

# DORE DOOR

DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY

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*The end of the beginning*

## A great summer for wildlife

I swear I saw a kingfisher down over Old Hay Brook a few weeks ago. In truth, it was a flash of blue and orange which zipped past and away before I could properly claim to have identified it, but the colours were right and the speed was very fast, about four feet above, and following the line of the water. It passed within a couple of feet of my small granddaughter who was paddling, but it came from behind her and she was facing the wrong way so didn't see it at all. In the blink of an eye it had gone, hidden by the trees. I maybe wouldn't have credited myself that it was a kingfisher, except that I have definitely seen one near there before - but only the once, and that was 45 years ago.

Deer have been seen grazing there too (see picture page 18), and elsewhere on the fringes of the village. There have been videos on social media of a bearded vulture or lammergeier not too far away over Derwent Edge. It shows how quickly nature can recover, once people stop messing with it.

## Lockdown done for now

So, the lockdown is over, at least for now, and we got through it. It will have created different problems for different people; how it affected you depends on where you started from. But I imagine that no one can say that they weren't affected at all.

Now that the world is coming back to life, it's all a bit different. We've already become used to queuing outside shops before we're allowed in, and personally I'm stopping to use hand sanitiser every time I pass a bottle of it. In Dore, much of our infrastructure is back open with the rest expected to follow shortly. I've no news that any of our local businesses have had to close down permanently because of coronavirus, so please help to ensure that this doesn't happen by using our local shops and services where you can. Remember too, to keep your appointments and reservations, not only at restaurants but also places like hairdressers. (I can't wait for a trip to the barber, I'm starting to look like Dora's cartoon here.) Many businesses have had to reopen to fewer customers whilst using more staff, to get the social distancing right. Profitability is already down because of this, please don't make it worse by not showing up.

## The 'new normal'

Of course, having such disruption to our lives for half a year has led to a widespread desire for things to go back to the way they were. Just remember that the way we were was far from perfect, and do any of us really want to go back to the pollution of the daily commute,

when many of us have enjoyed months of commuting all the way to the spare room for a day's work? Are you ready yet to pile onto a crowded aeroplane for your two weeks in the sun, the only advantage being that it is guaranteed to be in the sun? Will you be back to the shops for a cheap outfit that you can wear once then throw away?

We have had a pause to all these things over recent months, and time to reflect on what we're doing. Single-use plastics were invented for our convenience, and until recently they were ubiquitous. Yet now single-use carrier bags, cotton buds and drinking straws made of plastic have been targeted and are now disapproved of, disappearing from many shops. You might not think that you can make a difference, but people power is a great influence. There is no profit in making things that nobody wants to buy. Look how the oil price 'tanked' (sorry!) when we stopped driving our cars and flying in planes.

## No Lantern Parade this year

You will know by now that Dore Show has fallen to coronavirus, and now the Lantern Parade is another victim. Whilst much of our business infrastructure is back up and running, our principal meeting places in our two church halls and Dore Old School all remain closed at the moment. There are plans for the reopening of Christ Church which you can read about on page 29. At the time of writing the Hare & Hounds remains closed, and after a number of rumours about their reopening failed to come to pass, we don't know when they'll be serving again. Neither do they.

It's a relief that Dore Dental Surgery is once again providing a limited service, though it will be some time yet before the restart of preventative dentistry and regular checkups. You can read about their arrangements on page 4. I hope to be one of the first in the chair having lost a filling about 48 hours before the lockdown began, so I've been carrying my holey molar for almost five months now. No, it doesn't hurt (thank you for asking) but it won't get any better until a dentist gets in there with a drill.

## VE day celebrations

The May edition of Dore to Door was, if you remember, published early. The decision to do that was taken a year ago, so that the magazine could include details of all the parties and events being arranged to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. As it turned out, all these plans, both local and national were cancelled, but I hope that you were able to commemorate in some way. There was nothing official where I live, but just

about every family spent the afternoon in their front garden. There were cakes, buns and a good deal of socially-distant chatter. We had music (personally I played the Royal British Legion's official Spotify playlist a couple of times) and there was also live music from a few neighbours who walked up and down the road with their instruments. All in all, a very enjoyable afternoon. One or two neighbours were still outside chatting over the garden wall after 10pm. I hope that you had a great time too where you live.

On the subject of our May edition, I'm grateful to everyone who gave their time to help with distribution. It was a bit of an ad hoc arrangement put together at short notice, but all went well with the assistance of Scouting parents and leaders who filled in for those amongst our regular delivery staff who are over 70 and were therefore self-isolated. I believe that some of them have volunteered to distribute Dore to Door regularly, which is nice. Thanks too to Kath and the staff at the Co-op, who provided sturdy carrier bags for us to seal up the distribution rounds so that the magazine arrived through your letterbox uninfected.

We're back to normal distribution for this issue, which means that Geoff and Gillian will be sorting things out in the Scout HQ, rather than me (6'2" tall) doing the job in my garage (6'0" high). Quite a lot of head banging was involved, but I just put some rock music on and barely noticed it.

John Eastwood

## Dora



Lockdown Man 2020

Cover: Staff & customers get used to new procedures at the Devonshire Arms. Photo by John Eastwood



As we have seen, hopefully, the worst of the Covid-19 pandemic and the country begins to get going again, the Committee has been considering the future activities of the Group. We had hoped that we might be able to resume with our planned September meeting followed by an AGM in October.

However, as we are getting more information regarding the shape of the post-pandemic world it would seem that this plan will prove to be optimistic.

It seems unlikely that the Library, or any similar venues, will be available to hold meetings for some time because of the continuing need to meet social distancing requirements. As a result of this the committee has decided, reluctantly, to cancel all meetings for the rest of the year. At this stage we are hoping that we can resume our meetings programme from January onwards, but we will be keeping abreast of the guidance available as the year unfolds.

Had the AGM gone ahead in October an important agenda item would have been the future of the Group. Whilst the Group's activities remain popular, and we are in a sound financial position, there is an urgent need for new people to come forward and help with the management. The current committee members have all been in post for a number of years and recent requests for new members to come forward have fallen on stony ground. A majority of the current committee members had been planning to retire in April had the AGM gone ahead then, and in the absence of any new committee members coming forward the Group may have had to consider dissolving itself.

The committee is now hoping to be able to hold the AGM in April and the future of the Group will be the main topic for discussion. Those committee members intending to retire this April still intend to retire whenever the next AGM is held.

In view of this, the meeting will be open to non-members and we hope that anyone who might be interested in helping to ensure the Group's future will be able to come along. The eventual date of the meeting will be made known in the Topley Independent and on our website, [www.topleyhistorygroup.org.uk](http://www.topleyhistorygroup.org.uk).

If anyone would like more details about what being a member of the committee entails, please contact me at [n.rolfe@btinternet.com](mailto:n.rolfe@btinternet.com).

**Norman Rolfe**

## Santa self-isolated

As you know Father Christmas works alone on Christmas Eve, so he has no problems with social distancing. It's a bit more of a problem in the month before, when he has to visit all those places to ask children what they want.

He's been in touch with Dore to Door to say that he's been checking his list (no, not that one, his list of appointments) and one place that he won't be able to get to this year is his Santa Special train rides at Abbeydale Miniature Railway.

Sorry to all the mummies, daddies and children who were looking forward to a train ride and to see Santa. He will probably manage to appear somewhere locally, but hasn't decided yet.

The miniature railway is now closed for the remainder of 2020. We hope that they'll be able to get going again next year. As they were unable to hold their Children's Hospital Charity fundraising day in August this year, they have donated £1000 towards the Cancer and Leukaemia ward appeal.

## Update from local Councillors

As we gradually emerge from lockdown, we want to thank local residents for the way they have responded to recent events. Although the virus is having a huge impact on our daily lives, residents in Dore have pulled together and volunteered in large numbers to help our neighbourhood get through the current crisis.

The volume of casework that we deal with has also gone up considerably. For example, Martin has been working on local business issues to help them bounce back from the crisis and ensure they have access to the relevant grant schemes. Colin has been working on planning issues and organising deliveries to the local foodbanks, where demand for their services has risen dramatically, and Joe has been supporting litter picks. The hard work and generosity of local people we have met during these activities has been amazing. Thank you.

We were concerned to learn recently that Sheffield was in a position to justify "enhanced support" against coronavirus and was the 15th highest council area in cases per head. We understand that this was due to a small number of clusters of cases in other parts of the city. Dealing with local clusters is now the responsibility of the Director of Public Health. Plans are in place should there be any localised outbreaks anywhere in Sheffield. To keep us informed of developments local Councillors attend a fortnightly briefing from the Director of Public Health.

On a different subject we expect the long-awaited Sheffield Local Development Plan will be issued for consultation in the near future. This is a vitally important document that will identify land for new housing over the next 15-20 years. It may also include a review of development sites in the Green Belt. We need to make sure that the views of local residents are taken into account so do please have a good look when it is published.

Speeding traffic has been a concern for some time and during lockdown when the roads were quieter the perception was that it had got worse, especially in the usual hot spots of Abbeydale Road South and Baslow Road. Data has shown that most of the offenders are local people. Speed restrictions are there for a purpose and vehicles travelling at excessive speeds endanger pedestrians and other road users. Enforcement measures such as the Speed Camera Van are targeting these hot spots, but it is up to all of us to be considerate of others and drive sensibly. As soon as we are able, we will be organising more community speed checks to identify offending motorists. These have proved effective when used in the past.

Sadly, an ash tree on the village green is suffering from ash dieback disease and will have to be felled. We have arranged that it will be replaced with a suitable specimen tree in the winter planting season.

And finally, on advice from the Council we have taken the decision to cancel our face-to-face surgeries at Topley Library & Dore Old School for the duration of the Covid crisis. We hope you understand. You can still contact us via email so do please let us know if we can help with anything.

**Martin, Colin & Joe**

## Dore Neighbourhood Plan

As you will recall, our completed Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to our two Local Planning Authorities in September last year and belatedly cleared by the City Council to go out to the legally required public consultation in mid-March this year. Then CV19 struck, and the Council decided it could not launch the consultation under lockdown conditions. Your Steering Group has made an appeal to a senior level within the Council to produce an 'exit strategy' from this restriction as soon as possible. We have now been told that the consultation is expected to be started before the summer is over and that early arrangements will be made to select an Examiner to examine our text against the comments made on it and the prevailing planning rules.

**Christopher Pennell**

## To all our patients at Dore Dental Care

Our community has been through a lot over the last few months, and all of us are looking forward to resuming our normal habits and routines. While many things have changed, one thing has remained the same: our commitment to your safety.

As some of you may already be aware, our practice has now resumed face to face care with patients. The practice has undergone a full renovation during the last three months, and we are sure this is something our patients will appreciate and be very pleased with. We are now able to see patients on both an NHS and Private basis. Over the next few months, we will be able to offer a wider range of treatments including Invisalign (clear braces). Our NHS list is currently full, however we are very happy to welcome new patients on a private basis.

Unfortunately though, it is not business as usual. All appointments booked prior to lockdown have been cancelled and we do not envisage routine dental care starting again for some time. It will take some time before services return to what you previously experienced as normal and we are prioritising emergency treatments first. The treatments you will be offered may be different to those you received before, depending on the staff and PPE available.

We are allowing a longer period of time between appointments to follow strict infection control procedures between patients and limit the number of people on site. This will mean that we can see far fewer patients in a day than before and so your wait to be given an appointment may be longer than we would usually aim for. Please be patient.

Infection control has always been a top priority for our practice, and you may have seen this during your visits to our surgery. Our infection control processes are made so that when you receive care, it is both safe and comfortable. Our practice follows infection control guidelines made by the governing bodies. We are up to date on new guidance that has been issued. We do this to make sure that our infection control procedures are current and adhere to recommendations.

This information is intended for all patients attending Dore Dental Care for an appointment during the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. It outlines what measures we have put in place to ensure your safety whilst visiting our practice and answers common questions patients may have.

Please do not arrive without an appointment. You will be asked to go home and ring us for advice and to make an appointment.

## Screening

Prior to your appointment, you will receive a screening phone call from a member of staff, asking you if you have had any of the three main symptoms of COVID (high temperature, a new persistent cough or a loss of taste or smell). You will also be asked if anyone in your household is self-isolating. Please answer these questions as honestly as possible.

You must not attend Dore Dental Care if you display any symptoms of coronavirus. You will be screened at the time of booking your appointment, and also on arrival before we let you in to the practice. If, through our screening process you are advised not to attend the practice you are advised to follow government guidance on COVID self-isolating and requesting a test. Information can be found at [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus) or [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

## Family and Friends

We are asking all patients who attend not to bring family members or friends with them, unless they are directly involved in your care. We understand there may be exceptional circumstances to this and in this case, would advise you to contact us prior to your appointment.

## Attending your appointment

Please arrive 15 minutes early for your appointment to complete any relevant forms.

On arrival please ring the bell and you will be greeted by a member of the nursing team at the entrance and asked a series of screening questions. They will also take your temperature. There

may be occasions we ask you to wait outside to be called for your appointment.

## Personal Protective Equipment for staff

Clinical staff who come into close contact with you during your appointment will wear PPE which will include gloves, plastic aprons, eye protection visor and a surgical facemask. Other staff in the practice will be in PPE including gloves, face masks and eye protection depending on their role.

## Personal Protective Equipment for patients

Government guidance stipulates that all patients entering a clinical setting should wear a face mask. You are welcome to come in your own mask as long as it is either a new single use surgical mask, or if a cotton reusable mask, it has been recently washed and covers both the mouth and nose area fully. If you do not have an appropriate face mask, we can provide you with a single use face mask for the duration of your visit but there may be a small charge.

## Hand Hygiene

There are numerous hand sanitising stations at the entrance/exits to the practice and also next to all internal doors. You will be directed to use these at various points.

## Social Distancing

There are a number of measures around the practice to ensure social distancing. Please maintain social distancing of two metres at all times until advised otherwise in your appointment.

## Payment

During this time, we will only be taking payment via card. Contactless is preferred where possible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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### DVS committee meetings

Our monthly committee meetings (held on the last Tuesday of each month, except in December) have been taking place remotely. This has been by email as all of our normal activities have been severely curtailed, and there have been few substantive items to discuss. We hope to resume meetings at the end of August by meeting, suitably distanced, in the back garden of a committee member.

Some of our functions have continued

during lockdown: we have responded to a number of planning applications, we have pursued the Council to make progress with the validation process for the Dore Neighbourhood Plan, and we have raised concerns with the Council about apparent attempts by a householder to annex part of a green space in the village (see page 13 for more details).

Our regular open mornings (Fridays and the first Saturday of each month) will not resume until we are sure they can be held safely. In practice this means when a reliable vaccine has been made available in this locality. However, if you wish to get in touch you can contact us by email, letter and telephone. Our details are on our website at [dorevillage.co.uk/pages/dore-village-society-committee](http://dorevillage.co.uk/pages/dore-village-society-committee) and on page 7 of this issue.

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM is normally held in early June but, as announced in the May issue, this has been postponed. We still don't have a date for the AGM and we will not hold one until it is safe to do so. In the meantime the

current committee members and officers remain in post.

Our draft accounts will be submitted for approval at the AGM but, if you wish to inspect them before then, they can be found on our website at [www.dorevillage.co.uk/pages/agsm-and-trustees-reports](http://www.dorevillage.co.uk/pages/agsm-and-trustees-reports).

### Membership subscriptions – joining and renewing online

Payment of subscriptions online has been available for some time now. This will soon be supplemented by an option to complete the membership form online as well, thus eliminating the need to fill in and post or deliver a paper form. Paper forms will, of course, still be available in the usual way. More details will be in the November issue of Dore to Door.

### Christ Church Hall

We are awaiting a draft lease from the PCC.

Keith

### Travel and Holiday Scams

Consumers are being urged to be on the lookout for holiday scams including fake caravan and motorhome listings, refund offers and travel deals, as criminals take advantage of uncertainty around coronavirus travel restrictions and cancellations to target their victims and commit fraud.

Criminals are experts at impersonating trusted organisations such as airlines, travel agencies or banks. They will use a range of methods to approach their victims, including scam emails, telephone calls, fake websites and posts on social media and auction websites. Customers are therefore reminded to always follow the advice of the 'Take Five to Stop Fraud' campaign and take a moment to stop and think before parting with their money or information in case it's a scam.

### Caravan scams

Criminals are taking advantage of growing demand for 'staycations' in the UK this summer, by advertising fake listings for caravans and motorhomes on auction sites and citing lockdown restrictions as the reason vehicles can't be viewed in person. These vehicles are advertised at attractive prices to tempt people into believing they're getting a good deal, when in reality they simply don't exist or don't arrive once paid for.

