

# Bradway Bugle

*In and around Bradway, Greenhill, Dore & Totley*

## Where have all the insects gone?

It is estimated that the current rate of species loss in the world is around 1000 times higher than we would expect from naturally occurring extinctions. This loss of biodiversity, however, is only part of the story.

A paper published recently in Science, highlights another important issue – that of a significant loss of global abundance. It is a problem that we are all aware of; the lack of squashed bugs on the car windscreen, the absence of hedgehogs in our back gardens - each of these seemingly innocuous observations in combination suggest a creeping yet serious issue.

The Science paper discusses data collected by the Krefeld Entomological Society who have been monitoring insect abundance on 100 reserves in Europe since the 1980s. Their results suggest a huge reduction in biomass - perhaps as much as 80% - and hints at an often overlooked problem; the fact that even “common” species are suffering substantial decreases.

These startling findings highlight the importance of recording and monitoring and of taking all taxonomic groups into account, particularly those that are under-recorded such as invertebrates, plants and fungi. Only with more data will it be possible to pinpoint the factors which are responsible for the substantial decreases observed in recent decades.

*continued on the back page ....*

## Protect Graves Park

### The Fight Goes On

Nearly 20 years ago, when the Hands Off Graves Park group stopped Sheffield City Council from selling off a large area of Graves Park for a housing estate, we never imagined that we would still be fighting to protect the park nearly two decades later.

Yet here we are, a group that became the charity “Friends of Graves Park”, expecting to work with the trustee of Graves Park (Sheffield City Council) to improve and enhance the park for the benefit of its owners, all the citizens of Sheffield. Sadly, we spend a large amount of time trying to stop sale or disposal of the land. This latest battle is taking us to the high court in London, to secure a legal declaration regarding the documents supposedly keeping all of J G

*continued on page 3 ....*



*Sally Cuckney sweeping for bees in the small car park meadow at Longshaw. Part of the 'Pollinating the Peak' project for the Bumblebee Conservation Trust - see page 10*

## Bradway Annual Fun Day

Saturday September 16th

1.30 – 4.30 pm

On the old school field

Bradway Action Group's Annual Fun Day is fast approaching

There'll be lots of activities to see and take part in - Meerkats and More, coconut shy, games, adult tombola, children's tombola, hook-a-duck, beat the goalie, Scout assault course, beauty salon - face painting, hair spraying, nail painting, bouncy castles, plus the ubiquitous cake stall, drinks / refreshments and a Bar-B-Q by Bradway Quality Meats.



The RAF Memorial Flight has been booked and a flypast by a Spitfire confirmed for 2017 (Weather and aircraft permitting, of course)

If there are no fires or other emergencies our local fire engine hopes to come along.

Look out for the event posters for more details.

Come along and have a great family day out and support your community.

Proceeds from the event will be used toward local Community Projects.

*You can find details of more forthcoming local events on page 34 ....*

## Heritage Open Days 2017

September 7th to 10th. Four days to explore heritage treasures across the city.

That church you pass on your way to work with the fascinating stained glass window; those re-purposed cutlery works whose history you've often wondered about; the civic building whose architectural features always catch your eye. Chances are you'll be able to get inside each and satisfy your curiosity during Heritage Open Days.

Each September, doors to cultural treasures open up all over the country for four days of free heritage exploration, led by local experts and volunteers. With guided tours of everything from brutalist buildings to cemeteries and open doors at former industrial workshops, theatres and churches: there's always loads going on across Sheffield for Heritage Open Days.

Visit [www.heritageopendays.org.uk/](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/)

## Autumn concert

John Wade Singers are presenting their Autumn Concert at 7.30pm on Saturday 21st October at Millhouses Methodist Church, Millhouses Lane, S7 2HA.

Mozart Requiem accompanied by string ensemble, Conductor: Jonathan Lazell with guest soloists.

Tickets £11 Concessions £9 Children free. Net proceeds to local charities.

For tickets contact Jenny Parker 0114 236 0798 or pay at the door.

## Editorial

To my surprise, and that of most people, the election in June was not a forgone conclusion. We still seem to be on the Brexit ship to nowhere, but at least the deckchairs are being rearranged.

When there are so many inequalities and things going wrong in this country, I cannot help but think our politicians could be better deployed than in hassling for a divorce from Europe. And we all know how divorces tend to end up!

It seems the Bugle is not without controversy. One article in our last edition entitled 'Ladies please!' prompted several objections to what was felt to be its objectification of women. This was never the intention of the article's author, who in future will try to make his intended light hearted vein more obvious.

This serves to highlight the difficulty in writing, selecting or editing material for the Bugle. Probably each issue is read by upward of 10,000 readers across all shades of opinions. So please bear with us if sometimes we publish material that annoys or frustrates you. That said, if you have strong opinions let us know - feedback is always welcomed.

Which brings us back to finding material to publish. I am sure there is a lot going on in Bradway which would be of interest to other readers. So if you know of any local interesting initiatives, projects, groups or events then please give me a call.

Finally a request once more to all those cooks out there. There must be good cooks locally that have tips and recipes they could to pass on to others. Don't be so modest. It does not have to be a regular column, one-off recipes are just as welcome. The last thing you'll want is to hear about my attempts at cooking!

*John Baker, Editor*

## PUBLISHING DEADLINES

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

Please forward items for the November issue to the address on this page by **Friday 20 October**

## Night Strider 2017

Night Strider is the annual nocturnal half marathon and 10k walking challenge that aims to raise more than £130,000 towards patient care at Sheffield's only hospice.

Last year's event saw more than 1,000 St Luke's supporters take to the streets as darkness fell on the city on an October evening. This year it makes its return on October 7 - and promises to be the most spectacular Night Strider yet!

Starting out from Tudor Square in Sheffield city centre as darkness falls, the walk takes in some of Sheffield's finest locations as it heads out towards Ecclesall and then back to the Tudor Square finish line. With no running involved, there's plenty of time to take in the city's best known views by moonlight as walkers embark on their nocturnal challenge.

With either a full half marathon distance or a shorter 10k route to choose from, Night Strider is open to everybody over the age of 10. Although participants aged 10 to 17 must be registered and accompanied by another participant aged 18 or over. Otherwise it is suitable for all ages and abilities.

Wheelchair users are encouraged to take part in Night Strider but due to the nature of the route and distance it is advisable they should source suitable assistance throughout the challenge.

St Luke's Events Coordinator Greg van Heeswijk says "it will be a magical spectacle, with hundreds of people illuminated with lights striding together under the Sheffield night sky. With every step they will be helping us raise the vital funds needed to ensure we can continue providing the very best care for all our patients and their families. This year we're expecting a big contingent of four legged friends too!"

The individual entry fee is £25 - to sign up simply visit [www.nightsrider.co.uk](http://www.nightsrider.co.uk) Don't miss it.

*This magazine is produced entirely on a voluntary basis in association with BAG, who oversee its distribution and contribute material for publication.*

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## Dore Club opens to the community

As one of the first events of the 2017 Dore Festival, Dore Club opened its doors to host the 6th annual car show where forty exhibitors showed off their gleaming vehicles from all eras and the club unveiled the bright new interior after its recent refurbishment. This year was kindly sponsored by JCT600 who brought along a couple of brand new classics including the stunning Audi R8 spider.

Once again the standard of the entrants was incredibly high and the results were a close call but the final winners were:- Spectators Car of the Day, 1st Harry Smith - Morgan 4/4. Joint 2nd Rob Varney - Cobra Replica and Martin Burnham - Aston Martin DBS. And in the Exhibitors Car of the Day competition: 1st Derek Sherwood - Mini 1000. 2nd Graeme Sharp - MG Ytype. 3rd Mike Waters - Riley RM.

Dore Clubs' next community open event is the Dore Beer Festival to be held on the afternoon of Saturday 9th September, that's the same day as the Dore Show. The festival enters its second year and expands on last years' success by not only including Dore Club's now 'infamous' prosecco bar but also will incorporate Gin tasting with range of fine gin's to cater for every palette.

Not many people know about this little hidden gem in the village, let alone get the opportunity to visit Dore Club. So make a note to pop into the Beer Festival after Dore Show and sample the fine French cuisine, the real ales, prosecco and gin bar, on a very rare occasion when the Townhead Road club opens to the public. Entry is free.

*Richard Joel*

## Editorial & Advertising

Bradway Bugle is published quarterly by Village Publications, a voluntary group, in association with BAG (Bradway Action Group), a local community group covering the Bradway area. It is delivered free to over 2,500 households in the area and mailed to readers around the country.

If you are interested in submitting an article or letter, have local news to report, or wish to place an advertisement, please contact us:

Editor: **John Baker**  
**Tel: 236 9025 or**  
**mobile on 078 1161 4727**

Alternatively you can write to:

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**Bradway Bugle,**  
**8 Thornsett Gardens,**  
**Sheffield, S17 3PP.**

or: [editor@villagepublications.co.uk](mailto:editor@villagepublications.co.uk)

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Penny Ross on 236 6121

**Open Term Time**

.... continued from page 1

Graves's gift in public ownership forever.

The trouble is, Sheffield City Council seems incapable of distinguishing between a liability and an asset. Whether it concerns charitable parkland, buildings or for that matter trees, only the disadvantages and short term financial gain are considered. No consideration of history, preservation or legacy can deflect the council from its tunnel vision.

Now that Cobnar Cottage (which probably dates from the 18th century but was not considered significant enough to be listed) has been sold and "restored", the Friends of Graves Park are determined to pursue the protection of the rest of J G Graves's gift.

If we don't, previous experience has taught us that pretty soon, another piece of the park will be under threat. Already the tennis courts are being leased to a private company, which is contrary to the conveyance protecting the park. What will be next?

Past skirmishes with the council around the nurseries area of the park, the Cobnar Road section and the 15-year battle to prevent the site of Chantry Cottage being extended into parkland have taught us to expect the land to be constantly at risk.

On each past occasion, the result was a reminder from the Charity Commission of the protection by the documents relating to J G Graves's gift to the citizens of Sheffield, until this latest battle, when the Charity Commission did

### Bugle publication dates

The following are the deadlines and publication dates for the next four issues of Bradway Bugle:

Copy Deadline	Publication
20 October	8 November 2017
26 January	14 February 2018
20 April	9 May 2018
20 July	15 August 2018

a 180° you turn and claimed that the council as trustee could sell Cobnar Cottage and more importantly, the land on which it stands.

Now the Friends have permission from the Charity Commission to take the council to court, to establish the meaning of the 1925 documents originally protecting Graves Park and the scheme of 2009. In the final stages of our legal action, we need funds to help with our fees.

Taking on the city council is daunting. We believe, however, that we must persevere; otherwise more parts of the park will be sold off. Consequently, it is imperative that we continue our action in order to achieve a legal ruling.

We are hoping to raise another £10,000 to pay for our ongoing legal fees. If you can support us in our cause, please donate by one of the methods below:

You can visit our account on the JustGiving website and make a donation:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/fo-gravespark/protectgravespar>

You can also donate via your phone:

Text: FOGP42 £2 to 70070

Every little helps. Even a donation as small as £1 will help us to fight to protect the park. Just add the sum of your choice after the £ sign.

Donate just £2, the price of a coffee!

If you prefer, you can send cheques, made payable to "Friends of Graves Park" to the treasurer at 139, Mount View Road, SHEFFIELD S8 8PJ

PLEASE, please help us if you can. We have come this far and we are determined to pursue this to the end to ensure that Graves Park is saved for the people of Sheffield, as J G Graves wished.

*Caroline Dewar*  
Chair, Friends of Graves Park  
Charity number:1080407

### Barlow Walk

Holmesfield Church Walking Group

On Wednesday 30th August at 10 am Mike Ibbotson will lead a walk starting from the village hall carpark in Barlow. We will walk to Linacre Woods and Reservoir, returning to Hackney house cafe for lunch (optional). The cost of the walk is £3 and the proceeds will go to Holmesfield Church maintenance fund.

If you wish to come, just turn up on the day. The walk is approximately 4.5 miles long. If you have any queries please phone Robin on 01246 412767

#### 'TRIANGLES'

by Francis Michael.

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## Teenage Cancer Unit Weston Park

There will be a fundraising event for the Teenage Cancer Unit Trust at Weston Park Hospital on the 29th September at Woodseats Working Men's Club.

Lizzy Mack's Soul Divas will be performing some upbeat dance tracks. Dave Perkins International Swing Singing Sensation will also be performing on the night. Plus the Shine Ladies Choir and other amazing guest stars. Lastly a raffle with fantastic prizes.

Grab your friends and join us for a great night of song and dance. All proceeds will go to the Teenage Cancer Unit Trust. Don't miss this fantastic night!

Tickets available from Trish Dearden, please call 079 0400 7390 or email trishd@talktalk.net



Lizzy Mack's Soul Divas will be performing for the Teenage Cancer Unit at Weston Park.

## Totley Library

We are delighted with the support we are getting locally to help us to keep Totley Library open. In particular we would like to congratulate some of our younger readers for their fantastic efforts recently in raising funds.

Children at two local primary schools have been really busy; Totley All Saints School held a cake sale and Totley Primary School held a fundraising challenge over May half term raising a fantastic amount for the library, with plenty of books read along the way! We are really grateful to the children of these schools for all they have done to help us - it really does make a difference to our being able to keep the library open and improved.

We would also like to say a big thank you to Little Saints Nursery who are helping us by buying some more books for the younger aged children. These will

be available as part of the Orange Sticker scheme in the near future. We are also grateful to a number of other local businesses who support us on an ongoing basis, including the Cross Scythes, the Rendez Vous café and the Totley branch of the Co-op.

We are also grateful for the generosity of all those who grew plants, baked cakes or otherwise contributed to our plant sale a few weeks ago. The sale raised over £700 towards library funds and was a great success. And finally to those of you who support us by being members of the Totley Library Lottery. The lucky winners this month were - Jackie Bitcher - first prize with winnings of £93.80 and Christine Dawn, who won the second prize of £23.45!

We continue to organise fund-raising events at the library. Lots of fun was had at the recent Grease Sing-a-long special showing in June and at a Folk evening featuring 'Spoil the Dance' and 'Half a Rake' earlier in July.

**Orange sticker scheme** - We are just reaching the anniversary of our introduction of the Orange Sticker scheme. In July last year we set up the new scheme - which involves our holding a separate collection of books which are owned and held just at Totley Library. Using new and nearly new books donated to us we are able to offer more recent book titles to our library users.

The scheme seems to have been very popular and we continue to add to our stock of books. Please let us know what you think and if you have any particular books you would like to see in this scheme. We are always glad to receive nearly new books, particularly of popular titles, to add to this scheme.

**Children's Summer Reading Challenge** - Totley Library is running the Children's Summer Reading Challenge from Saturday 15th July until Saturday 2nd September.

The theme is 'Animal Agents', a detective agency manned by all kinds of clever animals with illustrations by Tony Ross. The challenge is open for all children from 4 to 11 years old. To

register go to the desk at the Library and fill out a card. We will also register your child for our Orange Sticker scheme which has lots of new books.

Children are asked to read six books over the holiday period and there will be various rewards to keep them motivated.

The Reading Agency website and the Facebook page will keep you up to date:

<https://readingagency.org.uk/children/quick-guides/summer-reading-challenge/>

**Book Sales** - From September we will be holding a regular monthly Book Sale in the library on the first Saturday of each month.

**Totley Library Films** - We have a great programme of films for the Autumn, as follows:

Thursday 31st Aug 3pm *Jackie*  
 Sunday 17th Sept 2pm Children's film *Beauty and the Beast*  
 Friday 22nd Sept 7:30pm *Jackie*  
 Thursday 28th Sep 3pm *Hidden Figures*  
 Sunday 15th Oct 2pm Children's film *Fantastic beasts and where to find them*  
 Friday 20th Oct 7:30pm *Lion*  
 Thursday 26th Oct 3pm *Their Finest*  
 Sunday 19th November 2pm Children's film *The Lego Batman Movie*

Isabel Hemmings

## The Shine Ladies Choir

Free workshop. 7-8pm, 21st September, Dore and Totley, Golf Club, Bradway Road. Call Liz Mack on 079 2116 2489 or email: shineacademy@live.co.uk

Shine Choir is a unique contemporary and uplifting choir combining mild fitness with vocals and the result is amazing! We have a great time in our sessions and there is plenty of laughter, however make no mistake, we aim to impress. To join you don't need to read music or have any prior experience. Absolutely no age limit.

Shine Choirs pride themselves on being asked to sing at big charity events with our next event for Teenage Cancer - see top of this page. Check Shine choir's Facebook Page for details.

## BRADWAY COMMUNITY HALL

(Next to the Dore and Totley Golf Club)

Two Halls are available and can be booked either separately or together.

