very pleased to announce a record profit from this year's Gala. The combined profit from Gala Day and the Sheffield Scouts and Guide Raffle has succeeded in raising just short of £10,000. I am absolutely astounded.

This has all been distributed to local children's charities. The majority of this is used to assist the running of the local Scout and Guide groups, but this year we have also made substantial donations to the following: Sheffield City Guides; The Recreation Ground Playground Appeal; Rowan School; and Woolley Wood School. Representatives of these organisations have asked me, to pass on their thanks to all of you for supporting us.

I think I can safely say that in 1999, we fulfilled our objective of combining a major fund raising event with entertainment for the village, I hope you agree with me. It is very gratifying to be part of such a worthwhile event.

Looking forward to next year and Gala 2000 (8th July), planning is underway and we already have some great ideas to support the old favourites. As mentioned in my last article, we are looking for a spectacular finale, if anyone has any thoughts or ideas I would love to hear from them. Please give me a call on 235 0935.

We are also looking for the donation of raffle prizes, the more unusual the better. The Trip to the House of Commons we had this year was a real money-spinner. Anyone who can offer us anything, please contact Andy Fields on 235 0103 or John Chandler on 235 1695. My final appeal is a repeat plea for

helpers on the day; my last appeal yielded a zero response.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Millennium. I look forward to your continued support on 8th July 2000.

Alan Robinson
Gala Committee Chairman

A Grouse

Adults and children are still using footpaths as cycle ways. Few seem to have either bell or sign.

I thought John Prescott was bringing legislation out about this matter.

Can I make the point that the area beyond Shorts Lane is Blacka not Blackamoor. A blackamoor being a negro servant to wealthy whites it is therefore Racist. How long before someone asks for the names of the roads to be changed.

On a brighter note, what a bumper crop of blackberries there has been this year. In the 1951 edition of Country Fair, Hubert Phillips wrote that there were over 100 species of blackberry but Hugh Fearnley Whittingshall, in his book "A cook on the wildside", thinks there are nearer 400 subspecies. Anyway, whatever they are, they are delicious and free. What's a few nettle stings, insect bites and bee stings! Elaine and I hope to be enjoying the fruits of our labours all winter.

Finally in the article by Julie Bunting, on Customs of Birth, she mentions Salt being given as a gift:- it used to be the custom in this area, to place a plate of salt by the coffin. I don't know if this happened elsewhere.

Jean Dean

Beauchief Abbey

Around 150 people took the opportunity to look round Beauchief Abbey during the Heritage Open Days '99 weekend of 11th & 12th September. This is an annual event when buildings which are not normally open to the public, open their doors to visitors.

The Abbey welcomes this opportunity to let the public know that it is a living building, not just a ruin; that it holds a service every Sunday; and stages a range of events each year from carol concerts to garden parties and Gilbert and Sullivan evenings.

Service times are:

1st, 3rd, and 5th (when there is one) Sundays each month - 3:00 pm Evensong.

2nd and 4th Sundays each month 11:00 am Holy Communion.

All services use the 1662 version of the Anglican Prayer Book and anyone and everyone will be made welcome.

On Thursday 16th December, at 7:30, Abbey Chorale will give a Christmas concert in the Abbey, proceeds from which will go to charity.

There will be the usual Christmas Eve carol service at 7.00 pm and Holy Communion on Christmas Day at 10:30 am; and this year, along with all the other churches in the country, we will be ringing in the new millennium at 12 noon on New Year's Day and this will be followed by Holy Communion - again anyone is welcome to join us.

We are also pleased to give guided tours of the Abbey and talks to groups on its history. Please contact Kath & Eddie Greenwood on 274 5000 for more information.

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Quarrying emotions

Work is now well under-way on Severn Trent's controversial quarry to extract 400,000 tonnes of stone from the slopes of Win Hill to strengthen the Ladybower Reservoir. But the controversy is nothing new, for quarrying in the Peak District National Park has always been an emotive issue. The planning authority and industry will continue to lock horns on the into the next millennium, while residents have mixed feelings on the balance which needs to be struck between conservation and employment.

Many visitors to the Peak do not realise that much of the landscape they come to enjoy has been man-made as a result of the traditional local industry of quarrying. Millstones have been produced since at least the 13th century, there were scores of small independent operators and the owners of large estates such as Chatsworth and Haddon owned large quarries which provided building stone. Millstone, Burbage and Stanage Edges are all areas where there were extensive quarries.

Other important sites were at Fallinge Edge above Rowsley, Cracken Edge above Chinley and the outcrops around Stanton and Birchover. Many of these are now used for recreational pursuits; a haven for the naturalist, a magnet for the walker and a Mecca for climbers.

One area which in its day was a 'super-quarry' to rival that of any current working site was Bole Hill Quarry, at Upper Padley above Grindleford. When the Derwent Valley Water Act was passed in 1901 to construct the Howden and Derwent dams, the question arose of where the stone for the two dams would come from. Initial plans to quarry stone in Ladybower Clough had to be dropped, when objectors called a public meeting in Sheffield Town Hall which forced the Derwent Valley Water Board, whose successors are Severn Trent Water, to find a more acceptable source.

It would appear that pressure groups are nothing new either. As masonry rather than earth dams were to be built, a reliable source

of good quality stone was required. In November 1901 the board purchased 52 acres of land at Bole Hill from Mr. Shuttleworth of Hathersage, and compensation of £20 was paid to Mr Cooper, a tenant of part of the land. The area was already quarried, chiefly for millstones, piles of which still can be found on the northern edge of the workings, where they were abandoned when cheaper continental imports forced a slump in the trade.

The beds of stone were near to the surface at an average depth of some 65 feet. The quarry face was 1,200 yards long and it was estimated that it contained about 2.4 million tons of top grade building stone. The silica and felspar composition of the millstone grit at Bole Hill had the advantage of hardening with weathering. So much so that the masons found some of the stone that had already been exposed to the atmosphere exceedingly hard and more laborious to work than freshly quarried stone. It was perfect material from which to construct the Howden and Derwent dams.

Steam traction engines brought in the plant and equipment from the Surprise Road to lay a standard gauge railway in the quarry face, prior to it being linked to the Midland Railway, almost 400 feet lower down the valley, by an incline. Water was provided from the Burbage Brook in Padley Gorge by means of a ram-pump which lifted some 16,000 gallons per day a height of 370 feet into storage tanks holding 35,000 gallons. Special early-morning trains brought workers in daily from Sheffield.

Accommodation was also provided adjacent to the site in bungalows, which were similar to those at the 'Tin Town' of Birchinlee, for the construction workers of the dams. The plateaux where these huts were sited can still be seen.

Facilities were basic but included a library and recreation room in addition to mess rooms. The remnants of one of these huts can be seen in a croft opposite Nether Padley Farm. During its seven and a half year life, the quarry produced over 1.25 million tons of stone. Sheds to house the workshops for dressing the large blocks, weighing between 20 to 30 tons each, were sited adjacent to the quarry face.

Rubble and filler stone was loaded by two steam-powered cranes straight into specially built trucks.

These were lowered down the 300 foot incline, with its 1 in 3 gradient, in a hazardous operation controlled by a brakeman on the drum of the winding wheel. The stone housings of the wheel-house can still be found at the top of the now overgrown incline. As each loaded truck was lowered, it raised an empty truck up from the bottom. The trucks were then shunted into the sidings of the Midland Railway from where they were hauled by MR locomotives up the Hope Valley to the specially built Waterworks Sidings at Thornhill. From here they were taken up the Bamford and Howden Railway by the DVWB's own locomotives to the construction sites. Three hundred wagons were in use by August of 1905 and these were in continual use until September 1909. The quarry at Bole Hill must have been like an ant-hill of frenzied workers. In October 1905, some 439 men were employed there, operating two 12-ton cranes, nine seven-ton cranes, one five-ton crane, three locomotives, the winding-drum and almost 100 tipper wagons.

Two men were killed while working the quarry; one fell from a bench of rock and died from concussion, the other fatality occurred in a cutting when three loaded trucks broke loose and ran into an area where around 20 men were working.

