

#### **Dore Festival 2022**

Plans are already well advanced with the preparation of Dore Festival 2022 which will run from Sunday 26th June until Sunday 10th July. We are putting together a fortnight of indoor and outdoor events which can be shared and enjoyed by our local community and their families and friends. Our programme will include many of the traditional and popular events that have been missing for two years and several new activities. We are hoping to see the return of the very popular Open Gardens so the organisers will be looking for willing participants.

The Well Dressing team are keen to create a wonderful floral picture on their new board and see the traditional well dressing service take place again on the Village Green (see also below).

The Gala committee are determined to bring back Gala Day, the family highlight of Festival Fortnight. Many other local clubs and groups have already committed themselves to organising trails, runs and races or are putting on a concert, a car show or open-air theatre. All this promises to give us a great Dore Festival in summer 2022.

Some key dates for your diary:

- Sunday 26th June Dore Open Gardens
- Sunday 3rd July Well Dressing Service
- Saturday 9th July Dore Gala

A full programme of events will be published in the summer issue of Dore to Door, on the village website and on village notice boards.

For further information please contact me:

Maureen Cope, Dore Festival Events Co-ordinator Tel: 235 0392 email: maureencope1@btinternet.com

#### Runaround

The Sheffield Half Marathon is back again this year and hopefully will take place as scheduled after cancellation and postponement over the last two years.

The date this time is Sunday 27th March, starting in the city centre at 9.30am and following the established route which brings it through Dore from about 10am. Road closures will be in place, so if you're not running or spectating, make sure that you've been out and collected your Sunday paper before it all kicks off.

Full details of the route, road closures and how to enter are on the website at *runforall.com/events/half-marathon/sheffield-half-marathon/.* 

#### Pollution on Whirlow Playing Fields, Limb Lane

We are Ecclesall Rangers Junior Football Club, organised and supervised by an enthusiastic team of fully trained F.A. managers and coaches. The priority of all these wonderful people is the safety and enjoyment of our 500 young members.

Before each match or training session can begin, Managers, Coaches and Parents walk the pitches clearing up the dangerous and appalling piles of faeces left by thoughtless dog owners and walkers. In their typical caring and good-hearted fashion, they name this abysmal routine 'crap duty'.

Presently, we have a petition running on *change.org* in order to pressure Sheffield City Council to take action to end the grave problem of dog faeces polluting children's playing fields.

The Project Officer at the Council's Sport, Leisure and Health Department is supporting our endeavours to stop this pollution.

Voting drives change.

Please vote to support our petition at *change.org* where you should search for Ecclesall Rangers. 1000 people have signed already; our target is 5000.

Thank you, in anticipation,

#### Martin Windle BEM, Chairman, Eileen Vernon, Fund Raiser

Cover: Winter sunshine on a clear day down Drury Lane. Photo by John Eastwood

#### Whirlow Brook Park

The Sheffield Parks and Countryside Service are committed to enhancing access and encouraging community use of our city's amazing green spaces. Since the group's formation in 2021, the newly constituted Friends of Whirlow Brook Park have been working closely with the Sheffield Parks and Countryside Service to develop new opportunities in Whirlow Brook Park. Together we have identified the under-utilised compound (located to the right of the upper car park, behind Whirlow Brook Hall) as a viable site for enhancement. Our intention for 2022 is to re-develop this area of the park into a thriving community and educational hub aimed at encouraging greater sustainable use of this wonderful park, while increasing access into the adjoining woodland, round walk and beyond!

Our developing plans include:

- Community-focused food and plant growing and horticultural improvements.
- Training and development opportunities.
- Small-scale retail outlet to sell produce from the site.
- Public access to the space along with seating.
- Community space.
- Access to public toilets.
- · Improved access into the Woodland behind the site.

This project also offers a collaborative and forward-thinking opportunity as it will see the coordination of three organisations all working together in the same space: Sheffield City Council, Whirlow Brook Park's Friends of Group, and a supporting third party. We hope that by coordinating our efforts, this unique project will not only enhance this underused space, but also support greater use of the whole park and woodland.

This project falls under the Sheffield City Council's Better Parks initiative. This programme aims to develop partnerships with community groups and civic-minded businesses, to explore new and exciting opportunities for both financial and social investment. Therefore, the opportunity to work in partnership with Better Parks and the newly formed Friends of Group will be taken out to market later in 2022. While Sheffield City Council will remain landowners, the successful partner will be offered an agreement for the space (subject to full planning permission) and will be required to adhere to our cross-partnership aims, goals, and methods of practice.

As plans develop and timescales are agreed we will share further updates and means of consultation via our online platforms together with the Friends of Whirlow Brook Park. If you have any questions about this project or any other Better Parks initiatives, please get in touch.

> Thea Kerwick Email: parksandcountryside@sheffield.gov.uk betterparks@sheffield.gov.uk Tel: 0114 250 0500

#### Dore village well dressing needs you!

The Dore village well dressing will, hopefully, go ahead this year. By the end of June we are hoping to feel more confident about returning to do normal things again. We hope that the regular well dressers will return to help, but we have reached the stage where we need new people to come forward to help.

If you think you might be interested please get in touch with either me on *patriciapitchfork@gmail.com* or on 07852 596812 or Barbara Jackson on *mail@barbarajackson.plus.com* or on 0114 236 0332. A meeting will be arranged shortly to decide on our subject for this year. Please look out for further information on the village notice boards.

#### 150 years of our station

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the opening of Dore and Totley railway station. The station opened on February 1st, 1872 shortly after the building of Dore Road (then Dore New Road) which was constructed to give our village direct access to the station.

At the original opening no fuss was made, and there were no brass bands or bunting laid on to mark the occasion. Only the London line through Bradway Tunnel was open at first; the completion of Totley Tunnel was still twenty years away.

Chris Morgan, Chair of FoDaTS and I have done a rough straw poll over the last couple of weeks and there does seem to be enthusiasm for doing something to mark the occasion - not on the exact date of the anniversary which we've already missed, but some time later in the year when warmer weather can be assumed. Thoughts so far extend only to a possible re-enactment, with participants in Victorian dress and the coordination with local primary schools to provide a valuable learning experience for our children and grandchildren.

There is a lot more that could be done, but we then run into the problem that nobody involved so far has the faintest idea of how to go about it. So, this is a call for volunteers. We already have people ready to wear the period dress and have a laugh for an afternoon. What is needed are people with the skills and/or contacts to make such an event happen. If you think that you can help in any way, contact Chris at *chrismorgan4@btinternet.com* and he'll organise a 'blue sky thinking' meeting to firm up what's affordable and achievable. (see also FoDaTS - pages 32-33)

#### Talk like a Tyke

If you have an interest in the English language, particularly how it's spoken in Yorkshire, then you might like to take a look at the Yorkshire Historical Dictionary. This is an online resource done under the management of York University and contains hundreds of words originating in God's Own County.

I knew the word 'aglet' (the little bit of metal or plastic at the end of a shoelace to make it easier to thread and stop it fraying) but I never realised that the word first appeared in Beverley and Wakefield in the 15th Century.

You can search for a particular word, or just scroll through the list which I find fascinating. *yorkshiredictionary.york.ac.uk/words* 

#### John Eastwood

John Eastwood

#### The Rotary Club of Sheffield Vulcan

Despite Covid limitations, the Rotary Club of Sheffield Vulcan has continued to thrive.

We have supported Food Banks by providing volunteer drivers to reach the housebound, distributing food supplies, and facilitated cash grants of £9,000.

Our local community work is varied; last year for example we acted as stewards at Whirlow Hall Farm for their Superhero Fun Day, and at Meadowhall for a Musical Drive-in in aid of the Roundabout charity (helping homeless teenagers). Further stewarding manpower was given to the Sheffield 10K Run for All.

We annually financially support a pantomime visit for a local school, have collected usable clothes for asylum seekers in need, and held bucket collections in support of local causes. In 2021, we raised over  $\pounds15,000$  for over 40 (mainly local) charities.

We seek to improve and enrich our environment in Sheffield – over the past 10 years, we have planted many thousands of young trees and spring bulbs. As part of that aim we have "adopted" Beauchief Gardens, near to the Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet. During the Autumn, we trimmed a large number of bushes and carried out general maintenance. We also continued planting crocus and daffodil bulbs, so look out this Spring for a wealth of early colour. Although this is now the quiet season, we have not stopped planning for this coming year.

The contractors working on the Hope Valley railway line improvements have offered to help improve the Gardens, and jointly

#### **Doreways News**

Slowly life is getting back to normal and if you have been able to stroll around the village you will have seen signs of spring emerging in the garden at Dore Old School. Storm Arwen struck the endmost trees at the top of the slope so their removal for safety reasons has opened up the light reaching that area to the benefit of the plants there.

Have you spotted the newest Doreways project area? Work has been progressing on the area of land adjacent to the Parish Office on Townhead Road. We are hoping that it will be ready as a celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. To that end we would very much appreciate any of the following plants that you may be able to donate.

Are you able to help please?

Doreways are planting up an area adjacent to the Dore Church Community Village Hall (where the gennel connects Townhead Road to the Meadway).

We would welcome any of the following plants if you have some to spare:

- Snowdrops
- Hardy Cyclamen (c. Hederifolium and c.coum)
- Hellebores (large seedling plants if possible)
- Bergenia
- Pulmonaria
- Primroses, primulas

#### **Ground cover**

- Ajuga reptans (variegata / purpureum)
- Stachys (lamb's ear)
- Saxifraga (London Pride, and 'cushion' types)

If you think you have something suitable and spare, but not listed above just contact us. THANK YOU

#### Jean Stevens 0114 2369156 Elaine Nichols 0114 4387169

Look out also for a return of Doreways events that have been on hold during the Covid pandemic. We are hoping that our Traditional and Modern Craft Exhibition in Dore Old School in May will go ahead, and that we will be making our usual contribution to Festival Fortnight, amongst other things.

with the Manager from Sheffield City Council (the Gardens' owners), we have been planning possible schemes to improve the structure of the Gardens by reducing the height of many of the older trees, reduce the Winter flooding risk in the low-lying parts, and upgrade the flower beds; we await a decision by the contractors on how they can help. The Gardens are open all year round, and everyone is welcome.

Rotary International spent \$3.1 million in disaster relief in 2021 and is recognised as the major driving force over the years to end the scourge of Polio, which is now almost eliminated.

Thus Rotary is not solely a local affair – world-wide there are more than one million members in fifty thousand clubs. This network allows clubs to work in harmony together, an example being Sheffield Vulcan's donation of £925 to Rotary Club in India for the provision of Personal Protection Equipment in the fight against Covid in a poor rural area.

But we're not just about helping those less fortunate than ourselves and improving the world around us; we meet (Covid permitting) in person and via Zoom to make friends, enjoy fun events, dine together with informative and inspirational figures, go walking and many other sociable events.

So, if you have a bit of spare time, like the idea of joining a group of people who, like you, want to put something back into the local and world-wide community, why not contact us via *contactus@ sheffieldvulcan.org.uk* or look at our website *www.vulcanrotary.org.uk*. Alan Brown



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2022 already? Ok, so I know you're reading this in February and you've probably got used to the fact by now, but it's still earlyish January as I write and I'm still in semishock. Where has the time gone? Does anyone else say "When we did this last year..." meaning 2020, or in the case of the last Gala, 2019? It just seems as though time is disappearing – my eldest will be 18 this year, how in the world did that happen?

#### Speaking of the Gala...

I know this isn't a DVS event, but it is the highlight of Dore Festival Fortnight and the Gala committee are in desperate need of some new blood to help move the plans along. Gala will be on the 9th of July and the committee are hoping to charge things up a bit. Plans will be more concrete by the May edition but in the meantime, if your young person is part of the Scout or Guide movement or you would like to be involved in this fantastic community event, please consider helping out. You can contact the Chair of the Gala committee via email – *doregala@icloud.com* 

#### **Christmas events**

As the last issue of Dore to Door landed on your doorstep, we were just a week or so away from the Lantern Parade. Despite the bitter cold it was a very well attended event, it seemed like the crowd of families following Santa would go on forever. The organisers and marshals did a fantastic job of closing the roads and keeping everyone safe and David 'Voice of Dore' Hayes was there, as he always is, letting everyone know what is going on and leading the singalong. The Christmas trees around the village looked great again this year. Our thanks go to the brave Christmas Tree Team who put them all up in the snow the week before, you are superstars!

The Advent windows around the village were also a big hit again this year and I really enjoyed walking round to see them. Every year there seem to be more and more Christmas lights twinkling around the village, getting everyone in the festive mood and I just love it.

#### A new era for the DVS

When I first joined the committee 5+ years ago I was one of a few women and the youngest by probably 20 years. The makeup of the DVS committee has changed considerably and for the better in the intervening period and now the ladies outnumber the gents (and I'm not the youngest anymore). We are a forward looking and energetic bunch and each member has their own specific areas of interest which they champion at each meeting. We currently have room for two more committee members, more specifically we are still looking for a new Secretary. We generally meet on the last Tuesday of each month except in December. If you have a desire to give back to your community or a particular local project you would like to see happen in our village, then the DVS is a great vehicle to help you do this. Please let me know if you might be interested in joining the committee or taking on the Secretary role. We would be very appreciative.

#### **Shameless Advertising**

You may be aware that I work for an amazing local charity, Whirlow Hall Farm Trust. We provide opportunities for children and young adults with learning difficulties, mental health issues, or who just struggle in a mainstream school environment, to experience outdoor learning and to gain confidence. We also run residential school trips for primary age children who get to experience a Day in the Life on the farm and meet all our wonderful animals.

There are always some super events happening at the farm. The next one will be a lambing event over the Easter holidays. This is a wonderful opportunity to get up close and personal with the most gorgeous lambs in Yorkshire (not that I'm biased!). Please like and follow our Facebook page for more events and news. We also have a website whirlowhallfarm.org. Whirlow is a lovely place to go for a walk, I do like walking, and there's a lovely café too which had a facelift in early January and now looks absolutely stunning. They have a new menu with veggie and vegan options as well as their own home reared beef, pork and lamb dishes. Not to mention the great cakes and coffee - most of which have been tried and tested by me, though I do try not to eat too many cakes!

P.S. I realised a life's ambition this month – I'm now allowed to drive the mini tractor! You have no idea how happy this makes me :o)

Jen Donnelly

#### Wassail walk falls to Covid

The annual Wassail Walk to blow away the lethargy of seasonal overindulgence was, unfortunately cancelled at short notice. It would actually have been possible to hold it as far as covid restrictions went, but there was very little enthusiasm in the end after we were warned to avoid unnecessary social gatherings. Many of the regular attendees were canvassed for their views and only a handful out of about 50 were interested in doing the walk, with absolutely no one voting for mince pies and mulled wine afterwards.

The weather was rubbish anyway. There'll be another one this Christmas, all being well.

