

DORE to DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

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Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet

Recent visitors to the Hamlet will have noticed that the large waterwheels and machinery, such as in the tilt forge, have not been in operation. Major repair and restoration work is needed to make them safe to operate. Fortunately the campaign to raise funding for this project has been successful and from mid-January to May a specialist firm based in Glasgow, Heritage Engineering, will be carrying out these works.

The project is complex. The careful restoration of the wheels and machinery will take 3-4 months and cost over £150,000. The Project is being funded by English Heritage, Sheffield City Council and The Science Museum's PRISM grant.

At the same time Sheffield City Council have undertaken to repair the leak from the dam into the grinding hull at the Hamlet which is damaging the buildings. £150,000 has been allocated towards this project. During the work to repair the dam at the Hamlet the water levels will be dropped, so a temporary home has been found for the fish. The swan was moved to a swan sanctuary in Doncaster.

Work is also starting to restore the buildings, beginning with the repair of the crucible forge chimney, and the roof of the Manager's house outside toilet.

A new visitors gallery will be located downstairs for ease of access. It will contain information about the site and what happened on the site using up-to-date methods of interpretation. There will also be new signs around the site to help orientation and interpretation and hand held audio guides to assist your visit.

Public Opening dates for 2001 are: Sunday 15th April- Sunday 29th Oct 2001. Closed Fridays & Saturdays. Open all year round for Educational Visits.

Radon tests in Dore

Two or three years ago we included a report on naturally occurring Radon Gas, the danger it represents to health and how to arrange for your building to be monitored. A recent check with the National Radiological Protection Board confirmed that there has been no more data published for post code sector S17 since the 1997 review. We know however that following requests by house owners, tests have and are being undertaken on individual houses in Dore.

The Board still recommends the individual testing of properties within the designated Radon Affected Areas which include Dore, and anyone interested in receiving an information pack about radon can call a 24 hour free answering service on 0800 614 529. Their web site is at www.nrp.org.uk



Dore High Street before the dreaded motor car. No road signs or yellow lines then!

Special General Meeting

The Special General Meeting of the Dore Village Society on the 30th November approved a number of small amendments to the constitution, bringing it up to date and in line with the requirements of the Civic Trust, which we hope to join. These amendments, which have since been accepted by the Charity Commission, included bringing our financial year in line with the calendar year. Copies of the revised constitution are available during our open mornings which are held in our room at the Old School from 10am to 12 noon on the first Saturday of each month.

Membership Subscriptions

Enclosed with this issue is a subscription renewal form for 2001. If you have not already paid your subscription for this year, please complete the form and hand it in at Green's shop on Causeway Head Road, or send it to the society - address on page 2.

As a registered charity the Dore Village Society relies heavily on subscriptions to carry out its objectives on behalf of members and Dore residents generally. Also the more members we have, the more clout we carry with the council and other public bodies.

Fortunately we can now reclaim tax paid (22%) on subscriptions and donations made by taxpayers. If you give us £10 we can reclaim £2.82 (22% of the original pre tax figure) making your contribution worth £12.82. If you are a higher rate tax payer you can also claim back the difference between basic and higher rates on your tax return.

Shorts Lane tarmac

To the surprise of many people, tarmac was laid along the length of Shorts Lane at the beginning of December last year, prompting questions as to how much this cost and why it was done, particularly given the state of other roads in the area? As it was done to a full road standard, questions were also asked as to whether the road is now adopted.

From our enquiries we understand the work was carried out by the Council. The road is not adopted but it is maintained by the Public Rights of Way Unit as it is a byway. It would appear that there have been many letters of complaint over the years regarding the poor state of the road and claims made for damage to vehicles. Repairs have had to be made over the years to satisfy the Council's legal obligations.

An opportunity then arose through the Countryside Agency to upgrade lanes from rural to urban standard. The CA are giving 100% grants for schemes totalling £25,000 per year until March 2004. Shorts Lane was one of the schemes chosen for 2000-01 and cost approximately £19,000.

The budget could not have been used for the repair of existing roads or footpaths.

It is nice to know that the Countryside Agency is busy funding the urbanisation of rural byways!

Open Dore

Keep in contact with what's on, join in debate, check back issues, or find out about the society on our own web site at www.dorevillage.co.uk

New Rights of Way

Driving up Long Line you might have noticed a new footpath sign and ladder stile on the right which appeared in mid January. This marks the beginning of a new footpath created by the council in association with the recent sale of Moorside Farm. It provides a route from Long line across fields to existing paths in Whirlow Woods, and then from these woods down through the farmland to a gate on Hathersage Road opposite the end of Ash House Lane. These paths fill gaps in the local footpath network and allow a variety of new routes in the area without having to walk for long stretches on the roadside. It is council policy to look at possible new footpath routes as tenancies are terminated and council land is offered for sale. Another new path runs from Firs Farm on Ringinglow Road up to the top edge of Whirlow Woods above the Limb valley, again allowing new routes and providing expansive views over western Sheffield. Additional paths are also planned for the Barberfields Farm area, and hopefully will be opened during the summer.

At a time when the health and amenity values of walking are increasingly recognised, any new footpaths must be welcomed. Sadly the Rights of way unit at the council is forced to spend much of it's time fighting to keep paths open rather than looking for possible new ones. Understandably most land owners are reluctant to see the creation of new paths on their land, and no mechanism seems to exist to review the possibilities, negotiate with them and compensate them for potential disturbance etc.

We would be interested to hear from readers if they feel there is a case for any new

footpaths in the Dore area. The Dore Village society will be logging with the Rights of Way Unit some future possibilities for paths on council owned land.

Free Television licences

People aged 75 and over are now entitled to a free TV licence from 1 November 2000, or from the month of their 75th birthday, whichever is later.

The new rules do not mean that a TV licence is no longer needed. If someone watches television, they still need a valid licence. The only difference is that the Government will now pay for the licence.

Over 1.3 million senior citizens have already registered for the new concession. TV Licensing is urging anyone who has not yet registered to do so by contacting its Helpline on 0845 602 3334.

Anyone with older relatives or friends who may be eligible should encourage them to register for the new concession.

As with a normal television licence, an Over 75 Licence is valid for 12 months and has to be renewed annually. The licence covers the eligible person and anyone who lives in the same household - even if they are younger - as long as the address is their permanent home and the licence is in the eligible person's name. If there are two eligible people within the same household, only one need apply.

Flowers in the Village

Last year, Dore residents enjoyed a great deal of pleasure from the flower displays in the Village centre, during the summer months. An idea created by Dore Scouts. Because the flowers were so popular, the DVS has approached the City Environment Department, who supplied the tubs and flowers, to see what it would cost for a full year. They have quoted £2,035 to provide twenty tubs, complete with the appropriate seasonal flowers, which will be maintained by the Councils Environmental Services Department.

Dore Scout Group and many local businesses and organisations gave donations towards the cost of last years flowers, and it hoped that they will do so again. The DVS will certainly donate if the proposal goes ahead. Donations from Dore residents would also be appreciated.

In the longer term, the flowers could (should?) become a permanent feature of the Village scenery. The ideal way to achieve this, would be to have two or three flower enthusiasts, who would be prepared to negotiate and liaise with the Council Environment Department and raise the necessary funding.

Any one interested in giving a donation or organising the project can contact George Elsdon, a DVS committee member, by telephone - 236 0002.

Wanted

Old pictures of Dore; memories; articles on the village or it's history; news; ideas for competitions etc. Contact the editor on 236 9025.

Old River Limb

Old River Limb, pay heed to him
as did our fathers a'fore,
when he told kings where their writs ran
and thus lay down the law.

Old River Limb, go walk with him
and wonder at his ways,
where Saxon trees and Saxon flowers
have blown since Saxon days.

Where men have milled, and made from wood
and forged and mined and toiled,
made their whitecoal and rest their soul
ne'er the land despoiled.

Old River Limb, take care of him
- it's late but not too late,
for round his lands are careless hands
that scabble at his gate.

Anon

Ecclesall Woods archeology

Several archeology surveys have taken place in the woods and FEW (Friends of Ecclesall Woods) recently applied for money from the heritage Lottery Millennium Fund to hire an independent expert to assess the features discovered. His report confirms that the archeology in the woodland is of considerable interest, particularly with respect to features dating from the medieval period. Along with earlier remains, possibly dating from the Romano-British era, this makes Ecclesall Woods of regional importance from an archeological perspective.

FEW has set up an archeology section led by Geoff Hartland, who would like to hear from anyone interested in the subject. You can reach him on 236 8569.

A guided walk introducing DVS members to the history and archeology of the woods will take place on Sunday 4th March.

Meet 10am in Ryecroft Glen Road - rain or shine! The easy walk, it might be muddy underfoot, will last no more than 2 hours, with options to leave earlier if you wish. DVS members free, visitors 50p.

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 editor@dorevillage.co.uk]

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DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1017051

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

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(Subscriptions & Notice Board)
Mrs G Farnsworth 235 0609
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Mrs V Malthouse 236 3632
Mr P Pryor 236 9831

Did you know?

I cannot recall a wetter autumn and winter, although we have been lucky compared with some people in East Yorkshire and the south'. Everywhere the footpaths, woods and the recreation ground are a quagmire, churned up by walkers and the areas increasing number of horses. Slip, slide and watch where you put your feet. If it is not dog dirt then there are piles of steaming horse.... We have a dog warden, why not a horse warden. Roll on some drier weather.

Dore has a reputation for surface water, but sadly this does not seem to discourage the developers and plans to build more and more houses continue to arrive. Lets squeeze in 4 large houses on a plot at the end of Gilleyfield which was once part of Busheywood. Don't just build on the redundant half of the King Egbert School site, lets squeeze in more next to King Egbert Road.

It is not just the sheer number of houses, but the lack of sensitivity to the environment.

Rebuilding Nab farm opposite the green could have created a gem, instead failure to attend to detail leaves us with ugly wall mounted service boxes facing the green, and a central heating boiler vent to steam at us as we pass by on the narrow footpath. What about the new house squeezed into a pocket handkerchief space at the bottom of Ashfurlong Road. Just how do these developments get passed. Which leads us to the proposed new three story flats overlooking the recreation ground on land at the back of Newfield Lane.

It beggars belief that these have been

passed. They are completely out of keeping with the rest of the area and given their height and proximity to the boundary, will impinge on the visual outlook from the recreation ground. Why don't we just build on the rec and be done with it!

It is not just the decision, but the way it was reached that illustrates the fundamental failings at the heart of our planning system. All development effects the community it is in. Each should have a say and direct input to local planning issues. Yes we need an overall planning blueprint and administration for Sheffield, but this needs to be built bottom up, with a recognition of the individual needs of each community within the city. How much better off we might have been if we had a parish council or had remained part of Derbyshire in the 1930s!

Doremouse

News in Brief

A 144 page history of Totley All Saints School from 1827 - 2000 has been written by Joan Stratford and is available from local shops or by phoning 230 8428.

The playground in Dore recreation finally has its surrounding fence after delays due to the wet weather. The next step is to plan some landscaping with shrubs etc.

Neighbourhood Watch coordinators will be meeting next at 7pm on 28th March at the Totley Methodist Church Hall.

An explosion in December, probably caused by a heavy duty firework, extensively damaged the telephone kiosk opposite Dore Moor Inn.

Abbeyle Hamlet's dam has been drained, and its fish removed to safety, to allow extensive repairs which have become necessary following years of neglect by the Council.

King Egbert School English teacher Eugene Mullan has finally got his first book 'Breedah's Whale' published, after it had earlier won a literary prize for being the best work by a new author under the age of 35.