Production ceased at the end of December 1910, although some stone continued to be shipped to Derwent up to April 1914. The New Year of 1911 saw much of the plant removed from the site and later in the year the DVWB considered a plan to lay out a housing estate there. Thankfully this did not come to fruition, as it was considered prudent to retain an option to quarry the still extensive resources of stone in case of further developments in the Upper Derwent Valley. It would not be difficult to imagine the outcry now if such a plan for housing was promoted. The quarry was finally closed in September 1914, when all plant and materials had been removed. It proved a blessing that the site was never reopened, because the quarry became something of a liability to the DVWB, who made a gift of it to the National Trust in 1947. It is a fascinating place to explore, where you can trace the complex of abandoned faces and spoil heaps. The former incline is well defined and there are ruins of the old magazine and winding-engine housing. Nature is in control here now and the busy wood ants are the most active workers on Bole Hill.

The calls of the climbers on Gingerbread Slab in Lawrence Field, often the only human presence, echo from the former quarry faces. The tremendous dam walls at Howden and Derwent stand firm as testimony to the skill and hard work of the quarrymen of North Derbyshire.

Alan Jacques

This article is reproduced with the kind permission of Peak & Pennine magazine.

Totley Athletic Club

Don't be put off by the name. We are a mixed bag of people who run various speeds and distances; in fact being a member of Totley A.C. is about much more than just running. Some of us take part in races, others do it for fun and fitness. We even have social members who don't run.

During the summer months we meet at the Cricket inn and do most of our runs in the surrounding beautiful countryside. Unfortunately in the winter, the dark evenings force us to change venues. Our winter training venues are as follows:

Tuesdays 6.30pm at Dronfield sports centre car park; Thursdays 6.30pm at Midland Bank sports ground, Dore.

This continues until after Christmas, when the training venues will change to:

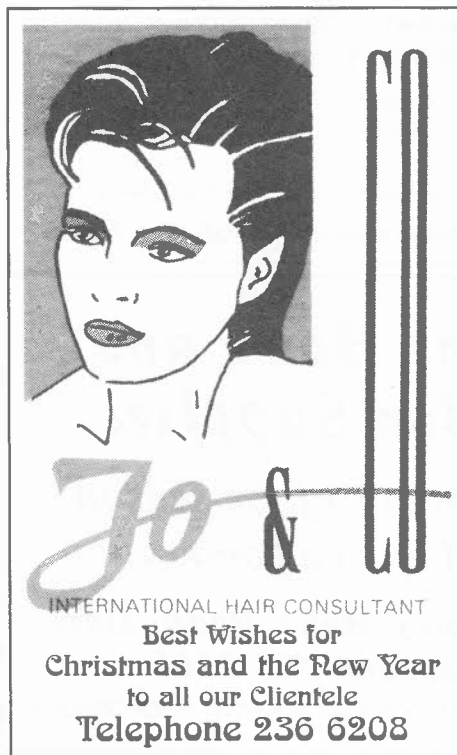
Tuesdays 6.30pm at Rowlinson sport centre - rear car park;

Thursdays 6.30pm at Millhouses Park cafe entrance gate.

All training runs invariably finish in a local pub. If you are new we will make every effort to place you with the right group and make you feel welcome.

If anyone would like any further information about our activities please phone either William or Carol on 235 2041 or just turn up at one of the venues stated.

Carol Parsons



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Fox welfare

The National Fox Welfare Society is a voluntary organisation with no paid members, all of the work carried out by the society is by people who are concerned enough to want to do something positive for the welfare of foxes across the country.

On an average month the society can expect to deal with in excess of 500 calls relating to injured, orphaned sick and problem foxes. They will, on average, co-ordinate about 100 fox rescues around the country and in 1998 dealt with 166 orphaned fox cubs. The estimated cost of caring and rehabilitation for just one fox cub is £90.00.

As an indication of their commitment towards foxes, in one case they spent over £1,000 on just one fox who had been the unfortunate victim of a terrier attack. The appalling injuries sustained meant the roof of the fox cubs mouth was down in line with her bottom jaw. On most occasions when the society uses vets outside normal hours they

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30 January 2000
Ring 236 9025 or write to the editor

can expect to pay on average £50.00 before the vet will even look at the fox.

To help foxes suffering from the dreadful condition of Sarcoptic Mange the society sends out treatment free of charge to householders who feed foxes suffering from this life threatening complaint. In 1998 the Society sent out treatment costing £8,400.

When receiving calls of badly injured foxes that are still mobile, the society will set cage traps to rescue them. On an average month they set over thirty traps.

Emergency phones are manned twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. The society

receive no company sponsorship and have no regular income. Yet despite all the drawbacks, they have never been unable to get a contact out to an injured fox wherever it maybe in the country and strive to get a contact out to an injured fox within the hour. No donation is spent on colour leaflets or wages. All donations received are spent directly helping the much maligned fox.

National Fox Welfare Society, c/o 30 Knighton Street, North Wingfield, Derbyshire. Tel: 01246 850850 or for emergencies 0378 183954.

Ecclesall Woods

A new bridleway has now been completed in Ecclesall Woods, providing an all weather route up to the bird sanctuary from the Rycroft Glen entrance. Some tree lopping will be carried out during the winter to make trees adjacent to pathways safe. At the same time some side paths will be blocked off to try and reduce erosion in sensitive areas.

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Abbeydale Golf Club

In carrying out research into Beauchief Abbey I have come across various references to the early years of the Club. The history seems to be roughly as follows:

The original course for the Abbeydale Club (founded in 1895) was the area now occupied by Beauchief Golf Club. The land at that time was part of the Beauchief Hall Estate and must have been leased or rented to the Club. The photograph on this page is of the first Club House. It is shown on the 1923 edition (surveyed 1915-20) of the 25 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map, and corresponds with the position shown on the photograph, it is labeled 'Golf Club House'. The clubhouse is on the 'wrong' side of the railway track, the Ordnance map shows that the only way members could get to the course would have been to walk up Abbey Lane and over the railway bridge.

I would suggest that the photograph was taken after 1905 and possibly before 1910, the reasoning is as follows, there were originally only two lines of track passing Beauchief. The line was widened to four tracks between 1900 and 1905; the photograph shows the four tracks and so must have been taken after the widening work. Also the writing on the photo is similar to other postcard scenes of the district which suggests it may have been one of a series that were in circulation before (from postmarks) about 1910.

It seems strange to have the clubhouse separated from the actual course in this manner, one can conjecture, perhaps the owners of the Beauchief Hall Estate would not allow buildings on their land but more probably, as happened with other clubs, perhaps the Hotel was used in early years as a clubhouse and changing rooms. It would then be a natural progression to build a separate clubhouse in the hotel grounds, perhaps financially supported by the Hotel owners. Also drainage and water supply may have influenced the location. Incidentally the Hotel is labeled on the 1923 map as the 'Station Hotel' and the words Abbeydale Station are still to be seen in the stonework above the front entrance

Later developments appear to be as follows, soon after the First World War large areas of



The original clubhouse at Abbeydale Golf Club. Picture provided by Mr J Perkinson.

the Beauchief Hall Estate were sold off. Abbeydale Golf Club bought the land for a new course (their present course) from the Hall Estate, they built the present day clubhouse before 1925, I have a photograph in a magazine that fixes this date. After the Abbeydale Club moved, Sheffield County Borough took over the old course and it became the Beauchief Municipal Golf Club. Most of the course was actually outside Sheffield at that time, still in Derbyshire.

The bulk of the Beauchief Hall Estate was sold in 1922-3 to Frank Crawshaw, who lived in Beauchief Abbey House. The land involved stretched from Twentywell Lane, along Ladies Spring Wood, all the land occupied by the Beauchief Golf Course, the Abbey, and extensive areas towards Greenhill, which were later developed with housing, Crawshaw Avenue etc. Frank Crawshaw thus became the owner of the land leased by Sheffield for the golf course.

In 1931 Sheffield County Borough bought the golf course land together with Ladies Spring Wood from Frank Crawshaw for £30,000. I have not been able to find out when the present day Beauchief Golf Clubhouse was built, one suspects that Sheffield County Borough would only invest in such a new building after they became owners of the land

in 1931, in that case possibly the clubhouse in the photograph remained until about this date.