Always remember:

- Be suspicious of any "too good to be true" offers or prices – if it's at a rock bottom price ask yourself why.
- Do your research before making any purchases and ask to see vehicles over video if you're unable to see them in person.
- Use the secure payment methods recommended by reputable online retailers and auction sites and don't accept requests to pay separately via a bank transfer.
- Where possible, use a credit card when making purchases over £100 and up to £30,000 as you receive protection under Section 75.

### Fake refunds for cancellations

The current travel restrictions imposed due to coronavirus have meant thousands of customers have applied for refunds for

cancelled flights or holidays. Criminals may exploit this situation to defraud people via phishing emails, 'spoofed' calls or social media posts and adverts claiming to be offering refunds from airlines, travel providers or banks. Often emails and posts will include links leading to fake websites used to steal personal and financial information that can infect a victim's device with malware.

Always remember:

- Don't click on links or attachments in social media posts or emails.
- Question uninvited approaches and contact organisations directly to confirm requests using a known email or phone number.
- Only give out your personal or financial information to services you have consented to and are expecting to be contacted by.

### Cheap travel deal scams

Criminals will set up fake websites offering 'cheap travel deals' which are used to obtain your money and information. Websites may look similar to the genuine organisation's but subtle changes in the URL can indicate that it's fraudulent. These websites may also seem professional and convincing, using images of luxury villas and apartments that don't exist to convince victims they're trusted and genuine. These are offered for rent, often at discounted prices and require a deposit to be made which is never returned.

Always remember:

- Be suspicious of any "too good to be true" offers or prices – if it's at a rock bottom price ask yourself why.
- Where possible, use a credit card when booking holidays over £100 and up to £30,000 as you receive protection under Section 75.
- Use the secure payment options recommended by online travel providers and don't accept requests to pay separately via a bank transfer.
- Read online reviews from reputable sources to check websites and bookings are legitimate. Access the website you're purchasing from by typing it in to the web browser and avoid clicking on links in unsolicited emails.

Viv Lockwood



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## No TOADS till '21

Hello everyone. I hope you are all keeping safe and well, and managing to cope with the lockdown. It's certainly been interesting. If you're anything like me you now have very tidy cupboards and very clean rooms!

Sadly there has been no Toads' play to keep us occupied during this time, no lines to learn, no props to source, no set to design and build, and it looks like this will continue for the foreseeable future.

We have had to cancel any thoughts of a play in November, as things are far from stable. This is the very first time that I can remember – or even EVER – that Toads has been unable to put on a play for a whole year! However we are still your very own local am-dram society and, God willing, we'll be able to put on a play in May 2021. We are all keen to get going again.

So don't forget us. To coin a phrase "WE'LL BE BACK"!

Anne Bettridge

### Councillors' Surgeries

At both Dore Old School and Totley Library are suspended until further notice. You may still contact our local councillors through the website at [sheffield.gov.uk](http://sheffield.gov.uk), but bear in mind that they are subject to the same restrictions as we all are at present.

## WEA classes – we're still here, if not in the flesh!

As we move into the height of summer, some of our thoughts start to turn to the autumn and what we might want to learn this coming year. While the WEA took the difficult decision to suspend all face-to-face classes nationally for the autumn term, we have also been practising all summer with hundreds of online presentations. The autumn term promises many of the usual classes, plus a number of other projects which have been tried and tested over the last few months.

So, what does this mean for our language students? Well, instead of our usual venue at St John's, Abbeydale Road South, a good range of courses will be available online in Spanish, French and Italian. Of course, you will also be able to access other courses from all over the country in many subjects, as the online world opens out to you. But should you choose to maintain the 'local' presence in preparation for the day when we are able to return to the physical classroom, please contact me to discuss which courses are originally Sheffield-based. And please talk to me if you're not sure how you feel about studying online.

To talk to me about the available 'local' courses, email me on [sylviamay@gmail.com](mailto:sylviamay@gmail.com) or phone/text me on 07958 940821. To book by phone, call 0300 303 3464

or go to [wea.org.uk](http://wea.org.uk) where you'll have access to all national courses. You never know, you might find something completely different to study – as well, of course, as your favourite local language class!

Sylvia May

### Contact Dore to Door:

Email [editor@doretodoor.co.uk](mailto:editor@doretodoor.co.uk)

Tel: 07850 221048

Post: Dore to Door, Dore Old School, Savage Lane, S17 3GW

Speak to the editor personally in the Village Society Office in the Old School any Friday morning 10am-noon. One visitor at a time, please wear face mask.

Advertising - phone 07583 173 489 or email

[advertising@doretodoor.co.uk](mailto:advertising@doretodoor.co.uk)

Distribution - Call Gillian on 0114 235 0609 if you haven't received your copy

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## Dore Village Society

Registered Charity No. 1017051

*The Society is the designated Neighbourhood Forum for the Dore Area, with responsibility for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Dore. The Society also aims to foster the protection and enhancement of the local environment, amenities and facilities within Dore, to encourage a spirit of community and to record its historic development. Membership of the Society is open to all residents of Dore, those who work in Dore and elected local council members for Dore. Membership is also open to Corporate Members representing societies, associations, educational institutions and businesses in Dore.*

*Current membership rates are £7 pa for individuals and £35 for corporate members.*

*Telephone numbers of Committee Members are below; for email, please write to [firstname.surname@dorevillage.co.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@dorevillage.co.uk), e.g. [keith.shaw@dorevillage.co.uk](mailto:keith.shaw@dorevillage.co.uk)*

### Committee Members:

#### Chairman

Keith Shaw 236 3598

#### Deputy Chairman

vacant

#### Secretary

Brenda Fryer 236 5628

#### Treasurer

Jen Donnelly 262 1861

#### Planning

vacant

#### Archives

Janet Ridler 07963 727551

#### Membership

Joan Davis 07531 183438

### Dore to Door

John Eastwood 07850 221048

### Environment

Mark Ridler 07742 138200

Margaret Peart

### Neighbourhood Forum Steering Group

Christopher Pennell 235 1568

### Community Activities

Philip Howes 236 9156

Nick Payne

Caroline Davies 07764 169197

### More in Dore

Tim Ashman 07921 194063



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## Alternatives to culling

For me, wildlife is wildlife and I don't much care what species it is. They are all a delight, as what I see is a sentient being and what makes us all the same is that all sentient beings that are brought into the world want to stay alive, to be free from suffering and to be happy. Rats, mice, pigeons are not pests but are wild animals that are looking for the best ways to survive - just like the rest of us are. In addition, these animals are highly intelligent, social and they need their family bonds.

Sometimes they happen to choose the wrong place to live, if for example it is someone's house. In which case they are regarded as pests and they may inadvertently cause damage by chewing and leaving droppings etc. Clearly the issue has to be solved, however in my experience there is never a reason to kill any 'pests'. The thing is that they have chosen that place for a reason, maybe there is access to food or warmth.

All species of birds and mammals carry disease, including humans, so that is not a reason to kill any particular species and the myth that certain species are spreading disease is often exaggerated and perpetuated by pest control companies. Poisoning is the most common technique used to kill rats and mice. Rodenticides typically cause internal haemorrhaging, which leads to protracted suffering and a terrible death. Leaving poisons around can also damage the environment and kill non-target species through either primary or secondary poisoning (where other animals consume a poisoned body). Employing humane methods to deter wild animals from occupying our homes is not only the best method for them, but also for us and the rest of the environment too.

The first course of action should be to ensure that no food is available. Have a look around. Store bird seed in tins rather than bags as mice can chew through bags. Ensure you leave no crumbs lying around. That may be enough to solve the problem, though once mice have become accustomed to coming into a house, they may continue to do so for some time. In which case the next thing to do is to try to find where they are coming in and seal up the hole, taking care that none are being trapped inside at the time. If rats are living in a garden compost heap, then just turning it i.e. disturbing the heap (good for the rotting process too) will probably be enough to make them move on to somewhere else.

Trapping an animal should be an absolute last resort. Only once did I ever have to trap mice when I could just not trace where they were coming into the house. These days there are good humane traps that do not kill the animal. However, they are only as humane as the person using them! Animals in a trap will be suffering enormously. Most people find restraint frightening and stressful, even if you know it is for your own good, such as being held still inside an imaging machine at a hospital. For a wild animal, restraint is far more terrifying. The traps need to be checked very frequently and the animal taken somewhere suitable and released as soon as possible. If there is more than one animal then lay several traps and the animals should be released at the same site, so the family group can stay together. Even then, they are now in a strange place that may be the territory of other animals and so they will need to find themselves a new safe place to nest and find food.

Pigeons are rock doves that have adapted to the urban environment by using buildings as cliffs. The size of a pigeon flock and their breeding is dictated by the food that is available, therefore culling numbers does not help as it increases food available for more pigeons to fill that space. If numbers of pigeons are an issue, then it is availability of food that needs to be reduced. Birds can be deterred by netting, e.g. to protect fruit and vegetables, but ensure the netting is maintained intact because holes can allow animals to enter that then become trapped.

Thankfully, more and more people are using humane deterrent methods that are far more compassionate and rewarding than the old crude 'extermination of pests' attitude.

## Survey of house nesting birds in Dore

We had planned to conduct a walking bird survey around the streets of Dore and a hedgehog survey this spring and summer, but unfortunately the pandemic made these impossible. With the assistance of the ornithologist Jim Clarke, we designed an internet survey of house nesting birds using Survey Monkey. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey. We received twenty-eight responses. These may indicate some interesting themes we could build on and test with further surveys but it I don't think it is large enough a sample to draw any firm conclusions from. Around one half of respondents indicated that no birds nested in or on their houses. All of these were brick built from the 1930s onwards, although some houses within this description did have nests, some in boxes.

The most bird-friendly house recorded ten nests, located in boxes and under the eaves of the house. The most common bird was the house sparrow with at least twenty-two nests, the most for one house being six. Next was a tie between starlings and blue tits with six each. Starlings were only recorded at two houses, with one having five nests. There were only two records of swifts and one of coal tits.

There are several reports of successful nesting boxes, particularly for blue tits. House sparrows seem to have very definite ideas about how they like to use boxes. There are several reports of house sparrows shunning commercially available sparrow terraces. In one case a terrace was occupied by two pairs of blue tits. House sparrows on the other hand readily occupy boxes designed for swifts. As far as I can tell almost all of the swift boxes put up by the British Trust for Ornithology several years ago on Leyfield Road and Causeway Head Road are occupied by house sparrows and none by swifts. Most of these boxes are in pairs and therefore fit the bill for socially nesting birds. A swift box might be a good buy. It would be great if you could get swifts, but if house sparrows use the box that would also be good. They are red-listed as being of conservation concern, having declined greatly in numbers in recent years.

There were no records of house martins, although there are some nests on Causeway Head Road. This is possibly one of the birds we are most likely to lose from Dore. From my own observations over the years, there were more nests on Causeway Head Road/Rushley Road area but there are several buildings that aren't used any more, and some nests have been destroyed, some while they were in use.

We hope to build up a clearer and fuller picture over future surveys undertaken by various means. It would be interesting to find out more about the area in which the nests are situated, for example are the birds fed and are there any trees and bushes nearby?

It is likely that we can't do much for swifts other than to ensure that they have somewhere to nest as they feed on insects fairly high above us and often far away from their nesting sites. We can provide house sparrows with nest sites, and also with food and shelter. They rely on bushes for shelter from predators and for places to carry out their animated social lives. They feed their young on insects found around the garden, whereas the adults mainly eat seeds. It is likely that many factors around the neighbourhood of the house sparrows' nests are important for a house sparrow colony to flourish. Over future surveys we hope to find out more about these factors.

Nesting boxes can be successful. The way in which home maintenance is undertaken is also important. I am aware of two houses which, when built, were identical but because of the way in which their roofs were maintained one supports several nests and the other none. Both roofs are sound and neat and neither let birds into the loft space. The house that still has nests kept some wooden ledges which nests could be built on and left spaces for birds to squeeze through.

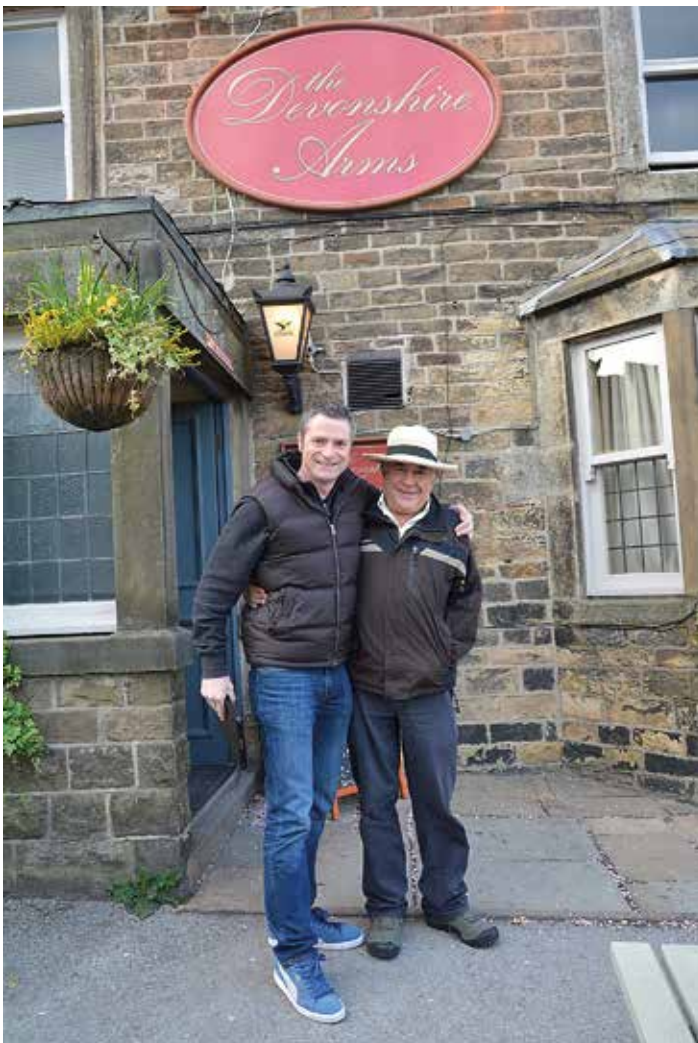
## Your affordable luxury

I still haven't worked out how it's possible that I've never met Bryan Unkles before. He's lived in Dore for over 30 years, we're both regulars at the Devonshire Arms and it seems that we share a number of mutual friends and acquaintances around the village. I have also been a customer of Bryan's for several years, without ever realising that the coffee which gets my brain started every morning comes from a company which was founded in Dore some 17 years ago.

A few days after the lockdown ended at the Dev, I got together for a chat with Bryan and it all became clear. Cafeology are principally a business-to-business operation; they sell their coffee to cafés and restaurants, along with the machinery that a barista needs to convert the beans into the foaming gingerbread latte that you enjoy. My own journey with Cafeology began a few years ago, when I was particularly impressed with the coffee at Dore Cafe and asked Mike where I could get it to make at home. "They sell it at the greengrocer," he told me, and I hid myself off to Hartley's (as it was then). Bloody good coffee, and I've been using it ever since.

So, how has coronavirus affected the coffee business, with pubs and cafes all closed?

"Our business has been affected massively," Bryan tells me. "We haven't supplied a bean of coffee to any of the hotels, we supply about 24 universities and they haven't taken one order. We have a big contract with Marston's pubs and they have only just started reopening. So our bread and butter has been the independents and that's where we've had to re-position ourselves. We've always been business to business suppliers in the 'out of home' sector - now we've had to reinvent ourselves to say 'right, now we can deliver to your door'. This is the only way that we can make retail



Bryan (left) and Francisco in Dore a few years ago. Francisco was over to help celebrate Cafeology's 10th birthday.

work. For retailers to make their margin they need a reasonable markup, but that leaves our margins very thin so we need to shift volumes of coffee on that basis. Small independent retailers can't take that much. We've carefully chosen a few independents like the Village Greens who have the small retail bags. Chatsworth sell them too."

But the number of shops selling Cafeology beans over the counter is limited and we're lucky to have one right in the centre of Dore. Cafeology sponsors both Sheffield Tigers and Sheffield RUFC, at both of which you can buy a cup of Bryan's coffee. Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam Universities, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and Sheffield Theatres are also customers, along with at least one international airline.

"My business has taken an absolute hammering," Bryan goes on. "I'm very honest and there's no way of getting away from it. In the last recession coffee wasn't hit too badly, but this time April was a disaster, and May not much better. June was picking up and so far July is looking good. This morning I've been over at New Leaf Garden Centre at Coal Aston; they're putting a huge new coffee shop in. It's virtually all built now, it'll be opening at the end of the month. They're going to be using our coffee; they're committed to using local suppliers. Garden centres and coffee are just phenomenal. It's nice to see new things coming on board even in these straitened times."