Ashdell School, founded as Miss Naylor's, is holding its first ever old girls' and boys' reunion on March 10th at Baldwin's Omega, details from Sue Hostombe on 230 2148.

Dot Com for Pensioners

Pensioners on the lookout for work and the opportunity to increase their household's income have been given a much-needed helping hand from a revolutionary website aimed specifically at people looking for part-time or temporary work.

Launched in September 2000, www.parttimeexchange.com allows pensioners to search and apply for a wide range of suitable jobs in their region for free - without leaving the house. Pensioners looking for part-time work can search the website for specific jobs or log on and leave their details with an explanation of the type of work they are looking for. If they don't have access to the internet, their details can be added to the site for free by calling 0800 0851980.

On-line at www.dorevillage.co.uk

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Letters

Dear Sir,

Some of my fondest childhood memories are of the times my friends and I spent playing around what was the ornamental pond in the grounds of Abbeydale Hall. To us, it was a fascinating and idyllic place, overgrown and full of wildlife. I can also remember skating across the pond on a few occasions.

A few years ago, I called in to have a look with my two young sons and was delighted to see that some restoration work had been done and that other people had obviously been enjoying it as I once had.

Now Sheffield College has sold the gardens to building contractors who are in the process of developing the land. I find it shameful that the college decided to sell an asset that provided so much pleasure for people; and also that the council who, I believe, were involved in the restoration, have allowed it to happen.

Peter Wood, Dronfield

Dear Sir,

Coates family history

I was very interested to read about Dore eccentric Albert Coates in Jean Dean's article in the Winter 2000 issue of Dore to Door. I have been trying to trace the history of my family for some time now, and wondered if any readers had other anecdotes or information on the Coates/Coats family in Dore and Totley.

Jean mentioned that Albert lived at Causewayhead Farm, which his family had tenanted for many years. I believe that my great, great, great grandfather, John Coates, lived there during the first half of the nineteenth century.

Any further information or suggested sources of information would be gratefully received.

David Coates, Salisbury

Ed. You can contact David via our editorial number or by E-mail at:

David.Coates@tesco.net



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Sainted Patrick

There is a Sainted Patrick
A carer of the Green
And with an orange bucket
There's no rubbish to be seen.

He regularly attends it
And gratefully we view
A pristine looking vision
Just for me and you.

So please if you are walking by
Remember what he does.
And make his daily journey
A lesser labour of love.

*Thank-you Patrick
Anon*

Dear Sir,

Appreciation of Dore to Door'

We are indebted as a community to John and Lorna Baker, for their enthusiasm in maintaining this quality news letter. Now established as the voice of the Dore Residents and in part a historical record of events now passed.

In this present bustling lifestyle, it is important to pool our resources, our time and our individual talents, for the common good. This is reflected in the wealth of organisations and societies which abide in our midst.

Working in support of the clergy of this parish, nothing is unachievable if we practise. Together "we are a great team". With appreciation to the distributors and everyone concerned.

Syd Crowson

*Hon. President 267th Sheffield
(Dore) Scout Group*

Dear Sir,

Thank you for printing my request for information on the Green's of Dore. I have had a good response. One lady in Dore - two in Coal Aston - one in Whitby - one in North Devon, who lived in Dore many years ago. They have provided me with more contacts. I intend to go back in time, through parish records etc. At last I am making progress through 'Dore to Door'.

Stanley Payton-Greene

Dear Sir,

My son who resides in Dore, recently passed on to me some back copies of 'Dore to Door', thinking rightly that I would find them of interest.

When I came to issue no.52 (Winter 1998) I recognised the photo of "King Ecgbert and his men", which is amongst a collection of old photographs passed on to me from my Mother in Law. My Brother in Law (Billie Crookes) is the spear man at the back of the photo, (nearest to the pony) and on the King's right hand side. At the time he lived at Hillfoot, Totley. I think the date would be around 1911-1912.

When Billie married he went to live in Wilson Cottages near the Hare and Hounds.

I was also interested in the article on Brook Hall, as amongst my old photos there is one taken in front of the entrance showing a group of ladies in Geisha Girl type of dress. Until I saw your photo I was not sure of the venue. I think my Mother in Law may be one of the ladies. I would guess the date of the photo to

be around 1898-1902. I wonder if anyone else has one of these photos and what was the occasion? I cannot copy the photograph as it is in a very delicate state!

Hilda Crookes

Gilbert & Sullivan

The next Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society production will be "Ruddigore", performed at the University Drama Studio Glossop Road from 24th - 28th April.

The story of Ruddigore is set in a Cornish village. The main characters are Sir Despard, lord of Ruddigore and living under a curse to perform a crime every day, Robin Oakapple who is really his younger brother Sir Ruthven but living under an assumed name, Richard, Robin's foster-brother who returns from the sea, Rose, Robin's beloved and Mad Margaret, driven crazy by Sir Despard. Later we meet the ghosts of their ancestors, led by Sir Roderic, whose task is to see that the curse is obeyed.

Following two acts of melodrama and wonderful music, all ends satisfactorily, with most of the lovers pairing up with their intended partners.

The society has a mixture of established stars' and some very promising newcomers in the principal roles. The company has grown during the past year and many new singers have joined us, making the ladies' chorus much stronger, so the show looks like being a very successful production of one of Gilbert & Sullivan's favourite operettas.

Performances are at 7.30pm each evening with a 2.30pm matinee on Saturday. All tickets £6 concessions £5. Ticket secretary's tel no is 236 6592.

Mike Cox

Chairman, Dore G & S

Flower Festival

Saturday 12th Sunday 13th May 2001

Sat 11am 5pm and Sun 1pm 5pm

Beauchief was founded about 1176 by Robert FitzRanulph, in expiation for his involvement in the murder of Thomas a Becket on the 29th December 1170 at Canterbury. He was not one of the murderers and no-one is quite sure what his role was, if at all. Did he know of the plot and turn a blind eye, was he actively involved or was he just swept up in the general feeling of guilt current throughout the kingdom after the murder of the Archbishop? Maybe we will never know, but we can be thankful to him for the founding of the Praemonstratensian Abbey at Beauchief, the remains of which still stand today.

In May this year we will be holding a flower festival in the Abbey commemorating important milestones in the life of Thomas, from the son of a Norman immigrant, through the splendours and power of Chancellor to Henry II, to Archbishop of Canterbury. There will also be guides available throughout the weekend to give more information on the diverse history of the Abbey through the centuries. There is no admission charge for the festival but light refreshments will be on sale.

Our normal communion service will take place on the Sunday at 11.00am using the Book of Common Prayer.

This Old Horse

The Old Horse was a traditional folk play performed locally at Christmas and the New year. It was an unaccompanied ballad chanted by several men and enacted by one man dressed in a black cloak topped by a symbolic, stylised horse's head.

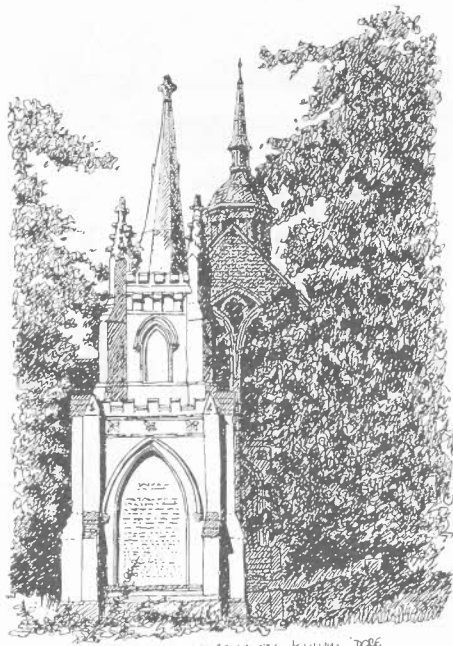
The group would visit farms, public houses, and the houses of leading citizens. As well as performing in Dronfield, neighbouring villages were also visited including Dore. At the end of the performance a hat would be passed round, or drinks would be offered.

In later years the horses head was a large, heavy, fearsome papier mache construction formed around the skull of a blind pony killed while falling down Holmely Quarry. It was donated by the Lucas family. This head was fixed onto a broom handle so that the operator, enclosed in the material, could flaunt and flourish the head and snap the jaws as the story unfolded. Gallant but abused the horse falls to the ground in doleful death throes, then rises again in resurrection and celebration.

This custom survived well into the twentieth century, and it may be that there are still some alive who remember the tradition.

Like many folk customs The Old Horse was an irreverent occasion accompanied by heavy drinking and a great deal of noise. On at least one occasion it resulted in tragedy.

In January 1869 it was reported in the Derbyshire Times, that a man was lost on the moors. "A number of persons, including James Greenwood and Thomas Oxley, had left Dronfield the previous Thursday to go to Barlow and neighbouring villages, to act in



*Memorial at the Licensed Victuallers Asylum on Abbeydale Road South.
Brian Edwards 1995.*

what is well known in Derbyshire as the 'Old Horse'.

"On Friday evening Greenwood and his comrades visited the Bulls Head Inn, Calver. Words of an angry character are said to have passed between Greenwood and Oxley, which ultimately ended in a fight, and Greenwood leaving the party, as it is supposed, to go home. He was last seen as late as 12 o'clock at night, and being defective in sight and also

worse for liquor at the time he left the Inn, it is supposed that he may have (being a stranger) missed his way, and perished on some part of the moors, or otherwise have got into the river Derwent, which was much swollen by the heavy rain falling at the time."

The paper went on to describe his appearance "He is of middle stature, with a scar on his left cheek near to the jaw, and had on two coats, one of fustian and a dark overcoat mended at the elbow of one of the sleeves, dark trousers and a pair of light clogs....."

The next issue of the Derbyshire Times reported that his body had been found in the Derwent about a quarter of a mile from the public house.

Ed. The Dore Village Society has recently managed to transcribe a copy of the performance.

Christmas Competition

The winner of this years competition, drawn on Saturday 2 December from correct entries received, was: Susan Reid who works in Green's on Causeway Head Road. She wins a bottle of champagne kindly donated by Wine Direct UK who are based in Dore.

The runners up and their book prizes were:

Mr T Roberts of Lowedges Road - The Mystery of Carl Wark by Mick Savage.

Mrs J Norris of Baslow Road - Shiny Sheff (Sheffield's fighting ships) by Alistair Lofthouse

Mrs J Ansdell of Causeway Head Road - Maggie Kelly by Marjorie Dunn.

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A Rambler Made

"A rambler made is a man improved"

To many veteran walkers the initials GHBW are synonymous with the great outdoors and the birth of organised rambling.

George Herbert Bridges Ward was born in 1876 not far from Sheffield City Centre. His father, a mechanic by trade, introduced the lad to an early love of the open air and, by 1900, 'Bert', had established the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers which, he claimed, was the first active rambling club of its kind to be formed in Britain. In September of that year he led the first club outing - over what was to become a great battlefield, Kinder Scout.

It was his desire, that land should be free for all to enjoy lawfully, which led to a writ of trespass being served on him for making an annual pilgrimage to a cairn on Kinder where a fellow rambler had perished. The £ 17 fine was accompanied by an injunction forbidding Bert from entering the moor without prior consent.

In 1910, he started off the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers' handbook which developed into a pocket sized mine of information on rambling, local history, folk lore and records of conversations with locals. That handbook has become one of the most sought after of publications and is constantly used as a rich source of information, not least of all by myself. He continued as editor for 47 years finding time to write constantly elsewhere and, recognising the work of his famed predecessor, he revised John Derry's "Across the Derbyshire Moors".

