

DORE to DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

No. 78 SUMMER 2005

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Village design statement

The Dore Village Design Statement has been delivered with this issue to every household in Dore. It has been produced following 3 years work by the Committee and other members of the Dore Village Society. Preparation has involved consultation with all residents of the Village and the Committee thanks all those who have responded and contributed to the process.

Comments by the Sheffield City Planning Department have been very constructive and the Committee is hopeful that the design guidance in the Statement will influence the new Local Development Framework as a replacement for the Unitary Development Plan.

You will see from the document that further studies are proposed and we hope that this work will proceed over the next few years.

We trust you appreciate the way the special character of the Village we live in is identified and the means by which new development may be guided. We would welcome any comments for future action. Please send comments to: David Crosby, 72 Furniss Avenue, Sheffield, S17 3QP

Hathersage Road safety

At long last Sheffield Transport and Highways Division have produced a report into accidents on Hathersage Road between Limb Lane and Fox House, with some recommendations for possible improvements. This has been submitted to the West Planning and Highways Area Board and commented on by the South West Area Panel. There does not appear to be any proposal for public consultation on the recommendations, with not even the Dore Village Society being consulted, despite pressure for action over the years. The recommendations include:

Resurfacing should be considered.

There should be detailed double white line survey.

The speed limit from Limb Lane to Brickhouse Lane should be reduced to 50 mph.

Additional warning and information signs should be considered.

Feasibility studies should be carried out on how to reduce the cluster of accidents at the Cross Lane/Long Line junction.

Once again action is taking far too long due to the slow pace of local government. Warning signs about the number of accidents could be put up quickly and there are other possible ideas such as removing a bus stop on a bend, moving the 40mph limit further from Limb Lane, re-siting the speed camera etc.



DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Summer Meeting

7.30pm Wednesday

22nd June

Methodist Church Hall

AGM and talk by

Annabelle Kennedy

**“Local Wildlife and the
Sheffield Wildlife Trust”**

Everybody welcome

Pothole City

What we all know about the dreadful state of Sheffield's roads was confirmed when the city council recently admitted that, at the current pace, it is only likely to get around to resurfacing minor highways every 200 years and that the city's track record is four times worse than the national average.

Sheffield is paying the price for decades of under funding with estimates that the city needs to spend £15m a year just to stop its roads getting any worse - and the current budget is £4.9m, not helped by an increase in compensation claims.

The council's assessment of its timescale for resurfacing its minor roads was in response to a survey by the Asphalt Industry Alliance, which indicated a chronic shortfall in cash across the country for road maintenance.

The Council is on record as promising to repair within 24hrs any dangerous potholes reported to **0114 273 4567** - so get dialing!

‘Buy a Brick’ Appeal

For the refurbishment of the Dore Scout Headquarters.

The photograph above shows the opening on a new scout hut (a disused Nissen Hut) on Rushley Road in 1955 with the late Syd Crowson MBE on the left of the picture.

This building was replaced by the current sectional concrete building in 1964 but it is more than 20 years since any significant improvements have been made to the 267th Sheffield Scout Group's headquarters. However, work is about to begin on a programme of refurbishment that will include a new extension and an upgrading of the existing facilities.

To help pay for this work, the Group is launching a ‘Buy a Brick’ Appeal. Posters will be appearing around the Village and we hope to be able to persuade the people of Dore to buy a brick or a foundation stone.

When the work is completed we will not only have more room to operate but the building will be in a state that will enable us to offer it to other groups within the community for use during the day, subject of course, to satisfactory insurance arrangements.

If you would like to contribute to this appeal, please pick up a leaflet from any of the shops displaying a poster or contact the appeal co-ordinator, Geoff Cope on 2350392. Thank you.

The people in the picture include (l to r) Syd Crowson, Jim Wainwright, C. Holmstrom, Reg Bruce, Brenda Wild, Roger Wheen and Peter Jackson.

Ed. If you have any old photographs of Dore we would be delighted to see them

Did you know

Traffic, traffic, traffic, we just cannot get enough of it! Still the parking at the bottom of Dore Road is causing problems on weekdays. I cannot understand why such an obvious problem is not tackled by our council, despite numerous requests. All it needs is a few more yellow lines, just to stop people parking on both sides of the road near the junction. But then it probably needs someone to get killed, as on Hathersage Road, before anything will be done.

Not that there is a shortage of yellow paint. The yellow lines in the centre of the village have recently been repainted. What a waste of time and money when nobody enforces them and some drivers treat them as reserved (for them) parking bays.

And now we have confirmation of what every driver or visitor knows - Sheffield has some of the worst roads in the country. Just where has the money gone for the last two decades. On traffic calming humps and fancy road narrowing schemes?

Nearer to my own interest is a concern over the state of Ecclesall Woods. Wet winter weather and increased human use is in danger of turning areas of wildflowers into mud patches. When the ground is wet why must people wander everywhere rather than keeping to the surfaced paths?

More mysterious is the need to cut corners. Surely, if you are walking in the woods for pleasure a few extra metres to go around corners isn't a problem. And one final puzzle. The council rangers, and friends of Ecclesall Woods, expend time and effort closing off short cuts to protect wild flowers and the overall appearance of the woods. Yet some mystery person(s) go out of their way to remove these barriers. I guess they must have a motivation, but it would save a lot of time and frustration if they would have the decency to ring the woodland manager and tell him why.

Doremouse

Ed. Back from hibernation? The Woodland manager is Nick Sellwood on 0114 2736387

Affiliated Groups

The Dore Village Society is a member of a number of organisations with shared or overlapping interests and objectives. These include:

Friends of Ecclesall Woods;
Sheffield Wildlife Trust;
The Ramblers Association;
Beauchief Abbey Barns Association;
Open Spaces Society;
Royal Horticultural Society;
CPRE (Council for the protection of rural England);
Friends of Whinfell Quarry Gardens.

New CAMRA group

The Sheffield & District branch of CAMRA (the Campaign for Real Ale) now has a new social group for members aged 18 - 30. You can contact them via Chairman Myk Eccles on 07751 064053.

PUBLISHING DEADLINES

Dore to Door is published quarterly in mid February, May, August & November each year. The copy deadline for each issue is the end of the preceding month.

Please forward items for the Autumn (August) issue to the address on page 2
Friday 29th July 2005

Dore male voice choir

The Choir presented its Annual Gala Concert at Eccleshall Church, on 16th April, to a full house. It was a pleasure to welcome the internationally acclaimed Kinder Children's Choir, from the High Peaks as the guest performers and the Lord and Lady Mayoress were present. In July the Choir will be singing at Llangolen International Eisteddford, competing in the Male Voice Choir section. This will be a big occasion and an honour for the Choir. In August the Choir have been invited by the Scarborough Council Tourist Department, to give a concert in the Winter Gardens at Whitby. This is part of the Council's summer entertainment programme.

Then in September 105 Choir members and supporters will be going to Bruges in Belgium for a week. There will be concerts in Bruges Cathedral, Ghent and a special invitation to sing at the ceremony of the playing of the Last Post at the Menin Gate War Memorial at Ypres. This will indeed be a moving event.

As you will have gathered in addition to other concerts, the Choir are having a very busy year.

David Heslop

News in brief

Sheffield Rights Of Way Department having secured £ 7,500 for the work have resurfaced the footpath between Vicarage Lane and Burlington Grove.

Seasons Gallery's new garden terrace, at the rear of their cafe, is now open and is already proving very popular. Seasons is on Abbeydale Road South near the junction with Bushey Wood Road.

Planning consent has been given for a new 'Tesco Express' store on the site of the former petrol station at the junction of Devonshire Road and Abbeydale Road South.

A feasibility study into improvements at Dore railway station has been requested by South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority following a campaign by Nick Clegg.

The Council has given itself planning consent to convert the Beauchief Barns into a house in preparation for their sale, but has also given consent to a competing application from the Beauchief Abbey Barns Association for conversion to community use.

Contrary to rumours reported in our last issue, Almas Indian Brasserie will not be changed into a wine bar but will be refurbished and remain a restaurant.

Local concern remains over restrictions to public access on Blackamoor following the erection of barbed wire fencing.

Dore Well Dressing

Well Dressing time has come around once again in Dore. If you would like to help or just want to see how it is done then come along to the Scout Hut on Rushley Road.

We begin making the Well Dressing picture on Monday 27th June and finish on Friday 1st July. Times of sessions will be advertised on posters in the village nearer the time or you can contact me for more information on tel: 236 0332.

Everyone welcome. No experience is necessary. Whatever your age, male or female, even if you can only spare an hour or two your help will be much appreciated and it is all for a worthwhile cause as the money raised from the Well Dressing goes to charity.

Barbara Jackson

Plan puzzle.. solution

The solution to the "parson's puzzle" as featured on page 12 of our Spring issue.

Well, I did warn you that there was something fishy about that plan. Vicar Gibson thought it showed Vicarage Lane and Church Lane. He was half right. What actually happened was that someone at the Queen Anne's Bounty Office somehow managed to combine two plans into one. The right half shows the parsonage (now the Old Vicarage, recently extended), on a road correctly identified as Vicarage Lane. But between this site and the buildings at the centre there should be a complete break in the road.

Gibson took it for granted that those buildings represented the premises of what is now the Old School. But if so, why no crossroads? Here in fact we have the junction of Townhead Road and Drury Lane. The open space is The Cockpit, and the buildings are those of Sycamore Farm, aka Cockpit Farm and Greaves' Farm.

On the extreme left is Townhead Farm, shaded along with the House Field (partly covered now by the innermost section of Overdale Gardens). This and the two adjacent fields to the west were glebe land, secured in the 18th century to support the incumbent.

So there is the solution of our puzzle, but a minor mystery remains. The puzzle plan is not identical with the one I saw some years ago at the office of the Church Commissioners, though it purports to be a copy.

The plan there is perfectly clear and accurate. It shows all the land immediately south of Townhead Road from The Cockpit to Knowle Green. Greaves' Farm, then the old glebe land, then the Knowle Green benefaction abutting on it and comprising the Barn Close - on part of which Blacka Moor View was built some 30 years ago - and the Shoulder of Mutton (from its shape) below it. The parsonage land appears as a separate entity.

Vicar Gibson had plenty of worries about his income. Let's hope that the puzzle plan didn't cause him any further sleepless nights.

John Dunstan

Editorial

Readers will have noticed some changes in the appearance of this issue. This is because so called technological progress has required us to move to new desktop publishing software. This has involved the editor in a steep learning curve, which shows! Hopefully the intricacies of this will be mastered before the autumn edition.

This is also a special issue, in that with it you should have received a copy of the Dore Village Design Statement, produced after wide consultation by the Dore Village Society. We hope that this will stimulate thought and encourage a more constructive approach to development and change in the village. The key recommendations are highlighted in red. We all owe David Crosby on the DVS committee a vote of thanks for leading the project.

John Baker Editor

Open mornings

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

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 (Planning)

Mr D Heslop 236 5043
16 Devonshire Drive, S17 3PJ.

Treasurer

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

Secretary

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

Committee

Mrs L E Baker 236 9025

(Dore Show & FEW)

Mr S Barnes 236 2661

Mr D Bearpark 236 9100

(Wyvern Walkers)

Mr G Cope 235 0392

Mr D Crosby 262 1127

Mrs A Elsdon 236 0002

(Subscriptions)

Mrs V Malthouse 236 3632

Mr P Pryor 236 9831

Election results

The result of the parliamentary election for Sheffield Hallam was a win for Liberal Democrat Nick Clegg.

N Clegg Liberal	20,710
S Pitfield Conservative	12,028
M Hussain Labour	5,110
R Cole Green	1,331
S Cordle CPA	441
N James UKIP	438
I Senior BNP	369
Majority	8,682

Annual General Meeting

This years Annual General Meeting of the Dore Village Society will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 22nd June in the Methodist Church Hall on the High Street. Nominations for election to the executive committee should be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least fourteen days before the AGM.