Current charges for using the Main Hall include:

Self-supporting voluntary/community groups which use the hall regularly:

**£5.50 per hour**

Casual hire by self supporting voluntary/community groups:

**£11 per hour**

Regular for profit users: **£10.50 per hour**

(with a 50p per hour discount for prompt payment)

Party bookings: **£39** for up to **3 hours**

**£13 per hour** thereafter

There is a standard charge for using the Small Hall of **£4 per hour** (£2 per hour when it is being used in conjunction with the Main Hall)

For information about the Hall's facilities and availability, or to make a booking

**RING GWEN: 0114 236 9876**

## Transport 17

Well it is a little while since Transport 17 had an article in the Bradway Bugle. For various reasons we seem to have missed the deadline despite John's best efforts to ensure we were there!!!! So what has Transport 17 been up to.

The much needed improvements to the office which were the focus for our fundraising in 2016 are completed and as always we are very grateful for everyone's support. Huge thanks also go to people who generously donated their time to help with this as well.

This year we have held two coffee mornings so far. The first one on the 1st of April raised £560.00 and we would like to thank the local businesses who very kindly supported us. The second one was on the 1st of July. It was a good morning although not as many people came as usual. We still managed to raise £431.90 plus a donation of £45.00 from Debs Leonard who sold Tropic Skincare products on the day.

There were some lovely donations for the raffle from numerous businesses throughout the area and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all. You helped us to raise £135. Thanks also go to the staff at the Cross Scythes who provided some excellent cakes, coffee and tea that were very yummy!!!! Last but not least, a big thanks to all our volunteers.

We also launched our raffle for a flight

for 2 in a light aircraft - there are 100 tickets at £5 each. We sold 16 on the day which has now increased to 38 so still plenty left. The winner will be able to book a flight at a time convenient to them and the pilot. If you would like a ticket please contact the office. We will be drawing the raffle on 30th September at the Cross Scythes, 10.30 a.m.

You will next see us at Totley Show, where I hope I will be in one piece unlike last year when my gear box packed up on me. We are going to have our new bus on show so please pop and have a look at it and find out a bit more about Transport 17 and the work we do.

Our Christmas Fayre has been moved to Saturday 25th November at the Cross Scythes so pop the date in your diary. We are hoping that the year will give us a good boost in raising funds for our next bus which we aim to have in 2019/2020. At £55,000 each they take a lot of hard work.

Of course we need to recruit some new volunteers as we are struggling at times to provide a reliable efficient service. If you can spare us as little as 4 to 6 hours per week to either drive the bus or as a passenger assistant we would welcome you with open arms.

If you are interested please contact John or Michael at the office 172 Baslow Road, telephone 0114 236 2962. Please give us a try.

See you at Totley Show

## City centre speed limit

Proposals have been made to roll out a 20 mph speed limit on many of the streets in Sheffield city centre. The council has launched a consultation with the aim of bringing in a new zone on more than 300 roads in the middle of the city, encompassing nearly every street apart from a few major routes such as Arundel Gate, Derek Dooley Way and Sheaf Street.

Campaigners have given their backing to the proposal, which continues a drive to reduce speed limits in accident hotspots that has so far focused on Sheffield's residential areas. Highways chiefs say the measure is needed as the amount of people living in the city centre increases.

The city centre has both residential areas and commercial retail areas with significant pedestrian and cycle movements. It is argued that a 20 mph speed would help make the city centre a more attractive place to visit, and enhance the regeneration of the central area.

It is felt that the limit may also help reduce the fear of collisions and contribute towards the creation of a more pleasant, safer and accessible environment for residents, businesses and visitors.

The council hopes the zone will be in place by the end of the year, and set a deadline of August 11 for comment.

*Felicity Revill*

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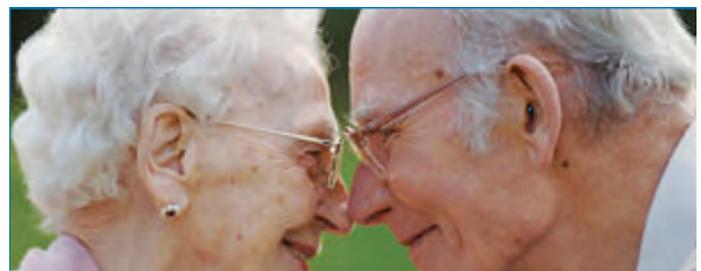
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## Post Box

Dear Sir,

A large number of residents have contacted me with concerns about HGV traffic along Queen Victoria / Prospect Road and Twentywell Lane. A petition with more than 100 signatures was submitted to the City Council on 7th July, asking for vehicle weight restrictions to be introduced on these roads.

The Council has 28 days to respond and, at the time of writing, no reply has been received so far. Independently we have learnt that the Council has prioritised a list of similar HGV 'hotspots' across Sheffield and I have asked to see a copy. I will keep the Bugle updated when more news is available.

*Martin Smith, Councillor  
for Dore & Totley Ward*

Dear Sir,

There are very few occasions in our recent history when it has been more appropriate to demonstrate our pride in our wonderful country and in its beautiful flag, the Union Jack. So why is it that there is so little evidence of such pride in Bradway.

Bradway's Bowling Club, Community Hall, Primary School, Nursery, two pubs, restaurant, rows of shops, recreation field, and farms show no sign of public support for our national emblem.

From a drive around Bradway's roads only one of its estimated total of 1,715 houses can be seen supporting our national flag i.e. only 0.006%! The number of flags seen in other parts of Sheffield is similarly rare.

In a world where people travel abroad more for business and holidays almost every other country shows an abundance of support for their national emblem. Australia, Canada, Denmark, Eire, New Zealand, Spain, USA and the list could go on, all enthusiastically illustrate pride

and respect toward their countries by displaying its national flag!

We could also do more to demonstrate our national allegiance by supporting some of the wonderful products and services we invent, manufacture and provide. In times such as Brexit this is especially important. There was a 'Buy British' campaign in the 1970s which could be revived. Where all other factors are equal buying British helps maintain our jobs and services which is vitally important to the success of our national economy. Indeed making, supplying and erecting flagpoles and their flags could be an excellent business opportunity for some local enterprising individual(s)!

*Peter Dungworth*

(A proud resident of Bradway)



Dear Sir,

My name is Michael Hill (pen-name Francis Michael) I lived in Bradway for a number of years. In fact was the former postmaster of the original Bradway Post Office (an ongoing matter yet to be resolved).

Since the indescribable horror of the POL actions, and the present day, I decided, somewhat as a distraction from the ongoing difficulties, to make an attempt at the burning ambition of writing a book. The task of completing this determination was considerably more taxing than I could possibly have perceived at the outset, and is possibly a last 'Hurrah', but, it feels good!

'TRIANGLES' is based on a fictitious social/snooker club set in Sheffield. A variety of colourful characters occupy central stage, amongst which, are two teenage lads one of which has the delusion becoming a professional snooker player and the other more of a realist and decidedly cynical, attending university. The club President a professional man, is embroiled in an extra-marital relationship, with another member of the club, which inevitably generates its own difficulties.

The annual snooker competition and dinner dance of the club represents the climax of yearly activities. It culminates in providing prizes and rewards to winners of various club competitions, and, in particular has a major raffle draw, which offers two front row tickets to the final at the Crucible Theatre.

I recently was invited to a live radio interview with BBC Sheffield at the Crucible Theatre, giving brief details (all

too brief) of the book. However, being interviewed 'just' ahead of me was one of the all-time greats of snooker, Steve Davis. I realised how relaxed he was during the interview and hoped I could emulate him, it is however a practiced art, I won't comment further! I did take the opportunity of giving him a copy of my book. What a Creep!

Did I enjoy the experience? Well a lot of us wonder what it's like in the star studded world, well this was my brief moment, and I wish to confess, I bloody well did!!

My web is; francismichael.co.uk for anybody who may be interested in the book, it may be bought on the web. Price is £8.99 plus P&P of £2.50

Finally my kindest regards to all those people who traded with me and possibly remember me during my period at Bradway P.O.

*Michael Hill*

## NOW and THEN; Making the Past work for a living

### All together now ....

Memories of childhood may stake their claim on us across the decades, but every year it seems we forget that a single summer's lease hath all too short a date. Like many, the first chilled undercurrent of autumnal air strikes me with all the force of a new idea. Leaving the house inappropriately dressed (more in unconscious Canute-like hope than in serious expectation) soon loses its rebellious appeal. The Music Hall Defence of 'Winter draw(er)s on' keeps the reality at bay for another morning or two, but by the third day, the central heating clocks are being reset and even the best groomed begin to gauge their wardrobe items by their heat retaining properties rather than dashing cut.

I wasn't born a Soft Southerner. In my early Bradway years, the house had no central heating and was far from unusual in that regard. Nowadays, radiator *refusenik* households are down to single figures as a percentage of the country's housing stock, but well into the 1960's, fully fitted central heating had more of a Municipal than a Domestic ring to it.

Our old house in Bradway Road now boasts new owners and a heating system that would have seemed other-worldly back then (thank you for sharing, Rightmove). In contrast, we had a single coal fired cast iron stove in the kitchen that supplied hot water and fed two radiators in the house. Most tea times and late evenings, my long suffering Mother would bring newly smokeless coal in from the backyard using a red hod and load the stove for the long night ahead.

(One particular night, Hammy the Hamster went a bit Steve McQueen and decided to make a break for it. Camouflaged 'Great Escape' style as a blackened nugget of nutty slack, he inadvertently gave a whole new meaning to the phrase 'coal scuttle'. When my

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Mother spotted a lump of anthracite writhing around on top of the others, her screams could probably be heard in Totley. Hammy made it under the wire eventually, but that is another story....).

We still enjoyed an open fire in the front room. However, the romance of an open fire is probably appreciated in inverse proportion to the amount of personal effort involved in setting it up. When in daily usage 'enjoy' becomes an irregular verb; 'I enjoy', 'you clean the grate', 'he, she, it empties the ash pan', 'they forgot the firelighters'.

Romanticists also tend to forget that in really cold weather, with no other source of background heat, whichever side of you was not facing (and immediately adjacent to) the fire was icy, while the side that was tingled with heat-tightening skin. Science has also not yet discovered why rooms that were thus always full of the faint smell of singed pullover wool, also contained a family dog that stayed glued to the hearth rug all evening without once spontaneously combusting.

Thus, in kinship with early cave dwellers, heating leant a strong communal air to family life; pursuits were usually quiet ones that could be undertaken together in the one warm room of the house; indifferent radio or TV programmes were often simply good excuses. In summer, the great outdoors beckoned after tea, but at all other times, the hearth was the place of choice mainly because it was the warmest available location.

In any case, much of the available in-

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**September** 10th & 24th

**October** 8th & 22nd

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home entertainment of the time was by default communal due to the high costs, low average incomes and an inadequate number of electric sockets in any given room. Yet it was the technology that called the tune eventually.

If the wireless was communal, the coming of the transistor radio was not. If the family gathered around an early TV console en masse, the Portable with its miniature screen did not encourage a large audience. More recently, the move from dial-up to broadband and wi-fi prompted the centrifugal distribution of personalized interactive screens to all points of the compass in most households.

The same can easily be said for life outside the home; buses, trains and trams were/are communal, but cars were/are not. Architecture is communal but Interiors are not. Buying ingredients to be cooked in ovens and slow cookers implies sharing in a way that 'microwave

only' meals do not.

Yet we are the ones who have allowed our machines to atomize our experience in this way. It isn't simply that individual choice has become possible, it has become preferable. We think of it as technology's default setting. In essence though, it has never been our tech that decides what is communal or otherwise; it is and has always been, us.

Wherever you are, it is only when common experience unavoidably re-asserts itself through breakdowns, delays or infrastructure failure that a community emerges from hiding as though it's never been away. When the veneer of civilization comes unglued, (think about power cuts, transport cancellations or risible levels of i-battery life) the collective response prompted by shared experience, adverse or otherwise, is invariably swift and positive. Maybe we stop short of community singalongs, but we still have ways of rallying round.

It's as though we've never really forgotten how to rub along together, despite the daily retreat behind the body armour of techno-bling. For all the sad stories of loss and change that we tell ourselves, we've just forgotten that our communality is a choice – and how much more precious is a thing when chosen?

So, season of mists and mellow fruitfulness it may be, but it's the chill winds that help in harvesting the real meaning of civility; that and occasionally finding the 'off' switch whether outside or inside the home.

*Chris Sheldon*

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## Bradway Action Group

### Old School Field

#### – Bradway Village Green

It is incredibly disappointing to have to report that far from being able to welcome a new children's slide onto an extended playground we're unlikely to see any action before September.

A generous Bradway resident has donated enough to pay for the slide. BAG has the funds committed to paying for the enlargement of the playground area. The council department has agreed to do the work and has ordered the slide, but it hasn't arrived. Furthermore the work may not be able to be done before the end of the school holidays.

Meanwhile, early in June the fence around the existing equipment became damaged and then two sections and the gate were broken down. To be fair the posts were becoming rotten, but the fence sections didn't fall down by themselves. The council has agreed to repair or replace the damage, but once again the work is unlikely to be scheduled before the end of the school holidays.

Older children have climbed on the roof of the largest piece of equipment and slats are missing from the roof. Again, we're assured repairs will be made. The trees at the bottom of the field will also be receiving attention. One needs straightening up and a willow has had to be cut back after the top split away, possibly due to wind damage or the result of climbing children; we'll never know which. We may get two more trees in the autumn.

In the meantime the whole area looks a long way from what we would wish it to be. We really do hope it will all be sorted out before the Family Fun Day.

### Bradway Fun Day,

**Saturday 16th September, 1.30 – 4.30.**

This year's Bradway Fun Day is almost here, another fun-filled afternoon for all

### Chairman: Chris Morgan

9, Everard Avenue. Tel 236 9273  
chair@bradwayactiongroup.org

### Secretary: Fiona Vallely

58, Everard Avenue. Tel 236 3991  
secretary@bradwayactiongroup.org

### Deputy Chair: Anne Sharpe

Treasurer: Andrew Tabor

### Membership: Philip Righton

Committee - elected and \*co-opted

Jill Colley

Les Day

Nancy Maitland

Ian Robinson

Peter Smithson

\*John Child (Community Hall)

\*Frank Richardson (Scouts)

### Website:

<http://www.bradwayactiongroup.org/>

Facebook: Bradway Action Group

the family. Come along and enjoy a great selection of fun, games, entertainment and refreshments. Further requests to take part are most welcome, be they stall holders, games, or charities - just contact our Secretary.

Last year we were promised a fly past by the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight's Lancaster, Hurricane and Spitfire and it was eagerly anticipated. Unfortunately all three failed to show. The fighters were grounded by bad weather at their home base in Lincolnshire and the Lancaster had an engine fault!

This year we're promised a fly past by a Spitfire, and we'll keep our fingers very tightly crossed that the weather is kind, the mechanics can keep the plane airworthy, and the pilot can find the Old School Field at the right time. The sound of a well maintained Merlin engine is hard to beat! We hope to be able to confirm likely timings nearer the day.

We would value your support in a variety of ways.

Please bring any good books, (especially children's), to the event on the Saturday morning.

Our cake stall and refreshments are always popular, and we usually sell out. If you're a baker, please get baking and let us have some of your favourites. Bring them along on the Saturday morning so they'll be all ready for the afternoon.

We are a non-profit making organisation, but overheads do have to be covered. Any profits from such events will be reinvested into local Community projects. Please contact us via the contact page on our web site <http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com> with any suggestions.

Anne Sharpe is co-ordinating the event once again and will be very pleased to hear from anyone who may like to give us a hand to set up before the day, to set up in the morning, to assist during the event in the afternoon, and to tidy up at the end. Once again just drop a note to; secretary@bradwayactiongroup.org

We very much hope you'll be able to come along and support us on the day

and look forward to seeing you.

### Streets Ahead - Amey

Work in our Totley Sector B53 has now begun, with most condemned trees now felled and kerbs being repaired. BAG has a contact in Amey to refer any difficulties to. Unfortunately at the time of writing we've not had reassurance as to how the 25/24 bus route will be maintained to the Old Mother Redcap terminus when Prospect Road is resurfaced.

We're hopeful that reason will prevail to ensure the road is kept open. That's not just a matter for Amey. The bus operators are also involved. No doubt we'll experience considerable inconvenience, but hope it can be minimised to ensure the work is completed before Christmas. It should be.

### Bounds of Bradway Walk

#### Sunday 28th May

Last year we had our best attended walk ever so it was inevitable that this year we'd have more easily manageable numbers. Led by Peter Stubbs we started from the top of Twentywell Lane, and heard explanations of Bradway's recent and more ancient past.

This year we found no wells at all, St Quentin's Well having dried up due to the recent dry weather. After briefly trespassing into Totley behind the Post Office we followed Totley Lane up to Tinker's Corner. So much history. Did you know Mary Queen of Scots may have passed this way on a trip out of Sheffield Manor to Chatsworth? Come along next year and hear much more.

### Green belt review

It seems an age since North-East Derbyshire's plans were released for consultation. No land is under threat adjacent to the Sheffield border on that side.

Unfortunately Sheffield's plans have been delayed still further. Consultation was originally pencilled in for earlier this year. The Council's website now says:

*"We are currently in discussion with Members and senior management about a new Local Development Scheme (the Local Plan timetable). We had been due to consult on an informal draft Plan (under Regulation 18) in January 2017 but Members asked for a 'pause' in the process to consider the implications of the Government's Housing White Paper. Although dates are still to be confirmed, we are now expecting consultation on the draft Sheffield Plan to take place between November 2017 to January 2018, following a Cabinet decision in October."*

We are keeping eyes and ears open to pick up any more specific news.