Concerned that public rights of way were gradually being erased, he formed the Hallamshire Footpath Preservation Society in 1912 and, over a number of years he was instrumental in gaining access to huge tracts of land in the Peak District. Ward was a prime mover in the formation of what we now know as the Ramblers' Association, and in 1926 founded its Sheffield & District Federation. He also found time to take part in the formation of the local YHA and assisted in the purchase of the Longshaw estate (now owned by the



G H B Ward in the 1950s. Brian Edwards (National Trust).

Having started his working life in engineering at the local steelworks, he then transferred to the Ministry of Labour before retiring in 1941. After that Bert was able to spend more time on his outdoor interests with his wife Fanny. He lived many years on Moorwoods Lane at Owl Bar, a few hundred yards from his beloved Big Moor. In 1949 the Access to the Countryside Act came into being but by that time Ward's great contribution, towards access for all, had been well recognised. Four years earlier he had received a just tribute. On 8th April 1945, some 2,000 ramblers gathered on Lose Hill in the Peak District to witness Bert receiving the deeds to 54 1/2 acres of that summit (forever to be called Ward's Piece). A plaque there records that the Sheffield & District Federation of the Ramblers' Association had purchased the land in appreciation of the life's work of George Herbert Bridges Ward F.R.G.S. and an inscription repeats one of his favourite slogans "a rambler made is a man improved". Ward's Piece was then presented to the National Trust.

On 6th July 1957 Sheffield University conferred an honorary degree of Master of Arts on G.H.B.W. but sadly he was unable to attend due to ill health. The Public Orator said "...that no man could have worked more tirelessly for the preservation and accessibility of our countryside heritage and especially of the incomparable Peakland. No man in the last half-century could have done more, by precept and example, to foster the true spirit of rambling".

Bert Ward died on 14th October 1957, leaving behind a rich heritage for all walkers and visitors in our countryside.

Brian Edwards

Healthy Reward

Everyone knows that walking is healthy. Ancient philosophers have praised it, experts have researched it, and now doctors even prescribe it. And whatever the health experts disagree on, one thing can be sure of is that at the end of a good ten-minute walk in the countryside you're left with that lovely 'feel good feeling' in your legs and lungs that means it must have been good for you.

But what should we do if the schedule doesn't allow a long walk, or if the countryside is too far away? Does it really help your health to do shorter walks? And is it really worth

trying to walk more in our daily routines?

The good news is that adding up short walks is certainly good for weight loss. The crucial issue when trying to control body weight is that you balance the calories that you take in as food with the calories you expend through walking and other physical activities. Any imbalance leads to losing or gaining weight. For most of us of course that means the latter: about six out of ten people in the UK can now be classed as overweight, and nationally the figures are increasing quite literally. But it doesn't matter whether we expend calories on a long walk on a Sunday, or through lots of little walks in the week, what is important is the total amount of calories used.

Short walks to the shops, across the office, or up the stairs at home all add up. In fact, one research report even pointed out the calorific expenditure of fidgeting!

Perhaps more surprising is that short walks can significantly enhance fitness. For a long time sports scientists had concentrated on the training effect of 20-minute bouts of vigorous exercise in increasing aerobic fitness. This led to the jogging boom as people tried to raise their heart rates for at least 20 continuous minutes.

More recently, scientists have been responding to the demand for an easier to swallow exercise prescription, and have tried to define the smallest bout of exercise that will enhance fitness - the 'Holy Grail' of sports scientists. Recent studies have shown that even ten-minute brisk walks can increase fitness levels. One study at Loughborough University found that women walking continuously for 30 minutes five days a week had almost identical increases in fitness as women who split their 30 minutes into three ten-minute walks. Perhaps even more encouraging was that the short walkers lost more weight and reported greater decreased waist circumference than the long walkers. More research is continuing to confirm this, and to look at the fitness effect of even shorter walks.

One thing that is still confirmed by the fitness studies is that 'brisk is best'. While a gentle-paced walk will help you relax, improve your mental health and expend calories, it will have a lower impact on your fitness. One study reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that improvements to fitness more than doubted with an increase in pace from 3mph to 4mph, and doubled again when the pace was stepped up to 5mph. This varies according to age and fitness though, so the rule to remember is that you should aim to 'huff and puff' a little, but you should still be able to chat to your companion while you're walking.

So even if you can't spare the time to get your boots on for a long walk, the message for health is clear: walk as much as possible, as often as possible and reap the rewards for yourself.

Sheffield Marathon

This year's marathon takes place on Sunday 29th April, closing date for entries the 19th April. Starting at the Don Valley Stadium, the marathon will follow a completely new course heading east towards Rotherham. There will also be a half marathon, family fun run and schools relay.

You can find out more details from the marathon office on 230 8429.

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A False Sheffield

My regiment, 2nd Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery, was reunited in the Isle of Anglesea after their return from France, via Dunkerque, in 1940. While we were there a troop was selected to undertake a secret mission on behalf of the government in London. It seemed that the Germans had been using successfully a decoy system to confuse enemy aircraft into believing that they were bombing effectively their targets, though in fact their bombs were failing on open countryside. So pundits in a ministry in London decided to try out a similar scheme in the Sheffield area, i.e. to make a nightly dummy Sheffield in the moors to the west of the city.

A searchlight regiment was chosen as people who understood something about electricity! So we set off from Anglesea, two officers, a lieutenant and a second lieutenant, being me Oliver Murphy then 19 years old, and our troop of men with lorries, generators and all the equipment we might need, bound for Hathersage which became our base.

In Hathersage we met the London 'boffins' who explained their plan. Steel required for the war effort was being made night and day in Sheffield. When the doors of the giant furnaces opened to allow the molten metal to cool, a vast glow appeared in the sky. It was our job to replicate this in the moors.

Further there was a large railway marshalling yard in Sheffield, the biggest in Europe they said, and its lights were a nightly landmark for enemy aircraft. So if we could mimic a cooling furnace and 'move' the

marshalling yard into the moors we would have set up a successful decoy for German bombs.

The 'boffins' produced scaled maps of the railway yard lights and explained the timing of the decaying glow of the steel furnaces. Then we set to work, first of all to build an underground control centre, then to map out the position of the lights and lay their cables. The generators had also to be protected in bomb proof shelters. To mimic the glow of the furnace it was decided to use large theatre lights with a rheostat system to replicate the cooling glow of the molten metal. An artist had already made night sketches of Sheffield from the air, and when our work was nearing completion a captive barrage balloon was brought to the moor site so that the artist could observe our model. He went up in a basket suspended below the balloon to sketch our dummy Sheffield as soon as it became operative.

Apparently it must have been considered realistic as we were then asked to make a dummy Chesterfield as it was thought that Chesterfield might be used as a landmark by bombers lining up to bomb Sheffield. This was a simple affair consisting only of lights laid out in the moors west of Chesterfield.

When all the work was completed we returned to our regiment and never heard again any mention of the decoy scheme, though there was a rumour that it had been bombed.

Oliver Murphy

Ed. This account was given to Ryland Clendon, an editor of 'Hathersage

Remembers' by Oliver Murphy who is now 80 and lives in France. If anyone knows anything further about the decoy scheme, or whether it

was to any degree a success, please let Ryland know on Hathersage 650863 and he will pass it on to Oliver.

Blood Pressure Association

Launched last October, the Blood Pressure Association is the first and only UK organisation formed to draw attention to the importance of blood pressure as a cause of strokes and as one of three important factors in heart attacks. Together these are the commonest causes of death and disability in the UK.

Over 10 million individuals are affected by high blood pressure in the UK, but as raised blood pressure does not cause any symptoms, many are unaware that they are at risk (high blood pressure is often called the silent killer).

Almost half of individuals with high blood pressure are not diagnosed. Of those that are, only about half are on treatment. The 1999 UK Household Survey shows that as little as 20% of people (ie, 1 in 5) affected by high blood pressure have their blood pressure properly controlled resulting in unnecessary strokes and heart attacks.

Anyone affected by high blood pressure who would like information on how to manage their condition better should write to the Blood Pressure Association at 60, Granmer Terrace, London SW17 0QS (enclosing an A4 self-addressed envelope with 2 second-class stamps). Further details can also be found on the Association's web-site www.bpassoc.org.uk

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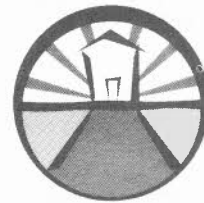


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Jean Recalls

I can't help thinking, what a dirty untidy place Dore has become. Litter, graffiti, leaves, cars parked anywhere and anyhow. Pavements smothered in chewing gum. Broken glass, vomit etc.

In the past there were several teams of road sweepers. Keeping the village clean, with their horses and carts were Joe Unwin, Nodder Priestly, Jack Greaves, to name but a few. Now we are lucky to see a Corporation Sweeper and the Gully Sucker seems to have become a distant memory.

Norman who worked for Mr Haslam of Ringinglow used to keep the Hathersage road swept. He had a little den deep in the hedge below the Dore Moor. The poor man's life became a misery when we children discovered his hideaway. He seemed to have a large collection of brushes in various states of wear. I guess he never threw any away.

Joe Unwin had a slight speech impediment and referred to leaves as weaves. He had an allotment and I remember his favourite saying was - you need plenty of weaves to make a garden grow. He certainly had plenty of them.

High on the hills between Strawberry Lea and Totley Moss can be seen the remains of a once substantial farmstead, known to the natives as Kitty Mottrams. My grandmother used to tell the tale that Kitty lived at the farmstead with her brother. One winter the brother took ill and kitty made her way to Totley to obtain medication for him. The weather turned bad and kitty got caught in a snowstorm and perished in a snow drift. No mention was ever made as to the fate of the brother and I have no idea what year this would be, nor if its truth or legend. The trees round the ruin could be seen from where we lived and strangely used to change shape. If they resembled a galleon in full sail, we could expect bad weather and if they looked like a hay cart the weather was usually settled and good.

Another story told of the farmstead was that during the Civil War, one of Cromwell's men

raped the young woman who lived there and she went barking mad and was supposed to roam the area, long after death.

After the great fire when Totley Moss burned for weeks and covered Dore in a cloud of muck, (late 50's I think). The peat burned to such a depth that ancient stone circles appeared after centuries being buried. They have long since been covered by the bracken and heather. Recently there have been several complaints about the state of the fennel behind the Church Hall and the football field. And the yellow lines near the Co-op don't seem to have made much difference to the cars parked there. The bus is always being held up and cars still continue to go the wrong way.

Jean Dean

Ed. In our last issue we said Frankie Fisher lived at Church Lane Farm, when we should have said Croft House Farm.

Holmesfield Flower Club

We cordially invite you to come and join us at any of our meetings. We are a small, friendly and informal club, distinguished from others by holding a larger proportion of "hands-on" workshop evenings. We also have some excellent visiting demonstrators. The new programme for the year 2001 is about to begin.

March 21st: The AGM will be a short business meeting, followed [at approx. 8.00 p.m.] by a talk on behalf of the "Friends of the Botanical Gardens" by Mrs Sue Kohler about the work of this society in Sheffield.

April 18th: A Spring Workshop led by Mrs Kath Vickers.

May 17th: Demonstration entitled "Chiaroscuro" by Andrew Grisewood (of famous father!) Cost £5, members £2.50.

We meet in the Holmesfield Village Hall, off Woodside Avenue. The meetings begin at 7.30 p.m.

For further details about the club, please contact Judy Evans (236 6834), or June Wright (262 0603).