#### History put back a bit

Unfortunately, due to space restrictions we're not able to bring you the concluding part of John Dunstan's history of Dore Church Hall which was promised last issue. I'll give it priority next time.

You can still read plenty about the new CCDCC and what happens there on pages 13, 15, 28, 29 and possibly elsewhere in this issue.

John E

#### The Great Dev Dave Head Shave



Congratulations to Welsh Dave at the Dev who raised an admirable  $\pm 2100$  for the Stroke Association by simply getting his hair cut.

The flowing tresses were amputated at Christmas in a public ceremony - in the bar, of course and in view of half the village.

The £2100 is on top of over £800 that he raised last year by standing on a chair and singing the National Anthem. During the rugby. At least he proved the rule that all Welshmen can sing - by being the exception to it!



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Of Steel October

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Hello everyone! I am delighted to report that TOADS were able to present a play in November! It's been two years since our last production and we were all raring to go!

The play this time was a thriller, 'Something to Hide' written by Leslie Sands and directed by my John – a great plot with twists and turns all the way through, with great performances given by all, and with an incredible back-stage crew. We weren't put off by the snow which fell on Friday night and Saturday (well, I was a bit!), which made our journeys home a bit scary.

Covid restrictions were in full force and our audiences co-operated fully to ensure everyone's safety, for which we are very grateful. Thank you all for supporting us, your very own Am-Dram Society.

But onwards and upwards - our next production (May 2022) is in the process of being written specially for us by Alan Wade, who as you all know is a very talented actor and playwright.

We have performed two of Alan's plays in the past – 'That Week in August' in May 2017, and 'Biddie's War' in November 2019, when I had the pleasure of acting alongside my dear friend Judy Savournin, who sadly passed away in October 2020. Sadly missed.

Don't forget, if anyone out there is interested in treading the boards, working backstage or helping in any capacity, or even just wants to see what goes on at a play reading, don't hesitate to contact me, Jeff, or any TOADS member, or just turn up!

We usually meet every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the Guild Room at St John's Church, Abbeydale Road South. It will be lovely to see you.

#### Anne Bettridge

#### 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, e.g. jen.donnelly@dorevillage.co.uk

Committee Members: Chair		<b>Membership</b> Joan Davis	07531 183438
Jen Donnelly	262 1861	Dore to Door	07050 004040
Deputy Chair		John Eastwood	07850 221048
Caroline Davies	07764 169197	Website/Social Media Tracy Haigh	
Secretary		, ,	
Brenda Fryer	236 5628	Environment	
Treasurers		Margaret Peart	
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		Christopher Pennell	• •
Andrea Walsh	236 9156	Christopher Pennell Community Activities	• •
Andrea Walsh Planning	236 9156	Christopher Pennell	235 1568
Andrea Walsh <b>Planning</b> Philip Howes	236 9156 327 1054	Christopher Pennell Community Activities Nick Payne	• •
Andrea Walsh Planning Philip Howes Archives		Christopher Pennell Community Activities Nick Payne	235 1568

#### **Councillors' Surgeries**

At Dore Old School have now resumed on the second Saturday of each month, from 10.30am-12pm.

The surgeries at Totley Library remain on hold until the library is fully reopened again, which hopefully won't be too long.

#### **Contact Dore to Door:**

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'Thanks for decorating our flat throughout; your attention to detail; finishing and helpful attitude is great' *Mrs B.* (*Netheredge*)

'You've done a marvellous job decorating the outside of our house' Mr & Mrs W (Dore)

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#### The musical minister and a poetic peacock

You've probably heard by now that we have a new minister at Christ Church. He took office at the beginning of November, just too late for me to be able to do this column in the last issue. Then, of course it was Christmas - we were in touch briefly but I left him alone to get through the Church's busy time of year. We finally met up at the Vicarage last month.

The Vicarage hasn't moved, and is stll at 86 Townhead Road which is the house on the corner by the entrance to the recreation ground.

Andy Patrick hails from Saltburn-by-the-Sea, a little place which is about as close to the northern edge of North Yorkshire as Dore is to the southern edge of South Yorkshire. The opposite end of God's Own County, but still Yorkshire. I'm not familiar with it myself, but Google Earth tells me it's exactly 90 miles away as the crow flies.

His wife Claire is also from Saltburn, and they join us with their two young children. Tom, aged 4, has just started at Dore Primary, and daughter Orla (which means 'golden princess', Andy tells me), just a year old, stares at me suspiciously from her high chair when she sees me. After a minute or two she decides that her mashed banana is more interesting than me, and goes back to that. Andy presses a cup of tea on me, and we sit at the kitchen table for a chat.

Andy did his theological training at St. John's College, Nottingham from 2009 to 2012, and he was ordained nine years ago. From there he did a curacy, then worked as a team vicar in Harrogate. Now he is (officially) 'oversight minister and priest in charge' at Dore where, as we know, the position has been vacant for a while following the departure of Katie Tupling and a planned interregnum destroyed by the sad and untimely death of Neil Marchant. This is the space in our community that Andy has undertaken to fill.

"I feel very strongly about community and our commitment to one another", he tells me. "We are such a divided society at the moment - so ready and quick to demonise people, but a great community is where differing ideas can be accepted and discussed whilst still having love for each other."

He is 38 years old now, and so there was a working life before he was called to the ministry - a calling which he says came out of the blue to him, and not something that he had ever planned for. He has an interest in antiques and had been planning a related career, possibly as an auctioneer. Although Saltburn isn't a large place - roughly similar in size to Dore, he tells me - the town does have an auction house, so this would have been a realistic career path. But God intervened and his life took on this new direction.

At school, Andy was the youngest ever member of the Middlesbrough Cacti and Succulent Society, a record which he freely admits might have been superseded by now. He also had an interest in keeping and breeding parrots.

Most surprisingly, he is a musician. Before training for ordination he did a degree in Creative Music Technology, and subsequently recorded and released an album under the pseudonym of Nils Olav. You can still buy that from a website at *www.nilsolav.net*. The digital download is a fiver, or you can buy it on CD for eight quid.

The name of Nils Olav comes, would you believe, from that of a penguin at Edinburgh Zoo who is Colonel-in-Chief of the Norwegian King's Guard.

Andy's conversation is littered with little things like this. His latest intention for a hobby is to try his hand at being a children's author and he quickly outlined a couple of ideas to me. The first concerns a peacock called Ozymandias who is also a poet. This is based on his experience of a real-life peacock. When I heard the name I dutifully recited the relevant couple of lines from Shelley, but I couldn't tell whether Andy was impressed or not.

The other storyline was about proposals for celebration of St. Binocular's Day - a day for people who can't remember important days! With hilarious consequences I should think, though the books aren't written yet and will have to wait until Andy has found



his feet with our community and the day job settles down into a regular routine.

So, what does he think of Dore so far?

"We love it. We love being here, love the people and getting to know them. It has helped having Tom just starting school, that's been a good way to meet members of the community. And it's just a beautiful place, isn't it? Being right on the edge of the Peak District as well as the edge of the city with all that's going on there.

"One thing that I try and hope to do is to bring joy. Life can be difficult, very difficult at times, and we can bring joy through community and through our relationships with others."

Our discussion ended after almost an hour and I came away thinking that we're not too different really. Alright, my preferred community hub is the pub not the church, and nobody ever accused me of bringing joy to anything. But apart from that, we share more than a little personal philosophy about communities, particularly this one in which we all live.

Interview by John Eastwood



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#### **Our Speakers for 2022**

At our AGM last November, we decided we would resume our 2022 programme slightly later than usual, in March, given the uncertainty with Covid. We remain hopeful that Government guidelines will enable us to deliver our 2022 programme in full this year. Janet Williams our Programme Co-ordinator has had a busy couple of months and done a sterling job rebooking some familiar faces and making new contacts, putting together a



varied programme which we have detailed here:

Dore Garden Club meets on the third Wednesday of the month in the Methodist Church Hall in the village. Doors open at 7.10 pm for a 7.30 start. Membership fees (£18), which cover 8 events, are due this month. Payment by cheque is preferred, made out to Dore Garden Club. As we are a small organisation we cannot handle contactless payments. Please arrive a little earlier than usual as we anticipate there will be a queue to pay subscriptions. Visitors are always welcome and entrance is only £3 payable at the door.

One of the perks of membership is 10% off all products at Dore Moor Nursery on production of a 2022 membership. We are very grateful to the team at Dore Moor for continuing to provide this special discount to members this year.

March 16th Carl & Deidre Leaman, Millthorpe Nursery:

#### 30 years ago

This article first appeared in Dore to Door issue number 25, Spring 1992.

#### Savage Lane Cottages

Opposite the Hare and Hounds car park and the Old School stands a row of cottages. The date stone on the wall is dated 1782 with the letters R, U and E arranged as a triangle with the U at the apex. These initials are of the builder of the house, Robert Unwin and his wife Elizabeth of whom little more is known.

"The Story of Methodism in Dore", written by John Dunstan, states that Robert and Elizabeth's son Robert was one of a group of eleven young Methodists in Dore, whose names appear on the Sheffield Circuit Membership roll in 1790. This group met at Nab Farm, the home of Thomas Lee.

The Dore Enclosure award of 1809 allotted Robert Unwin a piece of land on Door Moor but the Duke of Devonshire's map of 1827 shows him owning just the small area on Savage Lane of 13 perches or approximately 400 sq yards, containing three houses with gardens. The enclosure remains virtually unchanged to this day, with the area of garden lying from the end of the cottages towards the Village Green.

John Dunstan believed it likely that Robert Unwin was a shoemaker. It is likely that the shoemaking trade continued in these cottages, as four cottages, known as Cobblers Row appear in the 1871 census in entries between the Hare and Hounds and the School House. At the time of the 1881 census the cottages were known as Pryors Buildings and were still occupied by the same families - Farnsworth, Fox, Sykes and Flint. Joseph Farnsworth appears as a shoemaker in both census returns.

The other cottages were inhabited by a scythe grinder, a coal miner and a highway labourer and their families.

Within living memory the area was known as Wilson Hill. The second cottage down the hill was occupied by the Taylor family. Philip Taylor, the son of William Taylor, a farmer and scythesmith, moved to the cottage from the family home (now Gilleyfield Farm).

**Designing with Plants** - This will be the first visit from a local husband-and-wife team, Carl and Deidre who grow their own hardy and annual plants on site, including some unusual varieties. Millthorpe is a small, friendly nursery rather than a traditional garden centre and reopened in early February (closed on Mondays). You'll find it tucked away behind the Royal Oak pub at the bottom of Millthorpe Lane.

**April 20th Nick Tovey: Suiseki** - Nick has written a book on Suiseki, his long-standing interest in the stones often seen in Japanese gardening culture.

**May 18th Jeff Bates: Water Gardens and Features** - Full time lecturer for over 20 years, Jeff is now a self-employed horticulturist, garden designer and lecturer.

June 15th Michael Myers: Hardy Orchids and Hepaticas -Michael Myers had his own landscaping business, before teaching then working as an advisor for the RHS at flower shows.

July 20th Steve Drinkall: Nature's Wonders on our Doorstop September 21st Peter and Trish Kohn: The Botanical Gardens - Regular speakers Peter and Trish have been closely involved in Sheffield Botanical Gardens for many years. They formerly created

Kerrachar Gardens in the NW of Scotland.

October 19th Michael Klemperer: Historic Garden Restoration at English Heritage's Brodsworth Hall. - Michael is curator for a number of English Heritage properties in the North of England and this is his first visit to the Club.

**November 16th Hilary Hutson: The Colours of the Garden** - Hilary is a botanist with a passion for gardens and gardening with 30 years experience in lecturing to clubs and societies.

Philip and his wife had six children, one dying in infancy. Margaret Jane was born in 1899 and spent all her 82 years in the same home.

Her daughter Win Skelton has fond memories of life in the cottage. Margaret Jane married Victor (Bert) Wallace , who was a ganister miner and also acted as a grave digger for his wife's uncle Farewell Taylor. In the 1930's the Shipstone family lived in the top cottage, then the Taylor/Wallace family, the Friths and the Plumtrees, who were followed into the bottom cottage by the Bishops.

Win and her husband Reg remember the charming cottage. The front door led into a very large living room, which was heavily beamed in oak. Hams hung from the ceiling, wrapped carefully in pillow cases to keep off the flies. Between the beams the ceiling was of wood, which was kept in good condition by the application of linseed oil. The walls were thick and soundproof with deep window sills. There was a Yorkshire range in the lounge, which was used for baking and kept the room cosy. In the corner was a built in cupboard.

Two steps led from the living room down into a small kitchen. There was an old copper heated by a fire, which was used for washing, stone flags on the floor, a stone sink and stone benches which were used for salting the ham.

Stairs led from the kitchen to a small bedroom, the size of the kitchen, and from this a door led to a very large bedroom, the size of the living room below. Toilet facilities were shared - and outside - two between the four cottages. A candle was used for night time nips and a hurricane lamp on frosty nights.

Win and Reg continued to live in the cottage for several years after their marriage. Victor Wallace kept pigs in Moseleys Yard, where the Hare and Hounds car park is now.

They can remember Jack Greaves of Nab Farm killing pigs for Win's father. These were happy years, marred only by the early death of Victor Wallace aged 52. One of Win's memories is watching her father digging a grave by the light of a lantern.

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# Christ Church Dore Community Centre

## A massive thank you from the CCD Community Centre!

Christ Church Dore Community Centre had a very busy end to 2021 and all the signs are that 2022 will be even busier. Nearly all of the groups using the old church hall prior to Covid have successfully returned and we have seen a number of new groups starting plus we are hosting many one-off events such as local family parties and other celebrations.

The Community Centre Management Committee would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all those in the local community, both organisations and individuals, who have so generously given of their time or money over the past six months to help progress all the refurbishment work.

The Dore Village Society has made an extremely generous donation of £8000 which is to be spent on:

- · renovating the men's toilets and the second ladies' toilets
- installing storage in the small back room for use by the regular groups
- upgrading the fire alarm
- changing the locks and issuing new keys to all users

We are absolutely delighted to receive this significant donation from the DVS to help us take the ongoing renovation works forward and ensure that the Community Centre is a first-class facility for all. The new locks have already been installed and the upgrade of the fire alarm system and renovation of the men's toilets is to commence shortly.

The Ark (the four-room annexe at the side of the main hall) was in need of a major overhaul and had fallen into a poor state of repair over recent years. Initially, we fixed the leaking flat roof and then shared plans for transforming the internal space. Volunteers sourced furniture from the British Heart Foundation shop and all the rooms have now been completely renovated to become a cosy and welcoming 'home from home' area for smaller, more informal, groups to meet. The bulk of the £3200 costs of these renovations has been kindly covered by a number of generous donations from parents of the CCD youth group (Pathfinders). Over 20 young people and their leaders from this group were the first to begin meeting in the Ark after we opened up at the start of 2022. Other groups are already making bookings for the coming months.