Francisco Herrera is Cafeology's principal producer in Apia, Colombia. Not only has Bryan been there, but Francisco came over here a few years ago which is when the photo above was taken outside the Devonshire. "He's lovely and his coffee is great, it is not just a supplier/customer relationship but over the last 11 years we have formed a strong friendship as well as trust, which is vital to enable us to continue in partnership." Francisco was back in Sheffield last November celebrating ten years in partnership with Cafeology. Bryan has also spent time in Costa Rica, Guatemala and El Salvador where other producers are brought on board to make up Cafeology's blends. "We have a good producer in El Salvador and import directly from Costa Rica, from a family who I met during my first ever origin trip in 2008".



Cafeology have furloughed just under 50% of their staff through the pandemic, but the business hasn't been fully closed at any point. "We've had a micro staff working and people are now gradually coming back as our customers start opening up again. The flexible furlough scheme is working," Bryan says.

The company also rents out the coffee machines, and a lot of the cafes and other businesses that have been closed down by the pandemic have asked for rental holidays on their equipment. "Of course I'm going to agree it because we want to help people out, but we're not Nestlé, not a massive conglomerate."

The difference between Cafeology and Roastology (both are Bryan's trading names) is solely that Roastology is roasted in Sheffield. "We've been going for seventeen years and obviously we didn't start off with our own coffee roastery. What we were doing originally and to get us off the ground was to import the beans and get them roasted by an established coffee roaster in Peterborough. We still deal with them today, but we were approached by a large local customer who really wanted to be able to say that the coffee they sold was roasted in Sheffield. I told them that I'd like to roast in Sheffield too, but everything we do in the business we either do it right or not at all. There had to be a massive level of investment, but the customer said they would buy our coffee provided that it was roasted in the city, so we did it. Brand new kit, brand new warehouse, and we got that contract. What's happened now is that everybody is slowly moving over to Roastology because they like the local angle, and that's what I want too. I want to roast 100% in Sheffield because it's under my control then."

Bryan's wife Toni is the company's Financial Director, and they in fact met in the Devonshire Arms in 1990 when Jack and

Philomena ran the pub. "She has a banking background and it's because of her that the business is in such a strong financial position. She has her work cut out, but she does a cracking job. The company was in a healthy position going into this (coronavirus) and we'd built up our financial reserves. It's a shame that those reserves have been reduced by the pandemic, but we haven't had to borrow to save the company. We're in a better position than a lot of our competitors."

Bryan is a really nice bloke and says himself that he lives and breathes coffee. He is confident in his business plans, which revolve around people as much as the products - a refreshing change from all the corporate advertising that we see everywhere. Cafeology has a fleet of seven vans which deliver around Sheffield all the time, and with them now venturing into home delivery, one of those vans could be bringing you the best coffee in Sheffield. And, as a customer you are supporting local business. If you're buying the beans from the Village Greens, don't buy the last bag of the Supernova blend. That one is mine!

As a treat for Dore to Door readers, Bryan has set us up a little bonus. Go to [store.cafeology.com/discount/D2D10](https://store.cafeology.com/discount/D2D10) for 10% off in the Cafeology online shop, where you'll also find a range of speciality teas, drinking chocolate and mashing tackle for it all. Free delivery too if you spend more than £12, and they'll do their best to deliver the same day if you get your order in early enough.

I'll leave the last word to Bryan:

"I've got a mission to make sure that we don't make anybody redundant. The whole thing with the company is about looking after people, whether they're employees, customers, growers. For me, I'll walk over broken glass before I make anyone redundant."

**Interview by John Eastwood**



# A1

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...continued from page 9

Anything you can do to help insects will also help the birds, whether it be growing more plants that are useful to pollinators (often but not exclusively native flowering plants), building a bug hotel or a pond, leaving some areas of your garden to grow wild, or eliminating (or at least limiting) your use of pesticides will also help these birds.

If you have a cat, please put a bell on its collar. Young birds are particularly vulnerable to cats.

We will repeat the survey in August to look at the situation at that time. This will be a separate survey so please fill it out again even if you completed our earlier survey. If you would like to be sent details please email us on [dvsnaturegroup@gmail.com](mailto:dvsnaturegroup@gmail.com).

In the meantime, continue to enjoy the birds in your garden. They will still be there after the lock down.

**Mark Ridler**

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We have all been affected by the Coronavirus, quite apart from fear of a disease which is serious for some, many of our clients and those in the community up until recently many have been isolated for the last few months, missing family members, friends and normal life.

A few of our staff are now in the office but many are still working from home and we continue to be very limited in the face to face meetings we have with our clients and associates – to continue keep them and ourselves safe and well.

But some of our work is essential.

We still advise on and update Wills and Powers of Attorney – albeit in a different way. We can take instructions over the phone or through Skype, Zoom or Facetime, and of course there are still emails and post.

Witnessing Wills can be more of a problem, though we will find a solution if we can. For those able to find a witness themselves we will send the Will for signature but for those able to drive to our offices we are offering Drive-By Witnessing in our carpark – you stay in your car and we can witness in a proper socially distanced manner with protective equipment available if required.

As well as Wills, we are still helping bereaved families obtain Probate and the administration of deceased estates and can provide advice to anyone who has recently lost a loved one as to the best course of action to take in this difficult time.

We also continue to assist and advise some of the more vulnerable in our community - often elderly people without close family who need help with their finances or arranging for their care - and we are getting back to business as usual in our Property Department especially since the government gave the go-ahead to Estate Agents to start work again.

If you would like to discuss any of the above or have any queries, please contact us and we will try to help if we can.

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## Forty Years On

A version of the Harrow song ('Forty years on, when afar and asunder...') was sung by many Dore Probus members in their school days. (Words not on the sheet were sometimes mischievously slipped in.) The singers were encouraged to imagine looking back from a distant future when they would have undergone the changes of time. In 2020, the year the club itself is forty years on, it may be worth taking stock of its changes and continuities.

Dore Probus Club meetings in 2020 were held until 12 March, after which the COVID-19 pandemic led to the suspension of the programme until further notice. It was a cruel piece of irony that the title of the next scheduled talk was 'Still locking 'em up.' In fact, during the lockdown members were deprived of several talks about travel: 'Canal Mania', 'Across Africa by Land Rover', 'Venice and the Islands', and most frustratingly of all 'The Sky's the Limit'. And all trips were cancelled, of course, including the visit to Sledmere House in East Yorkshire and the Bentley Car Factory in Coventry.

When the first Probus Clubs were founded around 1965 by members of Rotary Clubs their primary function was to give an opportunity for retired business and professional men to meet for lunch. The programmes of lectures and the visits to places of interest tended to follow later. In Dore Probus it is still acknowledged that for many members the social side of things is the most important. Once we are able to resume our activities on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, we will also be arranging lunch visits for members, wives and partners, as in recent years.

Dore Probus Club was founded in April 1980 with the help of men who had previously been members of Abbeydale Probus Club. (This is especially appropriate because when Abbeydale was wound up in 2018 over a dozen members joined Dore.) In those days the Constitution stated that the Club was open to 'retired or partially retired professional or businessmen in Sheffield and neighbourhood'. In practice, the 'Pro' and 'Bus' criterion became gradually more relaxed over the years, and the present written Constitution of 2019 acknowledges this fact with the modification that 'membership shall be open to retired or partially retired men from all walks of life in Sheffield and neighbourhood.'

In 1980 the maximum number of members was sixty. It meant joining a waiting list before being admitted to membership, and the committee gave precedence to applicants from a specified area 'as shown on the map displayed on the Club notice board.' But the number was increased to eighty-five in the year 2000, and the use of the map was discontinued. In 1980 the annual subscription was £2, plus an unspecified amount determined by the cost of hall hire and the price of coffee and biscuits. These days the annual membership fee of £40 covers everything,

though healthy reserves mean that the subscription was due to be reduced to £30 until the virus pandemic led to a temporary abolition of fees. There used to be a conferment of Honorary Membership (with certificate) on members 'attaining the age of four score years' - a practice that has fallen out of use, perhaps in light of the fact that a substantial proportion of present members would qualify!

For many years the committee organised a summer holiday, with hotel accommodation in coastal resorts and places of tourist interest. With the growth of the foreign travel industry fewer people took up this option, and the decision was made instead to have day trips. These have proven so popular that the committee has now appointed a Visits Secretary.

In perspective, the changes during the last forty years have been relatively minor, and the predominant note is one of continuity. It is worth noting how continuity and change are represented in the words we used to sing. The first verse is by turns nostalgic, wistful and stirring:

Forty years on, when afar and asunder  
Parted are those who are singing today,  
When you look back, and forgetfully wonder  
What you were like in your work and your play,  
Then, it may be, there will often come o'er you,  
Glimpses of notes like the catch of a song –  
Visions of boyhood shall float them before you,  
Echoes of dreamland shall bear them along,

*Follow up! Follow up! Follow up  
Follow up! Follow up  
Till the field ring again and again,  
With the tramp of the twenty-two men.  
Follow up! Follow up!*

But to complete the picture it is interesting to do something that most of us did not do at school, which is to look at the final verse of the Harrow song:

Forty years on, growing older and older,  
Shorter in wind, as in memory long,  
Feeble of foot, and rheumatic of shoulder,  
What will it help you that once you were strong?  
God give us bases to guard or beleaguer,  
Games to play out, whether earnest or fun;  
Fights for the fearless, and goals for the eager,  
Twenty, and thirty, and forty years on!

This last verse has more than a touch of humour and self-mockery before the composer remembers the sports analogy and rouses the singers to rally and look ahead. Which is what we must all do.

**Peter Beardsell  
Vice Chairman, Dore Probus Club**



## You can't do this

Several local residents have been in touch regarding the apparent plan of a resident to 'annex' part of the highway into their front garden. Everyone knows that you can't do this, and it's an act of the purest optimism to presume that you could get away with it round here, and in a conservation area too.

We're told that the resident has been visited, and sent at least two letters telling them to pack it in. The proper way to do this is to apply for planning permission, at which time others will be able to object. Even then, as the land is part of the highway, there will have to be a highway stopping up order.

If the resident doesn't apply for planning permission, then planning enforcement will get him to remove the foundations and part wall that have already been built and put everything back as it was.

We should mention that building work on the other house in our picture is legal and, as far as we know, unconnected.



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## Keith Hill (1938 – 2020)



We are sad to report the death in June of our former councillor, Keith Hill. Although not a native of Sheffield Keith was a Yorkshireman, born and brought up in Hull.

At Hull Grammar school, where he was Head Boy, he was a contemporary of Tom Courtenay. Indeed, Keith acted with him in school plays.

Keith stayed in Hull for university studying History and eventually qualified as a teacher. After university, Keith taught in Hull and then

Stoke-on-Trent before moving to Brussels in 1965 to take the post of teaching History at the American International School. He also coached football and ran the drama club as well as acting with the American British Drama Club.

It was here that Keith met Angela at the Brussels British Squash Club. After a whirlwind romance they married five months later in 1967. They relocated to Zurich where Keith taught at the American international School. Keith taught football (soccer, not the American variety!) and cricket to the Americans alongside his teaching. Being able to enjoy mountain hiking, skiing, and canoeing provided a very enjoyable lifestyle.

In 1971 they returned to the UK with their first child, as Keith wanted to teach in the Comprehensive School system. Initially they were located in Telford and then Keith became Deputy Head at a school in Quorn, Leicestershire. Then in 1980 they came to Sheffield as Keith was appointed Head at Beaver Hill School. He was there for seven years followed by a further seven years as Head at Carter Lodge School. Keith retired from teaching in 1995.

However, most people will know Keith from his time as our local Councillor.

It was after retirement that Keith got into local politics. His motivation was to help his local community rather than any deep seated political ambition. He was first elected to Sheffield City Council in 1999, which coincided with the Liberal Democrats taking control of the City Council for the first time. In all he served 15 years on the Council, retiring in 2014.

Keith served on a number of committees during his time on the Council. Given his background in teaching it was unsurprising that a lot of his time was on education related boards and committees where he was able to provide an insight as a recent practitioner in education. He was also a Cabinet advisor when the Liberal Democrats ran the Council. Keith's most high profile post was as the Chair of the South West Community Assembly. This was when the Community Assemblies had a large budget and influence on the way money was spent in the local areas.

It was the work he undertook in the ward that really motivated Keith. There are many local organisations and individuals that have benefitted from his help. His dogged determination wore down even the most unyielding of Council officials as he tried to right the many wrongs he saw on behalf of others. He also served as a Governor of King Ecgbert School for a long period.

His acting career had a revival during his time as a Councillor. He starred in pantomimes, no not just at Council meetings, I mean the real thing! For a number of Christmas pantomimes, he took on the role of Dame. And what a Dame he was, playing opposite our previous MPs Richard Allan and Nick Clegg as a larger than life character. Indeed, in one performance even his own daughter didn't recognise him when he came on stage!

Keith was also a talented artist. His doodles in long meetings were masterpieces! They often portrayed other members in the

meeting but not always in the most flattering light! After stepping down from the Council in 2014 he was able to devote more time to this hobby and as a member of a local art group he exhibited some of his work. He was also able to spend more time on his narrow boat navigating the canals of England.

Angela, his wife, will be well known to many people locally as well particularly as a tennis coach at local clubs. She was a great support to him in his role as a Councillor leading on many of the election campaigns.

Keith was a stalwart in the community and will be very sadly missed. His health had been in decline in recent months and he died peacefully at home in June with his wife Angela and children, Dan, Alex and Ben with him at the end.

## Andrew Peter Hyde (1973-2020)



We are saddened this issue to report the death of Andy Hyde, a well-known figure with many friends in Dore and Totley where he lived all his life.

Andy attended Birkdale School which he left at 16 to attend Sheffield Art College, and he then trained as a hairdresser. During these years, in the 1990s, he worked behind the bar at the Hare & Hounds when Ken Cooney and John Glossop were the licensees.

He opened his own barbershop - Mint Barbers, as it was initially known - on Totley Brook Road in 2007. He was regularly to be seen walking his black labrador,

Zimba, in the local area and often walked up into Dore village for his lunch, sometimes finishing off with a quick drink in the Hare where he was almost certain to see somebody that he knew.

The shop changed name to Dore and Totley Barbershop a few years ago and Andy secured premises on Totley Rise to where the business moved in 2018. Many of his customers moved with him. Andy was pleased not only to have a shop with much more passing trade, but he was also able to live above, and he sold the narrowboat which he owned on the Sheffield & Rotherham Canal.

Andy loved what he had created, and he had every reason to suppose that he would be in business for many years to come. But at the beginning of 2020 he sought medical attention for a shoulder pain which was interfering with his work. Just as the lockdown was beginning in March, the diagnosis turned out to be the terminal cancer which took his life only a few short weeks later in June.

Andy was a keen Sheffield United supporter, and a fan of the Star Wars films as evidenced by the memorabilia around the shop. He was flamboyant, talkative and could hold his own in conversation on almost any subject - the skill of good barbers everywhere. Sadly, because of the current restrictions, his funeral was limited to family only, but at least 150 people turned out on Totley Rise that morning to pay their respects to him as the hearse passed.

Andy is survived by his parents Barbara and Peter, sisters Michelle and Sue, daughters Mischa and Jessica and granddaughter Jade. Many more people in Dore and Totley knew and will miss him. At the funeral Sue said, "I feel it should be acknowledged how bravely Andy faced his demise. He was given a very short prognosis, but he never showed any fear about dying and that's something I will always admire about him! My brother Andrew figured that he had 100 days left to live so he started a list of 100 people he really wanted to see before he died. I found the list (which was only partly completed). Some of these people are here today and we know that friends were extremely important to Andrew."



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Opening in S17 has always been a lifelong ambition of mine having grown up in the area and attended the local schools. I therefore have an in-depth understanding of the location and know first hand what a fantastic place it is to live.

I have worked in estate agency for the last 24 years, having first started as a trainee estate agent at a well-known corporate firm at Banner Cross. I quickly worked my way up through the ranks to become branch manager and later area manager. In 2010 my wife and I decided to take the leap and open our own estate agency.

We quickly grew as a business due largely to recommendations and referrals by our happy clients. This year we have celebrated our 10 year anniversary at Staves and have now opened our fourth branch, in the area in which we live and call home. We are incredibly excited to have this opportunity and can't wait to serve the people of S17 in doing what we do best!

Given the recent announcement from the chancellor regarding the stamp duty holiday, along with pent up buyer demand following the enforced lock down period, now offers an excellent time to sell your home. We are experiencing very high levels of interest and multiple offers on most of our properties, at levels not seen since we opened in 2010. Therefore if you are thinking of selling your property, call us for a no obligation valuation to find out how much your home is worth.