NSPCC Appeal

Did you know that on average one child under the age of 5 will die each week in this country following abuse or neglect? Or that each year 150,000 children are physically abused? The NSPCC think that at the beginning of the 21st Century these figures are totally unacceptable.

The report we commissioned to look into the incidence of child abuse concluded that "Child abuse can almost always be prevented - provided the will to do so is there." That's why we launched the Full Stop campaign - "Cruelty to Children Must Stop. Full Stop", and it's also why you might like to help us.

There has traditionally been a house-to-house collection for the NSPCC in the Dore, Totley & Bradway districts during April & May. With a small band of collectors who have helped for more years than even they care to remember, almost £2,000 was collected last year. That is a fantastic amount and is used directly to help local children. However, this year a number of these faithful collectors feel it's time to take a well earned retirement, so we are looking for new helpers who could spare just a few hours to distribute and collect envelopes in the area. Collecting on just one street will help us to make a difference to the children of Sheffield who are the unfortunate and innocent victims of abuse.

If you feel that you could spare a little time to help with this house-to-house collection, or in other ways, please call me on 272 4214.

Helen Mower, South Yorkshire NSPCC

Support Group

The Totley & Dore support group for the visually impaired hold regular monthly meetings.

Forthcoming dates are March 21st; April 25th; and May 23rd.

Meetings are held at 4 Grove Road, Totley, starting at 11am. For more information phone Mrs Turner on 255 0758.

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Good use of time

Although Sheffield has many amateur horologists, there are only three professional (Fellowship standard) clockmakers. Most likely in a few years, none. Our nearest Mr John di Nitto has a shop on Abbey Lane where amongst the faces of customers and clocks, he told me about being the "last of the line".

In the war years Nicolo di Nitto (his father) worked for H.L.Brown, then near Cockayne and ran to search the shop when it was blitzed. From the smashed windows he retrieved bits and pieces, but lost all his tools. In a tin, in a drawer, lie the jewel holes saved from those days. Also very treasured boxwood tools, still used, sent then or later from colleagues at Barnby Rust in Hull when they heard of the disaster. A beautifully crafted wooden oil pot dated 1848 is one of them.

He then worked from home in Frecheville mostly trade work, copying. It was then at the age of only 8 that John learnt alongside his father (reminiscent of Harrison senior and junior of longitude fame!) In his teens John was indentured to the family with a cousin and uncle all at Attercliffe. At the time Nicolo was Chairman of the British Horological Institute, with 30 or 40 members turning up to local meetings, all of them earning a living by clocks. Two Sheffield warehouses were needed to hold spare parts for the industry.

The next move was father to Sharrowvale Road and John to Campo Lane, then to the present shop. Neither he nor Keith Laycock of Spital Hill (who is half retired) have apprentices or family interested in continuing the business. Although retirement for John

could not be clock free!

Over a period, digital watch and clock manufacture has decimated the trade. For £9.99 you can buy a digital watch which wouldn't cover the cost of replacing the glass on a traditional watch.

Although there's a demand for jewellery repairs, they don't warrant a shop, and jobbing jewellers still exist in Sheffield. To Mr. di Nitto the shop window is not the heart of the business. Clock restoration is. These have never gone out of fashion and are possibly less neglected now that awareness of antiques shows us their true value. They are often faithful for 20 years or more before needing repair and adjustment. He has also helped with the installation of the new Millennium Methodist Church tower clock in Dore.

On his card it reads "Clockmaker to Sir Reresby Sitwell". Less exalted customers bring theirs in (often damaged by amateurs) and are assured of a lifetime's experience.

Gillian Farnsworth

St John's Abbeydale

Easter at St John's Abbeydale.

February 28th - Ash Wednesday - Parish communion - 7.30pm

Every Wednesday during Lent - Holy Communion - 10.15am

April 8th - Palm Sunday - Family Communion with procession - 10am

April 12th - Maundy Thursday - Parish Communion - 7.30pm

April 13th - Good Friday: Family Service - 10.30am; An hour by the Cross' (a devotional service) - 2pm to 3pm; A service of Tennebrae

at English Martyrs - 8pm (Together with Churches Together in S17)

April 15th - Easter Sunday: Holy Communion (BCP) - 8pm; Parish Communion - 10am; Festal Choral Evensong - 6.30pm

April 1st - Passion Sunday - Salieri's Requiem in C minor. Sung by the choir of St John's and other singers from S17 and beyond. Everyone has enjoyed rehearsing this work. It is very singable and makes pleasant listening too. For those who are saying 'never heard of it', Salieri was a contemporary of Mozart (some might say rival), and his requiem is very Mozart in style. Salieri completed his requiem in 1804 but according to his last will and testament was first sung at his funeral in 1825 by his pupils and other musicians. Do come and hear it at St John's Church on April 1st at 6.30pm. All welcome.

For more information ring Phyllis Glossop on 236 2597.

New tolls

The prospect of motorists being charged to drive into the Upper Derwent Valley in the Peak District has moved closer with the royal assent being given to the Transport Bill, which gives local authorities the option of introducing tolls.

Derbyshire County Council plans to become one of the first, by charging motorists using the road to the Fairholmes visitor centre, in an attempt to cut congestion while raising money to improve public transport. It is estimated that some 2 million people a year visit the Upper Derwent in 500,000 cars!

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Planning

There have been three particularly significant planning issues since the Winter edition of Dore to Door: King Egbert Upper School, Furniss Avenue. Outline Planning Permission was granted for housing development on a piece of land at the school. This land was allocated for housing on the Unitary Development Plan and thus there has always been the prospect of housing on that land.

However representations were made in respect of the Application covering of all those concerns raised at the Public Meeting on 12th September. Most of the issues have been covered in the conditions embodied in the Outline Permission. These relate to: Protection of trees and hedges; Treatment of footpaths crossing the site; Highway improvements in Furniss Avenue, including traffic control and pedestrian safety measures; Drainage proposals for both foul and surface water; The forgoing issues have to be addressed by anyone intending to move on from the Outline Permission to a Full Planning Permission. In proposing the details the developer will have to take the conditions into consideration. It is at that stage that the proposals are of real significance, as whatever is approved then can be built. We will be watching the situation.

It is worth mentioning that there is also a condition that the detailed plans must show at least 10% of the site as open space within the site, or provision made for open space elsewhere to a scheme to be approved by the Planning Authority.

Land at the rear of 65-69 Newfield Lane. The application for Planning Approval for a block of 6 flats overlooking the Dore Recreation Ground was referred to in the last issue of Dore to Door. "This block of flats faces the Recreation Ground and is within 10 metres (33 ft) of the fence, presenting a massive uninspiring elevation to the Recreation Ground, in a situation where properties can otherwise hardly be seen. It is



An unusual photograph of the rear view of the Hare & Hounds pub before it was extended.

detached houses on the plot. The plans show three houses in a line facing Gilleyfield Avenue, with a fourth house immediately behind and facing Savage Lane. The developer proposes to drive a vehicular access through the trees on the bend of Savage Lane, by the footpath into Busheywood.

DVS have objected in the strongest terms to the proposals on the basis of: Over development of the site; The loss of good mature trees; Occupation of land which is not in the ownership of the property; Access on a dangerous bend; A large house in very close proximity to the Recreation Ground, and strong objections have been made to the siting and overdevelopment of this land".

We attended a Planning meeting at which representations against the proposals were made. The Dore Councillors, Keith Hill and Anne Smith made strong objections. The Committee deferred the decision, asking that the developer consider reducing the block from three storeys to two.

Frankly the wording was not strong enough, but at least it was not an approval. When the proposals returned to Committee two weeks later, the matter was again discussed at length, but when a vote was taken there were hardly any committee members present and the decision to approve the three storey block was passed on the casting vote of the chair.

This was a most unsatisfactory situation for an important decision. The Dore Councillors were incensed. We thank them for their efforts in this case, and again regret that such decisions are made by Council Members who are not connected with the area. 18 Gilleyfield Avenue. There is an outstanding Planning Application in respect of the site of this bungalow. A developer is proposing to demolish the bungalow (the property closest to Busheywood Road) and build four large

proximity of, and overlooking the back of existing bungalows, with consequent loss of privacy. It is hoped that this proposal will be withdrawn or refused.

Nab Farm. We have been concerned for some time about the development at Nab Farm. It was considered that the original proposals were unsuitable for the site and the position by the Green and in the Conservation Area. The Highway Engineers were unhappy with the access into the site and the likely traffic movements. The Council Conservation sub committee recommended refusal as the proposed development was unsuitable. There were objections based on a number of concerns, including windows overlooking adjoining properties. Despite this Planning Approval was recommended by the planning officers and was granted. The developers, have since departed from the consents granted, including a stated intention not to build garages for cars on the development.

The most significant concern, however, is the treatment of the elevation facing The Green. In addition to the two white meter boxes on the wall, rainwater pipes and gullies on the narrow pavement, and an overflow pipe arranged to discharge onto the pavement, a gas central heating boiler flue projects from the building at face level and discharges steam over the pavement.

Representations are being made, but it is a pity the developers could not have been more sympathetic to the site and situation. It could have been an attractive development in a prominent situation in the village.

Finally, no planning application has yet been received for Blue Ridge on Ashfurlong Lane, the appeal on the Knowle Green Wall is still outstanding and all the lots at Barberfield Farm were successfully sold with the council retaining a small area of wildlife value.

David Heslop

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It is never too late to learn, you really can teach an old dog new tricks. With the endless array of adult learning opportunities available these days, many of which are virtually brought to our doorsteps, we can all build on our knowledge and skills for employment, hobbies or pleasure.

The idea of lifelong learning really caught hold with the setting up of the Open University in the early 1970s. Now with the pace of technological change and with people living longer and staying healthier, it is increasingly recognised as essential in business and as beneficial in retirement.

Many people start with evening classes at their local adult education institute - the least time-consuming and generally the cheapest option. You can learn a marketable skill or simply acquire knowledge for pleasure.

It is of course possible to study for a qualification part-time, locally or from home. You can also go to a university, no longer the preserve of the young. Older students taking their first degree are commonplace these days, and not only at the Open University. New universities (former polytechnics) are particularly flexible when it comes to adapting their courses for part-time study.

Even if you already have a degree, you can either start again with a new topic or register for a masters degree.

If you are over 50, a cheaper and totally different way of studying, is to join your local University of the Third Age (U3A). This is ideal for those who are retired, or whose children are now financially independent and

Deadline for Summer Diary Events Monday

30 April 2001

Ring 236 9025 or write to the editor

many Third Agers choose to learn something that has nothing to do with the skills they already have. There are already some 90,000 members in 435 local branches.

How about it? If you are looking for a new challenge, skills or knowledge, now is the time to think about the possibilities. But remember, learning takes up time, weekends, evenings or holidays, and costs money. So before you sign up, make sure you can set time aside and that you know what the costs will be.

Some useful contacts are:

The Open University Tel: 01908 653231
Website: www.open.ac.uk

The University of the Third Age (U3A) Tel:
020 7837 8838

Further Education Funding Council Tel:
02476 863000 Website: www.fefc.ac.uk

Campaign for Learning Tel: 020 7930 1111
Website: www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk

Spring Programme

As the weather warms up, so does the pace at Our Lady of Beauchief, St Thomas of Canterbury and English Martyrs, Totley!

Ash Wednesday on 28 February marks the beginning of the penitential season of Lent. Masses with Distribution of Ashes at 10am

and 7.30pm. OLST. During Lent, why not go along to one of the Lenten Lunches served in the Parish Rooms every Sunday at 12.30pm? Proceeds to Bosnian Relief.

Stations of the Cross are prayed every Tuesday (OLST) and Thursday (English Martyrs) at 7.00pm.

