

Bradway Bugle

In and around Bradway, Greenhill, Dore & Totley

Outram Fields begins

Work is now well under way on the Twentywell Lane Care Home – Outram Fields and don't neighbours know it. Fortunately the 300 piles have now been driven, so the noisiest part of the development should be over. They are ensuring there is no parking on Twentywell Lane.

A large tower crane is often used for a project of this size but won't be here. Smaller cranes will be used as and when necessary. The contract calls for completion by July 2022 so the construction phase is already well advanced

Cinnamon Luxury Care are planning to open the home in late 2022. No doubt over the next 20 years one or two of current readers may have taken up residence there!

The home is to be called Outram Fields. The Outrams were quite prominent in Bradway in years gone by and one was a landlord at The Castle. Others occupied Poynton Farm, demolished in the late 1970s to make way for the Old Mother Redcap. They farmed the fields now occupied by the Poynton Wood estate, and probably those where the care home is being built.

There is information about the home at: <https://www.cinnamoncc.com/new-developments/sheffield-care-home/>

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'Wild at Heart'

Sheffielders often say their Outdoor City is like a Natural Health Service, with trees everywhere, deer and kingfishers in our city centre, and suburbs surrounded by parks, woods and wild moorland. But scientists researching the mental health benefits of natural surroundings have found that feeling part of the natural world, not just being a spectator, is what really helps us feel better about ourselves.

"It's about finding your own way to connect to nature," said Jenny King from Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust. "It might be making a notebook of the things you see from your window or in your local park, it might be sitting down in the woods and spending a few minutes listening to the birdsong, it might be just going out in the green spaces of Sheffield with friends or family and talking about what you find."

continued on page 6



Pile driving on the site of the new care home being built on Twentywell Lane.

Flood management on the Limb Brook

A partnership project between the Environment Agency, Sheffield City Council and Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust (SRWT) is underway to develop and deliver a range of natural flood management methods in the Limb Brook catchment area to help protect Sheffield and the region.

A catchment is the area from which rainfall flows into a river, lake, or reservoir. The Limb Brook catchment covers the central valley of the river itself, familiar with many people from Lady Cannings plantation down past Whirlowbrook Park, through Ecclesall Woods to join the Sheaf. The aim is to slow and reduce water flow using natural measures.

Pete Wall from SRWT will be leading the project and hopes that local people will provide local knowledge and also volunteers to help with the study. After options have been considered and agreed an 18-month delivery phase will begin.

It is hoped to use volunteers to help with planned practical tasks such as tree planting and gathering data to determine the success of the work carried out including rain gauge data and fixed point photography.

Visitor access to this public space is not expected to be affected during the study.

Targeted Checks on Speeding

Excess speed is a contributory factor in one in three fatal road collisions on UK roads. Now the Safer Roads Partnership is joining forces with South Yorkshire Police to support a national Speed Campaign.

The spotlight will be on dangerous and inappropriate speeds across Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield.

Joanne Wehrle, manager for South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership, said: "Speed does kill. It sounds shocking but it is true, and this campaign is all about reminding people that if you do the right thing – you will save lives. Ultimately, drivers and riders who are travelling at inappropriate speeds are more likely to crash and their higher speed means the crash will cause more severe injuries, to themselves and/or to other road users".

"With most restrictions lifted, we want people to be able to enjoy their new-found freedom and make the last year count. Don't let speeding cost you your licence, your job or even worse."

The latest figures show that 2,644 people were injured in a road traffic collision in South Yorkshire in 2020. Sadly, 30 people lost their lives and more than 500 people were seriously injured.

Roads Policing Group (RPG) Inspector
continued on page 7

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Editorial

At last with the easing of restrictions most local community organisations are beginning to awake from 18 months inactivity. Most are proceeding with care and we have yet to discover how reluctant sections of society will be to socialise in the way they did before Covid.

Once again issues suppressed by the pandemic are beginning to resurface, not least climate change. Still, no politician has had the courage to relate climate change to the pressure put on resources and carbon dioxide output by the simple matter of population growth.

As the world population continues to grow the task of meeting reduced carbon targets becomes harder. Even more worrying is that the temperature increases to date have yet to reach their full impact as global ice continues to melt and sea levels to rise.

As a magazine we do sometimes tend to slip into wider society issues, but our main objective is to promote local organisations and inform readers. In this issue we have our regular articles including Bradway Birds, which features the Buzzards to be seen soaring over Bradway. We also welcome back our holiday feature contributed by Hays Travel.

Something new is an article on Wild Swimming - on a hot summer's day, what could be more refreshing than slipping into the cool, clear waters of a river or secret lake? We also have several items on gardening which has boomed during lockdown. We can all help our wildlife in many ways, not least by bringing water into our gardens.

We also have more letters in this issue. It is good to hear readers opinions and experiences. Please keep them coming! Stay safe.
John Baker, Editor



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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 Winter issue to the address on this page by
Friday 22 October

Table tennis at Bradway Community Hall

We have opened our doors once again after restrictions were lifted. However, we are being cautious, for the time being, and maintaining hour-long sessions and a booking system.

The sessions are: Thursday 3-4pm and 4-5pm Friday 7-8 and 8-9pm.

We are allowing 8 players per session. It will operate on a first come first serve basis.

New players (all abilities) are welcome. We are organised under the auspices of the People Keeping Well initiative and funded by Age UK Sheffield. All equipment is provided and sessions are free of charge.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

If you would like to enquire into joining us for the first time or would like to book your place on a session, please contact me on : Mobile: 07787 954 842
landline 0114 418 6463

Email: janclit704@gmail.com

Jan Clit

Bradway Community Association

With the progress being made with vaccinations and hopes for further easing of restrictions the committee has met to discuss ways forward and draw up a proposed diary. We sincerely hope that they can achieve at least part of this programme and look forward to seeing existing and new members at these events.

August 24th - Coffee Morning

October 2nd - Quiz Night

November 13th - Beetle Drive

December 11th - Murder Mystery Night

Jean Hunter,
Social secretary
0114 236 4922

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This is the number to dial if you have problems with community safety issues, including non-emergency crime, policing and anti-social behaviour including:

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Noisy neighbours

Intimidation and harassment
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Rubbish and litter, including fly tipping

People being drunk or rowdy in public places

Drug-related anti-social behaviour
Problems with street lighting

If there is immediate danger or you witness a crime taking place, you should dial the 999 emergency service.

Celebrating 10 years

The Woodland Discovery Centre in Ecclesall Woods will be ten years old this year!

There will be a month of small events during October 2021 for people to come and celebrate – events will include: mini craft courses, practical work mornings with the Friends of Ecclesall Woods, a fungi trail, seed gathering, forest bathing, tree walks, evening talks, a pumpkin trail around the woods and much more.

Details will be released in September and lots of events will be booking only to be Covid secure. Leaflets will be available from the Woodland Discovery Centre, and details will be on the Friends of Ecclesall Woods website and their facebook page.

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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or: editor@villagepublications.co.uk

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Abbeydale Squash and Fitness Club

AS&FC has weathered the Covid storm and returned to full opening on 19 July following a period when there were Covid restrictions in place.

Although we are fully open for all activities (gym, squash, racketball and many fitness classes that operate in our studio area), our priority remains to keep a safe environment and so we have retained some Covid measures so that all our members can feel comfortable.