**HGVs on Twentywell Lane**, also on Prospect and Queen Victoria Roads

BAG was pleased to see a petition presented to the council by our local Liberal Democrat councillor and hopes it will be taken into account. A report from Martin Smith appears on the letters page and we thank him for taking the issue aboard.

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**Annual General Meeting,  
Bradway School  
Wednesday 4th October  
7.15 for 7.30**

**Guest speaker a representative from  
Greenhill Community Library**

Light refreshments will be available to allow time for people to get to know each other at the start. Items for the agenda should be sent to The Secretary as soon as possible, details at top of this article.

Elections will be held to fill any vacant positions for officers and the committee. New blood is always welcome. We'd particularly like to hear from younger residents who'd like to get involved, possibly to contribute ideas to provide more activities for young people.

We'd like to be able to reach out to all ages and find ways to help our community where official sources may be unavailable. Any member who wishes to come along to a committee meeting will be most welcome to observe. They're usually on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

To enquire about ways you might be able to help or get involved please contact The Chairman, details as above.

**Future BAG Activities** - More details on our website and Facebook page  
16th September – Bradway Fun Day  
4th October – Annual General Meeting\*  
10th December – Bradway Traders Christmas Event\*

(\*Dates, to be confirmed on website)

**Membership**

BAG members receive email

Newsletters throughout the year. If you aren't receiving them you're

either not a member, or you haven't given us an email address. A big thank you to those who have recently joined, and to those who renewed for 2017. Without your support we'd get a lot less done. With more support we can do more.

If you haven't already done so please consider joining BAG. Just go to the Membership page on our website - or renew if you've overlooked it for 2017 and ensure you can vote in any BAG elections. It only costs £2 a year for individuals, or £3 for a family. This helps us pay for the little things, like the Christmas lights, plants for the planters outside the shops and inconspicuous things such as insurance for all the activities we undertake.

This year there is an option to pay by standing order or direct bank transfer – the way things are going in the 21st Century. We are most grateful to those members who paid that way in 2017 and will for 2018.

**Website:**

[www.bradwayactiongroup.org](http://www.bradwayactiongroup.org)

We're trying to keep up with technology - go to the site using this QR code on your smartphone.



Check the site for latest news. Drop us a line if you have any news you'd like to us all to know.

You can now search though old copies of The Bugle back to 2012.

There are pictures of Bradway old and new.

You'll find links to all the local bus and train timetables.

**Facebook:** Bradway Action Group

Join us on Facebook and keep up to date with the latest trends.



**Bradway Art Show**

Bradway Bowling club would like to invite you to join us on Saturday the 7th of October for our annual art exhibition. Our work will be on display from 12 noon until 4pm.

We are all amateur artists using various mediums and have been working together there now for the past 7 years. Most of our work is for sale and we would welcome new members.

There will be tea, coffee and biscuits available or if you prefer, a drink at the bar!

It would be a perfect opportunity for you to come and see our friendly club in the heart of Bradway.

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## Bees and Meadows

Longshaw recently held its first ever 'bee safari' led by the Bumblebee Conservation Trust in its new Woodcroft Hay Meadow by the site's car park. But before the event, bee experts were surprised to see a rare 'bilberry bumblebee' spurning the meadows to feed on wild flowers in the car park verge.

"We found six species of bumblebee in a small patch of verge, which shows how important these places are," said Rhodri Green who works on the new Heritage Lottery Funded 'Pollinating the Peak' project for the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.

"Many people are familiar with the problems facing the honeybee, but not so many people know a lot about our wild bees," he said. Pollinating the Peak is hosting a series of events this summer, with a special focus on the orange and yellow striped bilberry bumblebee, a Peak District National Park priority moorland species.

In the Peak District, wildflower meadows declined by 75% between the 1980s and 1990s, while around Europe, over a third of bee species are in serious decline. All of which has implications for our own food, said Rachel Bennett, lead National Trust ranger at Longshaw.

"The loss of hay meadows is one reason British bees have been declining. Many British crops only flower at certain times of year, but hay meadows flower all spring and summer, so bees can refuel there at any time. We need meadows so we have healthy populations of pollinators like bees and butterflies that then go and pollinate our own crops and fruit trees."

In the past farmers would allow grasses and wild flowers to grow in fields with poor soil, with the resulting hay gathered later in the year to feed cattle and sheep over the winter. Adding fertiliser more recently improved the soil for higher grass yields, but led to fewer wild flowers. Now environmental stewardship grants can help manage meadows more traditionally again, bringing wildlife back to our fields.

"The flowers are food for bees, the bees are food for birds, which are then food



*National Trust volunteer Angela Pilcher sweeping for bees in Grouse Inn Fields hay meadow:*



*Bumblebee Conservation Trust Pollinating the Peak staff checking bees at Longshaw: Rhodri Green with a bumblebee*



*Bilberry bumblebee caught in the car park at Longshaw.*

for foxes and birds of prey," said Rachel, adding that Longshaw's owls and kestrels are producing more chicks, thanks to the food they find in the meadows.

An example is a monitored kestrel nest at Longshaw, which has produced nine chicks over the last two years, an unusually high birth rate showing there's plenty of food for baby kestrels, with nest of barn and tawny owls also doing well

this year.

"Traditional hay meadows are like jungles to children, who get a real sense of wonder as they walk through next to bugs and bees and butterflies. In our fields you might even see a vole, or a kestrel hunting for one if you're really lucky," she said.

*David Bocking*

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw)  
[www.bumblebeeconservation.org/pollinating-the-peak](http://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/pollinating-the-peak)

## Badger vaccination

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has defied the odds to resume badger vaccination one year after vaccine supplies dried up.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Chair and veterinary surgeon, Dr Sue Mayer, who secured the vaccine from a Canadian company, says: "Derbyshire Wildlife Trust is delighted to be leading the way across the country and vaccinating badgers against TB in 2017. Vaccination is a better solution than culling which research indicates can spread the disease further. It's also cheaper and avoids the indiscriminate killing of healthy animals."

The Trust now has over 80 volunteers helping with their programme, with numbers continuing to increase. Head of Living Landscapes North Tim Birch said: "We have the expertise and the people to deliver vaccination – what we need now is money from the Government to allow us to increase our vaccination programme and also more landowners to come forward and request vaccination."

You can find out more about their badger vaccination programme at: [www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/what-we-do/badgers-and-bovine-tb](http://www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/what-we-do/badgers-and-bovine-tb)

## Farmer's Market

The next Farmer's Market at Greenhill Library is on Sunday 10 September from 10am to 4pm. So watch out for Sunshine the scarecrow making an appearance soon. Come hungry, listen to the musical entertainment and browse the craft and gift stalls. Plus our usual refreshments, kiddy tattoos and face painting.

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## Bradway Birds

**Bird Nests:** We have two nest boxes in our garden, both facing North to avoid the risk of overheating. One box is only in its second year, and unusually enough was used in its first year. Nest boxes of the correct design and in a suitable spot are often ignored for years, and no one seems to know why.

In year one, the blue tits that had claimed the box abandoned it in mid may. This year a pair returned. The box has no landing stick; the occupants don't need one, and the stick provides a chance for squirrels, jays, magpies or woodpeckers to cause a lot of damage.

The hole has to be tiny or the blues will be ejected by sparrows or great tits. Competition between hole nesting birds is strong. A second rate site could easily lead to egg or chick loss through heat, cold or predation. Very young chicks have little or no internal temperature control.

May of this year had reasonable weather, plenty of greenery and therefore a host of grubs and small caterpillars. The birds made several hundred visits a day and so up to ten young were inside. The parents showed superb flying skills.

A bird would fly full tilt at the tiny hole. I saw no sign of slowing as it zipped through an opening hardly larger than itself. Inside the box it must have turned and braked in a few inches, all without damaging its feathers; this is a stunning

achievement. In early June eight blue tit young emerged. In mid-July they still come to the garden as a group, making contact calls with each other and their parents.

The other box is a concrete one with a slightly larger hole, and has been used for years by great tits. Seeing no great tit this year, I went to have a look. Buzzing furiously round the box were dozens of tree bumble bees. These are new comers to Britain, and Yorkshire is a favourite region for them.

A nest contains a queen, around two hundred workers, a few males and, in late summer, new young queens. Males and young queens from different nests then mate. The old queen, workers and males all die and the young queens disperse to find a hibernation site.

The bees are not aggressive in the fashion of summer wasps and will not look for trouble. But if trouble looks for them in the shape of a great tit trying to nest, they will defend themselves stoutly. Bees are hardly ever ejected from their chosen spot. The great tits gave up and moved on.

Around Bradway, and more widely around Sheffield, I am seeing another spate of ivy cutting, the stems severed a metre or so up. Above that is a wretched dead plant. Occasionally, ivy can overload or shade out a tree if it climbs to the top and spreads out, but this is very rare.

Another myth is that ivy strangles a

tree, but it is not strangler fig of the tropics. This fig surrounds the tree and then expands, so cutting off the trees' water and nutrient pipes. Ivy lodges on the tree using it as a support.

The final myth is that ivy is a parasite, sending suckers into the tree and stealing the trees food supply. Not so. Look closely. Ivy clings with myriad tiny but strong adhesive pads. The pads do not penetrate the bark. They take out no food from the tree. Ivy does all its own photosynthesis, hence all its green leaves. It also grows on the woodland floor, far from any tree it could parasitise.

By joining trees together, ivy can prop up old and fading trees, delaying their downfall. Their dense evergreen foliage and stem systems provide shelter and food for a host of invertebrates, and so are key elements in any richness of food web. Mice, voles and shrews all feed and shelter and nest there. Lizards use ivy. Lots of birds use them in the same ways the small mammals do.

Ivy flowers very late, from October to December. This is a great boon to late bees, butterflies and many other insects, when other sources of pollen and nectar are disappearing. The berries are around from December onwards. Any herbivore or omnivore can use them to keep going. An ivy free wood is a much poorer one.

So leave ivy alone, please. On balance, it is an asset not a problem to be hacked at.

*John Kirkman*

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## It's all in the mind(set)

July is always a time of reflection for me; time to reflect on what has gone well, what could have gone better and what never to try again. As well as a time for reflecting on the year as a whole it is a time when, at school, we celebrate the longer term successes of our learners and there have been many this year at Bradway Primary.

When watching school performances such as 'Bugsy' this year it is so moving and heartening to see the previously quiet boy shining with confidence on the stage, the clear strong voices of children who have never sung a solo in public before or the graceful, proud movements of dancers who have discovered a new skill.

As well as discovering or revealing hidden talents through performance and music this year, many pupils have also made exceptional progress in their class work. My most memorable recent experience of this was a boy, who I'll call David, who had been disengaged from his learning the year before, who barely spoke and who seemed to have little confidence.

Then in October last year his new teacher sent me his literacy book to have a look at. As I always do, I scanned through his book and had a look at his writing to see how it had changed over time. In this case I nearly fell off my chair because he had made so much progress so quickly. Instead of his previously unambitious sentences, he was now writing with style and flair; he had discovered that he could write well if he tried and consequently he was full of pride and was determined to improve.

The difference in David's attitude and behaviour this year has been amazing because he now believes that he can succeed, not just in writing, but in other areas of the curriculum too. This newly discovered inner belief has been, for him, a revelation and, as he stood proudly in my office sporting his Headteacher's gold sticker, you could tell that he could hardly believe the improvements he had made. As the year has progressed the impact of his new self-belief has resulted in him being a much more confident and happy person overall.

## Bradway Primary Term dates

4th Sept and 5th Sept:

*Training Days for school staff*

6th Sept:

*First day of autumn term for pupils*

27th Oct:

*Training Day: School closed*

30th Oct-3rd Nov:

*Half term holiday*

22nd Dec: *Last day of .*

I reflect on amazing pupils like this and I am reminded that I should never be surprised by the remarkable feats which children are capable of achieving. The fact that I am sometimes surprised is largely down to psychology and experience; we are all shaped by our own experiences and, as a consequence, we all have a set of beliefs about what we think is achievable by ourselves and others.

A useful theory in this area is called 'mindset' developed by an American psychologist called Carol Dweck. She writes about 'fixed' and 'growth' mindsets and you might find it interesting to reflect on what sort of mindset you have using the following quote from Dweck.

She claims that: "in a fixed mindset students believe their basic abilities, their intelligence, their talents, are just fixed traits. They have a certain amount and that's that, and then their goal becomes to look smart all the time and never look dumb. In a growth mindset students understand that their talents and abilities can be developed through effort, good teaching and persistence.

They don't necessarily think everyone's the same or anyone can be Einstein, but they believe everyone can get smarter if they work at it."

Although, like many teachers, I think that I have a growth mindset, it is sometimes still very difficult to persuade pupils and adults to think in this way. Perhaps it is one of teaching's great challenges; to instil confidence in children at the same time as teaching them that success requires an enormous amount of effort. I am certain however that the goal is worth striving for. I only

need to look at David's confident smile this year to know that our children's lives, and indeed our own lives too, can be changed for the better if we can believe in our own abilities and are prepared to aim high.

**Paul Stockley (Headmaster)**  
**Bradway Primary School**

*Follow me on*

*twitter:@bradwaystockley*

## Norton's Flying Legacy

On Thursday, 20 July, the exhibition closing what has turned into 'Part 1' of the HLF-funded Norton's Flying Legacy project took place at the Sheffield Transport social Club at Meadowhead.

The exhibition consisted of a series of text-based posters along with images, newspaper, magazine and periodical extracts, maps and diagrams plus a number of items from personal collections donated both by group members and external sources. It drew together the previously disparate information regarding an almost forgotten major WW1 military establishment.

Subsequently the former Home Defence night fighter station at Norton (RFC Coal Aston) grew into a major repair facility, becoming home to around 3,000 personnel. Its immediate legacy was - almost - a major regional airport for Sheffield. Planning and political decisions conspired against it but the story behind it is fascinating.

In compiling the exhibition, it was necessary to clearly define a 'start and end' point, meaning the period covered was 1916-1939. Although a start has been made, further work on this period and post-WW2 to the present will be carried out in future.

Split into two parts, the exhibition ran as an afternoon, informal 'drop-in' session which allowed for browsing and chance to meet and talk to visitors. Many of those who attended had stories to tell, information to impart and items of interest to show with plenty to follow-up!

Both sessions were attended by most of the volunteers who have worked on the project, either helping set up, chatting with visitors and generally lending support throughout the day. The evening talk by Malcolm Leary on Painted Fabrics was especially well-attended, over 60 registered attendees.

Painted Fabrics, a major rehabilitation project for injured WW1 servicemen, is perhaps the most well-known legacy of the former airfield. It was housed in the former WRAF quarters at airfield until the mid-1950s. Malcolm's recently-published book *Painted with Pride*, formed the basis of the talk which itself generated a great deal of discussion during the questions and answers session.

**Painted with Pride:** The Forgotten Story of How One Woman Taught the Broken Men of WW1 to Live Again. Published in paperback, 192 pages, price £9.95. Available from Amazon books.

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## On the Beat

*New police community support officer for bradway.*

Hello to all readers. My name is Ken Blake and from the beginning of August I will be the new Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for the Bradway area. Regular readers of the Bugle will possibly remember my previous tenure in the post a few years ago, so it is just like coming home.

For any resident still not familiar with the role of your local PCSO I will endeavour to fill in the blanks.

My daily duties are carried out on foot giving a high visibility presence and delivering quality neighbourhood policing. The aim of my patrols are to give reassurance to residents along with helping to reduce criminal activity. Tackling anti-social behaviour is also a very important part of my role. When necessary I will also be involved in helping to protect vulnerable people in our area through partnership working with relevant agencies.

I believe that good communication and engagement are vital in my role and therefore encourage residents to speak to me at any opportunity. It is also my intention to conduct regular "Drop Ins" at various locations as a means of continued engagement and to work closely with Neighbourhood Watch coordinators to inform residents of criminal activity in a timely manner.

I look forward to meeting as many of

you as possible once in post.

I can be contacted if necessary at: [ken.blake@southyorks.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ken.blake@southyorks.pnn.police.uk)

*All the best.*



*Alex Hayward-Brown and Derek Habberjam in a Flanders and Swann number*

## Gilbert & Sullivan Society

July 1st and it must be a first for more than July. I picked the first Sungold tomatoes in my greenhouse; the first day lily opened up in the garden; the first Morello cherry turned a pale red on our poor little tree and oh! of course it was our first concert of the summer season.

Dore Church Hall was full and we

played to an enthusiastic audience who, by the sound of it, came to enjoy themselves and by golly they certainly did from the after-show comments we received. Thank you all for making it such an enjoyable evening.

The highlight this year was probably Peter Oxley's and Judy Savournin's rendition of Summer Nights from Grease. We were all in tucks! Other highlights came from Carolyn Bean, Dick Wells and Kathryn Parkin, the Barbershop Quartet not forgetting Peter Waring, our pianist who wowed everyone with his Elvis selection.