Following the sale of the golf course land, Frank Crawshaw gave Beauchief Abbey and the adjoining area to the City of Sheffield as a gift. A relevant letter from Frank Crawshaw and his son to the Town Clerk stated -

Dear Sir William Hart. Some time ago you intimated that the Corporation of Sheffield would like to own Beauchief Abbey. Now that the terms of the sale to the Corporation of so large an extent of land surrounding the abbey have been agreed we are pleased to offer to the city, as a gift, the abbey with the cottages and the land adjoining.

In making this offer we must make two conditions which we think cannot be considered onerous: 1. As Church of England services have been continuously held in the abbey for several centuries, similar services shall be continued and the abbey shall not be used for any other purpose; 2. That the right of burial in the abbey and abbey grounds shall be reserved to the donors.

We are prepared to transfer the property simultaneously with the transfer of the surrounding land.

*Signed.
F.M. Crawshaw, Frank Crawshaw January 29th 1931.*

There was considerable debate by the Council about the conditions. They were later changed to say 'services shall be continued during the lifetime of Mr. F. Crawshaw' and that 'The Abbey having been consecrated for use of the Church of England, shall not be used for any other purpose'. The Corporation then accepted the abbey as a gift (May 1931).

This note has rambled a long way from a photograph of a golf club pavilion, but it was all part of a continuous story and I always think that as much publicity as possible should be given to the fact that Beauchief Abbey was a gift to Sheffield, and as a gift should be looked after and cherished.

Tony Smith

Corrections

Dore Club in issue 55: the Chairman's name was Belk and he lived on Leyfield Road. It should also have read Kes Fearnough, not Chris.

Jean recalls: The Haslam family were from Parson House Farm, not Knowsley Farm.

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The Wildlife Garden

Many gardeners regard berry-bearing plants as simply another means of bringing autumn and winter colour into their gardens, and look for plants offering berries that are long-lasting' i.e. unpalatable to birds. To achieve this, plants which have sickly coloured berries - anaemic whites, jaundiced yellows, lacklustre pinks and even lurid mauves are grown. Whether it is the flavour or the colour of these fruits that the birds dislike is not known, but whatever the reason, these lifeless berries have no place in the wildlife garden; birds prefer red, purple and black fruits. In the premier league' of shrubs are those with berries that birds find most palatable and include bramble, *Cotoneaster horizontalis*, *Cotoneaster x watereri*; elder, hawthorn, rowan, holly and yew. (The yew has poisonous berries, so any trees should be sited with care and children taught not to eat these, or indeed to sample any berries in general.)

There are, of course, literally thousands of other berry-bearing shrubs and trees and those in the second division' have fruits which the birds will eat, but only after all the other more choice ones have been taken. These include berberis, other cotoneaster species, honeysuckles, viburnums, crab apples, such as the red fruited 'John Downie' and *Rosa canina*, *R. glauca* and *R. rugosa*. Some gardeners may look down their noses at these 'common' roses, but as soon as the hips are ripe, they become an irresistible lure to greenfinches, and that alone is surely a good enough reason to grow them.

Although most apples have probably been collected by now and put into storage, any windfalls will provide food for the redwings, thrushes and blackbirds. Even starlings are not adverse to tucking into the soft flesh of these fallen fruits.

So why is it that berries may be eaten by birds in one garden, but totally ignored in another? For instance, blackbirds will literally strip every berry off my *Cotoneaster horizontalis* bushes by the end of December, while only a few houses away, the same berries may last well into spring. The reasons are complex, but the severity of the weather, the position of the plant, competition for food and just how much disturbance the birds have when feeding may control exactly what is eaten.

Recent work on seed and nut holders has shown how something as trivial as their colour can influence bird behaviour. Researchers have noticed that some species of finches prefer feeding from certain coloured seed-holders, for example goldfinches choose dark green colours, whilst siskins go for red ones. Birds even have seasonal preferences, with most choosing silver coloured feeders in winter and blue ones in summer. I bet the grey squirrels aren't quite so particular and are only interested in those they can chew their way through, regardless of colour.

Nevertheless, with wild bird numbers declining so rapidly, all of us should try and make an effort to grow one or more of these useful and however, ephemeral, colourful shrubs. Look on the bright side, with red, blue, green and silver coloured bird-feeders hanging on trees in the garden, who needs outdoor

Christmas decorations and lights?

No, fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds, - November!

Thomas Hood

Jack Daw

Peak update

A new management plan is being drawn up for the The Peak District National Park and the public are being encouraged to contribute their views and ideas. The draft management plan is built around the themes of partnership and sustainability. The park is not a museum, but a living community and people visiting, living and working in the park, all have a contribution to make to its future. Copies of the document are available from the Authority's office in Bakewell, by calling 01629 816327 or on the web (www.peakdistrict.org). You have until the 26th November to respond.

Sadly the Peak Environment fund, set up four years ago to get businesses and visitors to put money back into the Peak, has folded. Projects started should be completed and talks are going on to get other conservation organisations to take over parts of the fund's role and any remaining assets.

News in Brief

Chris Waddle had a lucky escape on the 14th October when a car travelling in the opposite direction on Chesterfield bypass crossed the central reservation and wrote off his BMW.

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Christmas customs, kisses and capers

Whilst the Peak District has its own traditions and Customs, few are truly unique because the majority have their beginnings in the common pagan religions practised by our early ancestors.

Earth worship involved ceremonies based around that which man tried to influence through propitiation and sacrifice - animal, plants, the weather and the seasons.

As Christianity spread, old folklore and celebrations were brought under the wing of the church, since, in spite of attempted bans on certain ceremonies, man was reluctant to become enlightened and dispense with anything which had always seemed to act as a charm. After all, the practice of earth worship had kept the seasons in their place with rain more or less when needed, sun when planned for and frosts when expected. Who was willing to tempt providence and risk disorder?

Christmas and the New Year marked a change in the calendar, with a gradual lengthening of the short dark days, and as such was an important time to observe the rituals.

Mysterious and Magical

From the days of the Druids, mistletoe was long considered to be mysterious and magical and due to its parasitic nature was thought to nurse the spirit of the parent plant which gave it life. To this day mistletoe is brought indoors at Christmas and put to the same use as when it was interwoven into the kissing bunch which, following a very ancient custom, hung in the windows of Derbyshire homes some three centuries ago.

That other traditional Christmas time greenery, the holly bough, served as a bright decoration and also lent itself to the same purpose as mistletoe when it was hung from a beam as a "Hollin Bough" or "Kissing Bush". It was wise to gather both smooth and prickly holly to ensure that master and mistress ruled the household jointly during the following year, for prickly holly ensured a man's superiority and the smooth variety gave a woman the advantage!

Any evergreens which were brought indoors before Christmas had to remain there until the twelfth day, and similarly the ashes or embers of the Christmas Eve Yule log were on no account to be taken out of the house at all. It was also considered extremely unlucky to carry any fire from the house between Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. These customs were recorded as long-standing in Derbyshire almost a century ago and traces of them are still recognisable in the Christmas preparations of 1999.

The young are sure to favour any kissing customs and it is also due to their increasing interest that new generations are once again performing the old widespread custom of "guising" or "mumming" aided by their rhymes and mimes recalled for them by diminishing numbers of their great-grandparents.

Guising may have its roots in the medieval mystery plays or even earlier ceremonies of animal sacrifice, and survived only by word of mouth and the inheritance of memories, for its performers had neither the need nor the means of setting down the script of writing. Slight changes therefore crept in over the years,

although the audience allowed only a little straying from the well remembered lines - a great deal of their enjoyment was derived from waiting to hear the words that they had heard every year since childhood. Babies were held up to watch the capers, toddlers were comforted through the rough, noisy parts, and grandparents settled by the fire to enjoy the show.

Every one pretended not to recognise the familiar voices booming out from behind masks, and faces camouflaged by layers of thick homemade make-up or soot, or to doubt the true sex of the "female" characters.