The club is well ventilated, numbers are monitored, there are handwash stations throughout and we have enhanced cleaning to ensure that touch points and the gym machines are regularly wiped down with disinfectant spray.

Owned and operated by its members as a non-profit organisation the club is friendly, and family orientated. We have 6 courts (5 glass-back courts and an all-glass court) and in addition to squash, racketball, one of the fastest growing sports in the country, is also played..

We enter teams for both Sheffield and Yorkshire Leagues, and our first team are the current Yorkshire champions. There are also internal club leagues for friendly competitive games and there are group sessions where people can come along and play organised practices and games in a social setting. These are organised at different ability levels, so there is something for everyone (and all ages!).

The club is also home of MTA – our

Bugle publication dates

Details for the next four issues

| Copy Deadline | Publication |
|---------------|------------------|
| 22 October | 10 November 2021 |
| 28 January | 16 February 2022 |
| 22 April | 11 May 2022 |
| 29 July | 17 August 2022 |

junior squash academy run by resident professional, Mark Tasker, with classes for all ages and abilities from age 7 up to County and National level U18s.

The gym has been expanded over the years and is extremely well equipped – including a dedicated ‘strength and conditioning suite’. It is very popular with all ages (we have several members in their 80s!) and membership includes regular personalised programme reviews. Members regularly comment on the gym’s friendly and welcoming atmosphere where people can exercise at their own pace or make use of the club based Personal Trainers.

The club has various types of membership: Gym, Squash and Racketball and significant reductions for Young People (Under 24), students and juniors – there’s something for everyone.

Although we are not plum in the middle of Bradway, we are very accessible, and everyone is welcome, so come along and see what we have to offer!

Tim Eldridge, Chairman

Local Area Committees

In response to the local Referendum result on 6th May, our City Council has adopted a communication network with its electorate via 7 new Local Area Committees. These will be allocated resources and funding to make decisions on selected issues based on local consultations.

The existing ward structure remains, with 3 Councillors elected in each of 28 wards to make up the Full Council. But each Councillor will also serve in a Local Area Committee for closer contact with their own electorate.

Each of these Local Area Committees covers 4 existing Wards, with 12 councillors, and will arrange public meetings to discuss local priorities. Most of the electorate probably know which ward they’re listed in for voting, but few are aware of these new Local Area Committees, and which wards they cover.

South-West Local Area Committee covers - Crookes & Crosspool, Dore & Totley, Ecclesall, Fulwood.

South Local Area Committee covers - Beauchief & Greenhill, Gleadless, Graves Park, Nether Edge & Sharrow.

The fear is most decisions may still be made in the Town Hall, making these new Committees little more than talking-shops. So it will depend on how residents and community groups engage with their ward councillors in these new committees as to whether this ‘bottom-up’ system proves effective.

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Post Box

Dear Sir,
120,000 Headstones

While out for a walk recently I came across this incredibly sad memorial. It read "After the Great War of 1914 - 18 more than 120,000 headstones were carried on this line, destined for Imperial war grave cemeteries". The line itself was a tiny narrow-gauge track near the village of Middleton in Derbyshire. On a quiet summer day it was so atmospheric that I had to find out what happened.

After WW1 most of the overseas memorials were made of Portland stone from Dorset, but demand was so great that other materials had to be found. The limestone mined near the Hopton Wood quarry* was a suitable alternative, so they were given a huge order for more headstones. The marshalling yard for the railway is very small and it would have taken them years to mine, cut and polish the stones. Can you imagine how it must have felt doing those jobs? Many of the labourers would have served in the war or known people who didn't come back.

A tragic reminder of a terrible war.

Martin Smith

Ed. Hopton Quarry is now managed by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and is a good example of how wildlife can recolonise limestone quarry workings.

The reserve is made up of three quarries supporting a rich variety of wild flowers and habitat that are both locally and nationally important

Dear Sir,

I am deeply concerned about the safety of residents and pedestrians living on Twentywell Lane. During the early hours, on the 11th July, I was woken up by the horrific sound of a car driving down Twentywell Lane at great speed crashing into a stone wall alongside the path. The driver took down 10 metres of



Appropriately shaped commemorative headstone near the railway line

wall and if it hadn't been for the trees alongside the drive, would potentially have gone straight into a neighbouring house. This is the second crash at this particular point. AMEY not long having repaired this section of wall.

On investigation it is clear that the mentioned car rounded the bend outside number 88, hit the opposite wall and scraped down the wall for approximately 20-25 metres before travelling across the road into the wall. (This is a particularly hazardous spot due to the steepness and curve of the road on this corner). Thankfully on this occasion the driver did not appear to be seriously hurt and there were no pedestrians out walking.

AMEY responded straight away and cleared up the broken wall which had travelled at distance onto the drive. This itself would have caused serious injury or death if someone has been on the drive, either walking or in the car.

This has highlighted again, several long-standing and pressing issues of urgency:

- The speed of cars using Twentywell is excessive and dangerous to pedestrians.
- Traffic levels have significantly increased over the years
- The state of dry stone walling on the side of the steep woodland is awaiting repair, and again is a potential danger to car drivers and pedestrians.
- HGVs have recently been redirected and evidently no longer use Twentywell Lane; however, the increase in traffic and measures to control this and slow down speed has not.

I have lived on Twentywell Lane for 17 years, the traffic has sadly increased over the years and I have witnessed too many accidents involving cars. My two neighbouring houses including myself have all had animals killed by the excessive speed on Twentywell.

During icy conditions, it never felt safe to walk on Twentywell Lane because of the nature of the road, in particular, the lower part of the road where most of my concerns are directed. It has now got to

the stage where I, and others I have spoken to do not feel safe walking on our Road at any time, favouring taking out our cars instead of walking! My situation is that we live with our son who has learning difficulties and is partially sighted. It does not feel safe for him to walk with us or his support worker any longer on the lower part of Twentywell. My son, along with my husband used to walk down to the station to catch the train. I doubt anyone could dodge a car travelling at speed and mounting the path, but those who are less quick to react for whatever reason are extremely vulnerable.

It would be good to hear from anyone who shares my concerns, maybe we can get the council to listen and act. It is only a matter of time before a life or lives will be lost.

Sarah Sharpe

86 Twentywell Lane

Tel: 07952230746

Email: wisecrone@sky.com

Dear Sir,

I am an OAP who has taken up knitting little Gift Bags during Lockdown. They are around 6x4" and can hold sweets, money small toys etc. I am selling them at £3 each. I started just before Easter and have been able to send a cheque in the amount of £200 to Alzheimer's Research already.

I hope to have a stall at the Bradway Fun Day in September when I will have a table selling these gift bags to raise more money for what is a good cause.

Ann Fields



Knitted little Gift Bags 6x4"

Dear Sir,

The Tetley family (Fred, Lily, Roger & Joyce) moved to Bradway in the late 1930's.

Fred was the works chemist at Swift Levick & Sons, of Foley Street, Attercliffe. During the war, Fred ran a shadow factory for Swift Levicks, at Tideswell, and rose to be Technical Director of the company. They moved to Queen Victoria Road in 1947, and Fred & Lily retired to Filey in 1971.

Roger was born in 1926 and would have been about 11 when they moved to Bradway. Joyce was a year younger.

Roger studied at Sheffield Art College after attending Dronfield Grammar school. Like many others, his education thereafter, was as a soldier in the Royal Artillery, which took him to India and



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Egypt. He often joked that, on the day he passed out of Larkhill as a gunner, Hitler heard that the Tetleys were coming and promptly shot himself!