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Company Director

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## The 'Order and Collect' service is up and running

Totley Library opened as planned on Monday 13th July for the new "Order and Collect" service. We were the first library in Sheffield to welcome back library users and what is even more remarkable is that the service is run entirely by a committed group of volunteers.

At the time of writing we have just completed our first two sessions and it has been lovely to see so many familiar faces. We have had a steady stream of customers returning books, checking out how the new system works and placing orders for new books. In just two short sessions we have made up orders for 36 library users and dealt with many enquiries. It is early days and we are continually reviewing how we can adapt the new service to meet the needs of the local community.

We recognize that it is disappointing for our library users not to be allowed into the library to browse for books, use the computers or attend community events but be reassured that we are actively looking at how we can move on safely to the next phase of opening up in line with Sheffield City Council and Government guidance. In the meantime, we have a great stock of books including lots of new bestsellers and you can view what we have available by going to the website [www.totleycric.org.uk](http://www.totleycric.org.uk). For details about the service, see below.

## How the service works

Initially, we are only able to lend books (maximum of 5) from the Adult Library.

Our opening times for the service are Mondays 2 - 4pm and Fridays 10am – 12 noon.

You can search or browse online for the books we have in stock at Totley Library by visiting the website and following the links to Totley Orange Sticker Catalogue and the Sheffield City Council libraries Catalogue.

Please DO NOT use the council system to place holds on books as this service is currently not operating and we only have access to books held at Totley. It is important that when searching for books, make sure you set the search location to 'Totley Library'.

Order forms are available at the library or from our website. If possible, please email your requests to [totleylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:totleylibrary@gmail.com).

You can also order by telephone during opening hours to 0114 236 3971.

We will do our best to fulfil your request but in the event of your book choice not being available, we reserve the right to offer you an alternative. If you need help in choosing suitable books our library volunteers are happy to make recommendations based on your previous borrowing history.

Monday orders will be ready for collection on Friday. Friday orders will be ready for collection on the following Monday.

Please bring your library card with you when you come to collect your order. If you are asking someone to collect books for you, please ensure that they have your full details and library card number.

Following current Government and local guidance in relation to COVID-19 we have had to make many changes in the way we operate to ensure everyone's safety. Totley Library is a voluntary run organisation: we are currently operating with a reduced number of volunteers, and we ask for your patience as we try to establish the new service.

Please note that -

- Books should be returned and collected from the foyer of the Library.
- You can browse for books online via our website, but you will not be able to browse in the Library
- Books will be quarantined for a period of at least 72 hours when they are returned
- We have Risk Assessment in place and will follow current guidance to ensure that the service operates in a safe manner both for our library users and volunteers

- We ask you to respect the social distancing signs
- PN computers, printer and photocopier will not be available for use
- The public toilet will not be available
- We are unable to take any book donations until further notice.

This service is the first phase of a plan aimed at a full restoration of library services. Another objective of this phase is to increase the availability of volunteers to the level that will be needed to operate later phases.

The second phase will allow greater public access and will include limited browsing and access to Public Network computers, along with photocopying facilities. Plans for this phase are still being formulated and a critical factor will be the level of social distancing and other hygiene factors required at that time. It is unlikely that this phase can be implemented before September.

The third phase which will be the "new normal" allowing fuller use of all library facilities and a restoration of community activities. The timescale for achieving will depend on the successful controlling of the Covid-19 pandemic which cannot be predicted accurately as yet. The advice received suggests that earliest likely implementation date for this will be January 2021.

We hope in the near future that we will be able to extend the opening times and provide books to our younger readers. We look forward to welcoming you back and hope you will again enjoy borrowing new titles, old favourites, audiobooks and large print books.

## Lottery Winners

Congratulations to recent Library Lottery winners! The first-prize winner in the May draw was Karen Marley, and the second-prize winner was David Forster. In the June draw, the first prize was won by Mary Dakin, and the second prize was won by Anthony Waddington.

## Totley CRIC website

We will endeavour to keep everyone posted about any new developments through our website – keep an eye on it at [www.totleycric.org.uk/](http://www.totleycric.org.uk/)

## Sheffield's Children's University launches Summer Festival of Fun

Sheffield's Children's University are offering over 70 free activities for children this summer. From 20th July to 28th August children will be able sing, dance, get crafty, and take part in family board games, walks, cooking and even family yoga.

Activities will be a mixture of live and online events delivered via Facebook Live or Zoom, as well as some downloadable or emailed activities.

Helen Oades, senior project officer at the Children's University said: "This is the sixth year of the Sheffield Children's University Festival of Fun and we are so excited! We thought coronavirus and social distancing would mean we couldn't go ahead this year, but thanks to the adaptability of our activity providers and some clever thinking around the accessibility of the sessions, we've been able to deliver more activities than ever before."

The Festival of Fun will also include weekly Home Learning Challenges, themed around the continents of the world and our place within them. These will supplement the 100+ daily Home Learning Challenges that the Children's University Team have developed and published daily since the lockdown began back in March.

For more information about the Festival of Fun go to [sheffielddcu.blogspot.com/](http://sheffielddcu.blogspot.com/).

Phil Harris

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## Coronavirus: will we, should we, ever be the same again?

Life, and our expectations of it, have been turned upside down by coronavirus. Rather than waiting for the much wished for 'return to normal', perhaps we should take time now to consider what has changed and what we really want for the future. What should be the 'new normal'? I'm going to throw out a few thoughts for you to debate amongst yourselves. .

When I wrote this in mid-July, I realised I had the same banknotes in my wallet and the same tank of diesel in my car as I had had at lockdown on 23rd March.

I had hardly ever used the contactless function on my credit card before lockdown. Now I was using it regularly and the credit card statement was growing in length. Last year we passed the point where credit, debit and charge-cards accounted for more than half of the payments made in the UK and cash payments accounted for less than a quarter. In 2020, the debit and credit card payments are again being boosted by a rush of contactless payments made during lockdown. Are we being gradually weaned off cash, and what will that mean for the large number of folks who rely on it? Dore has lost both its bank and its post office. Watch out for the growing rate of ATM removals across the country - one in every eight of the UK's 60,000 machines were shut during the lockdown. Is our ATM 'safe' in the longer term? Local banks are disappearing and are impersonal husks of their former selves. Now we rely on the anonymous call centres. Is your bank really there for you and 'by your side' as claimed?

While we have been relatively trapped (or even shielded) in our homes, we have had ever more recourse to online shopping, but will we expect our local and city shops to be ready and available for us when lockdown truly relaxes? Should we regard the Dore Co-op as local heroes for remaining open despite the initial risks to the staff team or will we increasingly drift away online? It seemed that for a while all we saw on our streets were fleets of ubiquitous online shopping vans delivering everything imaginable and an absence of commuter cars. While the supermarkets were a lifeline for many, early experience of empty shelves confirmed the underlying fragility of just-in-time deliveries to supermarkets; and will leaving the EU make that worse – almost certainly yes. Over 30% of our food (including 50% of our vegetables) comes from the EU. Any disruption of the supply chain could be catastrophic, because even now we have no unused frozen food storage capacity in the UK; and a large lorry park in Kent won't provide the answer. We need to take seriously producing more at home and using those allotments and gardens like we did in wartime.

Can we resist the clarion calls for us to embark on shopping sprees to get the economy moving again? It is astonishing how far we have become a consumer and service economy rather than a manufacturing economy. It is encouraging over-consumption of constantly replaceable fashion items which drives the prices and wages down of sweat-shop factories in the second and third worlds and apparently in Leicester too. We really don't need so much 'stuff' to be happy. It's often ending up in early landfill.

Many of us will have had foreign holidays cancelled over the last few months and may have lost the confidence to fly in tightly packed aeroplanes, and that's even before our EHIC cards expire, roaming charges are re-imposed, and flight and overseas holiday costs soar. Do we really know our own country well enough? There are some great holidays at home without the heavy global warming impact of flying. Have you missed the condensation trails zig-zagging over Dore, the dense commuter traffic into town, the stop/go on the motorway, the air pollution at crossroads and outside our schools? One thing that has benefitted is the air we breathe. Bike sales have soared during lockdown, so will the authorities take serious steps to provide safe room to cycle in our city?

It has been a pain being locked down and worrying about

our jobs, with short-term respite provided by furlough or other immediate aid packages, knowing that some of those jobs may never return and all the support will have to be paid for, sometime when the magic money-tree fails us. For others, the new 'joys' of trying to master Skype or Zoom or Google Hangouts, peering into colleagues' homes to see who has books and who has pictures and gazing up noses or down onto bald patches, are hard-learned exercises, particularly remembering to use the 'mute' function. However, what is being revealed is how much can be efficiently done from home and that we don't need to be packed in central offices or worrying if 'hot-desking' encourages CV19 transmission. We just might be reversing the 18th and 19th century enclosure movement which pushed people off the land, and the Industrial Revolution which pulled them into over-crowded towns and cities, as we now increasingly favour living and working at home in the suburbs or rural areas.

It has been heart-warming to regularly clap NHS workers as the surrogate carers for our society and enlightening and occasionally shaming to realise how many more people – all too often overlooked – have become our new front-line heroes: the social care workers, the bin men, the postal workers, the delivery workers, the bus-drivers, the fruit and vegetable pickers. Perhaps we are due a re-assessment of who we actually rely on when the chips are down; and will they be there for us when the brave new world of Brexit and immigration controls comes to pass.

Sure, we have much to be thankful for from the NHS which is our first bulwark against the virus apart from our own good sense, but we must be realistic about what we have lost. Dore will have its share of people continuing to suffer because surgical operations and investigations have been cancelled or indefinitely postponed and because others are too frightened to go to hospital lest they catch the virus. And just when we needed them, our GP



Wild deer grazing on Totley Brook Open Space. Photo by Mick Otter.



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surgeries 'closed' and whole ranges of minor procedures and investigations have stopped or are difficult to access. Like the banks and many other service-providers, even our doctors are principally available on the phone, trying to assess whether the patient has a real problem which they cannot articulate or just doesn't want to cause too much fuss. We are storing up health problems which will come to bite us, including a significant mental ill-health problem amongst both young and old.

We grieve for those we have lost over this awful time, but for those bereaved by CV19 there have been few chances for last hand-held goodbyes. Funerals arising from whatever cause have been truncated, allowing very few the chance of communal or church solace. A local family in my road, bereaved of a good man, husband and father, made one inspired choice to cut through this restriction on grief and recognition, by inviting friends and neighbours to line the road as the hearse, preceded by the undertaker, moved away at walking pace to a distant family event at a crematorium. It was an eloquent statement of communal respect and solidarity.

And perhaps that is the measure of what we have gained. On most, if not every, street in Dore there will have been unexpected acts of kindness, arrangements quietly made to ensure those who are shielding and those who are lonely are contacted and helped. Within one day of lockdown there were two notes dropped through my door offering help if needed. Happily, it was not, but my wife and I were really touched by the kindness. Echoing the NHS clap day, the VE Day celebration on our road was turned into a socially-distanced street-party with an aged violinist playing morale-boosting songs. It was a poignant celebration of the best of neighbourliness and of the on-road solidarity of yore.

We must be thankful for our good fortune to live in a village where most of us have gardens, there are several public green spaces and we have Ecclesall Woods, Blacka Moor Nature Reserve, the Green Belt and a National Park, all within walking and cycling distance. In that respect we are better off than many other Sheffield folk to withstand lockdown. We should both press for better green space provision elsewhere in Sheffield and be prepared to fight to preserve what we have here. We have surely enjoyed nature even more than usual as we increased our rounds of local walking rather than car-based expeditions to distant beauty spots. How many of us in our anxiety to vary our walks have sought out new back routes, perhaps Water Lane, or the path through Bushey Wood, or heading off from Totley Brook Green Space, not to mention Ladies Spring Wood or alongside the stream at ancient Gillfield Wood. Time to revisit the DVS guide 'From Dore to Door' for local walks.

The reduction in traffic has emboldened some of our wildlife. Even as I write this, a roe deer stag is walking beside the drystone wall between my suburban garden and the adjacent field. We are noticing nature more than ever. Perhaps it is the one great certainty and comforter, so we must as we return to 'normal' do more to celebrate, protect and enhance it. There is a perpetual stream of walkers, with and without dogs, horse-riders and runners proceeding along my road towards the mecca of Ecclesall Woods. The upturn in exercise is palpable. On my own walks I might choose to prudently walk aside at an acceptable social distance as others approach, but there is almost always a cheery exchange of conversation. We may be avoiding each other physically for obvious reasons, but people are talking and communicating more. This is not isolation: it is friendly recognition of strangers and

natural communication. There are genuine signs of greater neighbourliness and a recognition that we are all in this together; and is this stronger in the suburbs than in the centre where there is more inclination towards hospitality industries and partying, and maybe less willingness to socially distance and to wear masks to protect others?

We are now experiencing a more interventionist State, perhaps of necessity given the pandemic challenge, but that does not normally sit easily for a Tory Government, which has had to make rules and try to control our behaviour and now is having to spend, spend, spend to ensure an economic recovery. The truth surely is that we have been losing faith in politicians to lead and inspire us through this ordeal and to manage complex projects efficiently (like providing PPE where it is needed; like protecting care homes; like producing a world class test and trace system; like getting children back to school safely so that we minimise the adverse impact on the education of less fortunate children; like safeguarding food and essential supplies when Brexit is added to the current mix). We have been learning more about 'experts': that they disagree as well as agreeing, because science is not settled but living and growing. Politicians should not hide behind scientists but be prepared to make timely and defensible decisions based on the best balance of evidence available. And how many of us now are beginning to believe that we are too centralised as a nation with too little capacity to finesse policies and rules to take account of local differences? As I write there are local authorities and Directors of Public Health desperate to see nationally generated data and to be given more generous local powers so that they can act quickly and with precision to stamp out local CV spikes.

Let us hope that we can curb some of our consumerist tendencies by thinking hard before using the car (and planning ahead to go electric); by reducing environmentally expensive foreign travel; by not being fashion-led and creating sweatshop production and incredible waste; by growing our own and not expecting everything to be flown or driven in; by slowing down and putting less pressure on ourselves. We are living in the panicky 'Now' and need to think more about what we cherish and the future we really want. Perhaps more room for ethics and global warming avoidance. If Government intends a huge house-building programme, be careful where it's put and ensure that it involves the highest possible insulation and green energy standards.

Isolation produces opposite reactions: in some cases families and relationships might grate on each other with domestic abuse at the one extreme and in other cases a richer intimacy and healthy dependency flourishing as people use their imagination to find things to do together.

One thing that coronavirus demonstrates is how inter-connected we all are and how that can be a weakness in the face of a hidden transmissible menace; but on the other hand that recognition of inter-connectedness can bring out the best in us as individuals, as couples, as families, as communities, and as communities of nations. Nationalism is no cure for coronavirus.

I hope that readers might be moved to reflect on and discuss some of these issues and raise fresh observations amongst your neighbours and friends. If I provoke thought and debate, the effort will have been worthwhile.

**Christopher Pennell**

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During lockdown, many people spent more time in their gardens and some TV garden programmes were geared to suggestions as to what they could do. I watched some of them out of interest but found them very boring and at times quite silly. None of them were much help or, of course, related to wildlife gardening. Many people couldn't wait for garden centres to open - mainly so that they could buy bedding plants to fill all the empty spaces in their gardens.

Previously, there had been a news report saying that if the wholesale nurseries growing these plants were not able to deliver them to the garden centres because of the Coronavirus pandemic, they would lose millions of pounds. There are many of these wholesalers, and the owner of one said he would lose 15 million pounds. His land covered a huge area, with some of it under glass. These plants will need regular watering and, in all likelihood, fertilizing during their growing season. When they are ready, they are distributed to the hundreds of garden centres and other outlets on huge juggernauts, covering long distances. The production and transport of what must be millions of these plants will have a huge carbon footprint but, in the autumn, most, if not all of them, will be thrown away. What a waste, and with no real benefit to wildlife. This land could be used in a much better way by producing organic food, being allowed to return to a more natural state, or even re-wilded.

In my garden, the wild daffodils, wood anemones and primroses appeared in March and, in April, 18 other varieties of native flowers bloomed, including wood forget-me-not, greater stitchwort, greater celandine, red campion, wild garlic and ladies' smock. Sweet woodruff, a hedgerow plant, had seeded itself between some logs where lesser celandines should have appeared, which was rather a shame, but they did look nice and the celandines had seeded elsewhere, though only as single plants.

The patch of white deadnettles had increased to three fairly large patches and the shade loving yellow archangel that bloomed in May had gone on the rampage. They are both extremely popular with bees, but will need some control before they take over the whole garden! However, while it all looked somewhat chaotic, it also looked very spring-like and natural. I particularly loved the unplanned arrangement of herb robert, greater celandine, wood forget-me-not and bugle in a small area around the base of one of the felled alders!