After the traditionally short formal business, which will include suggested amendments to the constitution (displayed on the society notice board), Annabelle Kennedy from Sheffield Wildlife Trust will give an illustrated talk on local wildlife and the role of the Trust. Refreshments will be available at the end of the meeting. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

Dore Show 2005

This years Dore Show will take place on Saturday 10 September in the Old School and Methodist Church Hall - be sure to note the date in your diary. Brass band, entertainment and side displays of interest to everyone as usual.

There will be 75 classes for you to enter for or come and see, ranging from vegetables to paintings, flower arranging to childrens' exhibits. The full schedule and entry forms for Floral Art classes will shortly be available from the Valerie of Dore shop on the High Street.

For those keen photographers wishing to plan ahead, the 4 photography classes will be: a) Black & White - Open subject - min 7" x 5"; b) Colour - "A Portrait" - min 7" x 5"; c) Colour - "Summer Holiday"; d) "Nature". Classes c) & d) are for standard or panoramic size photos only & unmounted please.

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 Chairman on 236 4257.

Councillor surgeries

Local councillors are available for consultation in the Dore Village Society room on a regular basis. Forthcoming dates are: Saturday 28th May; 25th June & 23rd July, 10am to 11am - Conservatives. Saturday 11th June & 16th July 10.30 to 12 noon - Liberal Democrats.

Membership Subscriptions

For many years Greens Hardware collected subscriptions on behalf of DVS and since their closure we have relied on people paying by post. The response has been very positive and membership has already increased by 20%, but it is not too late to join or renew your membership for 2005.

Subscriptions can still be sent by post to the address below, or paid at the DVS Office at the back of the Old School on the first Saturday of each month between 10am - 12noon. One change that has had to be made as a result of this, is that we are no longer issuing membership cards, which you will appreciate would cost a great deal in time and postage to provide.

It is now 40 years since Dore Village Society was formed and in the early days life membership was offered for a very small fee. The Society in that time has gone from strength to strength and costs have increased as a result. Registering as a charity also let to the Society adopting a new constitution.

Many of those early life members appreciate this and are happy to pay an annual subscription or donation now, so please consider doing this even if you were once a life member of the original society. Your support would be much appreciated.

*Anne Elsdon, Membership Secretary
10 Rushley Close, Dore, S17 3EG*

Spring Bulbs

We hope you enjoyed the daffodils around the village along with the crocuses in the verges on Causeway Head Road and the snowdrops on the village Green. They made a cheerful sight to herald the spring. We will be planting more bulbs around the Village in the autumn.

Anyone willing to help will make a difference, and of course any donations towards the costs will be gratefully received, along with any suggestions for areas you might like to see planted.

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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Letters

Dear Sir,

I have just been reading Reg Skeleton's conversation in the Dore to Door. The lady in question who owned Knowle Green was Mrs Reid, we used to call it Reids instead of Knowle Green. There were a lot of Canadian soldiers stationed there after the British moved out, a lot of them were lost in the fiasco at Slapton sands, and lots more on D day.

My Dad Edgar used to work with him (Reg) at Wagwood house. I seem to remember the house being struck by lightning not once but twice, and Reg was lucky to escape one of them.

I remember the wooden chip shop run by Chippie Holmes. We used to go to Greystones Picture house, it was 1 penny on the bus to Ecclesall terminus 1/2p on the tram to Greystones and 9p to get in to see the film. If it was an A film we asked someone to take us in. Then to the chip shop and fish and chips was 6p, so the whole night cost less than 2 shillings

His conversation brought back many memories as I can recall all the legendary characters and a few more. Francis Coats, Nurse Frith, Joe Denniff, Willie Arthur Frith local milk man delivered by horse and cart, Teddy Swift, not forgetting all the men in the Dore football team as we had a very good side in those days. The matches with Totley and Tideswell were always what are now known as crunch matches, especially the Totley one, which was usually played on Boxing day

J Taylor

Dear Sir,

Mabel Lingard deceased. Late of No 49 Devonshire Road.

Readers may remember Mabel Lingard who died in April 1999. She was a small, gentle lady with a delightful Scots/Irish lilt and made numerous friends on her cruises to various parts of the world. Her only surviving relative was a sister, Hilda

Pattinson of Rushley Drive, who has

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

(19th June)

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10 Causeway Head Road, Dore
www.littlemischiefs.co.uk

since died.

Mabel left a substantial sum to the RNLI and was one of five major contributors to a Severn class lifeboat (total cost almost £1.9m). It is to be called the "Margaret Joan and Fred Nye" after the principle contributors and its number is ON 1279. The launching will take place at Poole, Dorset on 5 May 2005.

Mabel had many friends and good neighbours in the village who will be delighted with this news. Also, they may wish to know the lifeboat will be a relief boat, replacing station lifeboats which are damaged or are out of service, so we might see it anywhere around the coast.

Pat Brearton, Executor

Dear Sir,

Hello there in Dore! Can you please let me know how to subscribe to the magazine? I have been meaning to do so for ages!

I was brought up in Dore, when my family moved there in 1960 (I was 5) and have my happiest childhood memories associated with the village where I went to the old primary school in its last 2 years or so and remember going to the 'new' school for my last year and 11-plus!

My mother still lives in Dore so I do visit regularly but would like to support the village society and the magazine and keep in touch down here in Berkshire so please let me know how to pay the subscription. Kind regards.

John Fox

Ed. Dore to Door can be sent direct to any UK address. So if you leave the area or have friends or relatives that might be interested in the magazine, all we need is a name, address and a cheque for £4 pa made out to 'Dore Village Society' and sent to the address on page 2.

Dear Sir,

The planning office strikes again or 'Room with a view (or not)'

Once more Cavendish Avenue has been invaded by builders. It seems to me that the planning officers have no thought or conscience about the feelings of the residents of what was once, a quiet residential road. This time, the victim of this recent invasion is myself.

The planning officer assured me that the decision to grant this latest building offence was only after a lot of thought to the consequences it would have on the neighbouring house. I have to strongly disagree with that comment! I would like to invite her to come and see for herself the result of her misguided action. In fact I have already done so, and, surprise, she has declined!

I now have the pleasure, when I sit in my room, instead of looking out at blue sky and view, I see a brick wall & a roof. My two bedrooms that are adjacent to the extension have the same view! My dining room is also affected and I have had to put up curtains to hide the wall, at the same time blocking out the sunlight which I once enjoyed. Needless to say I feel that this must have had an effect on the value of my property. Will the council, I ask myself, reduce my council tax in line with this development? I think not!

I know I do not have any control over

these matters, but I do have a voice. I also have no doubt whatever that it will not stop here. The planning officers will continue to do their damage, regardless of peoples feelings.

I have been a resident of Dore and the same house for fifty years, and feel very sad to think that I can no longer enjoy the solitude and the privacy that once was mine. How much longer must we suffer at the hands of a minority of people who have a disregard for our "once beautiful" village.

Name and address provided

Dear Sir,

Did your village, town or community once have its own brass band?

I am carrying out research in the history of brass bands in local communities, and would like to ask if you know of any information about any such extinct bands in your area.

The late 18th and early 19th centuries were the "golden age" for these bands numbering, it is said, up to 40,000 distinct bands at their peak. Many of these bands were associated with local industries, often being a "works" band. Others provided a musical focus for many small towns and villages in the days before the gramophone and the wireless. Today, in contrast, only some 1,500 or so are left active in the UK.

Sadly many of the bands left little in the way of information about their existence, and what does exist is widely scattered with individuals, local archives and national collections. Part of my research is to identify these lost bands, to collect together material to provide a central database of information - containing a mixture of primary information as well as references to material held elsewhere (e.g. in local archives).

Any information you can provide would be gratefully received. Whether actual information or pictures of any bands, or pointers to resources, or sources for further investigation. Even knowing that a particular band existed is significant!

Currently much of the information I have collected is available online, at www.ibew.co.uk/ - in various locations, for example, in the Reference section under "Extinct Bands" or "Vintage Pictures".

With best wishes for your continuing research in local history,

Gavin Holman

Dear Sir,

Today, 27th April, all the healthy mature trees on the left between Newfield Crescent and the lane leading up to the entrance to Longacres were cut down.

It is a sad day which should be recorded in Dore to Door. How it ever became allowed is a mystery and a catastrophe. Conservation has gone by the board. As I walked down Newfield Lane this afternoon, every passerby, pedestrian and driver, stopped in amazement at what was going on.

Let us only hope that the rest of the Lane and the Recreation Ground are not attacked similarly without warning to residents.

David Andrews

Dear Sir,

I'm sure all the members of the Dore and Totley Luncheon Club, on Wednesday afternoons will join me in thanking Val Edwards and Margaret Millican for all their care and attention, and also to Margaret Barlow and Jack of Transport 17.

We have a good lunch, talk and sometimes bingo, and transport from door to Dore which means a lot to old and disabled ladies.

Thank you all.

Mrs Lily Greenwood

Jean recalls

Firstly may I say how much I appreciate the people who noticed my absence from the Spring issue.

In the letter from Margaret Moore, she mentions Mrs' Cook and Green doing the school dinners. I would like to correct this error. Mrs Cook was assisted by her younger sister Mrs Warnes. Hilda Warnes is still alive, now in her nineties, in the cottage on Townhead Road, where she has lived for over 60 years. Hilda has witnessed many changes in Dore. When Hilda was growing up, Dore was, I cannot say a pretty village for it was never that, but at least it was a village. Until the 30's it was in Derbyshire. I guess the rot set in when it came under the umbrella of Sheffield.

Dore had 4 butchers and soon now it won't have any. There were several grocery outlets, Huby, Friths, Marshalls, Moseleys, Mrs Thorpes, The Co-op, Tiddy's Frith's dairy at the bottom of Brickhouse Lane and the little shop at Fisher's Nursery on Newfield Lane. The sweet shop near to the village trough, where villagers laid their bets on race days through the kitchen window. Dottie Green's newsagents and a gents hairdressers. There was no chemist until later, but we did have a blacksmith.

The closing of Green's marks the end of an era here. Unfortunately a sign of the times we live in. Mr Roy and George Green began the shop in a little wooden hut in their builders yard and when building stopped due to Mr George's advancing years the present shop was built. My husband Don worked with Roy and Roy's wife, Ivy until Ivy was forced to give up due to arthritis. Mrs Shaw from Leyfield helped part-time and when she moved to Wales, I took her place. We still had the builders yard supplying sand, cement and concrete flags to the local builders: Ashby's, Cook's, Hallamshire Builders, Mottram's etc. there are no local builders left now. Don Fisher was the last of them.

George used to say we sold so many concrete flags on a Saturday, he was surprised Dore wasn't covered in concrete. When he retired Don and his brother Dick took over. Unfortunately Dick was taken seriously ill a short time later, but with the help of loyal friends, and here I'd like to mention Lee Hutchinson and Richard Clark, we were able to carry on till Dick was well enough

to return. When George died Reg bought the buildings and on the untimely death of Don, Nick took over. However over the last few years it has been very difficult and he has had no option but to call it a day. He has moved, as I'm sure most people know, to Reg's old workshop on Rushley between the Scout Hut and Limpits Farm Cottage. He will be pleased to see customers old and new there, for bike repairs, lawn mower servicing, shear sharpening etc, and also picture framing. So I hope the village will give their support.

I could write a book about life behind the counter in Green's and the odd requests people have made over the years. One old lady who had new batteries in her radio came back a short time later and asked if she could have English batteries because she wanted to listen to Desert Island Discs and all she could hear was a foreigner!