The insular way of life in the Peak villages, which were often cut off from each other in December, ensured that each village kept to its own version of the plays, all slightly different to those of neighboring villages. The essential theme, however, was the triumph of good over evil, with humble villagers disguised and transformed into a shining St. George, a swarthy and devious Turkish soldier with a name such as Bulguyar, and a skillful doctor to patch them up after their fight, a noisy confrontation with swords or sticks.

Beelzebub himself appeared in a large number of mumming plays, generally bringing the performance to a close by collecting coins from the audience. Almost always he carried a club, with one variation of "Under my arm I carry a tub", but each version had the common line "in my hand a dripping pan - an essential container for the offerings to be dropped into as he begged.

*"Good master and good mistress
who sit around you fire
we thank you for the Christmas box and a
pitcher of your best beer"*

Some versions stated the Black Prince of Paladins, the Abbot of Unreason, or simply The Fool, and in yet other villages the Miller and a character named Hector sometimes played minor roles.

A far more common player was Little Devil Dout and since he was dressed in black and armed with a three-pronged fork was alter ego to Beelzebub. Unfortunately his name began to be misspelt when his deeds were put to paper so that the name Little Devil Doubt was recorded, in spite of his actions when he took his other prop, the broom, and threatened to sweep out any who refused to contribute to his collection. The concluding rhyme:

*"Here come I
Little Devil Dout
If you don't give me money
I'll sweep you all out'
Money I want and money I'll crave
If you don't give me money
I'll sweep you to the grave".*

shows, him to be the cleaner or doer out. In Derbyshire dialect the words 'dout', become 'dout', meaning put out or clean out.

Most plays included the Owd Lad and the Owd Lass, a pair of buffoons to add to the rude jests and exchange theatrical kisses beneath the kissing bush. The Owd Lass always brought her broom and little legs had to take care to avoid the thing since its owner's role was played with much vigor by a strapping youth, as the whole troupe - which commonly numbered a score or so - was an all-male affair.

A slip of the tongue transformed St. George into King George once in a while and his opponent may have been the Black Prince of Paladins, or The Turk, or perhaps Brave Bow

Slash otherwise known as Bold Slasher in other versions. To the south of the Country, Robin Hood and Maid Marion joined the cast whilst most areas did not consider their entertainment complete without a stag or a hobby horse.

The bright costumes of cardboard and paper had been made by mothers and sisters, who rose to the occasion when it came to the animal's costumes. If necessary a horse became a stag with the addition of a pair of horns but it was not unknown for the skull of a real horse or ram to be fixed to a stick and used in the play. But the horse recorded in one village was a magnificent animal with painted eyeballs to roll, cliky teeth fixed in a skeletal grin to clang open and shut on a wire-operated jaw, and an enveloping hairy cover to hide four legs which must have galloped quite independently, if at all, by the end of a night when mince pies and mulled ale had refreshed a flagging horse between every visit.

As an introduction to "The Old Horse" play, the guisers began singing his story as soon as the door was opened to them:

*"There is a poor old horse
and he's knocking at your door,
and if you choose to let him in
he'll please you all I'm sure"*

Of course the poor old horse was let in and proceeded to amuse the household whilst his life story was sung in many verses and choruses ending with the sad news that the poor old horse:

*"Shall now unto the huntsmen go
with his hide and shoes
and his bony carcass
the hounds will not refuse"*

At this the horse fell dead, to be magically resurrected in the following play only too ready to pester the blacksmith who tried to shoe him.

Some ad-libbing allowed the audience to share the knowledge that St George might be first cousin to Beelzebub, the Doctor and Bold Slasher were second cousins, whilst Little Devil Dout told anyone interested that fifty-eight of his seventy-five cousins actually lived in their village.

The gestures and words of mumming plays relate to saints, devils, legendary heroes and mystical gods but perhaps the best recorded one in Derbyshire is that of a wondrous beast. The Derby Ram, usually known as the Derby Tup or Old Tup.

The Derby Tup

Mime and music recalled a mythical animal in a tale whose origins are so old that it may even represent man's early explanation of the creation of his world.

As in the other guising plays, Derby Tup was performed by the village's young men, one of whom acted the animal's role on all fours and actually wore a sheepskin and horns. Each character was recognisable by his props, the blacksmith carried hammer and tongs and the butcher wore an apron and carried a knife with which to slaughter the Ram. Again, the play had some connotations with the ending of the old and the beginning of the new, for each part of the dead beast was put to good use: for example, his horns formed a pulpit, his eyes were used as footballs by little boys, and his hide made the fortune of a local tanner. Numerous villages had a version of the play and familiar characters from other plays were incorporated as shown in the opening lines:

"Here comes me and our owd lass,

"Here comes me and our owd lass,
short o' money and short o' brass.
Gather around us an' come close up
an' we will perform you the Derby Tup".

The guisers performed at pubs, farms and the houses of the well-to-do, where the welcome was likely to become slightly strained when rude rhymes and gestures made the ladies blush and the children ask awkward questions!

In fact mumming was officially banned during the reign of Henry VIII on the grounds that it brought disorder and crime into the homes of "substantial persons".

The recollections of some older Peak District residents indicate that the guisers of their childhood Christmases performed only crude, though jolly, parodies of the true plays and by the First World War even these had virtually died out.

Sugar and Spice

In many places Christmas Eve was also "Mischief Night" when the local boys made the most of an opportunity to play tricks on their neighbours: gates were lifted from their hinges, door handles were strung up so that they wouldn't open, carts were immobilised and chickens let loose. If the boys were caught in the act they had every chance of escaping, if only due to the fact that their victims had long been indoors sharing their bowl of posset, a ceremony more or less reserved for Christmastide. At Bradwell it took place by the warmth of Yule logs which the children had been given by the village carpenter, and light from a special Yule candle that the grocer gave to his customers. There was even likely to be a Yule loaf, which was a round cob on top of a large 4lb loaf and an ornament on the very top.

The posset itself was a drink which contained stale bread, boiled milk, ale, eggs, treacle, sugar, ginger, nutmeg, cloves, and a variety of other spices. There was allowance for the individual preferences of anyone who liked a stronger posset topped up with gin, rum, whisky, and cream instead of milk! With

such ingredients the beverage was also considered to be of great benefit in times of illness but on Christmas Eve the special two-handed posset pot, sometimes personalised with designs and the names of the hosts, was passed around family and guests for each to take a spoonful. If you did not own a posset pot any large bowl served the purpose, but in most homes a coin and a ring were dropped into the brew and whoever recovered the coin was assured of a prosperous new year, whilst the finder of the ring was promised an early marriage, so this custom was a particular favourite if there was an unmarried son or daughter in the house.

Sugar and spice were also used to add flavour to frometty, a Derbyshire Christmas recipe based on boiled wheat creed. Another widespread treat throughout the County was the "Wassil" - or "Speechless" - cake made on New Year's Day, and although it was fairly plain, its most unusual ingredient was an egg which had to be the first which a goose had laid! Mince pies were originally savoury rather than sweet and actually contained meat, the more you ate the happier you would be in the year ahead but only so long as each one had been eaten in a different home.

Another speciality reserved for Christmas fare was Derbyshire green cheese, made by farmers' wives following old recipes which included sage. The farmers themselves even remembered to treat their livestock, often giving their beasts an extra sheaf of corn on Christmas Day. This Peak District custom was dwindling by the turn of the century, however, for by then it was generally only the older farmers who observed the tradition.

During the seventeenth century Derbyshire lead-miners were "good husbands" all year round although at Christmas they determined to allow themselves the luxury of spending ten, or even twenty, pounds on card games which they enjoyed with great enthusiasm - all the more for being so frugal during the rest of the year.

At Bradwell when the miners left the

leadmines on Christmas Eve, they left behind a good piece of ore decorated with a candle, burning in respect to the "Old Man", a generic expression which meant all the miners who were now retired or dead, or even the spirit of the leadmine itself.

A tradition which dates from at least the same era is still alive in Castleton, where carols are sung in the George Hotel on the Sunday before Christmas, late on Christmas Eve and at dinner time on Christmas Day.

The songs have defined parts for bass and tenor, contralto and soprano and, as in other areas of the Peak, some of the carols are unique to that particular village.

In times gone by, Christmas inspired poets and composers to write seasonal music and carols.

