

DORE to DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

No. 90 SUMMER 2008

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Eco-friendly shopping

There has been considerable press coverage over the last few months about campaigns to reduce the use of plastic carrier bags, which are wasteful of resources and ecologically damaging. The Dore Village Society is keen to do something practical about this issue. So along with this edition of Dore to Door, you should receive a free eco-friendly shopping bag. These have been chosen because they are easily folded and can be carried in a handbag or pocket, making them ideal for that small purchase in a local shop.

Dore Festival 2008

We hope that you enjoy this year's programme, which is bigger, and we think, better than ever. We have included many of the favourite events of previous years that appeal to the wide range of interests in our village community.

Those of an energetic nature are invited to walk around the ancient boundaries of Dore led by David Heslop or take part in one of the other local walks arranged by Dore Village Society throughout Festival Fortnight. The Family Fun run is open to all ages and levels of fitness. Relax afterwards with Lord Conyers Morris Men at the Devonshire Arms. A leisurely pace is allowed for the fascinating village history tour led by our local historian John Dunstan.

Gardening is the theme for a number of events this year. We start with the ever popular Open Gardens around Dore village arranged by Linda Hunter. Look for full details of the gardens on the notice boards or buy your programme from Valerie of Dore, florist in advance. Barbara Poission from Pennine Lavender Farm is the speaker at the Dore Ladies Group open meeting where plants and lavender products will be on sale. Also, do not forget to admire how flowers and plant material are used to create our beautiful well dressings in the Scout HQ.

We are delighted to have secured some celebrity experts for our Gardeners' Question Time panel. Ian Turner, Curator

continued on page 3



No we have not been spending all our advertising budget at one go, but we were glad of the publicity when Monty's of Sheffield, the local Suzuki dealership decided on this title for its recent giant advert on Parkhill Flats promoting the new Splash model.

Dore boundary walk

Every two years the Dore Village Society organises the Dore Boundary Walk. This year will be the fourth time the walk has taken place. On each occasion we have had upward of fifty walkers, with some doing the whole 11 miles but many joining and leaving for shorter lengths.

We walk as close as possible to the ancient boundaries of Dore. The route is all on footpaths which take us along Limb Brook, the River Sheaf, Old Hay Brook, Blacka Dike and part of Burbage Brook.

We are so fortunate to have fine woods, streams, historic sites of mills and forges, and open moorland on our boundaries and, of course unsurpassed views of the surrounding countryside.

Once again lunchtime, on Burbage Moor, will be a highlight of the day when Graham Thorpe, a Dore lad with extensive family connections with the village, will be telling us just what Dore was like during his younger days. Seen through the eyes of a young lad his anecdotes and stories of the people and places of the 1940's and 50's are fascinating.

The lunch stop is easily accessible for non-walkers, but bring your own lunch.

What finer way to mark the old custom of beating the bounds, on a day in high summer? Come and join us, for the whole journey, for a mile or two, or just for lunchtime. Make a day of it and bring your family and friends. We look forward to seeing you.

David Heslop

**DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY
AGM and talk by
Bob Davey
The work of the
Edale Mountain Rescue Team
7.30pm Wednesday
11th June
Dore Methodist Church Hall
Everybody welcome**

Join us!

If you care about our local environment, are keen to see community improvements, or interested in local history, then why not join us. There is much more to the Society than Dore to Door, from organising events such as the Dore Show to monitoring planning applications. From organising walks to recording local oral history.

The annual subscription of £5 per person isn't much in this day and age, but we can do a lot with it, and the more members we have, the more clout we have with Sheffield Council and other statutory bodies.

Just send a cheque made out to the Society, along with your name and address, to 10 Rushley Close, S17 3EG. Or if you want to know more, call 0114 236 9025 daytime or evening.

Find out more about Dore at www.dorevillage.co.uk

St Luke's and Graves Park

The Dore Village Society added its name to a letter from various Friends groups in Sheffield

to the trustees of St Luke's Hospice, expressing collective views on what is regarded as the unfortunate objective of the Hospice being re-located in the Nurseries at Graves Park.

Many of the open spaces in the City were donated for the general benefit of the citizens of Sheffield, and both Ecclesall Woods and Blacka Moor share the same benefactor as Graves Park. It does not take a genius to work out that if this potential acquisition of an open space were to succeed, then none of the other open spaces with which many Friends groups are associated would be safe.

The City Council has been invited to issue a statement reaffirming its commitment to safeguard public open spaces. Sadly the evidence in our own efforts to get protection for three areas of public green space within Dore (including Dore Rec) by registering them as 'village greens' has not been encouraging. The initial response was a reluctance to do so, as "the land might be needed in future for building".

There is a lot of general goodwill around the work which St. Luke's does and will continue to do, but this does not extend to acquiescing with any attempt to put a significant building and car-park on land originally purchased as parkland. The letter urges the Trustees of St. Luke's to retreat gracefully from their attempt to secure part of Graves Park for their Hospice.

John Baker
Chairman, Dore Village Society

Walk Sheffield

Sheffield plays host this year to a 'Walk Sheffield' festival organised by the Sheffield Walking Forum from 30th May to the 8th June. This will provide a great opportunity for people to get out and

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 this page by **Friday 25th July**

explore Sheffield's parks and green spaces and to learn more about our City whilst enjoying some exercise. All walks will take place within the city boundary and will be led by an experienced guide.

Walking is a relaxing and enjoyable way to keep healthy and, as it requires no special equipment or expense, is the perfect way to exercise - it can even help you to achieve the government's recommended level of physical activity of 30 minutes on five or more days of the week.

The 'Walk Sheffield' festival will have something for everyone to enjoy - for those who are managing a medical condition, have a disability or who just want to meet people there are short 1 hour health walks and for those who want a longer walk there are 6, 8 and 10 mile walks. The programme is available in all libraries, park buildings and in medical centres across the city. So what are you waiting for? It's as easy as putting one foot in front of the other! Pick up a guide now and join in on one of the walks.

Local election results

The results of the **Dore and Totley Ward** election on Thursday 1st May were:

Colin Ross	Liberal	3,606
Anne Smith	Conservative	3,231
Javed Khan	Labour	275
Rita Wilcock	Green	183
James Laurie	UKIP	124
Turnout		56%

King Egbert Appeal

The Planning Inspector's conclusions were disappointing. He considered that Persimmon's general approach to the layout and design of the estate and the proposed density of 36 dwellings per hectare to be acceptable. He also felt that the proposal would not have an adverse impact on highway safety. His reasons for dismissal related to relatively minor details of access to mobility housing and privacy and overshadowing relating to a small number of dwellings on the site.

The dismissal of Persimmon's application for 102 dwellings does not signal an end to the need for continued vigilance to protect the local environment. Any future proposal must be carefully examined and any shortcomings once again be objected to.

The Inspector did leave open the issue of car parking provision for the community users of the school playing field. He indicated that provision of community car parking was the responsibility of Sheffield City Council. The new Chief Executive of the City Council has written to Dore Village Society indicating that, in his view, there is adequate car parking provision on the Wessex School site for 112 cars.

However the Society is sceptical that a car park located some 350 meters from the playing field will be used. We feel that continued community use of the playing field at weekends will result in some 80 cars being parked on the highways of any new development and along Furniss Avenue, causing considerable additional congestion.

The Chief Executive has also stated that with any new development a scheme of traffic management may be introduced on Furniss Avenue. The highway department has indicated that there would be public consultation on any traffic management proposal. We would need to appraise the effect of any traffic management proposals as part of the assessment of any new housing scheme.

David Crosby

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
41 Church Lane, S17 3GT.

Committee

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

Ms D Biram 235 6907

Mr D Crosby 262 1127

Mr P Pryor 236 9831

Treasurer

Mrs M Watson 236 5666
4 South Court, S17 3PN.

Secretary

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

Mr D Bearpark 236 9100
(Wyvern Walkers)

Mr G Cope 235 0392

Mrs A Elsdon 236 0002
(Subscriptions)

Mr D Ward 236 3472
(Dore Recreation Ground)

Editorial & Advertising

Dore to Door is published quarterly by the Dore Village Society and **delivered free to over 3,250 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 / 236 9469 or write to: The Editor:

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

Email: editor@dorevillage.co.uk

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of Sheffield Botanical Gardens will be making his debut appearance in Dore, Sue Kohler, Chairman of FOBS and the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust is highly regarded throughout the region and Neil Grant of Ferndale Garden Centre is well-known to listeners of Radio Sheffield. If you would like to put a question to the panel contact us or leave your details at Valerie of Dore.

Our popular summer concerts are performed by our own Dore G&S Society, Dore Male Voice Choir and the Ladies of the TWG choir. The Walker Brothers Jazz Band and friends promise to give us another great evening of lively entertainment. Book your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Once again we welcome back The Company who are presenting their open air production of The Rover by Aphra Behn, a Restoration romp, full of bawdy wit and swashbuckling action. Bring your chairs and rugs and come dressed for the weather but still hope for a fine dry evening. Dore Guides will be selling refreshments and home made cakes during the interval.

We look forward to seeing you at many of the events and would like to take this opportunity to thanks all those local groups and individuals who take part in Dore Festival. The continued financial support and sponsorship of Dore Village Society is greatly appreciated.

**Maureen Cope Tel: 235 0392 and
Anne Elsdon. Tel: 236 0002**

Summer Fair

St. John's Church, Abbeydale Rd. South is holding a Summer Fair in the Church Hall car park (or in the Hall if wet) on Saturday June 7th in the afternoon. Admission is free and there will be many stalls including cakes, bric-a-brac, games, plants, books, etc. and they are hoping that it will be an enjoyable afternoon for all the family.

Refreshments, including Cream Teas, tea, Coffee etc. will be available in the church hall.

The money raised is for St. John's Church funds (to help with major internal building improvements planned for this year); to enable continuing support for the S17 Youth Project; and the Luncheon Club for the elderly in the Parish.

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Letters

Dear Sir,

This morning two large shire type horses came down the path between Ashfurlong/Burlington Road and Abbeydale Park Rise. As you will know, this path is used regularly by elderly people, children in push chairs, invalid carriages etc.

I followed the riders to Devonshire Road where I took photos and also spoke to the riders regarding the use of the path and also the horse droppings left. The man's non too courteous reply was that there was no sign banning horses.

Had any of the aforementioned people been on the path I am sure there would have been some considerable difficulty in solving the situation.

John E Mace

Ed. So far we have been unable to establish the status of this path.

Dear Sir,

Archaic Practise - letter in Dore to Door.