We must also thank Monica Eyley our musical director, an unsung hero. Thank you to all who took part and thanks to everyone who has supported us through the year, without you we would not be here.

We have 3 more concerts to come raising money for good causes before rehearsals start for next year's show or should I say "shows" as we will be doing a double bill next April; The Sorcerer a tale of unintended consequences when a love potion is used willy-nilly and one of my favourites, Trial By Jury, a real romp and the only G & S operetta with no spoken libretto. It is a very short piece, only lasting 35 minutes but full of fun the whole time. Don't miss it.

Enjoy your summer. We all hope the weather lives up to expectations and we will see you in December at Dore Methodist Church for our winter concert.

*Derek Habberjam*



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## Neighbour Hood Watch

Many of you will be aware of NHW but not sure of what it actually stands for or involves. You may be familiar with the Neighbourhood Watch signs which adorn some of the lamp posts in Bradway and the surrounding areas, but have you thought about joining.

NHW is about local people working together to create safer, attractive, friendly places to live. Places where crime is less likely to happen and people are less likely to indulge in anti-social behaviour. It's about us looking out for our neighbours and them looking out for you, crossing barriers of age, race and class for everyone's good. It's about making sure that no one need feel alone, scared or vulnerable in the place where they live. Membership can have financial benefits as well with discounts on property insurance and other areas and it's "FREE", another reason why you should consider joining.

In the UK, NHW started in 1982 and over the last three decades has evolved into a coordinated national network counting its members in the millions. However, the emphasis is on coordination rather than central control, so each NHW group is run by its community. I have been Area Coordinator in Bradway for three years and temporarily in the same role for Dore & Totley NHW groups.

It is my role as Area Coordinator to disseminate information to our network of Street Coordinators or directly to our members, who, in turn, pass on that information to their members or friends. In Bradway we have a network of only 10 Street Coordinators who collectively have about 250 registered members. In Totley it's around 15 street coordinators and approximately 250 registered members. However, if you consider that there are something like 3500 households in the total area, it shows we only have about a 1 in 7 membership, so there is scope for significant recruitment. There are some roads where we have negligible coverage and no coordinators.

Registered members are those for whom we have a name, address, telephone number and/or email address. Previously residents were presumed to be

members by being in a street coordinators area and possibly receiving a hand written newsletter once every two months. Now with the advance of computers and smart phones we need a proper register of our members to communicate more regularly and definitely a lot quicker than before.

At a practical level, what does NHW do locally? Our aim is to foster an active partnership with the police to help:

Cut crime and the opportunities for it.

Reassure those who live in fear of crime  
Encourage neighbourliness and closer communities

Provide a better place to live, work and play.

In order to achieve these aims we have a regular dialogue with the local police at a senior level and at Woodseats Police station, more usually through our local PCSO's, Adrian Tolson & Ken Blake. We have a regular weekly update which is circulated by email and more urgent items are transmitted as needed. This includes regular information on the current computer scams and other items of interest.

In addition we hold a quarterly meeting which is combined with the NHW schemes for Dore and Totley. These meetings are held in the Totley Methodist Church and typically last about an hour. Information on our next meeting is available from me.

Currently, the common areas of crime and concerns in Bradway are:

Thefts from houses, especially by gaining entry through patio doors (euro lock snapping)

Thefts from vans, often during daylight hours from unlocked vehicles or from side doors being forced open over night.

Cold callers, Rogue Traders usually purporting to be in the building & gardening trades and often aggressive or threatening in nature over payment.

Whilst each of these can be distressing, it is important to keep these issues in perspective. Here in Bradway the crime rate is mercifully low, but there is no room for complacency and an active NHW can help maintain the low rate.

Recently members have received free advice on the security and replacement of their door euro locks in particular Patio door locks. In Dore an elderly lady has

benefited from the help of the police and trading standards in stopping her being the victim of a rogue salesman.

NHW is in the process of arranging a ballot for two new "No Cold Calling zones" on the Rosamund / Everard estate and Kenwell Drive. New legislation now makes it an offence to cold call on properties within NCC zones or those displaying a NCC sticker.

If you are interested in becoming a member or a Street Coordinator, then please contact me, **Les Day** by email [les\\_nhw@hotmail.com](mailto:les_nhw@hotmail.com) or on my mobile 07985 424363. There are no membership fees and we provide NHW stickers, members booklet and can also provide "No Cold Calling" stickers and other community information. A membership form is available for downloading through our link on the Bradway Action Group web page. The more members we have the greater the protection we give each other and the more sponsors NHW National is likely to attract.

## Clean Air

Estimates suggest that 40,000 premature deaths a year are linked to air pollution in the UK. Dirty air leads to worsening asthma symptoms, heart disease and even lung cancer, and can lead to children growing up with smaller lungs.

Most areas of the UK are breaching EU legal limits for deadly nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) - limits that should originally have been met in 2010. The government has been repeatedly ordered by the High Court to publish an Air Quality Plan to clean up the country's NO<sub>2</sub> pollution. The last 2 plans have been ruled inadequate by the courts. The final plan was published on 26 July 2017.

Following massive pressure to clean up our air, the government has recognised diesel has to go and banned new petrol and diesel cars from 2040. But this isn't a plan to end illegal air pollution now or even anytime soon. As a result people will continue to have their lives cut short because of air pollution.

The real story is that we can't wait until 2040 for action on air pollution - we need it now to save lives.

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## Greenhill Village History Society

### DIY and all that stuff

Like many of you, this has been the time of year when we all start thinking about DIY, decorating and major repairs before the onset of winter.

When living in a Conservation area, particularly in a listed building, these considerations are not straight forward. There is an obligation to preserve the integrity of a building where there isn't a straight wall in the place, windows and doors are not standard size and original features have to be replicated and / or lovingly restored.

Not for us a quick trip to B&Q. Visits to reclamation yards and sourcing craftsmen are the order of the day – a long term, expensive hobby. Windows and doors have to be custom made. Finding someone who can restore an original flagstone floor is not easy – maintaining it is even more 'fun'. Many of these skills are dying out in this age of mass production.

Where does one find a locally based stonemason who can not only make, but also hand finish stone gate posts? Will I have to take out a second mortgage to pay for them? Sometimes, it's frustrating, but conversely, it's a pleasure to work alongside these people who have a depth of knowledge and a love of their craft – particularly when they share the excitement of unearthing treasures from the past.

Only recently, I was discussing proposed repair work with a plasterer and showed him an out of the way cupboard which had become 'tired' and appeared to need restoration – only to be told 'I'm not touching that, it's the original lime plaster – you can even see the horsehair used in its construction – I'll just do a minimal repair'. Another job to add to the 'do list' - sourcing specialist paint to make it into a feature. The building has to be able to breath.

Our mantra is 'Drew always says don't over restore' (aka Drew Pritchard of 'Salvage Hunters')

Some time ago, I was at a meeting where proposals were made to demolish an old property in order to replace it with a 'modern, energy efficient building'. Reminiscent of Sheffield Council in the 1960s - when anything which was outmoded was pulled down and replaced with new, more fashionable structures. The rows of terraced streets where Community spirit existed were demolished and replaced with Park Hill flats, creating new social problems for later generations.

Greenhill Hall was also a prime example of this urge to demolish, not restore.

My comment was 'My property was originally a 'two up, two down' cottage, but guess what, I don't have to wait until it rains to have a shower, I actually have an indoor bathroom' – not a welcome comment, but true! With creative thinking, these old properties can be preserved, sympathetically restored and be adapted for modern day living.

Luckily, the mindset is now changing. 'Friends of' groups are forming – often volunteers who are willing to take on the challenges, learn new skills and preserve our heritage for future generations. Properties are being bought and sympathetically restored – before they fall into the hands of developers.

So when you are next strolling through Greenhill village and admiring the pretty cottages and the other beautiful old buildings, please remember it has taken a great deal of hard work to achieve these results. Oh and please remember to clear up after your dogs!

**Lesley Fox**  
**Greenhill Village History Society**

Greenhill Village History Society meet on the second Tuesday of the month at Greenhill Library.

They have a varied programme of events planned for the remainder of the year:

August 8th. (2.00pm) Ordinary meeting  
September 12th. (2.00pm) Off site visit to the 'Barn at Dronfield'

October 8th. (2.00pm) Ordinary

meeting

November 14th (7.00pm) – Dan Thaw from Oakes Park at Norton will be speaking about the restoration and present use of the building which many will remember

as the home of the Bagshawe family. (non members welcome)

December 12th (2.00pm) – AGM (members only).

Further details available from:

Lesley Fox, Tel; 0114 2377928

Email: lesley.fox3@btinternet.com

## Greenhill Sing!

Come and sing (even if you think you can't!)

Greenhill Sing! meets every Thursday evening from 8-9.30pm in Bradway Community Hall S17 4QR (next to Dore and Totley Golf Club). We are an inclusive, friendly, local singing group tackling pop, folk and world music in part harmony.

There's no need to read music to join (everything is taught by ear) and it costs £7.50 from 8-9.30pm with a short break for refreshments (concessions £5.50).

Email [highpeakproject@gmail.com](mailto:highpeakproject@gmail.com) for further details, call 07765 601485 or come along on the night. Visit our Facebook page (Greenhill Sing) for details of our holidays over the summer or email us to find out more.

## Greenhill Library

### "We're all mad here"

I've not been in the business of organising events for very long, but one lesson I've learned is that the bigger the event, the further in advance you need to plan. So it was back in February that Gill Millard and I first sat down to plan a summer event for the library, with some vague notion of having a "community picnic on the lawn". Fast forward to 8 July, and with help from one local MP, one bouncy pirate ship, one face painter, one Queen of Hearts, one Mad Hatter, 5 musicians, 100 cream teas, 200 little bottles of lemonade, 300 Jammie Dodgers and lots of volunteers, our Mad Hatters Tea Party finally got underway. Helped by perfect weather and Lynne Brown's inspired themed decorations inside the library, the event was everything we hoped it would be and attracted over 1000 visitors.

Even longer in the making has been our TV documentary showing the work of the library. Conceived way back in Feb 2016 and filmed mostly during that year, the 10-minute video was shot and edited by Sheffield's U3A Video and Documentary group, and we are grateful to them for donating so much of their time. You can finally see the finished product on our YouTube channel – just search YouTube for "Greenhill Library".

### In the pipeline

So what's in the pipeline? Well, on Friday 22 Sept. at 7pm Sheila Dyson



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will be talking about her adventures on a train ride from Moscow to Mongolia. Then on 20 Oct we have a talk from local author (and winner of the “Waterstones 11” award in 2013) Gavin Extence.

The in-library cinema is showing “The Full Monty” on 25 August (along with “Sheffield – City on the Move”, that embarrassingly bright and breezy documentary which features at the beginning of the film), and Buster Keaton’s “The General” is showing on 29 September. Our children’s cinema program continues, usually on the fourth Saturday of each month; for details of all events please keep an eye on our web site and Facebook page.

We’ve not ignored our role as a library and have recently added five new bookcases allowing us to shelve an extra 600 books and to integrate our donated “yellow sticker” stock with our council-owned stock.

#### Would you like to volunteer?

We are blessed with a wonderful group of volunteers, but volunteers move on and we’re always on the lookout for more. If you would like to work on the front desk (especially if you can make a regular weekly commitment), or if you would like to take the lead in running our children’s cinema program, or running the children’s “fun time” sessions. Or maybe becoming a trustee and serving on the management board (not as scary as it sounds). Whichever, then either pop in to the library and ask for a volunteer form, or send an email to us at



The successful Mad Hatters Tea Party.

volunteering@greenhill-library.org

Let me leave you with a bit of really good news. We’ve long been concerned with the condition of some of our electrical wiring, and of our iconic sloping roof, and have been pushing hard to persuade the council to attend to these important maintenance issues. Well, we now have a date (early August) for the electrical work, and (it seems) a commitment to fix the roof later in the year. This is great news, and boosts our confidence in the longer term viability of our community library.

Chris Brown

### Local WEA Courses

The Workers’ Educational Association are offering language courses at St Johns, Abbeydale Road South, Sheffield S17 3LE from September 2017.

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Not sure which course is for you? For more information: Contact Sylvia May (tutor) on 01709 850011 or email: [sylviamay@gmail.com](mailto:sylviamay@gmail.com) or turn up to the first session at 1pm on 12th September.



### Sometime...

You will probably have the responsibility of making funeral arrangements. No one looks forward to this responsibility, but the death of a family member or a friend brings with it an obligation that must be met. These are people who can help you meet this responsibility. We have been helping people combine the different aspects of a funeral service for over one hundred and thirty-five years.

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## Greenhill Methodist Church

Greenhill Methodist Church has been on this site in Greenhill village since 1797. The Methodist movement records show that the first Wesleyan preaching began in 1797, with people meeting in barns and farm cottages until 1823 when the first church building was erected.

Over the passing years not only did the congregation grow but so too Greenhill Methodist Church's involvement in the community. The original Chapel soon became too small for the ever growing congregation and so on Thursday 23rd September 1937 at 3pm the official opening ceremony of the new church premises was conducted by Reverend Doctor Robert Bond.

As with many village churches, Greenhill has hosted many events that provide markers in people's lives – births, christenings, baptisms, weddings and funerals – both local people and people from far and wide have celebrated with family and friends momentous days in their lives.

Greenhill Methodist Church in 2017 is now looking to expand again. Having once again outgrown its capacity the church in wanting to continue to support the local community and surrounding areas has embarked on a new 20/20 vision building project. These new premises will allow greater access for the community and enable the church to enhance its work with families, singles, older people and many more.

As part of the fundraising and celebrations "Greenhill Get's Hitched" is an opportunity for people to relive marriage memories, experience the fashions on weddings of the decades past and share stories of their own marriage experience at Greenhill Methodist Church.

How can you help? In order to make



Greenhill Methodist Church

this event real we want people to bring bridal gowns, bridesmaids dresses, men's suits, wedding accessories, videos, quirky stories, photographs, wedding memorabilia so we can create a display of weddings through the decades at Greenhill Methodist Church.

On the Saturday afternoon we will be holding a "Wedding Celebration Buffet Reception" and tickets will be available for purchase for this event (limited numbers).

On Sunday 17th September 2017 at 10.30am our morning worship will also include a "Special Rededication Ceremony" in which couples, whether married at Greenhill Methodist Church or not can come and renew their own personal wedding vows.

## The Bodger Takes His Eye Off The Ball !

Bodging is not without its dangers. It goes without saying that great care needs to be exercised when using sharp tools, and I find this to be particularly the case as I get older and more prone to dropping things.

Back in the spring, as a fairly gentle introduction to the Bodging Year, I decided to undertake the relatively easy job of painting the greenhouse. There wasn't a lot to do. It's a lean-to arrangement that forms an extension to the workshop and the roof is an acrylic sheet so the only parts that needed attention were the vertical window frames on two sides, the door frame and the door.

And it's not that long since I'd rebuilt the whole thing, so it was generally in reasonably good condition and just needed freshening up a bit.

Sure enough, a quick rub down of the framework with some roughish sandpaper soon had it mostly ready for painting. Unfortunately, the door was not so sound. It was actually one that I'd rescued from a neighbour's skip when I first built the workshop and greenhouse over 25 years ago. Obviously past its best by then, another 25 years exposure had taken its toll, with wet rot evident in several places near the bottom and around the door handle.

Clearly, the ideal solution would have been to replace the door. But this was not as simple as it sounds. The design of the greenhouse meant that the top of the door

had to be chamfered down at one side to accommodate the slope of the roof. I'd achieved this originally by replacing the top part of the framework with a boomerang shaped piece that I'd cut from a wider section of timber.

I'd also adjusted the size of the panel at the bottom to line up with the adjacent window sills. In effect, I'd just used the materials from the original door and made it into a bespoke design. I didn't fancy doing it all again.

With my well-honed bodging skills, I initially considered cutting out the rotten wood and replacing it with filler. It's only a greenhouse after all, and there are various proprietary epoxy consolidants and fillers available these days that claim to make an effective repair.

But I wasn't convinced. You need to spend quite a bit of time digging out all the defective wood and preparing the hole properly to get an effective key. And, in any case, you can only buy the stuff in relatively large quantities, which makes it expensive if you have only a smallish area to deal with. The whole point of bodging is to achieve a reasonable result for little cost.

Instead, I decided to have a go at replacing the rotten timber with new wood. I'd discounted this idea at first because on one side of the door the rot extended above the bottom section of the frame by a few inches and I'd balked at the prospect of having to replace part of the side section as well. However, it then occurred to me that I could overcome this problem by using a deeper bottom section.

As luck would have it, I had in the shed an offcut of 7" x 2" floor joist to which, with the aid of dowelling, glue and a couple of sash clamps, I attached a similar length of 4" x 2" timber, making a piece 11" deep altogether, comfortably large enough to replace all the rotten bits.

After planing this to achieve a smooth finish, I carefully removed the bottom 11" of the door and fixed the new piece into position, again using dowelling and glue.