I will certainly be happy for nature to take its course in future, while restricting the bullies if necessary. Nature seems to be able to produce much more delightful results than any garden designer.

While many different native flower species (53) were blooming in my garden by the middle of June, the amount of fauna was disappointing. Having said that, more orange-tip butterflies were around in a greater number by the end of April this year compared to last year. There were also holes in the leaves of the garlic mustard plants on which they lay their eggs and on which the caterpillars would have fed. Many small bees visited most of the different species of flowers including bugle and brambles, which are both very good plants for wildlife. However, there were only a few bumble bees.

One day, I noticed a tiny moth among the meadow grass by the pond and, later, what I think must have been a cricket. I was surprised and delighted, but it flew off towards a hawthorn tree and then, much to my amazement, a dunnoek that was on a

nearby hedge flew across and caught it on the wing. Amazing and disappointing at the same time, but nature has to take its course!

More uplifting was that, after several years, it was good to see a hedgehog in the garden again one evening and I am hoping it will stay around.

I was pleased to read an article regarding the plight of our insects from the local Wildlife Trust in another local magazine, encouraging us to support insects in our gardens. They gave a download link to their information pack "Your Guide to Taking Action for Insects" (available from the Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust website) in which they outlined some of the actions we can all take - in particular, keeping hard-standing to a minimum and planting native flowers. There was a list of planting ideas, but I was surprised and disappointed that, according to the "Collins Photoguide to Wild Flowers of Britain and Northern Europe by the late Oleg Polunin", quite a few of these were not native flowers which really are the best option for our indigenous species of insects and for preserving the UK's very specific ecosystems and biodiversity. Cats have been a serious problem in my garden again recently, especially to the birds, and it has been difficult and time consuming to block off spaces under the hedges without closing access for hedgehogs. I do wish owners would fence off their gardens like a neighbour did here some years ago. Her fence was so high I actually wondered what sort of cats she was keeping!! Cats do so much harm to birds and other wildlife, killing millions of them each year and their droppings are very unpleasant too! They may make lovely pets, but our wildlife is more important to our survival.

Springwatch this year, like many TV programmes was on "lockdown", but was excellent. Filmed in different locations from Scotland to Cornwall,

the presenters, including Chris Packham, gave viewers a huge amount of very interesting information on the wildlife in their home areas and the photography to accompany this was outstanding.

I was particularly pleased that Iolo Williams, another Springwatch presenter who was based in Wales, mentioned the importance of native wild flowers to our wildlife and explained that, having evolved together over millions of years, they are able to support each other in the best possible way. He urged us all to plant them in our own gardens.

With so much land locked up by mostly intensive farming but also many human leisure activities (such as golf courses and racecourses), wildflowers have nowhere to go other than nature reserves. Gardens cover a huge area and could help to arrest this dangerous decline of our wildlife. We have knuckled down to protect ourselves from Coronavirus, but wildlife supports us in so many ways. No native wildflowers; no pollinators; no food?

Pictures of wildlife gardens are delightful and inspiring. I have always loved those showing a mown grassy path through meadow grass. This spring, I realised I could have one here between a moon shaped patch of long grass by the large pond on the left and the long grass edging a border on the right. The path is now established and looks very nice and relaxing. I am hoping to develop spring and summer meadow areas and also to stop mowing the "pathway" in May to allow low-growing plants to flower. Theoretically, it should look lovely. Mmmm - watch this space!

**Marian Tiddy**



*Fungus on a tree stump with fading Jacobs Ladder, Foxgloves and a single White Deadnettle which has escaped from its patch*

## T17 through the ages



As we continue to raise funds so that we can replace one of our buses in 2020, we've been looking back at Transport 17 'through the ages' and we thought we'd share some news snippets with you.

In September 1983, The Totley Independent included an article about a group called 'Transport 17' which had recently been formed – instigated by Alan

Jockel who was the vicar of Totley All Saints Church - with the aim of providing a minibus for elderly people in S17, hence its name. It reported that older and infirm people were struggling to get to their day and luncheon clubs, and it was hoped that there would be support in the local community to run a transport service for them. The first Chairman of Transport 17, Bert Jackson, called for financial support to get the minibus on the road as well as help with practical issues such as organising rotas to drive and help on the buses.

service and in 1994, Transport 17 was able to start running a third bus. It just shows what demand there has been, and continues to be, for an accessible transport service for the older, less mobile members of our community. These buses need to be replaced regularly and the next bus will be the twelfth one on the road. It



will also cost £50,000 – that's five times the cost of the first one!

In 1990, funding from the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (which continues today) meant that Michael Finn joined Transport 17 as its paid Project Manager and the office base moved from the vestry room of the United Reform Church on Totley Brook Road to its current address on Baslow Road. Michael was joined in 1999 by John Savournin who keeps all the paperwork in order.

An impressive array of fundraising events has been organised by Transport 17 volunteers over the years, from jumble sales, coffee mornings, book sales, bridge drives, bring and buy sales and pie and pea suppers to teas in gardens and light entertainment evenings. In addition, the community has generously supported Transport 17 by donating proceeds from sports days, open gardens and cake and plant sales to name but a few.

It has not all been plain sailing, however. A dip into the archives reveals: an article in 1992 reporting on a 'cash crisis' due to the pressure of rising running costs on older vehicles and a worry that there would need to be a reduction in the number of journeys that could be operated. In 2008 there was an incident of 'road rage' which left a volunteer driver needing stitches and in 2012 all the buses' fuel was stolen when they were broken into.

But these challenges have all been met head on and haven't stopped the buses from running. In 2018, Transport 17 was making over 200 passenger trips a week to 13 different lunch clubs not just in S17 but in the surrounding areas of S11, S8, S10 and S7. There are currently 7 drivers and 14 passenger assistants who help between one and three days a week, volunteering their time to help those who wouldn't otherwise be able to get out and about. The volunteers on the Transport 17 Management and Fundraising Committees continue to work hard to keep it moving with the times and to make sure that the wheels keep turning.

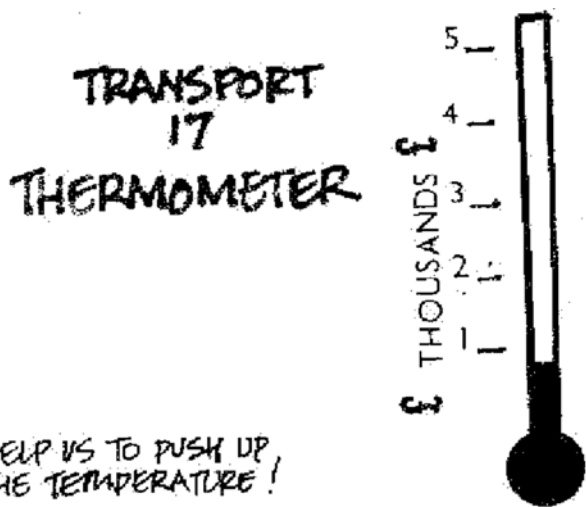
So, above all, a brief look back over the years shows that we should ALL be proud of the success story that is Transport 17. Now, let's keep it going!

Jenny Nuttall and Wendy Trotter  
Transport 17 Management Committee

## TRANSPORT 17

THE WHEELS START TURNING

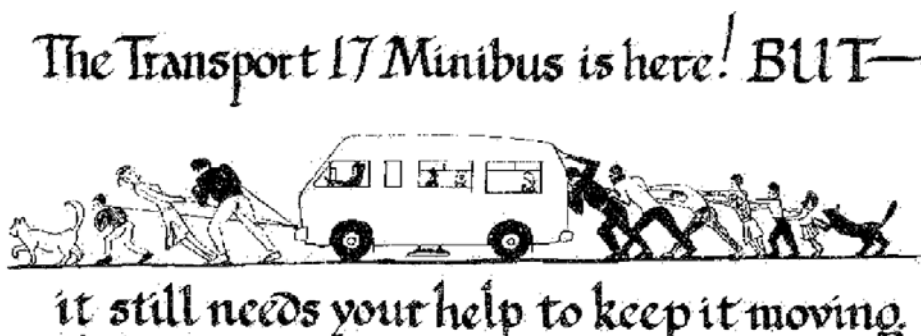
Following a successful fundraising campaign supported by the local community newspapers which saw table top sales, coffee mornings and generous donations from local charitable trusts, enough money was raised to match the £5000 awarded from Help the Aged and the first Transport 17 minibus was on the road



in June 1984. It was a real community effort!

Of course, the fundraising efforts couldn't, and didn't, stop there and they've been going ever since. Our local community newspapers continued to support Transport 17 and they have carried regular updates and news on the buses over the years. From these news articles and talking to local folk who've been involved, we can see how much Transport 17 has done to make a difference to people's lives and how much effort has gone into keeping the buses on the roads. There have been many trips made to local attractions such as Chatsworth and Longshaw, as well as days out further afield to places such as Bridlington. For a few years there were even residential trips arranged to Llandudno, meaning a seaside holiday for those who would not otherwise have had one.

In 1987, a second minibus was put into





Despite the blinds being closed and the buses parked up there has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes at Transport 17 over the last few months. This is the first time (holidays excluded) that Transport 17 hasn't operated since its inception by Alan Jockel way back in 1983, a fact I feel certain he would be disappointed about but equally he would understand the extraordinary reasons why. The last few months will have had an impact on all our lives, but one thing is certain and that is that Alan's vision for our community transport service is more relevant now than ever. One of the benefits of the lockdown has been that the Management Committee has been given an opportunity to look at the organization, its place in the community in the 21st century and to consider what is required to keep the wheels turning for another thirty years. So, as we embark on a new era for Transport 17, how can we best serve the community within which we are based?

Fundamentally, all the principles underpinning Transport 17 are there to be built upon. We have been looking at the different activities Transport 17 has facilitated since 1984. It would be great to extend the scope of how we operate to incorporate some of those opportunities. To this end, our association with People Keeping Well is central to our development. The lunch clubs we support are at the core of what we do, but we want to find opportunities within our schedule to provide transport for those who find it difficult to get out and about to socialise through other activities as well. Through People Keeping Well we were able to take the Sporting Chatter group to visit the Football Museum in Manchester and it would be good to be able to enable other such outings. Peoples' interests are so varied and it is good to know that a whole range of activities are now being set up for the lonelier and more isolated members of our community, but we know that very often the success of such initiatives hinges on accessible transport solutions.

Central to the development of Transport 17 is the appointment of a full-time employee as Coordinator for Transport 17. It will be an exciting opportunity for someone to shape and deliver Alan Jockel's vision, collaborating with other locally-based community organisations to help those who need a helping hand to get out and about, which is so vital to their well-being. We have already begun the process of filling this vacancy and as you read this article the post will have been advertised through Voluntary Action Sheffield and the Age UK Network. Both of these organisations are supporting us with the recruitment process and we will be involving our volunteers in appointing the right person to this important role.

As well as recruiting a full time Coordinator, we need to begin to build up our bank of volunteers of drivers and passenger assistants so we can function effectively. Since January we had been relying on our current group to carry out extra duties which they all stepped up to where they could but, going forward, we need a bigger pool of volunteers to call upon. Lockdown has given us all opportunities to try new things. Perhaps you have enjoyed doing some volunteering, feeling the benefits of this both for yourself and the community. We would love to hear from you if you think Transport 17 might provide an opportunity for you to continue volunteering in our community. If you would like further information about these opportunities or have any questions about anything in this article, please do get in touch via [admin@transport17.co.uk](mailto:admin@transport17.co.uk) or leave a message on 0114 236 2962 and we will get back to you.

Recently we have been in contact with all the lunch clubs we currently serve to find out the position they are in as regards re-starting after closing because of COVID-19. It was great to speak with them all and they all appreciated the call. We received a range of responses. One or two are keen to get going as soon as possible in the late summer/early autumn if it is safe and practical to do so and they are working at plans as to how they can achieve it. A number are feeling that realistically it will be 2021 before they are able to open their doors once more and others are falling somewhere between the two. A number commented that the grant they received from the Council to help to run their club had been stopped in March and without it they would be unable to re-open as it paid for the Transport 17 service. It has been difficult for them to get any information about

this, so we are going to look into that for them. All the clubs have been in regular contact with their members to keep the connections going in different ways as they are all missing the social contact that the clubs provide. In thinking about re-opening, their priority will clearly be the health and safety of their members and their organisers as many of them are in the highest health risk categories. Many of the clubs are held in church premises and this also means they are multi-use venues, bringing further complications; certainly, none of this is easy to manage. Hopefully, those who feel they are able to start operating sooner will provide examples of good practice to help others for whom opening up isn't a possibility until the new year.

Similarly, we have been in contact with all our volunteers. Generally, they are looking forward to getting back when it is safe to do so. They have missed the friendship, camaraderie, involvement and routine it puts into the week. So, it will be good to welcome them back when we can. Sadly, Dick Butterworth and Clive Leech have decided not to continue as volunteers. Between them and Colin Price (who should shortly be moving to Eastbourne after pandemic-related delays), they have given over 50 years of their time to serving the community through Transport 17 so they deserve an enormous 'thank you'. We know that they will all be missed, and we wish them well for the future.

So, now we need to look at what will have to be done for us to restart our service. The safety of both our volunteers and the vulnerable people we transport to the activities they so enjoy is paramount. To ensure we achieve this we will be utilising information provided by the Community Transport Association and liaising with others to share good practice. There will also need to be maintenance checks completed on the buses. Given the information received from the clubs it would seem that a phased return is likely, and this will reduce some pressure on getting the buses ready for action. The key is for us to be ready to provide our service when we're needed once again.

As regards our postponed AGM, we have not yet set a date for this and it is likely that the earliest that it will be held will be the Autumn. We have arranged for an extension to the submission of our accounts to the necessary authorities so that these can be agreed when we hold the AGM and subsequently submitted.

We have been attending the People Keeping Well network meetings and have been able to contribute to the leaflet that will be circulated to all households by the end of July. The booklet has been designed to look at ways of supporting the community as we move out of lockdown. It contains morale boosting material and promotion of local activities and services, including businesses. Once work is completed on the booklet the network will move onto identifying further ways to support the community as lockdown eases.

Saturday 11th July would have seen us holding our coffee morning at the Cross Scythes. This, like many fundraising events in the community, has had to be cancelled. The impact of all this on our income will be quite significant and we won't be the only ones in this position. However, on a more positive note, we have applied to be one of the Co-op's Local Causes and we have our fingers crossed that we will be selected again. Also, we have now set up a Just Giving account following the closure of the BT online facility. Look out for links to this from our Facebook page and our website. We will also be posting another local quiz to help to keep you occupied so look out for this too. Now we can only look forward to the Christmas Fayre on 14th November – hopefully, a date for all our diaries.

As the lockdown starts to ease, we know that it isn't going to be simple for many to get out and about. We all have a role to play in putting the health of everyone first and in helping all members of our community to feel safe and comfortable outside their homes. Transport 17 will continue to provide accessible transport for those who need a helping hand, adapting our service as needed so that the wheels on the buses continue to go round and round.

**Sandra Longley**

**On behalf of the Management Committee**

2020 may be the year when railways are effectively renationalised, although that's not what it will be called.

Keith Williams was appointed in 2018 to complete a review of the structure of the whole rail industry. His report was due early this year but has been overtaken by events. Transport Minister Grant Shapps has made it clear that the likely way forward will have to be different. Until the end of September, existing Train Operating Companies (TOCs) are running largely empty trains on what are called Emergency Measures Agreements; effectively being paid for by the government. They are likely to be continued well into 2021. That's not a sustainable situation.

At the time of writing most services at Dore & Totley are running to the timetable originally planned from this May, apart from fast services not going through to Manchester Airport so requiring a change at Piccadilly. Sunday services are only two-hourly. Many lines and stations aren't doing as well.

Thanks to relentless lobbying by many groups, including FoDaTS, our situation is arguably better than it has ever been - with the noteworthy exception of services to and from Sheffield! However Northern stopping services are usually 4 coaches and there are 6 coaches on most TransPennine Express trains. To ensure this can happen, Northern have retained a dozen old Pacers and we may see one on an occasional evening trip - creating excitement for train spotters!

Overcrowding for Manchester commuters is history. A sample journey on the 8.15 revealed only 17 leaving at Piccadilly - from 6 coaches. In January, 40 might board at Dore & Totley alone. Masked passengers are currently able to select a carriage and find plenty of space. Northern day time trains are busier with leisure users. They usually have most room in the front two coaches.