I got Dad to write down his life story, after he'd suffered a stroke, which left him partially paralysed.

What follows are the parts relating to Bradway. He died in 2006 after a further stroke.

I moved back to Bradway in 2005 after my work took us around the country.

Richard Tetley

Ed. Rogers' memoirs are both interesting & entertaining. With some light editing we hope to reproduce them over the next few editions of the Bugle.

Roger Tetley's recollections of life in Bradway (1938-1946)

In about 1938, one of father's colleagues, whose sister had married Bob Jones, a prominent builder who lived in Greenhill, suggested that Father should buy one of these desirable new residences in Bradway, which he did. The house, 250 Bradway Road, was completed during the previous few weeks and I think it cost £400. As far as I can remember, it had a dining room with a back-to-back fire and oven combined, the oven being in the kitchen. Therefore you built up the fire in the dining room and your cooked and baked bread etc. in the kitchen. Upstairs there were three bedrooms, Dad and Mum's, mine, and a little front bedroom for my sister Joyce. Downstairs, I remember we had a very



Fred Tetley, Rogers father, who rose to be Technical Director of Swift Levick & Sons, and moved to Queen Victoria Road with his family in 1947

luxurious lounge. The fireplace was unusual, in having underfloor pipes to conduct air under the hearth, this being almost flush with the floor. Upstairs, a bathroom and separate loo.

When we arrived in Bradway our house was ready for occupation and the country around Bradway to us appeared to be paradise. There were nice large gardens and lots of wildlife around us. We placed nesting boxes in the garden, so there were many varieties of our feathered friends to delight us, robins, chaffinches, blue tits etc.

Although the house was finished, building went on all around us, up to what is known as Tinker's Corner (a left

hand bend taking the road towards Dronfield Woodhouse and Holmesfield). On the right was Hall Farm where the farmer Charlie Vickers (Charlie Vickers had albinism) lived with his wife Grace, daughter Mary, a farm 'lad' (incidentally about thirty years old), and a lady, Miss Appleby (Miss 'Appy'). I'm not sure how Miss Appleby fitted into the family! There were also three sheep dogs, one of which was an Old English, about five cats, and the farm boys who were a nondescript gang who came and went at Charlie's discretion, not to mention some hens who appeared on the hearth from time to time. One could not guess at the number of mice and other creatures who also inhabited the place, although some pigs lived in a small sty across the yard. Charlie was a character and it took Grace, Mary and Miss Appleby to dress him for market on a Thursday, from long johns, and other underwear to highly polished boots, breeches, waistcoat, gold watch, chain, neckerchief, bowler hat, some kind of flower in his buttonhole, walking stick and you get the picture. Mary rode to hounds with the Barlow Hunt, wearing a black habit and riding side saddle.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryalls, who lived at the next farm, had several sons and daughters, one of whom, Arnold, courted Mary Vickers. A very hazardous game as Mr. Vickers and old Ryalls were at daggers drawn. They used to spend all Sunday afternoon courting in a derelict hut containing a vintage car in the Ryalls' farmyard.

to be continued in our winter issue....

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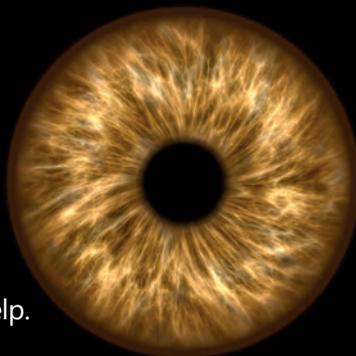
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Wild at Heart

.... continued from page 1

Jenny looks after the 'Wild at Heart' project which runs social groups using outdoor activities to help people improve their health and wellbeing, make new friends and learn new skills while exploring parks and green spaces. "Looking at a squirrel, for example, or the colour of leaves together is an ice breaker that gets people talking," said Jenny. "People may have many difficulties in their lives, but taking time to appreciate the good stuff in your local park or woodland, or even just outside your window, helps your brain to think more positively."

Research by Public Health England shows that natural landscapes in towns and cities can reduce stress and make people feel happier, and that people who live near natural environments have better mental health. Regular activities in a green space make it easier for people to interact with other people, and can reduce isolation and antisocial behaviour in surrounding communities.

"This last year has shown that people are often desperate to connect with nature, and with other people," said Jenny. Under the lockdowns, the Wild at Heart team kept in touch by calling participants on the phone, and by creating activity packs so people can explore the nature near their homes in their own time, funded by the Cadent Foundation.

"We're animals that need to be outside, we're not really designed to sit in a house looking at four walls all the time," said Jenny. "So here are a few ideas for adults and children to connect with nature."

Sticky Pallets: stick some double sided tape on a piece of stiff card, and then take it with you on a walk. Collect fallen leaves and flowers, feathers, petals, grasses, shells etc. and then put your sticky pallet on display at home, maybe making new sticky pallets from the same walk as the seasons change.

Grow Pea Tops: buy a small pack of dried marrowfat peas, and plant a few in some damp kitchen paper, cotton wool or compost in an old egg box or mushroom tray on a windowsill, and water gently every few days until after a couple of weeks they should be about 10 cm high. Cut them off and eat them in a salad or sandwich and start your next crop.

Tree Boggarts: find a fist sized lump of clay and work it with your hands until it's fairly soft. Mould it into the shape of an ugly face, and then stick it on a tree to guard over it in future. Add feathers, grass, leaves, pebbles for hair, beards, noses etc. until it looks suitably scary.

For more ideas and info see: <https://www.wildsheffield.com/wild-at-heart/resources-to-explore/>

David Bocking



Exploring local parks and green spaces to discover the wildlife they contain

Councillors Update

Since the last issue we can report that Colin Ross was re-elected as local Councillor for the Ward that covers Bradway, Dore, Totley & Whirlow. He had the most votes of any candidate in Sheffield. The full result was;

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------|
| Colin Ross | Liberal Democrat | 3,697 |
| Sara Chinchin | Conservative | 1,997 |
| Samantha Nicholson | Labour | 1,066 |
| Dave Applebaum | Green | 959 |

The Council itself is now led by a Coalition of Greens & Labour, with the Liberal Democrat Group in opposition. In addition to responsibilities in the Ward, Martin has been appointed Shadow Executive Member for City Futures (which includes Planning & Development), Colin is Chair of the City Region Scrutiny Committee and Joe is the Lib Dem spokesperson on Neighbourhoods, Parks and Leisure.

We recently attended an event to launch the Friends of Whirlow Brook Park and another with a group of residents who are interested in forming a new Friends Group for Green Oak Park. There was a

lot of interest in both events and attendees shared their ideas about what needs to be done in the parks. Establishing a Friends group helps access support from the Ranger service and more funding. Is there an opportunity for something like this in Bradway?

Another source of funding for local initiatives is the 'Ward Pot' which aims to support our neighbourhood by making grants available to voluntary, and self-help groups and projects. This year's scheme is now open for applications and further details can be found on the Council website. Alternatively contact one of us and we will point you in the right direction.

On a more serious note we are becoming increasingly concerned about the backlog of repairs to Council houses and flats. This is a city-wide issue and, although we are not currently aware of major problems in our ward, do get in contact if you have any concerns.

Another city-wide issue that we are monitoring is the 'Local Plan'. This is an important document that will set out a vision for how the city should grow over the next twenty years. It will include targets for the number of new houses, where they should be built and how precious green space will be protected. It should also include a vision for how the city centre will recover from its economic downturn.

