

DORE to DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Summer 2001

ISSN 0965-8912

New Crossing on Causeway Head Road

It's taken a long time but, at least, we're now getting close. The scheme to provide a road crossing point near the shops has now been completed and is ready for consultation with residents. It proposes a crossing point close to the HSBC bank formed by narrowing the road at this point, a feature which will not only reduce vehicles speeds but also give pedestrians a far better view of traffic coming from both directions.

Further changes are planned, for the Dore Road/Rushley Road/High Street junction, which will also reduce traffic speed and provide improved pedestrian facilities.

It is likely that a South West Area Panel public meeting will soon be held in the village to discuss the scheme. Keep an eye on the DVS notice board for meeting details.

Heritage Visit to the Derwent Valley

The 50-mile long Derwent valley saw the development of the Industrial Revolution with a huge variety of factories and crafts using the river's water power to drive many types of machines. Already the valley has been designated a National Heritage Corridor and a section, from Derby to Cromford, has applied for listing as a World Heritage Site (WHS).

As part of the Dore Village Society's 2001 events programme, a coach visit has been arranged to two of the main sites within the area for which WHS listing has been applied.

On Wednesday, June 27th we will visit Cromford Mill, the home of the Arkwright Society, where there will be a talk about the mill and the WHS application, followed by a conducted tour of the site. The second stop is at Strutt's North Mill at Belper where a guided tour of the exhibition will be followed by a buffet meal.

Travel will be by coach leaving Dore at 1.30pm and returning about 9.00pm.

Tickets (£11.00 for DVS members, £13.00 for non-members) for the visit, which cover entry and tours at both sites, travel and the buffet meal, will be by application form available from Green's on Causeway Head Road at 9.00am of Thursday, May 17th.

As the trip is limited to a maximum of 35 people, applications will be treated strictly in order of receipt. So get your application in early to avoid disappointment.

The visits promise a truly fascinating occasion.



Dore High Street circ 1950s ?

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting
7.30pm Thursday 24 May
Methodist Church hall
Followed by a talk on the
Sheffield Wildlife Trust
by Dr R Stoneman

Membership Subscriptions

The Dore Village Society exists solely to work for the interests of Dore residents.

As a registered charity the Society relies heavily on subscriptions to carry out its objectives. If you have not already done so, please do join the society. The annual membership subscription is just £4 per person, which is made even more valuable by the government refunding to us the value of tax already paid by taxpayers.

You can pay your subscription at Greens shop on Causeway Head Road or by visiting our office in the Old School between 10am & 12 noon on the first Saturday each month.

Bank Holiday Walk

Why not join fellow members of the Dore Village Society for an enjoyable Bank Holiday Monday walk.

The guided walk of approx 6 1/2 miles, will follow a circular route via Graves Park and local woodland.

Meet 10.15am Monday 28 May on the village green. We should be back by 1.30pm.

Pearson clock

For some time we have known that the village had an 18th century clockmaker by the name of Pearson, purely from the fact that his rare clocks occasionally come onto the market. The chance to bring back to the village one of his beautiful longcase clocks to form the centrepiece to the Dore Collection was irresistible.

We are pleased to say that the society has now been able to do so and will be displaying the clock in our room at the Old School in the near future. All we need to do now is raise the funds to cover its purchase. If you think you could help with a donation, please contact David Heslop on 236 5043, or John Baker on 236 9025.

Little is known about Pearson even amongst clock experts. Few surviving examples are known, but between them members of the committee can account for seeing 6 or 7 over the years. Our 30 hour clock is signed 'Henry Pearson Dore' while his are usually signed just 'Pearson of Dore'. It could be that it was a father and son business.

Both 30-hour and an 8-day clocks are known. The dials are very idiosyncratic with bold designs quite different to those used by most other makers. They appear to date from 1740s-50s, but no firm dates are known for Pearson. From features present in pictures supplied to an expert, our clock looks to date from about 1750-60.

A check on the IGI (International Geneological Index - commonly known as the Mormon Index) has found a Henry Pearson christened 5 Apr 1703 in Dronfield, father Henry Pearson, and a Henry Pearson is recorded as marrying a Jane Stringfellow on 18 Sept 1721 in South Wingfield. This could be our man!

Something different

Readers may notice that this issue of Dore to Door looks slightly different and the pictures not so sharp. The reason is that for the first time it has all been set out on computer, as the paper used for our old cut and paste method is no longer available. Such is progress.

Hopefully we will be able to use better software for future issues!

Ed

Dore Show 2001

This years Dore Show will take place on Saturday 8 September in the Old School and Methodist Church Hall.- be sure to note the date in your diary.

There will be 74 classes for you to enter for or come and see, ranging from vegetables to paintings. The full schedule will be available from Greens on Causeway Head Road shortly.

For those keen photographers wishing to plan ahead, the 3 photography classes will be: Colour - My Holiday - any size; Colour - The Natural World - min 7" x 5; and Black & White - Open - min 7" x 5.

The Show has become an established part of village life, largely thanks to the exhibitors and those who plan and run the event on the day. As always many hands make light work! If you can offer a little help on the day please contact the Show Secretary on 236 9025.

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1017051

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

Chairman (Dore to Door)

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

Vice Chairman (Environment)

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

Treasurer

Mrs M Watson 236 5666
11 Cavendish Avenue, S17 3JN.

Secretary

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

Committee

Mrs L E Baker 236 9025
(Dore Show & FEW)

Mr G R Elsdon 236 0002
(Subscriptions & Notice Board)

Mr D Heslop 236 5043
(Planning)

Mrs V Malthouse 236 3632
Mr P Pryor 236 9831

Bank Holiday Walk

Monday 28th May

Meet 10.15am on the Village Green
for a 6 1/2 mile guided walk

Annual General Meeting

This years Annual General Meeting of the Dore Village Society will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 24th May in the Methodist Church Hall on the High Street.. After the traditionally very short formal business, we will welcome Dr R Stoneman to talk about the work of the Sheffield Wildlife Trust, including the new nature reserve on Blacka Moor.

Details of people offering themselves for election have been posted on the Society's Notice Board in advance of the meeting. If you are interested in joining the committee please contact the Secretary on 236 6710.

Danger Reduction Schemes

Many of the traffic calming schemes that have appeared in other areas of the city have taken place either because of formal appeals from residents or as a result of road accidents. However, in addition, the City Council has a small budget to cover schemes where there are obvious dangers to road users but where accidents have not yet happened. The proposed Causeway Head Road crossing is one being covered by this budget.

As you might imagine, the demands on this budget (£100,000 for this year financial year) far exceed the funding available. Until recently, the Council had no system for giving priority to demands across the city but this omission has now been rectified. The three City Councillors for Dore are together pressing the Council to consider more local schemes - particularly the parking problem at the bottom of Dore Road.

To support this initiative, the committee of the DVS has compiled a prioritised list of six schemes, all of which have been the subject of requests and comments from residents. This list, recently displayed on the DVS notice board, is available by ringing 262 0012. If you have any comments, please contact one of the councillors or a member of the DVS committee.

Quiet Lanes

The Government has responded to CPRE's Safer Country Lanes campaign by introducing new powers for local councils to designate certain roads as 'quiet lanes' and reduce the speed limit accordingly. Given its importance to walkers, cyclists and horse riders, the Dore Village Society has asked the Council to consider whether Whitelaw Lane would be a suitable candidate for such an initiative.

Dore Collection

For several years the Dore Village Society has been collecting information and artifacts associated with the history of Dore. Our aim is to collect, catalogue and display material on the locality and its history, for the benefit of residents, school projects and researchers. This collection already includes historic records, photographs, books, maps and items from fossils to Victorian tools and local finds such a coins.

Following the appeal in our Winter issue we were grateful to receive from Roy Bullen a donation of maps and research papers accumulated over his years of campaigning for footpaths and rights of way in the area. Many of the maps and articles were new to the society and add greatly to the research value and interest of the growing Dore Collection.

We are still keen to receive donations or information on further items and archive material. If you have any old photographs, letters, diaries, press cutting etc then please let us know so that we can copy them or provide for their safe keeping.

Please note

Dore Village Society room in the Old School is open to the public between 10am and 12 noon on the 1st Saturday each month. Members of the committee will be on hand to talk about the work of the society or any particular problems you wish to raise. It also provides an opportunity to view items in the Dore collection.

Thought for the election:

Government can't give us anything without depriving us of something else.

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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Boys Brigade camp

It's May 1959, and members of the 22nd Sheffield Company Boys' Brigade wait on Dore and Totley Station for a train to Liverpool. From there they caught the overnight ferry to the Isle of Man for their annual camp. The 22nd Company was started by the late Tom Wragg of Chatsworth Road in the early 1950's and is based at Totley Rise Methodist Church.

From left to right: Ian Archibald, David Smith, Mick Roebuck, Richard Beeton, John Morton, Brian Turner, Mick Savage, Billy Jones, Andrew Wilson, John Schofield Lt. Ron Wilson, Brian Savage (seated), Roy Letch, Dave Green, Chris Hustler, John Monks, Peter Bishop, Capt. Fred Savage, and Michael Reynolds.



Porter Football Club

Readers of Dore to Door may be unaware that there is a thriving junior football club based in the village. Porter Football Club was founded twenty years ago when a boys team was formed from local Scouts and took its name from the Porter Scout District.

Since those early days and relatively humble beginnings the club has flourished, thanks to the enthusiasm and voluntary efforts of many people over the years. Porter FC is now an established junior club

operating 10 teams at all age levels from under 8 to under 18, with the majority playing in the Sheffield & District Junior Sunday League.

The club provides the facilities for over 150 boys to participate in sporting activity, a large proportion of who reside in the Dore area, and as a club we would like to develop our relationships within the local community. Yorkshire and England cricketer Michael Vaughan is numbered amongst the Porter FC 'old boys' and we were delighted when he accepted an invitation to be the guest of honour at our annual Presentation Evening held at

Bramhall Lane last year.

Some of your readers are also likely to have had previous connections with our club, either as players, parents or club officials. We would be interested to hear from anyone who may have any memorabilia related to the early years of the club.

You can make contact with us via myself (Bob Evans 236-7377) or alternatively by e-mail at webmaster@porterfc.fsnet.co.uk. We also have our own Internet site at www.porterfc.fsnet.co.uk.

*Bob Evans
Chairman, Porter FC*

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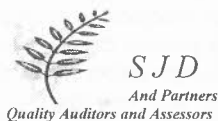
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Letters

Dear Sir,

I noticed the letter in the local magazine "Dore To Door" requesting information re the Coates/Coats family connections with Dore.

I have a lifelong friend called James (Jim) Reginald Booker who has lived in Calgary, Alberta, Canada these last thirty odd years, but his parents were both Sheffield people and his mother was I recall a Miss Coates or perhaps Coats.

I also recall Mrs Ivy Booker (Jim's Mum of blessed memory) describing her childhood in the Whirlow area of the city (adjacent to Dore of course) and I think she said that her folks were farmers and that her grandmother, when widowed, used to live in the cottages that used to project into Ecclesall Road South just opposite the Wheatshaf Hotel at Parkhead. The last cottage was removed when the road was "improved" some ten or fifteen years ago - or maybe more!.