What happened to Doremouse in the last issue. Has he/she gone on strike too!

Skips and vehicles are still churning up the pavements and grass verges. Parkers Lane is a disgrace, since workmen started to alter a bungalow opposite the way in to the Scout bonfire field. I hope by the time this goes to press they will have rectified the damage.

I had to laugh On my birthday, I received a card which boasted 'Made in China'. What on earth are we coming to? Is nothing made here!

Jean Dean

New comedy

Apex Players will present a brand new comedy, "Three times a day after meals" by Paul Cambell and Stephen Doyle at the Sheffield Library Theatre from 26-28 May at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 and £4 can be reserved in advance by calling 0114 269 3329 or 0114 2348499. Check their website for more info at www.apexplayers.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk

Our Local Connection

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Planning Matters

61-65 Limb Lane. This property on the east side of Limb Lane, behind the high stone wall, was once a residential home known as 'the Moss' and owned by the City Council. It was sold and has recently been converted into apartments. The developers applied for the erection of a new bungalow as part of the scheme. This was refused as the property stands in that vulnerable Green Belt between Dore and Whirlow.

About two months ago the developers, Goodacre Health Limited made a fresh application for the erection of five garages with two apartments above. The Society was very concerned that this was a further attempt to develop in the green Belt. Thankfully the Planning Officers considered that this application was also unacceptable and the developers have now withdrawn the proposal.

Barber Fields Farm, Long Line. Some three years ago the Council sold Barber Fields Farm. The property itself is just over half way up Long Line on the right hand side. The adjacent farm buildings, including the original old farmhouse, have since been developed as a substantial dwelling. At about the same time the more recent farmhouse, standing nearby, was extended and altered. These properties are well within the Green Belt.

The owner of the house has now applied to build a workshop/garage (with storage for animal feed over) and a lambing shed. This is an extensive development, and with very little land attached to the property, is considerably out of scale with the land use. The Society has objected to the proposals as being inappropriate for the location and the Green Belt. The owner also appears to have extended the existing garden into the neighbouring field, without planning permission.

'Long Acre' Newfield Lane. The Planning appeal against the original refusal for 38 units has now been

withdrawn by Westbury Homes.

The developers have now started work under the approved proposals, initially by removal of trees from the bank on Newfield Lane. It may be recalled that the approved plans necessitated work at the junction of the present access road, including the removal of certain trees to facilitate sight lines, but also included for the replacement of each of these trees with new standard trees in approved situations.

Totley Bridge Garage, Abbeydale Road South. The application for a sales shop with forecourt parking, which was made some time ago, and replaced a previous consent for flats on the site, has now been approved. The development of the site with a Tesco convenience store will now no doubt take place fairly soon. Sadly we have lost the facility of another petrol filling station in the area.

Newfield Lane. There is a field on the west side of Newfield Lane between the bungalow known as Newfield Farm, and The Door Moor House property. Recently the owner has planted a double row of leylandii, the fast growing coniferous trees all along the road boundary, behind the stone field wall, and along the southern boundary, which is very close to the Lodge to Dore Moor House.

This is vulnerable Green Belt land and developers have previously made exploratory efforts to get the land developed with houses. Leylandii are totally inappropriate for the site. They can grow very high, and the future prospect for the houses in Newfield Lane, which enjoy extensive views towards Houndkirk Moor, will be appalling. Regrettably there is nothing to stop the planting of these trees, and the purpose of planting is at present hard to understand. But the Society can promise that any attempt to develop this land will be rigorously opposed.

David Heslop

Neighbourhood Watch

Making a Difference in the Heart of the Community.

What is 'Neighbourhood Watch' all about? The answer's in the title - Neighbours watching out for each other in their own Neighbourhood.

A Watch can cover a few homes, a few streets, or a local area, each forming part of a wider network of Neighbourhood Watch associations at city, county & national level from whom they can draw support.

The main aim is to assist in reducing crime & anti-social behaviour in their own area by regular contact with local police & similar groups in other areas. Neighbourhoods with an active Watch usually attract less crime & feel more secure than elsewhere, and this can result in lower insurance premiums. Thankfully, crime in this area is below average, but it surprises some to learn how much actually occurs around them, which could escalate if we don't take effective precautions to avoid becoming a soft target.

Neighbourhood Watch is a voluntary organisation, and the level of interest & activity in each area depends on its residents. Some areas have no organised activity, while others have been active for many years taking advantage of opportunities to learn more about home & car security, what is happening to others nearby, and how to react if something bothers them or looks "not quite right". Some have widened their discussions to pool other neighbourhood concerns.

When a Neighbourhood Watch scheme is formed its co-ordinator can register with the local Police to exchange regular information via their 'Speak-easy' telephone system. Local signs can be erected to warn that suspicious behaviour is likely to be observed & reported.

Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators in Bradway, Totley & Dore meet together regularly to exchange information with local community Police officers. You're welcome to join us if you'd like to know more about how you can participate to widen the active area, or replace long-serving members who'd now like to step down.

Local meetings are usually held in Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. Jim Trotter (Tel. 236 6444) is area co-ordinator for Dore, and he'd be pleased to give details of our next NHW meeting on Wednesday 18th May.

South Sheffield Neighbourhood Watch Association also arrange combined meetings with more senior Police at their District HQ at Moss Way. At county level, South Yorkshire NHWA can give more general information via John Sturdy at their Community Safety & Advice Centre, 29 Howard Street, Rotherham, S65 1JQ - Tel. 01709 365908.

We can all make a difference if we try.

Village Notice Board. If you have a public notice about events in or of concern/interest to the village, please contact Anne Elsdon on 236 9025 or John Baker on 236 9025.

Best gardens

A joint initiative has been launched to promote the attractions of seven of the best gardens in South Yorkshire and one just over the border in Derbyshire.

There appears to be a general lack of awareness of these hidden gems among both the local population and visitors.

The list includes the Botanical Gardens and Winter Garden in Sheffield, Cannon Hall, Wortley Hall and Wentworth Castle Gardens in Barnsley, Cusworth Hall and Brodsworth Hall and Gardens in Doncaster and Renishaw Hall in Derbyshire.

A leaflet and events guide is available from 0114 281 4048.

Support Group

The Dore & Totley Support Group for the Visually Impaired meets regularly in the Methodist Church on Grove Road. Forthcoming meetings will be held on Thursday 26th May, Wednesday 22nd June and Thursday 28th July from 11.30am to 12.30pm.

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South West Area Panel Public Meeting

Wednesday 8th June 2005

Dobcraft Junior School, Pingle Road, S7 2LN
7.30 - 9.00 pm

Agenda

Proposals for Ecclesall Woods Sawmill Site

Further details contact :

Andrea Peers,

Area Co-ordinator 0114 2922 191
email:andrea.peers@sheffield.gov.uk

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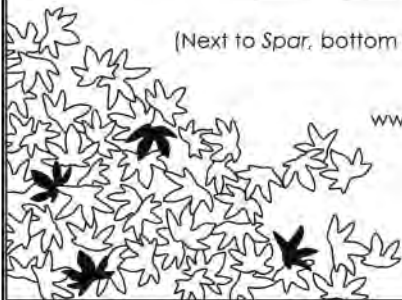
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(from OFSTED inspection report, December 1999)

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Whirlow Farm Trust

The Whirlow Hall Farm Trust is the only charity that operates on a working farm complete with education centre, offering local children, of all ages and abilities, a completely new experience.

There is a very real issue in today's society that many children do not have any idea about where the food on their plate comes from. Whirlow ensures that after a day on the farm they realise that chickens lay eggs, we milk cows and goats for their milk and our Sunday lunch is either beef from a cow or pork from a pig. The team and teachers share the view that it is important for children to understand how the food chain works.

Pigs, sheep, ducks, goats, cows, and many other animals live on the 140 acre farm and children can meet them all! They are also able to handle some, under the watchful eye of the education team, and learn about how they are cared for. Whirlow is not just a petting farm, many of the animals will be sent away for slaughter. However, they are also reassured that this will never take place on the farm itself.

The numerous activities allow the staff at Whirlow to teach all visitors about the importance of farms and how people can influence the farming environment. Groups can spend a whole day on an earth walk that teaches pupils to explore the natural environment using only their senses. Alternatively, there are shorter tours that range from taking care of ponies to discovering the differing habitats that the farm supports. Many of the tours are also suitable for wheelchair users.

There really is something for everyone, whether it is out on the farm or in one of the three fully equipped classrooms. All activities are fun and informative, whatever the season there is something to see and farm tours can be tailored to meet curriculum needs for classes in key stage one, two or three and even nursery/reception.

Two residential units give children an opportunity to stay away, perhaps for the

first time. Twelve children and two teachers can stay in The Barn or The Hall. The Barn has been adapted to accommodate wheelchair users and special needs pupils. There is no television or video, which may scare most children away if they knew but it allows for them to assist staff with farm jobs and learn to work as part of a team. Youngsters can develop their social values and gain a new appreciation for the world they live in.

The latest venture is the newly restored 16th Century 'Help a Hallam Child' barn that transports visitors back to the nineteenth century. With the help of Jenny Bland, a teacher/actor history advisor, children learn about what life was like in 1851 when the Furness family lived at Whirlow Hall Farm.

The children experience the opportunity to travel back in time, which seems to encourage them to question their surroundings and how things have changed. The period dress helps everyone get into character and really shows the children how different life was in the nineteenth century.

Whirlow Hall Farm Trust was founded in 1979 as an educational trust to help disadvantaged children. Since then over 400,000 children, from all backgrounds, have experienced the fun learning environment. The farm does not receive any government funding so all income must come from sponsorship or fund-raising.

For further information on visiting Whirlow, please call 0114 236 0096 or visit www.whirlowhallfarm.co.uk.

Some forthcoming events are:

London 10k race - Sunday 3rd July - Get fit and raise money through the streets of London.

Fruit Picking - July/August 2005- P.Y.O. Strawberries, Raspberries, Gooseberries etc. Open daily 10am - 6pm. Subject to availability.

Farm Fayre - Sunday 18th September - Giant Craft Marquee, Farmers Market Stalls, Children's Activities, Live entertainment, music and dancing plus much more.

Keeping flowers fresh

Hints and tips for prolonging the life of your cut flowers.

The delivering of emotions in the form of flowers is a very rewarding career, but we also want the recipient to enjoy the beauty they bring for as long as possible. We have therefore put together a list of hints and tips to help you:-

- Always put flowers into fresh clean water and in a clean vase. Re-cut the stem ends at an angle as they will have 'dried' out at this point and cannot take up any water.

- Adding flower food will increase your vase life, enhance your blooms and help to keep your flowers fresh.

- Change the water and re-cut the stems approximately every third day.

- Keep vases out of direct sunlight and do not place on top of the television.

- If bouquets are delivered in cellophane - remove as soon as possible to prevent the item from sweating.

Specific flower material:

Roses - cut at least an inch from the stem, at an angle and plunge into cold water for a long drink (a few hours) before arranging. If the heads wilt over - then wrap them up in newspaper, keeping the head straight. Re-cut the stem - plunge stem into boiling water for one minute and then (still wrapped) plunge stems into deep cold water for several hours. This should remove the air-lock within the stem.

Carnations - cut at an angle between nodes (knuckles) and place in cold water.

Lily/Chrysanthemum - remove all foliage that will be below the water and re-cut at an angle.

Tropical Flowers - eg, Anthuriums, Birds of Paradise. Cut at an angle and put in clean water. Keep away from draughts and try to keep at an even temperature.

Longiflorum lily / Oriental lily. - cut at an angle and give plenty of water to drink. Remove stamens to prevent staining to lily and furnishings. If you have a 'new' lily stain on your clothes or carpet, do not rub it in. Either try to gently knock the stain off with a tea towel or use sellotape to lift the pollen from the surface. Clothes do generally come clean after washing.