Options were sent out for consultation last year and a large number of replies were sent to the Council, however the next version of the plan has still not been made available. We are pushing for the earliest possible publication date.

We are also aware that speeding traffic is a concern for residents in several parts of the Ward. Anecdotal evidence suggests this become more of an issue throughout lockdown and Councillors are in contact with the Police and the Council Highways department about what can be done for known hot-spots. More community speed checks to gather data would be very welcome, however at the time of writing they are still suspended due to resource issues.

And finally with the easing of Covid related restrictions we hope to re-start our face-to-face surgeries in September, but you can always contact by email or via the Council website.

Stay safe, and enjoy the summer!

Martin, Colin & Joe

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martin.smith@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk
joe.otten@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk*

Totley Show 2021

The show this year will be on Saturday 18th September subject to any changes in Covid restrictions.

Entries will be accepted from 8.45am on the morning with registration closing at 10.45am. Open to public after judging.

The show will close at 3pm as there will be no entertainment or stalls this year.

BRADWAY ANNUAL FUN DAY
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 11th 2021, 1.30 – 4.30 p.m.
On THE VILLAGE GREEN
(The Old School Field, next to The Annexe)
Organised by Bradway Action Group

The event may be a little curtailed due to 'you know what', but we will try our best to provide lots of fun and entertainment. Come along and enjoy the activities, food and drink refreshments
Bradway Dog Show at 3p.m.

(Cutest puppy, prettiest bitch, handsomest male, waggiest tail, & golden oldie). The RAF Events Display Team is booked and a flypast by a Lancaster confirmed, (weather and aircraft permitting)

Targeted Checks on Speeding

.... continued from page 1

Jason Booth said: "We are all taught about the dangers of speeding, yet so many people choose to put themselves and others at risk behind the wheel. Officers regularly enforce the 'Fatal four' causes of road collisions, which are; speeding, using a mobile phone behind the wheel, drink / drug driving and not wearing a seatbelt".

"Throughout the campaign our officers will be conducting additional speed checks across the county, targeting locations causing community concern and roads with a higher incidence of reported collisions. I would urge all drivers to think twice before driving at excessive speeds, drive to both the speed limit and road conditions at that time. If you don't, the consequences can be devastating for you and others."

Having a More Peaceful Mind

What image does the word "meditation" conjure up for you? Perhaps it's a holy man wearing a loincloth, sitting cross-legged in a cave in the Himalayas, seeking to achieve union with the cosmos? Alternatively, you might imagine a practical technique that you can apply sat in a chair in your own home, which can help you control unwanted thoughts, reduce anxiety and

find greater balance in your life? If it is the second of these that interests you, please carry on reading.

Meditation has its roots in religious traditions such as Buddhism, Hinduism and Christianity; however there is no requirement to sign up for any particular belief system to learn to meditate. I have meditated with Buddhists, atheists, agnostics, Quakers, and on one occasion, an Anglican vicar.

Over the past few decades meditation has attracted more and more interest from the scientific community, and from healthcare professionals, as it is so effective in helping to deal with physical and mental pain (such as anxiety and depression) and negative aspects of stress.

Our minds are often unsettled, restless and lost in daydreams. A key skill in meditation is to train the mind to concentrate more deeply, so that it stays where we want it to be more often. An important technique for achieving this involves working with the breath. We very much take breathing for granted. It is something we do automatically to stay alive from the moment we are born until we die.

In one of many approaches to meditation, we can turn our attention to our individual breaths and count these from one to ten, and then start again at one. When thoughts divert our attention, we notice these and just calmly return to counting the breath.

Evidence shows that this is a very

effective technique for building concentration and developing a peaceful mind. Anyone can meditate – if you think your mind is "too active", don't worry; you are in very good company.

Meditation will help you deal with physical and emotional pain, but it will not get rid of these altogether. There is a saying, "Pain is inevitable, suffering is optional". Whenever we experience pain, there is usually an associated mental commentary that accompanies it, and this is rarely helpful. We may have thoughts like "I can't cope with this", "Why is this happening to me?" Meditation helps you to reduce this background chatter, and to put it into perspective, and (as research has shown) there is a reduction in both sensitivity to the pain, and awareness of it.

Many people find that establishing a regular meditation practice (say 25 minutes a day) leads to beneficial changes over time, and some of these come surprisingly quickly, deepening with continued practice. They report that they find themselves becoming more calm and relaxed, having stronger powers of focus and concentration, developing more empathy for others, and having greater feelings of self-esteem, worth, benevolence and self-acceptance.

Meditation has been of great benefit to me in my life, and I have now been trained so that I can not only recommend it, but also teach it to others. Why not give it a try?

Dave Applebaum

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May we realise how precious we are

Yesterday, we held our Year 6 leavers' assembly, on Zoom of course: 60 children in the hall, singing towards a camera, sending their mixed feeling of sadness and excitement through the ether to waiting families. It was different to the 'normal,' but still poignant, because endings are difficult for most of us, especially endings which come at the end of a year like this one. The song that always brings a prickle to the back of my neck and a tear to my eye includes the words:

*As we go now, from this moment
As we go into the future together
May we treasure one another,
May we realise how precious we are*

Appropriate words, and a reminder that education and school is so much more than academic learning and preparation for the world of work; it is a preparation for life as a positive member of society, or at least it should be.

At the time of writing this, it is the last day of an extraordinary term, an extraordinary year; and as we all pick over the lessons to be learned from the Covid pandemic, the media and the educational chat rooms are full of discussions about how we can best serve children's educational and emotional needs as we move into the next academic year, and these discussions include the inspection and accountability system in education.

During the pandemic, Ofsted (the Office For Standards in Education), has been unable to inspect schools, and the usual end of year 'SATs' tests did not go ahead for Year 6 pupils either in 2020, or 2021. So, for the first time in many decades, there is no current external data with which to attempt to measure the effectiveness of schools and almost no

Bradway Primary School

Dates for your diary

Autumn term starts:

Thursday 2nd September

Autumn half term:

25th to 29th October

Autumn term ends:

17th December

external inspection data either. Not surprisingly, some people are calling for Ofsted to be abolished, but I think that this would be a mistake.

In the past, I have been critical of Ofsted, and although we have always managed to emerge from inspections with exceptionally good reports, I have always seen it as a blunt and inaccurate instrument and one which can adversely distort the ways in which schools teach their pupils. High stakes accountability in any profession can have unintended consequences and SATs results and Ofsted inspection outcomes in the past could make or break a school's reputation, ending careers and blighting lives.

In some schools this pressure sometimes led to leadership decisions which were more about improving data than they were around good teaching and learning, and it led some schools to 'teach to the test,' both at secondary and primary levels, thus narrowing the curriculum for children.

At Bradway we have never wavered from our belief that 'everyone is good at something' and so have always resisted the temptation to do this, but we acknowledge that schools which were under enormous pressure to achieve improved SATs results and inspection outcomes, did sometimes feel that there was no other option.

Fortunately, after a long succession of disappointing Ofsted leaders, we currently have a more enlightened Ofsted Chief Inspector, called Amanda Spielman, who has been in post since 2017. In my opinion, she has brought a breath of fresh air to a stale dysfunctional inspection system, and has refocused inspection of the primary curriculum so that it is centred on what children actually need to develop into valuable members of society.