We are also very thankful for the sizable donations from Dore



and Totley Christian Fellowship and the Sheffield Ward Funding towards replacement of the chairs in the main hall. There is still a need for further funds to cover the total projected cost of the new chairs, but we trust that this will come in shortly from other sources.

Other very significant financial donations have been received from local Christians in Dore. Without these, and all those mentioned earlier, the transformation of the church hall into the Community Centre could not have taken place so quickly or to such a high standard.

Many others have donated their skills and time in doing things such as:

- providing planted tubs at the front of the Centre
- removing rubbish and cleaning all the rooms
- helping our tradespeople
- putting up fixtures and fittings
- designing the CC logo and signage
- drawing an artist's impression of the Community Centre Last, but not least, the Committee wishes to thank each and

every local tradesperson for working so hard over last summer

and autumn to achieve completion of the Phase 1, and many of the Phase 2, works. The timetable we set was very challenging and their dedication and long hours worked are much appreciated. We could not have done it without them!



Looking forward there is still lots to be done to improve the Community Centre still further. We

need to repaint the stage area and purchase new stage curtains and lighting. In addition, new curtains for the hall windows are needed, resurfacing of the back car park and tanking of the area below the stage to make it completely damp proof. These are just some of the major items we will be looking to complete along with many smaller additions and improvements to make the Community Centre even more accessible and attractive to use for the benefit of all in our local community.

We are always on the lookout for volunteers to help with their time and skills. If you are able to do so please contact Pete Sanders, our Chair by emailing *chair.cc@dorechurch.org.uk*.

If you would like to make a financial donation to any of the ongoing refurbishment works mentioned above then please contact Pete, or alternatively scan the QR code here.

Thank you for all your continued support!

Emma Gormley communitycentre.dorechurch.org.uk/home info.cc@dorechurch.org.uk 0114 236 3335 Facebook: ccdcommunitycentre Instagram: ccdore\_communitycentre



The Ark



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On this page are some of the groups using the Community Centre. These also include the Health Walks (see pages 28-29).

#### Helen O'Grady Drama Academy



-DRAMA ACADEMY-

We have been in the hall on Townhead Road for at least 15 years. I think we held our first class there in 2007 but it might have been earlier!

Every Saturday afternoon in term time we have been working with young people to help them develop in their confidence, communication and HELEN O'GRADY creativity. During this time we have seen lovely children develop into wonderful adults - many of whom we are still in touch with.

We started with a class for young children and then added another class for teenagers. At the moment we are working entirely with teenagers but we hope to look for new youngsters soon so that we can start a primary class again.

Every summer term the Dore classes put on a show; usually this takes place at The Lantern Theatre but Covid restrictions meant that last year the play took place in the Community Centre.

We were extremely sad at the prospect of our Saturday afternoon home closing and are absolutely delighted that it not only continues but that now the Community Centre has been given a splendid clean up and refurbishment. It's a lovely space, a lovely hall and we hope it continues for years to come.



#### Christ Church Dore Ladies Group

Dore Ladies Group had been meeting in the Church Hall on the first Tuesday of every month for over 40 years and following its Covid and refurbishment closure we were delighted to restart our programme of talks and activities in the smart renamed Christ Church Dore Community Centre.

We are a very friendly group who welcome women of all ages and background who like to gather for a stimulating talk, demonstration or activity followed by refreshments. We have a published programme of evening meetings with speakers on topics which cover a wide range of interests from history, travel, gardening, cooking and crafts to local issues and charity work. We enjoy presentations from writers, actors and musicians as well as those from the world of comedy and dance. We usually organise an outdoor visit in the summer, a Christmas social and an annual dinner in the winter as well as a very popular open meeting as part of Dore Festival.

Membership is open to anyone and visitors including men are always welcome at any meeting. Although we are traditionally linked to Christ Church Dore you do not have to be a church member to enjoy our talks, social evenings and activities. If you have recently moved to Dore, coming to the Ladies Group is a good way of getting to know other people and making new friends.

Here is a taste of our programme for the Spring and Summer 2022

- Tuesday 1st March Jo Towler Horn Playing, talk and performance
- Tuesday 5th April The Leader Brothers Rockingham China
- Tuesday 3rd May The White Knights, Yorkshire Blood Bikes
- Tuesday 7th June Jamie Bosworth desserts with recipes and tasting

**Tuesday 5th July** Festival Meeting – Greek music and food

All meetings start at 7.45pm in Christ Church Dore Community Centre, Townhead Road, Dore and finish at 9.30 pm approx. We hope to see you there.

For further information contact me:

Maureen Cope Tel: 0114 2350392 Email: maureencope1@btinternet.com

#### **Dore and Totley Christian Fellowship**

have been meeting regularly at Christ Church Community Centre for over 25 years. The church itself has been existence since 1985 and has met at various locations over that time. You may remember us from our involvement with Christ Church toddlers - or going back further, the days of The Ark youth group!

Quite simply, we are just ordinary people who have realised God's massive love for us. We believe that absolutely every single person has value to God and can know Him and experience His love too!

Therefore, anyone is welcome to join us 10:30am on Sundays as we worship, praise God and explore faith together! If you would like to find out more call Jim on 07789 720386 or Rob on 01246 417246

We would love to meet you!





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#### City Planning: Be worried...

You might have thought that an adopted Dore Neighbourhood Plan abolished the threat of inappropriate development in Dore. Think again: the Planning Beast is stirring and stalks the land.

We have always known that our new Plan could be overruled by a subsequent new Sheffield Plan or a revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) if their policies contradicted our own. The highest-level document always wins. The short-term threat to us is the early completion of a new Sheffield Plan with policies which overwhelm some of the valuable protections in our Plan. Mixing 'short-term' and the 'Sheffield Local Plan' in the same sentence seems odd, because there has never been a plan so long in the making as this one. Indeed, one of the real planning risks we face is that the existing Sheffield Plan is so out of date that its protective cover against ambitious developers taking planning refusals to successful national appeal is lost.

The Council is now under severe pressure to produce the first draft of its Local Plan for consultation. Over a year ago they consulted on an 'Issues and Options' paper as they struggled to work out how they could meet the Government target to produce 40,000 new homes by 2039. We welcomed the Council's 'mood music' at that stage which suggested they were reluctant to break significantly into the Greenbelt around the city and hoped to mastermind a massive redevelopment of the city centre and its immediate surroundings, out into Attercliffe and Neepsend, to provide the largest contribution to the target figure. The Dore Village Society and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group supported this approach and showed how the 40,000 objective could be met with only the most modest of incursions into the Greenbelt where such changes were screamingly obvious, such as at the old Norton Aerodrome site. On this basis Dore could sleep at night!

But again, the Planning beast rears its ugly head and developers are slavering over potential new virgin land. Why? Because over the last year Government has increased the target for Sheffield to a massive 53,000 homes by 2039. In order to meet its UK target of 300,000 new homes a year by the mid-2020s and thereafter, the Government set new ambitious targets for all councils and planned to introduce new national planning rules to increase the speed of housing approvals by reducing the level of local control over decision-making. The affluent Tory Shires promptly rebelled when they realised how much of their countryside and attractive towns and villages would be sacrificed to new housing. The Government then dropped their intended planning reforms and suddenly increased the demands for even more housing in the 20 largest northern cities, supposedly to boost their economic future. Call this levelling up!??

As I write, Council leaders have been consulting the wider political groups within the Council to assess their views on what should be done to further the new Sheffield Plan. This involves examining a ladder of ever-tougher choices to be made if the 53,000 target is to be met.

There seems to be consensus that step 1 on the ladder is the right thing to do; namely, to concentrate future development on brownfield sites within the existing urban boundaries of the city (as Sheffield has successfully done in the past). [Please note that 'brownfield sites' are previously developed sites which may be suitable for redevelopment and usually for more intensive development, while 'greenfield sites' are sites which have not been developed before. The latter should not be confused with 'Greenbelt', which is a protective largely undeveloped shield around the city created to stop the city sprawling inappropriately into countryside and instead to encourage sensible inner-city development.] Step 1 helps to ensure that the greatest effort is put into intensive city centre re-development which offers huge progress towards housing targets, but which is easily discouraged by the potential public investment costs of preparing areas for successful redevelopment.

It seems accepted that we climb on to step 2, which involves adding some development of greenfield sites within the city's urban area where it is sustainable to do so; but this would involve the loss of some informal green space and the development of, for example, some disused sports fields. At least this would reduce the need to go out into the countryside and strengthen the goal of having a compact city with its inhabitants close to jobs and amenities and a reasonable proportion of affordable housing.

A consensus is emerging that one more rise up the ladder to step 3 may be necessary to meet the targets. Now there is thrown in the mix some development of existing brownfield sites located in the Greenbelt where the exceptions allowed in paragraph 149 of the NPPF might apply and the development would not cause substantial harm to the openness of the Greenbelt. This could threaten parts of the Greenbelt around Dore where past development has occurred, however modest; for example in the area between Ecclesall Woods, Hathersage Road, Cross Lane and Parkers Lane. Thankfully our Neighbourhood Plan has secured protective Local Green Space designation for Limb Lane Picnic Site and Whirlow Playing Field.

Taking step 4 is not going down well with opposition Councillors, but the Greens are not proving as opposed as one might expect them to be: this is a huge test for Greens Councillors in coalition with Labour. Step 4 would add to the mix some 'sustainably located' (as yet publicly unidentified) greenfield sites in the Greenbelt. The risks are enormous to the sensible balance achieved to date between urban and countryside Sheffield and particularly dangerous for the west of the city, including Dore, where suburban boundaries are already uncomfortably close to the National Park. The further west that developers are allowed to search for prey, the less they will be prepared to work hard to assist the Council with the major task of redeveloping the city centre.

Step 5 is in my view a step far too far, because it assumes that, in addition to the above, anything else necessary to achieve the Government target of 53,000 homes will be secured from greenfield land, most of which will come from the Greenbelt. This could require as many as 16,000 new homes to come from the Greenbelt affecting more than 7% of it. The tipping point would be passed when developers shift their attention from hard to do but vital innercity redevelopment to much more attractive, profitable and easy building in the Greenbelt. Sheffield would then be shovelling its problems onto the setting of a National Park, one of the country's great post-war achievements to produce a land fit for heroes, and pushing homes way out beyond the jobs and the services in the existing city. It would massively increase car-based journeys and urban pollution instead of relying on good public transport.

We must press for our Council not to go beyond step 3 except for sensible development of the Norton Aerodrome site and some Mosborough land close to the existing tramlines. If the line is not held there, where is the motivation for developers to work hard with the Council and others to put the effort into massive inner-city redevelopment rather than focus on Greenbelt? And how much can we expect of a post-austerity Council strapped for funds and planning expertise to manage a major inner-city redevelopment?

The Council is already collecting the evidence alongside consultants, Iceni Projects, to demonstrate that the increased Government target of 53,000 new homes is inappropriate. In order to justify such an increase Sheffield's population would have to increase by nearly 100,000 between now and 2039, which is more than double the rate of population growth currently assumed in up to date national projections. In order to justify the increased housing target there would have to be an exceptional level of new jobs and of migration of people into the city. In short, the Council should be challenging the statistical basis of the Government's assumptions about the need for so many new homes in the city.

Otherwise, the Council could find itself plunged into another battle with its citizens – so soon after the street tree debacle – where citizens object to housing growth driven by inflated Government targets causing unwarranted major incursions into Greenbelt, and greater traffic congestion and pollution in the city.



Happy New Year to you all!! There isn't anyone or anything currently that is without highs and lows and goodness, that sums up Transport 17 (T17).

With all the festivities behind us we are looking forward to cracking on with the very best that 2022 can bring. You may remember we faced a number of

disappointments towards the end of last year but we are pleased to say that the outlook now feels more positive. Firstly, a big thank you to all those who made seasonal donations to T17, however big or small. In particular, we would like to thank the residents of nos 90–150, Totley Brook Road for their donation following their recent festive gathering, and both Totley All Saints Church and the Nevil Talbot Lodge of Freemasons for their generous donations. All donations are very much appreciated and go towards enabling us to continue to provide transport to those older people who would otherwise be unable to get out. This in turn gives them the opportunity to socialise in the local community which reduces social isolation, has a positive impact on their mental health, and improves their quality of life.

As the new year starts, most lunch clubs are operating with transport being provided by our buses. Given all the events of the past  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 years we feel pleased that people continue to feel confident enough to get out and access social opportunities and hope we will be able to facilitate this further in a safe and secure way over the coming months.

#### **Changes in Circumstances**

Having introduced our new admin assistant in the last article it was a complete surprise when she resigned after her first week.



This meant a return to added pressure and increased workload in the office, so once again our focus was on ensuring service operation. However, we were delighted to welcome a new admin assistant, Liz Croft, who joined us at the start of December, and will be an excellent addition to our team.

Liz has had a long career in many aspects of the travel industry both in the UK and abroad and has more recently

been caring in a local nursing home which she found particularly enjoyable and rewarding. She enjoys the outdoors and going running, and travelling has always been a passion.

Liz has worked in the local area for a long time and is happy to be joining us and helping make a difference to the local community where she grew up.

We made the tough decision to cancel the Christmas Fayre last year. The change of emphasis in the office along with a reduced number of volunteers who help with the event in the planning and preparation stages meant it wasn't feasible to hold such an event. This meant that last year we were unable to hold any of our community fundraising events, but we are hoping 2022 will be different. For example, it would be lovely to be able to hold a Spring fundraising event later in March incorporating some additional Easter/Spring focused activities alongside the more familiar stalls. We would like to encourage some of the younger members of the community to join our longstanding supporters at the T17 fundraising events. Please look out for further details nearer the time. We will be advertising events on local noticeboards and in shop windows, on our Facebook page and on our website. You may also have noticed more information appearing in the windows of our office.

Many of you will be familiar with seeing our buses parked up in the English Martyrs Church car park. It was a big relief a number of years ago when Frank Donnelly set up an arrangement between the church and ourselves to house the buses here after we could no longer use the car park at the then Leonard Cheshire Home. The convenience of that arrangement cannot be underestimated. Having the buses on our doorstep and so easily accessible was a tremendous help in operating the service we provide. The Cross Scythes pub have also been part of the current arrangement for housing the buses at the weekends. However, we found ourselves in the position of having to search for a new home for our minibuses as the church made alterations to the arrangement which were unsustainable in the long term. We would like to publicly register our huge thanks to Frank, and the church. We have been very fortunate in our search for new homes for the T17 minibuses. Abbeydale Sports Club have agreed to accommodate two of the buses and the Cross Scythes very kindly agreed to have the other one. Thanks go to Richard Ibbotson, Andrew Watson and the board at Abbeydale Sports Club, it was such a relief when they welcomed us in, and of course similar thanks to Ben and Scott at the Cross Scythes who so often go the extra mile to help us. We feel lucky to have such supportive individuals and organisations within our community.