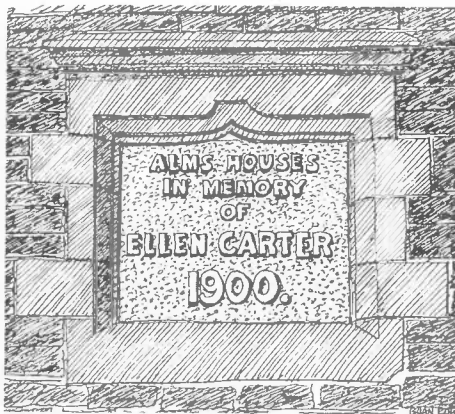
This conversation was I think sparked by my wife and I talking about Whirlow Hall Farm, which Ivy Booker remembered from her childhood and was interested to hear about now being a centre for youth education. Mrs Booker remembered taking her Grandma milk using a yoke to carry two pails of milk - the classic milkmaid picture! We wish David Coates luck in his researches.

Brian and Pat Midgley

Dear Sir,

At the foot of Bushey Wood Road there is a building with this plaque, which reads 'ALMS HOUSES IN MEMORY OF ELLEN CARTER 1900'. I understand that Ellen lived at the Dingle, Woodland Place, Bradway, and that she was a member of the Carters of Little Liver Pills fame. Does anyone know anything further?

Brian Edwards



Dear Sir,

Your picture of Dore High Street (front page of spring issue) taken before the demolition of the cottages in the right foreground is full of interest. Next door to Green's cottage with its admirable gateposts in hand-cut stone is what seems to be a vacant lot; this must be where Hatie Frith's grocery was with the butcher's next door, or rather where they were built later, out of sight from the camera's viewpoint.

The photograph was carefully set up with a stationary horseman in a knickerbocker suit perhaps, which would suggest an early 20's date.

On the other hand, Marshall's sweetshop on the corner of Townhead Road is all in place. 'Player's Please' was on the long sign over the window and 'Hovis' on the suspended sign in the distant right by the lamp. I think I can see the red letter-box set into the wall of the first cottage on the left. The great wall of this gable-end later bore a large advertisement for the pub, actually painted on the stones.

On the ground below it, with a strange white area just above, is the old mounting-block' clearly visible. Is it still there today?

Glen Fallows

Dear Sir,

I read with interest Brian Edwards' article about G H B Ward in the Spring 2001 edition of *Dore to Door*. Readers may like to know that to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Peak Park three identical bronze plaques have recently been produced. The plaques depict G H B Ward addressing a large gathering of walkers in Winnats Pass and bear the inscription, "To commemorate all ramblers who campaigned for national parks and access to mountain and moorland."

One of the plaques has been presented to the Peak Park Authority and is to be displayed in the Authority's offices, one has been presented to the National Trust and is to be located in Winnats Pass and the third has been presented to Sheffield City Council. It is intended the Sheffield plaque should be displayed in the entranceway to the Town Hall and we are hoping to arrange an unveiling ceremony later in the year.

*Cllr Sylvia Dunkley, Chair
Sheffield Countryside Working Party*

Dear Sir,

Let there be light, "and there was light and it was good".

No you're not reading the Parish Magazine.

It's still Dore to Door, with an important suggestion for a better safer sensible community pioneering idea of more light for those long dreary dark at 4pm nights in the coming winter.

In my front window I have 3 lamps each with a 60 watt bulb and one side of house light of 100 watt. I leave lights on in the window all evening, curtains drawn of course, and the side light on all night at the house side. The people who make the community unsafe have no desire to be seen doing naughty things.

This a positive way we can help ourselves with no further installation outlay and make our Roads, Avenues, Crescents, Closes, much more pleasant for ourselves. Inside and outside.

I suggest a pilot scheme of one, two, or three roads and see how it goes. How about it?? Lets make Busheywood Road the best lit road in Dore and Totley. For starters.

Betty James

Ed. If you are interested in the idea of throwing more light onto our streets, Betty can be contacted on 236 9812.

Dear Sir,

A False Sheffield

The remains of the wartime decoy site mentioned in the last issue can still be seen on Houndkirk Moor on the eastern side of Houndkirk Road at map reference SK 276815.

About 200 metres from the Fox House end of Houndkirk Road you can see the foundations of the decoy unit's buildings. Continuing towards Sheffield the road (an un-metalled turnpike) crosses over a ridge then drops and bends slightly (good views over Sheffield and as far as Doncaster on a clear day). Further remains of the decoy site are on your right hand side: the rectangular dry stone wall which enclosed some trenches can still be seen, as can a roadway and turning circle for the army vehicles.


The trenches may have contained, as well as flashes to imitate furnaces and steam locomotives, a decoy tram line. This was a series of electrically induced flashes passing along the trench to simulate a moving tram's collector pole passing along the overhead wire.

These decoys could only be lit up before the bombers arrived. If a bombing raid began before the decoy site operators could be alerted and begin their work they were helpless, as once the enemy had located their targets, operating the decoys would simply have given the game away.

These sites exist in various parts of the country and there is an ongoing project to record them and list them for preservation. I have often wondered what it must have been like for the people who were stationed at these sites, making themselves a target and then huddling in their shelters as the bombs rained down close by. I guess they were just some of wartime's many unsung heroes.

Mick Savage

Ed. Mick Savage is the author of "The Mystery of Carl Wark", available from him on 236 9002.



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Gala 2001

For those of you who do not know, this year's Gala will be held on July 14th.

The Gala year commenced last October, with the committee meeting once a month to discuss and organise events for the forthcoming Gala. The organising builds up from May with Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows having fun preparing their stalls and 100 plus parents and helpers putting up bunting, bottle collecting and selling raffle tickets.

All this voluntary work is carried out to ensure that you the community have a fun day. It is a wonderful time to meet old friends and make new ones, I am sure this year will be no exception.

The decision as to which field to locate the Gala in this year will be dependent on the weather in the build up to Gala. All efforts have been made to choose attractions with their weight in mind to avoid a repeat of the damage caused to the recreation ground last year, this now being settled by the fairground attraction owners.

The prime purpose of Gala is to provide a fun day, linked to the main fund raising event of the year for the local Scouts and Guides. This year we will be running the Gala from 2.00pm continuously through to 7.00pm. As usual we have all the old favourite stalls and arena events including the Dog of Dore, Tug of War, Fancy Dress, It's a Knockout etc. We feel that we have been able to provide attractions that will entertain all age groups.

In the past two years many committee members have retired. This coupled with this year's retirements, means the number of committee members has been considerably reduced. We therefore seek new members, so if you want a real say in how Gala is organised and run then please contact myself on 2363955.

The success of Gala day is largely dependent on the community (and a little on the weather), whether you are on the committee, help on the day, advertise in the programme, or just turn up - Without your support the Gala would not take place. Support your local Scouts and Guides and other children's charities. Full details of the programme will appear in the Gala Magazine to be distributed shortly.

Nick Hensby, Gala Committee Chairman

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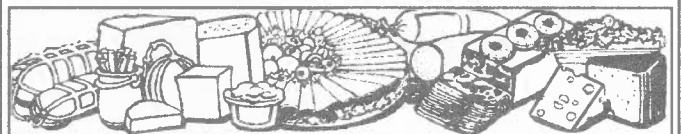
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The milklads of Derbyshire

Twice a day summer and once a day in winter, milk was brought to Sheffield from farms up to seven or eight miles from town. It came in barrels by mules or Galloway's (asses or ponies) and was sold house to house, or delivered by whole load to some person appointed to retail it to weekly customers.

The price was two pence halfpenny in the summer and three pence in the winter. The beasts were conducted by boys who sat either aside or astride on the rumps of the animals, and with incessant application of the whips, galloped together in gangs. Sometimes there was a score of these milk lads and they endangered everybody on the roads while converting, as they did so, a great deal of the milk into butter on their way into town.

The rudeness of the boys and their reiterated insults to travellers of all descriptions induced the neighbourhoods to apply for an Act of Parliament for regulation of this trade. It was then enacted that the boys would not, under the threat of a heavy penalty, gallop down the road or behave in an indecorous manner. It was further ordered that every milk seller must have his name painted on the packsaddle, which supported the barrels.

Numbers of these boys came from Dronfield, Norton and no doubt from Bradway, Greenhill, Dore and Totley and it was said that the raucous behaviour of these lads, belonging to a "fraternity proverbially wicked and incorrigible" was hard to lose in later life. However some became good men and shining characters.

In his later years, Sir Francis Chantrey, the famous sculpture, advised a guest from Yorkshire. "You are going in the coach and will reach Sheffield in the early evening along with coaches from other directions and, a few miles this side of town, you will pass scores of asses carrying milk in barrels with boys sitting on their croups behind the saddles and jogging merrily along the road. Then you should think of your friend for I was once a milk lad and travelled in the



Contemporary etching of the milklads

same manner".

Chantrey was born on 7th April 1781 in a cottage still standing off Cinderhill Lane at Jordanthorpe, Norton. After working as a grocer, he became apprenticed to an artist and set up a studio in Paradise Square, Sheffield. Eventually he decided that his fortunes lay in London where he learnt woodcarving and sculpture before carving a name for himself with his statues and busts of the famous, including Victoria, Raffles and Sir Walter Scott.

When he died in 1841, his body was transported for burial in Norton and it was there that the twenty two foot high obelisk was erected by public subscription in 1854 and there it stands today close to the church. Not bad for a milk lad!

Brian Edwards

On the road

Local councillors have been busy trying to make progress on traffic issues, and these frequently come up at South West Area Panel meetings. A public meeting, specifically about parking on Dore Road, to be attended by local councillors, Railtrack and the Highways Dept was scheduled to take place on 17 May.

We understand that current City policy is to focus on "priority corridors" e.g. the Abbeydale / Chesterfield corridor, searching for ways and means of implementing integrated traffic schemes - vital for the city's future since as this impacts directly on inward investment. In addition the Council's prioritisation of highways maintenance (approx. £6m extra since March 2000) is a step in the right direction and so-called "gold routes" (viz. major, "high visibility" routes) are to be targeted for immediate improvements in appearance & impact.

Starting this year, traffic planning schemes will be prioritised through standard assessment criteria across the city and become part of a 3 year rolling programme. In our case the Abbey Lane/Abbeydale Road South junction is an example. Approximately 13 other schemes in our area are under consideration. Sadly, this will leave much of the city's residential streets as a secondary priority until the city catches up with the £19m under investment of recent years. It is vital that local residents advise their Councillors of any traffic issues of concern so that they can be fed into the system.

Potholes - everywhere! In 1995 the City Council decided to focus shrinking resources for roads on emergency repairs only. Predictably, many of our roads are now breaking up and increasing volumes of traffic exacerbate the problem. Increasing the council tax has helped, but the backlog is considerable. Following a recent Best Value Review, Highways maintenance is undergoing major re-organisation and the Council anticipates rapid (and visible!) improvements forthwith.