Of course, to achieve this the door needed to be removed, but this proved to be quite advantageous as, with a bit of careful balancing (the door, as well as me!), it was possible to utilise the (considerable!) weight of the door to hold the joint in place until the glue had set.

The potentially tricky job of piecing in a replacement section of timber around the door handle was much simplified by using my *Sonicrafter* tool to cut the rebate.

Well satisfied, and congratulating myself on getting away with using all manner of sharp tools – chisels, screwdrivers, hand saw, electric saw, drill, etc. – without injuring myself, I went in for a beer.....and promptly sheared the top off the bottle along with the metal cap, badly gashing my finger in the process!

That took the smile off my face, I can tell you!

*The Bradway Bodger*

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## Bill to the Bank of Mum and Dad could reach £6.5bn

A recent report has suggested that the 'Bank of Mum and Dad' will be lending their children over £6.5 billion this year in order to help them onto the property ladder. The projected figure is around £1.5 billion higher than the £5 billion loaned by parents to their offspring in 2016, demonstrating an increase of 30% and meaning that more than one in four property transactions in the UK in 2017 will involve parents.

The figure is similar to that lent by the Yorkshire Building Society, the ninth biggest mortgage lender in the UK, and will help fund deposits for more than 298,000 mortgages and property purchases to the value of around £75 billion. The expected average amount lent to children by parents this year will be £21,600, an increase from the 2016 average of £17,000. Almost four out of five (79%) of the recipients will be millennials under the age of thirty.

The greatest average contribution by parents will be seen in the south-west of England, with around £30,000 lent per transaction, with London the second highest at an average of £29,400. At the other end of the scale, parents in Wales will lend an average of just £12,500.

The report has been seen as further evidence of how the housing market in the UK is currently not

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working as it should. The continuing rise of parental funding to help young people get on the property ladder shows that the problem is worsening, with the exponential growth of the Bank of Mum and Dad's input in property transactions neither sustainable nor equitable for both the younger generation borrowing the money and the older generation lending it out.

The report also found that only 40% of parents financially support all their children equally: 18% only helped their first-born child, whilst 16% supported their youngest. Whilst most parents were prepared to give their children a certain amount of help towards buying a property, only one in five parents would offer greater assistance if they lived in more expensive areas. In London, however, 40% of homeowners had received financial support from their parents

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## Celebrating ten years

A thriving Physiotherapy business is celebrating ten successful years. Activ Physiotherapy, based locally at clinics in Bradway and Totley, has grown considerably since it was founded in 2007 and offers a wide variety of assessments, screenings and treatments.

Activ Physiotherapy is owned and run by Clare Firth, Andrew Okwera and Georgina Hollinrake who are all thrilled that their tenth anniversary has coincided with the recent launch of a smart new practice at 88 Baslow Road, Totley.

Originally launched by Andy as a specialist sports injury clinic in a rented room, he joined forces with Clare, who had started Bradway Physiotherapy clinic also in the same year and Georgina later. Since then the business has grown to incorporate four busy clinics with a team of seven additional physiotherapists, three podiatrists, two sports massage therapists and three admin staff.

The development of the business means it can now offer clients a much wider range of treatments, with extended hours including evenings and weekends. Explained Clare: "We have treatments available for back and neck pain, trapped nerves, muscle and ligament strains, women's health issues and arthritis. We have specialists in sports injuries and massage, cupping, acupuncture, post-operative rehabilitation, workstation assessments, physio in the workplace and Pilates. We also offer bike-fit and golf-fit assessments, physio in the home and MOTs for the elderly."

Andy adds: "The business has a friendly, family atmosphere and by sharing our expertise and skills we can offer a comprehensive service to our clients. We are proud of our reputation and the fact that almost 50 per cent of patients who come to our clinics have been recommended by word of mouth."

Appointments can be made six days a week on 0114 235 2727 or at [info@activphysiotherapy.co.uk](mailto:info@activphysiotherapy.co.uk). Activ Physiotherapy also operates at Woodfield in Doncaster and the village of Hope.



Andrew Okwera



Clare Firth



Georgina Hollinrake

## Our rivers are in trouble and running dry

Our rivers are arguably our most important natural features. Not only do they help make the British landscape so picturesque and vibrant, they've been crucial for the growth of our towns and cities, providing fresh water for drinking and farming, and for our business over centuries.

They also create unique and perfect conditions for cherished wildlife such as otters, water voles, kingfishers and migrating salmon. But things aren't as idyllic as they seem...

A combination of population growth, increase in water use, and sewage pollution, have put huge pressure on our rivers and streams. And research shows that a third of the water we take or abstract from rivers is wasted.

The chances are that the water you use every day comes from your local river or the groundwater that feeds it. Yet 23% of English rivers are at risk of significant damage from over-abstraction. Many rivers are also polluted with high levels of soil, manure, fertilisers and pesticides washed from farms and fields when it rains.

The Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) monitor our rivers to find out what condition they are in. River monitoring happens across the whole of Europe as part of the EU Water Framework Directive.

The rivers are monitored for a range of issues, including pollution from chemicals and excess nutrients, as well as the health of wildlife communities such as plants and fish. The rivers are rated as high, good, moderate, poor or bad status. Only rivers that are described as 'good' or 'high' are in a sustainable and healthy condition; the rest all need a greater level of protection and management if they are to improve to a good level of health.

You can find out how healthy your local river is and the issues facing it at:

<https://www.wwf.org.uk/uk-rivers-map>  
Locally the report on the Sheaf from Source to River Don says:

The overall status of this waterbody in 2016 was Moderate and it would disproportionately expensive to raise the condition to good by 2027.

## Wacky fundraising event

Macmillan Cancer Support is looking to find a couple of people to help bring back The World Water Bombing Championships in Sheffield!

The event last took place in 2015, and was previously organised by volunteers with support from Sheffield International Venues. However, when the previous organising group moved out of the region the event was left searching for new people to help organise it. The World Water Bombing Championships had previously taken place for 11 consecutive years. It had raised over £125,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support, when it was

held at Ponds Forge.

The event is perhaps one of the most unusual in the country, and involves teams of four choosing a fancy dress theme of their choice and then launching themselves from the 3m diving platform in costume. They are then graded based on their 'style', splash and presentation by a judging panel which includes Macmillan nurses. Each team raises sponsorship for plucking up the courage to do this in front of a live audience.

Rob Turner, Senior Fundraising Manager for Macmillan in Sheffield explains, "We are looking for a couple of people who can give a couple hours a month to help organise this event with support from myself. People who have any of these skills - a good organiser, marketing/sales knowledge, social media skills - and a passion for the work of Macmillan. If you can help please get in touch."

To find out more call Rob on 07545 419 725 or email [rturner@macmillan.org.uk](mailto:rturner@macmillan.org.uk)

## TOADS November play

I am very happy to report that our May 2017 play, (That Week In August) which was written and directed by our very own Alan Wade, was a resounding success. We were very proud to be the first drama group to present this play, and hope we did it, and Alan, proud. We enjoyed performing it and hope that those of you who saw it enjoyed it too.

But, ever onwards and upwards, our November play has already been chosen and rehearsals are underway as we speak.

The play of choice is a comedy (our audiences seems to like a good laugh!) called 'Lathered Up', written by Lynn Brittney - some of you may remember "Old Actors Never Die... they simply lose the plot!" which was also written by Lynn Brittney and was another successful play. Monica Stagg is to direct 'Lathered Up'. It tells the story of 2 rival TV soap dramas and their cut-throat approach to publicity, and the devious and dirty tricks they use to be top of the ratings. Intriguing! We certainly hope you enjoy it. Just the thing to brighten up a dreary November!

The dates for your diary for 'Lathered Up' are Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th November at 7.30, and Saturday 25th at 2.30pm. You will notice that this is a week later than usual.

The venue is as usual St John's Hall, Abbeydale Road South. Please call 0114 235 1206 to reserve your ticket or contact any TOADS member. Ticket price £6 or £5 for concessions.

As always, if you are interested in treading the boards or helping back stage, why not pop down to the Guild Room at St John's Hall any Tuesday at 7.30pm. Or contact me on 01246 460318, or visit our web-site [www.toadsdrama.co.uk](http://www.toadsdrama.co.uk)

I hope you all have a very pleasant summer and look forward to seeing you in November.

Anne Bettridge

## The Water Vole

A summer walk alongside your local stream, river or canal could bring you nose-to-nose with the lovable Ratty from *The Wind in the Willows*. Water voles love healthy waterways, with lush, green vegetation and shallow banks, so stroll beneath the swaying willows and purple-hued alders along the water's edge, and time your ramble for early evening on a warm day.

Look out for the signs of Water Voles such as burrows in the riverbank, often with a nibbled 'lawn' of grass around the entrance. Listen for a loud 'plop' - like a pebble dropping into water - and watch for the streamlined shape of a water vole gliding fast through the water. If you spy one on the bank, you may see it munching on stems - they eat 80 per cent of their body weight every day in the breeding season.

It is often informally called the water rat, although it only superficially resembles a true rat. Water voles have rounder noses than rats, deep brown fur, chubby faces and short fuzzy ears; unlike rats their tails, paws and ears are covered with hair.

The Water Vole is Britain's fastest declining wild mammal and has disappeared from many parts of the country where it was once common. It is threatened by habitat loss, but has suffered particularly from predation by the introduced American Mink. The Wildlife Trusts are working hard to save the Water Vole by improving riverbank

habitats, controlling Mink and in Water Vole reintroduction schemes.



*The fast declining Water Vole*

## Public transport news

*Changes to concessionary travel scheme for young people.*

South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive operate a concessionary fare scheme offering subsidised fares on buses and trams for all primary school children under the age of 11 along with local children aged 11-15 that hold a Megatravel Pass and local students aged under 18 holding a 16-18 student pass. Changes have been made that now mean all young people under 18 resident in South Yorkshire can apply for a concessionary pass - previously the 16-18 pass was issued to students just for an academic year.

The concessionary flat fare is currently 80p per single journey; alternatively daily, weekly and monthly passes are also

available starting from £2.20 for an all day ticket, £6.50 for a weekly ticket and £24 for a monthly ticket. These prices are just for Stagecoach buses, also available are 'Getabout' passes valid on all buses and trams in South Yorkshire along with 'Getabout Plus' which also includes trains. More information about applying for a concessionary pass and the discounted fares available to holders can be found at [www.travelouthyorkshire.com](http://www.travelouthyorkshire.com).

Bus 24/25 timetable

As is usual, the weekday daytime frequency was reduced from every 12 minutes to every 15 minutes over the summer holiday period reflecting lower passenger numbers with the schools and Universities closed and many people on their holidays. The normal frequency returns from 4th September. The main annual review of bus routes and timetables takes place in October, at the time of writing any planned changes have not been announced yet.

Contactless card payment on buses

All Stagecoach buses in South Yorkshire and Chesterfield now take contactless (debit cards, Apple Pay and Android Pay) payment as well as cash for all fares on board. In addition both Stagecoach and First offer a smartphone app selling their own daily and weekly passes. Travelmaster products such as Citywide valid on all operators are available from Payzone retailers, the closest to Bradway is Baslow Road News & Off Licence.

*Andrew Cullen*



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## The Time Travellers Travelogue

This has been a very different summer to that experienced by The Time Travellers in 2016. Last year we were right in the middle of the biggest excavation of our so far short existence when we were investigating the Roman and Iron Age remains at Whirlow Hall Farm. There have been no major digs for us this year but instead we organised and delivered a Heritage Day at the farm in late May which was enthusiastically welcomed by well over 500 visitors.

The day focused on showing people around the main excavation trench and displaying some of the fantastic finds unearthed during the project. However, that doesn't start to describe all the other activities and attractions that made this a memorable experience, especially for the dozens of children who were able to pick up a trowel and dig for treasure!

The atmosphere was enhanced by the many Time Traveller members and other volunteers who were brave enough to wear typical Roman, Iron Age, Medieval and clothing from other periods of history. The Iron Age fighting re-enactment was a definite crowd pleaser, as was the 'dancing bear'.

For a special day out we headed east in glorious June sunshine on a visit first of all to Newark Castle (one of those that Cromwell knocked about a bit) and were taken into the parts not generally accessible to the public including the turrets and undercroft areas. Newark Castle isn't strictly a 'castle' but rather a Bishop's Palace. The building oozes history being amongst other things the place where King John died and it had strong links to the Knights Templars.

After lunch we then toured the newly created National Civil War Centre. A fascinating place currently showing a



*The dancing bear at the Heritage Day*



*Newark Castle, strictly a Bishop's Palace*



*Some Iron Age fighting re-enactors*

gruesome Civil War medical exhibition, a T E Lawrence exhibition (did you know that Lawrence of Arabia started as an Archaeologist?) as well as the in-depth Civil War material.

In mid-July Allan Wilson gave a talk on the Brigantes in Yorkshire, as one of our regular evening programme of talks, held in Dore Old School. On the final Sunday of July we then delivered a further two public tours of our activities at Whirlow Hall Farm. This was The Time Travellers contribution to the Council for British Archaeology's annual festival.

If you are interested in finding out more about the programme of activities that the Time Travellers have lined up for the next few months then log on to our website at [www.thetimetravellers.org](http://www.thetimetravellers.org)

*Glynn Burgin  
The Time Travellers*

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## Totley History Group

27th September: David Templeman, 'The Final Journey: Mary Queen of Scots'. This talk relates the compelling tale of the events leading up to and including Mary's trial and execution. Mary's courage and conduct come to the fore as she takes her tragic story through Wingfield Manor, Tutbury Castle, Chartley Manor, Texall and culminating in the climax at Fotheringhay Castle where she is tried and executed for High Treason. But was she guilty? That is the question this talk addresses. Totley Library, 7.30.

25th October: Open discussion evening, concentrating on the buildings of Totley. Many changes have taken place. Many houses have been built, and even more have been extended both upwards and more recently outwards.

Not just houses have changed. Pubs have become homes. Some shops have been lost and others have opened.

The meeting will be at Totley Library at 7.30. We look forward to sharing your memories.

Please contact Norman Rolfe on 0114 236 1999 or you can email [n.rolfe@btinternet.com](mailto:n.rolfe@btinternet.com)

## Beauchief Abbey

Beauchief Abbey is reported to be the oldest building in Sheffield and will be open during Heritage Open Days this year on Friday 8th, and Saturday 9th September between 11am – 4pm and on Sunday 10th September between 1pm – 4pm. The Abbey will also be open for the weekly service at 11.00 am on the Sunday.

Our services last approximately for one hour with refreshments served afterwards. Services at the Abbey are traditional in style using the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, unlike modern alternatives that sometimes don't feel authentic. Did you know that numerous echoes of today's Book of Common Prayer can be heard in Shakespeare's Plays?

You are warmly invited to attend our services whether you attend regularly or just a few times a year it will make a difference and help keep this beautiful ancient building open. Regular services have been held at the Abbey since 1183 (with the exception of 100 years after the dissolution of the Monasteries by Henry VIII in 1536) and may it long continue with your support.

## Road Traffic news

It's been reported by the police that in one week in July, there were 101 road traffic offences committed on Baslow Road in just 4.75 hours!

70% of these involved speeds of above 40 mph, though there were none above 50 mph.

*Roger Hart*



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## Remembrance Concert

The Annual Festival of Remembrance Concert by the Hallamshire Military Concert Band will take place at St Peters Church, Reney Avenue, Greenhill on Saturday October 28th at 4pm. It is a full Band concert with a short Act of Remembrance. All welcome.

Tickets £6 each are available from C English 01246 812846 or on the door or by email: hallamshireband@yahoo.co.uk

All profits to the Royal British Legion 2017 Poppy Appeal.

## Three Peaks Challenge

They sing, they dance, they act...and they raise money for one of Sheffield's most popular charities.

Splinters Theatre Group have selected St Luke's Hospice as their charity of the year, pledging to raise £1,000 towards the charity's patient care. And giving an early boost to the campaign, group members Adam Walker, Josh Holliday and Simon Addy took part in the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge and raised £275, with the total still going up. The trio of intrepid fundraisers reached the top of Pen Y Ghent, Whernside and Ingleborough – a total of 40 km of walking and a 5200 ft ascent – in just 10 hours and 55 minutes.

As well as encouraging audiences to support St Luke's, the Splinters team also have a number of special fundraising



(Left to right) Josh Holliday, Simon Addy and Adam Walker

events lined up, including putting a team together for the popular St Luke's Night Strider challenge in October.

"We are delighted that such a talented and enthusiastic group of people are extending their support for us," said St Luke's Fundraising Assistant Noni Bryson.

## Mammals on Roads

The Mammals on Roads survey has been running for over 15 years and the data gathered allows comparison year on year, and the identification of where there is a need to focus conservation efforts.

This year a new Mammals on Roads app for iOS9 and above, and Android 7, has been created to enable sightings of Britain's mammals to be recorded on the move. The app is free, easy to use, and

boasts charming graphics of a whole host of mammals, from hedgehogs and hares, to badgers and bats. There are also informative audio descriptions, providing useful background information and insights into the lives of these creatures.