When Fiona Smith took up the role of Operations Manager nobody envisaged such a frustrating and difficult start. Despite all these difficulties, we are delighted that progress is being made. One of the roles for the Operations Manager is to expand our service to support additional activities, so we were delighted to be able to take the Dore and Totley URC Carers Group to Chatsworth for the day. This had been arranged through Jan Outram at Sheffield Carers' Centre. In the early days of T17 we were involved in this type of event and it is good that once again we were able to respond to other groups as well as the lunch clubs that are the core of our work.



Dore and Totley URC Carers Group outing to Chatsworth with Andy Birch, T17 Volunteer Driver

Colin Muncie has been beavering away in the background at T17, providing a lead on a number of issues and helping us to operate more effectively and efficiently. We are benefitting from his wide experience and diverse contacts, enabling us to build on the steady foundations of the organisation. We now have an arrangement with the Cavendish Motor Company, based on Edgedale Road, Sheffield S7, to service and help maintain the buses. The location is more convenient for us and having the servicing, maintenance, and statutory inspections all completed at one local site means less additional mileage for the buses and volunteers, in turn meaning more time to focus on our core purpose of providing transport for those who are unable to access public transport.

Unfortunately, we are saying farewell to Libby Ireland who

has been on the management committee of T17 for a number of years. As well as helping to draw up much needed policies and procedures, and setting up development plans for the organization, she has been a stalwart of the fund-raising events committee. Libby feels that now T17 is in a much sounder position, this is the time to stand back. The experience and knowledge she brought to T17 has been invaluable and we are thankful she will still be around to help with future fundraising events. We would like to thank her for her time and valuable contributions.

#### Funding, and thank yous!

The 2020-21 Coop Local Community Funding period came to an end in October last year and we collected our final cheque of £2987.03 on Saturday 20th November at the Dore Co-op store. This will mean we have received a total of £3955.80 over the year. The money from this grant goes into a fund for replacement minibuses which is an ongoing fundraising objective alongside funding the services we provide and the servicing and maintenance of the buses. We would like to thank you for supporting us by choosing T17 as your local cause.



Fiona Smith and Fay Jones from T17 receiving the cheque from Dore Coop employees and Stephanie, local Co-op Community Pioneer

We are really pleased to share that once again we have been selected by the Co-op as one of the three local causes to benefit from the fund over the next twelve months, running to end October 2022. If you haven't done so already, as a Co-op member, you can select us as your local cause, raising funds for T17 as you shop at the Totley or Dore Co-ops. Your contributions through this scheme make a significant difference. Any previous commitment does not continue to the following year.

It is some time since we applied for funding grants, so it has been extremely heartening that two applications we made were successful. We received £2500 from the Freemasons



Sandra Longley receiving a cheque from The Cutlers Company Charitable Fund presented by Susie Williams - Mistress Cutler 2020 - 2021

and Lieutenancies Partnership Fund and £1000 from the Cutlers Company Charitable Trust this summer. Sandra Longley represented T17 in July at the Cutlers Hall to collect the Company's cheque from the Mistress Cutler. It was also an opportunity to network with others and to be able to promote T17.

As well as these grants we have benefitted from a number of donations from local organisations. Totley Open Gardens had a very successful event this year and were able to make a sizeable donation to T17, and Totley Show have supported us despite the event being on a much smaller scale. It is so good that these events were able to go ahead after a long period of time with little or no community events taking place. Sadly, Totley Methodist Church Lunch Club and the Women's Fellowship Group/Dore Methodist Church have both made the decision to close. In their closing meetings, both very kindly chose to donate funds to T17. There were donations from Totley Rise Methodist Church, Dore Village Society, Dore and Totley URC, various amounts from the Belbin family, and another amazing amount from the Cross Scythes collection box. We are very grateful for this ongoing support from the local community especially as we have not been able to hold any community fund-raising events ourselves for such a long time.

#### **New Volunteers**

We are still in need of new volunteers to help us to continue to operate the organisation and maintain our current transport commitments, as well as planning for future developments. Perhaps you are starting the new year thinking about how you spend your time each week? If so, this could be the time to consider volunteering. There are many opportunities here at T17. Please contact us on 0114 236 2962 if you are interested in finding out more.

#### Fiona Smith, T17 Operations Manager

#### City Planning: Be worried...

/continued from page 17

We do not want developer choice outwitting the Council's choice as to where sustainable new homes should go. Dore and its surrounding countryside will be severely at risk if the worst of these steps are taken, and particularly at risk will be open land beyond Whirlow Bridge, the very place where Ethel Haythornthwaite\* won her great pre-war battle to prevent horrendous house-building between the Bridge and the Dore Moor Inn and then went on to design Sheffield's Greenbelt and England's first National Park in the Peak District.

#### **Christopher Pennell**

\* Readers – if you don't know who she was, just ask me. It's another tremendous story.

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Last summer, the Soil Association reached its 75th anniversary. Over those years it has done so much to support farmers who have wanted to produce food that has high animal welfare standards, is healthier for us, and does not impact on the health of the soil or the wildlife that lives in it. Much has been achieved and, during Covid, many farmers have been asking for help to convert to organic farming.

This Association has recently purchased a farm near Maple Cross, Hertfordshire, just off the M25, west of London. The farm will be converted to organic standards, and open to the public. I cannot imagine that there will not also be a good cafe, and a shop, for visitors to enjoy and, personally, I wish it was nearer to Sheffield.

In contrast, most of the gardening industry must have a huge carbon footprint. From inorganic potting composts to bedding plants, many of which are produced a long way from where they will be planted, only to finish up in a bin once they are past their best a few months later. While I have not been in a garden centre for a very long time, adverts do not give me the impression that they are adapting what they have to offer to the needs of wildlife, despite the fact that so many conservation organisations are urging us to go back to nature and plant native flowers, trees, and shrubs.

News that disease, possibly bird flu, is having a devastating effect on bird populations is extremely worrying. Thousands of barnacle geese have died around the Solway Firth and other coastal areas, and huge numbers of puffins have died of starvation. I do not know what has caused it, but strongly suspect that human activity could be at least part of the problem. No bird food has been put out here since the spring, but there have been more blackbirds and regular small birds around, and far fewer bullying magpies and pigeons.

It is a great shame that many people feel that they cannot manage without a green bin. Most gardens have room for at least one compost heap, which do not have to be large and can easily be hidden by some natural fencing or shrubs. They provide protection and food for many species of hibernating wildlife, and plenty to spread around your plants another year. Some years ago, a television programme showed a huge green bin lorry depositing its load on farmland. The amount and variety of rubbish in it was almost unbelievable.



Wood sorrel

Years ago I noticed that an ivy had seeded itself by the hedge. It grew into a large shrub and last year it was covered with small clusters of tiny white flowers. These attracted many different insects including various bees, hoverflies, blue and green flies, and some of the tiniest insects I have ever seen. They came every day for many weeks, even on cooler, sunless days.

Last spring, the first flowers to appear in my garden were the wild primroses, which never let me down. They were followed in March by the wild daffodils which are so much more delicate than the cultivated varieties and are at risk of dying out. Others were wild garlic, lesser celandine, wood anemones and wood sorrel.



Wild primrose

No other flowers seem to cheer us up like our native wild spring flowers, but while we love snowdrops, they are not native to the British Isles. I am gradually removing them and trying other native varieties such as Lily of the valley, and Solomon's Seal.

Cultivated daffodils and tulips for cutting cover huge areas of ground particularly in Cornwall and Lincolnshire. Once cut, their flowers will only last a short time, and I do wonder if they are really worth the obliteration of large areas of some of the loveliest parts of England.

Another of our favourite spring flowers is the bluebell, but our delicate and beautiful native English variety is at risk from the Spanish variety which is invading our gardens and woods. Climate change could also affect them which is worrying. If you find the Spanish variety in your garden, please do nature a favour and remove them.

My friend in Cornwall sent me a cutting from a local newspaper in which there was a report on the Eden Project. It is commissioning a special garden to celebrate the vital role of pollinators. This threeyear project is hoping to show the public that there has been a dramatic decline in the number of pollinators over the last 40 years and they all need our native wildflowers that were once plentiful in the area where they evolved together.

Described as a living artwork, the garden will be designed and planted with pollinators in mind and, in time, other gardens will be planted in London and Berlin and then in various places in the UK and Northern Europe. The idea is to extend the pollinating time and hopefully local nurseries will grow them. Ideally, they will be grown as seedlings in trays, rather than individual pots to cut down on the amount of plastic!

In early December, two programmes on BBC2 showed how a wildlife photographer, Colin Stafford Johnson, made around an acre of land into a wildlife garden. Most of it was made into a wildflower meadow, with a mixture of grasses and wild flowers.

There were also several species of native trees, mixed hedging and shrubs, along with two ponds, bird boxes and bee hotels. Yellow rattle was planted among the meadow grass on which it is parasitic, to maintain an open sward in which the flowers can thrive. Colin emphasised that while the meadow would need to be cut down at harvest time, there was very little more work to be done. Our meadow grass was scythed down last year, but I do need more practice at that!

Keep safe and keep the wildlife safe too.

Marian Tiddy

Make sure you know what's going on www.dorevillage.co.uk/pages/events

Organised by the DVS, Wyvern Walks have been an established feature of life in Dore for over 20 years, and we are still going strong. The next batch of walks for the first half of this year can be found on our website at *dorevillage*. *co.uk/pages/wyvern-walkers-programme-of-walks* and on our noticeboards. If you can't access these sources contact me (*keith.shaw@dorevillage.co.uk* or 07778 422 910) and I'll post the list to you.

#### Walks from the archives

This article marks the first in a series describing walks that we have been on in the past. They vary from short and easy to longer and more demanding and will be chosen to provide opportunities for all levels of ability.

## Calver Bridge - Frogatt - Grindleford - Calver Bridge

An easy walk along the river Derwent and through woodland with only one short uphill section.

Suitable for all times of the year and for families with younger children.

Distance: 6.5km/4 miles

Time: 2 hours

Park near Calver Bridge and the Bridge Inn. This bridge, built in 1800, replaced an earlier 15th century structure, which in turn replaced a ford, traces of which are still visible.

Walk up the road on the right of the river (the east bank). On the opposite bank you can see what used to be Calver Mill but is now private apartments.

The mill, built in the 1770s to spin cotton, was water powered and used technology licensed from Richard Arkwright. This was a familiar site along the Derwent Valley in those days as the new industry swept through the Derwent Valley transforming the economies of communities along the river. The mill operated until the 1920s when more efficient and cheaper processes were developed.

After about 300m go through a gate on the left and follow the river for about 800m, passing a large weir. The weir was built in the 1840s to power the mill and is now a Grade II listed structure. At 106 metres long it follows an unusual, curved, shape. The weir raises the water level by 13.5 metres and resulted in the flooding of low-lying areas of the west bank to the north, creating an extensive wetland habitat that's now home to a variety of plant, animal and insect species.

By the time the mill ceased operation the weir was in a poor condition and in danger of collapse. In 2004, the Calver Weir Restoration Project was set up as a charity to restore the weir. Work began in 2009 and was completed the following year at a cost of over £1.8 million, funded in large part by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Shortly after passing the weir you will come to a busy main road, the A625. Cross the road with care, go through a gate in the wall opposite and descend to the river to continue along the right (east) bank of the river. Exit through a gate in the wall at the end of the path onto Froggatt Lane and proceed to Froggatt Bridge. The bridge was originally shorter than it is now, an additional arch being added when the water held back by the weir caused the river to widen. This is now a popular swimming spot in warm weather.

Carry on walking in the same direction, along Hollow Gate and Spooner Lane. When the Lane runs out follow a track paved with slabs, then a footpath across several fields, until you reach the edge of a wood. You may find cows with calves in these fields from spring until early winter so take care if you have dogs with you.

Keep going through the wood for about 300 metres, crossing a stream descending from your right, then turn right at a signposted junction and walk up through the wood to a T junction and turn right again. You are now on the return leg of the walk. Parts of this path are also paved with slabs.



At the end of the path exit onto Moorlands Lane and descend to Spooner Lane and Hollow Gate. Walk back to Froggatt Bridge, cross over and follow the path downstream along the west bank to the A625, passing the wetland habitat on your right as you approach the road. There are several information boards here describing the local wildlife.

Cross the road with care and carry on down the west bank through woodland and across a field at the end. There are often cows in this field as well but it is frequently walked with people who have dogs with them.

Leave the field by a farmhouse and follow the road to Calver Bridge and the end of the walk.



#### A circular walk from Calton Lees across Calton Pastures to the Monsal Trail and back

An easy walk mostly over grassland and along footpaths with fine views.

Suitable for all times of the year

Distance: 11km/7 miles

Time: 3.5 hours (allowing for time to look at views)

Walking poles are advisable for two steep sections through woods.

Park at Calton Lees car park, Chatsworth Estate. There is sometimes a charge for using this car park depending on the time of year and day of the week.

There's a café, toilets and a garden centre adjacent to the car park.

From the car park walk back along the road for 20 metres or so and fork left along a grassy path about two metres wide that heads diagonally uphill and more or less parallel to the wooded area on your left. After a short while you meet another path coming up from the right and crossing yours. Turn left and follow this path. Later this forks. Take the left fork and follow it to the top of the rise, arriving at an information board, three benches and a five-bar gate that leads into a wooded area. Here you can take some time to enjoy the views over parts of the Chatsworth Estate and the surrounding countryside.

Recommence the walk through the gate and into woodland, emerging shortly onto open grassland. Follow the path that descends slightly to the right and then forks. Before continuing look to your left and you will see the Russian Cottage. Popular legend has it that the cottage was sent as a flat-pack structure to the 6th Duke of Devonshire from the Tsar of Russia to make amends for a cancelled visit. However, according to the Chatsworth website, recent evidence suggests that the Tsar's brother sent a model of a Russian farmhouse to the 6th Duke as a reminder of their friendship, and from that came the inspiration for building Russian Cottage.

Continuing: at the fork bear right along a well-defined path rising gently across Calton Pastures. Go through a gate, and then the next one some way ahead, and skirt a pond on your right, then through a third gate and bear right.

As you will see on the map you could also bear left at this point but the descent to the Monsal Trail on that route is down

a path that is steep, rocky and awkward in places, and slippery in wet weather. It's much easier to walk up that section than down it.

So, bearing right, pass a small copse on your left and head to a wooded mound (Moatless Plantation). The path rises along the side of the mound, providing fine views to the left.

Continue through a gate and along a track until you reach a road that links Edensor with Bakewell. Turn left and go down a footpath through the woods. Ignore any paths that cross and keep going downhill, crossing a golf course en route. Pause to check that it's safe to cross. At the bottom this brings you out on the road again just above the Monsal Trail. Cross the bridge over the Trail. Walk down the road a short way to a T junction, turn right and then right again into what was once the Bakewell station car park. Go diagonally across the car park and down the side of the station building to join the Monsal Trail.