On Wednesday evenings a series of Lenten talks will be given in the Parish Rooms.

Holy week:

Palm Sunday, 8 April. Blessing and distribution of palms at all Masses

End of Term Mass 10 April at St Thomas of Canterbury School 9.15am. All welcome.

Chrism Mass at St Marie's Cathedral 11am 8 April. Mass with Anointing of the Sick 7.30pm OLST

The Easter Triduum:

Maundy Thursday 12 April Mass 8pm OLST with Mandatum (washing of feet) and Watching until Midnight at the Altar of Repose.

Good Friday 13 April. Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3pm OLST

Ecumenical Service of Tenebrae 8pm English Martyrs

Stations and Veneration of the Cross 7.30pm OLST

Easter:

Easter Vigil 14 April, 8.30pm OLST. Lighting of the New Fire Blessing of the Paschal Candle and the first Mass of Easter.

Easter Day 15 April. Masses: 8am English Martyrs. 9.15 and 11.15am OLST Feast of the Ascension 24 May. Masses: 7.30pm 23 May (vigil) English Martyrs 10am and 7.30pm OLST

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(from OFSTED inspection report, December 1999)

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Stars in Dore

The Dore spring sky in the early evening is adorned with a Lion (Leo), a Water Serpent (Hydra) and a Maiden (Virgo). Until the end of March the goddess Venus in the southwest outshines even Jupiter seen now low in the west, and Saturn hangs forlornly beneath Jupiter.

You may have noticed that Jupiter and Saturn have moved since Christmas when we published a star chart in the last Dore magazine. They have moved westward a little. The major planets usually move eastwards (to the left)! The paradox was noticed by the Ancients and is explained as the so-called retrograde motion due to the Earth and the planets moving together in concentric circles around the Sun.

The bright winter constellations are turning slowly westward and sinking into the Derbyshire hills. Overhead we see the Plough or Great Bear (Ursa Major) with his tail curling eastward almost pointing to Arcturus, a

bright star mentioned in the Old Testament. But before leaving the winter planets let us take a last look at our Solar System and its place in the Cosmos. Perhaps standing outside the Country Garden, Nick's greengrocery shop in Church Lane, ponder on the following. Imagine a pinhead representing our Sun (actually 860,000 miles in diameter), then the Earth is a mere speck of dust three feet away, Jupiter is thirty feet away, the other side of the road. On this scale the nearest star (Proxima) is in London, the nearby star cluster, the Pleiades, is in Moscow. The nearest external galaxy (in Andromeda) would then be close to the Sun, eighty million miles away even on our scale. The eleven ducks that regularly arrive down the Dore main street to the Country Garden would be like comets orbiting inwards towards the Sun (our pinhead) from a pool of thousands of comets at the edge of our Solar System! Heralding the lengthening of the day, and the possibility of more sunshine, the Spring Equinox in the northern hemisphere is upon us. The sun then crosses the celestial equator around 21 March, and day becomes longer than night. Our star chart depicts the brighter stars as seen by an observer in Dore looking to the south at about 10pm on 22 March (or two hours earlier than that each

subsequent month, for example, 8pm on 22 April). The background in this issue is actually the River Thames with Westminster to the right.

We have had a few questions posed to us since the last issue.

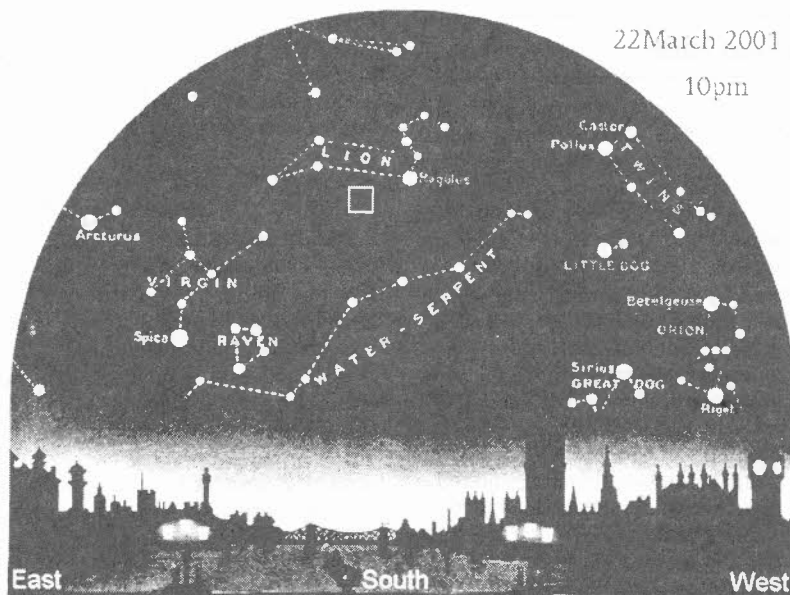
Q. Where and what are the most distant objects astronomers have seen to date? A. In the sky tonight take a look at the constellation of Leo. Just beneath it (within the white box in our star chart) two US astronomers from the National Science Foundation NOA Observatory, Chris Haines and Gerry Williger, have detected clusters of quasars beyond the furthest galaxies yet seen, perhaps as far as ten to fifteen thousand million light years away. One light year is six trillion miles. The quasars are rather exotic galaxies believed to contain black holes.

Q. Another question was about Astrology and Horoscopes. Although lots of fun, no professional astronomer believes that the stars have any influence on human beings, that is, other than our own Sun. Belief in horoscopes stems from ancient civilisations with no knowledge of modern Astronomy, and from days of well-intentioned (?) spin doctors of ancient times. If you change your meaning of 'influence' then you could say that belief in a future meeting with a tall dark stranger, or belief in winning the Lottery, would affect the way you choose to behave! But the real stars have nothing to do with that choice.

Further questions may be put to us through the Editorial Office. Alternatively, you may wish to use the Dore Magazine website message-facility at www.dorevillage.co.uk, or through our astronomical website forum at www.wheelers-warehouse.co.uk or through www.peakmedia.co.uk. The second website also contains several colourful articles on the Arts and the Sciences, and the forum is for general discussion.

Help with delivery

With people moving house or unable to continue, we are always looking for new deliverers for Dore to Door. If you are prepared to help by delivering a regular patch of 50-70 houses 4 times a year, or to act as a reserve anywhere in Dore, please ring John Baker on 236 9025.



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The Family Tree

Chances are you spent Christmas with some members of your family, and in between eating, watching TV and opening presents, you may well have ended up sharing memories of absent family members, distant relatives or discussing long-buried ancestors.

Maybe you remember tales told by your grand parents or your own parents, have sepia pictures in an old album, perhaps old letters. If this stirs your curiosity you might like to find out more about the family's past for your own interest or to pass on to future generations.

For a start, living relatives and their memories will probably enable you to span several generations. It can be amazing how many relatives you might have even in that short time. Our Victorian ancestors tended to have large families and in the age of Empire to spread around the world. On the other hand as you go back in time people were far more likely to be born and die in the same town or village.

But how do you fit all these people into your extended family tree, how do you fill any gaps or push the line back into the more distant past? Fortunately researching family history is one of the most popular leisure pastimes today and a whole industry has grown up to serve it. And this is one hobby where the computer can come into it's own with special programmes for storing and marshaling information, and by providing one of the best resources is the power of the world wide web.

Before using the computer, the best way to start your family tree, is put down what you already know. Try to map out your immediate

relatives, listing full names, dates and places of births, marriages and deaths. Go as far back as you can - missing information can be added later. You will soon get a feel for the project, how many branches there are likely to be and which areas you will want to explore first. Quite quickly the limits of paper records will become apparent.

Fortunately there are numerous computer software programmes on the market which can accommodate your needs and leave scope for later additions and corrections as more information comes to hand. Suitable software is readily available on the High Street or via the Internet. You could try www.gensoftsb.com which has details of programs and comments on them. None are particularly expensive and some can be tested free for a limited period. The best programmes will accommodate more than a diagrammatic tree, allowing you to add photographs and links to background information, such as anecdotes and potted life stories.

Involving the immediate family is the next step. E-mail is one of the best and cheapest ways of passing on or obtaining snippets of family history from distant relatives. Often those overseas will prove the most interested, and you may find common cause with other members of the family who share your interest.

It is now that the web comes into its own. There are host of web-sites to help you, some amateur sites created by families themselves, others more professional in nature. Many are packed with useful advice. You could do worse than start by looking at the BBC's contribution at www.bbc.co.uk/history/programmes/blood, which offers information on how to take the first steps into genealogy and on how to build

a family history. There are tips on searching records, and where to go to find them. Equally useful is the website of the Federation of Family History Societies at www.ffhs.org.uk.

Besides giving general advice to newcomers, the site features a shopping list of family-history aids, including computer genealogy and Internet books. The societies can suggest local sources which could be of use and can put you on to enthusiasts who are happy to offer advice. Another useful site for those getting started in genealogy is www.genuki.org.uk, the web-site of the UK and Ireland Genealogical Information Service (Genuki). The scope of their web-site is enormous, and includes online tutorials and useful introductory texts.

Genealogy is life in the past lane, and can become an engrossing hobby. If you feel yourself getting hooked, call up www.thegoodwebguide.co.uk and give yourself a present of *the goodwebguide to Genealogy* (£12.99, ISBN 1903282063), It takes a look at the hundred best websites which will help you build your family history.

Help needed

The Leonard Cheshire home at Mickley Hall is on the lookout for volunteers to help support residents, however little or however much time you have to spare. Drivers; escorts to accompany outings to the shops, countryside or entertainments; help with crafts and activities; or just companionship and conversation will all be much appreciated. Come and visit us at Mickley Hall, Mickley Lane, Sheffield S 17 4HE Tel: 236 9952 Email: mickley@ney.leonard-cheshire.org.uk

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The Wildlife Garden

The slushy mess on the roads and pavements was a grim reminder of the thick carpet of snow that had covered everything only a few days earlier; not really snow, ice or water, something that even Eskimos probably don't have a word for, apart from 'unpleasant'. Where children had been busy making a snowman, there were now only a few shapeless lumps of snow, reluctant to finally melt and disappear. Pebbles which had been used to make the snowman's eyes and a carrot, the nose, now lay forgotten in a jumbled heap on the ground. In my garden, the rapid thaw was most welcome. Not only had the snow flattened plants and caused hardship for all the animals, it made even the simplest of tasks, such as changing the water in the bird-bath, an extremely disagreeable, finger-numbing experience.

At least a blanket of snow does have a positive side - it shows just how effective the regular feeding of birds is. The birds know that there will always be food available for them in my garden, so they don't have to waste their energy searching around for odd scraps. Even when the snow was at its worst, they hardly showed any signs of panic, although it was not all sweetness and light; starlings squabbled incessantly, whilst waiting their turn to have a bath and the resident blackbirds spent all their time chasing off the upstart thrushes that dared to snatch a morsel of food from their garden. As the snow disappeared, so did the starlings, returning to fields and hedgerows, whilst squirrels once again proved that my 'squirrel-proof' feeders were merely a figment of the manufacturer's imagination.

You would think that times like these are proof, if proof is needed, of the value of wildlife gardening, but have I been deluding myself all these years? Is feeding the birds, planting bee plants, putting up nest boxes and all the other wildlife-friendly actions I take, nothing more than a sop to the conscience of a city dweller, whose home had destroyed a far more valuable wildlife habitat when it was built? Is my wildlife garden nothing more than a third-rate imitation of the countryside and wouldn't I be simply better off saving all the money I had spent on plants and donating it to a charity which preserves tracts of heath and woodland?