If there are any flowers you are unsure about caring for, please ask one of our assistants for help.

Jo Marshall
NDSF. FSF. Cert Ed
Valerie of Dore Florists

Whirlow Park Gates

Sadly the ornamental gates at the entrance to Whirlow Park were recently damaged by a stolen car. The car was subsequently abandoned and the culprits escaped.

The gates have now been removed into storage for safety reasons. The cost of their repair, several thousand pounds, seems to make it unlikely that they will ever be returned.

Once again a small minority with no regard for people or property have deprived the community of one of its assets.

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Looking after

Ecclesall Woods

Ecclesall Woods, between Dore and Millhouses, is the "jewel in the crown" of Sheffield's many "ancient" woodlands.

Ancient woodlands are those that have been present for at least 400 years (before woodland-planting become widespread), and are the richest in wildlife and wild plants. Some may date back to the end of the last Ice Age 13,000 years ago. They are an irreplaceable resource.

Ecclesall Woods has a recorded history going back 700 years, and is the largest ancient woodland in South Yorkshire. It is very important for its archaeology, including hundreds of charcoal pits (which provided fuel for the early iron industry in Sheffield), and "Q-pits" – the big circular depressions, which produced fuel for lead smelting. Some of the archaeology is very old, including field systems dating back to Roman times or earlier. Overall, the woodland is of regional importance for this heritage.

Because it has been woodland for so long, it supports wonderful displays of spring flowers like Bluebell and Wood Anemone, which in turn support insects and birds. These are not found in other newer woodlands, and once lost are virtually impossible to recreate.

This heritage is very much loved – over 300,000 visits are made to the woodland each year – but is easily lost. There is a good network of signposted, generally surfaced paths and bridleways across the site – although we recognise some can get muddy in winter. However, indiscriminate use by some visitors of other informal routes – sometimes simply short-cuts – is causing locally serious damage – stripping areas of wildflowers away and eroding the archaeology. In places, horse-riders are creating jumps over logs near to the bridleways, again causing damage. This is especially the case in the woodland block

between Dore and Abbey Lane.

If you are in the habit of straying from the formal path/bridleway network, please help to look after your woodland by keeping to the rights of way wherever possible. If certain sections of the rights of way are becoming a problem to use, let Parks Woodlands and Countryside know and we will try to improve them as appropriate. Help us to conserve and maintain the woods now and for the future.

For more information, please contact me on 0114 2736387 at Parks Woodlands and Countryside Service, SCC.

Nick Sellwood, Woodlands Manager

Geology class

After more than 10 years, the Dore WEA adult geology class that started in Abbeydale Hall and has since been at St. John's Church Hall is on the move again and has also 'gone independent'. Tutor Chris Darmon, who has led the class since its inception, has decided to leave the WEA.

"I have great respect for the WEA, but recently it has moved in directions that I know my students, don't like" said Chris, adding: "My students don't want to be saddled with personal outcomes and all the form filling that goes with it, they come because they enjoy learning, whatever their age."

The next term will commence on Monday, September 26th at 2.30pm at Totley Rise Methodist Church. The topic for the Autumn Term will be "Geological Jigsaws" - a series of mental brainteasers that explore rocks, minerals, fossils and maps - just for fun!

No previous experience or knowledge of geology is required and new members would be most welcome - tel. 2455746 for details.

Transport 17

A small number of people attended the AGM in March. I must admit that I was not there as I had come out of hospital only the day before. Many thanks for all the good wishes, etc.

Those who did attend, heard the good news that we have two new drivers and two new escorts. I am sure our passengers will be pleased to hear this. We recently had to cancel a club because there was only one driver available that day and, as we service three or four clubs a day, it would have been physically impossible for him to do it.

We have received funding to up-date our computer system. Apart from passenger lists, club details, tax, etc., we have to provide statistics to support our claim for funding from SYPT. There is a lot to be done before the buses even leave on their journeys. By the way, John Savourin is in the office every morning from 9 am till noon, if you need to cancel a trip or ask about anything else - such as a donation!!

We drive around many areas of Sheffield. A lot of our passengers seem to live in cul-de-sacs or quite awkward places to get into. It would be difficult in a car but in a mini-bus things are not made easy by the number of people who park on double yellow lines, especially at corners. We are also seeing more and more drivers on their mobile phones whilst driving. I am sad to say that many of them are women with children in their cars. I can also testify to the terrible state of the roads having been driven from hospital with a very sore tummy!!

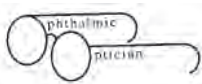
Please remember to support the Coffee, Cakes and Cuttings event at English Martyrs Church, Baslow Road, Totley. This will be on Saturday, 21st May from 10am till noon. Our thanks to everyone involved and everyone who buys. You are all stars. Keep safe.

Margaret Barlow

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Dore Well Dressing

Well Dressing time has come around once again in Dore. If you would like to help or just want to see how it is done then come along to the Scout Hut on Rushley Road.

We begin making the Well Dressing picture on Monday 27th June and finish on Friday 1st July. Times of sessions will be advertised on posters in the village nearer the time or you can contact me for more information on tel: 236 0332.

Everyone welcome. No experience is necessary. Whatever your age, male or female, even if you can only spare an hour or two your help will be much appreciated and it is all for a worthwhile cause as the money raised from the Well Dressing goes to charity.

Barbara Jackson

Buried Treasure

With over 165 years experience valuing and auctioning items in South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire ELR Auctions team of specialist valuers regularly come across buried treasure! Many visits to Clients homes will uncover some small item that the owner considers to be worthless and quite often gets thrown in at the end of a valuation, for it to turn out to be either a rare item or of great value.

One such find was discovered by ELR's furniture specialist when a turn of the Century Arts and Crafts period impressive oak mirror-back sideboard was consigned for Auction by a local Sheffield Vendor.

The sideboard in question was crafted by the North Devon firm of 'Shapland & Petter', a name synonymous with a mix of beauty and design that saw the company at the forefront of the Arts and Crafts movement between 1890 and 1914. During 1854 Henry Shapland introduced a machine for creating 'wavy' timber mouldings with efficiency and accuracy.

Henry Petter soon joined forces with Shapland, providing the finance and commercial know-how.

The piece is to appear in the 'Quarterly Antique and Fine Art Auction' on 17th June with an estimate guide price of £800 - 1200 and interest is expected to be high from both Arts and Crafts and 'Shapland & Petter' buyers.

The team of valuers at ELR Auctions are available for free pre-sale advice Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. To enter items into this auction or for further information please call 0114 281 6161 or via the website at www.elrauctions.com

Liz Dashper

A worthy Trust

The National Trust cares for over 612,000 acres of beautiful countryside in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, plus almost 700 miles of coastline, more than 630 buildings and gardens. As a registered charity and completely independent of Government, it relies heavily on the generosity of its almost 3.5 million subscribing members.

As a member you can make the most of free entry to hundreds of inspiring places as often as you like, from grand country houses and landscaped parks to outstanding coastline and precious wildlife habitats. And when you join the National Trust, you'll know that you are helping to protect the places you enjoy - ensuring our extraordinary heritage continues to enrich lives for generations to come.

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For more information about the National Trust, call 0870 458 4000 or visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Heritage on-line

The launch of a new website www.derwentvalleymills.org means people from across the globe now have a chance to visit the historic Derwent Valley Mills, Derbyshire's only World Heritage Site. Stretching 15 miles from Matlock Bath to Derby, this is recognised as the place where, in the 18th century, water power was successfully tamed for textile production. The valley encompasses a fascinating series of historic mill complexes, including some of the world's first 'modern' factories.

The new website outlines the history of the site and includes latest news and events in the area. There is also a games section to encourage younger visitors to take an interest.

Musical Evening

On Saturday July 9th at 7.30pm, St. John's Church Choir are presenting a Musical Evening in the Church on Abbeydale Rd. South, followed by a Cheese and Wine supper in the Church Hall next door. Tickets price £5 will soon be available from all members of the choir or by ringing 0114 236 2597.

All profits will be going to Church Funds. Do support the choir and come and have an enjoyable Evening.

Phyllis Glossop

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Dore Gardens

This year the Open Gardens day is to take place on Sunday 26th June 2 - 6pm.

Some gardens have plant sales or offer teas. The entry leaflet costing £3, which will be available from **Valerie of Dore** at least two weeks in advance, gives more details. You can also buy the entry leaflet at the first garden visited.

Gardens opening this year include:

Owl End, off Newfield Lane
The Vicarage, 51 Vicarage Lane
85 Devonshire Road
32 Devonshire Road
33 Newfield Crescent

Watch out for notices as there may be more new gardens opening.

South Yorkshire Forest

Did you know you are sat in the South Yorkshire Forest right now?

Yes I know you are at home - but Dore is part of this forest! Bizarre as it may seem the forest is made of houses, towns, villages, opens spaces and yes also some trees. Its called a forest because hundreds of thousands of trees will be planted to improve South Yorkshire for both people and wildlife.

South Yorkshire Forest Partnership is launching a new scheme which will enable more trees to be planted. This is called 'Gift that Grows'. If you are stuck for present ideas - why not give people trees!

You don't need to worry about fitting a tree in your shopping bag though - 'Gift that Grows' does all the hard work. 'Gift that Grows' means trees are planted to celebrate Christmas, birthdays and weddings or in memory of special people. The trees are planted in parks and public spaces across South Yorkshire, with planting areas available in Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster and Barnsley.

It costs £5 per tree, this pays for the tree, its planting and maintenance for several

years after planting and whoever the present is for receives a beautiful card with a personal message from you, as well as an invite to the day the trees are planted and a map of where the trees are planted and information about each planting site. Large donations may enable areas of woodland to be named in a persons honour.

The scheme has been a great success so far, a donation of £100 for Graves Park in Sheffield has created a dedicated area of woodland the 'Eric Marshall copse'. This has been planted by his son Sean Marshall in memory of his father Eric. There has also for example been planting in Rotherham as a wedding present to newlyweds Jess and Gavin.

If you are stuck for present ideas and you would like to give the 'Gift that Grows' you can contact the South Yorkshire Forest Partnership direct on 0114 257 1199 or you can email them at team@syforest.co.uk or just log on to www.syforest.co.uk/gift

Chorale concert

Sheffield Folk Chorale was formed in 2001 to concentrate on 4-part versions of traditional and folk songs from Britain and beyond. It boasts 75 members and has issued two CDs: Spite Winter, a selection of winter and Christmas songs, and Here is my Home, featuring songs for every season.

The Chorale presents material which is distinctive yet very accessible. The atmosphere is relaxed, with informal background introductions to each song. The summer programme for 2005 includes a concert at Beauchief Abbey on 9 July, 7.30 pm.

Tickets are available from 0114 236 1213 @ £4 - or £5 on the day. Profits go to local charities and to cover choir expenses.

Graham Pratt

School run a killer

As concerns about the health, safety and environmental impact of the 'school run' grow, a Motoring Risk Report from insurer MORE THAN shows that a 10 per cent reduction in school commuting by car could prevent 190 deaths and injuries a year - that's one for every school day.

The report also suggests that the Government's plans to review current school transport including extending the traditional 'school run' period of 8am to 9am to between 7am and 10am, could reduce congestion by two thirds, resulting in 304 fewer casualties a year.

The increasing number of children being driven to school means that roads are becoming more clogged up for everyone during peak morning hours (between 8am and 9am), and in addition almost 7,000 people (including 200 children) are killed or injured each year in car accidents during the 'school run'. The study shows that in 2003, 12 per cent of cars travelling during these peak times were taking children to school.

The report found that more parents are driving their children to their place of education than ever before, with a 20% increase in the last decade. Nationally around 40 per cent of primary school children and 20 per cent of secondary school age are now driven to school every day. This is even greater in areas like ours.