Again all potholes should be reported to the call centre on 273 4567 which helps engineers prioritise repair/maintenance work.

Finally you may have heard that six possible "light rail" schemes are under consideration for the city in general terms, including the Abbeydale corridor, with the possibility of Supertram linking Dore station to the City. Progress will inevitably be slow and dependent on funding, with only two at most likely to be "progressed"... but watch this space!

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Close encounters of the blind kind

During the past three years I have had the misfortune to become a V.I.P. No, not a very important person but a visually impaired person. I have fallen victim to the worst kind of Macular Degeneration, which affects many thousands of people, for which there is as yet no known cure. I am left with only one small area of vision in the top right hand corner of my right eye.

I am now registered blind and receive support and help from social services and the other main support groups. I am being trained in the use of the long cane by the mobility-training officer from Fulwood Guide Dog centre for the blind. She and I now have a very special rapport and very rarely stop laughing. She has worked very hard and trained me in the use of cane, which is striped with red instead of the usual plain white. This is to indicate officially to other people that I am deaf as well as blind and therefore especially vulnerable in traffic. During my travels through the village I have realised that very few people know why this is so and it is important to those of us who carry it, that people are made aware of its significance, particularly motorists.

Of course the cane is not so attractive or as companionable as a guide dog. I have in fact been tried out with two guide dogs but, like one or two others, I'm not suitable, as I am not able to relax sufficiently to let the dog take me over. These lovely animals cost many thousands of pounds to breed and train from beginning to end, they must not be wasted. A few parked vehicles and overhanging foliage which obstruct narrow pavements; vehicle doors being opened or slammed shut; engines being started up; vehicles reversing out of driveways, all across pavements; vehicles driven over the speed limit up and down main roads such as, Dore, Causeway Head and Townhead, all these are somewhat nerve-racking!

Believe it or not, however, there is a lighter side to this affliction. During early training with the cane I have been known to wander down peoples' driveways, to attempt to enter the Post Office through the window (much to the mutual amusement of the staff inside and my trainer) and to reach out towards a shelf in the Co-op and accidentally touch the chest of a young male assistant, much to his embarrassment and the hilarity of everyone around me. Last but not least, I have even been known to approach a road sign to ask it to show me across the road!

In conclusion, my main reason for this article, apart from hopefully being informative and not too boring, is to convey my very sincere gratitude and appreciation to the many kind and helpful people in the village who approach me with offers of assistance. Also, the staff in all the shops are wonderful in the way they take time to help me.

Finally I feel that I must mention a little girl called Kirsty, her younger brother Sam

and their friends, who were kind enough to help me negotiate the then dreadful path across the recreation ground last August. When I thanked them for this assistance that was so freely given, Kirsty told me her best friend was visually impaired. As this little girl is only about ten years of age, I feel it gives cause for reflection and puts one's own troubles into perspective.

To early fellow sufferers, I would like to say do not despair, even though you may have been told that nothing more can be done for you, you are not alone and there is help available at this difficult time. Independence can be achieved and I would refer to Sheffield's famous motto "Deo Adjuvante Labor Proficat". God helps those who help themselves.

My mother wrote this article and I would also like to say thank-you to everyone in the village for the help you give her.

Dave Rodman

Deadline for Autumn Diary Events Tuesday 31st July

Ring 236 9025 or write to the editor

Verb Conjugations

I am a freedom fighter.
You are a guerilla.
He is a terrorist.

I am determined.
You are stubborn.
He is pig-headed.

I am dedicated.
You are single-minded.
He is fanatical.

I am a radical.
You are a socialist.
He is a left-wing loony.

I am right of centre.
You are a Conservative.
He is a hidebound Tory.

I am a Renaissance man.
You are a Jack-of-all-trades.
He is having an Identity crisis.

Ray Butterfield



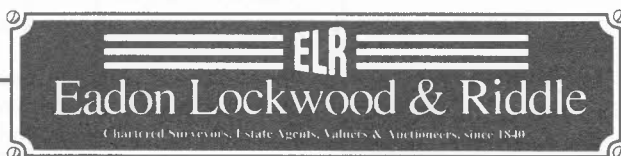
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New nature reserve

The Sheffield Wildlife Trust is Sheffield's largest and most effective independent nature conservation organisation, working to improve the local environment for both people and wildlife. It is part of a national association of 46 local Wildlife Trusts, which work to protect wildlife in town and country.

Working with communities in towns, cities and the countryside throughout the UK: they campaign locally and nationally for wildlife; they provide expertise in all aspects of wildlife conservation; and they run an extensive environmental training and education programme.

Together, the Wildlife Trusts have more than 320,000 supporters and care for more than 2,300 nature reserves, making them the biggest organisation in the UK working to protect all kinds of wildlife for the future.

Sheffield Wildlife Trust has recently been awarded £185,000 by the Heritage Lottery Fund to establish new nature reserves at nine of Sheffield's most valuable wildlife sites, covering more than 300 hectares of Sheffield's finest countryside.

This includes a new nature reserve on Blacka Moor in Dore, for which the Trust will be negotiating a 25-year lease with Sheffield City Council which owns it. This 180 hectare site with its rich mosaic of heather moor, woodland and peat bog, has recently been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest in recognition of its importance for birds.

All the sites have been selected to include examples of most of Sheffield's most important natural habitats, high-lighted as priorities for conservation in Sheffield's Local Biodiversity Action Plan. They have also been selected to provide people with greater access to their local natural heritage by improving footpaths and other



The lawns and gardens of Abbeydale house - lost to yet another building site.

infrastructure.

There will be a wide consultation exercise to gather local knowledge, views and opinions on the future management of the reserves and each is to have its own local Reserve Advisory Group of interested people to assist with management. A first public meeting on the Blacka Moor reserve project was due to be held on 16th May, to be followed by the first meeting of the resultant Reserves Advisory Group for Blacka Moor at 2pm on Tuesday 22 May, in Totley Rise Methodist Church.

Ed. Dr Rob Stoneman, Director of the Sheffield Wildlife Trust, will be the speaker at the Dore Village Society's spring meeting on 24 May. He has been quoted as saying that "Sheffield has one of the richest natural environments of any city in the country. It's a unique asset that we should all treat with the respect it deserves, with the moorland at Blacka Moor, for example, being of international importance".

Dore Recreation Ground

Site meetings have been held recently with Sheffield Wildlife Trust and Sheffield Leisure Services over future landscaping work, some of which may be undertaken by the Council including the Rangers and some sponsored by DVS. Current priorities are:

1. Tidy spoil from recent footpath resurfacing. Install 'no dogs' sign on playground fence.
2. Lop trees at Townhead Road entrance to open perspective into the Rec and for safety issues. Tidy area immediately to right of entrance in front of playground and undertake selected landscape planting.
3. Additional planting of evergreen trees/shrubs in the top corner where the flats are being built.
4. Landscaping of area around basketball base.
5. Additional planting between boundary and existing whips along Western edge.
6. Creation of wetland/pond area.

It has been suggested that we should have an official opening of the Playground?

Planning

Since publication of the Spring Issue of Dore to Door there has been one planning matter which has been of real concern. It may be recalled that there was strong objection to a proposal to build a three storey block of flats within 10 metres of, and overlooking, the Recreation Ground on the Newfield Lane side.

We reported the travesty of a planning decision to grant permission by the chairman's casting vote at a meeting where only a handful of councillors were present. The developer, on the strength of that decision, proposes to abandon his previous intention to build a dwelling house on the plot adjacent to the proposed flat development. He has now made a fresh application to build a three storey block of six flats on that plot.

The village now faces the prospect of two blocks of flats overlooking the Recreation Ground where, until now, there has been no property in view. A site originally intended for five houses, now could have fifteen properties all using a poor access onto Newfield Lane.

The decision of the planning committee could well have opened the floodgates for development right along the boundary. That would materially change the whole nature of the Recreation Ground. It is a pity that so little notice is taken of the interests of local people on local issues.

The decision on the latest application has not yet been made. There is still time to stop the rot.

David Heslop

Makes you think

Silence is golden when you can't think of a good answer. Muhammad Ali.

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Welcome to Open Dore

Dore has its own community web site provided by the Dore Village Society with the aim of providing access to information of value to the local community and information for visitors.

The site has its own search engine or you can follow the subject index with information about:

The Dore Village Society

Forthcoming events - a local diary

Dore to Door - internet edition

History of Dore - a brief summary

Publications available and an archive

Local web sites of interest or use

Local business sites

Dore message board - up to date news

Contacts directory - local e-mail addresses

Recommended websites - nominated by you

Links to other community sites

Feedback - our E-mail address.

+

Today's local weather

A national & international news ticker

If you have access to the internet then give the site a visit and tell us what other information you would like to see on it.

Volunteer for a change

Volunteers' Week, is a major UK wide celebration of volunteers and volunteering which began in 1986 and runs from 1-7 June every year.

In the UK last year over 7,000 organisations participated. This year, as part of the United Nations International Year of volunteers 2001, the Week will be even bigger, having received lottery funding, and substantial sponsorship. Groups and organisations of all kinds and sizes take part - from household-name charities to hospitals and small community groups.

Volunteers play an important and valuable role in society today. If they stopped giving their time, then many vital services would collapse, including hospital transport, sea and mountain rescue, magistrates courts and children's panels. Some 22 million adults are involved in formal volunteering each year, and 90 million hours of voluntary work is undertaken each week

Volunteers' Week, is a great opportunity to get involved - you can test the water to see if you like to do volunteer work on a regular basis or you can just join up for a day on a 'one-off' project. Whether you want to establish your own project or be part of an existing group, there are opportunities for everyone.

Volunteers' Week is co-ordinated by the National Centre for Volunteering in association with other organisations. For more information and ideas please contact: The National Centre for Volunteering, Regents Wharf, 8 All Saints Street, London, N1 9RL, www.volunteersweek.org.uk Your local library, Volunteer Bureau or Timebank (0207 401 5420) should also be able to assist you.

Spring has finally arrived

In view of the weather we have all had to endure since Christmas, I have been hesitant in requesting all the gardeners in Dore to think about opening their gardens for the annual Dore Gardens Open Day during the 2001 Dore Festival. However, Spring has arrived and lifted all our spirits, and many gardens are looking wonderful.

If you have an interesting garden please consider opening it on Sunday 8th July, from 2pm until 6pm. As well as giving a great deal of pleasure to the local community, the Garden Open Day has raised a considerable sum for charity each year. Each 'garden opener' chooses their preferred charity or charities to benefit. Last year more than £1,000 was raised.

All sizes and styles of garden are wanted, and we are not looking for perfection. If you have visited the gardens in other years you will know that it is great fun and very enjoyable for all those involved.

If you wish to put your garden forward or to find out more please contact me on 236 9100.

Julie Bearpark

News in Brief

The Scout bottle and paper banks on Rushley Road will close from the end of May.