So, inspectors are now less interested in the data and are more interested in talking to children about what they have learned, more interested in talking to teachers and leaders to find out if the curriculum makes sense to learners. It is finally focussed on children!

Recently I was excited to see the text of a recent speech that Mrs Spielman made to school leaders at the Festival Of Education in June 2021, setting out her vision for education. In that speech she said:

'Let's expose young people to alternative perspectives on complex problems. Let's give them the tools to

make their own political choices, including decisions about the rights and wrongs of world events.'

Happily, this is exactly what is happening in schools like Bradway which are doing Philosophy For Children, or P4C, since P4C gives children the time, space and tools to examine what they really think about the key issues facing them in their lives. P4C provides the ideal forum for reasoned debate, as it enables children to explore often challenging ideas and concepts in a safe, well-defined 'community of enquiry' where different points of view are discussed, where children are encouraged to build on, as well as challenge, each other's ideas and importantly, where mutual respect is very much evident.

Surely these are the skills and tools that children will need as we navigate our post pandemic world, skills that will be just as important to them as reading, writing and maths.

Teachers agree. This is what Ellie Tuckett, one of our Year 2 teachers had to say recently:

'You see their thinking, their verbal skills, suddenly make leaps... it's one of the reasons people go into teaching - it's a perfect fit for that. Giving pupils a voice, giving them time to express themselves, to think deeper about things we would normally just kind of skip over because the curriculum is so vast. The way that we've woven it into our wider curriculum, makes that really possible. So in art you can talk about painting and why people paint, as opposed to 'let's do some painting', that's so important'

As we end one year and start another, I am full of optimism for education at Bradway and I am proud that our pupils have been offered a curriculum which gives them the tools to make up their own minds about key issues and that gives time for deeper thinking. As well as the important academic knowledge that we teach in our curriculum, these are the tools that our children will need as they grow up. We think that Ofsted will agree, next time they visit.

May I take this opportunity to thank the many members of the Bradway community who have supported our school through the past 18 months and who have also suffered their own trial and tribulations. We are fortunate to work in a school with such a wonderful team of people in the community around us. You are very much appreciated and I hope that you all realise how precious you are.

Paul Stockley (Headmaster)
Bradway Primary School

*Follow me on
twitter: @bradwaystockley*

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.

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Totley Library

Coming Out Of Lockdown

We would like to extend a big thank you and to all our returning library users for their ongoing support and appreciation of the library. Since we re-opened on 12 April, the numbers visiting the library have been increasing steadily and it has been lovely to welcome new users and their families to the library.

We have recently increased our opening times and the Library is now open from 2pm to 5pm on Mondays and from 10am to 1pm on Tuesday, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Browsing is available as is access to public computer, printing and photocopying facilities.

These opening times will be kept under review and will be increased in line with volunteer availability. In order to keep you and our volunteers' safe, our volunteers will continue to wear visors and we will request that customers wear face covering and sanitise hands. At busy times a queuing system may be in operation to maintain social distancing.

New Books

We have continued to purchase a wide range of new books. These include new bestsellers by your favourite authors, a range of books for adults and children around health and wellbeing and books for children about Covid. You can search for the books we have in stock at Totley Library by going to the website www.totleycric.org.uk and following the links in Our Books.

Alternatively, if you prefer to purchase books, our Sales Shelves have been restocked, so please pop into the library to have a look. We have a good selection of crime, fiction, non-fiction, CDs, DVDs and jigsaws. A minimum donation of just 50p per item is expected.



Plenty of books to buy on the recently fully restocked Sales Shelves

Plant Sale

Thank you to everyone who came and supported our plant sale in May, there was an impressive turnout on the day and it was fantastic to see everyone there.

This annual fundraising event achieved £1,338 (close to 2019 levels), which will go towards book purchasing and improvements in the library.

New Volunteers

As mentioned above the key to expanding our opening hours and range of services is the availability of volunteers. Whilst it was always expected that not all our volunteers would resume duties as restrictions eased it has now become clear that we will not have enough volunteers to enable us to make plans to open at pre-pandemic levels.

We were fortunate to receive applications from prospective volunteers

during lockdown and we are working hard to carry out the necessary training to get them active as soon as possible, but we are still keen to encourage more potential volunteers.

If you would like to know more about the roles that are available and what they entail, please email your details to totleylibrary@gmail.com and we will get back to you to arrange an introductory chat. We would be particularly interested in hearing from people who would be interested in becoming trustees as some of our existing trustees will be retiring at our next AGM.

Summer Reading Challenge

The Sheffield Libraries reading challenge has been running at Totley Library since mid-July. It's FREE to sign up to the challenge which is suitable for children under 11 years of age. Just ask at the Library.

All you have to do is read four books of your choice during the summer and collect a sticker for each book that you read and add it to your collector's folder. Participants will receive a certificate and limited edition pin.

The future

Apart from working to expand our volunteer base and increase our opening hours we have been able to restart Babytime sessions which are proving very popular and need to be booked in advance. We are also hoping to resume other children's activities and events from the middle of September and will be looking to enable community groups to be able to restart meetings as soon as possible.

For up to date information on our activities please go to our website at www.totleycric.org.uk or our Facebook page.

Norman Rolfe



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Bradway Action Group

Chairman: Chris Morgan

9, Everard Avenue. Tel 236 9273

Secretary: Fiona Vallely

58, Everard Avenue. Tel 236 3991

Deputy Chair: John Sharpe

Treasurer: Jon Smith

Membership Sec: Anne Sharpe

38, Longford Crescent. Tel 236 6388

Committee - elected and *co-opted

Les Day; Nancy Maitland;

Ian Robinson; Peter Smithson;

*John Child (Community Hall)

*Frank Richardson (Scouts)

BAG can be contacted at any time by using the form on our website, no need to phone.

Website: <http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.co/contact.html>

Facebook: Bradway Action Group

Twentywell Lane Care Home

.... continued from page 1

The Senior Site Manager for contractors Pacy and Wheatley is Gary Bramhald. He's very approachable. If anyone has any immediate concerns they should call in to see him or call him on 07392087252.

The planning application to add a high gate onto the ginnel between Kenwell Drive and Bradway Drive was not by the developers who were as surprised as we were. It received many objections and was withdrawn – because a 2 metre high gate doesn't need permission. It's now installed on behalf of the land owner.

Bradway Fun Day 2021

Planning is now advanced for the return of our annual event on Saturday September 11th, 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Lots of fun and games, food, drink, maybe the fire engine if it's not at a fire. Can you help? We want all to have fun

BRADWAY COMMUNITY HALL

(Next to the Dore and Totley Golf Club)

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

Charges from 1 October 2018 include:

Main Hall

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)

Casual Hire by for profit users: **£16 per hour**

Party bookings: **£45** for up to **three hours**; **£15 per hour** thereafter

Small Hall

Regular for profit users: **£6 per hour** (£3 per hour if it is used in conjunction with the Main Hall)

Casual hire by for profit users: **£10 per hour**

(£5 per hour if it is used in conjunction with the Main Hall)

Other users: **£4 per hour** (£2 per hour if it is 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

including our helpers. What do we need?

*Help on the day

*Adult helpers to 'staff the stalls',

*Setting up the stalls in the morning and clearing up afterwards.

*Books for book stall – especially children's books.