Those coming to the station by car will have no difficulty finding space in the car park; the maximum number of rail users' cars seen post-COVID is still below 20 in the 129 spaces. At present we can't see it being full of rail users before 2021, although visitors to Hair Union and the Summer House are taking full advantage. SYPTe's feasibility study for more car parking may prove difficult to assess in the new circumstances.

### Generous donation by Abbeydale Rotary

Last autumn, Abbeydale Rotary Club came to meet us and asked if there was anything we needed, with planters in mind. In the good old days BC (before COVID) we saw travellers arriving by train and having to wait for Uber, City, Network or family taxis. Some may have waited half an hour or more. Fortuitously a couple had just arrived from a long way away to visit their relatives in Dore. Their timings for pickup had gone wrong and they had to wait at least 15 minutes. The seed was sown. Why don't we have a seat somewhere beside the drop off/pick up zone for such users, AND a planter?

A talk was given about the construction of Totley Tunnel and the Hope Valley line, opened 125 years previously. A project was agreed with a new teak bench to seat three with a specially constructed planter just beside the entrance. Originally, we thought it might be ready for 1st February, the 150th anniversary of the Sheffield-Chesterfield line, but it was winter. Easter became the target date. It didn't happen. VE75 day? No way, the COVID curse had struck.

FoDaTS volunteers were barred from working on the station from lockdown until 30th June. The team from Rotary were very careful.

Their plaque correctly records that pictures were taken in June - phew, that was close! Since 30th our volunteers have been able to water the planters. Sadly, Northern's rules (set by HMG) say half the bench is out of use due to social distancing guidelines, however users may have removed the tape?

A very big vote of thanks goes to the Abbeydale Rotary Club and all their members who generously supported this project.

### Station surroundings

It's now five years since FoDaTS was established. From the start we struggled to discover what Northern was supposed to maintain on the platform and around the car park. Eventually we were given a specification set by Northern when it was a Serco and Abellio joint venture. The work was sub-contracted to ISS but wasn't being fully

done. The franchise transferred over to the Arriva group. At first ISS continued but after a few months the contract went to Capita - who went bust. ISS were asked to come back. Along the way the specification was totally overlooked. The chap responsible for doing the work appears to have thought the grass and hedge along Abbeydale Road South were the responsibility of the council. They're not.

In March, Northern finally confirmed that it was their responsibility and was covered under the terms of their contract with ISS. The grass and hedging was cut. Then COVID struck and it was

considered non-essential work, but a second monthly cut has now happened. Watch that space.

From March until 30th June volunteers were forbidden to do any work on the station. Even now, only two of us are allowed to do very strictly prescribed duties, taking full COVID safety precautions. The planters have been refreshed, but the red, white and blue displays intended to commemorate VE75 and VJ75 didn't happen.

### Hope Valley Capacity Improvement Scheme

The latest information we've received from Network Rail about the redoubling and second platform says: "the contract for design and build is out to tender - the information went out in January, with response received last month (May). We've been evaluating the four bids and are now at the stage of clarification/questioning of the tenders. All this is with a view to letting the contract at the end of this calendar year. At this stage we are not undertaking any further design works on the station - it won't be until the first quarter of next year that we might do that." And "All being well, we hope to have finance approved in September or October, though our programme could accommodate that being as late as December."

This should mean work could start by Spring 2022 with completion by late Autumn 2023. That may not be in time for new services to be introduced in December 2023 (the aim) but hopefully by May 2024. Reliability of all services should improve as soon as it is complete. Who knows, it could even be finished ahead of these dates but still a long time after 2018 as suggested in the public consultations.

Network Rail's surveyors have checked the propped-up canopy and an extra support midway along is being installed.

### Restoring Millhouses and Heeley stations

The Restoring Your Railway Fund was announced late last year and immediately taken to mean restoring lots of Beeching era cuts of branch lines and stations. Dore & Totley may not fit into that





It's all very strange. No concerts or shows to publicise, but the Society does have some very sad news. In the last edition I reported on the loss of Ken Jones's wife and now I have another loss I am so sad to report. It is that of Jenny Bland (left). She was a pillar of strength in everything she did. She was a very talented lady who worked with me to set up The Troubadores, the concert party arm of Dore G & S society. We set it up so that those talented performers who did not get a principal role in a show had an outlet for their skills. It served several purposes; it helped the society to hang onto these people until the next set of auditions, it gave us a focus during the period between shows and has helped to raise several thousand pounds for a variety of charities including St Luke's, The Helen's Trust, Barnado's, The Children's Society and supported many church funds. The Troubadores would not have existed without Jenny who was well known in Dore and Totley, having lived with her three lovely daughters for many years on Causeway Head Road and later on the corner of Glover Road, Totley Rise, once the girls had flown the nest. She was also vice chairman of the Society for many years.

She set up a project called The History Van which visited schools with interactive teaching of history, and which is now run by another G&S member, Kathryn Parkin. Jenny died of Motor Neurone Disease, a devastating illness but she never gave up fighting it and was active and supported many activities as well as Gilbert and Sullivan societies until the disease won. We will all miss her very much. Jenny is not the only friend who has died of MND. Her funeral was an unusual affair in that we could not attend in person but there was a webcam feed from the crematorium which we plugged into, so were virtual attendees. It was an excellent service with her three daughters each contributing to the memories; a difficult job done extremely well. I hope a cure for MND can be found soon.

Let us hope also that a vaccine for this nasty covid19 virus is not far off so we can all get back to normality. The day that we can gather to rehearse can't come soon enough. The society's plan is to begin rehearsals in January if we are allowed, with a view to performing the show at The Merlin Theatre in April 2021. The show will be "Patience", the operetta which we were supposed to have performed this year. Fingers crossed. Until then, stay healthy, keep busy and enjoy what you can when you can.

Derek Habberjam

category because the station wasn't closed, but we did lose tracks and platforms. Other parties in Sheffield are wanting to restore services to Heeley and Millhouses.

In 1997 SYPTTE commissioned a feasibility study into opening a new station at Millhouses. In 2015 they and Sheffield City Council arranged another into reopening all four platforms at Dore. Neither happened. A station at Totley has previously been mooted. Extending the Supertram or a tram/train our way has also been suggested. A full review of the Sheaf Valley rail corridor is needed and may include a segregated cycling route. We'll take an active part in consideration of any developments.

Olivia Blake, our new MP, is very much into this but we should urge caution. Reinstatement of the old stations is only part of what's needed. There used to be four tracks from Dore into Sheffield but now there are only two. Achieving all on the wish list would require at least one but preferably two old tracks reinstating down the valley. That would cost a great deal of money and require a lot more work than some realise. That's not least because the Tesco superstore and a number of smaller units have been built on the old track bed!

Completing existing pipeline projects and preserving the facilities we still have may limit the scope for many reopenings.

### Committee and other meetings

Our AGM was due in April. It couldn't happen. We have no choice but to defer a year and combine two years in April 2021. Committee meetings used to be held at Totley Library but we're experimenting with Zoom. One blessing of the lockdown period is that we've been able to co-opt two excellent younger members to the committee, one with particular interest in overflow parking near the station, the other in increasing cycle and walking links. As we come out of lockdown we look forward to what more can be done to improve the station, its services and surroundings.

If you're a Facebook user, you can find and join us by searching for FoDaTS. It's a very active group. If you're not on Facebook and would like more information please send an email to our Secretary, Nick Barnes; [njbarnes@outlook.com](mailto:njbarnes@outlook.com). There's lots of information on our website at [www.fodats.net](http://www.fodats.net).

Chris Morgan, Chairman

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## Plans for opening the church building (as of the end of July 2020)

As all of you know, the church building has been closed from the end of March in accordance with government legislation. This act has now been repealed, so we can look at reopening the church for public worship and individual prayer. There are, however, quite a few restrictions to ensure people's safety. A lot of thought and planning needs to go into this process, and it is therefore difficult at the present time to give a definite date for opening. Additionally, on account of the ever-changing guidance from the government and the diocese, plans may change. Plans may also be amended following risk assessments by the church wardens.

The layout of the building presents physical difficulties in maintaining two metres spacing and therefore the following arrangements are planned:

- Individual private prayer: six individuals (or six households) at any one time
- Public worship: twenty individuals in total (based on individuals social distancing, with households the number may increase or decrease by a few)
- Weddings: six household groups, maximum of thirty individuals (including the vergers)
- Funerals: seven household groups, a maximum of thirty individuals

You should note that:

- At present, the wearing of face masks is requested but is voluntary (this may change according to government directives)
- Those at extra risk and 'clinically extremely vulnerable' should be advised of the risks of public worship. The decision to attend is theirs alone
- A record of attendees' details will be taken and kept for 21 days (as per government guidance)
- Hand gel will be available for people to hand sanitise, on entry and exit as a minimum
- Singing, chanting and the playing of brass or woodwind instruments are not allowed
- Communion can be held, but only the priest may drink the wine
- There can be no refreshments
- The toilet may or may not be available, and this will be part of the risk assessment done prior to opening
- People will be shown to their seats to ensure social distancing

The church will be deep cleaned before opening. All items which are difficult to clean and which are likely to have been touched repeatedly by different individuals will be removed.

To avoid the need for additional cleaning we plan to close the church building for 72 hours as a self-cleaning period, between our public services and times of individual private prayer. However, given that weddings and funerals will break into this period, we propose that the building be cleaned additionally before and after weddings, wedding rehearsals and funerals and appropriate charges levied.

We plan that the following arrangements be put in place:

- Public services to be held on Sundays at 5.30pm, alternating communion & evening prayer. To be more inclusive, one evening prayer service a month will be from the Book of Common Prayer and one from Common Worship. Due to the limited numbers, attendance will be by ticket only. Tickets will be available by telephone request. The service is open to everyone, whatever time they would normally attend.
- The church building will be open for individual private prayer on Thursdays from 12 noon to 4.30pm. Stewards will be present whilst the church is open.
- Weddings will have to take place under licence as banns cannot be read.

The church wardens will carry out risk assessments and complete action points prior to opening.

As it is our practice for baptisms to take place during the 10am Sunday services, we do not propose to reintroduce baptisms until these services recommence. Organ practice will not be allowed as this will break into the 72 hours self-cleaning process.

Collections for the food bank in the church building cannot unfortunately restart at present.

More specific information about the opening date will be communicated via the website and the church notice board as it becomes available.

The Sunday 10am virtual church service for everyone is continuing. You do not need a ticket for this! The link is available on the Christ Church Dore website ([www.dorechurch.org.uk](http://www.dorechurch.org.uk)). If you cannot access this online there is a phone number available which you can ring from a landline or mobile to enable you to listen and join in with the service at the time (0203 9572340, Pin number 123142823#). The service is recorded and is therefore available online via a link on the church website afterwards.

There is also a short virtual midweek service every Wednesday morning at 9.30am (you can join from 9.15). The link is available on the website or to join on a phone please ring 0203 9573224, Pin number 606012449#.

Let's hope and pray that we can safely return to meeting normally in the near future.

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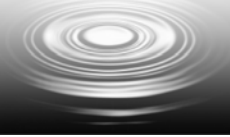
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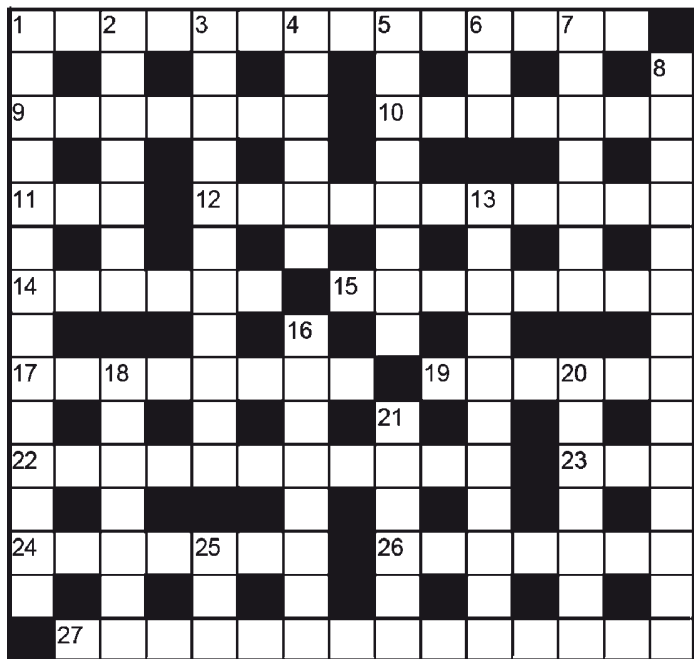
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**Across**

- 1. Excellent landlord sure to get paid with this (6,2,6)
- 9. Bitterness created when papers are retained in a financial area (7)
- 10. Strange one about deep source of supply for the runner (7)
- 11. No point to fine material classification (3)
- 12. I take refuge and I am fit and can't be classified (11)
- 14. Bug a North European (6)
- 15. On the other hand have lock reinforcement (8)
- 17. Determined alternative and condescended to the audience (8)
- 19. Revolution with working ticket (6)
- 22. Is intent on energy production for those who don't count (11)
- 23. Bore everyone in the audience (3)
- 24. Force out their limits in display (7)
- 26. Ferdinand possibly going to America would be chaotic (7)
- 27. Commercials suggest European right to come into consideration (14)

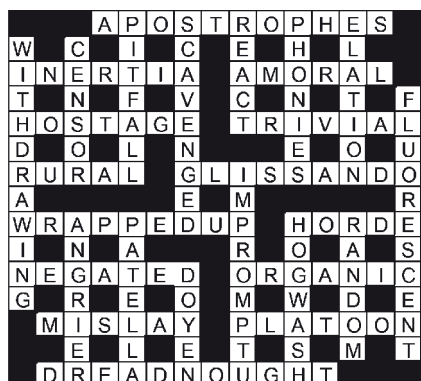
**Down**

- 1. Head bar worker needs guidance after being in front (7,7)
- 2. Mess surrounding hard intellectual (7)
- 3. Removal of crashed car in state of euphoria (11)
- 4. Circular having information about variables required for life (6)
- 5. Deduce prisoner's honest (8)
- 6. Control topless tree (3)
- 7. I belong involved but am unworthy (7)
- 8. Dispense with a loser, which is unfortunate and puts in the abstract (14)
- 13. Remote severe celestial event captured on film (6,5)
- 16. Hesitant to put note in late (8)
- 18. Indicated rising weight, in fact (7)
- 20. Greek philosopher taking on armed group (7)
- 21. Sacks that include black threads (6)
- 25. Definitely no small flower (3)

**Crossword  
compiled by  
Mavis**

**Answers will be  
published in the  
November issue**

**Solution to  
our Summer  
crossword:**



Where would we have been without our gardens, balconies and patios this Spring and Summer? The garden has been a welcome escape from being under house arrest. I'm sure it has calmed many frayed nerves and been a welcome outlet for active children. How satisfying it is to see a few seeds sprout up so quickly in all that glorious sunshine and have somewhere safe to relax in the fresh air. Had the Dore Show not been cancelled there would have been a bumper entry of exhibits this year.

Nature, it seems, has also been a beneficiary of lockdown. The Sheffield Telegraph had a photograph of a badger on Platform 3 of Sheffield Station. On my regular walks I noticed that the Blacka Moor deer had become bolder, grazing in the field opposite the Cricket Inn in broad daylight. Just round the corner there has been the first hedgehog sighting for years.

I'm pleased to report that the thrush who visited my garden in April was in fact two thrushes and they have just raised their second brood. They were clearly attracted to my garden by the plentiful supply of their favourite foods of slugs and snails, as I don't use any pesticides. It's been a collective neighbourhood effort to assist the birds. Ruby, the golden retriever donated a carrier bag of the softest fur when she had her hair cut. Filled in a peanut feeder, it was quickly teased out by small birds to line their nests. Not many people would be pleased if their neighbours threw snails and slugs into their garden but mine were encouraged to do so rather than despatching them. Another kind neighbour provided live meal worms, which you can buy from on-line bird food suppliers. My garden is now a veritable snail graveyard and I have the best display of hostas ever! The song thrush and its cousin, the mistle thrush are on conservationists' Red List of endangered UK species, indicating they have suffered over a 50% decline in the last 25 years. We're pleased that our efforts, as a small community, have helped nature. It's amazing what a difference a few changes can make.

**Looking Ahead**

We were hoping to announce the Autumn programme for the Garden Club in this edition of Dore to Door. However, with great regret, the Committee has decided to cancel Garden Club meetings for the rest of 2020. The rules on social distancing would make it impossible for all members who might wish to do so to attend a meeting in the Methodist Church Hall. We will post a new programme for 2021 just as soon as the situation allows us all to meet safely again. Necessity is the mother of invention and we may even consider holding meetings over Zoom in the future, if our guest speakers and members are willing to embrace the technology. Existing members who have paid their 2020 subscriptions will be offered free membership for next year. We hope we can look forward to welcoming existing, new members and visitors in 2021.