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THE OLD SCHOOL DORE 1800—1965

About the early history of the Old School we know very little, except that a school did exist in Dore from at least the beginning of the Eighteenth Century. Fairbank's pre-enclosure map clearly indicates the position of the school on its present site, and we have evidence that money was bequeathed in wills for the education of poor scholars of the parish. It seems fair to conjecture that a schoolroom existed to which the Master's house was attached, all to the right hand of the present front door.

Dore was at that time a small Derbyshire village with no proper centre, no church, a visiting curate and a few scattered cottages and farmsteads. In many ways the village changed little from mediaeval times to the beginning of last century. There would be no more than twenty children attending the school. Education was neither free nor compulsory; the monitorial system operated, whereby the Master taught the older pupils, who in their turn had to teach the younger ones.

A profound change took place at the time of the Dore enclosures. The enclosure movement was general throughout the country and the redistribution of lands in Dore came later than in villages elsewhere. The act for the "Enclosure of the Dore Commons" in 1809 appointed Commissioners to give practical expression to the Act, and when they made their Award in 1822 the village was almost completely redrawn.

The Commissioners set aside land for the building of a new church together with certain lands whose rents would provide a regular income for the upkeep of the school, including the salary of a Schoolmaster. These lands included the Village Green (now happily registered as

Common Land), the land on which the Cricket Field now stands and land called Bread Doles at the junction of Shorts Lane and Whitelaw Lane which continue to pay rent to the Trustees today.

The number of pupils had already begun to grow, and those prosperous and influential gentlemen who had benefited most from the Enclosure were doubtless among the first to offer to pay for an extension to the school building. This part of the School, to the left of the front door, bears a plaque with the inscription "Erected by Public Inscription 1821".

Contrary to popular belief, the Old School was thus not a Church school, since the school and its extension pre-dated the building of the church by several years. All that the commissioners stipulated was that the perpetual curate (ie the vicar) should always be, *ex officio*, one of the managers (or Trustees) of the school. These managers were indeed important personages: among the early managers established by the Act were the Earl Fitzwilliam, who was Patron of the living, The Duke of Devonshire, who owned a great deal of the land in the village, and Mr Bagshawe of Oakes Park, Norton. As time passed these august beings were represented by their agents or were replaced by substantial freeholders.

Richard Furness, a native of Eyam, was the first Master of the new school. Appointed in 1822 his salary was £18 per year, later raised to £30. He acquired some reputation as a poet and hymn writer and was clearly a very able, versatile man who became very popular in the village. He drew the plans for the building of the church. However he had neither training nor experience as a teacher, and serious friction developed between him and the Rev Martin who came to the village in 1840.

Hitherto, Dore had had only a visiting curate, but the Reverend Martin, who lived

in what is now the Old Vicarage, was determined to use his position as trustee to dictate the curriculum and general direction of the education given, in particular "The daily teaching of scripture & the Church Catechism". A long battle of wits ensued; Furness acceded to the requests about teaching the Scriptures, but resisted other rules "for the guidance of the Schoolmaster" which the vicar had persuaded the Trustees to draw up.

Apparently the struggle was too much for Furness; he resigned in 1848 & was granted a pension of £15 per year by the Trustees. This was quite a burden on the trustees, who had limited resources, so the new master was appointed at a lesser salary. The fees paid for the children were increased to 4d a week for the oldest child, 3d for the second, 2d for the third and a penny for all the others. The fees were collected each week by the vicar, acting as agent to the Trustees.

The growth of population led to the building of an infants room behind the 1821 extension: the Trustees were happy to receive the first government grant in 1867. One of the Rev Martin's thrusts against Richard Furness had been to persuade the Trustees to invite a government inspector to the school and from the passing of Forster's Education Act in 1870 regular government inspections of the school was an important feature. Complaints from the inspector about the inadequacy of the buildings were commonplace, particularly the "offices" (an early master had used the boys offices as a hen hut).

The trustees were still responsible for the building; after the 1870 Act they clearly found it difficult to manage financially. They were frequently insolvent: their own records show arrears of rent from the tenants of the village land which they held. Mr Deane, a competent and qualified master resigned in 1882 because, he wrote, "the Trust cannot, or do not choose, to pay an efficient and experienced Schoolmaster a proper salary". He excepted the Rev Aldred, with whom he was on good terms, from this criticism.

The inspectors frequently complained of the lack of slates, or copy books and the need for more space; on the other hand their comments on the education provided were not usually unfavourable and they made a grant accordingly; in the 1880s it was usually about £80 per year, and depended, as did the Master's salary, on the tests of the children; it was "payment by results". Instruction was based on the 3Rs with a little history & geography thrown in: there was no science, though the girls were taught needlework and the boys had gardening experience. Drawing was a regular subject.

After the Rev Martin's death, relations between church and school seem to have been cordial. The Rev JTF Aldred, whose long incumbency saw six masters come and go, was an almost daily visitor to the school and regarded himself as the representative of the Trustees; he checked the registers, frequently taught Scripture and also examined arithmetic and spelling. Living as

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he did at the vicarage (now the old vicarage) the school was near and he clearly felt it his duty to guide the education given.

More significant were the annual Diocesan Inspections from Derby which tested the pupils in the Old Testament, the New Testament, the Catechism, the Prayer Book, hymns and collects, and Scripture. The comments here were invariably very favourable; obviously the vicars hard work had paid off! It is hardly surprising that the school was regarded as a church school.

A new Education Act in 1876 made education compulsory, though it was not yet free. More children in the school placed a great burden on the accommodation and the inspector complained constantly about the conditions.

By this time the Master had one or two "uncertificated" assistants; frequently these were the cleverer pupils who elected to stay on and help as "pupil teachers" or "paid monitresses". They were instructed by the Master for an hour before school; they had charge of a class all day; after that there was more instruction if they wished to qualify as certificated teachers, they attended (from 1900 onwards) the old Pupil Teacher Centre in Sheffield part time. If they passed the examinations they would earn the princely sum of £12-10-00 per year.

Hazel Hoffman

To be continued in our next issue.



TOWNHEAD ROAD DORE BRANESWORTH 2000

Summer Fete

This years Leonard Cheshire Homes Summer Fete will be held on Saturday 23rd June commencing at 2 pm. To be opened by the Master Cutler, the Fete will have a host of stalls, Loxley Silver Band, and activities for the children including a bouncy castle and painting competition.

In view of the current 'Foot & Mouth' concern it may not be possible for us to use the field opposite the Cheshire Home as a Car Park for the Fete. Visitors are urged to park courteously when using nearby roads in the Totley area. Transport will be made available at the bottom of Mickley Lane for those who are unable to walk up the hill and

Leonard Cheshire Volunteers will be stationed at strategic points to give assistance where necessary.

Please give us your support by contributing to any of the stalls and by attending - it will be greatly appreciated!

Jackie Short
Fundraising Co-ordinator

Dart Course

The Attercliffe Centre has places available on the DART course. It is a free course for people with physical disabilities who wish to gain skills and confidence using computers. For further information, contact Laura Lewis at the Workers Educational Association on 242 3609.

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Rinderpest

The present outbreak of foot and mouth disease has a number of historical parallels. In the autumn/winter of 1865 and through into the spring of 1866, the country was ravaged by Rinderpest, a virulent affliction of cattle (the name Rinderpest is derived from the German for cattle plague).

In this area the first case was recorded in September 1865, when a cow with the disease was offered for sale at Rotherham cattle market. At the beginning of October, the Hull dealer who tried to sell the animal was fined for "Exposing for sale in the Rotherham Cattle Market, a beast infected with Rinderpest."

Sheffield Town Council were sufficiently worried by the plague to debate the whole matter in Council on October 20th and by the 22nd the disease had made an appearance on a farm at Bradfield. By the 28th of the month the spread had rapidly extended.

The plague continued to spread and by November 19th cases had been recorded in Stanington. On December 6th the West Riding magistrates banned a sale of livestock at Loxley. December 12th saw the first case within the town of Sheffield and the Mayor took the step of closing the cattle market until February 1st and by the 18th Rotherham and Eckington magistrates had closed their respective markets.

The New Year brought no respite, all West Riding cattle markets were declared closed on January 8th. On January 16th, a deputation of Sheffield butchers persuaded the Mayor to re-open the cattle market, providing that all cattle brought to the market were slaughtered within 48 hours.

Nationally the whole plague reached such proportions that a Bill was taken through Parliament to restrict the sale and movement of cattle; this became law on February 20th 1866. On February 26th a case was reported on the farm of George Hawksley at Owlerton.

Then as now, farmers received compensation for animals that had to be slaughtered as a result of the disease, and in a Vestry meeting in early March, B Cartledge was appointed as valuer of cattle slaughtered in Sheffield township under the Cattle Plague Acts.

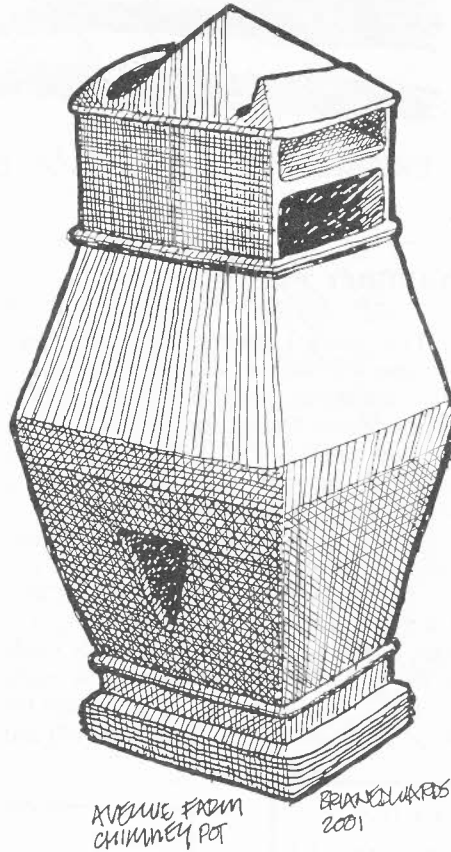
By April 6th the price of meat in Sheffield was raised by 1 1/2 d per pound due to shortages caused by the cattle plague; but by April 16th, the fat cattle market had to be suspended again to reduce the risk of disease.

Reports of the plague occur less often after this but at the Town Council meeting in May it was resolved to raise a special rate to pay for the salary of Mr Cartledge and to cover any additional expenses incurred as a result of the cattle plague. On August 29th the butchers and cattle salesmen of the town held a grand dinner to celebrate the re-opening of the fat cattle market - the dinner was held at the Bull and Mouth Hotel.

Information about the cattle plague was

gleaned from the Sheffield local Register for the years 1865-66. The register is a chronological record of happenings in Sheffield and the surrounding district and can be found in the Local Studies Library.

Ed. This article first appeared in the Sheffield History Reporter, and is reproduced by kind permission of Sheffield Local Studies Library.



No smoke without a chimney

The unusual glazed chimney pot shown on this page is 1000 mm (3'3") high by some 400 mm (16") at its widest point. It is very heavy and is difficult to lift, so the only way I can move it these days is by 'walking' it corner to corner. Before you jump to the conclusion that I walk through the village accompanied by a chimney pot, I should point out that it is now used as a garden ornament and I occasionally relocate it.