*Adult tombola prizes – spirits, wine, beer, chocolates, perfumes and toiletries, men's aftershave and toiletries, household items

*Cakes – for our own cake/ refreshment stall. Please bring these on the day – we will be on-site from 9.30 a.m.

We rely on a dedicated band of volunteers without whose help the games and other attractions can't run. Please let us know what you can do to help make this event even better than ever. With ideas and offers of help please contact organiser Anne Sharpe at; annesharpe09@gmail.com

Once again the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight have agreed to give us a fly past. This year it could be a Spitfire, Hurricane, Dakota or Lancaster but we never know for certain until the day. Just pray for good weather, and that the aircraft we're allocated is in good health to fly. Watch the sky!

Looking forward to seeing as many Bradway (and other) residents as possible.

Thank you for your support.

Forthcoming major work on the railway

Preparatory work is now underway with a small work site on the railway triangle. The main work sites on the railway triangle and station car park with a smaller one by Westview Lane won't be until next year. We had a preliminary meeting with the Project Manager and his team in early May and there was a Public Microsoft Teams meeting on 27th July. The major construction contract is from April 2022 to September 2023 with land restoration at its conclusion. So far excellent rapport has been established with the main contractors for Network Rail, Volker/Story.

The good news is that there is no pile driving planned. Soil nails are to be used which are screwed in causing a lot less noise and minimal vibration.

Bounds of Bradway Walk

– Sunday 30th May

We carried Tony Smith's tradition forward, our leader once again being former BAG Chairman Peter Stubbs. Despite the restrictions of Covid, attendees were not put off and we had a goodly crowd. If you missed it come along next year.

Poynton Woods paths and other activities

Always complaining, aren't we? Wrong materials, now it's been too dry and hot. Nevertheless we've cut back a lot of encroaching foliage and there's plenty still to do.

We're still pursuing a new litter bin to be sited on Twentywell Road near The Castle, as we've been doing now for years!

We've just installed two extra picnic



Cutting back a lot of encroaching foliage on public footpaths

benches on the Old School Field/Bradway Village Green in time for the summer holidays and hope they'll be appreciated and cared for. Chris Shenton of Rustic Bear Handyman Services very kindly replaced the one that got wrecked last summer!

We consider anything else that's safe, legal and in the community interest so let John Sharpe know if you'd like to join us, or just want to make a helpful suggestion. He's at; john.c.sharpe54@gmail.com

Full members

Many thanks to all who set up standing orders to pay their membership subscriptions for 2021 on 1st January or soon after. The income allows us to commit to modest projects within the community. Paid up members have the right to vote at General Meetings and are eligible to be nominated for committee positions. It's not too late to renew or join now

More members !

We'd greatly welcome more fully paid up members.

To join BAG, or to renew your subscription, please go to; <http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com/membership.html> or contact Anne Sharpe as above. It's only £2 a year, £3 for households. Many round it up with a further donation which allows us to spend more on our activities to help the community.

Future BAG Activities

Outside work most Thursdays, see facing page.

Committee Meetings are 3rd Tuesday of each odd month, mostly recently by Zoom but we hope to be back in person in September.

The 2021 Fun Day is on Saturday 11th September, see above.

AGM

Our AGM should be in Bradway School Hall on October 6th, at 7.30 refreshments and informal meet and greet from 7.00pm. That's assuming the latest Coved rules permit. All welcome. Speaker now being arranged.

We'll have Christmas lights again on the Twentywell Lane shops – the show must go on.

BAG Facebook Group

We've over 1100 people in our Facebook Group and add new names every day. Lots of lively information, news and opinions about Bradway, its history and its residents. It enables local residents to keep in touch with all sorts of local happenings. Just explain your Bradway connection and accept the simple rules and you should be admitted.

Bradway website is at; <http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com/> Use the contact us Form or Chairman link to get in touch.

Chris Morgan, Chairman

On The Beat

I'm writing this during the very hot week, no doubt by the time of publication we'll be back to wintry weather! We have also had the media misnomer named "Freedom" day this week. As all legal restrictions are now lifted it becomes a matter of personal choice as to how you move forward.

I hope we will continue to respect each other's decisions on this and allow people the time they need to return to whatever used to be considered 'normal'. Hopefully we will start to see the return of the local events, clubs and social gatherings that we've all looked forward to in previous years.

Change is also happening at Woodseats, we have a new Inspector Katie Rowlands-Wilson and a new Sgt John Clack. We're currently educating them in

our ways!

Crime wise there is still not too much to report thankfully. We are still having a few garage and shed breaks around and about the Ward area but actual house burglaries are still low. If anyone is worried about their domestic security as we start to return to workplaces, we would be more than happy to come along and see if we can offer any suggestions or advice. Just drop me an email to the address at the end of the article.

We have continued to carry out our Operation Slow Down speed monitoring in the area and are trying to keep up with the suggestions of places we could carry it out. Again, as restrictions lift we hope to get community members involved in these. It can be interesting to see that often the perception of the speed of a vehicle from the pavement is often not reflected by the results of the operation.

We often find volunteers for this through the S17 Neighbourhood Watch, so if you are not a member and wish to find out about local groups please send me your details and I will pass them onto the local NHW coordinator.

We are seeing more complaints coming to us regarding noise from neighbours, but unfortunately the Police have very little power to deal with noise complaints. Reports should be made to the Environmental Services section of Sheffield City Council. All the details can be found on the Sheffield City Council website.

Whilst writing my article for the Totley Independent recently I spent a little time

trawling through their archives and found an interesting letter from 1981 in which the writer complains of the noise from 'transistor sets out of doors and indoor wirelesses and record players blaring through open windows' He also asks at the end of the letter for people to buy less noisy gardening equipment!

We are also experiencing an uplift again in thefts from vans, both delivery and work vans. Please remind any tradespeople you have visiting to keep their vans locked and secure when unattended even for a moment, thieves will be tempted by an easy opportunity of equipment left unattended.

If you have not yet signed up to SYP Alerts which will keep you updated on local crime trends, emerging fraud schemes and other useful information please send me your house number, postcode and email address and I will get you signed up.

As ever if you do have any worries or concerns please contact me. If you are organising any events that may require police attendance please give us as much notice as possible. I'll repeat that the phone number and email I include in this article should not be used to make reports of incidents or crime, 101 or the online portal are the ways to do this.

It is always easy to send messages to adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk and the phone number is 07787 881945.

Adrian Tolson, PCSO 8136

South Yorkshire Police
Sheffield S W Neighbourhoods Team
Woodseats Police Station



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591548

Greenhill Village History Society

We're holding meetings again! Greenhill Village History Society have started meeting again. Members were keen to see each other again after months of only communicating by phone or social media.

Initially, an informal 'get together' was organised at New Leaf Garden Centre, where we could socially distance and observe Covid regulations. It was great to catch up face to face over a coffee. We obviously discussed ideas for moving the group forward and several suggestions were agreed.

Before the pandemic, GVHS and other village residents had been working with local Councillors Richard Shaw and Simon Clement-Jones as to how grant funding could help improve some of the village amenities. This had culminated in a public meeting in September 2019. Various problems were identified and some solutions suggested, but apart from writing up a feedback, very little else was accomplished as we were busy with Open Evening presentations – and of course Covid!

However, once the Government started making plans and a roadmap was formulated, it was agreed that GVHS would be unable to meet indoors at Greenhill Community Library for some months and any meetings would need to be held off-site. It was initially suggested the group took a walk around the village, identifying planning applications which had been approved, building works which had been completed and other changes which impacted on the Greenhill Conservation Area.