Tideswell was the home of the 'Minstrel of the Peak, William Newton, who wrote several Christmas Carols as did Richard Furness of Eyam. Also noted for his poetry, Furness wrote both words and music for about thirty carols, some of which are still sung by parties of carol singers in Eyam and Foolow.

So if you are fortunate enough to be entertained by a Peak Carol or even guisers this Christmas, do choose to let them in - they'll please you all I'm sure.

Julie Bunting

News in Brief

The banner above Almas Restaurant advertising Sunday Lunches has been removed by the owners, in response to concern expressed by some residents.

Education chiefs are revising plans, turned down nine years ago following local objections, to merge Dore Junior and Infant schools when Mrs Kitchen retires next September.

Railtrack plans improvements locally to its network, including a new double track at Dore, signalling improvements at Totley and work along the Hope Valley.





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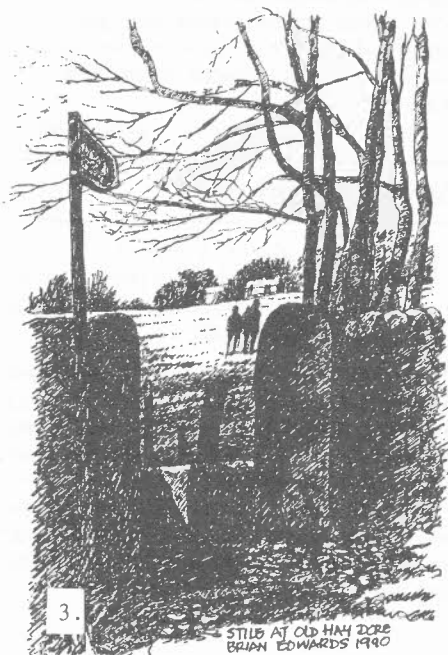
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STILES AT OLD HAY DORE
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Stiles and Styles

It seems we have different interpretations of what the English Dictionary describes as 'steps or some provision other than a gate enabling a passenger to get over or through a fence or wall but excluding cattle etc.' Whereas Collins is quite clear that a stile is 'an arrangement of steps for climbing a fence'. However all appear to agree that the word derives from the Old English 'stigel' meaning 'climb'.

For many people, stile is a generic term for any device which allows a person (or dog) to pass from one piece of land to another in order to prevent farm animals from escaping to pastures new. I have certainly heard and seen the term used in connection with kissing and other gates, squeezers, stoops and so on.

In the Peak and surrounding areas, the stiles were made generally from local traditional materials such as gritstone, limestone and wood, although in some areas and in and around settlements, iron was used. In recent years, modern materials such as rubber and plastic have been incorporated.

Unfortunately some of these improvements' carried out to stiles can be disrespectful and hamfisted.

Surely it is time to 'list' and protect these ancient monuments?

For a long time I have sketched and snapped many of those I have encountered; it is now quite a collection!

1. This gritstone and wood stile between arable and woodland at Gillfield near Owlbar, provides an ideal resting place before plunging into sun soaked fields.

2. A confusing group of gritstone stoops near Hallfield Farm of Strawberry Lee Lane, Totley. Within several hundred yards there are at least half a dozen different examples of stiles'.

3. Well used stoops at the end of Avenue Farm drive off Old Hay Lane. In this case the stones are so wide apart that intermediate timber posts have been inserted in order to control livestock.

Brian Edwards



2.

STOOPS NEAR
HALLFIELD FARM
BRIAN EDWARDS 1990

Grooves & holloways

If you are at all familiar with the local countryside you will have noticed long grooves crossing open moorland slopes on the Longshaw estate for example, or deeply cut lanes in the area south of Holmesfield.

These grooves or holloways fall into two categories. Many are old routes which have been worn down by countless pack horses and wagons, until they are incised several feet below the level of the adjacent moors, fields and woods. Often when these tracks became impassible parallel ones were formed leaving a pattern of descending grooves.

Others grooves on the Dark Peak were created deliberately by gangs of labourers so that millstones could be moved more easily on horse-drawn sledges. These millstone ways seem to date from the height of the millstone industry in the 17th and 18th centuries, but it is difficult to find firm evidence.

According to historian David Hey writing in the Peakland Walker last year, one group of these holloways, can be dated precisely. These are the ones which descend from Offerton Moor towards Hathersage. They can be spotted from the Hathersage to Hope Road, dropping steeply until they end suddenly where in more recent times fields have been cut out of the moorland.

A climb up these tracks brings the walker to a few shallow delves on top of the moor where a diligent searcher will find just one half-hidden, unfinished millstone. A series of letters from the 1720s provides the evidence needed to date these delves and tracks. They were written by Thomas Eyre of Thorpe (in the Outseats part of Hathersage parish) to his cousin, William Archer, who had changed his name from Eyre when he inherited an estate in the south of England.

They record attempts to start a millstone quarrying business on Offerton Moor that would challenge that on Millstone Edge. Early high hopes ended in disappointment and the venture lasted only five years. But the letters provide a great deal on information about the millstone trade.

They tell us that in the Summer of 1722 Thomas Eyre spent 15s 6d 'for making out of the edge so as the mill stones might pass'. It is rare to be able to date a group of holloways as precisely as that.

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News in Brief

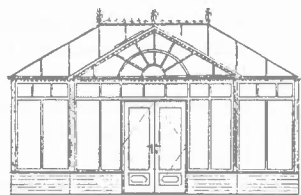
Sheffield City Council's Public Rights of Way Unit and The Ramblers' Association have produced a new booklet entitled "EASY GOING TRAILS" which includes 20 short walks on good paths in and around Sheffield. The booklet is available from The Public Rights of Way Unit, Sheffield City Council, Town Hall, Sheffield S1 2HH

Santas Specials, will run on the miniature railway in Ecclesall Woods on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December from 11am to 3.30pm. Steam train rides, refreshments and Santa Claus!

George Cunningham Christmas cards this year feature Mayfield Valley and Ecclesall Church presented in their customary snow covered glory and sold in aid of the PDSA.

The proceeds from the auction at this years Dore Show went to The Cavendish Centre for Cancer Care.

Abbeydale Hamlet Museum may be closed for the winter, but the craftsmen based there are still available for business during the week so please call in if you are looking for Christmas ideas.



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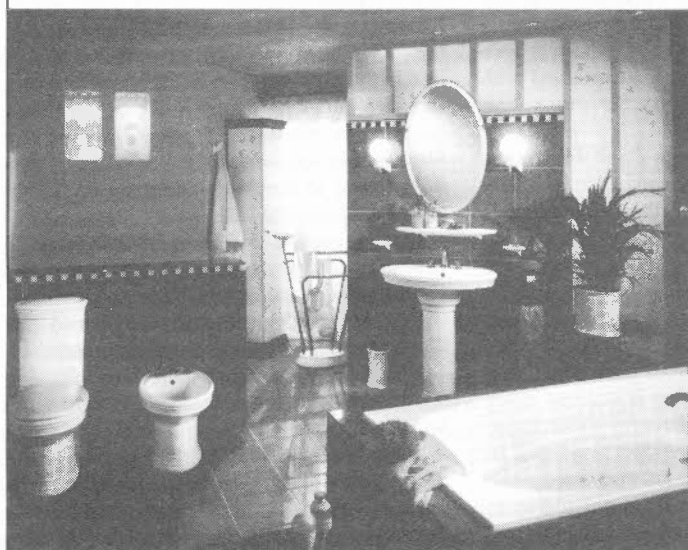
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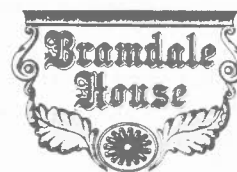
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Book Reviews

If there was any doubt that Sheffield had a thirst, then a new book listing Sheffield's drinking establishments will put that to rest. *Sheffield Public Houses*, provides a definitive A to Z listing of watering holes past and present, with 200 pages illustrated by pictures old and new.