What, you might ask, is so unusual apart from the shape? Well it came from Avenue Farm and was once used in the oldest part of the nearby farm buildings, which, as long ago as circa 1650, was part of a paper mill before succumbing to the demands of the industrial revolution and, in this case, scythe making. In 1879 the mill came into the hands of Joshua Tyzack, the senior partner in William Tyzack Sons & Turner, of Little London Works Heeley, and for a time scythe production was carried out.

It is said that Joshua, who lived at Wood Lodge, Abbeydale, decided to build the large stone house next to the mill and which is adjacent to the public footpath that leads from Old Hay Lane. The date stone over the porch reads 1881 and for a number of years the old buildings were run as a farm.

He died in 1887 and his son owned the farm until his death in 1930. Much controversy accompanied the son, and his housekeeper, leading to a well publicised court case. At the reading of the will, it was revealed that Mr Tyzack had secretly married a local lady unknown to the rest of his family.

Never mind all that. Perhaps a reader can identify this design of chimney pot and give some indication as to the origin and date. It would be nice to be sure that it once belonged to the illustrious industrialist.

Before I get myself involved in boundary disputes again, I should point out that Avenue Farm is situated in both Dore and Totley. The old mill was on the southern side of the Blacka Brook, that is in Totley, whilst the 1881 house is firmly to the north and in Dore.

Brian Edwards

Dore Millennium Play

The application to the Heritage Initiative for funding to produce the play is still under consideration and a decision is expected by early July. As obtaining funding has taken longer than originally anticipated, and the amount of research and local involvement required is considerable, the play will now be performed during Summer 2002. It is hoped that many local people and organisations will wish to be involved with the project and the committee would like to thank those who have already made contact and expressed an interest.

Dore is rich in local and industrial history and an exhibition displaying some of this history of the Village and the Old School, which will include photographs, maps, and other items of interest, is planned for the summer. It is hoped that this will also be an opportunity to meet local people who would be willing to talk about their memories of Village life when they were young.

Enthusiastic people with an interest in local history who would be willing to help with any of the following are needed: interviewing local residents and recording their memories (on tape); typing these memories from the tapes; local art/literature groups to help produce publicity materials and a programme for the play.

If you are willing to volunteer to help with this project or would like more information please contact either Margaret Peart or Lyn Stewart at the Old School, tel 2353801 or any member of the committee; Carolyn Heslop, Bessie Colley, Hazel Hoffman, Anne Elsdon, Val Malthouse.

Well Dressing

This year the well dressings will be put up on Saturday 7th July, to be in place for the Festival Week.

Anyone who would like to take part in the making of the Village Green well dressing should phone Anne Slater on 236 6710. We will be in the Scout Hut from Monday 2nd July - times to be arranged.

Well Dressing Diary 2001

Throughout the spring and summer, a succession of old Derbyshire villages put on well dressings, often associated with a week of village festivities. Sadly due to the Foot & Mouth outbreak some have been cancelled this year, but the list below was current at the time of going to press.

You can check the up to date situation by ringing the Chesterfield Tourist Information Centre on 01246 345777/8.

May
19-20 Etwall
26-31 Wirksworth

June
9-17 Ashford in the Water
10-17 Penistone
17-24 Cressbrook
17-21 Chelmorton
22-28 Old Whittington
23-29 Youlgreave
23-29 Rowsley
23-30 Hope
23-1 Tideswell & Litton
30-8 Bakewell

July
7-12 Coal Aston
7-15 Hathersage
7-16 Dore
8-15 Buxton

9-15 Harthill
12-18 Pilsley Village
13-19 Dronfield Woodhouse
13-21 Holmesfield Children' Well
14-20 Great Longstone
14-22 Little Longstone
15-22 Bamford
20-29 Cutthorpe
20-29 Millthorpe
21-28 Heath
21-30 Stoney Middleton

August
4-13 Bradwell
9-19 Great Hucklow
15-21 Barlow
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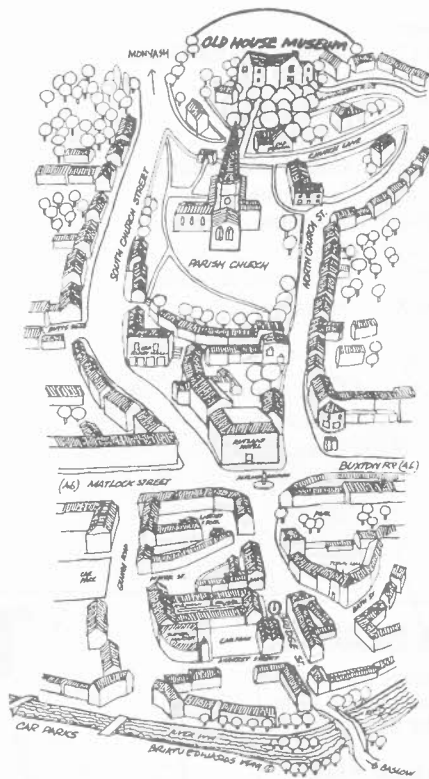
Last week I was in the Czech Republic and, when I was introduced to the locals, the usual greeting was "very sorry to hear about your foot and mouth". I did point out that it wasn't my own feet and mouth that were a problem and pointed out that there were still many attractions they could come for - a showpiece for urban foxes called the Dome, reliable trains, good food on the motorways, cheap petrol, country walking, visits to Country Houses, pollution-free bathing, and, in case of illness, an unrivalled health service.

After ten days I concluded that the former communist state had so much to offer the UK, their energy and enthusiasm seemed at odds with our perception of this half of the old Czechoslovakia as rather drab and backward.

However when I arrived back here I did find news of an excellent event in Bakewell. A 150th anniversary exhibition of the work of that prolific artist J.M.W. Turner, entitled *Turner's Peakland Sketches 1796-1831*, is being held at The Old House Museum in Bakewell.

During his life, Turner made numerous trips by boat and by coach and horses through England and other European countries, finding time for his very quick sketches in pencil, pen and watercolour (more than 20,000 of them). At an early stage his genius was recognised and by the age of thirty-three he was Professor of Perspective at the Royal Academy.

Four years earlier, with a few colleagues, he co-founded the 'Old Watercolour Society' and one of those artists was James Holworthy. Holworthy bought Brookfield Manor at Hathersage (now a conference centre) and the two artists communicated frequently. Turner even offered advice on the building work to the extensions his friend was undertaking and took an interest in the planting of the grounds.



I am not sure if Turner actually stayed at Brookfield, although he did travel fairly extensively in Derbyshire sketching the landscape, architecture and bridges. One important sketch in the exhibition shows Bakewell Church without a spire when it was under reconstruction in the mid-nineteenth century.

Local Art Historian Dr. Trevor Brighton has been instrumental in organising this unique exhibition, which runs until 31st October. The Old House Museum is located behind the church - just follow the signs - all footpaths are free from foot & mouth restrictions! Opening hours are daily 1-30 pm. - 4pm from 1st April to 31st October (during July and August 11 to 4pm.).

Brian Edwards

Bakewell museum

The Old House Museum is probably Bakewell's best kept secret, tucked away in one of the oldest parts of the town behind the parish church.

The early Tudor building in which it is based, Parsonage House, is reputedly the oldest building in Bakewell, dating from 1538, and is every bit as much of an exhibit as anything in the folk museum itself. The story of its history and rescue from decline and demolition is fascinating.

During the Civil War it was in the ownership of the Parliamentarian Sir John Gell and then leased to Sir Richard Arkwright in the 1740s. His son bought it outright in 1796 and converted it into five tenements for his millworkers. In 1865 the house was acquired briefly by the Duke of Devonshire who then sold it to a local workhouse master called Edward Cunningham.

After his death, 'Cunningham Place', as it was then known, was bought by a Mr Longsdon, who re-faced the early 17th

century extension and added a scullery. It then passed through the hands of several owners before eventually being condemned by the council in the 1930s. Fortunately the house was eventually saved from demolition by the Bakewell Historical Society, who took it over in 1954.

The tenement partitions and staircases installed by Arkwright were removed and today, thanks to the Society's efforts, Parsonage House exists in something close to its original state, complete with open-timbered chambers and original wattle-and-daub interior walls.

The local by-gones in the museum have been donated over the years by local people and all the items have strong associations with Bakewell. Much of the house is re-created as it would have been in Victorian times, with a playroom full of antique toys, a Kitchen and buttery, and displays of agricultural implements and equipment once used by local farriers, cobblers and other craftsmen.

Of particular interest are the excellent antique lace and period costume collections, kept in a carefully controlled atmosphere to protect the delicate fabrics. Other gems include a Tudor plank cupboard discovered plastered into one of the partitioning walls, and an exquisite, inlaid, black Ashford marble table.

To visit The Old House Museum is to take a fascinating journey into the past. The wardens and tour guides all dedicated volunteers - are knowledgeable and, passionate about their subject. It is well worth the walk up from the centre of town and the reasonable entrance fee.

Millhouses Festival

Sunday 20 May 2001 12noon to 5pm

The festival in Millhouses Park is a developing tradition. Every year students at University of Sheffield work together with the Friends of Millhouses Park to organise an interesting and exciting day-out, in the Park. The aim of the festival is to create an entertaining and communal experience enjoyed by all the park visitors. Moreover it is an ideal day-out for the whole family.

The festival is a major cultural event in the local community since it covers various forms of art. On the day you can expect to see local bands as well as school bands to perform live. crafts people to exhibit their art work; performers to entertain the children. artists to work together with children in different kinds of workshops like kite-making, face-painting, story-telling. The programme also includes fun-fairs, games and competitions. Demonstrations of modelling boats and innovative vehicles take place, as well.

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

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A short break at the Hasty Choice Hotel

Jingling clothes hangers, as Alec Guinness says in 'My Name Escapes Me', always indicate a third-rate hotel. Sometimes you don't even reach these jinglers, as your spouse (partner) has de-armed or decapitated you by suddenly sliding the wardrobe door across. In some expensive hotels where you might think they'd know better, you lift the hanger off by its stalk, then try to drag your clothes round it. You can't. You've only two hands and one's holding up the hanger. Thief-proof, yes and guest proof too.

Why is there never anywhere to put anything down? No table, no window-sill, just this mammoth built in vertical coffin with two or three dolls' drawers beside it. If there is a table, it's covered in tea-making equipment, often with every variety of tea. Well, almost. No Indian tea, but there is nettle weed, hyacinth-root and ground elder. Or the tea-bar may be crowded onto your bedside locker, with - in the hole where the chamber-pot used to go - a huge leather bound Hotel Guide, smug and important. And an average of three Gideon Bibles.

I was once in a B & B of the dainty kind, which compensated for its scalp-you-now Sir? ceiling with bedside lockers a foot high, which you had to kneel to use.