The new app is part of PTES' Mammals on Roads survey, which takes place annually between July and September. To take part, members of the public are asked to record sightings of Britain's mammals – dead or alive – during car journeys of 20 miles or more on a single day, outside of built up areas – perfect for summer road trips or family holidays!

Since 2001, over half a million kilometres of Britain's roads have been surveyed through Mammals on Roads, with previous data alerting conservationists at PTES to the dramatic fall in native hedgehog numbers. These findings resulted in the launch of the nationwide campaign Hedgehog Street in 2011. Further research is also being undertaken to investigate the reasons behind the decline, showing the true power of citizen science and what the public can help conservationists achieve.

To take part, you can download the free Mammals on Roads app from the App Store or Google Play. Alternatively, the survey can be completed via the PTES website ([www.ptes.com/mor](http://www.ptes.com/mor)) or via a printed survey pack. Email [mor@ptes.org](mailto:mor@ptes.org) or call 0207 498 4533 to request a pack to be sent to you.

Mammals on Roads runs until 30th September 2017.

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## Well Dressing Diary 2017

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

These are just some of the remaining dates and venues for 2017. You can find out more at [www.welldressing.com](http://www.welldressing.com).

### August

- 16-22 Barlow
  - 19-25 Taddington
  - 24-4 Holymoorside
  - 26-2 Eyam
  - 26-2 Foolow
  - 26-3 Wormhill
- ### September
- 9-16 Chesterfield
  - 9-16 Hartington



## The Flying Gardeners

The Flying Gardeners are returning to Beauchief Gardens on Wednesday 30 August 2017, from 10 am to 12 noon.

We shall be weeding, pruning and litter-picking, under the supervision of a council ranger who provides all tools and equipment.

Volunteers just need to bring gloves and boots. Hot drinks will be provided at 11 am. Everyone is welcome - you do not need to be a member of SU3A.

The next session will be Wednesday 29th November.

## The Wildlife Garden

The early spring flowers had looked lovely and early bees took advantage of them, but, for a while, the rest of the garden looked lifeless until warmer days when everything started to come to life.

There were lots of greenery and soon there were flowers on the Greater Celandine, Alkanets and White Deadnettle which attracted more bees and insects, including ladybirds which have not been around for years. They

chose the White Deadnettle and, later, Hedge Woundwort which is a shade-loving plant.

Despite the fact that a cat used the middle of the Greater Celandine patch to hide from birds, it continued flowering and the stems turned upwards towards the sky. I intended to give support to taller plants before they grew too high, but other jobs kept taking my time - must remember next year!! The heavy rain and winds in June didn't help either!

By early June, many summer flowers were coming into bloom, including Red Clover, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Yellow Archangel, White Campion, Rock Roses, Oxyeye Daisies and Self Heal. With flowers now blooming in most areas, there was a lovely, natural and relaxed ambience to the garden and, later, poppies which I had grown from seed looked good with a background of long grass by one of the ponds. Every morning there were fresh flower-heads and the bees loved them.

In the newly-planted "sunny" bed most plants have grown well but some have struggled. Later this year, or in early spring, I will move some elsewhere and, perhaps, move others around - it's a

matter of trial and error.

The birds have been visiting the garden feeders every day, especially for the mealworms, with the blackbirds and the robin taking beakfuls at a time back to their nests. Evolution is taking place, with blackbirds trying - and succeeding - to feed from hanging feeders. Later, one pair brought five young to feed and to bathe in the water dish. A pair of woodpeckers has also visited the feeders daily since early spring, as have a pair of bullfinches whose young were clearly very excited to be out in the world and splashing in the water dish too.

Despite problems with two of the ponds, there were plenty of damselflies which made use of the wildflowers in shady areas. Newts are now present in two ponds and frogs in all three.

It is disappointing not to see a hedgehog yet or signs of it (although that doesn't necessarily mean they aren't around) and a wood mouse has made its home in the hedgehog house which I had filled with lovely soft hay. Also disappointing and worrying is the lack of butterflies and bats that were abundant here.

There is no doubt that wildlife is struggling. On the Springwatch programme, Chris Packham pointed out that gardens cover one million acres of land and encouraged people to grow native plants to help reverse the situation. Just allowing a small area to go wild is a start, but introducing wildflowers and gradually increasing the variety and the area they cover would make a huge difference.

Television coverage of the Chelsea and Chatsworth RHS Flower Shows seem to allow a token wildflower "design", but the rest of a huge area is devoted to highly cultivated and foreign, especially "exotic", flowers. To me, many look artificial - well, they are essentially man-made - while wildflowers seem to have a soul and sit so well in our landscape. In the garden they give an understated beauty which is the very essence of the English country garden.

There were interviews with plant producers, like the lady who produced pond plants - all foreign and no mention of the necessary oxygenators. One of my ponds has been infested with non-native Canadian Pondweed, which is very invasive. No-one can tell me that it is "alright" to bring foreign species, and that applies to animals as well as plants, into this country.

Another producer was a Yorkshire company which grows South American flowers and propagates them to produce many varieties and colours. They need quite a lot of care and I rather think many will be discarded sooner or later.

In both these cases and many others, the waste of space needed for production; the amount of water necessary and the use of chemicals, together with the transportation and labour involved will contribute considerable pollution as do the RHS Shows themselves, with some exhibitors even transporting whole gardens half way round the world.



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Professional gardeners commented on, and enthused about, impressive flowers. One did say that he had seen a dandelion! Carol Klein said, "Oh no, we don't want weeds." Dandelions are one of the best plants for wildlife any garden can have. I simply remove the seed heads from some to control them.

I did not plant the Greater Hawkbit that appeared on my patio. It has long stems and yellow flowers which close up at night and continues to flower for weeks. It attracts many insects and will, no doubt, be found around the garden next year. Good!!!! Other flowers I had blooming from June include Marjoram; Scarlet Pimpernel; Musk Mallow; Meadow Cranesbill; Betony; Jacob's Ladder; Field Scabious; Hairy St John's Wort; Agrimony; Knapweed and Chicory. Pond- and damp-loving plants were Ladies Smock; Meadowsweet; Hemp Agrimony and Fringed Water Lily with its pretty yellow flowers.

I would not like to lose our historic gardens, many of which are cared for by the National Trust, but many other gardens open to the public are filled with, for example, Rhododendrons which smother all other life and other foreign plants which are out of place in this country.

Our environment is in a critical state, but there are many changes we can all make to our daily lives which could help to stop further decline. One of them is the way we choose to manage our individual outside spaces, the way we garden and



Jack and team ready to lend a hand.

the plants we choose to grow in them.

To finish, a quotation from "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson, an American marine biologist and conservationist whose book Silent Spring and other writings are credited with advancing the global environmental movement: "To have risked so much in our efforts to mould nature to our satisfaction, and yet to have failed in achieving our goal, would, indeed, be the final irony. Yet this, it seems, is our situation."

Marian Tiddy

## Morocco Bound

In July 2018, a small group of students from Meadowhead School Sixth Form are travelling out to Morocco, with Outlook Expeditions, to work with local charities. While there we will be living with Berber families in the High Atlas Mountains, and teaching English to children.

One example of the charitable work undertaken is a recent fence-building project around a school. Children were kept away, due to the parent's fears for the children's safety; due to roaming drunks and dangerous, stray dogs. After the fence was built, and the school made secure, the children quickly returned and education was able to start again.

Unfortunately, this expedition is expensive, costing nearly £1800 per person; this not only covers our expenses, but also contributes to the charity and supporting their ongoing work with the children of Morocco.

So we are spending the next 12 months fundraising, and one way we are doing this is by offering our services for "odd jobs". These include car washing and waxing, window washing, lawn mowing, rubbish clearing, in fact most odd jobs you can think of. So if you have an odd job, which you keep putting off, just give us a try and it'll be "job done"!

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## Farmer Denniff's Day

Nick Denniff's family has farmed around southern Sheffield for generations. "We came over in 1790 from County Wexford. It's said someone got their f's and s's mixed up so we ended up as Denniff rather than Dennis. But my Auntie Beryl says we were descended from German pirates."

Nick can often be seen chatting to mountain bikers, walkers and climbers as he goes about his work. "This landscape that we're conserving here has been created by farming," he said. "Who do you think put these gates and walls and fields in?"

In 2013 Nick took on the grazing tenancy for 4500 acres of moorland at Burbage, Houndkirk and Totley from the Eastern Moors Partnership. The partnership of the RSPB and the National Trust manage the moors on Sheffield's outskirts for wildlife, and for over 250,000 visiting outdoor citizens every year.

Nick is an enthusiastic supporter of wildlife and landscape conservation on his moorland, and of the Burbage valley's recreational status originally set up by Sheffield Council. "This place is here for everybody," he said. "But it's also a factory floor."

Recent springtime tensions for local sheep farmers are dogs illegally off their leads. "I had to get a team of climbers in to help a group of sheep driven onto a rock face by dogs recently," Nick said.

He's a supporter of the 'Take the Lead' campaign in the Peak District, and encourages responsible dog walkers to spread the word about keeping their dogs on a lead or under effective control during lambing and bird nesting season between 1 March and 31 July.

He says modern farmers need to be diplomats as well as business people. "Most upland farmers I know are forward thinking. We're like a swiss army knife - multi functional."

He keeps sheep and a herd of picturesque white bred short horn / highland cross cattle, for 'conservation grazing' (where meat production is balanced with measurable wildlife benefits, resulting from fewer animals grazing the moor in a more natural way). Nick and wife Liz use their



*Above: Nick Denniff's dad Michael ploughing at Millhouses in the 1940s on land formerly the site of Abbeydale Grange School, and now a new housing estate.*



*Left: Farmer Nick Denniff: with sheepdog Ben in one of his fields above Totley.*

then take them off and still claim the farming subsidy. Instead, he's chosen a placid breed that can make a profit, but is unlikely to "stomp on some climber," as he put it.

"I could be a subsidy junkie, but it's not in my make up," he said, noting that conservation-minded owners and tenants are having to do a lot of hard work to redress years of environmental harm caused after the post war imperative to maximise production.

He hopes the subsidies after leaving the EU will strike a happy medium between environmental benefits like the clean air, clean water, and thriving wildlife required by governments and progressive landowners, and the income needed to keep farmers producing food for the nation.

"Some of the earlier generations had money handed to them for negative farming practices, and still think the tail can wag the dog," he said. "But it can't."

**David Bocking**

'moorlandmeat' website to sell the resulting produce. "It's superb, because they're eating hay like it used to taste," Nick enthused. "A farmer I know wrote to say it was the best meat she'd had since she was a kid."

He said he could just stick a few highland cattle on the moors to satisfy the conservation grazing requirement, and



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## Composting tips

Egg shells, weeds, pet bedding, coffee granules, have you ever wondered if they're good for anything but your recycling bin? Whether you're looking to be even more environmentally friendly, or your garden is hankering for some decent fertilizer, composting could be your answer. Here we've put together a few tips that'll be useful if you're planning to give composting a go.

### What is composting?

Typically composting is all about throwing together a combo of natural waste and organic solid wastes which you mix together. This lovely mush will decompose over time to create a crumbly (very useful) fertilizer for your garden.

### When and where?

The simple answer is anytime, anywhere. It's not seasonal although you need to make sure wherever you put your compost isn't bombarded with extremes of temperature or moisture because the micro-organisms that convert your waste to compost enjoy constant conditions.

Also keep your compost sheltered from too much rain if you can ... it doesn't like to get too wet (who does?) and excess water can stop the decomposition. If you're using a bin with a lid though, rain shouldn't be a problem.

### How to make a compost

As mentioned above, you can compost

in a bin (you can buy one) or create your own heap or pile. Try to ensure there's earth at the bottom as that will help with drainage. If you've no choice but to compost on a hard surface just add a dollop of soil to the bottom.

Now you're ready to add your waste. Anything vegetable that was once living

apparently composts love coffee granules.

### Browns

For brown think woody brown things like paper, straw, woodchip, cardboard (a good use for your even your plant pruning's, shredded if you please. Avoid anything that's been treated with pesticides or herbicides as those could seriously mess with your micro-organisms (and you don't want to do that).

### What not to invite to your compost

Things that might attract flies, meat, bread, dairy products, bones, disposable nappies, cat litter ... packaging like cans, cling-film, crisp packets, plastic bags, plastic bottles ... you get the picture, they're all compost no-nos.

### Taking care of your compost

You've added your waste - what now? Turn it regularly. Turning your compost heap adds air, and air is a must-have if composting is going to happen. Ideally, turn it every month ...

not mixing is the most common reason for poor compost results.

### How will you know when it's ready?

Be patient. Compost typically takes between six months and two years to mature. When it's cooked, your compost will be dark brown and crumbly, with a soil-like texture. It shouldn't smell bad either; we're talking damp woodland (nice). If not all your compost looks and smells like this, don't worry - you can add it to your next batch.



Detail from Millthorpe Well Dressing this year, on a horticultural theme. Photo by Glyn Williams

is great for your compost ... as well as things like coffee filters. Those who know, recommend you layer your compost with a mixture of 50% 'greens' and 'browns' and we've put together some ideas below:

### Go greens!

Think leaves, grass, weeds, clippings, selected pet bedding, egg shells, uncooked vegetables as well as fruit scraps and peels - these will basically feed your micro-organisms. Oh, and

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## Take a break

*Kefalonia: another day, another great break away!*

Having only visited glorious Greece in my late teens - could Kavos on Corfu really be classed as a visit?

Well, this May all that changed, as after a 10-day work extravaganza to the US, it was time to take things down a notch and chill on the beautiful Greek island of Kefalonia. Having grabbed a late package deal with Jet2 Holidays we headed out from Manchester airport with our generous 22kg luggage allowance per person and arrived at the amazing Vrisida Hotel by lunchtime the same day.

I have to say as package holidays go this was one of the better ones, working out to be a fabulous experience, at a bargain price, especially for me as I'm more use to independent, tailor-made trips to America or Spain, involving multi-centres and car hire! It was a pleasure to sit back and relax as someone else took the strain ... perfection!

Now I'm part of an independent agency, Adeona Travel at Broomhill, we are one of the few travel stores still selling this amazing product, as the multiples such as Thomson (Tui) & Thomas Cook (The Co-operative Travel) like to push their own products! Thankfully, Adeona are open to sell the best fit for each client, whether it be Jet2, Thomson, Thomas Cook or the more luxury products like Classic Collection & Prestige ... the list goes on and on! It's certainly good to be back in travel ... and my new team have helped me transition smoothly ... like the Mothership calling me home! Ha-ha!

So, as we settled into our newly finished room at Vrisida (part of a newly built 2nd block), with views down to the sea, we couldn't believe how friendly and efficient everyone at the hotel was. Our room was ultra-modern with a huge comfortable king bed, walk-in shower, flat screen TV, Air Con and even a soft close toilet seat! All this for a bargain price of £180 per person! Wow, we were suitably impressed ... and May is certainly a great time to grab a late deal :)

Next stop; poolside! Albeit being a sunny afternoon, the small but perfectly formed pool area still had several sun loungers available, although this may differ as the season got busier. We settled



*Taking a paddle in the crystal clear waters of the Ionian Sea off Kefalonia*

in for a relaxing snooze after our very early start and were soon out for the count.

The beautiful small resort of Loudata/Lourdass didn't have a huge amount of activities, in fact not much at all really, but this suited us down to the ground. Having ventured down the hill, the sea front is scattered with tavernas and a couple of bars, all very laid back and great value.

Neil spotted a flyer for hiring a bicycle from Trepazaki with Fiora Bikes and later emailed them about rental. He would soon have a reservation planned for only €10, which included a days bike rental, helmet and all a cyclist required for a day in the saddle ... and even came with free delivery and collection ... excited was not the phrase, ecstatic was!

With the hotel sitting halfway up a hill, the only slight negative was that everything was up or down ... I know I'm from Sheffield and should be use to these things, however in 25-30 degree heat it takes its toll! Phew! It was just what I needed after all the tasty Greek treats!

The plentiful breakfast was another laid back affair at the Hotel, with tasty oatmeal, fresh fruit, Greek yoghurt (what else!), Greek honey, cereal, bread, meats & cheeses, as well as orange juice and tea/coffee, you couldn't ask for a more hearty start to the day! Yum, yum!

The friendly dining area meant we were soon chatting to the other new arrivals and by the end of the week we all knew

each other. This is not something we have really experienced before as we don't often stay in one place long enough, but with the Vrisida Hotel only offering about 28 rooms it was easy to make friends.

Eating out was a breeze too, we tried 5 different restaurants and returned to 2 of our favourites, although there was probably half a dozen more further up the hill which we never reached. Most showing a rating of 4 or 4.5 out of 5 on Tripadvisor. I don't think we really had a bad meal.

The day soon arrived for Neil to head out on his rented cycle and Angie delivered it promptly at 9am. He was off by 9.30am with hand written suggestions and a map all supplied by Fiora Bikes. They really did go the extra mile and Neil couldn't thank Angie enough ... it made his day out go without a hitch!

The wanderer didn't return until 5.30pm having cycled to the capital Argostoli and almost down to Skala and back. With a stop for turtle watching, vistas and frozen yogurt on his return he was eager to share his adventure. I was pleased he was back in one piece.