It's easy to understand why more children are being driven to school: today's parents are busier than ever, and concerned about the safety of their children yet the resulting increase in traffic may actually be making the situation more dangerous. The key is to encourage travelling to schools by bus or on foot rather than relying on the car.

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Oral History Collection

*In conversation with Jean Pearson
(nee Clark)*

Jean was born in Sheffield, the eldest child of Frank and Margaret Clark. In 1929, when she was eighteen months old, her parents came to Dore to take over the tenancy of the Hare and Hounds public house. Jean's younger brothers John and David and her sister Lynne were all born at the Hare and Hounds in the 1930s.

In those days the pub was much smaller and occupied only the churchyard end of the present building. Jean explains "There was Jack Thorpe's butcher's at the other end, the Post Office and a little grocer's next to our front door." The postmaster was Stanley Mace helped by his wife Hilda and the sole public telephone in the village was actually inside the Post Office. "At first they lived up the stone steps in our back yard and the rear part was the post office sorting room. Their red bicycles were kept in a shed next to our coalhouse." The occupant of the little grocer's was a Miss Shaw, "a very genteel lady", who lodged with Mrs. Farnsworth on the Green and did lovely knitting.

The Clark family lived over the top of the pub but had a large downstairs kitchen with a black-leaded Yorkshire range, big copper flour bins and iron ham hooks. Jean says "As children, we weren't allowed in the pub, you know; we had to run through into the kitchen or straight upstairs, there being no other access." She can see again the spittoons on the floor and the stuffed birds and fish in glass cases. Frank and Mrs. Clark (as she was always known) must have made a good living, because Jean remembers two live-in maids, sisters Mary and Eleanor, who wore daytime and evening uniforms.

Jean's parents were strict disciplinarians especially at mealtimes and although they were never hit with the cane there was always one on the table. They were frequently reminded to "Sit up straight!" and "Don't speak with food in your mouth". On one occasion Mother broke the cane banging on the table so Jean was sent very unwillingly to buy a new one. The four children were also made to line up for their regular doses of cod liver oil, syrup of figs and brimstone and treacle "whether we needed it or not". There was no chemist in Dore so Mr. Hobson used



Inside the Hare & Hounds - Frank Clark pulling a pint, but who are the customers?

to come from Millhouses with a delivery of packets "beautifully wrapped in acid free tissue and tied up with string and sealing wax."

However, they had a very happy childhood and attended the village school when Mr. Speight was Headmaster. It would seem that the girls were generally sensible but the lads "got up to all sorts of tricks." One scene Jean clearly remembers is of Miss Hodkin washing out a boy's mouth with soap because he had been swearing.

In those idyllic days when Dore was still in Derbyshire the cows used to come through the village from Frith's farm on Church Lane. Jean recalls "The highlight of my early life was to go round, before school, in the milk cart with Willy Arthur, just round the church and back." Milk was measured out from big churns into the housewives' own jugs. When she was older Jean enjoyed riding her pony, before school and a photograph of her on horseback once appeared in a national newspaper with the headline "Jean Clark Rides to School on her Pony Every Day". She laughs at the memory "Well! The stables were at Dore Hall Farm which was three times further away than the school!" Behind the Hare and Hounds stood two

terraces of cottages, one backing on to the school yard, the other fronting Savage Lane. Jean remembers a lively community of families who lived and worked where cars are now parked. On the corner was Moseley's, corn merchant and general store. Kenneth Moseley's father kept pigs, pigeons and hens behind the shop and "the squealing of pigs being killed on a Sunday afternoon is a nightmare memory."

Opposite the front entrance to the Hare and Hounds was Fred Marshall's shop which sold wonderful ham, pies and sausages all produced from their own farm on Townhead Road. Jean recalls that her father, who was a master butcher, made sausages at Marshall's farm. Mrs. Marshall always kept a sign in her window saying "Hot Water Supplied" for the benefit of passing walkers or cyclists.

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Jean describes with pleasure that sometimes on a Sunday afternoon, having been to Church and Sunday school, the four Clark children and their cousin Jack were allowed a treat. "We were given money to go and have tea at Mrs. Marshall's. Everything was home-made and lovely. She was a dear old lady!"

At the age of eleven Jean passed the scholarship but because her mother did not like the idea of her going on the train to Dronfield she went to Notre Dame in Sheffield. "I was only there two terms when war broke out. They closed the school which was then evacuated out to Derwent Hall, now under the dam. I did not want to go, to board anywhere. I wanted to stay at home. So I went to Dore and Totley High School, Miss Trott's."

Jean's memories of wartime are very vivid. "We slept in the cellar for months during the war. We had bunk beds down there, we four children. When the Blitz came it was rather unpleasant, especially when the bombs dropped in the village, nine of them! We heard them, you know, whistling down. Father said "It's only the guns" "Oh no it isn't" we chorused. We knew, we heard the whistle". Later when they looked towards Sheffield "It was so awful because we could see the sky all red."

Frank Clark was head of the fire-watching group for his sector and Jean recounts many instances of her father's humour in the "Dads Army" situations. "Father would be standing at the front door, not having gone to bed, and the sirens would go and then the A.R.P. wardens would be coming along in pyjamas and overcoats to go and meet in the chapel. And father would be saying "You're late!" Jean laughs. On one occasion Frank said to his men "We've got all the important buildings in this sector- the two pubs, the chapel, the church and the school. So, we'd better have a practice on the church roof." Afterwards, he was hauled over the coals for causing alarm and despondency. Frank also had to deal with any animal that had run amok as a result of injury during bombing raids. "He'd got the humane killer in the bedroom. Mother didn't like it at all!" Jean exclaims.

Mrs Clark, who was "good at organizing everything and everybody" did her bit for the war effort by running a knitting circle and raising money for the Hare and Hounds Cigarette Fund. Women started to come into the pub on their own because their husbands were away in the forces and the Lounge Bar provided a meeting place for them. The Tap Room, however, remained a male only domain where Mrs Clark played the piano to accompany the rousing choruses from the visiting troops, based at Knowle Green and camped in fields between Kings Croft and Gilleyfield Farm. All this was happening in our village sixty years ago.

Jean's reminiscences of her childhood draw to a close, but for many of the post-war generation she will be remembered for her own contribution to the Clark family tenancy of the Hare and Hounds, which ended in 1972. In the swinging sixties, all the groovy people of Dore and beyond would gather to gossip and drink



dry martinis in the modern surroundings of Jean's Cocktail Bar. But that's another story!

*Maureen Cope
Dore Oral History Group*



Above - the front of the Hare & Hounds from Church Lane as it would have looked when Jean was young, and below - the bar as it once was.

Olympic Training

Arvon is part of the HFT (Home Farm Trust) team of three travelling from Sheffield to Glasgow in July to take part in the Special Olympics. Arvon's sport is power lifting, and his training has been given a special boost thanks to the support of Sheffield Constabulary.

PS Alan Boyle of The Sharrow Local Police Team, Sheffield South got on the case and asked Club Hallam to give Arvon access to their Olympic class facilities to complete his tough training schedule. Arvon has his own trainer, and he plans to be at the gym, for three training sessions a week.

Also training hard for the July competition are; local resident Sarah, a keen and accomplished equestrian, and Nigel who will be taking part in the cycle racing events.

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Well Dressing Diary 2005

Throughout the spring and summer, a succession of old Derbyshire villages put on well dressings, often associated with a week of village festivities.

These are just some of the dates. You can find out more details, or opportunities to see well dressing in progress, by ringing the Chesterfield Tourist Information Centre on 01246 345 7777/8.

May

- 5-11 Tissington
- 21-23 Etwall
- 21-29 Ashford in the Water
- 28-31 Wirksworth
- 28-4 Middleton-by-Youlgrave
- 28-5 Monyash

June

- 12-19 Cressbrook
- 18-26 Tideswell
- 18-26 Litton
- 25-30 Youlgrave
- 25-1 Rowsley
- 25-3 Bakewell
- 25-3 Hope

July

- 1-9 Old Whittington (Chesterfield)
- 2-9 Hathersage
- 2-10 Old Tupton (Chesterfield)
- 2-10 Over Haddon
- 2-10 Dore
- 2-11 Harthill
- 8-15 Dronfield Woodhouse
- 9-14 Coal Aston
- 10-17 Buxton
- 10-17 Bamford
- 14-20 Pilsley Village (nr Bakewell)
- 16-23 Heath (nr Chesterfield)
- 16-24 Holmesfield Children's Well
- 16-24 Cutthorpe
- 16-24 Millthorpe
- 16-24 Little Longstone
- 23-1 Stoney Middleton
- 30-7 Bradwell

August

- 11-14 Great Hucklow
- 17-24 Barlow
- 20-27 Taddington
- 25-1 Holymoorside
- 27-4 Foolow
- 28-3 Eyam

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Wyvern Walkers

There have now been 6 walks in this calendar year under the programme of guided walks through the Dore Village Society's Wyvern Walkers group. They have been varied and enjoyable walks, with between 12 and 20 people on each walk.

Walks are usually about 6 miles long and return to Dore by lunchtime. The next series of walks has now been arranged and are summarised below:

Monday 9th May: The walk will start in Dore and will be 7 miles. It will go past Bole Hill Cottage to the viewing point on the top of Blacka Moor, returning via the Topley Rifle Range and Topley Bents

Tuesday 31st May: This walk will proceed from Dore via Ladyspring Wood and Chancet Wood to Graves Park, returning to Dore via Millhouses Park and Ecclesall Woods. It will be 6 miles long.

Friday 15th July: The walk today will start from Sir William Hill in Hathersage, incorporating Highlow Wood and Hazelbadge Hall. Overall about 6 miles.

Sunday 31st July: This walk will be about 5 miles and will start from Holmesfield. It will incorporate Barlow Woodseats, Moorhall and Burrs Wood.

Friday 26th August: Today's 6 mile walk will start from Moscar Lodge and will go via Sugsworth Hall to Dale Dyke, returning to Moscar Lodge.

For all these walks the meeting place is Dore Old School at 9.30am.

Beauchief Gardens

Many were the gifts which Alderman Dr. John George Graves (1866 to 1945) donated to Sheffield. His name is, of course, commemorated in Graves Park (1926) and the Graves Art Gallery (his portrait is on the right just as you go into the gallery). But it goes much further – for instance, there would be no Round Walk without his generosity.

In 1933, the Graves Trust donated what was to become the Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet museum. Then in 1935 came the nearby Beauchief Gardens, which many readers will remember with affection. Central Library archive photos up to 1980 show their beautiful layout, with immaculately striped lawns. The website www.picturesheffield.com shows two of these photos.

But times change, and not always for the better. Never again, we may assume, will Beauchief Gardens have a full-time gardener. Over recent years they fell into a very sad decline. Now, many people do not even know they exist.

And yet their position is an excellent one: adjoining the lake (Beauchief Dam) next to the Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet, and at the end of one of the main paths through Ecclesall Woods. The woods, of course, have recently been greatly improved by the co-operation between Friends of Ecclesall Woods and the Council, resulting in the coveted Green Flag award.

It was during a guided tour of the archaeology of Ecclesall Woods – which, again, have more to them than many people realise – that someone pointed out to Paul Whyman the extent of the decline in the fortunes of Beauchief Gardens. When another person made a similar comment a few weeks later, Paul telephoned Friends of Millhouses Park, who readily accepted the challenge. Sheffield Newspapers enthusiastically supported the venture with publicity. At the first clean-up event on November 6th 2004, twenty or more people dramatically transformed the paths and foliage on the side of the gardens adjoining the lake. Further transformation was achieved in March 2005.