My sister in England sends me Dore to Door magazine - interesting to both of us from growing up there.

I was amazed and saddened to read Ms. Streets' letter regarding the National Anthem being played at the local TOADS production, and as to whether one should stand or sit!

I now live in Canada and winter in Florida, concerts we attend in the US usually have both Canadian & American National Anthems played or/and sung. Both countries respect the others' Anthems and everyone stands for both Anthems - no one is ashamed to do this or thinks it is "fuddy duddy". In fact I think it would be considered exceptionally rude and very bad mannered to do otherwise.

Does Ms. Street not like living in the UK, that she feels ashamed to be acknowledging the British National Anthem?

Gillian Miller

Ed. Could it be because there is a big difference between the sentiments in "God save America" and "God save our gracious Queen - long to reign over us"?

Dear Sir,

Keep local Bobbies local

Some of you may know that the police box on Totley Brook Road is being considered for closure. This, when we want to see more local police presence, not less.

I had occasion to call in recently having noticed two youths in a black car behaving oddly on the 'Rec' car park. I mentioned this to our local Bobbie who was in the box and he went off immediately to investigate. The result was that the two youths were carted off for possession of cannabis and are now warned off our patch.

If the police sub-station had been closed or no-one been there, I doubt that I would have bothered since a call to Woodseats Police station might not have elicited a response and if there had been one the culprits would have been long gone.

This is the third time I have had problems successfully dealt with by our excellent local man. I hope the powers that be reconsider their plans to close this valuable little asset.

Derek Habberjam

Dear Sir,

Letters in the Spring edition of Dore to Door already highlight serious problems of congestion and haphazard and thoughtless parking in much of Dore. In particular, the narrow stretch of Church Lane between the Hare and Hounds and the Dore Grill is becoming a daily worsening nightmare for those of us who must contend with parking and passing problems as we try to negotiate safely in and out of our driveways. It's a wonder that no one has yet been seriously hurt.

This short stretch of roadway functions at different times of day and week as a school run car park; as an overflow car park for the restaurant and for the pub; as a car park for wedding and funeral guests and bellers on practice nights as well as church congregations on Sundays; for shoppers and increasingly for commuters and longstay parkers leaving their vehicles on Church Lane and catching the bus into town.

The result is not only extremely hazardous but also inevitably leads to

thoughtless drivers trying to squeeze past by churning up the grass verges, which are becoming more unsightly by the week. The deep muddy crater that's been made by heavy tyres of the grass outside the greengrocer's is quite appalling. It seems such a shame that the beautiful show of daffodils leading into the heart of the village each spring is bounded by an ugly mess of churned-up verge.

Can the Dore Village Society not persuade the Council to take a new look at our roads and verges and come up with some rewriting of regulations and perhaps some physical solutions such as a few double yellow lines and some higher kerbs designed to deter drivers ploughing along and parking on the grass verges?

Kirsten Thorley

Dear Sir,

I am wondering whether any of your readers could help me.

I have enclosed a copy of part of the family history that I am writing and as you can see I am back in Dore in or around 1620. I have traced my direct family line of Clarke back to Francis in circ1620 but it does get more difficult as you go back this far.

Now I do know that Francis was a church warden in Dore in the 1600's but does anyone know whether there are any old records about that can confirm a birth date or place for Francis?

My side of the Clarke family have been in the Sheffield and Dore area for nearly 400 years and only now are we spread around the country and the world.

I would be pleased to receive any information on Dore in the 1600's or in particular Francis and John.

I thank you in anticipation of your help

Richard Clarke

Dear Sir,

I was Jean Dean's pen pal for 67 years and I was very sad to hear of her death last October. At Christmas one of her friends wrote and said she hoped I knew that Jean had died. What a shock! Our last correspondence was in September.

I would like very much if you could send me a copy of the obituary from the newspaper or a folder from her funeral. I would also like to know the cause of her death. She shared everything with me. I haven't been able to get any information at all and I would really appreciate it.

After writing to her for 51 years, I was finally able to make a trip to Dore to meet Jean. What a wonderful experience. Her husband Don was quite ill at the time, but we did get to spend time together. Her friends showed us many of the sights and that was very enjoyable. We stayed at Mr. Critchley's Bed and Breakfast.

We wrote about school, the war, family, friends, marriage, deaths of children and family, church and social activities. After writing to her since she was 7 and I was 8 years old, she was like a sister to me.

Zona M. Turja

2 Arbutus Drive

Duluth, MN. 55810-1908

gzturja0326@charter.net

Ed. We have already forwarded extracts from the Winter 07 edition of Dore to Door; but other readers may also wish to contact Zona.

Those Lazy Summer Evenings...

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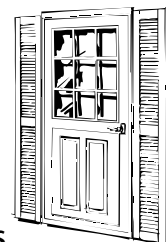
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Letters continued...

Dear Sir,

Annabelle Kennedy, in her article about Blacka Moor, refers to a letter J.G Graves wrote to the Sheffield Telegraph in 1933 quoting, "the object of the purchase is to preserve the moor in its natural state...." So how does she justify the erection of the barbed wire fence across the moor, now compartmentalising it from the woodland, in order that Sheffield Wildlife Trust (SWT) can graze cattle, not on the farm pastures but on the moor. How natural is barbed wire?

I discovered Blacka Moor when I came to live in Sheffield and thoroughly enjoyed the unique psychological escape from urban clutter that it offered. Views that have virtually no evidence of human interference are rare and one stunning

view I treasured was from near Lenny Hill, sadly now a view ruined with the harsh agricultural barbed wire across it.

I volunteered to work on the moor, doing tasks such as cutting out birch saplings and became a member of the Black Moor Reserve Advisory Group (RAG). Initially I felt delighted and privileged to be involved in the management of a place I valued so much. But my enjoyment of Blacka Moor is being gradually eroded, as Sheffield Wildlife Trust continue to run roughshod over regular users like myself.

The problem is that regular walkers on Blacka Moor want the most minimal and invisible management possible, valuing above all else the simple and unique wildness of the place. But SWT continues to dream up schemes and projects, to bring in funding, to maintain their staff and staff

development. For example, they persuaded a funding body to give them one thousand pounds to spend on an interpretation feature for Blacka Moor. No one in the RAG wanted this. So they decided to replace a suitable simple bench with a very expensive one, putting carving on it. This new bench is admittedly a very beautiful one. It would look fantastic in a well-managed and manicured country park. But this is Blacka Moor. And it is a lot of money to spend replacing something that didn't need replacing.

It was agreed in RAG meetings that all materials used on Blacka Moor would be natural. I expressed my concern that there was some red house brick rubble on some paths instead of stones. SWT blamed this on the Council and said that the bricks had been put down before they took over management of the land. Yet they have just, this month, 'repaired' some paths and used tons of crushed house bricks. I have reported to SWT several times that some Spanish Bluebells are growing at Strawberry Lee Lane car park. They need digging up to avoid cross-pollination with the natural English Bluebells. This is an action worth taking and could be done if, instead of the many thousands of pounds spent on barbed wire, it were spent on a part-time site worker instead.

What with urban rubble, carvings, barbed wire fences and signs, SWT are intent on ensuring that when we walk on Blacka Moor now, we are fully reminded that we are in a city. This urbanisation of Blacka Moor will continue and I don't think there is anything we can do about it now the Council have handed this land over to them.

Dawn Biram

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Stroke identification

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognise the symptoms of a stroke.

Yet one neurologist has claimed that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke... totally. The trick is getting a stroke recognised, diagnosed, and then getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours, which is tough.

So how to recognise a possible stroke?

Remember the '3' steps, S.T.R - read and learn these!

A bystander can recognise a possible stroke by asking three simple questions:

S * Ask the individual to SMILE.

T * Ask the person to TALK and speak a simple sentence coherently (i.e. It is sunny out today)

R * Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call 999 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

Another possible sign is to ask the person to stick out their tongue. If the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other, that is also a possible indication of a stroke.

Mr Suzuki opens Monty's new showroom!

Suzuki have appointed Monty's of Sheffield as the new Suzuki franchise for Sheffield. Monty's excellent reputation is well known in this region and is built on many decades of first class customer service.

The addition of Suzuki to the existing franchises under the Monty's name will be most welcome by customers and staff alike as the Suzuki range offers both style, choice and value. The Suzuki Swift "supermini" is extremely popular in the UK and starts the range which also includes the compact SX4 4x4, and the latest shape Grand Vitara in both 3 and 5 door models.

The dealership was officially opened by Mr. Takanori Suzuki, Managing Director of Suzuki pictured here with David Waite, Monty's Director and Steve Robinson of Suzuki UK. The showroom now has many

Suzuki models on display. Why not call in at Monty's this weekend and find out for yourself just how good Monty's Suzuki are?

0% apr finance over three years is now available on the majority of cars in the Suzuki range, other competitive finance packages are available and can be tailored to suit you pocket, subject to normal terms and conditions of course.

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Model shown is the new Suzuki Splash 1.2 GLS* available at £9,499 on the road (metallic paint available at extra cost).

Edale Mountain Rescue

Edale Mountain Rescue Team (EMRT) operates in the UK's Peak District National Park and is one of the busiest Mountain Rescue Teams in the country. In 2007 team members were involved in 85 incidents.

The team is made up entirely of volunteers who come from all walks of life and give up their time freely. We have 47 fully operational hill members who are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year and 9 aspirant members. We are very grateful to members families and employers for allowing them the time to participate in EMRT activities. Of the full hill members 4 are doctors and 2 are dog handlers who are part of the wider Search and Rescue Dog Association (SARDA).

The team trains at least once a fortnight to refresh and improve on all the skills required to be a member of Edale team. This includes our specialist rescue equipment and the principles of navigation, crag rescue and advanced first aid.

Frequent activity in our key operational area ensures that all team members have good local knowledge. An essential part of providing an efficient search and rescue service. We also work very closely with other MRT's and all of the emergency services who cover the Peak District and South Yorkshire.

In addition to the operational members we also have an ever expanding and highly valued support group called "Friends in High Places" who work behind the scenes providing help with fundraising and equipment maintenance.

We, like all other Mountain Rescue teams in England and Wales, have no central funding and rely entirely on charitable donations to raise the money we need to run the team. All the money we raise is used to improve the service we offer by investing in training for members,



Sheffield Botanical Gardens in the spring. From now through the summer is the best time to visit the gardens which are only a No 30 bus ride away. Enjoy the sunshine, refreshments in the cafe, and browse through the Gatehouse Gift Shop.

equipment maintenance and renewal and keeping our two emergency response vehicles on the road.