This is certainly a fabulous way to see the island or just tootle around the capital, for me car hire would be more suited with all the hills! That gives us something to plan in for next time :) We can heartily recommend Fiora Bikes, the service and equipment was fabulous. This new company will go far.

With days mainly around the pool and early evenings down on the seafront we decided to mix it up slightly on our final day and found an alternative route with stunning vistas down to the sea and across to Zante the nearby island. From here we walked all along the main strip and along to the next bay, taking a paddle in the crystal clear waters to at least say we had been in the sea!

All too soon the week was over and a prompt pick up after breakfast whisked us back to the airport and homeward bound. Bye, bye Kefalonia ... I'm certain we'll return ... just hope we can pick up a bargain again next year :)

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The Landmark Trust was founded in 1965 to preserve architecturally interesting and historic buildings at risk, giving them a future by letting them for self-catering stays. The rental income pays for the buildings' upkeep but the Trust relies on grants and voluntary sources of income to rescue further buildings at risk.

The Trust takes on historic places in danger and carefully and sensitively restores them. By making them available for holidays, it makes sure they can be enjoyed by all, both today and for future generations. They have in their care over 200 buildings in Britain, several in Italy and France and one in Belgium.

Though they range from the sober to the spectacular, all the buildings are rich in history and atmosphere. They include picturesque pavilions and medieval long-houses, artillery forts and Gothick follies, clan chiefs' castles and cotton weavers' cottages, the homes of great writers and the creations of great architects, from Browning to Boswell, from Pugin to Palladio.

You can find out more about the Trust, the fascinating buildings they manage and how to book a holiday at: <https://www.landmarktrust.org.uk/> The Trust is a registered charity No 243312.

### **Saving Winsford Cottage Hospital**

The Landmark Trust's latest rescue project is Winsford Cottage Hospital in Devon. Designed by the Arts and Crafts



*Winsford Cottage Hospital in Devon*

architect C.F.A. Voysey.

Winsford's historical importance is without question as one of the finest and surviving examples of cottage hospitals, the creation of which in the 19th century revolutionised the bleak prospects of the rural working poor if they became injured or unwell. Doctors' fees were prohibitively high and the few metropolitan general hospitals were large and often unsanitary places in distant cities. For want of proper care, ordinary people died at home from entirely treatable conditions. Enlightened local philanthropist Maria Medley commissioned Winsford Hospital so that the community local to Halwill Junction could receive care according to their means – which often meant not paying for treatment at all.

It served the community as a hospital for nearly a century, before finally

closing its doors in 1998. Grade II\* listed, it has been on the Heritage at Risk register since 2009 and is declining daily.

Winsford tells the story of health provision in the 20th century, from the treatment of wounded soldiers from the Front during the First World War, to the creation of District Nurses, the development of maternity units and the establishment of the NHS in 1948.

Once restored, the main spaces of the building will become a comfortable and welcoming Landmark for six, while four rooms will be for community use.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded a grant of £96,000 to develop the project, with the opportunity to apply for a further £487,000, if the Trust can raise the rest of the funding £355,000 themselves.

If you wish to help save Winsford Cottage Hospital please visit: <https://www.landmarktrust.org.uk/Properties-list/winsford-cottage-hospital/Appeal/>



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## Friends of Dore and Totley Station – FoDaTS

Our latest Open Meeting and AGM was held on 23rd May at Totley Library when Richard Isaac from Northern Rail gave a short presentation and answered as many questions as he could. He explained how Northern hope to squeeze hourly trains down the Hope Valley line from May 2018 – good news – but suggested they can't stop at all stations due to congestion caused by freight movements.

He told us of the refurbished trains we'll have before the end of 2019, by which time the 30 year old Pacer units will all have been scrapped. The refurbished trains are also 30 years old but should be to 'as new' standard with free wi-fi and are longer carriages.

Since the AGM a small group has been looking through the details of Northern's draft timetable for May 2018. As forewarned, it doesn't give us the regular hourly service we'd like but we're hopeful that we'll get at least 3 more trains in each direction from Monday-Friday. We've suggested that running them through to Doncaster would give us a link to Meadowhall but that might make the service less reliable.

Our feedback was requested and was given in as constructive a way as possible. We tried to take full account of the current operational issues that may prevent achieving more until the long awaited improvements are completed to redouble the tracks through the station.

Our request to Northern for a grant to design a new canopy for the existing station building seemed to be supported by all parties concerned; Northern Rail, Network Rail, Department for Transport, the local transport and council bodies and the Community Rail Partnerships. We're still awaiting the formal outcome but understand the consensus was that the



One of the Class 156 trains due to be refurbished and hopefully allocated to our line.

project was highly desirable but should be completed in a different way. It will get done, but not very soon.

For our part we're trying to get Network Rail, Northern, Sheffield City Region, SYPTE, and other parties together to ensure we get the best possible station built once the main work starts. The canopy is only the beginning.

As I write we're in the middle of a 3 day strike by Northern train crews who have fallen out with their employers about plans for Driver Only Operation of some trains. As far as we can tell that policy wouldn't normally apply to our line. A second crew member is needed to check tickets and we'd have qualms about trains going through the long tunnels with only a driver aboard. On other lines with staffed stations it may be reasonable to allow a driver only operated train if they were short of staff. Unions see that as the thin edge of the wedge.

There is another argument about drivers operating the doors. It could save the service 20 seconds a stop if the driver were to open and close the doors, allowing the conductor to concentrate on selling and checking tickets. Some of us remember when passengers opened and closed the doors - sometimes leaping on and off moving trains. Health and safety won't allow any of that today.

Whatever the rights and wrongs, we'll have had no Northern trains for 3 days from Saturday 8th – Monday 10th July. East Midlands have arranged to stop a number of their services to help out. The snag about that is that those changes weren't very easy to discover, and came late, so we'd doubt if many made use of them. FoDaTS has made them known on our Facebook page and will look to advertise them in good time at the station if there any further strikes of this type. We might have expected the rail companies to do this.

Observations at the station reveal that Dore & Totley is used by people from a very wide area, not just S17. It's not just outgoing passengers. A surprising number of journeys may originate in the Manchester area. On a recent Saturday morning, the 8.04 Trans Pennine and 8.27 East Midlands services dropped off

almost as many as they picked up. Grandparents were collecting grandchildren to be taken to Dalewood and Dronfield. Cyclists were off to cycle into the Peak District. 6 people, in two separate groups were heading for Chatsworth by changing onto a 218 bus.

On another morning 3 young people alighted en route to Abbeydale Sports ground to take part in filming a programme about hockey at the 1948 Olympics. A young lady seems to commute each day from Chesterfield to Dore & Totley before walking to Dobraft School. Maybe we should consider taxis a bit more?

Getting the M17 bus diverted to run past the station wouldn't help much. It's an hourly service and the trains are similar, with most of the passengers departing and arriving outside the M17s operating hours. A lady was observed who'd arrived from Chester to get to a business meeting in Dronfield. She called an Uber which took 30 minutes to arrive!

We tend to think of our station in terms of a starting point for journeys. We may need to look more closely at promoting it as a destination. The Dore and Chinley railway, the Hope Valley line, was opened to freight traffic in 1893, 125 years ago next year. Passenger traffic didn't come until 1894. Other Hope Valley stations may be Commemorating this event, and we may too.

In the short term we're looking at arranging a Totley Tunnel history walk on 23rd September. It will start at our station, go past the Cricket Inn, up over Totley Moss and down to Grindleford station with a return by train. More details to come. This will be in conjunction with Friends of Grindleford Station who will have come through the tunnel by train to join us at the start. Members of National Trust's Longshaw walks team will accompany us as guides.

We've heard that Northern plan to introduce a £2 parking fee at many stations from September. Dronfield and Grindleford are the first near us and the good people of both are objecting. Prices at our car park are set by SYPTE who have a policy of free park and ride car parks. How long can that last?

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We'll keep plugging away, keeping in regular touch with all the interested rail parties, plus the Hope Valley Rail Users Group, the High Peak and Hope Valley Community Rail Partnership and the Friends groups at Dronfield and Grindleford.

And just as I was thinking all had gone quiet, we've heard the Midland mainline through Dore & Totley won't be electrified, but HS2 will bring electrification our way. We're carrying on by adding planters to the platform to brighten things up.

If you use the trains, or just have an interest in developments at our station, please join us by sending an email with your contact details to our Secretary: nj-barnes@outlook.com, and join us on Facebook - just search for FoDaTS. Look in from time to time to see the latest news - and to post constructive comments, please! Try looking through our website at; www.fodats.net

*Chris Morgan, Chairman*

## Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials

The Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials will take place this year on 7th, 8th & 9th September on Longshaw Pastures in front of Longshaw Lodge, near Grindleford, starting at 7.30am each morning. We are very honoured this year to have Mr Andrew Coombe, Lord



*I am on my way to see my friends at Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials*

Lieutenant for South Yorkshire as our President.

On 7th and 8th there will be open class sheep dog trials when many of the "One Man and His Dog" competitors will be taking part. We are very pleased to have Mr. Jess Fletcher from North Wingfield to judge the open classes and championship, and to judge the local class Mr. Jan Pieters, from Holland. Mr. John Elliott will judge the double dog class and Mr. Nick Denniff the beginners class.

At approximately 3.30pm on 7th, subject to any unforeseen circumstances, there will be a parade of local hounds courtesy of the Barlow Hounds, Pennine Fox-hounds, High Peak Harriers and the Ecclesfield Beagles.

Following the local class sheep dog trial on Saturday 9th the Longshaw Fell Race is to be run. Starting at approximately 10.30am, this is open to all adults and is

enter on the field.

Following the start of the fell race there will be a demonstration of dog obedience and agility.

Starting at approximately 12.30 on Saturday 9th the trials culminate in a double gather championship, which consists of the 8 highest pointed runs from both Thursday and Friday, when the winner will take home the prestigious Longshaw Championship silver tea pot sponsored by Taylor & Emmet LLP.

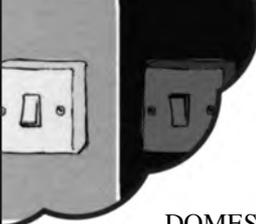
Entrance charges are just £5 per adult each day, with no charge for children and free parking. We start at approximately 7.30am, weather permitting, finishing at approximately 5.30pm.

For further information please contact the Secretary, Mrs. Sheila Humphreys, MBE, on 01433 651852, or e-mail [lsdta@talktalk.net](mailto:lsdta@talktalk.net)

This will be the 119th year of the Association, thought to be the oldest continuous sheep dog trials in England with the two world wars and 2001, because of foot and mouth, being the only years when no trials were held.

There will be a licensed bar, hot and cold food and drinks, and ice cream available. The magnificent array of trophies will be on display, so please come and join us for a day on the moors to see some of the wisest dogs in the world. We look forward to meeting you.

Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials Assn  
[www.longshawsheepdog.co.uk](http://www.longshawsheepdog.co.uk)  
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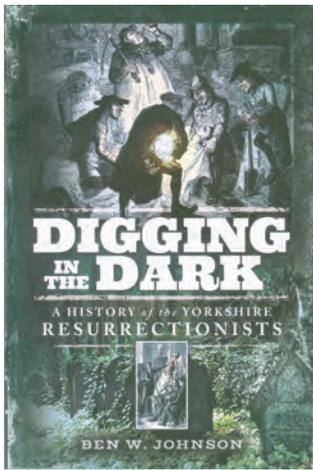
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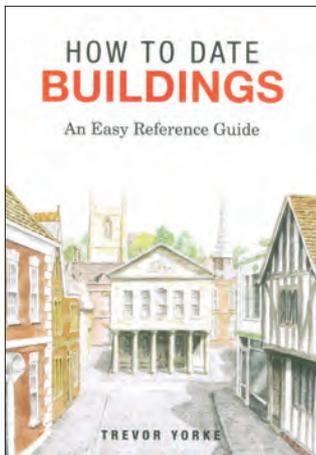
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Grave robbers have proved a fascinating if macabre interest for historians and writers alike. In this new book *Digging in the Dark*, author Ben Johnson turns his attention to our own Yorkshire Resurrectionists who came from all walks of life, and employed a myriad of macabre methods to raise their defenceless victims from beneath the consecrated ground.

Through this book we hear of an infamous celebrity who made an unexpected reappearance, a travelling minstrel who was to become the talk of many towns, a holy man who helped a community but earned his own illicit rewards in return. Tales of streets in violent protest, a medical school reduced to ashes, and a gang of professionals moonlighting in the darkest occupation. In short a grim compendium of tales.

*Digging in the Dark* is published by Pen & Sword in paperback, 139 pages price £12.99.: ISBN: 9781473878174



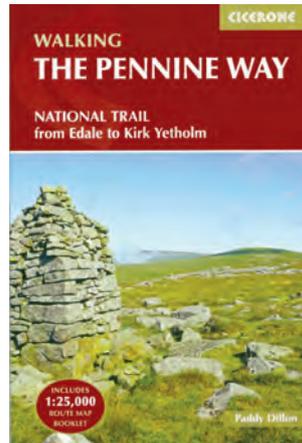
At some time or other, most of us will have wondered how old a building we are passing or visiting is. *How To Date Buildings* by author Trevor Yorke can help answer the question. This is an easy reference guide, packed with hundreds of illustrations, photos and information to help you date buildings and bring their history to life.

The easy-to-understand approach covers the immense range of architectural styles to look for when dating a building. Each chapter covers a different part of a building's exterior, from windows to roofs. The result is a handy companion when visiting

## Book Shelf

England's towns and villages, when researching local history, or maybe renovating an older home.

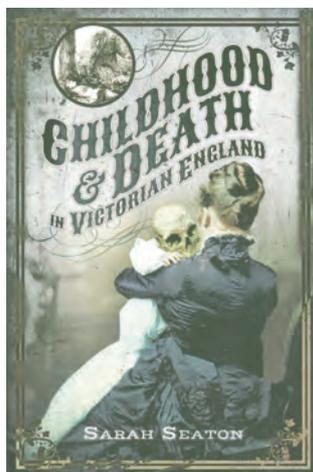
*How To Date Buildings* is published by Countryside Books in A5 (softcover) 64 pages price £4.95 ISBN 9781846743436



It can be said that you are not a serious walker until you have tackled the Pennine Way, Britain's oldest, toughest long-distance footpath and arguably its most iconic. Now in its fourth edition *The Pennine Way from Edale to Kirk Yetholm* is a must if you are to take on the challenge. This 270 mile National Trail explores the best of Pennine England and should take fit and experienced long distance walkers three weeks.

This guidebook presents the route in 20 daily stages of 6½-19½ miles with route descriptions, helpful information on points of interest and tips on planning. The detailed map booklet included saves the need to carry numerous separate maps. Useful contacts and full accommodation listings can be found in the appendices. With its wealth of information to help you get the most from your trip, author Paddy Dillon has produced an ideal companion with which to discover this classic trail.

*The Pennine Way from Edale to Kirk Yetholm* is published by Cicerone Press in paperback with laminated sleeve 240 pages plus separate OS 1:25,000 map booklet of the route, price £16.95 ISBN 9781852849061



*Childhood and Death in Victorian*

*England*. In this fascinating if gruesome book, author Sarah Seaton takes the reader on a journey of real life accounts of Victorian children, how they lived, worked, played and how ultimately they died.

Many of these stories have remained hidden for over 100 years. They are now unearthed to reveal the hardship and cruel conditions experienced by many youngsters, such as a traveling fair child, an apprentice at sea and a trapper. The lives of the children of prostitutes, servant girls, debutantes and married women all intermingle, unified by one common factor – death.

The Victorian children in this publication lived in the rapidly changing world of the Industrial Revolution. With the introduction of the New Poor Law in 1834 the future for some pauper children changed – but not always for the better.

This book is not for those easily offended as it does contain graphic descriptions, but it will appeal to anyone with an interest in the social history of the Victorian period.

*Childhood and Death in Victorian England* is published by Pen & Sword in paperback, 206 pages price £12.99: ISBN: 9781473877023

## Special Sports Day

Back in May, Scouts and Scout Unit members from Bradway and Woodseats helped out at the Ryegate and Children's Hospital's "Special Sports Day". This annual event is aimed at helping children with special and additional needs, to access the variety of sports found in the Sheffield area, including amongst others wheelchair basketball, archery, goalball and boccia.

This was a great family fun-day, and the scouts helped by organising games, supporting in team activities as well as acting as guides for the event. Claire Tripathi, one of the physiotherapists responsible for organising the event, explained the ethos behind the fun-day, "The overall aim of the Ryegate sports day is to increase participation and promote inclusion in sporting activities; and this year's event at the EIS was helped greatly by the number of volunteers, including the Bradway 297th Scouts."

Jack, a young leader and unit member from Bradway said, "It was great to see all the kids having fun and trying all the different sports. It's possible that one day, one of these kids could be representing our country at a future Special Olympics."

It is just this kind of event which is helping to raise awareness of the value that sport offers to young people with special needs, not only in terms of their physical health, but also for their mental and emotional wellbeing, because there is nothing like being on the winning team.