The Friends are enhancing the historical archive of the gardens. Photos can be a big help in trying to restore the gardens as sympathetically as possible. If you have any that show off the layout of the gardens, these could prove very useful. These will be promptly returned, and no copies will be published without permission and accreditation. Please send any photos to Mike Kidder, 89 Dobcroft Rd, Sheffield S7 2LS.

Work sessions are on Saturdays, from 10:00 to 12:00. The remaining 2005 sessions are May 7th, July 2nd, September 17th, and November 12th. Tools are provided.

Why not come and have some fun? It's cheaper than going to the gym! Contact Brian Hayes on Sheffield 2365084 or Mike Kidder 2960550 (e-mail mike.kidder@blueyonder.co.uk). for more details.

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Book reviews

The Peak District is full of surprises. Away from dramatic and popular attractions there are hidden uncrowded valleys and villages waiting to be discovered. Three new books provide opportunities to explore the District's attractions.

Peak District Illustrated Walks by Trevor Yorke is exactly what it says on the cover. Each of the 20 circular walks are generously illustrated with beautifully drawn black and white maps and pictures. The walks vary in length from 2 fi to 5 fi miles and each route description is accompanied by details on how to get to the start, where to park and where to go for refreshments nearby. There are also interesting historical notes on the buildings, curiosities and sights to be seen en route. The illustrations and maps are a pleasure in themselves and bound to make you want to explore the routes for yourself. Published by Countryside Books £7.99, 96 pages ISBN 1-85306-892-6

The new Freedom to Roam legislation has opened up acres of previously inaccessible countryside to Peak District walkers. Two new pocket size guides written by Roly Smith offer a chance to begin to explore these rich new opportunities for walkers. **Peak District: Northern and Western Moors**, features walks on wild moors and tors which were the scene of much early campaigning while **Peak District: East and South**, explores the landscapes and wildlife of the national park. Each guide includes an introduction to the area: its landscape, history and wildlife, 12 walks, graded for difficulty (from 5 to 10 miles) and detailed colour Ordnance Survey maps. There are special features on points of interest chosen to add to walkers' enjoyment of the countryside, practical information for visitors and information on public rights of access. Each guide runs to 144 pages. Published by Frances Lincoln in conjunction with the Ramblers' Association, price £7.99 each.

Cicerone Press continue to produce the largest range of specialist books for walkers covering every part of the Britain and most popular walking venues abroad. Some of the recently published books include **Walking in Lancashire**, **Glyndwr's Way** (from Knighton to Welshpool) and **Walking in the Dordogne**. Each book is published in handy pocket size and amply illustrated with colour maps and photographs. There is a choice of difficulty and length (both distance and time taken) with introductions to the area of each walk, details of where to park and clear instructions on the route. Most books are priced in the £10 to £13 range and offer a winning formula. Available from all good bookshops, or for a full list phone Cicerone Press on 01539 562 069.

Walkers seem very well catered for in the publishing industry, so it is refreshing to come across a new book aimed at those

interested in fishing. **Fish-it!** Is a new guide to coarse fishing in the South Yorkshire area, containing information on over 70 lakes, ponds, reservoirs and canals. It has been written by local enthusiast Chris Keeling in a handy pocket format. The guide is three area sections, with maps showing the location of all the sites and for each a handy summary. These provide day ticket prices, a description of the site, how to find it, the types of fish, and the facilities available. There is even a useful list of tackle shops. Published in colour by Pickard Communication price £7.99 ISBN 0-9547264-3-X

Sometimes overgrown and forgotten, yet full of memories, cemeteries can provide a fascinating record and insight into the human history of local communities. **It comes to us all** is a portrait of Crookes Cemetery, the first established municipal cemetery in Sheffield. Written by Julie Stone whose grandfather was Superintendent, the book looks at the cemetery as part of peoples lives, at its rules and regulations, and at some of the inscriptions and stories behind them. It is full of old atmospheric black and white photographs and completed by a guide to the site and list of surnames mentioned. This fascinating little book running, to 50 pages, will appeal to anyone interested in social history. Published by Northend Ltd price £4.99 and available from local bookshops or from Northern Map Distributors on 0800 834920 ISBN 0-901100-56-0

Adult Learners' Week

From Saturday 21st May Sheffield will once again be joining in the national celebration of adult learning. All across the city and surrounding areas there will be hundreds of events, activities and taster sessions going on for anyone to come along to, take part, learn something and have fun too!

You're never too old to learn and Adult Learners' Week is a great opportunity to get involved and get in to learning for life! To find out more you can have a chat to the friendly staff on the Market Stall which will be at the top of Fargate on 21st May to help launch the week.

Adult Learners' Week is an opportunity for adults to have a go at something new by trying out one of the hundreds of FREE taster sessions that happen across England during the week, and an opportunity for education providers to show adults what is on offer.

The week is supported by so many organisations including Sheffield First for Learning and Work; the Learning and Skills Council; the Workers' Educational Association; Sheffield College; Sheffield University, Sheffield Hallam University, many more, so there is bound to be someone there who can help.

If you can't make it on that day, there's lots of activities taking place throughout the week – more information can be found at www.learningpays.org or simply call the learndirect National Learning Advice line on FREE phone 0800 100 900.

Walking Week 2005

The principle of a Walking Week was initiated last year to provide a range of interesting local walks as part of the Dore Festival. The idea is that there will be something within the week's walking that everyone can enjoy, whatever their abilities and level of fitness.

Monday 27th June: This 6 mile walk will start from Grindleford, walking via Padley Chapel, Longshaw and the River Derwent, returning to Grindleford.

Tuesday 28th June: This walk will start from Dore and will be 7 miles. it will go via Bushey Wood and Twentywell Brickworks to Bradway, returning via Woodthorpe Hall and Totley Hall to Dore.

Wednesday 29th June: This 6 mile walk will also start from Dore and will consist of a circular tour based on the Watermill sites of the streams feeding into the Upper Sheaf.

Thursday 30th June: Today's walk will be 6 miles. Starting from Dore we will walk via Whitelaw Lane, crossing Houndkirk Moor and Carl Wark to Hathersage. We will return by bus (or train) to Dore.

Friday 1st July: Today will be a Health Walk led by one of Sheffield's Health Rangers. This will be a short walk of about 1 hour and will explore the green spaces of Dore. Refreshments after the walk.

Saturday 2nd July: This walk will be a circular walk starting from Edale. We will make the strenuous but not difficult ascent to Ringing Roger, walk along the edge of the Kinder Plateau, returning via Grindslow Knoll. The walk will be 6 miles and a modest pace will be followed. This walk will start by meeting at Dore railway station to get the 9.20am train to Edale, returning from Edale on either the 14.30 train or the 15.30 train. Full details on the Notice Board. **Bring a packed lunch and your train fare.**

Sunday 3rd July: Today's walk will be about 5.5 miles. The walk will start from the Layby beside Whirlow Park and will take us up the Limb Valley, along Porter Clough to the Round House, returning down Limb Valley.

For the walk on 1st July, the meeting time is 10.30 at the Old School.

For the walk on 2nd July, the meeting time is either Dore Station at 9.15am or the Old School at 9.00am.

For all the other Walking Week walks, please meet at 9.30am at the Old School.

The Peak District will be joining other national parks around the country for a week of celebration events and activities from July 22 to 29. The week is dedicated to raising public awareness of the UK's 13 national parks and this year's theme is 'Access and Outreach', aiming to encourage a wider range of people to visit the parks.

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The railway navvies

Part 2 - To the end of the line

(Continued from our Winter 2004 issue)

Despite their relatively high wages, compared to other labourers, the navvies' earnings did not go far. For a start the contractors usually made sizeable deductions for "rent". For the very few men travelling with wives, and sometimes even their children, the "rent" might cover very basic lodgings in villages near the route of the line. Most of the men, however, were paying for temporary and most often quite degrading camp-like accommodation beside the railway excavations. At best these were improvised and draughty communal barracks with little or no sanitation, sleeping up to 25 men in hammocks (and occasionally their wives, or female companions). At worst the navvies were housed in overcrowded shanties whose timber frames were covered by turf, branches, bracken and straw. Sometimes these structures were held together with a lick of tar for weatherproofing, but there was a complete disregard for comfort and sanitation.

Then there were the detested "truck" rackets. Some railway lines were miles from the nearest shops, so the contractors made arrangements for food and drink (including plenty of ale) to be brought in from the cheapest possible local sources, then sold to the navvies in contractors' "truck" or "tommy" shops at grossly inflated prices. The food was often unwholesome, stale, or short-weight, and the ale or gin commonly watered down. Men who had no other sources of sustenance, except for poaching or often-polluted water from local streams, had to patronise the contractor's shop or starve.

An even worse aspect of this swindle was the racket which involved issuing "tickets" to navvies when they were short of money, as many always were. Tickets were issued in lieu of cash "subs" against future pay and were exchangeable for items, including liquor, in the truck shops

up to the value of each ticket. A form of commission was charged for this service, with the gangers and contractors sharing the rake-off. Some contractors made more out of this form of credit than they did from their railway construction work. They could even afford to run a job at a loss, in the certain knowledge that truck deals would produce a tidy profit.

Battles and brawls

Little wonder, with such relentless working conditions, appalling accommodation and poor food, that many navvies drank heavily even when they were working. Intoxication was a factor in the many accidents, and the navvies' heavy drinking caused violence to spill over into the communities outside their camps when men spent their cash on ale and spirits in a wild binge after waiting several weeks for their "long pay" days. Under these circumstances, even after deductions, many navvies still drew sizeable amounts. Most, and in many cases all, of their wages were spent on alcohol until they were too stupefied to continue. On such occasions any patriotic or religious disagreements between the different nationalities - and occasionally between navvies from opposing counties - frequently erupted into brawls and even some famous pitched battles.

Lesser affrays or drunken frolics, which totally disrupted work on the site, were called "randies" and could last for several days until the money (or the drink) had run out. Many randies had a habit of developing into full-blown riots, and with a largely rudimentary police force in most counties, or just local volunteers, this sort of lawlessness was very difficult to quell. Only London had a proper police force before 1839. Because of the huge numbers of drunken men involved, many local magistrates or sheriffs were forced into reading the Riot Act in the hope that its threats of imprisonment or transportation would make the navvies disperse without causing further trouble. Reading the Riot Act was not the easiest of things to do in front of hundreds of angry men fuelled by alcohol; understandably, most magistrates

or sheriffs needed shows of force from the local constabulary or militia to back up their threats of punishment. It was, nonetheless, usually enough to restore order. Sadly, the mayhem created by these drunken randies and riots made the navvies even more unpopular with the locals through whose communities they were driving the line.

Wives and women

Another reason why most navvies were generally unwelcome, except in the most basic of alehouses, was their interest in local women. Most navvies were young or youngish men, but very few lived as married men. Quite a number were married, some bigamously, as relationships were contracted in one area and then another as the railway network expanded.

Very occasionally, married navvies were accompanied by their wives and children, but most often women cohabiting with navvies remained unmarried, particularly in the early years of railway building. Girls and women ensnared into the navvies' way of life - sometimes called "tally-women" - had a terribly miserable time and could usually only get by in the shanties and huts, where they lived cheek by jowl with the men, under the so-called role of "landladies".

In the early years there are several accounts of navvies selling or "lending" their wives to other men for trifling amounts of money or gallons of ale. In the main, most camp women were nothing more than common dogsbodies, looking after the needs of a group of navvies by cooking their meals, doing their washing and providing what other services were demanded of them. When no local female companionship was forthcoming on pay days, some navvies looked for easy conquests in nearby towns or villages.

When groups of navvies were based in an area for long periods - doing slow tunnelling work, for instance - there was often a big increase in the number of illegitimate baptisms in nearby parishes. At Woodhead, where over 1,000 navvies were tunnelling for several years during the 1840s, quite large numbers of children baptised in the local church were illegitimate. These casual relationships could and did produce other problems; venereal disease was a fairly common disorder among some navvies and their women.