**Win £25 – Garden Club Logo Competition**

In anticipation of a successful relaunch in 2021, we are inviting entrants to design us a new Dore Garden Club logo. Our existing logo was designed by school pupil Harriet Ward to coincide with the launch of the Club, so over twelve years ago. The logo will be used on our annual programme and notices. The winning design should be capable of being scaled up or down in size. It could be black and white or in colour and should include the words "Dore Garden Club". The annual programme is quite small, in portrait format and is 8cm x 12.5cm high. Our notices and posters are either A4 or A5 size. Entries are welcome from adults and children and can be produced free-hand or using graphics software in your choice of media. Entries will be judged by the Club Committee and the winner will have the choice of a £25 garden voucher or a £25 book/gift voucher. Please email your entry to paulinedris@aol.com with your name and contact details. The deadline for submissions is 15th November and the winner will be announced in a future edition of Dore to Door.

**Pauline Drissell**

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### The online shop - part one

Logging on with bated breath  
 Think I won't survive this stress  
 Click and collect, or home deliver?  
 Which to choose puts me in a dither,  
 Decision made, a flash of blue  
 A few slots left, can this be true?  
 There's late at night, or early on...  
 Pick one quick, they'll soon be gone,  
 Lucky to have any choice at all  
 Need to decide; time to make a call...  
 Pressing the button, my finger shook  
 Spins around... spins around... spins around... it's booked!  
 The joy! The relief! I've nailed a slot!  
 The fruitless attempts are all forgot  
 Can't believe it; I'm so delighted...  
 and proud, like Captain Tom (now knighted)  
 Don't get carried away I hear myself shout  
 Last time, so smug, you forgot to check out!  
 The website might not have what you ask it...  
 So start the search now; get your shopping in the basket.

### Part two

Grandpa's written his list on a scrap  
 Small loaf of bread, two tins of evap  
 Cheesy biscuits and a tin of red salmon  
 Brioche buns and a nice bit of gammon,  
 Instant mash and chunky chips  
 Seedless grapes, sweet ones, no pips!  
 Filtered milk, cos they say it lasts longer  
 Yorkshire tea (it brews that bit stronger),  
 Cheddar cheese and a bottle of stout  
 A tin of dried milk (in case he runs out)  
 "A ready meal, nothing spicy or adventurous;  
 A tube of that cream, to fix up me dentures",  
 A punnet of peaches, ready to eat  
 Jaffas and mini rolls, a teatime treat  
 Supermarket frosties, or some of the other  
 Packet of sweeteners; (he's cutting down on sugar),  
 Jar of pickled onions, beetroot too  
 Peanut butter... and some rolls for the loo,  
 "If I think of owt else, can I give you a shout?  
 And love, thanks for doing this, now I can't go out".

### Not many people know that...

Send your obscure and interesting facts about our village to [editor@doretodoor.co.uk](mailto:editor@doretodoor.co.uk)

Kerwin (as in the street names) is thought to have been derived from the names of two people who owned the surrounding land on which the houses are built, Messrs Kershaw and Winstone. Construction of the houses began in about 1950 and was completed in 1957. (credit: A to W of Dore, published by the Dore Village Society.)

The name of our Indian Brasserie, Almas, is usually pronounced as in Alma's (ie. something belonging to, or associated with, Alma). The correct pronunciation emphasises the s and sounds as if it's spelled Almass.

Almas has its origins in Persian and translates as diamond. It was originally used as a name for girls, and later incorporated into Arabic and Hindi. It now occurs in both Muslim and Hindu communities, and is also used as a gender neutral child's name for both girls and boys.

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 MARTYN FOSTER ELECTRICAL DOMESTIC INSTALLER

Well, it has been a weird few months we have been living through! I hope that you are all getting through this pandemic as best you can. As a result of the lockdown, the opportunities for eating out were reduced to zero until about ten days before our deadline. As a result, and in order to give me time produce an article, it was suggested by our esteemed Editor that I turn things around and provide some of my own recipes rather than critique someone else's!

The other criterion that was suggested was that all the ingredients should be readily available locally. As a result, I have put together a dinner party menu to serve six, together with pictures to assist with the process. I hope and believe it is easy enough for everyone to try. And I hope you enjoy it, both cooking and eating!

Hendo Nagasaki

### Menu

#### Posh Cottage Pie with Leek in Cream and White Wine

A traditional cottage pie mince topped with Dauphinoise potato gratin and served with leeks in cream and white wine

#### Saffron Risotto with Pan Fried Cod and Chorizo Crumb

A subtle saffron flavoured creamy risotto with a pan fried cod fillet, topped with crispy chorizo crumb

or, a slight variation:

#### Saffron and Seafood Risotto with Chorizo Crumb

A subtle saffron flavoured creamy risotto with seafood, topped with crispy chorizo crumb

#### Pear and Amaretto Frangipane Tart

with Raspberry Coulis and Vanilla Ice-Cream

A slightly boozy light pear and almond tart with crumbly sweet pastry, served with a tart coulis and refreshing ice-cream

#### Starter ingredients:

##### For the mince:

300g minced beef  
1 medium onion  
1 medium carrot  
1 celery stick  
2 garlic cloves  
1 tbsp chopped fresh parsley  
1 tbsp fresh thyme  
2 tbsp Hendersons Relish  
2 tbsp tomato puree  
200ml beef stock  
Olive oil  
Salt and pepper to season

##### For the Dauphinoise potato:

300g waxy potatoes  
100ml semi-skimmed milk  
100ml double cream  
2 sprigs fresh thyme  
6 black peppercorns  
2 cloves of garlic  
2 bay leaves

150g grated mature cheddar  
Salt and pepper

##### For the leeks:

2 leeks  
Unsalted butter  
75ml double cream  
125ml dry white wine  
1 tsp English or Dijon mustard  
Salt and pepper

##### Starter method:

Finely chop the onion, carrot and celery and add to the olive oil on a medium heat. Crush the garlic using the flat of a knife and finely chop. Add to the pan and gently cook until onion is almost transparent and softened but not coloured.

Turn the heat up and add the minced beef, stirring in until browned. Stir in the beef stock, tomato puree and Hendo's and turn down to a gentle simmer. Add seasoning to taste. Simmer for a minimum of 30 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the liquid has reduced to a thick gravy.

While the mince is simmering, pre-heat an oven to 180°C fan (200°C conventional). Peel and thinly slice the potatoes. Ideally, use a mandoline or the slicing attachment on a food processor to achieve slices around 2-3mm thick. Alternatively, carefully slice with a sharp knife as thinly as possible. Rinse the potatoes in cold water and drain. Dry with kitchen towel and set to one side.

Gently crush the garlic cloves and add them to a pan with the milk, cream, thyme, peppercorns and bay leaves. Bring to a gentle boil, then reduce the heat to a gentle simmer for 8-10 minutes. Butter a high sided baking dish and layer one third of the potatoes in the bottom. Remove the milk/cream from the heat and strain through a sieve into a jug. Pour about a quarter of the liquid over the potatoes, season and then sprinkle one third of the cheese on top. Repeat with another layer of potatoes, another quarter of the liquid and more cheese. When the last of the potato is in the dish, slowly pour over the remainder of the liquid allowing it to fill any gaps between the potato slices and finish with salt and pepper and the remainder of the cheese. Place the baking dish on a tray on the middle shelf of the oven and bake for 45-50 minutes until the potatoes are soft to a knife and the cheese is melted and nicely browning. Remove from the oven and allow to rest for 10-15 minutes.

Finely slice the leek and put in a saucepan with a decent knob of butter and add a pinch of salt and a couple of twists of pepper. Soften over a low heat until the leek is soft but not coloured. Stir in the mustard then add the wine and reduce until the alcohol has boiled away. Add the cream and simmer for another 2 to 3 minutes and remove from the heat.

##### Main Course ingredients:

##### For the risotto:

400g Carnaroli risotto rice  
1 medium onion  
2 celery sticks  
2 garlic cloves



2 tsp saffron strands  
1 tsp paprika  
900ml fish stock  
Olive oil  
Unsalted butter  
Juice of one lemon (approx. 75 ml)  
100g grated parmesan  
Salt and pepper to season

#### For the Cod:

6 cod fillets or cod loins  
Unsalted butter  
Salt and pepper  
Lemon juice  
100g Chorizo

#### Main course method:

Finely chop the onion, celery and garlic. Add a decent knob of butter and a glug of olive oil to a high sided pan on a medium heat. When the butter has melted, add the onion, garlic and celery and stir in the saffron and paprika. Add a pinch of salt and a couple of grinds of pepper. Keep the stock warm in a pan on a low heat.

When the onions are nicely softened and just about transparent, add the rice and stir so all the ingredients are fully mixed. Stir for about 5 minutes and then add the wine. Stir continuously to release the starch from the rice. When the alcohol has evaporated from the wine and there is a creamy looking liquid remaining, add a ladle of stock to the rice and stir through. Keep stirring and add more stock as it is incorporated into the rice. You should do this four or five times and have a ladle left over. At this point the rice should be *al dente*. Turn the heat up and add the remainder of the stock. Keep stirring until the liquid is boiling, then turn the heat off completely. Add the grated parmesan, a knob of butter and the lemon juice and season to taste. Cover the pan and leave for 10 minutes.

While the risotto is resting, heat up some butter in a pan. Dry the cod on kitchen paper and season. Place the fillets in the pan (skin side down if the skin is on) and cook for 2-3 minutes until the fish is turning golden, and turn over. Cook for another minute before adding about a tablespoon of lemon juice per fillet and cooking for another 2 minutes. Cod loins are generally thicker than fillets, so will need a little longer per side.

Slice the chorizo and add to a hot non-stick pan with no oil. Cook on a medium-high heat until it starts crisping up. Remove onto some kitchen paper and pat dry. Remove any oil from the pan and return the chorizo for a few more minutes. Remove onto fresh kitchen paper to cool and dry. When cool, chop finely into crumbs.

Spoon risotto into a bowl, place cod on top and sprinkle chorizo crumb over the top.

**Alternative:** Rather than cod, you can add seafood to the risotto. Add 500g of cooked, mixed seafood (usually squid, prawns and mussels) to the risotto prior to the last but one ladle of stock. Stir through to ensure it warms gently and complete the recipe.

#### Dessert ingredients:

##### For the pastry:

225g plain flour

Pinch of salt  
175g unsalted butter, chilled and diced  
115g caster sugar  
2 egg yolks  
1 tsp vanilla extract

##### For the filling:

225g blanched flaked Almonds  
225g unsalted butter, softened  
225g caster sugar  
3 eggs, beaten  
2 tbsp amaretto (almond liqueur)  
5 Cornice pears

##### For the coulis:

150g fresh raspberries  
1 tbsp caster sugar  
150ml boiling water

#### Dessert method:

First make the pastry. In a food processor pulse the flour, salt, butter and sugar until the mixture is coarsely combined. Add the egg yolks and vanilla and pulse until the mixture combines evenly and leaves the sides of the bowl. Wrap in cling film and chill in the fridge for at least an hour until hard.

Pre-heat the oven to 180° C fan (200° C conventional). If you prefer to roll the pastry, take it out of the fridge about 10 minutes before use as it will be a little too hard to roll straight away. Roll between two pieces of cling film. I prefer to coarsely grate this pastry rather than roll it as this method seems to give a lighter texture. Either way, grated or rolled, place the pastry into a 30cm-loose bottomed, fluted flan tin and then press it evenly onto the sides and base of the tin. Cover the pastry with foil or greaseproof paper cut to fit and weight it down with baking beans or other suitable weight. Bake the pastry 'blind' for 15 minutes then remove the beans and greaseproof paper and bake for a further 5-10 minutes until lightly golden. Remove from the oven and allow to cool. Reduce the oven temperature to 160°C.

Meanwhile, make the filling. Cream the butter and sugar in a food processor until the mixture is pale. Add the almonds and continue to mix into a smooth paste. Add the eggs and amaretto and pulse until everything is evenly incorporated.

Peel and core the pears, cut in halves or quarters and place, cut side down in the pastry case. Cover with the frangipane mixture and bake for 50-60 minutes until golden brown and lightly set. Can be served warm or cold.

For the coulis, put the boiling water into a pan on a low heat and add the sugar. Stir until fully dissolved and add the raspberries. Gently simmer for 20-30 minutes while squishing the raspberries with the back of a wooden spoon. Strain the liquid to remove the remaining skin and seeds of the raspberries and return the smooth liquid to a pan. Simmer until the coulis is reduced to a point where it will coat the back of a spoon. Cool and then chill in the fridge.

Serve tart with a desert spoon of coulis and vanilla ice cream or double cream.



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### It's Never Been Better To Be Back

The writing of this edition's Brunsmeer column (in mid-July) coincided with the publication of a set of new guidelines from the FA, which – joy of joys – contained the long awaited, 'Timetable For The Return of Competitive Grassroots Football.'

Surely not since Harry Potter's first day at Hogwarts has a timetable been greeted with so much enthusiasm. Whereas, like many, I have been immersing myself in Premiership, Championship and (yes even) Bundesliga action on a daily basis, these are mere shadowplay when compared to the visceral thrill of playing actual football for your own team that has been desperately absent from our lives over the past six months.

Even those of you less excited for the return of grassroots football can surely still take heart from the fact that this announcement heralds a welcome return to 'precedented' times.

I miss the thunder. I miss the rain. But most of all I missprecedented times. In fact, I've even grown mildly nostalgic for 9am kick-offs on the other side of Barnsley. Say what you like about them – and God knows I have – at least they got me out of the house. With any luck you may be even be reading this sitting in a café, coffee in hand before heading off to take in a match at The Meadway (and thereby playing your own small part in the V-shaped recovery of the hospitality sector).

There's still a lot of work to do before that happens, but we can at least start to look forward with confidence. From a coach's perspective, beating a pathway for the return of football has been challenging. Running a meaningful and engaging training session for socially distanced bubbles of five players – who aren't allowed to tackle, or handle the ball or any training equipment, or travel to and from training together, when all the sports facilities are closed – has certainly demanded a great deal of creativity. It was a bit like trying to make a pizza without any cheese. Or tomatoes. Or an oven.

Although contact has now literally resumed, there remains the small logistical matter of safely squeezing twenty-four teams onto

four pitches every weekend.

There's a 'new normal' to get used to: disinfected footballs, masked spectators in socially-distanced bubbles of six, locked changing rooms, signs saying 'no more than two in the butty hut', last minute goals celebrated alone. Putting on a match is going to be challenging. Putting on twelve every week is going to be a bit like trying to make twelve pizzas...

But I'm getting ahead of myself. Take it one game at a time. That said, if you've read this far hopefully a middle-aged man in a Brunsmeer tracksuit has already been spotted doing a one-man conga round the streets of Dore in celebration of his team's last minute winner!

### Richard Foster Memorial



Richard Foster, one of Brunsmeer's founder members, sadly passed away on Friday 27th March. His enthusiasm for the club he started never diminished and he was regularly in contact with us to catch up and see how things were going, even when his active participation came to an end. We have planted a tree at The Meadway in his honour and will be holding a small socially distanced memorial gathering at The Meadway on Sunday 16th August to celebrate his life.

Steve McKevitt

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## Virtual Excavating

At this time of year, the Time Travellers Archaeological Group would normally have been very active – walks, talks, trips and especially, excavating at a number of exciting sites in and around our local area. All these have been put on hold until the situation changes for the better.

As those of you who are members and live in the Dore area will know we have tried to keep archaeological enthusiasm going with quizzes, cartoons, mystery object identification and, of course, pointing out that there have been some marvellous archaeological themed TV programmes on 'the box'.

But there is nothing like 'mud on hands and trowel out' for a bit of a dig!

So when one of our members asked for help in dating and identifying what she was digging up on her allotment this might be a great way for you and your children to occupy your summer gardening time, and increase our understanding of what has happened in our area over time.

Kathy Keron sent in this photo of recent finds from her allotment in North Sheffield. Many of you will have been closely inspecting the surface layers of your gardens and allotments recently and it is quite likely you are spotting something similar. You may have already wondered what the little white fragments of clay are. Why are you unearthing so many old looking pieces of pottery? You



could set up a proper archaeological test pit. Dig a one metre by one metre test pit in a promising part of your garden. It needs to be as deep as to when it hits bedrock... or feels unsafe! Luckily in Dore bedrock is quite close to the surface. Close to dry stone walls can also be rewarding. Once examined, care does need to be taken that you replace the soil removed in the same order you took

it out. Adult supervision is obviously required if you have children involved.