Turn right and walk along the Trail for about 400m until, just before a bridge, take the steps on the left that lead up to the bridge and a footpath. Follow this footpath left uphill and across the golf course again, then through woods until you emerge onto open grassland. The path now takes you towards the small copse that you passed earlier. Keep this on your left until you can see the pond again. Do not go straight ahead towards the pond but bear right and go through a steel gate and follow a well-defined path that curves to the left following the contour of the hill and running parallel to woods on your right. Go through a second gate and straight ahead until you meet a path that descends to your left. Follow this downhill to a dip over a stream and clockwise round trees and through two more gates. Keeping the fence and trees on your right, go down to another gate, through that and past Calton House and holiday cottages, over a cattle grid and then follow the road back to Calton Lees car park.

#### Yet more walks

On Your Dorestep, originally published in book form by the DVS, is now available free on our website and contains detailed descriptions of 25 walks in and around Dore (*home page > Dore Village Society > About Dore Village Society > publications*).

**Keith Shaw** 



## Fifty years since Frank



If you live in Dore now, sooner or later you'll hear the name of Frank Clark. There he is above, pulling a pint in the Hare and Hounds, the pub that he ran for 43 years between 1929 and 1972. To mark the half century since his retirement, Dore Archives have been donated these photographs by members of his family who still live in our village. Have a look and get a flavour of what a visit to the Hare was like half a century ago. These pictures are so special because they show the inside of the pub. We have lots of photos of the outside, but not many of the interior.



Above, here is the cocktail bar which was on the left immediately after you enter by the Church Lane door. The door that you see behind the bar is now access to the upstairs accommodation, with much on the right of this picture having been screened off. There's nothing here now apart from the dartboard.



Outside, three shops occupied the space of today's bottom bar. The shops occupied only the front part of the building, and part of the rear of the shops was a small bar. Officially the tap room, it was unofficially called the 'doghouse bar' by locals. It was, I am told, never men only; it just happened that under the customs of the time no woman would have been seen dead in there! So, unofficially it was men only and probably called the doghouse by men who were in the doghouse at home, ie fallen out with their wives.

At the back, the view is recognisable though there is more there now than the picture below shows. No outdoor seating area, and the entrance wasn't right in the corner as it is now.



It was further down, tucked below the staircase to get into the tap room.

Let's go back inside now, to an atmosphere always thick with tobacco smoke and the resultant stains turning everything brown that wasn't brown already.

The pub interior has changed many times since Frank retired, the first major refurbishment being the three shops being converted into what is now the bottom bar. Initially this was a restaurant under Frank's successor and quite posh, with waiters in dicky bows and wines like Blue Nun and Hirondelle.



That didn't last many years. It was also the first time you could get from one bar to the other without going outside.

Here (above) is the snug, which is still recognisable today. The fireplace is still there, though powered by gas rather than coal these days. The old settles have gone, replaced by fitted seating. Note the floor length curtains where more fitted seating is in front of those windows today.



This is another picture you might place easily. The door on the right is still there, and today is access to the toilets. The fireplace has gone and the pub's pool table stands in front of where it was; there's a TV on the chimney breast.

Above right is the only picture I've seen of the doghouse bar. My family lived in Dore in 1972, but I was a schoolboy then and didn't start drinking in the Hare until about 1975 so I've no personal memories of it.

The pump badge shows Mansfield Bitter, and Mansfield Brewery owned the pub until about 1976 when it became a Bass House selling Stones as its main brew.

Finally, there's a picture of Margaret Clark in the main bar, and older residents might recall the bar being 90 degrees round to the left of where it is now. Note that the beer pumps are now on the bar where you usually see them today, not behind the





bar where Frank is working in the first photo. That is more in the style of earlier times.

My thanks to everyone who has helped my memory in the preparation of this article, and furnished other memories of their own. Like the fact that the main bar was known as the 'guinea ring' by locals who used the tap room. The tap room customers were the bread and butter of Frank's trade, the guinea ring was for the posher lads, the hoorays whose parents were rich enough to own a motor car. Nobody owned two cars.

Now, overleaf you can read some of those memories from the Dore Village Archive; villagers, and members of Frank's family. *A la recherece du temps perdu.* 

Remember that these memories are from a long time ago, and so they differ from person to person. Not everyone remembers the same thing in the same way. I haven't, for instance, been able to determine for certain whether the tap room and doghouse bar were the same, or if maybe there were two bars round the back and behind the shops.

> John Eastwood with thanks to the Dore Archives Research Team and the Clark family

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## Hare & Hounds memories

On this page are the recollections of villagers who tell of the pub in days gone by. Their memories have been recorded by our Oral History Group over the years. Let's start with the landlady:

Frank and I ran the Hare and Hounds for 43 years from 1929 to 1972. I was so young that when Rev. Gibson called to welcome us, he asked to see my mother!

In those days the Hare and Hounds was smaller and shared the building with a grocers, a butchers and a Post Office. The sorting office was above and the postmaster and his wife lived at the back. They got their water from the pub kitchen!

It was a lovely old farmhouse kitchen with a highly polished Yorkshire range and a stone sink which had to be donkey-stoned.

There was a tap room, bar parlour, bagtelle room and a smoke room, where I played the piano for many a sing-song. I still have the envelope where I wrote down the prices; half a pint of mild 3d, bitter 4d, spirits 9d plus 1d for soda.

The pub was the meeting place for many village activities; ploughing match meetings and dinner, stakers' lunch provided for the men who 'staked out' the field for ploughing. Longshaw Sheepdog Trials meetings.

Frank re-formed the Dore Football Club after the war - they met in the pub and changed upstairs in the loft. A hosepipe from the kitchen tap was used to fill tubs in the back yard for washing after the match. Then I would provide them gallon jugs of Camp coffee.

During the war fruit and vegetable shows were held in the loft to raise money for the Hare and Hounds Cigarette Fund for local soldiers. If a postcard was sent back, another packet was sent out. And in the pub kitchen the ladies knitted them balaclavas and socks.

The war brought new customers from the ack-ack battery at Knowle Green and the airborne troops camping at Kings Croft.

When we left after 43 years the pub was completely drunk dry and a conga line snaked through all the bars. The old till was removed. The largest amount that could be rung up at one time was £1. It had been converted to decimal by putting stickers over the LSD flags.

#### Margaret Clark

I was born in 1937 in a little cottage which was situated right across the road from the Hare and Hounds. That cottage has long since been demolished and we now have the fruiterer there, the greengrocer on the corner.

Many is the time in those early days I've seen people coming out of the Hare and Hounds the worse for wear. There's been the odd fight which caused great interest in the village because there wasn't much else to be interested in, in those early days of the war, through the forties and to the early fifties actually.

#### Graham Thorpe

**Richard:** You know, Frank was one of the true characters. Frank Clark, never to be forgotten by the locals. That family, they'd been living in that pub for 40 years. They've never had another landlord stint like that.

**David:** Oh yes, he was a great fellow. What was that little bar, that little room they had at the back? Sort of a dog's bar or whatever? **Richard:** Well, they had several little bars. Yes, there was what they called 'the doghouse', at the back of the main bar which was a men only bar.

David: Can you imagine that now?

**Richard:** And then there was the taproom, which had originally been their kitchen in the 1950s. The beer was a penny a pint cheaper in there. You could play darts and dominoes. And then there was the front bar where all the hooray henrys used to go and then there was the cocktail bar. There was a completely different clientele in each bar. There could have been people going in the

same pub for years, but in a different bar and you never met them! **David:** Yes, and there was one old chap used to go in the dog, what was it called, the doghouse? Where it was men only.

Richard: Yes, the doghouse they called it.

**David:** Anyway, he'd go in there, read his paper and he didn't want any chitchat. Didn't want to hear a female voice, didn't want children or anything. That was his little place. And when it was all altered, that went and I was told he never ever came in again. Whatever happened to him I don't know, but he'd lost his little place.

**Richard:** His niche. It's a shame that there aren't many pubs left where a working man could go after a hard day's work in his mucky clothes and enjoy a pint before he went home. They're all open plan now and they look down their noses if you come in with dirty boots.

#### **Richard Farnsworth and David Rowarth**

When my parents took over the Hare and Hounds in 1929, the previous landlord was a Mr. Hurst and two of his daughters had a clothes shop there which later became the Post Office, run by the Maces.

The cottage next door was a grocers run by Mrs. Ethel Thorpe. Many old timers will remember Mrs. Thorpe's shop - it was so tiny, but you could buy all your groceries there, plus pots and pans, knitting wools, cottons etc.

She cured the bacon on a machine upstairs and sold Gunstone's bread and cakes. She closed down in the early sixties when the brewery enlarged the pub.

#### David Clark

I came here when I was 18 months old when my parents became the tenants.

My mother was a wonderful cook and we had a marvellous Yorkshire range in the sort of farmhouse kitchen. And we did everything on it. And a big copper flour bin, she made bread every week. And of course this lovely Yorkshire range had to be blackleaded. And it was wicked because the brewery removed it after we'd left. I wish it was still here.

I mean it was marvellous. In fact they've taken everything away of historical interest, even the old iron ham hooks out of the original beams. It was originally the Anchor Brewery and then it became the Hope and Anchor Brewery and then it was Bass Charrington.

And we had a garage and bottle store on ground level and a marvellous even-temperature cellar where the beer was just right, summer and winter. Now it's all on the same level and refrigerated and all very different. The Dore Football Club used to change their strip in the loft over the garage and their washing facilities afterwards was a washtub in the yard with a hosepipe put in, and forbidden territory for me! I shall never forget the awful smell of Camp coffee which was made for them. Mother made it in a big enamel jug and the smell of it put me off coffee for years and years.

And the shops underneath – we lived over the top, apart from the downstairs kitchen. And as children we weren't allowed in - we had to run through into the kitchen and straight upstairs! It was the only access we had, to come through the pub. The smoke from the pub came up through the floorboards.

And we had little shows during the war, garden produce to raise funds for the Red Cross and the Hare and Hounds Cigarette Fund which was organised to send cigarettes to the forces. One night we collected  $\pounds100$ , equal to a man's annual wage.

There was the cowman called Frankie Fisher and he had leather gaiters and a frockcoat. He slept with the cows and he used to come in as a customer - can you inagine the stench? In front of the taproom fire - we had five open fires and he'd be right in front of them - and the steam! We could tell when he was in from upstairs. Jean Pearson (nee Clark)

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#### Step Out Sheffield has begun to step out in Dore!

Come and join us on any Tuesday morning for a walk - come rain or shine. We meet at Christ Church Community Centre (in the backroom) on Townhead Road, postcode S17 3GA, in time to walk at 10.30am. Parking is available.

Feedback from our walkers has been very positive - they enjoy the exercise, scenery and lovely company, even if it rains. We are a very diverse bunch of folk, which may not be reflected in the photographs as some of our walkers are camera shy!

We all know that walking at a pace that is comfortable for you is good for your physical health. But walking in nature can also provide an emotional lift and reduce your stress levels. And, if the idea of walking in the damp and the cold doesn't float your boat, believe me, you'll have forgotten about the weather by the time you are back in the Community Centre, half-way down your cuppa and enjoying a chat with your new walking pals.

An important part of our raison d'etre is the provision of the chance to socialise both during and after the walk. Now that there is a walk on your 'Dore-step' there really is no excuse not to come and join the fun.

#### **About the Walks**

There is a choice of a long walk and a short walk each week to accommodate all levels of fitness. We walk according to the ability of our walkers, but the long walk may include some stiles and steps which are unavoidable if we want to explore the lovely countryside around Dore, including Totley Brook and Blackamoor. There are plenty of alternative routes though which don't include stiles or steps, but still give us lovely views.

It's free, you don't need to book and you don't need any special equipment, although dressing to suit the weather is advisable along with shoes you are comfortable walking in and are happy to get a bit muddy!

There's coffee and biscuits in the Community Centre afterwards for which we ask a nominal fee of  $\pounds$ 1.50.

The Dore health walks are run by a friendly bunch of volunteer trained walk leaders who wear yellow jackets. If you're not sure



and need more information, you can pop along and try us out or just come for coffee or tea at 11.30am to find out more. You could also telephone the Step Out Sheffield helpline on 07505 639524 for more information.



#### **Our Long Walks (1 hour)**

As readers will see from the photographs, the walkers are a cheerful group even when it is raining. Over the summer of 2021, five or six walk leaders reconnoitred various routes. They have to suit those with health conditions, which might for example include arthritis. One varied route, and our most challenging is nicknamed the 'pub crawl' as it passes two pubs, each known both for food and beer. It takes a concealed left turn from the southerly end of Church Lane, crosses Totley Recreation Field and dips down to Totley Brook. We cross the wooden bridge where the water tinkles and turn right on a path towards Hillfoot Road. After a short and careful section on the road (traffic can be fast) we turn right up Penny Lane passing The Crown Inn. By this stage the blood is flowing and the mood lifting. This road section is quiet, and passes the stables on the left before emerging at The Cricket Inn.

Beyond the cricket pitch we turn sharp right following a public footpath past quaint cottages and a cosy farmhouse. We come out on a private tarmac lane, shared with the diverted footpath that curves round a most elegant house, and dive left via a narrow ginnel and up a flight of steps to regain Hillfoot Road. But we are not on the road for long, we enter a field via a stile and kissing gate and walk up parallel to the road, this is safer and we can stop at the top, turn round and take in the wonderful views over Blackamoor while getting our breath back. It just remains to cross a wall using well-constructed ancient stone steps conveniently set into the fabric by the farmers of old. Then it is back to base via Drury Lane for a well earned cuppa.

#### **Our Short Walks (approx 35 mins)**

Every week, apart from the main walk, there is a short, slower paced option for people who aren't quite as athletic as they used to be, but wish to improve their walking fitness in good company. Depending on how slower walkers are feeling that morning the walk duration is usually between 15 to 35 minutes and routes are as flat as possible, avoiding the surprising number of stiles on Dore rights of way dating from the village's farming heritage. Walkers are accompanied by trained Volunteer Walk Leaders who plan routes that can be adapted to the people taking part. One favourite walk is up Townhead Road and through the large, green space of the Recreation Ground to Newfield Crescent.

Before the start people can decide whether they wish to then turn left towards Newfield Lane and return back to the Community Centre through the pleasant new estate via the two rough hewn steps down into the west entrance of the park or, if large steps are a challenge, opt for a gentler route home via Causeway Head Road, The Meadway and the footpath along the side of the football ground. Once people gain confidence and become fitter they can graduate to the main walk, but being first back does have the advantage of spending longer over tea and coffee together, served through the hatch from the Community Hall's new look kitchen!