The navvies' champion

Despite their limitations, when sober most navvies were fairly polite men. They were also usually respectful towards the doctors, clergymen, and the other so-called "missionaries" who made occasional trips to their squalid camps to provide medical help, save souls or encourage a more moral way of life. Apart from these small groups, where conscience motivated concern for their fellow man, very little was ever done to improve the lot of the navvies. There were no payouts when men were killed in accidents, and compensation could only be claimed when men were badly disabled and then only if they could prove that their employer had been negligent - an almost

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hopeless task.

Because of the terrible list of casualties resulting from the construction of the first Woodhead tunnel, the social reformer and barrister Edwin Chadwick (1801-1890) took up the navvies' cause and campaigned valiantly for better working conditions and compensation for accidents. Eventually, in 1846, he succeeded in getting a parliamentary select committee set up to look into the issues. Its disturbing report, along with the select committee's recommendations for reform, was totally ignored by MPs. Nothing was done.

A similar lack of compassion was shown by the Church of England. Almost all of its senior clergy opposed the vast social and economic changes being brought about by the numerous schemes of railway building. They disapproved, even more strongly, of the depraved and violent way in which so many navvies lived. So the clergy, like society in general, usually tried to avoid contact with the itinerant navvies. The navvies' way of life was constantly condemned in sermons preached before straight-laced Victorian congregations. The navvies were a prime example of how not to live, and the path they had chosen would surely lead to hell and damnation. In many ways Nonconformist lay readers and missionaries were far more sympathetic; often the only call the navvies made on the clergy of the established church was for a few words at a burial in the local churchyard after another accident at work.

The Navy Mission Society

Nevertheless, concern for the spiritual and moral well-being of the navvies still flickered among the "missionaries", and in the mid- 1870s - at a time when almost all the major British lines had been built - the Navy Mission Society was formed by the Reverend Lewis Moule Evans, a Yorkshire vicar, who died in 1879.

Amongst his most vigorous evangelists was the widowed Mrs Elizabeth Garnett (1839-1921) of Otley in Yorkshire, whose early contributions to the cause included the Christian Excavators' Union and the Christian Excavators' Temperance Pledge. Whilst these organisations were far from instant successes, most navvies did appreciate this evidence of concern for their welfare, and when the Rev Moule Evans died from consumption at a relatively young age hundreds of navvies tramped to his funeral.

With its founder gone, the Navy Mission Society pressed on, largely under the guidance and inspiration of Elizabeth Garnett and her team of missionaries. They did much to improve navvies' accommodation and introduced alternatives to heavy bouts of drinking which even ran to organising sports such as cricket. When economic conditions were too hard to contemplate cricket, the Navy Mission, backed by the contributions from sympathetic middle- and upper-class sponsors, often stepped in to feed starving men and their families. Late in the 1880s the Mission even introduced the "blue ticket" - a form of union card - to help navvies to find work.

The "navvies' newspaper"

Elizabeth Garnett visited many sites to speak with the navvies, discover their needs and champion their causes. She soon realised that men working in remote areas were keen for news about what was happening elsewhere in their industry, and for this reason she is best remembered for her *Quarterly Letter to Navvies*, first published in 1878. The *Quarterly Letter* was issued just four times a year and was initially given away free. In its columns Elizabeth Garnett carried out a long, and at times vitriolic, campaign for temperance and better moral standards from the men building the railways.

The *Quarterly Letter* became far more popular when Mrs Garnett included details of railway workings to help navvies on the tramp in search of jobs. Also listed were men injured or killed in accidents (though not all are recorded), sometimes with potted obituaries. Later, details of navvies' marriages were added and a whole range of other news items and notices - including enquiries for missing husbands, and sometimes missing wives - as well as advice on wholesome food and herbal remedies for the many dreadful complaints that threatened a navvy's livelihood.

In a change of name in 1893 the *Quarterly Letter to Navvies* became the *Quarterly Letter to Men of Public Works*, and Elizabeth Garnett continued to produce the publication until 1917. In 1920 it was absorbed into the Navy Mission's *The Torch*; Mrs Garnett died in the following year, aged 81. Despite being revived in 1927, a revamped *Quarterly Letter* was short-lived, closing with the October 1933 edition.

The end of the lines

It is a fitting tribute to the railway navvies that one of the last major railway routes built by them was the Settle and Carlisle line. Started in 1869, this challenging route took six years to complete, mainly across picturesque and rugged moorland, with the majestic Smardale viaduct taking over four and a half years to complete. Tough times now lay ahead and the still quite numerous traditional navvies with their pick or shovel found jobs were scarce. In the 1880s the advent of mechanical "steam navvies", a single piece of machinery able to shift the earth and rock that had once provided employment for 200 getters and fitters, worsened their plight. By the turn of the century many had emigrated to work on railway lines overseas, as some had done years earlier. Those unable to find work on the railways turned to other, more ordered forms of labouring. By the time Queen Victoria died in 1901 the traditional railway navvies were in steep decline, and by 1910 this breed of men had almost completely passed into history.

Sadly, there are only a handful of British memorials to navvies. Possibly the most famous is the tunnel-shaped memorial in Otley churchyard in West Yorkshire. Otherwise it is the railway tunnels, embankments, cuttings, bridges and viaducts that are reminders of the engineering skills of these daring, and at

times reckless, rude and riotous men.

Records of navvies

The full names of some navvies can be difficult to establish. Many men, as mentioned in Part 1, were known only by their pet names or nicknames. Their real names were a mystery to the contractors employing them, to their friends and even, sometimes, to their wives or women friends. Occasionally navvies do turn up under their "ordinary" names in parish registers, though rarely in 19th century church marriage registers. They often appear in baptismal registers - many fathered illegitimate children, but may not always be named - and most frequently in burial registers after fatal accidents. Here, the amount of information about them is generally very brief. Sometimes there may be local collections of various records pertaining to navvies held in the appropriate record office or local studies archive.

In general, railway contractors did not keep lasting records of their itinerant employees. However, some navvies, after working on the construction of a particular line, joined the railway company concerned and donned its uniform. In these new jobs they may appear in its records, now mainly held at the National Archives (formerly the Public Record Office) at Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU; website: www.pro.govuk.

Wayward navvies appeared with some regularity in local magistrates courts, mainly for petty crime. Before the 1840s the proceedings are unlikely to have been reported in much detail, if at all, in local newspapers. Certain knowledge of the place (and time) where an offence was committed is often necessary in order to locate a newspaper report of named individuals.

Navvies should appear on Victorian census returns. Mrs Garnett's *Quarterly Letter to Navvies*, with its regular listings of deaths, and its obituaries and other notices, remains, however, probably the most illuminating source of information on the railway navvies. A full set of this "navvies' newspaper" - from August 1878 to Christmas 1919 and April 1927 to October 1933 - can be consulted in the reading room of the British Library Newspaper Library, Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5HE; website: www.bl.uk/catalogues/newspapers.html.

Further reading

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Early Railways, by Rodney Dale (British Library, 1994).

Our Navvies, by Elizabeth Garnett (Hodder and Stoughton, 1885).

The Railway Navvies, by Terry Coleman (Penguin, 1965; reprinted 1981).

The Transportation of Britain, 1830-1939, by G E Mingay (Paladin, Grafton Books, 1986).

The Railway Age, by Michael Robbins (Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1962).

Tom Wood

Ed. This article is reproduced with the kind permission of the Family Tree Magazine June and July 2003.

The Wildlife Garden

For hoverflies, mimicking the appearance of a wasp can be a double-edged sword. While their bold yellow and black warning stripes may well deter birds from making a meal of them, the wasp-like pattern will hardly endear these insects to most people. If one inadvertently flies in through an open window, it is often at the receiving end of a thwack from a rolled up newspaper. This is a tragedy not only for the insect, but also for the gardeners amongst us, as the larvae of many of the 250 or so British hoverfly species are voracious predators of aphids.

I never realised just how effective they are at killing pests until one spring when I planted a number of chives by my rose bushes. Every year my lovely 'Maiden's Blush' roses would get covered in aphids, which no amount of blasting with water from a hose-pipe or spraying with insecticidal soap could get rid of. One day I read on the Internet that an American organic rose grower had planted garlic bulbs around his roses and found they kept aphids away. He thought the reason for this was probably due to the allium's pungent smell.

I decided to have a go, but unfortunately that spring the suppliers had sold out of garlic bulbs so instead, as a stop-gap measure, I dug up some of the clumps of chives that were growing in my garden and planted them next to the roses.

All right they might not have the pungency of their Mediterranean cousins, but perhaps the aphids would find the chives' smell equally repellent. Large numbers of aphids started to build up in

spring, but a few weeks after the chives began flowering, they had virtually disappeared.

However, when I examined the roses more closely, I noticed there were a number of small, translucent maggots making their undulating way around the leaves. These unprepossessing organisms were in fact the larvae of hoverflies and it was them, rather than the smell of my chives, that got rid of the pests.

One year's results are not enough to build up a firm scientific case, but nevertheless, the same thing happened the following summer. Not only did the hoverfly larvae clear all the aphids off my roses, they also cleaned up the nasturtiums and courgette plants - in fact anything that had big floppy leaves which the birds were unable to poke around while looking for food.

So why did it work? Adult hoverflies seem to spend much of their time sitting around sunning themselves and sucking nectar from flowers, although unlike many other flies, they also eat pollen. However, all this self-indulgence isn't simply the hoverflies equivalent of *la dolce vita*, once replete with nectar and protein from pollen, a female will search for a suitable place to lay her eggs: always close to a reliable source of food for her young.

In my garden, a female hoverfly was no doubt attracted to the chives' lovely purple flower heads and found my aphid-infested roses just a short flight away. Of course I can't prove any of this, but what I do know is that once the eggs hatched and the larvae started searching for food on my roses, the aphids' days were numbered.

Even though hoverfly larvae aren't the

prettiest of insects in a garden, many adults are handsome creatures. A large number have yellow and black stripes; others are white and black, while some even resemble bees. But despite their different appearances, what they all have in common is that, as their name implies, they can hover and watching one in action is like being present at an aerial ballet.

Not only can they hover in one spot for minutes at a time, they will also dart backwards and forwards across the garden at such speed their progress is breathtaking.

Despite their warning colours, hoverflies are in fact gentle creatures and will happily sit on the back of your hand sunning themselves, their wings shimmering like miniature rainbows. But just as a fidgety three year old child seems incapable of sitting still for any length of time, a hoverfly will soon be off, zipping this way and that above the flower beds.

Apart from the larvae of narcissus flies which feed on bulbs, most hoverflies are innocuous, beneficial insects and it seems ironic that a warning coloration which has protected them for millennia is now a liability. Perhaps nature should step in and print 'I am not a wasp' on their wings.

Jack Daw

Apex Players will present a brand new comedy, "Three times a day after meals" by Paul Cambell and Stephen Doyle at the Sheffield Library Theatre from 26-28 May at 7.30pm. Tickets £5/£4 can be reserved in advance by calling 0114 269 3329 or 0114 2348499. More information at www.apexplayers.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk

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Stars in Dore

Doom in one form or another is frequently forecast by astrologers when two celestial bodies appear close together. However, astronomers emphasise that such conjunctions have no bearing on human life whatsoever, unless one wishes to believe it!

A beautiful conjunction does occur this summer as seen from Dore although it may be a difficult one to observe. Just after midsummer's day, Mercury (magnitude -0.05) and Venus (-3.80) pass by each other in the evening twilight. On 27 June these two inner planets will pass to within a sixth of a Moon's diameter of each other.

Sadly, this occurs in the summer twilight and so it will be difficult to see without some optical aid and an exact knowledge of where to look and when. A good location would be from the Derbyshire hills. The usually advised westerly viewpoint from Newfield Lane across Houndkirk will not suffice. Where should one look?