In addition to Society members, other residents were invited along, together with our local Councillors and representatives from Sheffield City Council.

We had some lively conversations and agreements were made that several of the suggestions could be implemented by applying for a Ward Pot Grant or the Community Infrastructure Levy. These included: A litter bin – courtesy of Amey (already installed). A Community noticeboard, Re-introducing plans for a link path along the north side of Greenhill Parkway between James Andrew Crescent and St Peter's roundabout.

Finally, the most important suggestion was to restore the village pump to preserve it for future generations before it falls into such a state of disrepair through lack of maintenance that it becomes a Health and Safety issue and is removed. (Who still remembers Greenhill Hall?) A number of residents have suggested we have a fund-raising event as they feel so strongly about 'our' pump that they feel they would like to contribute towards the restoration. Plans are being made for something to take place in September – watch out for the posters!

In July, our next meeting was held at Millhouses Park – organised by Kath and



Greenhill village pump in need of restoration before it deteriorates further

Mick. Unfortunately, the plans for visiting Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet had to be put on hold due to unforeseen circumstances; however, we had an interesting meander round the park. After visiting the wildflower garden, we strolled around the remainder of the park with some reminiscing about their visits as children or what has changed over the years. We naturally ended the afternoon at the café for a 'cuppa'.

Our next meeting was on August 10th; an afternoon visit to Norton Church led by Sally from Norton History Society and Christine from GVHS.

Further details about the Society can be obtained from the Greenhill Community Library website (Partners) or by contacting Lesley Fox (Chair) on 0114 2377928 or you can email lesley.fox3@btinternet.com

Lesley Fox

Local Pubs and Beer

With the government lifting most Covid requirements from 19th July the pub going experience has now returned to something approaching "normal" although many have temporarily kept some limitations such as not allowing sitting/standing at the bar other than whilst being served and keeping the door open for ventilation.

There is currently a serious issue with staffing in the industry which hasn't been helped by many getting pinged by NHS Test & Trace to self-isolate causing pubs to temporarily close, reduce opening hours, reduce beer range or not serve food.

Locally the Castle Inn continues to be a popular place to go for food, offering daily specials and themed menus as well as their regular pub menu, whilst down at

the Shepley Spitfire a fairly traditional pub atmosphere is being offered with live entertainment occasionally featuring at the weekend.

Whilst local pubs are now able to get back to normal, there is something more of a question mark over nightclubs, festivals and other special events with the government announcement that from September when all adults have been offered full vaccination venues with a large capacity must restrict admission to those that show a valid NHS Covid Pass.

Sheffield's Steel City Beer & Cider Festival in October has now once again been cancelled due to the uncertainty and short timescale to both organise and promote, however Barrow Hill Rail Ale Festival near Chesterfield is still going ahead in September.

There are also various pub events happening, August bank holiday weekend sees the Hope Valley beer festival at the Old Hall Hotel in Hope whilst in Dronfield the same weekend a "Pub Social" is spread around the town centre at the Blue Stoops, Manor House Hotel, Dronfield Arms, White Swan and Underdog bar. Expect food & drink, live music and DJs. Links to all the known events are available on the Sheffield Campaign for Real Ale website - sheffield.camra.org.uk.

The newest pub in S17 - the Tunnel Tap micropub at Tootley Rise shops - slowly gets closer to opening with their licence now approved. In the meantime Tunnel Tap branded beers are still available to order from Little Mesters Brewing of Meadowhead.

Abbeydale Brewery, best known for their Moonshine Pale Ale, are celebrating their 25th birthday this year. They continue to brew a range of traditional cask ales but in recent years have expanded to also produce a variety of more modern craft beers available in keg and can with a number of gluten free options too.

A number of one off special beers are being produced to mark the anniversary, the latest one, "Celebration", is a low alcohol Mimosa Quarter IPA. This is just 2.5% ABV but packed with Citra, Amarillo and Cryo Pop hop varieties along with orange juice so despite the low strength the flavour and aroma is quite bold with a strong fruity punch! As well as on tap in pubs the beer can be ordered in cans for home delivery via abbeydalebrewery.co.uk.

Over in Dronfield the Drone Valley Community Brewery continue to brew a range of traditional beers and their weekend tap room sessions have restarted if you fancy drinking at source! Their bar opens Fridays 4pm to 8pm and Saturdays 12pm to 8pm and can be found on the Unstone Industrial Complex, off Main Road (S18 4AB).

The former Hopjacker brewery at the Dronfield Arms is currently available to rent if anyone wants to run a brewing business! Contact Chris on 07834 950693 if you are interested.

Andrew Cullen

From your local MP

Hello! I hope this update finds you well and enjoying the Sheffield summer. It has been a busy month or two both in Hallam and in Parliament. I thought I would update you on just some of what I have been doing to represent the people of Bradway.

In some exciting news, I have been appointed the Shadow Minister for Nature, Water and Flooding and will be joining the Shadow Environment team to be nature's voice in Parliament. We are living through a climate and ecological emergency and need radical change if we are to protect our communities and the natural world.

From worsening flooding to a decline in precious species, we can see the impact with our own eyes here in Sheffield. I am really looking forward to working with campaigners and experts from our city and across the country to develop a rescue plan for our natural world.

At the time of writing, I am organising a Nature Emergency Summit in Sheffield, to bring together everyone in our city to discuss the nature crisis we face. I will be announcing more information about this summit soon and how you can get involved!

The Environment Bill also finally returned to Parliament, and as a Shadow Minister I sponsored a number of important amendments, including an amendment calling on the Government to fully ban burning on upland peat. Sadly,

the Government rejected this amendment, but I am continuing to campaign on this issue. I have also been pressuring the Government over their lack of biodiversity and nature restoration targets in the lead up to COP26, important climate talks which will be held in Glasgow later this year.

I know many of you are very concerned about the effect of the UK-Australia trade deal on our community. I have been speaking out about the dangers of this zero-tariff trade deal, which will threaten the livelihood of local farmers, including those in Hallam, and only increase emissions from imported food. We should be working to create a localised, green food system, which ensures everyone has enough food. The Government's trade deal will do the exact opposite.

After a huge petition, signed by lots of people in Bradway and Hallam, a debate was called on protections for hedgehogs. I spoke during the debate and raised these issues on behalf of constituents. If we're aiming for species abundance then raising the threshold for species protections is a step in the wrong direction. We shouldn't wait for species to become critically endangered before extending protections to it.

We have also had an update from the Government on our bid to restore rail services to the Sheaf Valley. We will find out whether we have secured the bid later in the summer. You can read the full update and more about the original bid on

my website.

I have also been continuing the campaign for more support for people who miscarry, an issue very close to my heart. A few weeks ago, I led a debate in Parliament on the recent findings of the Lancet report into miscarriage and the state of miscarriage care in the UK. The days of leaving women to suffer in silence must surely become a thing of the past.

During the debate, the Minister committed to putting two of the three findings into the Government's Woman's Health Strategy, which is a huge win for campaigners across the country and such a great step. Of course, so much more still needs to be done to improve miscarriage care and I will continue to work closely on this issue.

I want to thank everyone who has sent me messages of support over the past year on year, and I particularly want to thank all the constituents who have shared their experiences with me. You can watch my full speech during the debate on my website: oliviablake.org.uk

If you would like to hear more about what I have been getting up to, you can sign up to my monthly newsletter on my website, and as always, please do get in touch if there are issues you would like me to speak about or campaigns I should join.