For the last 23 years we have been based at an industrial site in the Hope Valley courtesy of LaFarge who have provided us with garage accommodation. In July 2007 we moved into our purpose built headquarters on the LaFarge site. Without the financial and moral support of LaFarge this would not have been possible. We now have a building that will meet our needs for the next 20 years and beyond.

Rob Small (Chairman)

Edale Mountain Rescue Team

Registered charity number 512559

Ed. You can hear much more about the work of the Edale Mountain Rescue Team at our public meeting in the Methodist Church Hall on Wednesday 11th June.

Wimbledon on your doorstep!

Yes, it's that time of year when tennis fans reach for their racquets and head for the courts!

This year Dore & Totley Tennis Club is bringing a taste of Wimbledon to Dore, by holding a Social Tennis Evening, followed by Champagne and Strawberries on Wednesday 21st May, starting at 6pm.

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John was born in January 1924 at Sherwood Road Nursing Home, Sheffield (now the Department of Law at Sheffield University), the eldest child of two teachers James Caisley and Susan Dugdell who had married in Christchurch Dore in 1921. John was christened in Dore Church by the old Reverend W.R.Gibson, who was vicar for 35 years, but his parents lived in Firth Park, Sheffield.

John's maternal grandfather, Tom Dugdell was the son of a blacksmith and "was reputed to have been the most knowledgeable man in the north of England on horses." He had worked for Joseph Tomlinson, Sheffield, funeral directors and taxis in charge of all the horses before becoming groom and gardener at Overdale House, Drury Lane, Dore. After the decline of the horse he left Overdale, bought one of the stone villas on Brickhouse Lane and was employed as gardener at different big houses in the village. Tom Dugdell was a sidesman at Dore Church and on the parochial church council.

In 1927, John's mother Susan suddenly died and his grandparents agreed to assist with the rearing of John and his baby sister Joyce. So the little family left Firth Park and came to live with them in Brickhouse Lane. John says "I can remember the day, the date and the time and what it was like. In those days we had terrible winters and there was about a foot of snow on the ground. I came to Dore early in 1929. I was just five."

John's father, James Caisley had become headmaster of the biggest elementary school in the east end of Sheffield, a very deprived part of the city. He travelled from Dore to Carbrook by bus and tram until 1935 when he decided to buy a car and shared the journey with two of three friends who also worked in that end of the city.

On 1st April 1929 John started at Dore School and recalls that time. "We were all very happy at school. We would have an

Oral History Collection

In conversation with John Caisley

early morning assembly. It was always the same hymn in the Infants under Miss Dobbs which was "All Things Bright and Beautiful" and for the rest of the school it was "New Every Morning is the Love". I can remember having hot milk at break; they produced Horlicks for us. We had three women teachers and a headmaster, Mr. Speight who I thought was always rather tyrannical. In fact I was petrified of him. He would come round on a Tuesday morning and if there was the slightest thing wrong he'd pick on you and get hold of your ear and twist it or he'd nip you in the back. It was a bit difficult being the son of another headmaster in the city and they knew each other."

John reflects on other aspects of his school days and childhood. "The school year was always mapped out by the seasons but one day that stood out was 24th May, Queen Victoria's birthday. There was always a ceremony marking Empire Day when they issued new children with a medal with King George's head on, which had to be worn that day and if you were lucky you got a half day's holiday!" All out of class activities were governed by the seasons. "In winter the playground, which was tarmacadamed, had a slide because there was always a frost. Apart from that you'd be sledging. Out of school, if the weather was fine and it was summer you were playing cricket. You couldn't play football in the summer because the hay was harvested at the end of July. They had one crop a year and you couldn't go into the hayfields from April till July because you were damaging the hay. In those days hay was mown the last week in July just as the school holidays were starting and then you could go into the football field and start playing football. If you weren't doing that you were messing about in streams or collecting mushrooms, Bilberries up in Blackamoor, or Blackberries from the hedgerows."

As well as being a keen sportsman John enjoyed music and like many village boys sang in Christchurch choir. He has fond memories of that time and in particular of the organist and choirmaster Arthur Farnsworth. "He was an amazing man and he taught us all a lot of respect for other people and he was so kind he didn't need to be a disciplinarian. He was the backbone of the village in my opinion." Arthur Farnsworth, not only got the boys to sing in tune, he ran the choir football and cricket teams, organised matches in the cricket field behind the Church Hall (now Brunsmere F.C. ground) and took them by train to away fixtures. When asked if he remembers some of the boys who were in the cricket and football teams with him John replies "Oh, yes, Stuart Farnsworth to start with, George Thorpe, Alec Thorpe, William Thorpe, John Bamford, Chris Fearnough, Derek Taylor, Charles Cook and people like Donald Bagnall, Donald Laycock and Philip Rhodes." A real roll call of names from well-known Dore families!

John describes one particular cricket match played in the early 1930s between children from his father's Sheffield school and Dore choirboys. It was during the depression and most of the schoolboys wore ragged trousers and lacked proper shoes but they enjoyed sport and a fixture had been arranged. John recalls "Now, when Dore choirboys played cricket they were all decked out in beautiful white flannels and we were rolling the cricket pitch when the advance party of my father's arrived from Carbrook one Saturday afternoon in bright sunlight. A lot of these children had never even seen green fields before and they looked at us in the green field in the superb whites and I can remember the looks on their faces now. They were just standing there in astonishment" However the Carbrook boys soon recovered their wits as John concludes. "We decided we'd put the visitors in to bat first and they made about 250 runs! Yes and when the Dore choir team went in we were all out for eleven! After that day we all had a lot of respect for what went on in the rest of the city."

Arthur Farnsworth would also organise a choir summer outing to somewhere like Rhyl, Llandudno, Bridlington or Morecombe which meant "getting up at a very unearthly hour and leaving Dore station at about 5o'clock in the morning by train and getting back about midnight. It was always a marvellous day!" At Christmas according to John, "he would collect from the more wealthy people in Dore Road sufficient funds to provide each choirboy with one or two superb books which were given to them at a Christmas party held in the old village hall." The choir party was the big event of Christmas.

John left Dore School in 1934 and went up to High Storrs School until 1941 when he began to study Medicine at Sheffield University. In the meantime, of course, the war had started, Sheffield had been blitzed and Dore had received some stray bombs. John vividly remembers two occasions. The first was the night that a bungalow on Church Lane got hit when he and some friends were in the Boy's Club. "We'd been given a billiard table and the use of a room in Fred Ashby's builders yard in the middle of the village. We'd heard the sirens go but we were quite used to that and we suddenly heard this whistle of a bomb coming down and the six of us dived under the billiard table. We wondered where it had gone off and suddenly somebody came into the club and said that it had hit the bungalow belonging to Mr. Hartley. His St. Bernard had been hit but he was alright himself. Apparently he was standing at the front door with the dog and the bomb took the centre of the bungalow out, killed the dog, left him standing. His young son was asleep in one wing completely oblivious and his wife was in the other wing completely untouched."

The other occasion was at John's own home in Brickhouse Lane. He explains, "I built a shelter in the garden when the war broke out. I covered it with corrugated iron and put about two feet of soil on the

...continued on page 12

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Ianford, Church Lane, the bungalow belonging to Mr Hartley after it was bombed in January 1941.



Christchurch Dore Choir with Rev. Saxelby-Kemp and Arthur Farnsworth - circ 1930. 1st row L to R: Philip Swift, Billy Cook, John Caisley, Tommy Taylor. 2nd row: Unknown, Teddy Swift, Billy Thorpe, Unknown, Unknown, Albert Siddall, Alan Bingham. 3rd row: Unknown, George Thorpe, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Godfrey Taylor, Eric Roebuck, Alec Thorpe.

top and big stones and everything and put some seats inside. My grandfather had actually spent the first three hours of the night of the 12th December sitting in there because he wasn't very happy. I had been pottering around the village and then went home with Alec Thorpe who lived next door to me. When I got home my grandfather was in the air raid shelter so I said, "Oh come on in and have a cup of tea" (which he did). Five minutes later that shelter was demolished by a direct hit on it in the garden about 20 yards from the house!"

One of the consequences of wartime was the creation of civil defence groups as John humorously describes, "Well, six or seven of the village boys of my age, we were too young to be called up, joined the Home Guard and we were stationed at Balfour Sports Ground off Limb Lane. They put us with three old lags from the first world war and a sergeant who had been decorated with a military medal and we thought this was marvellous. Every

Sunday evening we had to drag a very heavy machine gun from the Balfour Sports Ground to a hut near the top of Long Line, stand guard all night and get back to headquarters by about six o'clock in the morning. Then I had to go off to university at seven o'clock and try and keep awake for the rest of the day."

When asked if he ever saw any action John replied "Not really. It was my job because I was a medical student then to attend where they were practising throwing bombs, grenades; there had to be some sort of medical man there. The only bit of action we saw was one summer's evening in 1941, Sunday, twenty past six, two British fighters were circling the village and playing around and stunting. One suddenly started leaking oil and he made a dive for the hills on Houndkirk, just above Sheephill Road and he crash landed his plane on that hill. I remember Alec Thorpe and I ran up and there was this Polish pilot sitting on the wings wondering what on earth to do. We had to

stand guard over the plane that night." That was the nearest they came to any action!

When the war was over and John had completed his studies he went into general practice working for a time in the east end of Sheffield around the area where his father's school had been. Then marriage and job moves to different parts of the country took him away from the village of his youth. However, he has returned whenever he could to catch up with dear friends and family and more recently to share with us his wonderful memories of an active, happy childhood in Dore.

*Maureen Cope,
Dore Oral History Group*

Ed. If you can identify any of the unknown choir boys above, then please let us know.

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Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society

This is a thank you from everyone in the Society to all of you who have told us how much you enjoyed The Mikado. We believed that we had put on a show that ranked with the best we had ever done and I think that your feedback has confirmed that feeling with knobs on. We are so pleased you enjoyed it. We certainly did despite the illness setbacks which we managed to overcome with little or no detriment to the performances.

It was achieved only by the hard work of all members but particularly that of Richard McKeown, our chairman, Gerry Kersey the producer and Paul Wright our MD who worked tirelessly to get stand-ins at very short notice and relentlessly

rehearse them to the show standard. No small thanks go, of course, to the two stand-ins themselves - David Lovell from Leicester G&S and Mike Cox from within our own ranks.

If you enjoyed this production don't forget to book for next year's show which will be "Patience" - a skit on the aesthetic movement (in which Oscar Wilde played no small part) and very funny with the usual crop of wonderful songs including a couple parodied by Hinge and Brackett.