Dainty B&B's don't approve of reading in bed. If there are bedside lights they give an eerie glimmer, enough to frighten you in the huge wardrobe mirror opposite. What's that haggard elderly person peering at? Is he that same bald man with a waistcoat but no collar, in the sepia photograph on the wall.

Though in hotels there's often nothing on the wall. Nothing that is, except 'What to do in case of fire', and in French, German

and Japanese. What it doesn't tell you is how, in your few desperate seconds, to develop enough muscle to open the fire doors which you'll find every few yards along the corridor.

You'll find four identical white towels in your bathroom, two large and two small. How to tell, tomorrow morning, which are yours and which your spouse's (partner's)? Sort it out immediately upon arrival. If there is a hook on the bathroom door, one of you might use that, but hooks are rare in hotels, perhaps to discourage suicide, always a nuisance for hoteliers.

You may find a note exhorting you to use your towels more than once. This you're told will protect the Umwelt (environment). If you don't want to protect the Umwelt, it says, throw your towel on the floor! (NB if you do the result will be just the same as if you drape it over the bath. The chamber maid (chamber-person) doesn't want to protect the Umwelt.)

If you use the shower you need at least two arms, one to hold the shower over you, and one to wash yourself with. If you don't hold it, it'll slide round immediately and drench the ceiling, the floor and the towels you've put on the corner of the bath for your spouse (partner).

This refinement, like the hand-basin plug that's worked by a knob between the taps, is meant to keep you alert. Look away and your basin is empty. So hold the plug down firmly with one hand. With the other you can do whatever you like.

Thank you for staying at the Hasty Choice Hotel. While we telephone your bank, please fill in this questionnaire and you'll be included in a Prize Draw. If everything wasn't quite to your liking, your friendly staff would like to know. Have a nice day. Come back soon. Enjoy your meal. Drive carefully now.

Glen Fallows

Did you know?

Am I alone in being frustrated by the sheer time it takes to get things to happen nowadays. In a supposed communications age, it seems harder than ever to get one's message through and procrastination seems the dominant management theme. "Let's have an honest debate" means anything but, "Let's look at the bigger issue" means we are going to talk about it but not actually do anything for years.

For example can you really believe how long it is taking to do anything about the parking problem at the bottom of Dore Road. If we had an effective Parish Council it could have been dealt with in the next week!! Or just give me a pot of yellow paint!

No doubt we will be treated to all kinds of promises by national politicians over the next few weeks. We know that the Government largely calls the tune on what local councils can and cannot do - planning legislation for instance, but it is hard to readily associate life here with a remote bunch of career politicians in Westminster. Still at least we get a chance to vote, by post now if we wish, even if the vast majority of votes count for nothing due to our first past the post system.

Still if you wait long enough some things do change for the better. The Dore Deli on the High Street has now re-opened under new management, the empty Nottingham Building Society office has been absorbed by an expanded Vivid and even the HSBC Bank has extended its hours! Tarmac has been laid over the pot-holed pavement in front of the Causeway Head Road shops, new street signs have sprung up and the village is going to get it's flower tubs again.

All we need now is some summer!

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The Wildlife Garden



This winter, I have become a fan of fat. No, I have not started fantasising about cream cakes, nor do I stuff myself with huge amounts of chips - well, not every mealtime, but I have taken to hanging out fat in my garden. Now this might not seem a very revolutionary idea, as animal fat has long been acknowledged to be a vital, energy-rich food with which to feed wild birds and I am sure many gardeners and bird lovers have been doing this for years. However, being a vegetarian for a good 25 years, I have been somewhat reluctant to bring animal fats into the house, let alone prepare my own animal fat mixes for the birds.

A couple of years ago I did try a vegetarian alternative - melting margarine and mixing it with small pieces of bread. Once solidified, it was duly hung in my apple tree and the birds seemed quite keen on it. Unfortunately, as the weather turned warmer, the margarine liquefied and dribbled downwards, liberally coating the bulbs below in a lurid yellow and exceedingly sticky mess. If any fat deserves to be called 'dripping', this must surely be it.

So then I tried a more solid alternative - vegetarian suet, scattering the white pellets on the ground amongst scraps of bread. Again, the birds ate it quite happily, but as the temperature rose during the day, the suet would melt all too readily, this time covering the lawn with a glue-like slick.

After these two disasters, I turned the

following year to shredded beef suet. Could this be the answer?

It was an instant success with the birds, eagerly devoured by robins and starlings alike, even the blue tits would come down and eat the small pieces lying on the ground. Over the winter months I used it on a daily basis. The starlings in particular were so keen on this gourmet food that if I was late putting it out, they would frantically search around looking for it, puncturing the lawn with their sharp beaks.

Unfortunately, whether it was due to the endless trampling by birds' feet, heavy rain or that perennial problem I seemed to be having with the fat - melting, my lawn ended up with a coating of congealed fat which quickly turned rancid. This also had another novel feature not exhibited by the vegetarian alternatives: it killed the turf.

Last spring, I had to scrape the smelly layer of fat off the lawn and re-sow it - much to the delight of the sparrows, which assumed the grass seed had been scattered purely for their benefit.

Not particularly wanting to use beef suet as a herbicide, last September I looked for another method of putting out fat in my garden. In a bird-food catalogue, amongst the photographs of siskins and hordes of blue tits winking out seeds from enormous food containers, I noticed a section on fat holders. I duly sent off for a selection of these and within a few days, as the first frosts of autumn turned the lime tree leaves a beautiful golden colour, I hung out my first one - a terracotta bell stuffed full of suet and seeds.

The following morning an inquisitive starling investigated it, failed to get a foothold on the smooth surface of the bell and abandoned any hope of getting to the fat inside. Even blue tits found the edge of the bell difficult to hang onto and couldn't reach the fat. The outcome of all this futile avian gymnastics was that several months later, only a few beakfuls of fat had been taken. A modification was called for: I pushed a small, clean stick into the centre of the fat and lo and behold, the blue tits were able to use it as a perch and finally get to the food. Much more useful as a feeder was half a coconut filled with a suet and seed mixture. This was successful simply because it could be hung on its side, thereby giving the birds easy access. Inside a week there was nothing left but the empty husk.

By late winter, the birds had started to associate coconut shells with food, so when I hung out a large cylinder of fat (known as a 'fat cake'), they initially ignored it. Gingerly, first one starling stood on top of it and pecked at the unknown white substance, then another and another and after only a few days, starlings were clinging onto every available surface. Within a week the cake had disappeared. These cakes are available in all sorts of 'flavours', for instance with or without seeds, while some even have insects added to attract blackcaps, but the starlings didn't seem to care, the fat simply disappeared down their gullets. insects, seeds and all.

There are holders which prevent starlings getting to the food and in doing so, give smaller birds a monopoly, but I have never been keen on the idea of feeders which force birds to enter a cage to reach their food. If disturbed in any way, birds inside the holder could panic and injure themselves as they try to leave. I think it is far better to let the starlings have access; at least the fat doesn't linger and then go 'off'.

I was particularly impressed with a narrow box-like feeder made from wire mesh. The mesh spacing is wide enough apart to allow birds to perch on it and peck at the fat, but too narrow for them to get inside. What is especially useful about this type of holder is that birds of different sizes can get to the fat from all sorts of angles. The starlings of course would try to commandeer the holder, taking it in bad-natured turns to get beakfuls of fat and convince other diners that they should leave as soon as possible, rather like the management of a fast-food restaurant.

Goldcrests would search for scraps left behind on the apple tree branches where the starlings had cleaned their sticky beaks on the rough bark, whilst long-tailed tits would dangle athletically on the opposite side of the holder to the squabbling starlings. Coal tits, great tits, robins and even great spotted woodpeckers all came down regularly to the feeder. The fat 'slabs' suitable for these holders also come in a variety of recipes, everything from beef suet mixed with peanut flour, to ones which have fruit or seeds added. In my experience, the various mixtures seem to make very little difference; they all disappear rapidly.

Unfortunately, all this avian enthusiasm for fat was starting to get just a tad expensive; even the smallest 'slab' of prepared fat is priced somewhere in the region of £2 and a large kilogram fat cake costs around five times as much. Couldn't I simply make my own 'cakes' to go into the holder?

My grand scheme was quickly vetoed by my partner, also a vegetarian. Boil up lard or dripping in my pans? Not likely. I decided to borrow a pan from my father, someone who has no vegetarian inclinations whatsoever and with the kitchen extractor fan on full, I ventured into the world of cooking with animal fats. Making my own fat cakes turned out to be remarkably easy. Lard or dripping was melted and peanut flour (ground up peanuts) added to it, along with sunflower hearts and other hull-less seeds. This was mixed together, allowed to cool for a short time, poured into moulds and left to set. Lard-based cakes are softer and more readily cut than beef dripping-based ones and are also easier to fit into the holder, but whether they were made from lard or dripping, the birds loved them both.

I am, even in my own small way, helping Britain's hard pressed livestock farmers and I wonder how many vegetarians can say that?

Jack Daw

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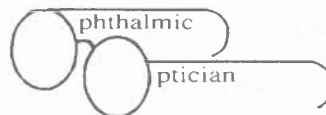
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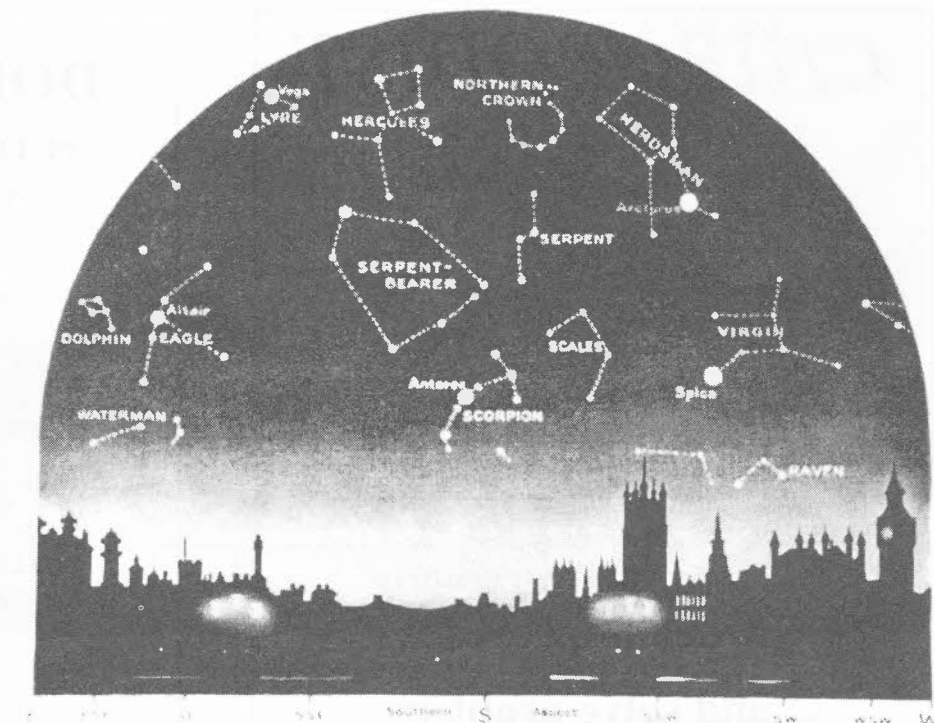
Stars in Dore

Many people are thinking of summer holidays, quite probably to exotic islands where the June/July sunshine may be captured. The further south one goes this summer the more impressive the early evening sky becomes, with the red planet Mars shining brilliantly in the southeast. To the right of Mars is the constellation of the Scorpion (Scorpio) with another very red, but somewhat fainter, object in it. This star is the supergiant Antares, the 'rival to Mars' as the Greeks called it.