#### Watch our Promotional video on YouTube

We are very grateful to medical students from Sheffield University who recently attended many of the health walks across Sheffield and produced a video about us that you can find by searching for Step Out Sheffield on YouTube. The video was produced by Gwen Craddock with the help of Zahra Ahmed, Harriet Beatie and Luke Jones in December 2021. Take a look at it - you may spot some familiar locations and faces!

The students also undertook a project to explore the benefits that people enjoyed by attending health walks. These included meeting new people and making new friends, especially if they have recently retired, moved to a new area or have been bereaved.

#### **Step Out Sheffield**

Step Out Sheffield is a volunteer-led organisation founded in 2016 that provides walks at various venues across the city each week. Our experienced Walk Leaders have all been trained by our umbrella organisation, the Ramblers.

Sue Lee has been involved with Sheffield's health walks since 2003 when she was engaged by Sheffield City Council to develop and deliver walks in Southwest Sheffield.

When she retired in 2012, she continued to support the walks as a Volunteer Walk Leader and, in 2016, became the volunteer Chair of Step Out Sheffield.

Sue Lee, Volunteer Chair, Step Out Sheffield Lucia Contrino, Volunteer Chair and Walk Leader, Dore Health Walk Group



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#### Across

- 1. Direct anger towards Holy gift (12)
- 9. Warble about badly made grind (9)
- 10. One living abroad with quiet energy exchanged for leave of absence (5)
- 11. Not in tune. What's the cost? (6)
- 12. Brief to contain a value (8)
- 13. Take off English band (6)
- 15. Counted on putting first and last into action (8)
- 18. Those providing terraces that are built (8)
- 19. Football team, including new rejects (6)
- 21. Takes in birds (8)
- 23. Stage to present European representative (6)
- 26. US city can bring romantic talk (5)

27. Doubly popular about case of trainer, nearly all poorly fundamental (9)

28. Go around motoring with energy transforming relationship between sides (12)

#### Down

- 1. Works out depths (7)
- 2. Representative time with books (5)
- 3. One taking is wrong kind to get paper edited (9)
- 4. Nothing holds a collar (4)
- 5. Covers with constant replacement by large curves (8)
- 6. Control bull (5)
- 7. Encouragement to be more savage and throw (8)
- 8. Here and hear (6)
- 14. Takes back right to scatter around (8)
- 16. European Union takes blend of cannabis and is mostly initially put in a nice way (9)
- 17. Potter creator follows quietly when moving stealthily (8)
- 18. Throw the French piece on board (6)
- 20. Discontented, say about vessel, but that's vague... (7)
- 22. ...and something inside another vessel (5)
- 24. Good thing to be like group (5)
- 25. Stagger and be demented on the up (4)

Crossword compiled by Mavis		
Answers will be		

Answers will be published in the May issue. Solution to our Winter crossword:



#### Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society

I must apologise profusely, although it is because of an unlucky quirk of timing. I have been publicising the fact that the Society will perform our next show at The Merlin Theatre next April, but shortly after the deadline for copy expired the society secretary received a letter from The Merlin saying that they were no longer allowing groups to use the theatre and were effectively closing for the foreseeable future. We do not know why.

Our Chairman, Alan Wade moved quickly and was lucky enough to find that The Montgomery Theatre had availability on the dates we had wanted so the show will now be performed at The Montgomery Theatre from Wednesday 6th April 2022 and run until Saturday 9th April. Sheffield is woefully short of small theatres suitable for amateur use so we are lucky to get this venue.

The show, which will be our 50th Anniversary, is that favourite and probably most famous of the G & S operettas, The Pirates of Penzance. This tale of a Slave to Duty exploits the peculiarity of being born on 29th February in a leap year and includes many sing-along tunes like "When the Foemen Bares his Steel"; the Policeman's Song, "When a Felon's not Engaged in his Employment" and the Major General's song, "I am the very model of a modern Major General".



Constabulary duty's to be done, to be done... Mark White, Bryan Eley and yours truly from our 2012 production

Sullivan also spoofs operatic conventions, particularly one employed by many serious operas of the time that called for characters to sing onstage, yet at the same time remain oblivious to each other's presence. The trick is especially humorous in Act II, when the pirate-hunting policemen fail to notice those pirates who have just stalked onstage. The show is a romp and great fun from start to finish. It was the first operetta my parents took me to see and it hooked me for good.

It is a great introduction to the world of operetta in general and Gilbert and Sullivan in particular. It provides a guaranteed evening of excellent entertainment. Don't miss it.

Tickets at £16.00 (U16 £8.00) are available by calling 0114 236 3797 / 07565 805405 and the performances are on the 6th, 7th and 8th April at 7:30pm with a Saturday matinee at 2:30pm. Tickets can also be bought on-line at www.doregass/weebly.com but please note that credit card charges apply. Tickets are not available from The Montgomery Theatre itself.

Here's hoping for a more normal 2022 and I hope to see you at the show.

#### Derek Habberjam

Please mention Dore to Door when replying to advertisements. It helps both DVS and the advertiser.

#### 150 years at Dore & Totley

See my separate article below about 1872. Although the station opened on 1st February we aren't aware of any special events that took place on that day. Consequently, we didn't make a lot of the day itself but are encouraging groups young and old to make the most of the opportunity to use the year as a focus for celebrations. You'll see maroon and yellow bunting on the station, the colours of the Midland Railway. Bear in mind that Dore Road was opened about the same time.



#### **Better services from December 2021**

If all goes to plan, and it often doesn't on the railway,

we should have a regular Northern service stopping at all stations every hour this year, a year earlier than we'd expected. Departures to Sheffield should be about 58 minutes after each hour, and towards Manchester about 23 minutes past. Currently we're drawing attention to the loss of the 8.24 into Sheffield, retimed at 8.58.

TransPennine trains will be extended to Liverpool instead of Manchester Airport.

One dark cloud is passing, EMR should be resuming Sunday services now their strike is over. Sadly, TPE now have industrial relations issues with both drivers and guards which may lead to cancelled services, particularly at weekends and especially on Sundays. At the time of writing all three operators have withdrawn some regular trains due to Covid absences. EMR are also short of trains. These cuts may continue until May so always check times carefully before going to catch any train.

#### **Cycle shelter**

Three years ago the cycle shelter was approaching capacity. We asked for more cycle storage space, things happen slowly and we now have space for 32 bikes, a cycle pump and a tool kit for simple bike repairs (above). Cycle on down and try it before taking a train. Or bring the trike and child carrier for some train spotting.

#### Looking forward, Great British Railways et al

As 2022 progresses we'll be seeing work to construct a third track from the Westview Lane flats along to Dore West Junction and

## Age of the train

At the start of the 18th Century, transport around Britain relied on old tracks and remains of roads dating back to Roman times. Bulk loads went by sea and small ships were brought up rivers as far as they could get. All the biggest British cities were ports. By the middle of the century the Industrial Revolution was transforming Britain. Small canals had existed long before then, but a massive surge of major canal building got under way and by 1800 tunnels two miles long under the Pennines were becoming routine.

The old roads were being improved and new turnpike toll roads constructed, many still forming the foundations of today's A and B roads. By 1820 there was a good national network of roads and canals, but Sheffield was rather left out. Our canal was a dead end. The Great North Road ran through Doncaster.

Coal was being mined in ever increasing quantities and by 1800 horse drawn tramways were being built to move it from collieries to the coast. Step forward George Stephenson who did so much to survey new railways and design steam engines, most famous for the Stockton & Darlington and the Liverpool and Manchester Railways opened for passengers in 1830.

In 1835, George surveyed a line between Derby and Leeds for the North Midland Railway following river valleys and avoiding tight curves and steep gradients. It was to meet the Sheffield and Rotherham Railway at Masbrough. That spur opened in 1838, the North Midland north to Rotherham in 1840. (History repeats itself, to redouble the tracks through the station, plus second platform construction. Short term pain for longer term gain. There'll be some night work and at weekends when buses will replace trains. So far the contractors, Volker/Story, have been very open about what is to happen and when. Watch out for their letters, social media posts and posters at the station.

What we currently don't know is how Great British Railways, the new umbrella for all railway matters, will pan out. A Transition Team starts work on 1st April. We think the station will probably come under their direct control and not Northern's, but when? We don't know if all the separate operators will continue as now, but assume there will be adjustments.

FoDaTS contributes to the **Hope Valley Railway Users Group**, not least because most of us use the line. They have arranged to hold a very belated AGM in Hathersage on Thursday 31st March. Their guest speaker will be Sir Peter Hendy, Chairman of Network Rail. Watch out for more details.

Our own belated AGM will be before you receive the next issue, details being finalised.

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If you're a Facebook user, you can find and join us by searching for FoDaTS. It's a very active group and is updated frequently with topical information and comments.

Alternatively look for our website at www.fodats.net

If you're not on Facebook and would like more information, please send an email to our Secretary; *njbarnes@outlook.com*.

#### Chris Morgan, Chairman

for HS2 was also planned to bypass Sheffield for similar reasons - plus a lot of housing and industry is now in the way.)

Then, as now, the people of Sheffield weren't happy to be left on a branch line backwater. In 1821 the population was 84,540 growing to 134,599 in 1841 and 219,634 by 1861. Public meetings were held and in 1864 an Act of Parliament authorised a new direct line via Dronfield, the 'new road'. Things happened quite fast in those days and work started in 1865. It was completed by late 1869, including Bradway Tunnel. At that time Dore, Totley and Bradway were not considered significant enough to need a station. Beauchief was to be the nearest at a crossroads and Beauchief Hall, opened in 1870. Dore Road didn't exist.

Once construction got underway the local disruption was considerable. Many more people came to the area pouring money into the local economy. Quarries, brick works, beer houses, butchers, grocers and other traders all benefitted. New brick buildings sprang up. However, spoil from both the deep cutting and Bradway Tunnel were dumped on the old Walk Mill site at the bottom of today's Twentywell Lane. That became known as the railway triangle after 1894, but that's skipping ahead a little.

#### Why no station at Dore?

By the 1860s almost everyone wanted a local railway station but at that time the route of Dore Road was just open green fields. Local landowners like the Duke of Devonshire and Earl Fitzwilliam clearly saw opportunities to make the railway work for them. As the



line was about to open the Sheffield Daily Telegraph reported on Saturday 29th January 1870:

**OPENING OF THE NEW RAILWAY TO CHESTERFIELD.** On Thursday, a special train from Derby passed over the new line, stopping at the several intermediate stations of Chesterfield and Sheffield, including Unstone, Dronfield, Abbey-houses, Ecclesall, and Heeley. The train contained the station masters and porters, with the furniture for the stations and matters necessary for the working of the line. The whole of the stations have a neat appearance, the platforms being very commodious. It is understood that in addition to a new station now in progress at Whittington Moor, it is also intended to construct a station in Abbeydale, near to the bottom of "Twenty-well-sic-lane," for the accommodation of Totley and Dore.

Local pressure was clearly building because by Friday 6th May 1870 the Sheffield Daily Telegraph report goes:

ABBEYDALE AND THE NEW RAILWAY. As was expected the new railway will effect great changes to this picturesque valley, both as regards the number of inhabitants and also the making of new roads. The well-to-do tradesmen of Sheffield are said to be anxious to take their residence in the 'dale', and with the view of meeting this requirement Earl Fitzwilliam and the Duke of Devonshire are leasing eligible sites for the building of villa residences. It is also understood to be the intention of Earl Fitzwilliam to widen the current road leading from Abbeydale-road, Beauchieff Bar, to Dore Moor. It is also intended to make a new road from the Abbeydale opposite the Twenty-well-sic-road to Dore. This part of the dale, beside the attractions of great natural beauty, possesses another commendable feature— being out of the borough the rates will be but nominal in amount in comparison with borough rates. The new railway station too, promised to be erected by the Midland Railway Company will be within a stone's throw of the land on the side of the proposed new road. It is also understood that the property owners, who are but few, will not sell on lease any property for manufacturing purposes.

In those days Dore, Totley and Bradway were still in Derbyshire where lower rates applied! That report was followed by the Sheffield Daily Telegraph on Saturday 4th June:

**IMPORTANT MEETING AT DORE**. Anumerously-attended meeting of the ratepayers of this township was held in the school-room on Thursday evening last, the Vicar in the chair. The Chairman, in opening the meeting, said they had met together pursuant to notice, in order to discuss the best method of widening and improving the upper part of what is called Dore-lane. Some time ago a memorial, signed by the inhabitants of Dore, was forwarded to the directors of the Midland Railway Company, petitioning for a station further up the valley than Beauchief, and at a point nearer to Dore. This request had been granted, subject to a proviso that a road from Dore to the proposed Station should be constructed, the lower part of which had been surveyed and staked out by J. M. Withers, Esq., at the request of the agents of the Duke of Devonshire, and it only remained for the parish to continue that road in a westerly direction from the point where it leaves his Grace's property up to Dore itself. After remarks from Mr. Hancock, Mr. Withers explained the plan of the road, the gradient of which, at the lower end is 1:13.5, and grows much easier as it advances. Resolutions were proposed by Messrs. Hancock, Unwin, and Roe empowering the Surveyor to improve the road as proposed, and deputing a committee to apply for an order of magistrates to do away with certain footpaths shown on the large ground plan exhibited by Mr. Withers to the meeting. The feeling of the meeting was unanimous on all the resolutions, and considerable satisfaction was expressed that this scheme, which Mr. Hancock stated, had been contemplated nearly thirty years, was at length definitely settled. The new road will not only place this village in direct communication with the fast-increasing suburbs of Sheffield, but also supply the town with a site for villa residences unequalled both in the beauty of its situation and in the abundance of its water any place in the neighbourhood round.

So, the roots of our belated little station had started to appear, as had Dore New Road.

Pressure continued and on 6th May 1871 the Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald reported:

DORE. A meeting of the inhabitants of Dore (and very fully attended one) was held on Friday evening last, with reference to that portion of the new road to the Midland Station to be made by the parish. The question at issue was-by rate, or by applying to the landowners for subscriptions. It was argued by Messrs. Taylor and B. Unwin that the larger sums collected from a few would save the pockets of the many; the other side Mr. Hancock and the Chairman (the Rev. T. Aldred), that as the road is an advantage for all, small and great, the cost should be distributed upon all, especially as the Duke of Devonshire, the largest landowner in the parish, had already undertaken the greater part of the road. The meeting taking this view, carried the resolution to proceed by rate, by a majority of 33 to 2. Mr. Wethers, surveyor of the Duke of Devonshire's part of the road, kindly offered his advice in the formations of the parochial portion. The station, we understand, is already marked out. Census. - The following is the Census return for the township of Totley and Dore. Township of Dore in 1861, 610; Township of Totley, in 1861, 396.

And so it came to pass that Dore New Road was constructed and our little station was built at a building cost of £1,517 and £450 for two acres of land. It was opened, apparently without ceremony, on 1st February 1872, 150 years ago, two years to the day after the line was opened in 1870.