These sobering thoughts came bubbling up to the surface after reading a letter I had recently received from an expert on moths. I originally contacted him with a request for information on how wildlife gardeners could attract moths into their gardens - an innocent enough request, or so I thought at the time. However, the letter I received contained nothing short of a diatribe against the whole concept of wildlife gardening.

His argument was that gardeners tend not to grow the native species which encourage moths - mostly large woodland trees such as birch, oak and willow. These also need to be grown in groups rather than individually and most gardens, he wrote, are simply not large enough to do this. Even if gardeners are willing to grow native species and have the space to plant groups of trees, any insects that might breed there would be isolated from other breeding populations, leading to in-breeding and eventual extinction. He also thought that if gardens were to prove at all useful to insect

populations, they should replicate the local species of wild plants and once established, should be maintained this way. Basically, he considered wildlife gardening futile, but then went on to say how his garden was a veritable haven for insects.

I am sure part of what he says is true. Garden size is important. A pair of tawny owls require a territory of at least 20 hectares (49 acres) when it is a mixture of woodland and open ground, while hedgehogs need an area of around 9 hectares (22 acres) to find sufficient food. But tawny owls don't just live in woodlands anymore, many have moved into suburban areas, surviving off a diet of bats, frogs and sleeping birds. The gardens at Buckingham Palace might not be large enough (16 hectares/39 acres) to maintain a pair of tawny owls, but in its grounds, there were found to be 343 species of butterflies and moths, about 10% of all British lepidoptera. Even in a relatively small suburban Leicestershire garden, 88 types of parasitic wasps alone were found during an intensive study of the insect population.

Animals can of course move around and whether it is birds, butterflies or hedgehogs, although they might not find sufficient food in one garden, they may nevertheless use it as a refueling stop.

Recently published work carried out at the University of Sheffield showed that during August, honey bees would fly from their hive located near the centre of Sheffield, up to 10km (6miles) to collect nectar from heather plants growing on the local moors. It would appear that such behaviour is not unusual for honey bees located within an urban area; they might have to regularly fly considerable distances to find good forage plants. So, if you have a good source of nectar in your garden, who knows how far some of the bees may have traveled?

Even if our individual gardens aren't as large as the one at Buckingham Palace, up and down the country they do cover a huge area. Wouldn't it be foolish to dismiss all this land and the efforts made by countless wildlife gardeners who make their gardens wildlife friendly, as completely worthless? And let's face it, living in gardens is the only option available for much of our wildlife these days, in our overcrowded island.

Jack Daw

Sheffield Botanical Gardens

The Friends of the Botanical Gardens would like to thank everyone who has supported us during 2000 by attending Plant Sales and buying goods from our sales table. We raised £10,000 from the plant sales during the year.

The opening of phase one of the restoration of the gardens took place on 13th December 2000. Lord Scarborough performed the opening ceremony. The Clarkehouse Road entrance has been beautifully restored and now houses a shop, exhibition centre and the curator's office. The curator's house is now a restaurant at night and a cafe during the day with a conservatory extension and a new toilet block. South Lodge has also been restored, it's tenant helping with security.

Phase 2 of the restoration plan, the renovation of the Glass Pavilions, is due to begin this summer. We still require a lot more money so many events will be staged in the

future. We look forward to the continued support of local people. The first plant sale for 2001 will be on Sunday March 25th from 2pm to 4pm.

Avril Critchley

Garden rescue

Recently a friend asked me whether I had seen the forgotten garden near the entrance of Whirlow Brook Park. I live on Limb Lane and do a lot of running in the area, but had to say no. So you can imagine my surprise when he led me into the beautiful, but little-known Whinfall Quarry Garden.

This ornamental quarry garden is a mix of steep paths and steps, a cascade of rock pools, planted with rare shrubs and trees, including bamboo and Japanese acers, flowering cherries, rhododendrons and conifers. It also has one of my favourite plants - the giant leafed Gunnera.

Intrigued, I found out a bit more about the garden.

The garden was part of Whinfall House, which was built in 1902 by Samuel Doncaster. The house and garden passed to Mr Friedrich Neill in 1933. Following the death of Mr Neill, the gardens were presented to the city in 1968. Whinfall house was destroyed by fire in 1971 and flats have subsequently been built on what was the site of the house and the paddocks.

Sheffield City Council now owns the garden, but they don't have the staff to carry out more than a basic path-clearing exercise once a year, so that in recent years it has suffered from a severe lack of maintenance and has fallen into disrepair. The paths are overgrown and the railing around the paths is rotten in parts. Invasive plants (e.g. Japanese Knotweed) have become established and if left unchecked they will rapidly invade the garden.

I am keen to encourage the process of renovating the garden into a wonderful grotto that is safe for local people to use. So as a first step, I organised a working party of neighbours for the weekend of February 17th/18th to begin to clear the paths, repair the fencing, cut back the overgrown shrubs. This is a start, but the more support we can get, the better.

Would you be interested in helping on future weekends? Would you be interested in sponsoring a tree or shrub, or in making a donation for the hire of equipment? Could you help by taking rubbish to the tip or as part of a team that will look into managing the garden in the future?

Please give me a ring on 235 3858 or e-mail me at glyn@smythsheff.freeserve.co.uk And if you have never seen the gardens, please take the time to have a look. Many Thanks.

Glyn Smyth

John Wade Singers

The John Wade Singers will be holding a concert of popular choruses from Grand Opera and a selection of other well-known works at 7.30pm in St John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South on 31 March. Conductor John Wade, organist Paul Green. Tickets £5 (£4 Senior Citizens). Proceeds in aid of the Schizophrenia Fellowship. Tickets from 236 0820 or 01246 415778.

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Pioneers in Dore

The following article appeared in the Sheffield Independent on Thursday 1st September 1938.

It was accompanied by a photograph of the wireless station with its towering masts.

Sheffield Men Get Television Programmes.

In a secret experimenting room on the remote outskirts of Sheffield, three men have been receiving television programmes from London.

The leader of this small group of enthusiasts is Mr G W Bagshaw, the well known radio expert and manager of the wireless department of J G Graves Ltd, Sheffield. They received an almost perfect picture and sound on Tuesday night. Conditions then were ideal and one radio amateur said they were the best they had ever experienced.

The television receiver used is the only one in the north of England and is not of commercial manufacture. He is the only person in Sheffield to have received television programmes. Special attention has been turned to television in the past few days owing to the Radio Olympia exhibition.

Triumph Over Distance

A "Daily Independent" reporter yesterday saw the receiver at the experimental station at Dore Moor, near Newfields Lane. All that can be seen from the road is two large latticed wireless masts and few who pass know what they are for.

Mr Bagshaw said he had been receiving the pictures for the past three weeks and the station is perfectly successful. From London to Sheffield is one of the greatest distances television pictures have been transmitted and this is the only amateur station to cope with such distances. "It was thought that television had a visual range as far as the eye could see. That is the true range but it is possible to receive from greater distances," he said.

Very Satisfying

"Working on ultra short waves, pictures have been received further than was at first thought possible, and I have found that I can receive transmissions from Alexander Palace....." "In Sheffield we are 100 miles away from the transmitter and it cannot be



Trolley Rise shops at the turn of the century. Carriers, including one using a steam engine, delivering stock to W W Harrison, High Class Grocer, then occupying the shop recently taken over by the newsagents.

expected that our pictures are as clear as those in the London area." "However we have obtained pictures which, although they might not suit the critical onlooker, are very satisfying to the experimenter."

Mr Bagshaw has been experimenting in television since its inception.

First Attempts

The first station was in the radio department of J G Graves, Ltd, but after a time it was realised that interference from motor cars and trams were hindering progress. The site at Dore was chosen since it is almost ideal for radio work. It is 750 feet above sea level and remote from roads and electrical interference.

In the station is a bewildering collection of radio apparatus. The workshop is only small, but is large enough to contain all the necessary equipment. The twin radio masts, which were built on the site, are nearly eighty feet high and carry a large aerial.

Short-wave Transmitters

In the shed, which was built nearly two

years ago, is housed over a thousand pounds worth of apparatus. There are five short-wave transmitters and several ultra short-wave receivers. Mr Bagshaw is a keen amateur transmitter and makes regular broadcasts. Owing to the thundery weather conditions were unsuitable for television transmissions yesterday. During the past few days however almost perfect pictures have been received.

Mr Bagshaw is assisted in his work by two other radio enthusiasts, Mr K Hopkinson of Crosspool and Mr G Thompson. Both are employed at Graves Ltd.

Sheffield Prospects

Asked for his views on the future of television in Sheffield, Mr Bagshaw pointed out that results are only obtained outside London by using very intricate and expensive apparatus and having special receivers. Until there was a local transmitter there was very little prospect of Sheffield people being able to receive television.

So far as the provinces were concerned he thought the BBC and the Post Office were waiting for a better response in London before they put up provincial stations.

Radio Link

The first step towards the opening of a provincial station was thought to be the completion of the special cable between London and Birmingham, but as that cable had been completed sometime ago and there was no news of a Birmingham transmitter, it was thought in radio circles that either the cable was not satisfactory in a technical sense or the Post Office thought it much more useful for multi-channel trunk lines.

"It would seem that the solution to the provincial station is a radio link, which means using ultra high frequency transmitters between towns to convey television sound and speech. All this is a very expensive undertaking and to cater for the whole country at present would appear to be prohibitive in cost" he added.

Ed. It seems impossible nowadays to think of a world without television. I wonder what the next 62 years will bring?

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Rail Travel Problems

The troubles being experienced by rail travelers at the present time brought to mind an experience I had in the later war years, which goes to show that rail travel problems are nothing new!

It was 1944, towards the end of the war, and after five years without a holiday the chance of a week in North Wales seemed too good to be true. My friend and I, aged 13 and 14, accompanied by our mothers (our fathers being otherwise engaged) packed our suitcases and made for the railway station heading hopefully for Llandudno. The crowded platform did nothing to dampen our enthusiasm, confident in the belief that once aboard the train everything would be straightforward.

Alas, it was not to be so simple. The train we eventually boarded could only take us from Sheffield to Manchester, where we would have to change stations in order to catch a train to North Wales.

Nevertheless this part of the journey proved to be pleasant enough, despite not having a seat other than an up-ended suitcase on the floor. The trek across Manchester from one station to another was more of a trial struggling with heavy suitcases and all the bits of paraphernalia deemed necessary for a week's stay away from home.

The sight of a long crocodile of people stretching for a hundred yards down one side of the street opposite the station and back for another hundred yards on the other side dampened our enthusiasm somewhat. It appeared that only a certain number of people

were being allowed into the station at a time, notwithstanding in which direction they wished to go, and only being allowed on the appropriate trains as and when they arrived. Timetables were not relevant.

It took almost three hours to reach the front of the queue, my friend and I having whiled away the time playing chess on his pocket chess set whilst our mothers chatted away to each other and anyone else within range. People were much more patient in those days, "There is a war on you know" being a well used catch phrase to cover any inconvenience. Finally we surged onto a crowded platform and a train pulled in - empty! Everyone clambered aboard and we actually managed to get seats, only to find out that this particular train was going nowhere near North Wales! Crestfallen, we disembarked and sat amongst our luggage on the platform wondering if we should ever reach our intended destination, which now seemed further away than ever.

After what seemed an eternity another train arrived and we were reliably informed by a porter (a very rare breed in those days) that this train was in fact scheduled to travel to North Wales and may possibly reach Llandudno if the coal held out. We climbed aboard once again but this time there were no seats available and we spent the entire journey standing, leaning and eventually sitting in the corridor. We finally reached our destination late that evening, tired, hungry and in the blackout, having left home around 8am. We managed to find a boarding house with one room available, which our mothers shared, and we were directed to another establishment a few doors away which had a room available for my friend and I.