The Moon is full on June 5th, glaringly bright, sitting just above Mars, so whilst holiday-makers pose on their hotel balconies in their holiday outfits with a cool glass of Chardonnay, expecting to see Mars, do not anticipate too much during the first two weeks of June. Those on an Hellenic cruise wandering along the deck or returning from a late-night party may notice the planet Venus low in the east just before dawn! A beautiful crescent Moon hangs beneath Venus on 17th and 18th June. This spectacle can also be seen in Dore. Many of us, I know, prefer to spend summer nearer the Costa del Dore!

Our star chart depicts the mid-summer night sky at 11pm (British Summer Time) in London looking towards the south around 23rd June. It is fairly representative for most places in northern Europe, including Dore, with allowance for time differences as one travels either east or west.

The brightest star high in the east, moving to practically overhead as the night proceeds, is Vega in the constellation of the Harp (Lyra). Very low in the north is Capella (in Auriga, the Charioteer) which twinkles a great deal due to its being seen through the Earth's turbulent and shimmering atmosphere at a very low altitude. Undoubtedly the prettiest constellation is the so-called Northern Crown (Corona Borealis). Seen practically overhead and best when there is no moon about, this little constellation represents a



crown given by Bacchus to Ariadne, the daughter of King Minos of Crete. The constellation Hercules lies somewhat lower and to the left.

One point of interest with Hercules is that the Sun appears to be heading in this direction (the solar apex) at 20 kilometres per second if we compare the Sun with all its nearest neighbours. In fact, the Sun, and all the rest of the great local galaxy of stars (the Milky Way) that we belong to, is rotating at more than ten times this speed. One complete rotation takes about 230 million years, so "we" have rotated as a galaxy less than 40 to 50 times since the Big Bang. Not a hectic performance! One is so accustomed to large numbers in astronomy.

One question that is frequently asked by parents is what telescope they should buy for their children when they express a serious interest in the stars. Sharing a telescope with Mum or Dad is probably a good idea since this kind of instrument does

require some special care. Also, since a telescope tends to be expensive if it is any good, one should perhaps consider its resale if enthusiasm falls off after a year. The fact that it is re-sellable might mean that parents put their hands a little deeper in their pockets!

Most telescopes sold in newspapers or catalogues that come through the front door are a waste of time and money. They neither perform as well as claimed, nor are they as impressive and substantial as the illustrations suggest. A 4- or 5-inch diameter reflecting telescope on a robust mounting, perhaps a Dobsonian mounting, is excellent for a beginner. One should go for the largest diameter affordable and not worry about high magnifications.

If possible, three eyepieces, magnifying x20, x60 and x120, is a good idea for a 4- or 5-inch. Telescopes with electric drives tend to be expensive for a given size of telescope, but if that is what one wants, try a Russian-made instrument by Helios. Computer-controlled telescopes are also available.

Large photographic shops stock telescopes although one could go to Birmingham or Manchester, for example, to specialised astronomical telescope stores. Prices could range from £100 to £400. If interest in the stars continues, then enthusiasts are encouraged to join their local astronomical society. Meetings begin again in the autumn. There is one in Sheffield (Mayfield Educational Centre) and also in Chesterfield. Try contacting Darren at 0114-269-2291. Contact with the author can also be made through the editorial office of Dore to Door magazine, or by e-mail to sales@wheelers-warehouse.co.uk.

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Nature under threat

Pesticides, fungicides, herbicides, rodenticides - it is an ecological suicide that is devastating Britain's wildlife. The madness and folly of the Common Agricultural Policy adds to unsustainable development, land-take for quarries, roads and urbanisation as well as the polluting of earth, water and air. It is no wonder that British wildlife has been taken over by a disaster that is unparalleled in human history. Scientists note that worldwide the rate of extinctions is now faster than at any time in earth's history; faster even than the extinction episode (probably caused by an asteroid impact) that ended the reign of the dinosaurs.

In Britain, the abundant is becoming only common - witness the recent demise of the humble house sparrow in SE England; whilst the common becomes rare. Once abundant and beautiful agricultural weeds, such as corncockle, have been removed almost entirely from the British scene. The iconic sound of the British countryside - the midnight churring of the cornrake - has now been reduced to just one England pair.

But it is not too late. Springtime in the ancient woods of Sheffield is still an orchestral delight of birdsong; our shores still hold vast populations of wintering waders and geese, whilst the heather moors are broadly intact. The fight to retain what is left and reverse the relentless decline of Britain's wildlife is in full swing with the

Wildlife Trusts and RSPB having more members than all the political parties put together.

In Sheffield, the local Wildlife Trust is operating across a broad front reflecting the incredible diversity of greenspace in and around the city from inner-city wastelands to upland moor. With nine new nature reserves, including the much loved Blackamoor and Wyming Brook, a quality of life regeneration inner-city agenda, environmental education programmes across the city, Sheffield Wildlife Trust is making the difference.

As part of a network of 46 Trusts, SWT fits into the biggest environmental charity concerned with all aspects of wildlife conservation taking grassroots action from the Orkneys to Land's End. Therein lies the strength of the Wildlife Trusts - local action sensitive to local needs but combining to form a massive force for nature conservation across the country.

*Dr Rob Stoneman
Director, Sheffield Wildlife Trust*

Heartbreak to heartbreak

The talk over the last few weeks has been about the current awful epidemic of foot and mouth disease and perhaps by the time you read this we will have a better idea of the extent and the cost to the farming community and to those who service it. I have read quite a lot about the previous one

in the 1960s but nothing about the epidemic of the 1930s. Doug Turner of Topley wrote about it in the Topley Independent some time ago, prompted by an episode of the TV programme, Heartbeat, when an outbreak was featured.

I suppose that Doug never anticipated another epidemic when he wrote: "I remember, during the thirties, it coming to the Bents, it was terribly eerie. You walked past the farm gate, heard the bawling of cattle, squealing and grunting of pigs and the bleating of sheep. Next day - nothing, except the cackling of poultry, an occasional bark of a dog or the stamping of horses. All the cloven hooved animals had gone, and in those days that meant destroyed, removed, burnt, buried. All that was left was a hollow, empty, eerie silence.

On the infected farm this meant years of hard work just gone, more or less overnight, and the heartbreak of having to start from scratch when the all clear was given. This happened twice to the same farm in the Bents in a short period of time".

The unhappy time was soon out of the minds of the kids for in 1935, electricity was laid on to Topley Bents.

Let us hope that this outbreak is soon over and the farmers can put foot & mouth, swine fever and BSE behind them and settle down to what they are best at - looking after our food supply.

Brian Edwards

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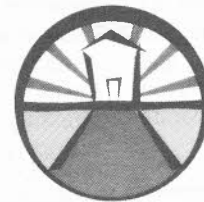
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Book Reviews

Joan Stratford was the Headteacher at Totley All Saints Church of England School from 1985 until her early retirement in 1997 and it was largely to her credit that efforts to rationalise the school out of existence were defeated a few years ago. Appropriate then that Joan was prompted by her memories and the feeling that there was a long and interesting story to be told, to write a history of the school from 1827 to 2000.

The book starts by detailing the impact of local benefactors and the enclosure acts in funding the education of the poor, the building of the original school house on Totley Hall Lane, still standing as a private residence, and a new school on its present site in 1877. Its subsequent development and the personalities involved is explored using contemporary reports and giving at the same time a wider insight into life in the local community. Changes brought about by new education acts, the reduction to a primary school only status in 1965 and the battle to secure its future as a church school is all explored. There is also a rich collection of photographs reflecting events, pupils and staff. *A History of Totley All Saints Church of England School, Sheffield 1827-2000* is a must for anyone interested in the development of education or who has been personally associated with the school as pupil or parent. It is available in hardback price £14.99, or paperback price £10.99, from local shops or by phoning 230 8428.

Dore is mentioned twice in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, some indication of its relative importance, being sited on the boundary of the kingdoms of Mercia and Northumbria. For a long time Anglo-Saxon England comprised a number of separate kingdoms in a fluid state of political

alliances and periodic warfare. It was King Ecgberts defeat of Mercia, and his acceptance as their king, which led to the accommodation with Northumbria at Dore and his eventual acknowledgement as King of all England.

Anglo-Saxon Weapons & Warfare describes the weapons and equipment of the Anglo-Saxon warrior from the end of the Roman occupation to the beginning of Viking incursions along with an analysis of the nature of warfare in the period, reasons for conflict and the tactics used. Its author, Dr Richard Underwood, draws on archeological and historical evidence, combined with the practical experience of making and using weapons as a member of living history and re-enactment societies. Contemporary records are few, but Roman accounts and illustrations from items excavated are drawn on to build a compelling picture of the warrior elite and their role in society.

Any study of the Anglo-Saxon period would be incomplete without taking into account the weapons and methods of warfare in use. This comprehensively illustrated book provides a valuable addition to our knowledge and understanding of the period. *Anglo-Saxon Weapons & Warfare* is published by Tempus Publishing, 01453 883300 price £15.99 in paperback.

Yorkshire is rich in man made heritage, with many towns and villages well worth a visit and some reflection on their past. Two recent publications from Wharnccliffe Books set out in their own ways to illustrate and guide the reader or visitor to the story behind the place and street names of the areas they cover.

Streets and Trails of the Yorkshire Dales covers the popular tourist areas around the towns of Settle, Malham, Giggleswick and Grassington. These share an interlinked history preserved in old greenways and turnpike routes across the moors and phases of development and depression. But it is the information on the history and character of each settlement, followed by the origins of their street names that provides a fascinating insight into the past. Grassington's folds and yards, often tucked away out of site, are an essential ingredient of its character. Settle has a Duke Street, previously Duck Street, but renamed as not being grand enough for the main thoroughfare. Malham has a Finkle Street meaning crooked and winding, Grassington a Badger Gate, a badger being a travelling trader licenced to buy and sell corn.

Full of photographs old and new, *Streets and Trails of the Yorkshire Dales* is a fascinating 112 page paperback to read at home or to use as an invaluable guide when visiting the area. Price £ 9.95 from main bookshops or on 01226 734222.

Street Names of Haworth is, as its title suggests, an illustrated guide to the origins of the local street names of this village in the heart of Bronte country. Following a brief history of development, the derivation of names are intriguing from the logical Prospect Street with a pleasant view, to the

more surprising Tim Lane named after a bell in Haworth Steeple. This 64 page pocket guide is well worth its £4.99 if you are visiting the village.