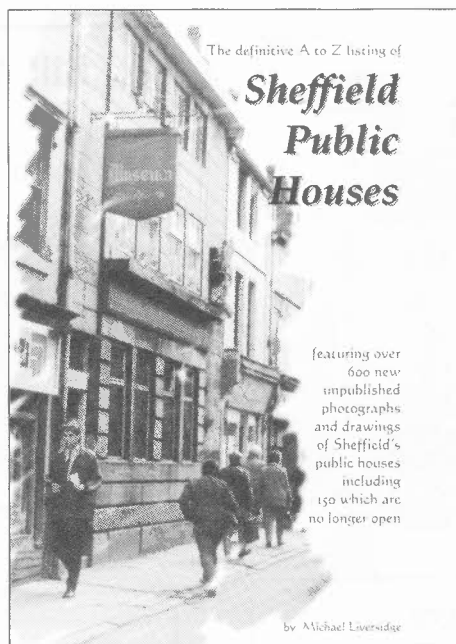
Many of the 2,000 public houses recorded are still recognisable today, but others have changed their usage or become little more than a memory. The listing reflects this, with details on the history or origins of a name where appropriate. And the origins of the names are varied, from local trades to sports, even the odd visual joke or pun. Some have stories to tell, like a little corner pub that had three murders on New Years Day.

Written by Michael Liversidge, after what must have been a lifetimes study, this is a book for anyone with an interest in a tippie or in the background to part of our history that is all too often given scant attention. Published by Pickards Colour Publishing ISBN 0-9534267-1-8 *Sheffield Public Houses* is available from all good local bookshops price £ 11.99. An ideal stocking filler for the man in your life.

Many of our readers will be familiar with local walks devised and written about by John Barrows, 'Campy' to all that know him. A new book *All in a Day's Work* draws on the detailed records 'Campy' kept of the many aircraft crashes he attended during his wartime work with the RAF's first Mountain Rescue Unit in North Wales.

Written by David W. Earl the aviation historian, and following a diary format, the book provides in its 112 pages an interesting insight to the hardships experienced by aircrew and searchers, and to the wartime spirit that prevailed. *All in a Day's Work* price £4.95 ISBN 0-86381-554-5 is available from Green's on Causeway Head Road, Jimmy Martin's News on Abbeydale Road South, local bookshops, or 'Campy' himself on 236 8608.

Walking can be enjoyable in itself, especially on a crisp sunny day, but how much more enjoyable if you have a guide to the sites around you. *Archeology Walks in the Peak*



District is just such a companion. Written by Ali Cooper who has an MA in archeology, the book contains 21 walks ranging from 3 to 14 miles and from the Upper Palaeolithic to late Medieval. Even familiar locations are given a new perspective when you know who was here before you. Each site visited is explained with a glossary and bibliography for those who want to find out more.

Archeology Walks in the Peak District is published by Sigma Leisure, price £6.95 ISBN 1-85058 707 8. The end of the Millennium is as good a time as any to reflect on the past, so get those boots on now.

Sadly so many walking books depend on your having access to a car to enjoy them. *Walks from the Hope Valley Line* gets around this problem with a full colour pack containing 8 walks starting and finishing at stations along the line. Each walk is briefly described, followed by comprehensive directions and an outline map. Not only can you enjoy the walks, but gain satisfaction from not adding to the traffic pollution which plagues so much of the Peak Park.



The Devonshire Arms - illustration from the new book on Sheffield Public Houses by Michael Liversidge.

Published by the Hope Valley Partnership, who even organise guided walks for those who want companionship, *Walks from the Hope Valley Line* is available by sending a cheque for £4 made payable to Peak District National Park to c/o New Mills Town Hall, New Mills, High Peak, SK22 4AT.

For those on two wheels, *Mountain Biking in the Peak District* is the most up-to-date guide to 20 all-time classic rides in perfect biking terrain. There are routes suiting all, from novices to real lung busters' and drawing on the 10 years experience of the authors Paul Wake and Paul Woodrow. Published by Sigma Leisure price £7.95 ISBN 1-85058-704-3.

On Disc

If I could have my choice of inventions it would have to be a time machine. Someone must have been listening because The *Sheffield Time Machine* is an interactive CD-ROM which allows the user to take a virtual tour of the city of Sheffield in the last years of the 19th century and the early years of the 20th.

Using 500 images, maps text and other printed materials from the extensive collections in Sheffield's Local Studies Library, it allows users to explore Sheffield at their own pace and to discover what life was like in the city. You can wander at will through the streets of central Sheffield in an area bounded by the Wicker Arches in the north to Moorfoot in the south, and from Barker's Pool in the west to the Midland Station (complete with sounds) in the east.

Navigation is by maps and interactive "street signs" which pop up out of the photographs to guide you. You can even visit the interior of some buildings and both illustrations and text can be printed out.

The Sheffield Time Machine has been produced by a team from Sheffield Local Studies Library and is available direct from them on Surrey Street, S1 1X2 price £20 + £2 p&p. You can pre-view a demonstration on the Libraries website at dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/local.studies Publishing information from hard copy editions onto CD-ROM discs is an increasing trend. For those with a modern PC, the option of buying this way can be attractive, given the amount they can store and the computers capacity to search and interlink items in a way impossible with conventional books.

RHS Plant Finder 1999-2000, produced by Dorling Kindersley, brings together a number of Royal Horticultural Society publications. The RHS Plant Finder - the definitive where to buy guide to 70,000 plants; their Good Plant Guide with over 1,000 illustrations; along with a Dictionary of common names; Lexicon of Latin names and lists of garden societies and gardens open to the public. I had no idea how many specialist garden societies there were, that I could identify 107 varieties of Oxalis and most valuably where to purchase them.

The *RHS Plant Finder 1999-2000* is a unique and valuable resource for the serious gardener packed with essential information, price £29. Even better value is a special offer currently available from local DK distributors Dug & Helen McInnes. They are offering copies of the CD-ROM for half price at £14.50. You can reach them on 0114 236 7109.

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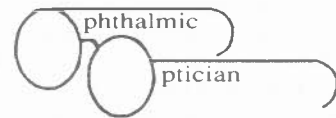
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Planning

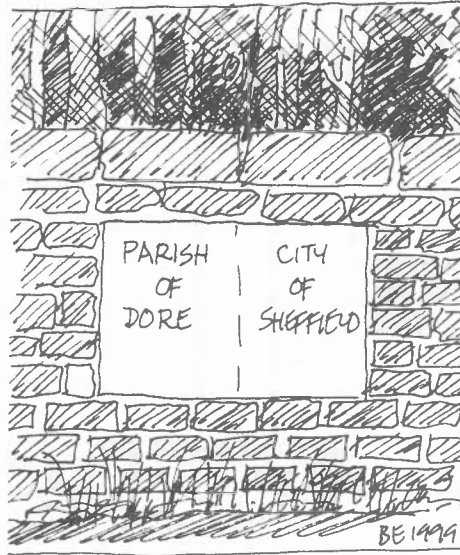
Disabled Ramp-Midland Bank. The March plan is finally underway. At the beginning of November the ramp has been prepared and also the low wall which will incorporate hand rails. The wider doors need to be fitted which will be power assisted.

Footpath. The footpath linking King Egbert School and Busheywood Road has been greatly improved and widened for the first 30 metres. During 5 days of August 4 street lights were installed and a macadam surface laid. This was done by Beauchief Homes and Gleasons, at the request of the City Council, and brings it up to adoption standard. No more excuses about walking to school!

Retail Unit. Site of former toilets. This is a different application to last January's, to which we had several objections. By incorporating the neighbouring garage area, the retail shop/office proposed has much more balanced proportions. The frontage will be 6 metres wide, with lintels chimneys and quality design in coursed stone. Our 2 reservations were roof ridge height (photos taken of all comparative roof heights) and overlooking windows at the back, (suggestion opaque glazing). It would be nice to think that the sad history of this long neglected site is drawing to a close.

Site of 1, Blackamoor Road. Again, a change of plan which overcomes our previous objection letter of August, when there was a proposal to demolish the existing bungalow and erect 3 houses. The September proposal has the existing bungalow retained and a new dormer bungalow to be built alongside-on the "Totley" side- with materials and roof height to match the existing bungalow (and therefore equally concealed behind the high hedge?) We did however put in a "policy" objection that we had no notification of this substantial alteration which was under the same planning number, and only found out by chance. It might be assumed that those objecting would be told of further amendments, but the Town Hall mailing system doesn't work like that.