In the meantime don't forget our usual Summer Concert as part of Dore Festival, which this year will be on Saturday July 5th in the Church Hall. Tickets £5 including refreshments, will be available from me Tel: 236 2299 or other members of The Society.

Derek Habberjam

Reporting stray dogs

The arrangements for dealing with stray dogs outside office hours have changed. Under Section 68 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, Sheffield City Council took on full responsibility for dealing with stray dogs. Police retain duties for dangerous dogs or those found worrying livestock.

Anyone who finds a stray dog must inform the local authority and individuals have a legal obligation to either hand the dog back to its owner or over to the local authority. If anyone wishes to report a stray dog or hand in a dog that has been found they can contact the Council on: 0114 203 7410 Further advice about stray dogs may be found by visiting: www.sheffield.gov.uk/straydogs

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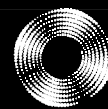
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Recreation Ground news

You will be aware of the present appalling condition of the Recreation Ground and may be wondering what, if anything is happening to improve things. Dore Village Society have been actively involved with the council officers, directors and councillors since last summer but to say it has been a frustrating time would be an understatement. Here is a time-line of activity since last summer.

* August 2007 - Following the cancellation of the gala a DVS Steering Group was set up to focus on the Rec.

* September 2007 - A sponsor to renovate the footpath in the memory of her late husband came forward and the Group fully supported this proposal once the drainage issue had been resolved.

* November 2007 - A local expert surveyed the drainage system for the Group who submitted it to the council.

* December 2007 - Steering Group and footpath constructors met Council officers met on site late 2007 but were told "no money available" for repairs.

* January 2008 - After Steering Group pressure council accepted that monies from local developments surrounding the recreation ground should be used on the site. Priorities were identified as :-

- 1) Rectify the drainage
- 2) Renovate the footpath
- 3) Car park, litter, access etc

* February 2008 - Responding to requests from DVS councillor Keith Hill becomes involved in ascertaining funds available from development contractors (planning gain) - it's more than enough to do the work needed and was available from last year.

* March 2008 - Sir Robert Kerslake, former leader of Sheffield City Council becomes involved after a steaming letter from DVS chairman expressing his frustration about the state of the Rec and the lack of progress. Several more council officers become involved. Burst pipe makes flooding worse but after being reported is only fenced off "temporarily".

* April 2008 - Council are now commissioning their own survey of the drainage system (at a considerable cost), agree that repairs will be done - but not in time for the gala.

Dave Ward



Meet Theodore, the Dore Village Society's resident dragon, who is seen guarding the dragon egg prizes during the St George's Day Dragon Hunt in April.

The name Theodore was chosen from suggestions made by entrants in the hunt, who had been invited to name him.

You can meet Theodore at the Dore Village Society room in the Old School, between 10am & 12 noon on the first Saturday of each month.

Dragons beware!

Despite the appalling weather forecast 70 adults and 66 children attended the third Dore Village Society Dragon Hunt held to celebrate St. George's Day and were rewarded with a warm, fine afternoon. This year the groups not only had to plot the optimum route and solve clues around Dore but they also had to find 12 dragons scattered around the village and identify their names, resulting in King Egbert being revealed as the solution to an anagram.

As usual St. George was on hand to welcome guests (and frighten some children!) and all participants were able to partake of dragon's blood, dragon's cake and dragon's eggs to aid recovery after successfully completing the course.

Also on show was the new Dore Dragon and entrants were asked to choose a name for him/her. There were many excellent suggestions (often involving the word

Dore) but the DVS members were unanimous in selecting the very last team to arrive back (well they did have plenty of time to think about it!!). Congratulations and thanks therefore go to the Darley family who selected the name "THEODORE".

Our dragon will be on view in the DVS office for all to see and we should end with thanking all the DVS committee members for their hard work on the day ably supported by Lesley Carney, Maureen Cope and Sue Ward.

We are unsure as to whether the legend of St. George was supportive or angry but immediately after the activities the clouds gathered, the dragons in the sky roared and we were treated to a thunder and lightning filled downpour.

Dave Ward

Porter FC

Porter F.C. is the local team for junior football players in the Dore & Totley area. With coaching starting at under 8s and teams competing in leagues from under 9 through to under 16, all junior age groups are catered for. Porter FC seeks to provide not only a game of football, but an all round education in football.

Last season the Club celebrated its 25th season of competition in junior football. Although the Club has enjoyed its fair share of success down the years and can boast many league titles and promotions, Club Secretary Mike Haslam is keen to stress that it's not all about winning. To quote from the Clubs Constitution, "the Club exists to develop and encourage participation in football in an atmosphere of good sportsmanship and fellowship among players and parents as well as with teams against whom the club competes".

The Clubs main training and junior football facility is at Ash House Lane which provides league action for teams in the under 9 through to under 12 age category. The under 13s & under 14s play at Chancet Wood whilst the under 15s and U16s enjoy the luxury of playing at the Clubs flagship ground at Cowley Lane, proudly boasted as being the Wembley of junior soccer in this region.

As Club Chairman Gordon Mackenzie explained, these are exciting times for the Club, helped by a new web site at <http://www.porterfc.org.uk>

In May we begin our Saturday mornings specialist goalkeeper coaching and kick abouts. These are absolutely FREE to all kids in Dore & Totley and surrounding areas and everyone is welcome to attend. You don't even need to want to play for the Club, they are simply informal gatherings of people who just want to enjoy a kick about.

By the end of May we hope to have everything in place to make our application for Charter Standard and to achieve that status before the start next season, and we are putting the finishing touches to our Club Family Day to be held at Ash House Lane in July.

If you want to know more contact Gordon - gjmackenzie@btopenworld.com or Mike - mikejhaslam@yahoo.co.uk

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Where Wild Things Are

Red Deer on Blacka Moor

"There is no more beautiful creature than a stag in his pride of antler, his coat of ruddy gold, his grace of form and motion. He seems the natural owner of the ferny coombes, the oak woods, the broad slopes of heather. They belong to him, and he steps upon the sward in lordly mastership".

(Richard Jefferies 1871)

Wild deer were present long ago in and around Blacka Moor of course. At the time of William I they lived in the royal forests which stretched over much of the country with hunting strictly reserved: forest law dictated that "whoever slew hart or hind should be blinded". There has been more recent visible evidence of their presence for those of us who love to explore off the main paths. We had often wondered about tracks running through the bracken - were they really caused by stray sheep or even adventurous children?

But deer are reappearing more determinedly with regular sightings over the last two years. From personal experience this can be dated to an early morning in the week before Christmas 2003. In dim light four shapes became just visible moving in steady single file across the moor towards Cowsick. These were stags, the male of the red deer, Britain's largest and most impressive wild animal. Since then, for a year or two, there were isolated reports of deer being seen, but just lately the number of sightings has increased. It is quite possible on Blacka's undulating landscape to come upon a large stag towering close above you, its antlers and proud chest outlined against the early morning sky. This is a special moment and captures the essential wildness of the place.

Our native deer are the small roe and the red. Many will also be familiar with the fallow, an introduced species. Males of the fallow and roe are usually called bucks, the females and young are does and fawns. Tradition reserves different names for red deer, the male being a stag, the female a hind and, perhaps surprisingly, the young

are calves. The old word 'hart' referred to a stag of five years or older. Only the male has antlers and they become larger with more points as he ages. In March or April antlers are shed but almost immediately new ones start to appear, initially covered with velvet. At this sensitive time any minor disputes between stags are more likely to be settled by sparring or boxing with the front paws.



A fine stag caught unawares on Blacka Moor. Photo by Neil Fitzmaurice.

Confirmation that they are truly at home on Blacka has come from several views of a family group of hind and calf watchfully escorted by the stag as they browse the moor. Seen in the early morning they look in their element. Some of us have long welcomed and celebrated the wilder look that Blacka has gradually adopted over much of the last century. Visually this has complemented the bleaker aspect of the treeless moors all around kept under severe control by many years of overgrazing by large numbers of sheep.

There is little doubt that the steady spread of native trees like rowan, oak, birch, and pine have brought back much diversity to the views. This can be appreciated when looking up to Blacka from the local lanes and paths lower down and also on the hills themselves where

blossom from rowan in April and May is a striking feature. The extra variety of form in the vegetation should be welcomed for it is certain that it has helped to return the red deer to the area as well as more visiting songbirds. They value just this kind of natural regeneration, with its mix of tree cover heath and even bracken. The fern has a strong association with the red deer and is prized for its ability to hide the young calves when they are most vulnerable.

Interestingly the new wilder character demonstrated by the return of the red deer raises questions about the approach of the wildlife trust. It appears they attach more importance to domestic farm animals than to the truly wild ones. The deer help in their own way to 'manage' the landscape but, being natural, refuse to conform to the artificial prescriptions of management plans and are no respecters of barbed wire. The Spring edition of Dore to Door contained an article originating from the wildlife trust celebrating the farming history of parts of Blacka and farm animals while another article in the Totley Independent from the same source was headed "Beautiful Beasts of Blacka Moor". Amazingly the beasts referred to were the farm cattle newly imported to the moor last year. Many must have observed that red deer were not even mentioned. Yet the deer are independent of man, light-footed and wild, free spirits. The cattle meanwhile are dependent on man and are large-hoofed heavyweights, eroding the soft peaty paths of the moor and imposing a need for barbed wire and awkward gates. Perhaps man will always want to over-manage things but let us hope that nothing happens to compromise the wildness that has added so much pleasure, interest and surprise to this part of our area.

I'll leave my last word on the subject to the great Victorian writer and naturalist Richard Jefferies on the stag.

"The land is his, and the hills, the sweet streams, and rocky glens. He is infinitely more natural than the cattle and sheep that have strayed into his domains. For some inexplicable reason, although they too are in reality natural, when he is present they look as if they had been put there and were kept there by artificial means. They do not, as painters say, shade in with the colours and shape of the landscape.

He is as natural as an oak, or a fern, or a rock itself. He is earth-born - autochthon - and holds possession by descent. Utterly scorning control, the walls and hedges are nothing to him. - he roams where he chooses, as fancy leads."

More information and many more pictures of red deer on Blacka can be accessed easily on the internet by visiting www.theblackamoorsite.blogspot.com

Neil Fitzmaurice

Extra DORE to DOORS

Extra copies of Dore to Door, price 20p each, are available at the newsagents on Causeway Head Road, at Totley Library, or from the Dore Village Society room during open mornings.