On 27 June the Sun sets almost precisely in the north west at the point where Mercury and Venus will shortly follow. Half an hour after the Sun has disappeared from view below the horizon (and not before) take a look at a point in the twilight sky just above and to the left of where the Sun used to be.

Even in this poor climate there are some very good skies at sunset when a great orange Sun edges, minute by minute, down into the horizon. A few days on either side of 27 June may also be attempted although the main conjunction would not be visible. Saturn is, in fact, only just below Mercury and Venus but it is fainter and will not be seen. One could actually watch where Saturn sets during the months of May and early

June and then know beforehand exactly where to look for the forthcoming conjunction.

A simple cardboard viewing tube to cut down the twilight glare would help, possibly even better than binoculars. Some readers may be more lucky from their summer holiday locations, perhaps a balcony in Tenerife, although one's balcony always seem to overlook brightly-lit swimming pools and bars. Take a stroll along the cliffs where there is a clear view of the north-western horizon a half-hour or so before sunset.

As seen from Dore the Moon is particularly low in the sky in mid-summer. It drops to a little more than 27 degrees below the celestial equator, that is, only nine degrees above the southern horizon. In many ways the Moon appears a much more dramatic and romantic object when it is near the summer horizon. Take a look near midnight on 20 June. If one misses that, try at next lunation, a month or so later in July.

Jupiter is still in Virgo at the end of June and may be seen as a bright object (magnitude -1.9) low in the south west after evening twilight. By the end of July Jupiter will be lost altogether. Mars rises in the morning and may be glimpsed at the end of July in the constellation Pisces, or at the end of August in Aries. The more distant planets, Uranus (in Aquarius) and Neptune (in Capricorn) and Pluto (in Serpens Cauda) are all very low in the southern sky and unlikely to be caught except in a largish telescope.

There is, however, quite a large number of important, and possibly catastrophic, events this summer, none of which are visible from Dore but nor from anywhere else on Earth. Why, indeed, should they be called important at all?

Astronomical catastrophes tend to pass by unnoticed by most people. The dinosaurs, however, met an untimely end which led to their extermination. It is probably true to say that the end of the world could come unexpectedly and caused by an event unheralded by timely warnings.

People of Dore need not worry about it but some might be interested to contemplate on a recently discovered phenomenon which might one day wipe out life on our planet! The phenomenon is called an SGR explosion occurring in our galaxy.

We shall all remember the Tsunami on 26 December 2004 like the Nine-Eleven terrorist attack in New York. What was not broadcast around this time, however, was the superflare that was detected on 27 December, the day after the Tsunami, which temporarily knocked out 14 scientific spacecraft and many military satellites. Astronomers believe that SGR 1806-20 (a so-called soft gamma repeater), known since January 1979 along with several other such objects, is a

collapsing neutron star or magnetar. Gamma radiation is even more dangerous than X-radiation.

The peak of this recorded event lasted one fifth of a second, and was most likely the largest hit on Earth since the beginning of recorded history. Only its brevity saved us, and its distance from us, fifty thousand light years. So back to our peaceful summer evening.

On the nights around 30 June 2005 this striker, SGR 1806 -20, will sit just above the southern horizon as seen from Dore in the constellation Sagittarius. We can gaze in its direction and feel, at one and the same time, comfortably complacent and in awe at what might come our way. The Milky Way stretches down from Cygnus nearly overhead to Ophiuchus at the horizon through the constellation of Sagittarius. Scorpio is to the right.

Our formidable but unseen magnetar, SGR 1806 -20, lies not far from the famously beautiful Trifid Nebula (M20) although it is ten times further away from us.

Another more imminent catastrophe in Dore is the quiet and gradual destruction of our rural periphery. There is little news of how Newfield Lane will be utilised to enter the Long Acres development but residents should not be complacent about the activity behind the scenes. There is a JCB digger snuggled in beside the entrance to Long Acres and work is proceeding out of sight and out of the limelight of our recent complaints to the City Council. But a road will be needed to access 36 new dwellings when just a few approach completion. Maybe SGR 1806 -20 will strike the village before we need to worry further but we should not bank on it.

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Diary - Summer 2005

MAY

- 18 **Working morning** at Whinfell Quarry Gardens for a 9.30am-12.30pm Tel: 283 9195
- 18 **Horatio Nelson; Life & Loves** talk by James Taylor Sheffield Society for the Encouragement of Art, Tapton Hall, Shore Lane at 2.30pm. Free admission to lecture. Light luncheon available 1pm. Tel: 236 0941
- 21 **Spring Fair** Dore & Totley United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, 10am-12noon
- 21 **Barbecue & Jazz Evening** for Leonard Cheshire Services at Mickley Hall, 7pm. Details from 236 7491
- 21-22 **Chatsworth Angling Fair** 01328 701133
- 23 **Our work at The Oakes** (Norton) talk by Mr Dan Thaw for Women's Fellowship, 2.30pm Meth Church Hall.
- 24 **Visit to WORK** - Dore Meth Church Tuesday Group
- 26-28 **Apex Players** present a new comedy "Three times a day after meals" at the Sheffield Library Theatre. Tickets £5 & £4 from 269 3329 or 234 8499
- 28 **Garland Ceremony** in Castleton. Parade - 5.30-8.30pm
- 30 **Bamford Sheepdog Trials** Recreation Grd 8.30-6pm

JUNE

- 3 **Raft Races** in Millhouses Park with the Rangers. Make and race. 12noon-3pm Tel: 283 9195
- 7 **The Story of The Alpacca** talk for Dore Ladies Group, Church Hall 7.45pm, visitors welcome £3
- 7 **Desert Island Discs** talk by Janet Stafford for Dore Methodist Church Tuesday Group, Church Hall 7.45pm
- 8 **Searching for a Sister** talk by Canon Lacey for Dore (A) Townswomen's Guild, Dore Old School at 2pm.
- 9 **Antiques Evening** - talk and valuation by Vivienne Milburn, for Leonard Cheshire Services at Mickley Hall 7.30pm. Details from 236 7491
- 10 **Going Batty** Stroll with the rangers in Ecclesall Woods starting at the Sawmill 8pm Detail from: 283 9195
- 11 **Summer Fair**, St Luke's Hospice 1pm free entry
- 11 **Three Peaks** - sponsored walk for Leonard Cheshire.
- 11 **Celebration Prom** at Chatsworth with fireworks in aid of NSPCC tel: 01246 850320
- 11 **Concert** with Sheffield Bach Society, Ecclesall Parish Church, 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from 266 1000
- 12 **Specialist Plant Fair** - Botanical Gards 10.30am-3pm
- 14 **Stride with the Guide** walk with the Rangers around Ecclesall Woods, Abbeydale and Dore. Approx 4-5 miles. Meet Causeway Head Road end of High Street at 6.15pm Details: 268 6196
- 15-16 **The Gondoliers** - G & S with the Woodthorpe Festival Chorus & Orchestra, Woodthorpe Hall, Holmesfield. For Leonard Cheshire Services - details from 236 7491
- 15 **Fakes & Forgeries** - talk by Professor Tennent for Hallamshire Decorative and Fine Arts Society, 7.30pm Lecture Theatre 4 Arts Tower Univ of Sheff 230 2757
- 17-19 **Flower Festival** Tapton Hall, Shore Lane, Sheffield 10. Open 10am - 6pm daily.
- 19 **Clumber Country Show**, displays of falconry, sheep dogs, classic cars, bike stunts etc. Advance tickets £4.50 & £3 Tel: 01909 511061
- 19 **Chatsworth Sponsored Walk** in aid of St Luke's
- 20 **Pilgrimage to Iona** talk by Miss Pam Grayson for Women's Fellowship, 2.30pm Methodist Church Hall.
- 21 **Bess of Hardwick** talk by Tony Davis for Dore Methodist Church Tuesday Group, Church Hall 7.45pm
- 24 **Charity Golf Day** with Sheffield Rotary at Abbeydale Golf Club in aid of St Luke's Hospice
- 25 **Access for All** with the Rangers, using mobility scooters in Ecclesall Woods, 11am-3pm. Details: 283 9195
- 26 **Sheffield Festival of Transport** Graves Park 10.30am-5pm Free admission

JULY

- 2 **Bakewell Carnival** - 3pm parade
- 5 **District Midwifery** talk by Joyce Gould for Dore Methodist Church Tuesday Group, Church Hall 7.45pm
- 8-24 **Buxton Festival** tel 01298 70395
- 9 **Step out from Bradway** 7 mile walk with the Rangers, meet Low Edges Fire Station at 10.30am Tel: 283 9195
- 9 **Concert** Sheffield Folk Chorale, 7.30 pm at Beauchief Abbey Church Tickets £4 (£5 on door). Tel 236 1213
- 9 **Musical Evening** with St John's Church Choir 7.30pm, at the Church, Abbeydale Rd. South, with Cheese and Wine supper in the Church Hall. Tickets £5 - 236 2597
- 16-24 **National Archaeology Week** lots of archaeological events taking place across England and Wales.
- 23 **Working morning** at Whinfell Quarry Gardens. 9.30am- 12.30pm Tel: 283 9195
- 18 **Townswomens Guild Choir** Women's Fellowship, 2.30pm Methodist Church Hall
- 20 **Birthday Party** for Dore (A) Townswomen's Guild, Dore Old School at 1.30pm

AUGUST

- 3-4 **Bakewell Show**
- 20 **Grindleford Horticultural Show**, 2-4.30pm
- 26 **Batty about Bats** Stroll with the rangers in Ecclesall Woods starting at the Sawmill 8pm Details - 283 9195

DORE FESTIVAL 10th ANNIVERSARY 1995-2005 Sunday 26th June - Sunday 10th July

- Sun 26th **Village Gardens Open Day** 2pm-6pm
- Mon 27th-3rd **Walking Week** Local walks arranged by Dore Village Society - see notice board and article
- Mon 27th-1st **Village Well Dressing** preparation at the Scout HQ Rushley Road
- Tues 28th **Concert a la Francaise** Dore Mercia Townswomens Guild, Dore Church Hall 7.45pm Tickets £6
- Sat 2nd **Coffee & Church Open Morning** Dore Methodist Church 10am - 1pm
- Village Well Dressing** Dore Village Green
- Guide Well Dressing** Devonshire Terrace Rd d
- Summer Concert** Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Church Hall 7.30pm Tickets: 236 2299
- Sun 3rd **Methodist Church open** 1pm - 5.30pm
- Well Dressing Service** Village Green 3pm
- Afternoon Cream Teas** Methodist Church Hall 3pm
- Mon 4th **Family Fun Run** Dore Primary School 7pm
- Lord Conyers Morris Men** Devonshire Arms 8pm
- Tues 5th **Travels with Pen, Brush & Camera** Illustrated talk by Brian Edwards for Dore Ladies Group Dore Church Hall 7-45pm Tickets £3 tel 236 0002 or from Valerie of Dore
- Wed 6th **Open Air Theatre** 'Lords and Ladies' by Terry Pratchett The Company, Village Green 7.30pm Interval Collection
- Thurs 7th **Open Evening** King Ecgbert School 7-9pm
- Open Evening** Dore Male Voice Choir & Dore Mercia & Totley Townswomens Guild Choirs Invite you to Dore Church Hall 7:30-9-30pm No ticket required Collection for Charity
- Fri 8th **Music for a Summer Evening** The Sterndale Singers, Dore Parish Church 7.30pm Tickets £6/£5 including wine
- Sat 9th **Dore Scout & Guide Gala** Recreation Ground
- Sun 10th **Festival Songs of Praise** Dore Parish Church 6pm
- See Dore Village Society notice board for full details of events.**