Whirlow-Adjacent to Hollis Hospital entrance site. It was alarming to see this building below the road, roofless and reduced to one storey, when no demolition order had gone through. Planning permission had been obtained for an extension (by about a third) on this Green Belt site. The owner then decided to



This boundary stone once set in a stone wall on Abbeydale Road South has long since disappeared. It was located close to the Limb Brook Bridge and on the wall bounding Ecclesall Woods. Tatton sketched it sometime between 1920 and 1934. Was it installed when Sheffield became a city in 1893? And when was it removed and what became of it?
Brian Edwards.

demolish completely and rebuild. We alerted Sylvia Dunkley (planning Councillor).

A planning application was then put in for retrospective consent. Work seems to have stopped at the moment.

Ryecroft farm. Regrading and use of land as a horse menage. Following a Committee hearing this proposal was passed in an amended form. The site is only visible from Ecclesall woods, and above the large chestnut tree. Eight lighting columns were deleted from the original plan, and following advice from the Landscape Dept. the site was moved Eastwards and turned through 90 degrees.

Planting of hedging to 2 sides is included.

Newfield Lane. Rear of 65-69. The proposal is for 2 houses plus garages. However a further 3 houses are "ghosted in" on the same plan making a possible total of 5. Nevertheless we correctly responded to the proposal as presented. Our letter covered the following points; lack of clarity of the site plan, incorrect title of planning proposal,

ambiguous layout of plan, highways concerns, drainage, impact on Recreation Ground and wildlife. Under the highways agenda of increase in traffic, was a suggestion that the present 30 m.p.h. sign be moved from the junction to a position lower than the access road if the proposal goes ahead.

Since writing this the DVS Committee have discussed the danger of the Rec. becoming "urbanised" both in the proximity of housing and in all that follows that; pollution of light on wild areas, pruning and felling of trees and hedges and the fact that the Rec. is the boundary of Dore Conservation Area.

The recommendations of the Sheffield Wildlife Trust's survey following our questionnaire to neighbours a few years ago were along similar lines; to leave boundary areas wild and unmown also thereby separating dog areas from children's play areas. What we hope not to have is the Rec becoming a sort of urban garden extension.

Devonshire Road /Brinkburn Vale Road. Objections to a proposal to demolish existing bungalow No.20 Devonshire Road, and replace with 2 houses with double garages. The proposed buildings have frontages a long way forward of existing building lines, with over-density for the locality. There was also concern over possible damage to the highway lime trees and a recommendation that this corner site was more suited to a bungalow. Both this and the Newfield Lane proposal, are likely to go before the Planning Committee at the Nov.8th meeting.

Banner Sign. High Street. This disappeared a fortnight ago. The Enforcement Officer told us it was "under investigation"-letter dated 1st March.

Savage Lane. Wilson Hill section. A letter of concern was sent to the Highways Dept. and a phone call to Direct Services at the end of September about the dislodged kerbstone/surrounding cones.

There had been several near accidents of cars with cars and cars and pedestrians. In some cases cars mounted the narrow pavement on the school side. All this on a blind bend when no apparent work was being done. I knew they had been there for 3 weeks because they were there during Dore Show.

Soon afterwards everything was moved and a reply came. Apparently the excavation was a trial hole on the surface water culvert which runs down Savage Lane. Highways are currently carrying out investigations into the drainage problems, but decided to "reinstate the excavation temporarily" due to our complaint. No mention was made of any result of the investigation which might have made this nerve-racking exercise worthwhile.

Gillian Farnsworth

Trees

Does anyone want some oak or horse chestnut trees? Mr.Sheldon has patiently grown some from acorns and conkers. He now has a collection of 40-45 chestnuts between 4-8 foot high and about 40 oaks of 2-3 foot high. His wife would like her garden back!

Whilst not suitable for grass verges or small gardens, they could be incorporated into tree planting or landscaping schemes. Please Tel.262 1501 (Home) or 235 0517 (Office) if you would like tree(s).



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Prostate Health Association

Most of us who are in good health, are largely unaware of the inner workings of our body. It is only when something goes wrong, that we realise that a particular part of the body is very much there!

Unfortunately, unlike many conditions where there is a relatively easy cure, many urologists tend to put a higher priority on conditions that are more easily treated than problems with the Prostate.

A recent survey showed that 96% of men know nothing about the gland, and it is not a subject that interests the media, and there is no Government money spent on educating the public about this problem.

As men get older, this gland enlarges, and can cause back pressure on the bladder, which if acute, can cause considerable discomfort.

This is usually quite benign, but occasionally, cancer can develop. Very many older men, do in fact have some cancer of the Prostate, but because of its slow growth, it may well cause no problems for them. However, many Urologists do not feel that early detection of this cancer is necessarily beneficial for the patient, but they feel that alleviation of the symptoms at an early stage is of greater benefit. Early detection of a possible problem means that the best treatment option can be considered, before an emergency situation could arise, and can prevent many unpleasant symptoms, including interrupted sleep at night.

For the most common problem in older men, Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy, there are 4 main treatment options. They are: Wait and See, Medical (Hormonal), Thermal treatment, including Laser, and Surgery. All treatments have their advantages and disadvantages. There is a very interesting possibility of

dietary prevention. In Japan, problems with the Prostate are much more uncommon, possibly because of their lower consumption of animal fats.

The Prostate Help Association was set up to collate information of prostate problems and treatments. This information is then available to subscribers via the Newsletters and information sheets. There are quarterly Newsletters and a Support Network. If you would like an initial information sheet, you can write to: The Secretary, P.H.A., Langworth, Lincoln LN3 5DF. A SAE is essential.

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Headway Sheffield was set up some years ago as the local branch of the National Head Injuries Association (Headway). It acts as an active self help group, with around 180 members - head injured people, relatives, professional workers and volunteers. The group draws members from all over Sheffield and from all age ranges, though the majority of the head injured members are between the age of 18 to 50 years. Headway Sheffield is run by an elected committee.

The group publishes a periodic newsletter, has social events and has recently raised sufficient funds to buy a minibus to aid transport arrangements. If you have legal problems can put you in touch with a solicitor who can offer free initial legal advice. There is also a Relative Support Group which aims to provide support for relatives whose head injured member of the family is still in hospital.

Perhaps, most importantly, they offer the chance to share anxieties, hopes and fears, knowing that the group members understand the problems and strain that head injury brings to any family.

Whatever the occasion, there will always be a lot of talking and listening going on. Everyone knows the difficulties, everyone is there to help.

Headway Sheffield, Secretary Mia Farrell, c/o Russell, Jones & Walker, The Fountain Precinct, 01 Barn Green, Sheffield, S1 3AF. Tel 276 6868 (daytime).

Heritage Collection

Now that the Dore Collection has a permanent home, we are keen to collect and display items and artifacts which illustrate aspects of our history and the way people lived in the past. Please remember us when you are looking through old albums or clearing out the attic. Examples of items sought are: Old tools, domestic and kitchen utensils, old maps, deeds, photographs, newspaper cuttings, business records, postcards etc.

If you have any items that you would be prepared to lend for copying or to donate to the collection, please speak to any member of the Dore Village Society Committee.

The Information Age

Apparently Information is Power', so the often quoted phrase goes. It's true to say that with out the correct information most actions could be unproductive.

The general lack of beautiful gardens is evidence that apart from time it's lack of knowledge that prevents garden owners developing truly beautiful gardens. The fact that 'beauty is in the eye of the beholder' has little relevance here, but not knowing how to create the garden of your dreams is very relevant.

Modern living has created lifestyles of low time and many interests to cram into the week, which means for most people 'doing the garden' has to be easy, quick & occasional. This is almost impossible without the correct information. Once one's lifestyle allows more time to concentrate on hobbies then there is also time to gain knowledge.

Where can you collect the information?