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Steady As She Goes

Alistair Humphrey FRICS NAEA of Eadon Lockwood & Riddle Ltd assesses the property market as we enter what is traditionally the busiest time in the house selling calendar.

Anyone with sailing experience will know those joyful days when a warm brisk wind blows true and steady. But they will also know those days when the wind is cold, fluky and difficult, when it blows strongly from different directions with unpredictable gusts. Then it is not so joyful and can be downright uncomfortable.

Well, the property market is a bit like that. For over five years we have had great conditions. But now the weather has altered. It's stormy and changeable.

The irony is that while property sales are clearly down across the country as a whole, interest and viewing activity in Sheffield remains relatively high. 'Tis an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and in the case of this market it is buyers who are benefiting from the economic climate. Conditions for purchasers haven't been so good for years - apart from those looking for high-loan-to-value mortgages.

This is down to two major factors. As prices enter a phase of re-adjustment people can now afford to buy property that even a couple of years ago would have been too expensive. There is also plenty on the market to choose from - most people can't remember the last time things were so good for prudent buyers.

But big questions remain. Will the country slip into recession? Nobody

knows. How will the property market continue to react? No-one can say. Can we look at the recent past to help us understand how the market will behave in the future? Sadly not. Should we believe all that we read in the national press? Definitely not.

Well, what do we know? We know that the market is cyclical. We know, in the short term, what goes up will come down. We know in the long term there is a relentless upward trend - what goes up will continue to do so, despite the odd hiccup. We know that there are good buyers out there. We know that property priced in line with buyers' reasonable expectations will sell. We know that super-prime property in super-prime areas will remain a buoyant sector, albeit with sub-prime urgency. We know that the serious seller will sell and the serious buyer will buy. Does all that make for a bad market? Not at all!

Alistair Humphrey

New RSPCA centre

The new Sheffield RSPCA Centre is beginning to take shape in the city's East End at Woodbourne Road. Some £6 million needs to be raised to pay for the new headquarters and kennels which will house dozens of needy cats, dogs and other animals from throughout the city.

The development replaces the charity's former Spring Street premises in the city centre which were lost to a new road development. It is hoped the project will be completed by next autumn.

Mystery horse trough

Sheffield RSPCA will be moving to new headquarters in the Autumn and a search has been on to find and re-site at a horse trough that was dedicated to Benjamin Cartledge, honorary veterinary surgeon to the then Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

A minute book for 1892 records when Benjamin Cartledge died suddenly, aged 66, having served the Society for almost 20 years since its formation in 1873. The horse trough was bought with money from public donations, with 103 individuals and companies contributing £117 17s towards the cost. The trough was made from the red granite at the North of Scotland Granite Company, Peterhead, at a final cost of £120.

Wording on the trough reads: "In memory of Benjamin Cartledge who for 20 years acted as Honorary Veterinary Surgeon to the Sheffield Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals" It was not until 1917 that the Sheffield Branch amalgamated with the RSPCA.

The horse trough was originally located at Fitzalan Square in 1894, then relocated to Barkers Pool in 1912. With the War Memorial being built there in 1925 and the City Hall in 1932, it was moved again but from then on there seems no record of its fate. Now it has been found in one of all places Abbeydale Hamlet, covered and lost in ivy.

Hopefully arrangements can now be made to give it a appropriate home in the proposed Memorial Garden at the new Woodbourne Road site.

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New garden legislation

Paving over front gardens will be significantly more difficult this autumn, due to a new law to be introduced. From October, home owners in England must apply for planning permission if they want to pave their front garden with impermeable materials such as asphalt - but will be exempt if using defined porous products. Applying for planning permission can cost around £150 and it can take up to eight weeks to get approval - barriers that the Government hopes will steer the public to use more environmentally-friendly products, which increased demand should make less expensive.

The measures have come about

following Sir Michael Pitt's investigations into last year's devastating summer floods. His recommendations, together with contributions from the RHS and Environment Agency, were adopted in the Government's water strategy, 'Future Water'. A further report, Impact Assessment - Permeable Surfaces, details how and why the Government has decided to introduce a new law.

It states that climate change, urbanisation and 'urban creep' (a term used for the increasing amounts of hard, impermeable surfaces in urban areas) are likely to become greater threats to the environment in future. It is hoped that encouraging the use of permeable materials will reduce flooding and its subsequent damage; be better for the local

environment and encourage higher biodiversity; reduce urban heat-island effects; and improve soil moisture, thus benefiting street trees.

The Environment Agency is currently working on a booklet giving advice on permeable paving and more sustainable options for front gardens. Visit: www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/686153

A garden party in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association will take place at 40 Newfield Crescent on Sunday the 22nd June from 2pm until 5.30pm. There will be cakes, books, plants and bric-a-brac stalls. Entry £3, which includes tea and scones; children free. Details from 236 2589.

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Dore Primary School

Four teachers with nearly 100 years of service at Dore Primary School between them will be saying their fond farewells at the end of the summer term.

Ian Wileman, who is retiring after 22 years as headteacher, has left an indelible mark on the school and the region, creating a happy and successful learning environment for pupils and maintaining a close, personal involvement with parents and the local community.

Ted Scarff and Barbara France are retiring after teaching for a total of 43 years at the school, Ted leading in the teaching of English and Barbara in Art. Finally, Anne Thwaites is moving to Beighton Nursery Infants School as headteacher after spending 32 years at Dore Primary, initially in the Infant department and latterly as deputy headteacher in the senior management team.

A special reception for Ian, Ted, Barbara and Anne will be held on Thursday 10th July, from 4pm-5.30pm in the school, to which parents of pupils (past and present) are warmly invited to attend, together with former pupils and members of the local community.

Donations should be sent to The School Secretary, Dore Primary School, Furniss Avenue, Sheffield S17 3QP (cheques made payable to 'Dore Primary School'), with a clear indication for whom the donations are intended.

Roger Allum

News in brief

Want to give a little back? Volunteers' Week from 1st to 7th June celebrates the UK's 22 million volunteers. From the arts, to sport, hospices and the environment, get involved in your area at www.volunteersweek.org.uk.

The Cricket Inn, Penny Lane was one of five Sheffield pubs/bars recently highlighted for their beer, food and ambience by a panel of top figures in the pub trade.

Parents are to be charged £75 a year to drop their children off on the school run by Richmond Council in London. The scheme, to be piloted from September, is then expected to be rolled out by local authorities across the country.

Abbeydale Miniature Railway Timetable

First train 1p.m. – last train 5p.m.
May Sunday 25th, Monday 26th
June Sundays 8th, & 22nd
July Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th
Open Days & Exhibition
Sunday 20th
Aug Sunday 3rd
Teddy Bears' Picnic

Sheffield Rangers

Sheffield City Rangers are organising a number of events during the summer for children, families and adults. Booking via 283 9195 is essential for some events as indicated. Full details of these events are also available on this number.

May 23rd. Going Batty - a night of bat discovery in Graves Park. 7pm start. Booking essential.

May 27th. Sails Ahoy - build your own yacht of recycled materials & race on the pond at Graves Park

May 30th. Woodpecker Walk in Ecclesall Woods 11am-1pm. Meet at Sawmill site.

June 7th. Snap Happy - an afternoon of photo fun. 1pm-3pm. Meet at Sawmill site.

June 27th. Going Batty - a night of bat discovery in Ecclesall Woods. 8pm start. Booking essential

June 29th. Teddy Bear picnic in Whirlowbrook Park. 11am - 12noon. Booking essential

July 5th. Secret Garden - practical day at Whinfall Quarry Gardens 9.30am start

July 12th. Step out with the Rangers. 6 miles, around Totley - meet Totley Library. 10.30am-2pm

July 25th. Going Batty - a night of bat discovery in Whirlowbrook Park 9pm start. Booking essential

July 27th. Boots & Baskets - m guided walk & picnic in Ecclesall Woods. 10.30am start. Meet at Sawmill.

August 6th. Shiver Me Timbers - pirate activities in Millhouses Park. 1pm start. Booking essential

August 9th. Step out with the Rangers for a family walk around Fox House 10.30am-2pm

August 13th. Treasure Trail in Ecclesall Woods 1pm-3pm meet at Sawmill. Book

Dore Gala

Dore Scout & Guide Gala will take place on Saturday 12th July at Dore Recreation Ground. As usual it will start with the Scout and Guide Parade through the village, arriving at the 'Rec' at 2pm (or thereabouts). Then there will be a wide range of entertainment, plus stalls and fairground rides as in previous years. And don't forget to enter the famous and entertaining "Dog of Dore" competition.

Full details are in the programme delivered to every house in the village.

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Coffee morning success

On a sunny February day, Paddy and Barbara Cassidy opened their home in Dore to hold a coffee morning and quilt exhibition, raising £525 for the Edale Mountain Rescue team, who are all volunteers.

Family members, friends and neighbours gave support along with members of Sheffield University of the 3rd Age, walking Group "L", U3A Patch and Quilt group, U3A Quilt Hive Group, Dore Quilters, and the Quilt Time Group (Stannington). Visitors enjoyed viewing a display of quilts and wall hangings made by Barbara as a member of those groups.

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The Wildlife Garden

If all the human race died out in some future cataclysm, which animals do you think would mourn our passing? Rats, possibly; cockroaches, perhaps, but house sparrows, definitely, for there are few animals more closely associated with mankind than these small brown birds. In spite of the fact that house sparrows have unquestionably benefitted from their close ties with humans, to such an extent they are now the second most populous bird on the planet, the union hasn't exactly been a marriage made in heaven. This is because house sparrows are almost universally considered a pest.

Having said that, over the last decade, house sparrow numbers have plummeted here in Britain, to such an extent their status has recently changed from pest to endangered species. So should we gardeners be cheerfully waving goodbye to these birds or concerned about their plight and trying to help them?

House sparrows readily take to bird feeders, but some experts question whether encouraging them is such a good idea as they have a rather unfortunate habit: for no other reason than 'sheer devilment', these birds will attack the buds of fruit bushes and trees, including cherry, currant, gooseberry and pear. They can also strip the flowers from crocus, polyanthus and primulas; pull up seedlings and onion sets, damage lettuce, peas and sweet corn, as well as happily feasting on newly sown grass seed.

The traditional way to stop these birds up-rooting onion sets or seedlings is to weave a web of black cotton strands over them, but as this often entangles blackbirds, thrushes and other ground-feeding birds, I prefer to use well-secured netting to protect vulnerable plants, although to be honest, I have few problems with sparrows.

Of course, deterring house sparrows from feeding isn't exactly a good way to

help reverse the decline in their numbers, but why have they fallen so rapidly in the first place?