The traumas of our journey were soon forgotten as we enjoyed a week of unbroken sunshine and freedom, a real tonic after 4 years of war-time restrictions. The journey home was slightly better, notwithstanding the 18 people crowded into one compartment (no corridor) from Llandudno to Manchester and the final leg to Sheffield standing in the guards van - but never mind, we had managed a holiday!

Brian Staves

Telecoms take-up

According to OFTEL, the governments telecoms watchdog, there are now 7.5 million UK homes (30% of the total) with internet access. While research found that a quarter of those households with internet access are considering installing high-speed web access in the next year, only one in three people were aware of alternative telecoms suppliers. This reinforces the value of initiatives such as www.phonebills.org.uk, which provide consumers with information about the suppliers in their area and the potential savings they could make.

The same research found that 1.25 million homes have a mobile phone instead of a fixed line and one in four households have a digital television. OfTel found that people were particularly attracted to high-speed internet access as it enables voice calls to be made at the same time as using the internet on one single telephone line.

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Book Reviews

There can be few Sheffield people who are not aware of the boxing successes of Herol Bomber' Graham and Prince Naseem in recent years. In fact these are just the latest in a succession of famous and not so famous heroes of the ring who have sprung from South Yorkshire. A new book by Ronnie Wharton titled *Boxing in South Yorkshire* sets out to record these heroes from 1890 to the present day starting with George Cornfield Sheffield's first boxing idol born in New Cross in 1872.

Each of the 28 boxers covered warrants their own chapter which sets out their introduction to the sport, their careers and achievements. As a role call of honour it will bring back memories of some of the great names and characters of boxing especially to those that follow the sport of kings. *Boxing in South Yorkshire* is published by Wharncliffe Books price £9.95.

Many villages were prompted by the new Millennium to look again at their history and record it through public events, in stone and in print. Few can have done more than Hathersage who produced three books, a map, built a new garden, gave a mug to every child under 16, produced a play and adopted a hospice overseas. *Hathersage, Images of the Past*, is a unique photographic record of the village and its people, with deep captions to each of its pictures. Fashion, weather and daily life are all captured from the turn of the old century up to the 50s. Published by the Hathersage Millennium Group price £6. The other publications include: *Hathersage Reviewed* - a snapshot of the village in the year 2000 (Domesday Book II) £2.50; *Hathersage Remembers* - personal recollections of times gone by £2.50; and *Hathersage* - a map and pictorial guide to the village. More details and copies from Sue Clendon on 01433 650 863.

Early industry in South Yorkshire was founded on water power, with every stream and river harnessed to the full before the age of steam began. Around Dore we can see the remains of weirs, dams and wheels, all of which can make for fascinating study and

provide a guide to local history, industrial development and engineering principles.

Dore resident Tom Umpleby's grandfather ran a water powered corn mill on the Dearne below Barnsley. It is not perhaps surprising then, that after a career in the iron and steel industry, his archeological studies led him to research into water power and a study of its development along the Dearne and its tributaries. The results have recently been published in *Water Mills and Furnaces on the Yorkshire Dearne and its Tributaries*.

Dating from the Domesday Survey to their rapid decline in the 19th century, some 75 mill sites are identified, corn mills, textile mills, paper mills, wood sawing and mineral crushing. Detailed research has revealed their siting, structure and history of use, although sadly there are often few visible remains today, apart from the gem of Worsbrough Mill, now a working museum.

For anyone living in the area, interested in watermills, archeology, industrial or family research, the books 250 A4 pages are a mine of information and detail, setting mills in their historical context, detailing their physical construction and subsequent use. There are chapters on each section of the Dearne catchment area, with maps showing each site, followed by a description with key dates, copies of old maps and reference sources. The book is completed by a comprehensive glossary of terms and index. The book is a credit to the efforts of its author and a valuable contribution to our sum of knowledge on the subject. It is published by Wakefield Historical Publications, tel: 01924 372748, price £35 + p&p.

The CD Rom does have some real advantages over the printed word, and these are no more evident than with *Abbeyle Hamlet, with a guide to the Industrial History of Sheffield*. This new CD Rom brings together a mass of information on the Hamlet and Sheffield history using text, photographs, animations and videos to illustrate the development of the Abbeyle Works from the 12th Century to the present day.

Abbeyle Hamlet is one of a number of works on the river Sheaf, which like other Sheffield rivers was used extensively for water-powered manufacture, until the introduction of steam power and modern factory systems. This CD Rom sets the Hamlet in a physical and historic context and then guides you through the buildings and manufacturing processes. From tilt hammers to fine scythes, all is explained and illustrated along with the human context and the origin of phrases we still use today such as "keeping your nose to the grindstone".

There is a time line, dictionary of terms and a picture gallery which covers other water powered sites in the area. Together this makes the CD a comfortable way to begin to understand the crucible steel industry, an excellent preview to the site itself or a valuable study vehicle. For anyone interested in the hamlet and the industrial history of Sheffield it is a must and it is sure to make you realise just what a historic asset we have on our doorstep.

Abbeyle Hamlet, the CD Rom, was designed and developed by Ann Sheward and John Garth, long standing members of ASWAT (Abbeyle and Shepherd Wheel Action Trust) and is available price £24.95 from the city's industrial museums, Sheffield Scene, Waterstones and destination Sheffield.

Before the enclosure acts and the coming of Turnpikes, travelling in moorland Derbyshire was a risky business, especially in winter. In an attempt to improve matters, a government act of 1697 instructed JPs, for the first time, to order the erection of guideposts or guidestones in moorland areas.

Howard Smith has now produced a second revised edition of his book *The Guide Stoops of Derbyshire*, which provides the most comprehensive guide to the location (incl map references) and appearance (drawings) of these stoops. The stoops are fascinating features in their own right and searching for them will also encourage some healthy and rewarding rambles in some of the areas' most beautiful countryside. *The Guide Stoops of Derbyshire* is available direct from the author on 258 8054 price £5.50 incl p&p.

Heeley shares more in common with Dore than you might think at first glance, with a boundary on the Sheaf, early use of water power and Meersbrook, like Limb brook, forming the boundary between the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of Northumbria and Mercia. It was a grant from the Millennium Awards which enabled the well established Heeley History Workshop, to produce its new book *Heghleg Then and Heeley Now*.

The book looks at different aspects of Heeley and life within it over the years. Pubs, churches, sport, shops, transport and much more is covered with an abundance of quotes from residents and extracts from past publications. Maps, pictures and even an ariel photograph help illustrate this delve into history. As for Heghleg, this is just one variation in the spelling of Heeley, which gets its name from Heah Leah, meaning, woodland clearing.

Heghleg Then and Heeley Now is available direct from Pickard Publishing on 275 7222 price £5.99.

After a Stroke

Imagine suddenly not being able to talk to your friends and family. Imagine losing the ability to read and write. Imagine the frustration of knowing what you want to say, but not being able to say it.

The Stroke Association has produced a new booklet, *Communications problems after stroke*; it aims to improve understanding of the communications problems that can be one of the cruellest consequences of a stroke, both for those who have had a stroke and for those closest to them. 100,000 people a year experience a first stroke, of whom about a third experience communication problems as a result.

The booklet takes people through the main types of communications problems, helps them understand the difficulties they may face and directs them to further sources of help - not least of which is the Associations' own network of over 4,000 volunteers throughout England & Wales, who generously give up their own time to help those with post-stroke communication problems.

Copies of the booklet are available free from: The Admin Department, The Stroke Association, Northampton Resource Centre, 61-69 Derngate, Northampton, NNI 1HD. Telephone: 01604 623 934.

On-line at www.dorevillage.co.uk

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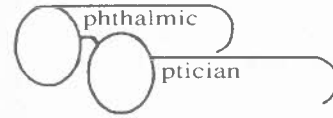


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Brian Edwards Revealed

From the Isles of Scilly to the Isle of Man; from the top to bottom of Europe; from Sheffield in Ontario to Sheffield in South Yorkshire; from Swiss Castles to Welsh Castles; you name it Brian Edwards has sketched it. His recent trip to the battlefields and towns of the American Revolution has not escaped his sharp eye either, nor has his stay in a converted bordello on an island in Chesapeake Bay, Maryland, where the traditional oyster boats called Skipjacks are wintered.

Although better known for his drawings of Dore, Totley and the Peak District, his work from many other places is rarely seen. Now an exhibition to be held at Totley library will include drawings from local and faraway scenes.

During the exhibition, which will run from 28th February until 14th March, signed prints and copies of his books will be on sale. The exhibition will be open during normal library hours:

Monday: 10am-12.30pm, 1.30pm-7pm.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.30am-12.30pm, 1.30pm-5.30pm. Saturday: 9.30am-12.30pm. Thursday and Sunday, closed.

Until recently, few original drawings by perhaps the most prolific illustrator in the region have been released onto the market, but only recently a private collector from the South of England purchased over 300 of Brian's original pen & ink drawings, several of which have appeared in magazines, newspapers, books and leaflets.

How does he work, what materials does he use? All will be revealed in an illustrated talk to be held at the library on Monday 5th March at 7.30pm, tickets 50p from there, telephone 236 3067.

Funds will be put towards the purchase of new children's books for the library. If you are interested in going along, book early for each of Brian's previous talks has been a sell-out!



Footpath to Calver. Brian Edwards

Census records

According to a recent report which celebrates the 200th anniversary of the first national census on March 10, 1801, the population of the UK has soared sixfold over the last 200 years - and grown older.

In 1801 there were 10 million of us in two million households. Now there are 59.5 million in 24 million homes - and better health care means we live longer. Just under half the population were aged under 20 in 1821, compared with less than a quarter now.

In 1841 men could expect to live to 41 and women 43. Today's figures are 75 and 80 respectively.

While the 1801 census was a simple head count with the family's occupation noted, this year's census on April 29 will ask detailed questions on age, education and ethnic group.

Until 1891 we could be described as "lunatics" or "idiots", then "feeble-minded", terms now dropped.

Two hundred years ago the country was evolving from an agricultural to an industrial nation.

Today it is a predominantly a service economy with less than two per cent working in agriculture.

Dore Art Group

Dore Art Group will once again be holding their Annual Exhibition in the recently renovated and extended Old School. We hope that everyone will visit the Exhibition, which gives the chance to view and purchase varied paintings in all mediums. This is also an excellent opportunity to see first hand the excellent extension to the Old School. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

The Exhibition is on Friday 20th April from 2pm - 7pm and on Saturday 21st April 9.30am - 5pm.

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Making a will

Each year over £2bn is left by people who have not made a will.

There are many sound reasons for having a will. By making a will, you choose who inherits your assets. If you die without a will, the state makes the decision for you and it may not be what you would want. For example, if you are in a relationship but unmarried, your partner will not receive anything if you die without a will. If you are married and have children, your husband or wife

may not receive everything you own unless you have a will.

If you made a will some years ago, you may need to review it to take account of changes in the law or changes in your personal circumstances such as having moved house or a wish to leave money to a particular charity etc. Marriage or remarriage invalidates any previous will, while divorce affects a will, but separation does not. If you have children, a will allows you to appoint legal guardians for them and ensure their financial security.

Anyone over the age of 18 in England and Wales is eligible to make a will. To be legally binding, a will must be properly drawn up, signed and witnessed by two people. Beneficiaries or their spouses cannot be witnesses.