The digital age is upon us and the explosion of channels will lead to specialist channels dedicated to your interests. There is already a satellite channel dedicated to home and garden. Garden T.V. seems to fall into two camps, entertaining with gardens (and without bras) such as 'Ground Force' and how to programmes such as 'Gardeners World'. Both these programmes are good, but the detailed information needed for the planting on Ground Force, has led many 'followers' to be a little disappointed. So remember that when you need more information ask an expert, preferably a trained one and not self appointed as sometimes their information is wrong or misleading.

Radio gardening is difficult but the local phone in' is popular. Again sometimes the 'expert' can give incorrect information, especially regarding modern chemical treatments which are changing rapidly for environmental reasons.

There are some excellent garden magazines, 'Gardeners World' and 'Gardening Which' being very good. Recent new titles are following the Ground Force Trend by showing how to create a new look. Definitely worth a look. For radical new ideas hunt down 'New Eden', a real mind stretcher for the garden establishment.

There are some good videos & CD-ROMs available but they are often not as convenient as a good book. The Expert series by DR. Hessayon (recently listed as one of the most influential people in the UK by one Sunday newspaper) is the perfect start for low knowledge gardeners. The Expert series make excellent presents for birthdays, Christmas and what about a set as a wedding present?

All the books from The Royal Horticulture Society (RHS) are very good, accurate, and inspirational. The A-Z of plants & the Encyclopedia of Garden Techniques are worth investing in.

The one medium that is becoming a brilliant source of information, for dedicated gardeners and novices alike, is the Internet. Local sites such as www.garden-glorious.co.uk is based around information on the business plus useful information on specific topics such as Vine Weevil. A useful section is the Plant Hunter page where you can type in a specific plant that you are looking for and receive an availability message in return. The Gifts for

gardeners page feature some local made garden products that make great presents. There is a link from this page to a dedicated site for vine weevils for more information.

The RHS (www.rhs.org.uk) have created an excellent site that covers all sorts of topics, and links to useful groups & societies. Definitely worth a visit. www.gardenworld.co.uk has lots of links to societies & garden centres around the U.K., as does www.gardening-UK.co.uk. Search for the word 'garden' and you will realise the full potential of the information gathering to be had around the world. There are many user groups specialising in specific plants where you can get an answer to your question from fanatical growers who will offer their advice.

Sites will probably be available soon where you can ask for instructions on garden techniques such as pruning roses, or planting a hanging basket and watch the action by video sent over the Internet to your computer. Now that will help you, but remember when information is not clear ask an expert at Ferndale Garden Centre or the Abbeydale Garden Company to explain it more clearly.

If you have not considered the benefits of a computer and access to the Internet, now is the time to do so. It doesn't matter how old you are it is very, very simple. Try it this winter & see what a difference it makes to your garden

Neil Grant Abbeydale Garden Centre

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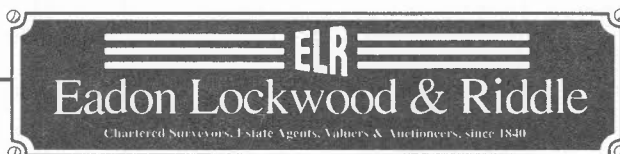


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Diary - Winter 1999

NOVEMBER

- 15 **Update** on recent archaeological work on Industrial sites around Sheffield. Talk by Paul Belford for South Yorkshire Industrial History Society, Kelham Island Museum, 7.30pm.
- 16 **Auctioneering** Talk by Mr Paul Proctor for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm
- 17 **Celebration 2000 choir concert**, Sheffield University Octagon Centre, in aid Leonard Cheshire Services. Details from 236 7491
- 20 **Jumble Sale**, Wessex Hall, King Egbert School, for K.E.S.A. 11-12noon £2, 2pm 20p. Jumble collected - ring 236 9931.
- 20 **Sheffield Bach Choir** performing Elis Pehkonen's Russian Requiem, Sheffield Cathedral, 7.30pm Tickets 266 8257
- 24-27 **No Love Lost** a play by Rony Robinson. TOADS autumn production at St John's Church Hall, 7.30pm Tickets from 236 6891.
- 26 **Victorian Market** in village, in aid of the Old School Appeal 6.30 - 9.30pm.
- 27 **Table Top Sale**, Wessex Hall, King Egbert School, for K.E.S.A. 10am to 2pm.
- 27 **Craft Fair** Bradway Scout Group, Sir Harold Jackson School, Bradway, 10am-4pm free admission.
- 30 **Physiotherapy** Talk by Mrs E Hague for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm

DECEMBER

- 1 **Victorian Christmas Market** - at Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane, Totley. 10am - 12 noon. Details from 236 7491
- 4 **Open Morning**, Dore Village Society Room, Old School, 10am to 12 noon.
- 6 **Sheffield Bach Choir** performing Handel's Messiah, Sheffield Cathedral, 7pm Tickets 266 8257
- 10-11 **John Wade Singers** perform Flowtow's opera Martha, St John's Church, Abbeydale, 7.30pm Tickets from 236 0820 in aid of Sheffield Junior Steelers Wheelchair Basketball Assn.
- 10 **Sundials**. Talk by Robert Hessey for Hallamshire Historic Building Society, Quaker Meeting House, St James Street, 7.30pm - visitore welcome.
- 11 **Whirlow Hall Farmers Market** Christmas trees, veg, cheese, meat, plants, jams, cooked meals & crafts. Whirlow Hall Farm Trust, 10am - 4pm. For details call 235 2678.
- 11 **Father Christmas & Nativity event**. Whirlow Hall Farm Trust. Children £4.50 incl gift, Adults £3.50 incl sherry & mince pie. Tel 235 2678 to book.
- 13 **Come & Sing Messiah** Sheffield Bach Society, Dore Parish Church 7.30pm with wine & mince pies £5 inclusive. Tickets 266 8257
- 13 **Stainsby Mill** on the Hardwick estate. Talk by Pam Staunton for South Yorkshire Industrial History Society, Kelham Island Museum, 7.30pm.
- 14 **Loxley Silver Band** provide Christmas entertainment at Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane 7pm.
- 16 **Christmas Concert** by Dore Male Voice Choir at Dore Parish Church in aid of the Old School Appeal
- 16 **Christmas concert** in Beauchief Abbey by Abbey Chorale, 7.30pm proceeds to charity. Tel 274 5000

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- 22 **John Hanning & Friends** provide musical entertainment at Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane 7pm.

JANUARY

- 11 **2000** - living in the late Neolithic/Bronze Age Orkney. Talk by Jane Downes for Hunter Archaeological Society, Arts Tower Lecture Theatre 9, Sheffield University, 7.30pm.
- 12 **Wings over the Navy** A wrens eye view Mrs Sheila Rodman for Dore (Evening) Townswomen's Guild, 7.30pm Old School Contact:236 3971
- 15 **Millennium Concert** Stannington Brass Band & John Wade Singers perform in aid of for Leonard Cheshire Homes at Sheffield University Octagon Centre, 7.30pm Tel Jackie Short on 236 7491.
- 17 **The electric telegraph**: how the communication revolution began. Talk by Derek Baylis for South Yorkshire Industrial History Society, Kelham Island Museum, 7.30pm.

FEBRUARY

- 8 **Roman Gardens in Pompeii** - Talk by Dr Maureen Carroll for Hunter Archaeological Society, Arts Tower Lecture Theatre 9, Sheffield University, 7.30pm.
- 7 **Why the T'ally Stone**. Talk by Marjorie Dunn for Hallamshire Historic Building Society, Quaker Meeting House, St James Street, 7.30pm - visitore welcome.
- 9 **City on the hill** Talk on Lincoln by Mrs Jill Collinge for Dore (Evening) Townswomen's Guild, 7.30pm Old School Contact:236 3971
- 14 **Flowers of the Southern Cape**. Talk by Nicholas Wray (Gardeners World), for Friends of Botanical Gardens. Heely Hall, Birkdale School 7.15pm. Tickets £5 for non members incl. refreshments. Tel: 236 1568
- 21 **Stove grate manufacturers** in Sheffield & Rotherham. Talk by Chris Morley for South Yorkshire Industrial History Society, Kelham Island Museum, 7.30pm.
- 26 **Limber up** those limbs. Join the rangers for a 4 mile stroll up the Limb Valley & back 12pm-3pm. Book on 203 7206

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