At the turn of the 19th century, when horses were the main form of transport, urban house sparrows had it relatively easy, feeding off spilt horse feed or seeds in their droppings. Having said that, once horses were replaced by buses, cars and lorries, their numbers fell and to survive, these birds had to switch to feeding off bread and other foods deliberately put out in parks and gardens or inadvertently dropped on pavements. As the amount of accidental food 'waste' is constantly increasing, clearly this cannot be the problem. Instead, our love-affair with house-improvements is thought to be one of the main reasons behind this.

Sparrows nest in cavities and while their country-dwelling relations might be able to use holes in trees, in contrast urban sparrows have to rely on the clips holding gutters to walls, cavities in walls or gaps under roofs. Unfortunately, when fascia boards and gutters are replaced these days, any existing cavities are usually blocked off and potential nesting sites are lost. Despite this, sparrows will happily use nestboxes instead, although they prefer communal ones known as terraces, which will house three or so nests in close proximity.

Even so, providing alternate nesting sites may not be enough to stop the decline of these birds, for during the first few weeks of their lives, nestlings must be fed a protein-rich diet. To do this, the adults need to collect a large number of soft-bodied insects and spiders, but because of the current trend to convert front lawns into car parks and cover large areas of back gardens with decking and yet more paving, adult birds are finding this almost impossible. Nevertheless, it is not just insect life that is lost when we brick over the lawn and flower beds, these would once have helped heavy rain to soak away. The more we pave over our gardens, the

more flooding we can expect after events like rapid snow thaw or summer thunderstorms.

The Government is so convinced that the loss of front gardens is a causal factor in urban flooding, later this year, planning permission will have to be sought by householders if they want to pave theirs over. In the meantime, the RSPB is concerned that householders wanting to beat the deadline will rush to have their gardens paved and are urging people to think about using more environmentally-friendly surfaces, such as gravel, bricks laid with gaps in between or grass grown through tough matting.

Although these might help heavy rain soak away, it is hard to imagine they could support a diverse insect community. To this end, they suggest that householders should at least retain an unpaved area around their hard surface, but from my experience with the next door-neighbour's 'helicopter landing pad' (as a passer-by once described their front garden), unless the margin is more than a token few inches wide, water still won't be able to soak away fast enough and will continue to flood over. I suppose anything is better than nothing, but I can't help thinking that cars are rapidly becoming the pests of our society, not sparrows.

Jack Daw

Walking Fortnight

This is the 5th Festival Walking Event organised by the Dore Village Society and its Wyvern Walkers Group, providing a range of interesting local walks as part of the Dore Festival. The idea is that there will be something within the walks organised that everyone can enjoy, whatever their abilities and level of fitness.

For more details on the fortnight or the Wyvern Walking Group, please see posters or call David Bearpark 236 9100.

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The Home Information Pack (HIP), sometimes referred to as a Seller's Pack, was designed to improve the home buying and selling experience for consumers. Approximately 30% of property sales in the UK fall through prior to completion and by providing as much information as possible about a property as early as possible in the sale process, it is hoped that transactions will become easier, faster and far less likely to collapse. HIP's also aim to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide that running a home causes, with currently 27% of the UK's carbon dioxide output being attributed to homes. HIP's are intended to help protect the environment from global warming and aims to reduce the cost of providing the energy required to run a home.

Most residential properties now marketed for sale in England and Wales need a HIP and you should ask to see one whenever you are interested in buying a property. For sellers, who must pay for the pack, providing the required information upfront should reduce the likelihood of any nasty surprises in the selling process that could delay their sale. Buyers will be able to make more informed decisions about purchasing their home assisted by the information given avoiding unwelcome surprises later on in the buying process. With HIP's the overall costs of buying and selling a home will be similar to the costs before the introduction of the packs but will spread costs more evenly between buyers and sellers.

Whoever markets the property is responsible for ensuring that a valid pack is available, which in most cases will be either the seller themselves or their estate agents. However, there is no compulsion to have a pack provided by the estate agent as solicitors, home inspectors, and domestic energy assessors can also supply them, and often at more favourable prices.

From 1 January 2008 onwards, a HIP that includes the Energy Performance

What is a Home Information Pack?

Certificate (EPC) should be available from the time the property is first placed on the market. EPC's can only be supplied by a Home Inspector or Domestic Energy Assessor who must be accredited with a Government approved body before they are allowed to inspect a property. However, until 1st June 2008 the Government is allowing properties to be marketed without all of the documentation being available, provided there is evidence that all reasonable efforts have been made to obtain all of the required documentation. However once an EPC does become available then a complete HIP must be provided.

There is no prescribed look for a HIP, the only requirements are that it must include all of the compulsory items and that Land Registry evidence of title and other searches must be no more than three months old when the property is put on the market. The required compulsory documents to create a HIP are:

- * a pack index listing all of the documents in the pack or the reason why any are missing.

- * an energy performance certificate showing the energy efficiency of the home on a scale A-G. Better-rated homes should have less impact through carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. The seller can decide to make improvements before selling if the EPC rating is poor, thereby improving the sales potential of the house.

- * a sale statement giving the address of the property, whether it is freehold, leasehold or common-hold, whether it is registered or unregistered and whether or not it is being sold with vacant possession.

- * an official search certificate provided by your local authority or personal search company including details of any relevant planning decisions and road building proposals and details of the drainage and

water services to the property.

- * for freehold properties evidence of title obtained from the Land Registry provided by official copies of the individual register and title plan.

- * for common-hold properties and leasehold properties additional documents will be required.

Certain voluntary documents can also be included in the pack such as:

- * a Home Condition Report that contains information about the physical condition of a property, which sellers, buyers and lenders will be able to rely on legally as an accurate report.

- * a legal summary to make the more complex documents more easily understandable.

- * a home use and contents forms to let sellers give buyers information on such issues as boundaries, notices, services, sharing with neighbours, planning permissions and other matters of interest to potential buyers.

- * other included documents might be mining searches, rights of way, ground stability and actual or potential environmental hazards such as flooding and contaminated land.

- * sellers may also want to include guarantees and warranties for work already carried out on their homes.

One important point is that the regulations prohibit the inclusion of any marketing or advertising material in the pack.

From 6th April 2008 the Government will begin to roll out EPCs for newly built homes, as well as across commercial property for sale, rent or construction. By 1st October 2008 all public buildings over 1000 square metres will also have to display an energy performance certificate in an easily visible position and all rented residential properties will also require an EPC on the change of a tenancy.

Alan Disney

Charity photo contest

The fifth annual search to discover the best photographs of the Peak District National Park was launched in April, with a special theme of "Life in the Peak", by the charity that campaigns to protect the area's beautiful scenery, Friends of the Peak District. The top images will be unveiled at a special Awards Night ceremony in the early autumn.

The broad theme this year should give photographers more interpretive freedom and to help find the kind of images so useful to the organisation. Everything from haymaking to local festivals, wildlife and conservation to community spirit and enjoying the outdoors would be eligible.

The overall winner will receive a special canvas mounted print of their picture and winning images are used to illustrate FPD's fundraising literature and publications throughout the year. Twelve finalists will be selected and showcased on the charity's website throughout 2009.

For a copy of the competition rules and an official entry form, phone 0114 266 5822. The closing date for all entries is Friday 30th May.



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Dore Well Dressing 2008

Is it just me or does Well Dressing time seem to come around quicker every year? Nevertheless, plans and preparations are already underway for this year's Well Dressing. If you would like to come and help, or just want to see how the well dressing is made, then please pay us a visit at one of our sessions. The well dressing team is a friendly bunch and the best thing is that the results of all our efforts raise many hundreds of pounds for charity.

This year we will be making the well dressing from Monday 30th June - Friday 4th July and we have three sessions each day: 10am - 12pm, 2pm - 5pm and 7pm - 9pm. For more information contact me, on 236 0332.

Barbara Jackson

Jumping vegetables!!

In August this year, owner Ben Laverick and some of the younger members of staff at the Country Garden are planning to do a parachute jump in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care. They need to raise around £400 each and would be most grateful if customers past and present would dig deep and sponsor them. The youngsters concerned are about to leave the shop to pursue their further education and decided to "go out with a bang"!

Sponsorship forms will be in the shop and the more mature (or is it more sensible like me?) members of the staff will be delighted to assist you in pledging your support for their brave colleagues, in aid of this most worthy charity.

Jo Mather

Did you know

It seems as if the Dore Village Society has been campaigning for years for a white line down the middle of the High Street. Then just when everyone has given up on the quest, two come along! It took some time to realise why, until Don's ducks ventured out on one of their traffic patrols. Then it dawned on me, this is the country's first Duck Lane!

Now it is official, there are even more cars on the roads and more people on these islands. New houses are springing up everywhere, in gardens or replacing bungalows, there are loft extensions, garages, new kitchens etc- a builders paradise. Who cares I wonder about the impact on drainage, on our environment and wildlife. But then this is a consumer society, which eventually will consume itself!

Doremouse

Well Dressing Diary 2008

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 and venues for 2008. You can find out more details, and about opportunities to see well dressing in progress, by ringing the Chesterfield Tourist Information Centre on 01246 345 7777/8.

May

17-19 Etwell
17-25 Ashford in the Water
24-27 Wirksworth
24-29 Middleton-by-Youlgrave
24-31 Monyash

June

8-14 Cressbrook
15-25 Penistone
21-29 Hope
21-29 Litton
21-26 Rowsley
21-26 Youlgrave
21-29 Tideswell
27-29 Cromford
28-7 Bakewell

July


3-6 Buxton
4-11 Dronfield
5-13 Hathersage
5-13 Dore
7-14 Harthill
12-20 Over Haddon
12-20 Millthorpe
14-20 Cutthorpe
26-4 Stoney Middleton

August

2-9 Wingerworth
2-11 Bradwell
13-19 Barlow
14-25 Great Hucklow
16-23 Taddington
21-29 Holymoorside
23-30 Eyam
23-31 Wormhill
23-31 Foolow
30-7 Wardlow

September

13-20 Chesterfield
13-21 Hartington




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Development Framework

The Local Development Framework proposes that under Policy SSW1, up to 300 houses a year are expected to be built on infill, windfall sites in South West Sheffield including Dore. Dore Village Society has strongly objected to this proposal at a public hearing on this.

On behalf of the society, David Bearpark and I argued that to permit this number of houses in such an unmanaged way would greatly damage the areas of character in the South West and would feed an already overheated housing development market. The increase in traffic generated would not only add to unacceptable congestion on the main roads, but would further overload residential streets.