Walking is now one of the most popular pastimes, but not always enjoyable what with the English weather and foot & mouth restrictions. Not suprisingly, more and more people are taking walking holidays abroad, especially in the winter, and there is an increasing awareness amongst Mediterranean countries of the potential to extend the tourist season this way. There are specialist firms offering walking holidays with a leader, package tours with a walking option or you might prefer to set your own pace. If you do then *Holiday Walks in Mallorca* could be your guide to an excellent break.

Mallorca is an ideal walking destination, only 2 hours flying time from here, with plenty of reasonably priced accommodation, a mild climate and, away from the tourist hot spots, some beautiful mountain and coastal scenery. This book provides a helpful introduction, even listing useful web sites, before detailing 28 suggested walks mainly in the most attractive north and west of the island.

The walks range from 3 to 20km, most taking 2-3hrs, are fully detailed with maps where helpful and take in all the popular spots making an excellent starting point to exploring the island. Some can be stretched by those looking for a more demanding schedule and there is always the challenge (not in this book) of the Massanella, Mallorca's second highest peak.

Although the Balearic islands are becoming more environmentally aware, now is the time to walk there, before access is restricted by rich European expatriates. *Holiday Walks in Mallorca* is written by Graham Beech and published by Sigma Leisure price £9.95 and available from all good book shops.

The beauty, mood and character of a landscape can be captured in pictures or words. *Poetry in the Parks* is a collection of poems and pictures celebrating the 50th anniversary of National Parks of England and Wales brought together by Wendy Bardsley. For each of the eleven parks there is a section with both the familiar and new poetry reflecting its chosen landscape. Each reader will find their own of choice, some long some short like.

This is an extract from 'A Burial at Horton' by Anna Adams:

*Stealing your cautious smile and careful thought
out of our sight and into history,
the plodding pace of one who walks all day
and never hurries, brought you to this place
where you are folded in, under the turf
spread with snow-fleeces, like a shearing
ground,
beside your wife, among the village names.*

Poetry in the Parks is published by Sigma Leisure price £9.95 and available from all good bookshops.

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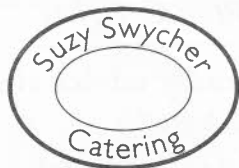
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Ecclesall Woods Archeology Trail

A new way marked trail highlighting some of the archaeological and historic features of Ecclesall Woods on the far side of Abbey Lane, was launched in April with a guided walk.

The Trail is around 2 kilometers long and most of it follows surfaced, and level to moderately sloping ground.

An accompanying leaflet (which is free) has been produced in partnership by the Council, Friends of Ecclesall Woods and the S Y Archeological Service.

The leaflet is available from from Greens shop on Causeway Head Road or the reception point at the Council's Meersbrook Park Office.

Whinfell Quarry Gardens

The first working weekend in February went very well, with around 40 volunteers showing up to start the work of clearing up the gardens. Not to mention the 15+ people who came along to lend their support, including Stephen Doncaster who is the grandson of the chap who created the gardens. Interestingly Stephen Doncaster also brought along some watercolours of the Gardens painted in the early part of this century showing them in their hay-day. The weather was glorious over that weekend and generally much fun was had by all.

A 'Friends of Whinfell Quarry Gardens' group, has now been set up, has had two meetings and plans another working day at the Gardens for Saturday 12 May. The group aims to avoid further neglect of the gardens and to provide an opportunity for the local community to work together in an area of common interest.

They would like to see seats, paths and fences improved, a variety of bulbs and other new plants established and the water features restored. Replacing the information boards, developing a link with the Botanical Gardens, restoring the children's games that used to be in the garden and mapping the existing flora and fauna are also in mind.

If you are interested in the project to renovate the garden Glyn Smyth would be pleased to hear from you on Tel 235 3858 or you can e-mail him at: glyn@smythsheff.freeserve.co.uk



JULY 12 – 22, 2001

"rare pleasure" The Times

Following last year's successful innovation, Buxton Festival again includes a superb literary series with morning talks by ten of the country's leading authors and speakers. These range from novelists Doris Lessing, Fay Weldon, Margaret Drabble and Sue Townsend to writers and broadcasters Melvyn Bragg, John Mortimer, Richard Wilson, Robert Winston and politicians Michael Heseltine and Shirley Williams. Tickets are selling fast, with Shirley Williams already sold out.

Four celebrity recitals form a special feature at the Festival. International tenor Dennis O'Neill (July 15) and soprano Joan Rodgers (July 20) are joined by Tom Randle (July 19) and James Rutherford (July 17) for a feast of top quality song.

Buxton is, of course, famous for opera, and this year the Festival expands to mount four full operas for the first time. Dore residents have a special chance to experience the thrill of the first night with a coach visit on July 12. The coach leaves

Totley Rise at 6.20pm to see a rare performance of Verdi's first comedy *Un giorno di regno* (King for a Day), sung in English. King for a Day follows the amorous exploits of Count Belfiore, who, to distract attention from the genuine monarch, becomes "King for a day". The opera is full of Verdi's fresh, spontaneous melodies and music of good-natured exhilaration. Tickets cost only £20, to including return coach travel! Expected return time is 10.40pm.

The other operas, presented in rotation, include *Partenope* - one of Handel's few comedies, an eerily atmospheric drama set in the northern sea - Maxwell Davies' *The Lighthouse*, and an opera by Shostakovich - *The Nose* - concerned with the misadventures of a nose that takes on a life of its own. Following pursuit by an army of policemen, the Nose is apprehended, but rumours of a missing appendage turn the town to chaos.....

Buxton Opera House has undergone comprehensive refurbishment this year, with new seating and the complete renewal of interior gold leaf decoration. With all events within walking distance, a busy programme and a true "festive" atmosphere, Buxton Festival makes an ideal day out and can be reached in a pleasant forty-minute drive from Sheffield.

With intriguing daytime concerts, some late night frivolity, walks, masses and more, ring 01298 70395 for the Festival brochure or to reserve your "Dore" seat. Brochures are also available at Totley Library. The Box Office number is 01298 72190.

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Diary - Summer 2001

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MAY

- 19 **Spring fair** Dore & Totley URC, Church Hall 10am-2.30pm
 20 **Millhouses Festival**, Millhouses Park, 12 noon until 5pm
 21 **Australian Plants outside in N Britain**. Talk by Greg Plenty for FOBS 7.15pm, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2
 22 **Court Guardians** (Working with children) Talk by Margaret Webb for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm
 23 **Tree Trail** for FOBS meet 7.15pm at Thompson Road entrance to the Botanical Gardens Visitors £2
 24 **AGM & talk** on the Sheffield Wildlife Trust for the Dore Village Society 7.30 pm Methodist Church Hall Open to all
 28 **Guided Walk**, by members of the Dore Village Society 6½ miles. Start village Green 10.15am
 28 **Shepherd Wheel**, open free of charge 10am - 4pm

JUNE

- 2 & 3 **Craft Fair** weekend at Abbeydale Hamlet
 7 **General Election** - be sure to vote
 9 **Concert** of music by Vaughan Williams, Sheffield Bach society, Sheffield Cathedral, 7.30pm. Tickets £8 concession £6 from 266 1000
 11 **Variogated Foliage** session for FOBS 7.15pm, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2
 12 **Music 1900 to 1920** Talk by Donald Fraser for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm
 23 **Summer Fete** Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall, 2pm - 5pm - see article
 24 **Gala day**, ninth annual family event in support of the RNLI. Endcliffe Park
 24 **Open Day**, Manor Castle, 11am - 4pm
 26 **Musical Entertainment**, Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall
 26 **Y.W.C.A.** Talk by Jean Clayton for Dore Methodist Tuesday Group, Church Hall, 7.45pm
 27 **Cromford & Belper** visit by society members - see article

JULY

- 1 **Specialist Nurseries Plant Fair** organised by FOBS 10.30 - 4pm Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens.

DORE FESTIVAL 2001 - Friday 6th to Sunday 15th [see posters]

- Fri **Summer Concert**, Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society Dore Church Hall, 7:30pm
 Sat **Village & Guide Welldressings**
 Sun **Village Gardens Open**, 2 - 6pm.
 Mon **Village Family Fun Run**, 7pm
Lord Conyers Morris Men, Devonshire Arms, 8pm Tues
Gardeners Question Time, Old School, 7:45pm
 Wed **Open Air Theatre**, The Scarlet Pimpernel, The Village Green, 7:30pm
 Thur **Dore Male Voice Choir & Dore Mercia & Totley Townswomen's Guild Choir**, Church Hall, 7:30 - 9:30pm
 Fri **"Music for a Summers Evening"**, Baslow Choir, Dore Church, 7:30pm
 Sat **Dore Scout & Guide Gala**
 Sun **Welldressing Service**, The Village Green, 3:00pm
Cream Teas, Methodist Ladies, Dore Methodist Church Hall, from 3pm
 6 - 8 **Sheffield Art Show**, Octagon Centre, 10am-9pm Fri/Sat & 10am-6pm Sunday. Details 225 9989
 9 **Container Gardening**. Talk by John Pople of Pople Landscapes for FOBS 7.15pm, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2

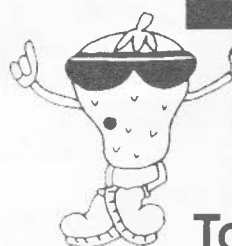
- 12-22 **Buxton Festival**. See article inside
 14 **Woodland Craft Course**, Ecclesall Woods, 9.30 - 4.30pm booking essential on 273 6199
 14 **Dore Gala**. Dore Recreation Ground, 2pm - 7pm.
 15 **Woodland Roadshow**. Demonstrations of woodland crafts in Ecclesall Woods, bridleway junction with Whirlowdale Road
 21 **Open Day**, Manor Castle, 11am - 4pm
 22 **Shepherd Wheel**, open free of charge 10am - 4pm

AUGUST

- 3 **'Ferns'** a talk by Dr James Merriweather for Friends of Ecclesall Woods (FEW). 7.15pm Holy Trinity Church Hall, Millhouses.
 4 **Field trip** with Dr Merriweather and FEW to view ferns in Ecclesall Woods, Tel 236 6979
 10 **Raft Races & grass sledging**, art activities and Graves Park animals. Fun with the Rangers in Millhouses Park 12.30 - 3pm.
 13 **SBG Landscape Plan**. Talk by Joe Rowntree- Curator for FOBS 7.15pm, Demonstration Centre, Botanical Gardens. Visitors £2
 15 **Grass sledging**, arts & crafts activities and Graves Park animals. Fun with the Rangers in Whirlow Park 12.30 - 3pm.
 19 **Open Day**, Manor Castle, 11am - 4pm
 27 **Shepherd Wheel**, open free of charge 10am - 4pm

Support Group

The Totley & Dore support group for the visually impaired hold regular monthly meetings. Forthcoming dates are May 23rd and 27th June. Meetings held at 4 Grove Road, Totley, starting at 11am. For more information phone Mrs Turner on 255 0758.



TFF

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