At that time there were two platforms, and the footbridge was at the south end of the platform. It was removed and reassembled elsewhere when a further two platforms were built about 1900. Older readers may remember 4 platforms with a footbridge to the north of the station buildings. That forms the next part of the story of our little station. Suffice to say that in 1872 it was a huge success and the popularity of Dore, Totley and Bradway for well to do commuters grew, safely away from the smoke and high rates in the city of Sheffield.

**Chris Morgan** 





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## Swing into Summer

For the second edition in a row, I wasn't able to dine and review my preferred restaurant, although this time it was through no fault of mine! A bout of Covid meant I had to isolate early in the New Year and therefore spent seven days just dreaming about dining out! Fortunately for you (I hope!), I had the foresight to take some notes and a few photos for a future review when out at The Summer House just before Christmas.

Opened in 2015 on the site of an old garden centre, the restaurant building itself was a bike shop, which, after significant redesign and development now looks more like a garden than a velodrome. The décor of the different areas is all along a garden theme, with a conservatory area and the recently added Eden@ The Summer House giving a unique atmosphere which is both functional and tasteful.

I think it is fair to say that in the early days, the reviews of locals were quite mixed. Only having eaten there on a few occasions, I have never been disappointed. As a result, I am actually unsure why I haven't reviewed The Summer House before. So, when I heard that the chef and menus had changed, I decided that it needed to be done.

We were seated in a booth in the conservatory by our friendly and attentive waitress and offered drinks while studying the menu. I went for a Grey Goose with a twist of lime ( $\pounds$ 8.45 for a double) and my partner had a Bacchus, which is an English wine and one of her favourites ( $\pounds$ 6.70 for 175ml). Her daughter took advantage of what looked like a very good value cocktail menu, choosing an Orchard Blossom at  $\pounds$ 7.95.



The menu has a choice of six starters, all of which were worthy of consideration. I was torn between the Thai Salmon Fishcakes ( $\pounds$ 7.95) and the Hoisin Duck Bon Bon ( $\pounds$ 8.95), and in the end we decided to have one each and share – perfect! The third starter chosen was the Smoked Haddock Chowder ( $\pounds$ 6.95 as a starter), but more of that later.

Both my half-starters (to be fair I probably had two-thirds of each!) were spot-on. The fishcakes were packed with flavour, with the ginger, garlic and coriander supporting the salmon rather than overpowering it and the onion, chilli, cucumber and rocket salad being perfect on the side. The addition of a lemon mayonnaise made the dish complete. The duck bon bons were coated in panko breadcrumbs (as were the fishcakes) and the meat was moist and tender. The seasoning was perfect and sweetness of the hoisin complimented the well flavoured duck. The salad was the same as for the fishcakes, which was no bad thing.

The menu has a much more extensive range of main courses, with various pizzas and burgers and a good selection for the



vegetarians. In addition, there were three fish/seafood choices and a good selection of meat dishes. I chose the Teriyaki Beef Rib (£21.95), which was served with fondant potatoes cooked in duck fat, carrots and sautéed greens with a red wine reduction. The goulash (£13.95) was a close second in my mind, and I am sure I will go for it next time, but I wasn't at all disappointed with my choice. The beef itself was marinated in teriyaki and was juicy and flavourful. If I have one (very) small criticism, it is that it was ever so slightly salty – although that was probably the teriyaki. The potatoes soft and the taste of the duck fat shone through, and the rest of the veg were cooked with the perfect level of bite.

My partner chose the Smoked Haddock Chowder as a main (£13.95), which came with crusty bread. The smell of this dish was amazing – with the smoked haddock and smoked bacon complemented by the white wine and garlic in the broth. The taste was just as good, with the flaky haddock pieces melting on the tongue. Finally, the choice of Gambas Pil Pil (£17.95) gave us a hat-trick of great dishes. The king prawns were huge, with plenty of butter, chilli and garlic. The dish was served with a house salad, French Fries and a *barra gallega* (rustic Spanish minibaguette) to mop up the juice – which is the only bit I managed to steal under the beady eyes of my 20-year old step-daughter! We accompanied the main course with a bottle of Conde Castille Crianza Rioja (£23.95), which was perfect with my beef, although my partner had another Bacchus and the youngster had another cocktail, this time an Elderflower Frost.

At £147.85 for three, including aperitifs, cocktails and wine, it is not the cheapest in the world, but considering around half of that was on drinks, the food is excellent value for money. In addition to dinner, the restaurant is open through the day and I have been reliably informed that the breakfast/brunch menu is particularly good. There is also a Sunday roast menu that combines elements of the main menu with traditional, and some not so traditional roasts – roast tandoori cod, for example! Overall, the food is excellent, the service second to none, and the décor and atmosphere pretty unique. If the drinks are a little on the expensive side, then so be it – not something that will stop me going back.

#### Hendo Nagasaki

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# From our MP



Firstly, I would like to wish everyone in Dore a very Happy New Year. I know the last year has been really difficult for so many people across our community. I will be doing everything in 2022 to l can representing keep holding the vou. Government to account and speaking locally up and nationally on the issues you care about.

Towards the end of last year I celebrated two years since I was elected the MP for Sheffield Hallam. In that time I have answered over 20,000 individual enquires from people across Hallam; successfully campaigned for a partial ban on peatland burning; won important reforms to miscarriage support; worked with people across our constituency to build a Hallam Climate Manifesto ahead of COP26; facilitated a Sheffield Nature Emergency summit; tabled a Bill for stronger protections against abuse for front-line workers and much, much more!

Whilst I have hundreds of ideas of campaigns I want to run in 2022, I was elected to represent the people of Sheffield Hallam – and fight on the issues you all care about. So this year I am sending out a survey, to ask people what issues they want me to raise and campaigns they want me to join. From action on the climate and nature emergency to protecting public services, I want to know where you want me to put my focus in 2022. Hundreds of people have already fed in their ideas. If you haven't yet shared your thoughts, you can do so on my website here: *tinyurl.com/blake-2022* 

In some exciting news, I have been appointed the Shadow Minister for Climate Change! I am really looking forward to using this role to champion Labour's green new deal and hold the government to account over their failure to address the climate and nature emergency. It has been an honour to serve on Labour's Shadow Environment team. I have really valued the opportunity to campaign on restoring nature, cleaning up our rivers and building climate change resilience and I will continue to champion these vital issues in my new role.

I have already hit the ground running. In Parliament I questioned COP26 President Alok Sharma on the Government's inadequate net-zero strategy. It is very worrying that they have seemingly published this strategy without any understanding of how far individual policies will help reduce emissions or meet vital targets. We are in a Climate Emergency and we don't have time for more empty promises, failed strategies or greenwash. I will continue to hold the Government to account over their inaction on the climate emergency and push for a transformative Green New Deal.

I was really pleased to have the oportunity to join councillors on a walk about in Dore and Totley last month, to hear about their work and to talk to local residents. I have also been visiting small businesses across Hallam, to hear about the issues they are facing and what more I can do to support them. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and we are so lucky to have so many great independent businesses in Dore and in Hallam. I hope everyone will help support them by shopping locally in 2022. I also recently joined volunteers on a work day at Loxley cemetery - it was amazing to see the transformation they have made there and I am looking forward to heading back for more.

Many of you have written to me about the Government's antidemocratic Policing Bill and are rightly very worried about its draconian effect. I can assure you I have voted against it at every opportunity. Over the past couple of weeks I have been working with campaigners in our city and across the country to fight this Bill and protect our city's proud tradition of standing up for what we believe in, from those campaigning for women's suffrage to anti-slave trade protesters. I was really pleased to have the opportunity to speak at the rally held outside the Town Hall ahead of the Bill returning to the House of Lords.

Thanks to huge public pressure, the Lords defeated the Government and were able to vote down some of the worst parts of the Bill. I am holding a meeting with groups in Sheffield to discuss what more we can do in our city to fight this Bill and I encourage everyone in Dore to attend. You can register for the event on my website.

The Government's Anti Refugee Bill also returned to the House of Lords in January. I am concerned that this Bill presents a very real attack on our international legal obligations to those fleeing war. I joined hundreds of people in Sheffield City centre towards the end of last year, to rally against the dangerous Nationalities and Borders Bill and will continue to champion Sheffield's City of Sanctuary.

Thank you for reading my update, and if you have any feedback whatsoever, please do take my survey or get in touch with me directly and let me know where you would like me to put my focus in 2022. Once again, Happy New Year!

Olivia Blake - MP for Sheffield Hallam oliviablake.org.uk olivia.blake.mp@parliament.uk

# More Ancient Suburbs of Sheffield

An illustrated talk by David Templeman which looks at the ancient Sheffield suburbs of Dore, Ecclesall, Handsworth, Stannington and Bradfield, giving us a glimpse at the centuries-old history of the city's suburbs. Travel back in time to visit the villages and hamlets of the past, and meet some of their colourful characters. All welcome.

Thursday 31 March 2022 7.30pm Dore Methodist Church Tickets are free but must be prebooked through Eventbrite at: https://bit.ly/AncientSuburbs





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## **Councillors' News**

It's been a busy time for Councillors since the Christmas holidays and your local team are keeping a close eye on a number of issues that could have a big impact on Dore and other parts of the city.

In particular, some major decisions have to be taken on Sheffield's finances. Due to a number of issues, including a huge increase in the cost and demand for adult social care due to Covid, the city budget is predicted to be overspent by approximately £30m this year. In the short-term part of this can be funded from reserves but some tough decisions will have to be made to put things back on an even keel. These challenges are unprecedented and all three local Councillors will be questioning the numbers and putting forward sustainable proposals to the budget meeting in March.

Another issue that features heavily in our postbag is public transport. Proposals have been made to extend the operating hours of bus lanes and introduce daytime parking bans along large parts of Abbeydale and Ecclesall Roads. Although most of these changes would be outside our ward, they could have a significant impact on bus and car journeys from Totley and Dore. Also, there is great concern on the impact this parking ban would have on businesses on these two routes. Whatever we all think of these proposals it's disappointing that the bus companies are still not making a commitment to increase passenger numbers. It's a glaring omission in their latest long-term plans.

Over Christmas there was great concern when a notice appeared in the Sheffield Telegraph that appeared to imply part of Whirlow Brook Hall and Park was going to be sold off! This was a badly worded notice that spoiled what in fact is a good news story. What is happening is that a lease is to be given to an operator to develop and open a café on the site of the derelict toilet block. We have been trying to get a café back in the park for a number of years so this development is welcomed. The Abbeydale Park Rise lights were splendid again this year. Thank you to the residents for this magnificent community effort. Fortunately, this year the traffic flow was more manageable than last year. We were able to provide some cones that prevented random parking and that helped the situation.

There has been a big increase in dog ownership during the pandemic. Indeed, Colin is now the proud owner of Ruby! However, not all dog owners are being responsible about picking up poo. This is particularly difficult in parks and playing fields where children play. Dog poo is a health hazard and we have instances where football pitches such as at the Whirlow playing fields have been contaminated and junior players have ended up with dog mess over them. This is unpleasant as well as unhealthy. Please be aware of just what your dog is doing, pick up every time and encourage other dog owners to do the same.

Finally, we are pleased to report that local voluntary & community groups have given us some excellent applications for this year's 'Ward Pot' scheme and all of the funds are currently allocated. Projects include funding of the local Neighbourhood Watch, health walks, More in Dore for the Rec Playground and a local bowling club. In the meantime, do get in contact if you are thinking of applying next year. The next funding round should open in June and an early discussion always helps.

As ever let us know if you need any help or advice on Council matters. Our contact details and surgery dates are shown on the Council website.

See you soon,

Martin, Colin & Joe martin.smith@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk joe.otten@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk colin.ross@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk

### Policing

2022 is upon us so I'll start by wishing you all a very Happy New Year! It's been lovely to see so many houses in the village lit up over Christmas and we enjoyed helping to escort the very well attended lantern parade. Great to have it back!

The year has started as the last finished with a rush of burglaries across South West Sheffield, particularly over the New Year's weekend. The majority of these occurred whilst the occupants were away from home and were discovered some days later on their return. I know I've mentioned it many times before but make no apology for repeating myself. Please, when leaving the house unoccupied for any length of time, try and take steps to make the house still look lived in. Whilst alarms and CCTV may play a part in protecting your property, in our experience it is the small practical steps you can take which will deter people from attempting to enter your house. Firstly look at the access to your house, think about where you would target if you lost your keys, have any windows been left open or ajar? How easy is it for you to get to the rear of the house, maybe using the handily placed wheelie bins to climb on and over any fences? The majority of burglars will look for easy access to the rear where they can't be seen. Have you checked your door locks? Even recently constructed patios can be fitted with the older style eurolock which is an easy target for burglars, ensure you have anti bump and snap locks fitted which are a lot harder to break. If you are unsure have a look at www. locksmiths.co.uk and request a visit from an approved locksmith. If you have a close neighbour or a trusted friend who is willing to go into your house each evening and draw curtains, pull blinds etc this can show people checking streets on a regular basis that there is movement within the house. Consider the use of a couple of timer light switches, stagger these so they come on and off at different times, again creating the illusion of someone moving around the house. Have a look at online retailers and invest £10 or so in a TV simulator. These plug in and when dusk comes automatically turn

on creating the flickering effect of a TV or computer. Make sure they are placed in a room which is visible to the front of the house but where the simulator cannot be seen through a window. It may sound a bit daft but consider Beware of the Dog signs on gateposts, or by your front door. Anything which will make a burglar hesitate about whether your property should be targeted is worthwhile.

We have also had an increase in the theft of high value vehicles particularly Land Rover/Range Rovers. These are often stolen from the owners' driveway without keys, probably picking up a signal from the keyless fob inside the house to unlock and start the vehicle. Blockers are readily available and leaving the keys further away from where the car is parked will stop this happening.

In Dore recently we have also had a small outbreak of shed and garage thefts. Make sure if you are storing anything valuable in outdoor structures that doors and windows are secured as if on your house and that bikes etc are locked up within the shed. I'm pleased to say that calls regarding anti-social behaviour in the village have been very few and far between recently. We are still keeping an eye on the Rec and the fantastic new community centre on Townhead Road where youths have been known to think it's amusing to climb on the roof and I'm in touch with people there regarding refreshing their security arrangements.

As usual I can be contacted by email on adrian.tolson@ southyorks.pnn.police.uk or on my work mobile 07787 881945. Please do not use this to report crimes or incidents. These still need to go through 101 or be submitted via the online reporting portal accessible from the SYP website.

Take care and lets have a safe and peaceful 2022!

### Adrian

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101 Furniss Avenue, Dore, Sheffield S17 3QN The Loose Box, Hathersage Hall Business Centre, Main Rd, Hathersage S32 1BB After two years in which football has been decimated by the pandemic, the 21-22 season is proving a much-welcomed return to normal, or at least what passes for normal in grassroots football.

The biggest barrier to getting fixtures completed this season was not biblical plagues or weather but rather more prosaically, an acute shortage of referees.