The case was also made by DVS that the Council's aims of encouraging skilled workers to live and remain in Sheffield would be undermined. The desire of the Council to see most housing take place in the north east and south east areas of the City, it was argued, would also be less likely if developers had the choice of building in the south-west.

The DVS propose an alternative policy to safeguard and enhance Dore and other areas of character. The new proposal would, in effect, prohibit sporadic infill development and restrict new housing development in the South West to a very limited number of sites, allocated under a rolling programme. These sites would be subject to very careful monitoring and development control.

We now have to await the decision of

the government planning inspector. She can reject our proposal or instruct the Council to amend their policy.

David Crosby

Event Sheffield

A new website has been launched for events being held in Sheffield. At present over 546 events are listed - including details of all the events organised by Archives and Local Studies. Keep checking the website as we add details of new events we arrange. You can have free regular emails alerting you to updates. You can also keep in touch whilst on the move via your mobile phone thanks to the texting service. For further details visit www.eventsheffield.co.uk



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(from OFSTED inspection report, March 2004)

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Friends of Whirlow Wheel

Following a local campaign, Sheffield City Council has relented in its plans to demolish Whirlow Wheel after years of neglect. However, in spite of its historical significance there are no finances available to restore the Wheel and solutions are being explored about what to do next.

Whirlow Wheel can be found within the boundaries of Dore on the banks of Limb Brook which was originally the border between Northumbria and Mercia. The earliest record of the mill dates to 1586 when it was a corn mill and it was subsequently used for a variety of purposes including the making of saws, scythes and files. In 1726 Thomas Hollis purchased the Whirlow estate which included Whirlow Mill and it remained with the Hollis Trust until it was sold to Sheffield Corporation in 1935.

In 1994 thieves stole some of the roof slates and the council covered the roof with a tarpaulin which, unfortunately, did not prevent water leaking into the building. The result was that the roof collapsed in the summer of 2006 and the recommended Council solution was to demolish the building and put the rubble in the wheel-pit.

This proposal was challenged by the Friends of Whirlow Wheel and it is now acknowledged that there are more constructive options. One possibility is reconstruct the building and hopefully place a new wheel in the wheel-pit which will be used to generate green electricity. Possible uses of the power might be to power the proposed cascades in Whinfell Quarry Gardens. Another use might be to light the homes of the retired women in nearby Hollis Hospital which would reflect the history of the Wheel's former owner and benefactor, Thomas Hollis.

The restoration of the Wheel is a fantastic opportunity to become involved in the restoration and rebuilding of the

Wheel. A range of skills are needed but the main requirement is enthusiasm. If you are interested in doing your part to fight global warming in a practical way or in preserving a local historical site, we encourage you to join us.

A working morning will be held between 10-12:00am on Saturday 28 June. This will involve an explanation of the Wheel and its history; a general tidying of the site; measurement of the water flow in Limb Brook; and measurement of the gradient.

For more information see:
www.whirlowwheel.org.uk or email
j.p.wilson@sheffield.ac.uk

Cliffhanger event

The 2008 'Cliffhanger' event, is scheduled to take place this year in Millhouses Park on the 12th and 13th July. Local residents are concerned about the impact of large numbers of visitors, parking problems, and unhappy that the park will be closed to the public during the event.

Nearly 10,000 people attended last year's event in Graves Park, which is the UK's largest outdoor-pursuits festival and is part of a long-term strategy that will eventually see Cliffhanger bidding to host the 2013 Climbing World Championships. The National Bouldering Championships organised by the British Mountaineering Council forms a central part of the event and will see around 200 of Britain's top boulderers battle it out over the weekend to decide on the national champions for 2008.

However, this years event has something for everyone - a beer festival, climbing walls, Sheffield Kite Flyers, open air market, reverse bungee and other white knuckle rides, orienteering races, a Guinness world record dyno competition, demonstration events, scuba diving, mountain biking, a massive bargain area, music, children's rides, and much more.....
www.cliff-hanger.co.uk

News in brief

Dore & Totley Golf Club celebrates its 95th birthday this year with a £500,000 investment in five new holes and the planting of some 2,500 new trees.

In the last decade, the number of cars owned by British households has increased by 5 million to 27.8 million, with the biggest growth of up to 30% in the North East and East Midland areas.

Plastic litter is blighting beaches and much of it is being dumped at sea from cruise ships, ferries, leisure craft, freight and fishing vessels, according to the Marine Conservation Society's latest Beachwatch survey. Plastic debris on beaches was at its highest level in 14 years, up 126 per cent.

Sheffield Archives have fully revised and extended their guide "Tracing the History of Your House". You can download a copy for free from their website - www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives (then click on publications).

Dore Show 2008

This years Dore Show will take place on Saturday 13th 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 over 70 open 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 adult photography classes will be: a) Black & White - Open subject - min 7" x 5"; b) Colour - "An Urban Landscape" - min 7" x 5"; c) Colour - "My family"; d) "Aspect of Dore". Classes c) & d) are for standard or panoramic size photos only (max 8" x 6") & unmounted please. There will also be a photographic class for children.

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.

Annual General Meeting

This years Annual General Meeting of the Dore Village Society will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th June in the Methodist Church Hall on the High Street.

After the traditionally short formal business, (see details displayed on the society notice board), Bob Davey will give an illustrated talk on the work of the Edale Mountain Rescue Team. Refreshments will be available at the end of the meeting. Admission is free and everyone is-welcome.

Charity Cricket Day Monday 23rd June at Abbeydale Sports Ground.

The Professional Cricketers Association (P.C.A) are holding coaching sessions for local schools in the morning, there is a lunch, and then at 2pm a match between a team from the P.C.A (which usually includes some former test and county players) and one provided by Yorkshire C.C.C. A dinner in the evening rounds off the day. Monies raised will benefit the P.C.A Benevolent Fund and the Yorkshire Air Ambulance Service Charity. Details from Bryan Turner - 0114-236-7085

Dore Church Hall hire To complete the refurbishment of the hall kitchen, a new set of crockery has been purchased. It will be made available, on request to hirers of the hall who wish to organise a meal for a large number of people. The crockery is white and there is sufficient to serve 150 people. There remains plenty of other crockery for general use.

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Secretary. Hall & Fabric Committee,
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Simulated patients train doctors

Have you ever wondered how they manage to train all those doctors who work in the NHS? Many of them are trained in the Medical School, part of Sheffield University, and such has been the growth that there are now 250 students who come into medical training each year in Sheffield.

While a lot of their five years of study is derived from books, laboratory work and lectures, most people who have to consult them would prefer that they had some practical experience before they could be considered qualified as doctors. Such is the speed with which patients pass through the hospitals when they are in for investigation and treatment, that there is often insufficient time for students to talk to them, listen to their problems, make their diagnoses, discuss this with a qualified doctor, and then repeat the process over and over until they can be confident that they have achieved the necessary knowledge and skills before they move onto the next learning module.

Sheffield Medical School has been in the forefront of providing additional opportunities for students to learn these important clinical skills by the use of volunteers who offer opportunities in a variety of different ways. There is a bank of well over 500 people who participate in this activity, but there is always need for more. In general, people may be asked to talk about a particular set of symptoms

related to an illness from which they actually suffer, to participate in a brief physical examination, usually of one part of the body, or blood pressure, temperature, gait for example. They may also be given a very brief script of the symptoms of a particular condition which they are asked to simulate to the enquiring student, usually over a 5-6 minute period. You will appreciate that it is not only the asking of questions that is important, but the way the student treats the "ill person", or the relative, to ensure that they are given correct answers.

This short article is an appeal for people to come forward and seek information about what exactly happens. Suffice it to say that such volunteers are not put into any embarrassing or painful situations, can choose whether or not they wish to participate in a particular session, are offered transport or expenses, and are recognised as providing an extremely useful contribution to the training of doctors of the future.

I hope all readers will recognise an opportunity to offer an important contribution to the training of future medical staff and will contact Martin Hague, email: m.g.hague@sheffield.ac.uk or tel: 0114 226 6474 for further information and to offer their help.

Alternatively, I would be pleased to answer any questions, as I have been a volunteer for the past five years.

Philip Seager
pseager@btinternet.com
Sheffield Teaching Hospital
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Currently our school, funded by the Local Authority, has 63 children from across the city. The Friends of The Rowan School Trust supports the work of the school by providing additional financial resources.

We are always looking for new sources of support and funding. If you wish to help or know more please contact Mr Chris Moore, Chairman, 79 Whirlowdale Crescent, Sheffield, S7 2ND, tel 262 0068, e-mail chris.moore@blueyonder.co.uk.

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Blacka Moor Volunteers

Young volunteers, aged 16-25, are being encouraged to develop ideas on how to protect and improve Blacka Moor Nature Reserve - and put them into practice.

Sheffield Wildlife Trust are supporting young volunteers on one-off taster sessions, short term projects, and long term monthly Youth Rangers sessions. Conservation activities so far have included birch and rhododendron clearance to protect the heathland habitat, building a bench, bird surveying and repairing a section of dry stone wall with the help of a local expert Dean Morton. The young people really enjoy being outside and doing something positive, for themselves and the wider community.

The scheme, called Viva Veolia, is a £500,000 youth volunteering scheme funded by The Veolia Environmental Trust (VET) through the Landfill Communities Fund, and the youth volunteering charity. It is delivered by eight local Wildlife Trusts, co-ordinated and supported by The Wildlife Trusts, Newark.

Sheffield Wildlife Trust is the biggest voluntary sector nature conservation and environmental regeneration organisation in South Yorkshire. It has nearly 4,000 members, 70 staff and an annual turn over of about £2,000,000. It works with local people to protect and enhance the environment of Sheffield and Rotherham for the benefit of people and wildlife, to increase

the public's understanding of the natural world and to provide opportunities for people to enjoy the outdoors. It has offices in both Sheffield and Rotherham, manages 9 nature reserves, with a total area of 307 ha, runs an education programme that works with more than 100 schools each year and it leads significant community stewardship and environmental regeneration projects in most of Sheffield's most disadvantaged neighbourhoods.



Dore - the battle for the pavements!

Tai Chi in Dore

The Dore Group has celebrated its first successful year in the Church Hall on Townhead Road.

Our qualified teacher, David Barrow, also works with the medical staff at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, teaching Tai Chi to patients. He has been involved in research to compare the effects of aerobic exercise and Tai Chi after having a heart attack. The results have been published and demonstrate that the Tai Chi group have done better in showing an improvement in their symptoms and maintaining that improvement. Other people that the medical profession have discovered benefit from practising Tai Chi are those with high blood pressure, osteoporosis and problems with balance.