This is pint-size archaeology! The white clay fragments are pieces of broken clay pipe. They can tell us so much. You can do the first dating bit very easily. Kathy seems to have pipe stems of various dates. The oldest pipe stems will be rough textured, quite large and with a large hole in the middle. These date from 1700 onwards to about 1800. By 1800 the stems are thinner and smoother, but the hole is asymmetrical: 1800s to 1850s. After 1850 mechanisation was happening and the hole becomes perfectly central.

If you find any bowls then they too give a clue as to age. Very small, rounded bowls are very early – when tobacco was expensive. The patterns can also be used to fine tune your dating. Certain patterns have a very short time frame. Look out for any stems or bowls with a small Cross of Lorraine. This was the Sheffield mark.

There are lots of articles on the internet that will allow you to date your finds more closely.

What about the black stem? It is a clay pipe stem, not a Victorian slate pencil which would not have a hole. Any of your stems that appear either blackened or reddened may be from a pub where pipes filled with tobacco were available to customers. At the end of the evening the stems would be put in the dying embers of the fire to disinfect them ready for the next day.

Kathy found these on her allotment, hence the discovery of pieces of Victorian pottery. But if your house is either Victorian in age or a more modern build on a former bigger house then you too will expect to find both clay pipes and broken pottery. Rather than being the result of heavy smoking and careless crockery use, they are evidence that material from the middens of Sheffield had been used on these allotments and dug into gardens. Broken pottery was used as a soil texture lightener and, unfortunately, many of the clay pipe fragments will have arrived along with the night soil collectors bringing human ordure to use as fertiliser.

Allotments all over Sheffield often have mother of pearl fragments, introduced for their calcium content. The original source is from the pearl handle making of the cutlery industry from which off-cuts were then used in the pearl button industry. Sometimes the outline shape of the button can still be seen.

So, what can you share with us? We would be happy to look at any of your finds and try to tell you more about what you have unearthed. Of course, it is perfectly possible that you might find something much earlier. Maybe a coin? Or even a hoard of coins? Dore has been an area continuously settled since prehistoric times. There is an Iron Age fort in Ecclesall Woods, the Romans were very busy in the area round Whirlow Hall Farm and as the stone on the Green tells us, Dore marks the time when England became one country.

If you do unearth something amazing you are obliged to contact the Portable Antiquities Scheme. (<https://finds.org.uk/>)

Happy excavating!

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## Recreation Ground Rejuvenation Project

The last several months have been a strange old time and it seems like ages ago since my last article in the Spring edition of Dore to Door. Even though Sheffield playgrounds are still currently closed, local outdoor spaces and parks have proved particularly important for people's physical and mental wellbeing during these peculiar times. I hope the increased use of park land will reinforce the need for rejuvenation and improvements at Dore recreation ground for the benefit of all users. With playgrounds in Sheffield hopefully reopening soon (they may even be open by the time this article is published), I thought I'd better give you an update on what's been happening in relation to this project.

As you may be aware from my previous article, our Pocket Parks funding application was submitted at the end of 2019. This funding would have enabled us to remove, resurface and replace over a third of the current playground with more modern play equipment better suited to a wider age range of children and with increased access for less able users. Unfortunately, on this occasion our application was unsuccessful.

Then the pandemic hit, we all had to go into lockdown and it forced More in Dore to cancel the three events we had already planned for this year – the community litter pick and planting event in March, 'Grasp Life By The Handlebars' a charity cycling event we had planned during British cycling week in June, and 'The Dore Dozen' our 12K fundraising fell race in July. These events would have helped increase community awareness of More in Dore and we were hoping to raise some funds towards a new playground. Over the last couple of months, we have continued conversations with the council and Dore Primary School and are hoping to be able to organise a similar community planting event some time in November or March next year if restrictions allow. The other two events we are hoping to make annual in order to bring in ongoing funding towards maintenance and improvements at the recreation ground, fingers crossed these events can go ahead on similar dates in 2021.

Current restrictions mean it is hard to plan new events that involve public gatherings, so I started looking into other ways we could organise fun community events that would also help raise some money towards this project. One of the ideas we are currently making into a fundraising event is an online comedy show. I feel after the last several months we could all do with a bit of light-hearted entertainment and if we can raise a bit of money for the playground in the process, that's a bonus! The format will be similar to a Zoom meeting, but you'll pay to get log on details. It will be broadcast live on the evening and we reckon will run for about an hour or so. There will be 10-15 places up for grabs on 'the front row' who will be able to interact with the comedians and entertainers, plus a further 500 places on a 'view only' basis. James Gill from Always Be Comedy has very kindly offered to let us use his online platform and ticket sales for free. We have amazingly secured comedians (and keen fundraisers) Jon Richardson and his wife Lucy to host the evening for us and are hoping to have confirmation on other acts very soon. The proposed time and date is 8.30pm on either Friday 25th or

Saturday 26th September. We are in need of some pre-recorded videos (ideally from local personalities and celebrities) that can be used in between acts. Also, we could do with sponsorship from local businesses for this event, in return we may be able to get Jon and Lucy to give you a mention on the night. Whilst we are promoting this as a local community event, the tickets will be available through Always Be Comedy's normal ticket page on their website so we may have viewers tuning in nationwide or even globally! For either sponsorship or video submission, please contact us on the email address below. Once I have further confirmation as to dates and times, we will update you all via notice boards around Dore, on the Dore and Totley Community Facebook page and our website.

We have a current funding application going through with Aviva Community Fund. This is a crowdfunding based scheme that will open to the public on 26th August for donations. From 2nd September Aviva release a £250,000 pot of money and then Aviva staff are able to vote for the cause they want to have a share of it (my wife works for Aviva, so may be able to promote us a bit). Through this scheme it is possible we may also be eligible for additional funding through Sports England initiatives. We have passed the schemes approval process and are currently creating our crowdfunding page for when it all goes live in August. When complete I will add a link to the More in Dore website and post details on the Dore and Totley Facebook site so keep your eyes peeled for that and please, please donate.

Finally, as we are only a small group, in order to plan these along with future events we require a bit of extra help. In particular, we need more members to join and actively help with funding applications, event planning, website and social media feeds.

If you would like to join us please get in contact:

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## How your Personality affects your Performance

Judging from the deserted station car park this Spring it seems that many Dore residents have been delivering “business as usual” from a home base over the past few months.

Although people are over the initial shock of the sudden change by now, it is worth considering the fact that some people will have adapted to working from home more quickly than others, simply because of differences in personality. The Myers Briggs Indicator (MBTI), a personality questionnaire I’ve worked with for over 20 years, provides us with some helpful insights and explanations. The MBTI sifts and sorts people into 16 personality types based on four sets of preferences: how they derive their energy, how they take in information, how they come to decisions and how they like to implement things. The result is a set of four letters which best describe you as an individual and the characteristics you share with other people of the same type.

The first pair of MBTI preferences are Extroversion (E) and Introversion (I). In MBTI-speak, they indicate how people derive their energy. I’m going to concentrate on this pairing, because it has an impact on how workers maintain their motivation and focus during lockdown. I’ll describe some of the characteristics of introverts and extroverts and provide some pointers about managing yourself and working remotely with team members. There are also some pointers for managers who undoubtedly will have both extroverts and introverts in their team.

You can make an educated guess about your own or other people’s preferences, even if you’ve never been near the MBTI, just by observing how they “operate”. Put simply, extroverts appear to be the noisier, gregarious ones, and introverts the quieter ones who may appear a little reserved or shy.

### Introverts

On the face of it, if you have an introverted preference you would appear to adapt to home working more quickly than your extroverted colleagues. In fact, in some ways you may welcome a move to a home office where you have more control over your working environment. You’ll probably enjoy having a quiet, dedicated space at home for concentration. Fewer distractions enable you to become really absorbed in what you’re doing.

If you’re an introvert, you’ll probably like to think deeply about ideas. For that reason, you’d appreciate having an agenda in advance of virtual meetings so you can think about things beforehand. You’re rarely the first to put your point across in team meetings; your noisier extrovert colleagues will normally beat you to it.

You can become deeply involved in a project without interruptions and may be quite content to work alone for extended periods of time. You’ll also prefer communicating in writing as you like to marshal your thoughts clearly and you’ll learn by reading. It’s not that introverts, like you, dislike people contact; they just are less reliant on it to maintain their motivation. Many an introvert feels they are more focussed and efficient working from home away from the hustle and bustle of office life.

Consider these pointers to be more effective:

- If you’re an introvert, it doesn’t mean you’re a social recluse. Because you’re human you still have a need for interaction with others, just not as much as extroverts. Particularly if you live and work alone make sure to plan some people time with friends and family or your network.
- Work is important so impress on others in your home the need to respect your work boundaries and not to disturb you while you’re working. Establish some set hours so others in the household know when you are and are not available.
- Create a workspace where you can concentrate, be it in an outhouse, garage or other room.
- You won’t be overly distracted by music so select your playlist; it will help you get in the zone.
- After all that concentration and sitting in a chair which isn’t

really designed for prolonged office use anyway, get moving, stretch, jump up and down, enjoy music and podcasts, read, do a jigsaw and pamper yourself!

If you’re managing an introvert, be sure to ask them for their opinions in meetings and ask them how best to communicate with them. Allow them time to think about things and really listen to their views as you can be sure they will have given them considerable consideration before airing them clearly and concisely.

### Extroverts

If you have an extroverted preference you may have already been feeling the pressure of not going out to connect with friends. Everyone misses contact with their colleagues but especially you, because you are energised by office banter and interactions with others. You tend to think “aloud”, formulating your ideas and views as you speak, so you need other people to help you generate your best ideas.

You tend to need action and variety to feel motivated. As such you can bring considerable energy to projects, once harnessed. You tend to work in bursts of activity. You can, however, be easily distracted by more interesting things. You’ll probably have lots of plates spinning, moving between various tasks, rather than spending a long time on one thing. Looking back to the days in the real office, you were the one who was physically moving around the place a lot more than your introverted colleagues.

You may take some time to settle to a long or slow task and will welcome the distraction of the telephone ringing (oh good, someone to talk to!) or ping, a new email arriving. You probably prefer to communicate by speaking rather than sending emails or writing long reports. Deprive you of contact with people and life suddenly becomes more stressful for the extrovert and your mood and productivity may suffer.

Consider these pointers to be more effective:

- Work with a clear desk – clutter will distract you and make you feel less organised.
- Avoid procrastination - establish the key things you need to achieve the night before and focus on completing them the next day. Ticking something off your “to do list” gives extroverts a sense of achievement.
- Create some structure – set your working hours and take breaks at set times. Finish work at a set time. Don’t fall into the trap of allowing work to fill the available space or you will become inefficient and tired.
- Take regular short breaks to move around. Use your previous commuting time to go for a walk or run before you start work.
- Meet for a virtual lunch with a colleague or friend, or have lunch together with other family members.
- Try and resist the tendency to react to the arrival of each and every email or ping of a text – silence alerts.

If you’re managing an extrovert, talk to them more than you might normally, ask them how they’re getting on; it will keep them motivated and performing.

Bear in mind that stress (and there’s plenty of it around) can make people, whatever their personality type, act out of character, for example extroverts may withdraw. In this climate of uncertainty and generalised anxiety, managers and leaders need to strike the right balance between the well-being of the individuals in their team and the task. For managers, you need to work out your own preferred way of working and adapt it to the needs of your team. Above all, be a good listener. For workers, your MBTI type is not an excuse for not doing something.

Work is important and adopting some of the tips here will help you be more focussed and efficient, to survive and thrive, especially if a second wave occurs or working from home is part of your “new normal”. A recent survey suggests that 30% of those working from home during lockdown wish to remain doing so. I wonder if they will be the introverts or extroverts?

**Pauline Drissell**

### “We were never meant to escape”

Sergeant Alf Sheppard joined 366 Battery of 92nd (5th London) Field Regiment of the Territorial Army in 1932. He followed in the footsteps of his father, who had been a driver in the Royal Artillery in the First World War. 366 Battery was separated off 92nd together with 367 Battery, to form the new 140th (5th London) Field Regiment in May 1939. Early in his service, Alf was awarded a cup inscribed “First Gun Layer, 366 Battery”.

The website <http://140th-field-regiment-ra-1940.co.uk/dursley-to-france/> wonderfully documents the regiment's deployment to France and Belgium, and the devastating rearguard action at Cassel near Dunkirk where all but a handful of 367 Battery were killed or captured. A photograph shows Alf as a Sergeant in C Troop of 366 Battery in early 1940 at Dursley, shortly before the regiment departed for France. However, his personal recounting suggests that he must have been posted to 367 battery in the field, as his recounting exactly matches those of 367 Battery at Cassel rather than that of 366 Battery. Alf remained through the rest of his life quite bitter at having “drawn the short straw”, to defend the route to Dunkirk, losing so many of his battery mates, rather than be evacuated. “We were never meant to escape” he said – but escape, he did. He evaded capture by the Germans, and hid in the basement of a house with two other soldiers. They remained hidden there for three days, then, under cover of night, the three soldiers dodged German patrols and crept to the beach carrying a one-person collapsible canoe that they'd found in the basement. They paddled into the English Channel, days after the Dunkirk evacuation was over, and luckily were picked up by a fishing boat.



A month later, in early July 1940, he married Joan Dugdell of Brickhouse Lane in Dore, while posted with the Regiment at Worksop.

In January 1941, at Bournemouth, 140th Field Regiment formed a new 504 Battery. Alf joined other France survivors in building up the new battery, reequipping with the 25 pounder gun. They sailed from Greenock to Algiers in January 1943, going into action under V Corps at the Bou Arada – Medjez-el-Bab line in Tunisia.

In September 1943, 504 battery was moved to the 75th (Highland) Heavy Regiment, converting to the heavy role by reequipping with the BL 7.2-inch howitzer. They sailed from Philippeville (Now Skikda), Algeria, to Naples in March 1944, and went into action at Cassino as part of 6th AGRA.

In early September 1944, Alf was wounded while fighting North East of Florence, in the advance on the Gothic Line. He was first shot in the hand losing three fingers, then the aid station where he was being treated came under mortar bombardment, during which he subsequently lost a big toe. After he recovered, he was assigned to processing German Prisoners of War.

Alf recounted that he was a big fan of the Bren Gun and especially the Bren Carriers, which had been put to effective use supporting troops at Cassel. But most of all, he loved his Tommy Gun. After demobilization, he settled with his wife Joan at Brickhouse Lane. Although his war injuries would continue to cause him pain, he returned to his pre-war profession as a plumber. Alf died in 1986, and Joan in 2011. His daughter Marcia still lives in the house at Brickhouse Lane, which Joan's father bought in 1926.

**By Alf's proud Grandson, Simon (USA).**

### Dore Rover riders

Dear Dore to Door,

Good evening, my name is Howard Jones and I am writing a book on the history of The Rover Tourers 1934 to 1948. I have come across several references to The Jennings family who were living at Ashfurlong House, Dore in the 1940s and 1950s. Herman Jennings was a company owner and also a director of The Rover Company. His wife was Gertrude Jennings and I believe they are both buried in the local churchyard. There was also a Miss Margaret Jennings who drove Rover Cars in many rallies during the 1930s including the RAC Rally and Royal Scottish Rally. She also gave her address as Ashfurlong House, Dore (does the house still exist I wonder) I also wonder if you might have any details of the connection between Herman Jennings and Miss Margaret Jennings as I understand Herman and Gertrude had no children? I would be very keen to speak to any decedents of Miss Margaret Jennings as she was such a prolific rally driver in the 1930s.

Any help would be much appreciated.

**Howard Jones**

Well, Howard, we passed your letter to Dorne Coggins and our Archives Team, who came up with some interesting information.

The first thing was this photo, which is on Picture Sheffield ([pictur Sheffield.com](http://pictur Sheffield.com)) and shows “Mr and Mrs Jennings on their motorcycle outside Townhead Street Flats” (in Sheffield City centre). There is no exact date, but it is recorded as being some time between 1920 and 1939 which would be about right. Picture Sheffield doesn't record the type of motorcycle either, but to my untrained eye it looks very like a 1913 Rover 3-speed; what do you think?

Dorne goes on: “Your source hasn't quite got things right though. Herman and his wife Gertrude lived at 46 Dore Road, then later 60 Dore Road. That house was Newstead. They had two daughters -



Dora and Margaret. Herman's father, Edwin was a Yeast Merchant which is what Herman started as, before moving on to Egg and Butter importing and ultimately Egg and Produce. The business was based at Pear Street.

Margaret was later to join her father in the business.

We believe that Herman's link to the Rover directorship was not as your correspondent believes, in Rover cars (although not disputing that Margaret may have rallied Rover cars) but rather what Rover started producing which was motor bikes.”

Herman died in 1944 and Gertrude in 1963. Margaret joined them in 1989 at the age of 82. All three are buried in Dore churchyard.

**John Eastwood**