When someone dies, all their assets are frozen until probate is granted. Before the instructions in their will can be carried out, probate or official validation needs to be obtained from the local probate registry and none of their property should be sold, or given away, until it has been granted. If the estate is

worth less than £5,000, probate is not normally required.

Both you and your partner should make separate wills. By organising things ahead of time, you can make your will more tax-efficient. Accountants can help you divide your assets in a way which allows your beneficiaries to avoid paying so much inheritance tax.

A will should deal with the appointment of the executors, guardians for children, funeral wishes, distribution of property and assets. It also grants powers to the executors which they will need in order to carry out their duties properly. Keep your will in a safe place and advise your executors where it is.

Executors and Administrators are people appointed to wind up the estate of the deceased. If there has been a will, executors should have been appointed. The executor settles all debts, obtains payouts on life insurance policies etc and transfers ownership of property to the beneficiaries.

You do not have to appoint a professional to administer your estate; you can appoint friends or relatives.

Legally, you can draw up a will by yourself but if your affairs are in any way complicated, you should have it drawn up by a professional. The vast majority of disputes involving wills which reach the courts arise from home-made wills.

Solicitors costs can vary from £50 to £1,000, depending on the size of your assets and the detail required. Banks, building societies and some life insurance companies offer will-making services but sometimes they also insist on being appointed as the executors. As they charge to do this, it should only be

considered if it is difficult to appoint friends or relatives as executors. Charities, such as Oxfam or Help the Aged, sometimes offer the service, in the hope that you will leave them something in the will.

DIY packs are available in stationery shops but may not be appropriate for your needs and care needs to be taken with wording. If you make an error or your instructions are not clear, your will may be rendered invalid or require interpretation by a court. For DIY advice, try *Which? Wills and Probate*, £10.99, and *What to do when someone dies*, Paul Harris, £9.99. Professional will writers can be cheaper than solicitors. Contact the Institute of Professional Willwriters on 01905 611 165 for details of members.

Auction Sales

Forthcoming ELR Auctions antiques and collectables sales will be on Fridays 2nd and 30th March at 11am in the Nichols Building Shalesmoor. The next quarterly Antique & Fine Art sale will be on Saturday 17th March at 10.30am. More details from 281 6161.

Open mornings

The new Dore Village Society room at the Old School is open to visitors on the first Saturday of each month from 10am to 12noon. Please come along to see the facilities or talk to members of the committee about local issues and the history of the village.

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With sherry and mince pies forgotten, New Year resolutions things of the past and only nights of freezing fog for stage rehearsals, this is a cracking start to the early spring which we can promise will get you hot under the collar. Don't miss Death Trap.

The play will be in the Church Hall, Totley Brook Road 28th - 31st March at 7.30pm. Tickets may be obtained from the Box Office (236 4440) Martin's Sweet Shop or Members of the Society.



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Alzheimer's Society

The Alzheimer's Society in Sheffield is a particular active and busy branch of the National Charity. The branch is active in providing a number of services to carers and people with dementia within the city. These include information and carer support, carers groups, day services and a home respite service. The branch is run by a combination of paid staff and volunteers. The voluntary help is essential and volunteers find themselves involved in numerous projects within and outside of the office.

The Home Respite Service is particularly reliant on volunteers who provide practical support for carers within their own homes. The support that they provide, enable a carer to take a break from their role for a few hours. Carers use this time in a variety of ways. Some go out shopping or visiting friends and some stay at home for a well needed chat to someone with time to listen.

Some volunteers like to take the person with dementia on a short outing, giving the carer the advantage of having the house to themselves, (a rare opportunity for carers).

All of these things we take for granted in our everyday lives but when they are taken away, the effects can be devastating. Carers can become lonely and isolated. The physically and emotionally demanding nature of caring for someone with dementia, twenty four hours a day is immeasurable. It is not surprising that carers can become ill or depressed or both.

The need for volunteers in this area is becoming more pronounced. People who are enjoying an active retirement have become very valuable to voluntary agencies as they have a wealth of experience and a life time of skills at their disposal. The Alzheimer's Society welcomes volunteers of all ages but due to the nature of the disease (affecting mainly older people), the majority, are older.

The volunteers that work for the Home Respite Service provide an essential link for the carer, establishing a strong relationship not only between themselves but other workers at the Society who may provide general support or specific help with services and benefits. For the volunteer this is rewarding work and all volunteers are provided with training on dementia care and support from the Volunteer Co-ordinator.

If you would like to know more about volunteering for the Alzheimer's Society we would be delighted to hear from you. Contact Andrea Welch, Volunteer Co-ordinator on 276 8414, Venture House, 105 Arundel Street, Sheffield, S1 2NT.

Dore web site

Our web site continues to expand gradually with a new simpler message board facility and now most crucially our own search engine. This means you can now search within the site, for any local information you are interested in. As we add more archive material this option will become even more useful.

It would be interesting to know just how many people in Dore have access to and use the internet.

We are always pleased to hear from surfers via our e-mail address:

editor@dorevillage.co.uk

Standby

Standby consumption is the fastest growing use of domestic electricity yet it achieves precisely nothing! We are talking about the background power consumption of electrical devices left plugged in on standby while not in use or even in some cases apparently turned off.

In the UK it accounts for 8 per cent of electricity consumption, 800 million watts (MW) equivalent to the output of a medium-sized power station. This is expected to double by 2010 and cost UK households over £1bn a year, not to mention putting several million tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Multiply this by the number of households in the developed world and we have a voracious monster!

The main culprits are items we deliberately leave on standby, such as TVs, video recorders, cookers and hi-fi s. But there are also items that you would expect to be off such as radios, whosmakers often put the on/off switch on the low- voltage side of the transformer, so it is constantly drawing mains power even when the radio is turned off.

According to recent research, standby power consumption in the UK runs at an average 32W per household, costing £20 per year. This

also found that some items such as TVs, VCRs and hi-fis, consume over four times as much electricity over their lifetimes while turned off than while in use.

With cable TV the set-top box is left plugged in all the time, without even an on/off switch. Many digital TV decoders must also be plugged in all the time, according to suppliers' instructions. Yet by 2020, projections show that the UK will have 72 million digital decoders, each consuming almost £10 worth of electricity a year while it would cost just £2 per unit to cut the standby power consumption by 90 per cent.

In the future we can also expect a new generation of set-top boxes, able to store hours of TV on computer-style hard disks which will more than double the household standby load. Yet manufacturers have failed to agree on how to design boxes to minimise power consumption despite Philips patenting a power supply system that automatically switches off unused units.

Sadly for most manufacturers, design for low standby power consumption is not a priority, and the area has, so far, largely been ignored by regulators.

Tempting as it is to leave items on standby, or not to turn off lights or the computer, the penalty is ultimately in the electricity bill and in the cost to our climate. Switch it off!



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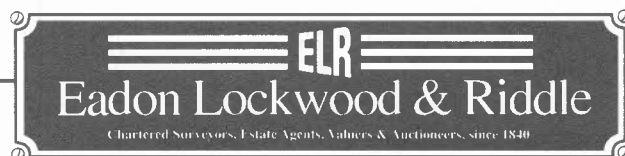
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Diary - Spring 2001

28 February to 14 March - Exhibition at Totley Library of sketches & drawings by Brian Edwards.

1-30 April - 'Just Bin It'. Sheffield Spring Clean week in association with Tidy Britain.

12 - 28 May - Sheffield Environment Weeks.

FEBRUARY

27 **Cutlers Co & Feast** Talk by Mrs J McDonald for Women's Fellowship, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the schoolroom at 2.30pm.

27 **Clematis**. Talk by John Taylor for FOBS & plants for sale. 10am, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2

MARCH

3 **Excavations at Riverside Exchange** Lady's Bridge, Sheffield, Talk by Andy Lines after AGM at 7pm. Hunter Archeological Society, Arts Tower, University of Sheffield. Non-Members welcome.

5 **Sketching** An illustrated talk by Brian Edwards at Totley Library 7.30pm. Tickets 50p from the library on 236 3067.

6 **Headaches of George III** Talk by Canon Lacey for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm

9 **Quiz Night** King Egbert School, Wessex Hall 8pm £1.50 pay on the door. KESA Bring your own refreshments.

10 **Dore Male Voice Choir** are defending the classes they won last year at the Eskdale Festival at Whitby.

12 **Update from the Gardening Industry**. Talk by Neil Grant of Ferndale Garden Co for FOBS 7.15pm, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2

14 **AGM** Dore Townswomen's Guild, Dore Old School, 2pm.

17 **Farmer's Market & Lambing Open Day**. Whirlow Hall Farm, 10am - 4pm. Details from 235 2678.

17 **Dore Male Voice Choir** at the National Schizophrenia Festival Concert, Banner Cross Methodist Church, 7pm.

20 **Our Minister** Talk by Rev Chris Kirk for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm

24 **Woodland Wombles** join the Rangers for a clean up and litter pick in Ecclesall Woods. Details from: 203 7206

24 **Concert** St John Passion, Sheffield Bach Society, Sheffield Cathedral 7.30pm. Tickets £8 (concessions £6) from Sheffield Music shop on 266 1000

25 **Spring Plant Sale** for FOBS at the Botanical Gardens. 2 - 4pm

27 **Bulbs & Corms for summer**. Talk by Arroll Winning for FOBS. 10am, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2

28-31 **Death Trap**. A thriller performed by Dore & Totley URC Dramatic Society, Church Hall, Totley Brook road, 7.30pm. Tickets from 236 4440 or Jimmy Martin's shop.

31 **Concert** of popular choruses from Grand Opera and of other well-known works by The John Wade Singers. St John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South, 7.30pm Tickets £5 (£4 Senior Citizens). Proceeds in aid of the Schizophrenia Fellowship. Tickets from 236 0820 or 01246 415778.

APRIL

3 **Peru** Talk by Alan Turner for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm

3-5 **Musical** "Little Shop of Horrors" by the pupils of King Egbert School. Details from school on 236 9881.

4 **Spring Fayre & Coffee Morning**. Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane. 10am - 12noon. Nearly New, Bric-a-Brac, Cakes, Preserves, Plants, Books & crafts etc.

7 **Dore Male Voice Choir** are at the Anglo Welsh Festival in Leicester.

9 **Wild Flowers of the Peak District**. Talk by Patrick Harding for FOBS. 7.15pm, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2

11 **Peak Personalities A-Z**. Slides by Mrs Jenny Ainsworth for Dore Townswomen's Guild, Dore Old School, 2pm.

20-21 **Art Exhibition** by Dore Art Group, at the Old School. Friday 2pm-7pm, Saturday 9.30am - 5pm. Admission free.

24 **Primulas**. Talk by Sue Kohler for FOBS. 10am, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2

24 **Totley & the Tunnel** Talk by Brian Edwards for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm

24-28 **Ruddigore**. Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society, University Drama Studio, Glossop Road, 7.30pm & 2.30 pm matinee on the Saturday. Tickets £6 (concessions £5) from 236 6592.

MAY

8 **The Donkey Sanctuary** Talk by John Sterling for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm

9 **The Abdication** Talk by Mr Kenneth Loxley for Dore Townswomen's Guild, Dore Old School, 2pm.

12 **Car Boot Sale** King Egbert School, Mercia site. Pitches £5. KESA Tel 236 9931 for details.

2-13 **Flower Festival** at Beauchief Abbey, Saturday 11am - 5pm, Sunday 1pm - 5pm.

13 **Main Plant Sale** for FOBS at the Botanical Gardens. 10.30am - 2.30pm.

13 **Open Day** at the Manor Castle on Manor Lane. Details from 269 0615



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