It's an issue that was exacerbated rather than caused by the pandemic. Referees used their enforced sabbatical to reflect on whether it was time to hang up their boots, with many sadly concluding that it was. The Sheffield and Hallam FA has lost over 20% of its registered referees. It is by no means unique in that respect. To give a sense of the scale of the problem, if each referee covers an average of 20 games per season the net impact of the shortfall would result in literally thousands of matches being played without a qualified official.

In truth, the bigger surprise is that it's taken this long to become a crisis. The poor treatment of referees has been widely reported and, despite developments by the FA in virtual training and mental health and wellbeing support, many have declined to return for fear of regular verbal and even physical abuse.

At Brunsmeer, we have a zero tolerance for referee intimidation. All spectators must sign up to our code of conduct and we are rightly very proud of our reputation as a friendly, fair play club. However, even we are not immune and many of our sides have been heavily affected by this issue. The club's managers' WhatsApp forum is testament to this, where the weekly last-minute scrabble for a referee has become something of a feature.

To address this issue, we have created a referees training fund. We are covering the training costs of potential referees in order to encourage the next generation of officials and ensure that their first experience of officiating is in a safe and friendly environment. Refereeing is usually – and should be – a lot of fun.

So far, we have had nine candidates sign up but we hope for more. If you're interested in taking a more active role in the action at the Meadway, please contact club chairman Jed Kenyon about how to book a place on the scheme: *Brunsmeerchair@hotmail. com.*  On a sadder note, our indomitable club treasurer Joyce Cooper has resigned after a period of illness. Joyce is a true Brunsmeer stalwart and has provided many years of dedicated voluntary service. Her dedication to the task of managing all the club's payments will be greatly missed, as will her ability to prise subscriptions out of the most obdurate of team managers.

A benign presence – nothing was ever too much trouble for 'Our Joyce' – she is one of the true unsung heroes of the grassroots game and will be greatly missed.

We all wish you well Joyce, gone but definitely not forgotten.

### **U11 Girls**

Meet Dore's and our newest team: Brunsmeer Athletic Under 11 Girls. The squad started training during the summer and is made up of pupils from Dore, Totley and Abbey Lane Primary schools, so as well as developing their football skills, these girls will also be developing new friendships along the way.

Manager Mike Exton is ably assisted by coaches Adam, Dan and James who train the squad on Tuesdays at St. Georges Park, Meadowhead with home matches on Saturdays at The Meadway. The hard work is already paying off as the girls have won 7 of their 10 league games so far! Brunsmeer also qualified for the next round of the cup after a 4-0 win away at Penistone thanks to goals from Erin, Scarlett and Zoe in very challenging conditions.

The team has set its sights on continuing their good form and gaining promotion, which would be a great achievement for their debut season. The team will continue training throughout the year, moving to sessions at King Ecgbert School in the Summer months.

A couple of new players will need to be added to the successful squad and the team will be on the lookout for new sponsors too. Anyone who might be able to help should contact Mike Exton: *mikeexton@hotmail.co.uk*.

### Steve McKevitt Photos courtesy of Ben Webster





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Living Advent Calendar Dore Village Society Living Advent Calendar 2021 There were high hopes for a busy, social Christmas after the lockdown Christmas in 2020. Unfortunately, as we know, it didn't turn out quite like that and the Living Advent Calendar trail again proved itself to be a welcome distraction. Thank you to the 27 households who contributed to our second Living Advent Calendar trail, particularly to those joining us for the first time. Those doing it for the second year running were able to share tips and techniques. There was plenty of thought and creativity again on display in this year's windows. There were Nativity scenes, Father Christmases, the Northern Lights plus those depicting our village and the wider environment which provoked reflection and hope for the future. The trail measured 4½ miles and walking it after Christmas was the ideal way to justify tucking it on a extra mince pie afterwards. Margaret Peart







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## **Nearby Nature**

It's been a tough couple of years for most people and many of us have been grateful to get out onto Blacka Moor for walks or nature-watching nearby. But even a small suburban garden has the potential to be an important wildlife habitat and can provide plenty of opportunities for learning about birds and wildlife. If you want to observe birds at close quarters then setting up some bird feeders in the garden is a start. Birds will already be attracted if you have water, shrubs, trees and seeding plants in the garden, it's just a matter of adding to the food that is naturally available. Once they get used to the feeding station, and if you maintain it consistently, you're likely to get regular bird visitors. Over the years we've recorded 31\* species visiting our small back garden: that includes a heron which found the wildlife pond and a sparrowhawk which found a distracted wood pigeon to feast on. Paying attention to the natural things nearby is a good way to introduce children to the delights of observing and learning about nature and wildlife. When some of these species, like house sparrows and starlings, are under threat this is surely a good thing. It's also entertaining to watch the antics and even the gatecrashers have value - you'll be tempted to set up a 'challenge course' to see just how determined the squirrels and wood mice can be when the food is just out of reach.

So, just starting out into the garden has its value as long as you take notice of what you see. Thousands of people contribute to the British Trust for Ornithology's Citizen Science project, Garden BirdWatch [sic] by submitting weekly information about the birds and wildlife seen in their gardens. These simple observations help the BTO gather valuable data around species success or decline and patterns of occurrence. Visit the BTO's website for more information www.bto.org/our-science/projects/gbw

Why not check out the advice available from the Wildlife Trusts, the RSPB and the British Trust for Ornithology about where to put your feeder, what to feed and how to maintain the health of the visiting birds?

- www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-feed-birds-your-garden
- www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-canhelp-birds/feeding-birds/when-to-feed-garden-birds/
- www.bto.org/how-you-can-help/providing-birds/feedinggarden-birds

\* feral pigeon; wood pigeon; collared dove; magpie; crow; jackdaw; jay; wren; chiffchaff; robin; dunnock; blackbird; starling; blue tit; great tit; coal tit; long-tailed tit; goldcrest; nuthatch; song thrush; fieldfare; redwing; house sparrow; greenfinch; chaffinch; brambling; goldfinch; siskin; bullfinch; heron; great spotted woodpecker.

# Snow bunting sighting

It was early January when Twitter was alerted by a local runner to the sighting of a Snow Bunting on Totley Moor. Snow Buntings breed in the Arctic and are mainly seen in the UK as winter visitors

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Snow Bunting on Totley Moor. Photo by Amyra Treffry

although a few pairs breed in the remote parts of the Scottish Highlands. Even though the challenge of finding one small bird (16-17cms) on Totley Moor was daunting there were sufficient sightings to make it worthwhile trying. And eventually we did see it as it fed near one of the Totley tunnel ventilation shafts. It didn't require much skill to spot the target given that the small clusters of walkers carrying binoculars, telescopes, tripods and cameras were all heading in one direction in search of this unusual visitor. It was worth making the effort to see this beautiful bird as it preened and fed nearby. As we walked away at the end of the afternoon, an owl flew across the track ahead, hunting lazily across the heather. Luckily one of those well-equipped birders had a telescope at the ready and identified it as a short-eared owl. Another bird added to the list! Get to know your garden birds and you'll soon want to head out in search of more.

### Margaret Peart



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At last things are returning to something approaching normal. We are delighted to announce that we have a new music director, Robin Morton, who along with Francis Wells prepared us for a most enjoyable Christmas programme.

Three very successful Christmas concerts were held in Dore

### **Totley History Group**

On February 23rd, Ian Alcock will be telling us about the history of pop-up and novelty books that were very popular in pretelevision days and then on March 23rd, Sarah Cattell from South Yorkshire Archaeology Service will be talking about Sheffield's heritage. The meetings will be open to both members and non-members and if you wish to come, please register your interest by sending an email to secretary@totleyhistorygroup. org.uk.

It may seem odd for a history group to be looking to the future but, although the Group has expanded and flourished over the years and is financially stable, there are two factors posing serious threats to its continuance. The first is the current pandemic we are all living through which stopped our activities in their tracks and has proved challenging to emerge from. A couple of meeting were held by Zoom and, although sparsely attended, at least allowed us to maintain some momentum. "Real" meetings have been restarted and attendances beginning to recover but the omicron variant may have an impact for a while. The other threat is the shortage of people coming forward to help run the Group by joining the committee. Most of the present committee have been in post for many years, some since 2008 and it is inevitable that some will seek to retire in the next few years. Ideally, we are looking for a new Chair and for someone to take on the task of writing articles for local publications. The



Church and a big thank you to the Church Council for enabling this to happen; and to all of you who came and took part. Our guest artist, Erin Alexander from the world of opera, put on fabulous performances and hopefully will be joining us at our gala concert in the autumn.

A note for your diary: the long-awaited memorial concert for our late music director Elizabeth Hampshire will go ahead on Saturday May 7th, 7.00pm at All Saints Church, Ringinglow Road, Ecclesall, Sheffield S11 7PP. Tickets £10 from R. Vaughan 0143 362 3999 or *enquiries@doremalevoicechoir.com*. Our two guest artists for the concert, Lorna James (soprano) and Tom Asher (baritone), have sung with us many times and joined with us on concert tours to Prague and Assisi. St Luke's Hospice will be carrying out a bucket collection so let's hope we can raise a lot of money.

We should have been on tour last year, but Covid put an end to that; however, plans are afoot to go to Italy in September this year. The Choir will be based in Padua which claims to be the oldest city in northern

Italy, with concerts in Venice, Verona and Padua. The highlight will be singing in the evening mass in St Mark's in Venice.

**Ray Mellor** 

Group committee met recently to consider options as to how the Group might, or might not, operate in the future and, whilst there is clearly a chance that the Group might have to fold, the Committee are determined this will only happen as a last resort. Another factor that the Committee considered was that the long shadow of Covid-19 meant time was needed for us to emerge from that before any irreversible decisions were made.

On April 13th we will be holding our AGM, at 7:30pm at Totley Library which will be open to both members and non-members. The main topics will be a display of the group's achievements over the 14 years it has been running and then to consider future activities of the Group. We are still looking for new committee members to come forward to help to ensure the longer-term future of the Group and if you are interested in finding out more about what being on the Committee entails, please send an email to secretary@totleyhistorygroup.org.uk for further details. We would be happy to hear from non-members as well as members.

Please, please come forward if you would like to help this vibrant community group to be able to continue to grow and keep the history of Totley alive.

For updates on all our activities please visit *www. totleyhistorygroup.org.uk.* 

### Norman Rolfe





## 'Growing the rainbow' in Dore recreation ground



Finally! The first bit of equipment More in Dore raised funds for and purchased has now been installed at Dore recreation ground play area. I'm hoping most of you will have wandered past it and seen the new addition. Given the situation over the last couple of years we feel this is quite a milestone for More in Dore's playground rejuvenation project and it will hopefully help keep the momentum going. I would like to personally thank everyone who has donated or helped with events so far, without you this would have taken a lot longer than it did!

Following on from this good news, I am happy to inform you all that we have been awarded funding through the 2021/22 local council ward pot application we submitted at the end of last year. Also, further to the Dore Village Society's committee meeting held at the end of November it was unanimously agreed that they would make an additional large donation towards More in Dore's primary objective. This means we are now in a financial position where during springtime we can start thinking about ordering our second, and largest, piece of apparatus for the playground - the junior/teen equipment. This will replace the current wooden towers and slide and we are hoping it will be suitable for a wider range of children. Our thinking at the minute is that we will get a few pieces of suitable equipment provisionally approved by the council, then put it out to a public vote to find out what the community would like. It will be dependent on council availability, but we are hopeful this piece of apparatus will be installed before the end of autumn this year.

Once this equipment has been ordered I am also planning to organise a community maintenance day at the playground during spring/summer to tidy things up a bit and give the remaining current equipment a bit of TLC until it can be replaced.

After this I am going to take a step back from the phase one project of rejuvenating the playground to focus on More in Dore's phase two objectives of getting additional features added at the recreation ground – the feedback from the last 12 months' research is pointing towards a small scooter/skatepark similar in size to the one at Hathersage park. More in Dore will split in to two main subgroups, one carrying on with the playground project and ongoing funding for replacing the remaining equipment and its ongoing maintenance; the other group will concentrate on progressing the phase two project, getting the relevant permissions in place and fundraising. If anyone is interested in actively helping with either of these groups, please get in contact with us.

You may recall in my last article I mentioned a fundraising fell race event that we were going to hold this summer. Unfortunately, due to work and family commitments this event will not be able to go ahead this year. All being well we can re-arrange it for next year but as we are all volunteers, work and have families, our time to organise such events is limited. If there is anyone reading this who feels they have time and can commit to properly organising or helping with future events, we would love to hear from you.

If you would like to donate to More in Dore then you can via bank transfer, details of which can be found on our website. Cheques are also welcomed and should be posted for the attention of More in Dore, Dore Village Society office, Dore Old School, Savage Lane, S17 3GW.

Tim Ashman More in Dore Chairperson www.moreindore.com dorerec@gmail.com



Francesca Gray is a local secondary schoolgirl, with a BIG vision to bring colour back to the Rec. More than that, Francesca's plans are to create an environment to welcome wildlife back, as voiced by Francesca "most importantly bringing back the bees to areas that have lost habitats since WWII". She is planning to do this by sowing a variety of wildflower seeds to create a border alongside one of the open spaces.

Francesca has lived in the area for a couple of years, frequents the Rec with her family on daily dog walks and loves the area and its beauty. After seeing wild flowers in gardening magazines, and having quite an interest in gardening and the environment, the idea just popped into her head of bringing the Rec to life with flowers, which began her journey to making this possible.

Francesca has already been in talks and is supported by the DVS, More in Dore and local councillor Colin Ross who has obtained permission to plant in the area.

Francesca's objective and the goal of this project is to "create more space for wildlife, as well as getting others involved, to inspire them to create their own spaces for the good of nature".

Asked what are the key milestones, Francesca eagerly gives the important dates to get this project moving. "We're waiting on an email from SCC to say when they can come and rotavate the ground". Once this has been done, Francesca can begin planting after Spring.

Francesca has sourced and purchased seedballs called 'Bee bombs', which are handmade and packed with the seeds of native wildflower species. These can be scattered straight into open ground at any time of the year, with some seeds flowering in the first year, but most will show the year after. (*www.beebombs.com*).

When asked who is going to help her do the planting, Francesca stated her family. I suggested perhaps setting up a social media page to promote her cause and put out a 'call for help' for any other gardeners with an interest in this area, to perhaps engage with Francesca who in turn may inspire them to start creating their own wildflower spaces.

Finally, I asked Francesca what was her personal passion about the project. What would it mean to get this up and running? Enthusiastically Francesca replied, "I am really passionate about the environment and want to do everything I can to help. I've read so many books and looked at environmental problems and I think it's the little things that add up to help make change."

What an inspirational young lady, and a fantastic community project to benefit us all and the environment.

Keep an eye on Dore to Door and the DVS website for updates on the project and please get in touch with me if you are interested in helping Francesca in any way.