We meet every Thursday, from 2-3pm. If you would like to enjoy the benefits of Tai Chi there are a few places available at a small cost. Why not join us? Just turn up at 1.50pm or contact me on 262 1127.

Gail Crosby

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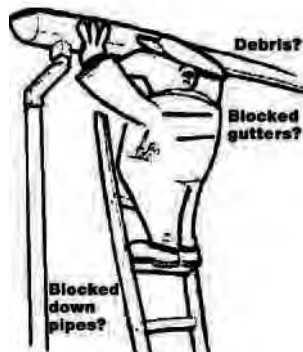


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Seeing stars in Dore

David Andrews looks first towards the night sky and then down to earth, with reflections on Dore today.

Mars in the constellation of the Crab sets soon after twilight at the beginning of June and it is so faint and distant at magnitude 1.5 that it might be missed altogether in poor skies. However, on a clear moonless night it is worth looking for the Beehive star cluster just to the right and down a little from Mars. It covers an area of sky larger than the full moon and it is 500 light years away. It is named the Beehive because it does look like a swarm of bees. Saturn in Leo is above Mars, higher in the sky and a little brighter (magnitude 0.6). It is the fainter of two objects, the one to the right being Regulus.

If the summer twilight does not appear too bright around the beginning of July it will be fun to discover that Mars has caught up with Saturn and Regulus, and all three together make the constellation of the Lion appear most odd. Venus might just be glimpsed as a brilliant object low in the west or northwest in these summer nights. From space one would see a grand sight, Sun, Mercury, Venus, Saturn and Mars stretched out over a small arc in the sky. Jupiter is the odd planet out in late July evenings. The giant planet sits sedately in Sagittarius, a very southerly constellation, and never rises more than 12 degrees above the horizon. That means that if you spot a bright object low in the southerly skies it is certainly Jupiter, and this applies right through the summer. Uranus and Neptune are probably nowhere to be seen since they are both faint and low in the south in Aquarius and Capricorn. We never mention poor Pluto, not because he has been down-graded as a planet but because he is unlikely to ever be seen in Dore.

As a boy of twelve during my first visit to the British Museum I was captivated by the grand skeletal remains of a dinosaur. The creature seemed to fill the great entrance hall towering over everything and everybody. We were told that this beast walked or trundled across the Earth some 70 million years ago. My children

learnt about them and wondered, as I had, about how Earth must have been all those years ago. Together with that new knowledge they learnt of many other aspects of Nature, not only chemistry, physics and geology, the world of the very small, atoms and molecules, and the very large, astronomy (which they got from me), but also about Mankind's wonderful creative outflow of literature, music, painting, poetry and such things. At least I liked to think so! Sorry, I should also have mentioned languages, dancing, theatre, design and domestic science.

A few years later my grandchildren went through the same learning process except it was handed them on a plate, or actually in films, videos, computers etc. Not one scientific discovery, however, not even the fantastical Jurassic Park film, pronounced the dinosaurs as a hoax or a straight lie. The British Museum may be mistaken on very rare occasions but they do not lie. Could an ambitious US museum of enormous size and importance get it so wrong that the dinosaurs lived a mere 6000 years ago?

The sad fact is that there are people in the world today, especially in the US, who try to tell us that the Earth is only 4000 years old. In Petersburg Kentucky the AiG Creation Museum, built at a cost of \$27 million on an area of 60,000 square feet, specifically teaches that science has got it wrong. How the same nation ever reached the Moon, I just cannot understand. We cannot, of course, blame NASA for the Creation Museum.

It is a good intention very poorly carried out by charlatans and quacks. Those curious creationist folk remind one of the fairy story of Jack and the Beanstalk and the land of giants above the clouds. On the other hand, Aladdin's Cave and the Beanstalk would attract a large crowd without offending anyone

It is a tremendous joy to drive down Long Line again without a feeling of guilt. We are still hoping that the new Fairthorn flats at the end of Newfield Lane will not be allocated street lighting infringing on the glorious southerly and westerly night skies across Blackamoor. Builders vans successfully destroyed the daffodils this spring opposite the wooden bench. The

laying of pipes along the main road into Dore has also made a fair mess of Dore's display of crocus. It makes one wonder whether there is any common sensitivity and decency left amongst those fulfilling a day's job away from their own homes.

The magazine Yorkshire Life featured a wonderful article on Dore in March 2008. Written by Janette Sykes with pictures from Brian Ross, the article admirably described parts of our village and neighbouring Totley, and some of the local history. Developers would do well to read these pages. Later issues can be seen on www.yorkshirelife.co.uk and presumably the Dore article is still available. The central village of Dore, with its shops, pubs and lanes, and our proud Post Office, could have been portrayed better. Certainly what residents and visitors have discovered around the village over the years, especially the stone cottages and leafy lanes, and the views from Dore available after only a ten-minute stroll, was not emphasised enough. Christ Church was captured in glorious sunshine, and surely is the centre of the village.

The stars are untouchable and maybe there is a lesson to learn there. Even the creationist fools have to close their eyes to include them in their fantasy world. It is strange that they do not find wonder and glory enough in the real world around them. Optimists would say, perhaps, that as long as there are villages like Dore and people who are taking care of them, at least preserving the best of village life, there is a glimmer of hope. Sadly it is far more likely that humankind will cover our planet Earth with concrete and bricks and then one day blow it all up. Meanwhile, villagers, look skyward.

David Andrews

Village Notice Boards. 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.



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Diary - Summer 2008

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- to 31 **Sheffield Environment Weeks** For programme see www.eventsheffield.co.uk
- 19 **Mining and quarrying in Ringinglow** and the Porter valley. Talk by Peter Kennett for Sth Yorkshire Industrial History Soc Kelham Island Mus 7.30pm inf: 230 7693
- 21 **Social Tennis Evening** Dore & Totley Tennis Club 6pm

JUNE

- 2 **Derbyshire Outing** Dore Meth Women's Fellowship
- 7 **Summer Fair** St John's car park in the afternoon
- 8 **Plant Hunters Fair** FOBS Sheffield Botanical Gardens 10.30am - 3.30pm Adm £1.50
- 11 - 13 **Peter Pan** Heartbreak Theatre Production at Sheffield Botanical Gardens. 6.30pm Tickets: 0114 249 6000
- 11 **Edale Mountain Rescue Team** talk by Bob Davey & AGM, Dore Village Society, 7.30pm Dore Methodist Church Hall Everybody welcome
- 14 **Classic Car Show & Gala**, Sir Harold Jackson School 12noon - 5pm Entry £1, children free
- 16 **Egypt and the Great Pyramid** Talk by Mr P Bradshaw Dore Methodist Women's Fellowship 2.30pm Open Meeting
- 19 -22 **Charley's Aunt** Heartbreak Theatre Production, Sheffield Botanical Gardens. Tickets: 0114 249 6000
- 21 **Soiree**, Sheffield Society for the Encouragement of Art, at Wortley Hall, 5.30 to 10.30pm. Garden Tour, Lecture, Dinner Music. Telephone (0114) 2360941
- 22 **Totley Festival** Greenoak Park 11am - 5pm
- 22 **Garden party** in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association, 40 Newfield Crescent 2pm - 5.30pm. Cake, books, plants and bric-a-brac stalls.
- 23 **Charity Cricket Day** - Abbeydale Sports Ground
- 28 **Working Morning** at Whirlow Wheel 10am-12noon
- 28 **Summer Fete** Mickley Hall, 60th anniversary of the Leonard Cheshire organisation
- 29 **Sheffield Festival of Transport** in Graves Park
- 30 **The funny side of being a minister's wife** Talk by Mrs C Dawson Dore Methodist Women's Fellowship 2.30pm

JULY

- 12 & 13 **Cliffhanger event**, in Millhouses Park - see article
- 12 & 13 **Totley Open Gardens** 1-6pm
- 14 **Talk** by Rev. Francis Neil for Dore Methodist Women's Fellowship 2.30pm
- 18 **Camping Weekend** at Whirlow Hall Farm, 6pm - 11am. Licensed bar & live band. Adults £15, children £8. Price includes Hog Roast.
- 28 **My Rainy Day Box** Talk by Mrs J Ruddy for Dore Methodist Women's Fellowship 2.30pm

Councillor surgeries

Local councillors are available for consultation in the Dore Village Society room on a regular basis - 2nd Saturday in the month from 10.30am to 12 noon. Contact details: Keith Hill telephone 235 2289 Email: keith.hill@sheffield.gov.uk or Mike Davis 274 8002 Email: mike.davis@sheffield.gov.uk Colin Ross telephone 235 1948 Email: colin.ross@sheffield.gov.uk

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Dore Festival 2008

Saturday 28th June - Sunday 13th July

- Sat 28th **Dore Boundary Walk** Start 10am
- Sun 29th **Village Gardens Open Day** 2pm-6pm
- Mon 30th **Preparation of Village & Guide Well**
- Fri 5th **Dressing** Scout HQ Rushley Road, visitors welcome
- Mon 30th **Local Walks** arranged by Dore Village Society - see village notice board for details
- Sun 13th **Dore Ladies Group** - Pennine Lavender Farm
- Tue 1st **Dore Church Hall** 7.45pm £3 Visitors welcome
- Wed 2nd **Village History Tour** with John Dunstan
- Sat 5th **Guide & Village Well Dressing erected**
- 10am Village Green & Devonshire Terrace Rd
- Sun 6th **Summer Concert** Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Church Hall 7.30pm Tickets: 236 2299
- Well Dressing Parade & Service** Village Green 3pm
- Afternoon Cream Teas**
- Methodist Church Hall 3 - 5pm
- Mon 7th **Family Fun Run** Dore Rec 7pm
- Lord Conyers Morris Men**
- Devonshire Arms 8pm & 9.30pm
- Tue 8th **Gardeners' Question Time.** Methodist Church Hall 7.30pm £3
- Wed 9th **Open Air Theatre** Village Green 7.30pm, 'The Rover' by The Company, Interval Collection
- Thurs 10th **Open Evening** Dore Male Voice Choir & Dore Mercia & Totley Townswomens Guild Choirs
- Fri 11th **An Evening of Jazz** - Walker Brothers & Friends, Parish Church 7.30pm £6 incl wine
- Sat 12th **Scout & Guide Gala** Recreation Ground, 2pm
- Sun 13th **Songs of Praise** Methodist Church 6pm

See Dore Village Society notice board for full details of events

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