**Geof Stapleton-Varga**  
Special needs teacher

## Raise a Glass

Raise a glass to the people of Ridgeway and their £3,000 plus boost for St Luke's Hospice.

The Ridgeway Beer Festival on the 20th & 21st May was celebrated at three pubs in the village - The Swan, The Bridge Inn and The Queens Head. And for the village's fitness enthusiasts, the Ridgeway Fun Run was a 2.5k and 5k challenge that attracted more than 200 people.

"We are so pleased that Ridgeway residents chose to support us," said St Luke's Community Fundraising Manager Megan Senior. This fantastic total really will make a massive difference to the lives of our patients and their loved ones."

*Pictured are Ridgeway Fun Run competitors Debbie Treanor-Knapik and her daughter Ruby with Kerry Treanor and her daughter Lilia.*



## Time to smile

Ponder on these imponderables for a minute.....

1. If you take an Oriental person and spin him around several times, does he become disoriented?
2. If people from Poland are called Poles, why aren't people from Holland called Holes?
3. Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?
4. If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?...
5. Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?
6. Why are a wise man and a wise guy opposites?
8. Why do overlook and oversee mean opposite things?
9. Why isn't the number 11 pronounced onety one? (I like this one a lot!)
10. 'I am' is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that 'I do' is the longest sentence?
11. If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?
12. You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive.
13. No one ever says, 'It's only a game' when their team is winning.
14. Ever wonder about those people

who spend two pound a piece on those little bottles of Evian water? Try spelling Evian backwards:

15. Why if you send something by road it is called a shipment, but when you send it by sea it is called cargo?

16. Did you wonder what happened to No 7?

### Vitamins in a pod



## Nature's medicine cabinet

Peas: They may be small but fresh peas are a nutrient powerhouse. They're rich in vitamin K, which helps to anchor calcium in the bones, and a good source of B vitamins, which, along with their fibre content, help to reduce the risk of heart disease. A serving provides half your recommended amount of vitamin C - and, if growing them in your garden, don't forget the pea shoots - gram for

gram they contain seven times more vitamin C than oranges.

Of course, nothing quite beats eating peas fresh from the pod, and this is the best way to eat them as the sugar quickly turns to starch. Otherwise choose frozen peas, as this preserves more of the nutrients.

Carrots: They're not just good for your eyes - regularly serving up carrots could also help reduce the risk of certain types of breast cancer. A study in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition revealed that women who had a diet rich in carotene - the plant chemical that gives carrots and peppers their bright colour - were between 40% and 60% less likely to develop oestrogen receptor negative breast cancers, which account for nearly a third of all breast tumours.

Carotene is turned into vitamin A in the body, and other studies have shown they help boost eye health as well as maintain a healthy immune system.

## Reader feedback

We are always pleased to hear from readers, whether letters on local issues, snippets of local history, or information about local or charitable organisations. Perhaps even ideas on how we can improve the magazine!

Just drop a line to the address on page 2, give us a call or drop us an email. The next magazine comes out in November.

~ \* ~ \* ~ **Midland Made** ~ \* ~ \* ~

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## More local events

### Bradway Agewell Leisure Club

Meet on the first Tuesday in the month at The South Sheffield Evangelical Church, Greenhill Parkway (next to fire station) Coffee and biscuits are served from 09.45am to 10.10am, followed by a talk from an invited speaker between 10.20am and 11.30am. Visitors £4 admission. New members welcome.

*Sept 5th* The Sheffield Blitz – Talk by Neil Anderson.

*Oct 3rd* Lovely Lincolnshire – Talk by Andy Firth

*Nov 7th* Sheffield, Salesman to the world. - Talk by Mike Spick

More information from Stuart Sawyer. Tel. 236 9830

### Friends of Ecclesall Woods

*Nov 21st* "Ecclesall Woods - the next 400 years" Speaker Jon Dallow (SCC Woodland Project Officer) at 7pm. Followed by refreshments and AGM. Woodland Discovery Centre, Off Abbey Lane.

### Totley (M) Townswomen's Guild

The Guild meets at 10am in Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall.

*Sept 19th* Jewish Life Events. Talk by Kath Lawrence.

*Oct 17th* Last of the Little Mesters. Talk by Peter Machan.

*Nov 21st* Winter Floral Arrangements. Presentation by Sarah Whitaker.

There are also separate meetings of the Social Studies Group, the Walking Group, Scrabble Group, occasional outings and lunches. New members and visitors are assured of a friendly welcome.

For further information, please contact Mrs Maureen Gray, (Chairwoman) tel: 250 9670 or come along and join us.

### Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet

*Sept 10th* Heritage Open Days. Find out more about the families of Abbeydale Hamlet 1740-1933 with Totley Local History Group.

*Oct 22nd* Join our Artist Makers for a day of have-a-go creativity!

*Nov 1st* Spooky Songs Family Workshop. Inspired by the sights, sounds & Abbeydale stories. Booking advised.

*Dec 10th* Abbeydale Community Christmas. A seasonal celebration with Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet's Tilt Hammers Choir, living history, live music, handcrafted wares and more.

### Feast in the Forest

*Oct 22nd* A celebration of autumn in the woods at the Woodland Discovery Centre, Ecclesall Woods. 10am-4pm Free event

### Holmesfield Flower Club

*Sept 20th* Evening Workshop by club members "A Foliage Arrangement". Non-members are most welcome to join in or just come and watch – visitors £4, includes refreshments. Contact Sandra 01709 541187 or Diana 0114 2377601 for further details and a list of materials.

*Oct 18th* Demonstration of Flower Arranging by Sasha Gallager (NAFAS Area Demonstrator) entitled "Autumn Haze" Visitors £8, members £4 includes refreshments. The arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening.

*Nov 15th* Demonstration of Flower Arranging by Catherine Handley entitled "Christmas Foraged and Found". Visitors £8, members £4 includes refreshments. The arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening.

Meetings at 7.30pm in Holmesfield Village Hall, Vicarage Road (Off Woodside Avenue), Holmesfield, S18 7WZ – ample parking. Tickets available at the door. All are welcome.

### Totley Probus Club

We are a social club for retired and semiretired gentlemen and meet at Totley Rise Methodist Church for 2 hours each second and fourth Wednesday each month. We have guest speakers who give talks on a variety of subjects and also have occasional lunches and days out.

*August 23rd* - Route 66. Speaker Richard Booth

*Sept 13th* - It could be verse. Original Comic Verse & Monologues by Ray Lawrence (member)

*Sept 27th* - Fascinating World 2. Speaker Keith Booker

*Oct 11th* - (AGM. 09.30 Start) Members Forum

*Oct 25th* - Anglo Zulu War. Speaker Dr. George Clark

*Nov 8th* - Jambo Habari – Kenya 1972. Speaker Dr. Andy Parsons FRC Path

*Nov 22nd* - The Battle of Midway – a Victory for Intelligence. Speaker Cdr. Alan Yorke

If you are interested in joining why not visit us when you would be made most welcome. For further information telephone John Appleton 0114 236 6106.

### Sheffield Heritage Fair

*Sept 16th & 17th* Local Heritage and Friends groups showcase their work to the general public at the Millennium Galleries. Free event open to all

### Friends of the Botanical Gardens

*Sept 10th* FOBS Autumn Plant Sale Gardens Greenhouse 11am - 3pm  
Volunteers working days continue on Wednesdays throughout the year

### Friends of Gillfield Wood

*Aug 20th* Practical conservation morning. Meet 10am at Baslow Road bus terminus. Refreshments, tools, etc. provided. All levels of help required and guidance given.

*Aug 24th* Family Activities - Woodland Day with the Rangers. Stream Dipping 10am to 12 noon. Dens and Fires 1pm to 3pm. Register your interest with FoGW secretary at fogwsecretary@gmail.com. Children must be accompanied. Meet at the end of Totley Hall Lane at 9.45 (morning session) and 12.45 (afternoon session).

*Sept 3rd* Moth trapping

*Sept 16th* Totley Show

*Sept 17th*: Friends of Gillfield Wood practical conservation morning as above. Please check website at [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com) - for any late changes.

### Totley Show - Totley Primary School

*Sept 16th*. 66 classes from handicrafts to photography and handwriting. Registrations 8.45-10.45. Doors open to the public at 1.30pm. Auction 3.30pm

### Dore Show- Dore Old School

*Sept 9th*. Classes from vegetables to a junior section.

### Sheffield Fayre at Norfolk Park

*Aug 28th*. Historical living history, re-enactment, trade stands, craft tent, Sheffield Horticultural Show, fairground attractions. Free entry. 10.30 - 5.30pm.

### Art in the Gardens

*Sept 2nd & 3th*. Sheffield Botanical Gardens. The largest outdoor art exhibition in the north of England. 10.30 to 5.30pm

### Totley Rise Methodist Church

*Community Activities*

### Sheffield Citizens Advice Bureau

A free advice service on personal and community issues, including benefits, employment, housing, debt, relationships etc. No booking necessary – it is a free walk-in service on Tuesdays at 10am to 12 noon in the Totley Rise Methodist Church Centre.

### Tuesday Coffee Morning

Held in the Coffee Lounge from 10am to 12 noon.

### Knit, Natter, Craft and Chatter

Meets in the Church Lounge every Tuesday between noon and 3pm. Bring your own packed lunch. A variety of activities. Maxine, the organiser, says that all the ladies love coming. Men are



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For Babies toddlers, parents and carers

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**Tuesday Group** at 2.30pm each week

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also welcome. You can stay for as long as you like up to three hours. We offer tea, coffee, biscuits and, most importantly, friendship.

## Tuesday Ladies

Listen to talks or take part in a wide variety of events for ladies. The group meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8pm. For more information call Janet Savage on 0114 236 9002

Kirkman on 0114 236 1971

## Messy Church

Watch your children enjoy crafts, games and friendship in a Christian atmosphere. Light refreshments served. Suitable for pre-school and primary aged children. Generally every 2nd Saturday of the month between 3pm – 5pm.

Contact Rachel Wilson on 07912 352543 or rachel-trm@yahoo.com for details and how to book.

## Focus Church

2nd Sunday each month 3pm-4.30pm. A special church for people with learning disabilities and cognitive difficulties and an opportunity for carers to chill.

contact Sue or John Freeman on 0114 2366819

## Men's Breakfast

Begin your Saturday with a complimentary English breakfast and great conversation? Meet on occasional Saturdays during the year at 9.30 am.

## Meeting Place

Every other Wednesday afternoon 2pm-3.30pm All parents and carers are welcome with their babies and toddlers. There will be a bible story, singing, prayer and a chat with

each other to discuss the challenges of parenting. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Contact Rachel on 07912 352543

**Little Lights** A chance for Mums/carers, babies and pre-school children to meet for songs, fun, snacks and crafts all based on a bible story. Wednesdays 1.30pm-2.30pm during term time. Contact Rachel on 07912 352543 for more details.

## Room Hire

Available Monday to Saturday. A variety of rooms available for hire, which can include the use of kitchen facilities and Audio Visual equipment.

Please contact the caretaker, Dean Duke, for more information or to make a booking on 0114 236 0389 / deano1972@sky.com. Or visit our website, totleyrise.co.uk for a booking form and details of room sizes and charges.

## Church Services

For full details please see the Totley Rise Methodist Church website at <http://www.totleyrise.co.uk/>

## Green Flag Reward

Wyming Brook nature reserve has been recognised as one of a record-breaking 1,797 UK parks and green spaces that recently received a prestigious Green Flag Award – the mark of a quality park or green space.

This international award, now into its

third decade, is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent facilities.

Once set aside for the exclusive use of the nobility when it was part of the hunting and hawking grounds of Rivelin Chase, Wyming Brook's babbling streams, mossy crags and sweet smelling pines are still protected today, as a valuable home to wildlife.

The difference now is that we can all visit and enjoy this little bit of wilderness on the western edge of Sheffield, with easy strolls by the streams or higher, rockier routes with dramatic views of the Rivelin reservoirs and the city beyond.

Part of the Eastern Moors Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), there is an abundance of wildlife at this nature reserve, including the bizarrely named common lutestring and northern spinach moths. It is also home to many kinds of birds, from pine seed eating crossbills to the brown and white dipper which forages for aquatic insects along the fast flowing streams. Other notable summer migrant bird species that can be observed on the nature reserve include redstarts, wood warblers and pied flycatchers.

Rob Miller, Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust's Living Landscapes Manager (North), said: "We are absolutely delighted to receive a Green Flag Award for the sixth time. We know how much quality green spaces matter, and this award celebrates the dedication that goes into maintaining Wyming Brook to such a high standard".

.... continued from page 1

Where have all the insects gone?

Entomologists call it the windshield phenomenon. If you talk to people, they have a gut feeling. They remember how insects used to smash on your windscreen. Today, drivers spend less time scraping and scrubbing. Though observations about splattered bugs aren't scientific, few reliable data exist on the fate of important insect species. Scientists have tracked alarming declines in domesticated honey bees, monarch butterflies, and lightning bugs. But few have paid attention to the moths, hover flies, beetles, and countless other insects that buzz and flutter through the warm months.

No one knows how broadly representative the data are of trends elsewhere. But the specificity of the observations offers a unique window into the state of some of the planet's less appreciated species. "Red List" of endangered insects doesn't look alarming at first glance, few species are listed as extinct because they are still found in one or two sites. But that obscures the fact that many have disappeared from large areas where they were once common.

Beyond the striking drop in overall insect biomass, the data point to losses in overlooked groups for which almost no one has kept records. Hover flies for example, important pollinators often mistaken for bees or wasps. Their numbers have plummeted in nature reserves in Germany.

In 1989 traps in one reserve collected 17,291 hover flies from 143 species. In 2014, at the same locations, they found only 2737 individuals from 104 species. Such losses reverberate up the food chain. If you're an insect-eating bird living in that area, four-fifths of your food is gone in the last quarter-century, which is staggering.

Changes in land use are probably playing a role. We've lost huge amounts of habitat, which has certainly contributed to all these declines. If you turn all the semi-natural habitats to wheat and cornfields, then there will be virtually no life in those fields. As fields expand and hedgerows disappear, the isolated islands of habitat left can support fewer species.

Increased fertilizer on remaining grazing lands favours grasses over the diverse wildflowers that many insects prefer. And when development replaces countryside, streets and buildings



*Insects attracted by an artificial light.*



*Hover fly - often mistaken for bees or wasps.*



*European honey bee.*

generate light pollution that leads nocturnal insects astray and interrupts their mating.

Neonicotinoid pesticides, already implicated in the widespread crash of bee populations, are another prime suspect. Introduced in the 1980s, they are now the world's most popular insecticides, initially viewed as relatively benign because they are often applied directly to seeds rather than sprayed. But because they are water soluble, they don't stay put in the fields where they are used.

Although initial safety studies showed

that allowable levels of the compounds didn't kill honey bees directly, they do affect the insects' abilities to navigate and communicate, according to later research, with similar effects in wild solitary bees and bumble bees.

Other, more visible creatures may be feeling the effects of the insect losses. Across North America and Europe, species of birds that eat flying insects, such as larks, swallows, and swifts, are in steep decline. Habitat loss certainly plays a role, but the obvious factor that ties them all together is their diet.

All this suggests that paying attention to the little things that run the world is worthwhile. Massive damage to biodiversity will ultimately result in damage to us.

## Ecclesall Woods

*"...In this extensive habitation, Nature dwells in her loveliest garb. Here is to be found the antidote to the poison of town life..."*

*This is a quote from the Yorkshire Telegraph and Star, 23rd August 1928, on the opening of Ecclesall Woods to the public.*

Ecclesall Woods is one of South Yorkshire's largest and most important woodlands for wildlife, heritage and leisure. Its place in the landscape for centuries has allowed a rich diversity of plant and animal species to colonise the woodland. Time has allowed large populations of bluebells to establish beneath the trees, and Ecclesall Woods displays a spectacular carpet of blue in early May each year.

Historically Ecclesall Woods were used for the production of charcoal and white coal for the steel and lead industries, as well as woodland products such as besom brooms and baskets. Depressions in the ground known as Q pits still remain from this industry.

A poignant remnant of this era is the grave of George Yardley. The stone, erected by his friends, stands amongst the trees in memory of a charcoal burner who "Burnt to death in his Cabin" on 11th Oct 1786.

Today the culture of craft continues at the Woodland Discovery Centre, where you can learn ancient greenwood working skills, hire a space for your own celebration, or simply enjoy some refreshments whilst taking in the view of one of Sheffield's most beautiful woodlands.

Ecclesall Woods  
Woodland Discovery Centre  
Abbey Lane, Sheffield S7 2QZ

Sunday 16th October - 10am to 4pm

# Feast in the Forest

A celebration of autumn in the woods.

Cafe • Food Stalls • Woodland Crafts • Cooking on Fire

Children's Activities • Woodland Trails • Music

Conker Championship

Sheffield City Council

LOTTERY FUNDED

Join us for food, crafts and activities • For further information ring 235 6348 or email [nell.dixon@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:nell.dixon@sheffield.gov.uk)