Olivia Blake
MP for Sheffield Hallam
olivia.blake.mp@parliament.uk
0207 219 3552



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Wild Swimming

I embarked on my wild swimming journey in June last year when I bumped into a friend and she asked how I was coping with lockdown. She told me she was wild swimming and how it had changed her life. I thought this sounded like the tonic I needed, so armed with my swimming costume and a bobble hat, off we went.

On my first swim it was pouring down with rain, and everyone thought I was mad. I borrowed my friend's neoprene gloves and socks (which you need). I managed to stay in for 10 minutes or so and this is where the journey began. I forgot about the rain, and as I struggled to get dry couldn't get over how amazing I felt. I was hooked!!

I have been twice a week ever since. If you asked me what I love so much about wild swimming I'd probably say being with nature and the amazing feeling I have after I've done it. I'm the first one to admit it involves lots of faffing - finding the right spot to get changed etc, etc. I have a great waterproof mat, gloves and shoes, which are a must, lots of layers, a warm drink, and lots of hysterical laughter as you shake so much while trying to stand on one foot to put your socks on. The after drop happens to me about 10 minutes after getting out.

At the end of October I bought a wet suit which has enabled me to swim through the winter. Not everyone does this. I appreciate that wild swimming can be dangerous, especially if you have any health issues. We don't stay in too long. I think they say that you should stay in for one minute for each degree the water is.

They say the health benefits are massive, helping with mental health, dementia, the immune system etc and I'm also conscious it has become very fashionable recently. I must point out it isn't really allowed in our local reservoirs but this doesn't seem to stop us. I would urge you to try it if you love the outdoors and cold water!

There is a lovely wild swimming community and there is a local Facebook group called SOUP, who have an incredibly informative face book page. You can find people on there who will meet you for a swim. All other wild



Above: Local sites include Chatsworth Park on the Derwent; along with Dovedale and Lathkill Dale.

Left: Sally Brown breaking the ice

swimmers I have met along the way have all been so friendly. This has certainly made me braver! I would recommend any new starters to wait until the weather is warmer and don't go alone. There are lots of websites giving information.

I'm certainly no expert. Try it; you might like it as much as me!

Sally Brown

For the definitive source of information on wild swimming, outdoor swimming, river and lake swimming, and exploring the secret beaches of Britain see www.wildswimming.co.uk. This includes a wild swimming map for events, places, activities and meeting like minded explorers. Based on the best-selling guide book 'Wild Swimming' by Daniel Start - Wild Things Publishing.

Totley History Group

We are still hopeful that we will be able to hold our much postponed AGM, which will be open to both members and non-members, at 7:30pm on Wednesday 22nd September at Totley Library.

After the AGM you are invited to join the ever-popular Stephen Gay on a virtual railway journey from Sheffield's abandoned Victoria Station via Darnall, Kiveton Park, Worksop, Retford, Gainsborough, Brigg and Grimsby to the east coast holiday resort of Cleethorpes. Stephen will explore the history of the line and its surrounding countryside in his usual fascinating way aided by large collection of photographs.

This first part of our journey we will take us to Kirton Lindsey through the 1,334 yard Kirton Tunnel whose castellated western portal was completed in 1848 for the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway. The second part of the journey will be on Wednesday 27th October.

We hope that Totley Library will be available for both talks but this will have to be confirmed nearer the time.

For updates on our activities please visit totleyhistorygroup.org.uk.

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Neighbourhood Watch

At last summer has arrived as I am writing this article, sun and lots of it, just in time for the school holidays and the relaxation of the Covid-19 restrictions. Unfortunately this does not apply to the criminals, rather than taking a holiday they get proactive in looking for the easy opportunity to relieve us all of our possessions. The loss to us can be relatively low or seriously expensive depending on what gets taken be it a phone or a Range Rover. Whilst insurance can cover the cost of replacing most items stolen it does not cover the stress and upheaval an incident produces.

Often I hear that it is the loss of items of great sentimental value that affects the victim rather than the monetary value. These are often items, which can never be replaced or recovered by the Police, no matter how much they try. Victims rarely get their property back unless the offender is caught in the act and not always then. One of our members found a pillowcase of stolen items hidden under a garden hedge, he reported it to the Police and handed it in. Six months later none of the items had been returned or the victims identified.

One possible way to increase the chances of getting your property back is to have a full list, including a clear description & photographs of these items. It is often a requirement from insurance companies that high value items are registered and notified to them prior to them providing cover.

Unfortunately many of our sentimental items do not fall into this high value category and no such record is kept. "It was Mums old battered bracelet, silver teapot" or something similar which she treasured and you kept when she passed away. Having such a folder of these items, which you can provide to the police, gives precise details rather than trying to describe the items whilst you are in a state of distress.

Another option is to mark your property so that it can be identified as yours and returned to you if it does get recovered. Typically using your postcode is all that is required to keep the marks small and unobtrusive. This may be by indelible ink or other ultra violet reflective marking that shows up under the correct light.

More recently "Smart Water" has become available which is like DNA. It has a unique signature in a solution that can be used to positively identify any object and only requires a small dot of the solution to invisibly mark the object. The product has to be registered with the manufacturers who maintain the secure database, they will inform the Police of the rightful owner, should the Police recover the item from any location, be it a second hand shop, pawn shop or from the criminal. I have a few kits available at a special price from the manufacturers which includes their usual management charge.

Hopefully none of you will suffer from such a burglary but there are a few

Abbeydale Miniature Railway Timetable

First train 1pm – last train 5pm
Sept 5th & 19th; Oct 3rd & 17th
www.sheffieldmodelengineers.com

measures you can take to try to prevent becoming a victim. Burglar Alarms and CCTV are obviously good precautionary methods of reducing your chances of being targeted, but some of the simpler low cost items can be very effective.

Having the latest version Euro-locks on any PVC or composite doors prevents easy access by the criminals "snapping" the older versions of these locks. 5 lever mortice locks on wooden doors plus bolts offer very good protection for most properties, where appropriate. Good window locks are usually supplied with newer replacement windows, which can be supplemented with vibration alarms in case the criminals gain access by breaking the glass.

Another option is to leave a spare key

with a neighbour or relative, this is useful should you be away and your alarm goes off. It is not recommended that the key holder enters the property in case the criminals are still on the premises but contact the police, then if they are called the key holder can provide the key to gain access without causing any further damage.

NHW has a small selection of some inexpensive personal alarms and also has members who can check your locks for you, now that we are not under such severe socialising restrictions.

Come and join your local NHW group for all the benefits we can offer, there are no membership charges and we work with our local Neighbourhood Policing Team at Woodseats. The officer in charge is Inspector Katie Rowland-Wilson who took over at the beginning of June along with her new support officer Sergeant Jon Clack. PCSO Adrian Tolson is our community support officer.

Les Day
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Bradway Birds

The collared doves I wrote about in a recent issue disappeared in April and May. There were pairs on Everard Drive, Everard Avenue and Rosamund Avenue. There was no crooning, no calling, no flying away from each other and then back; silence and empty sky.

I think wood pigeons could be the cause, though not in the sense of culprit, or of aggressive removal. You must have noticed that wood pigeons are everywhere. They used to be wholly rural birds, then they started to sleep in the countryside but make forays into the suburbs.

Suburbs contain parks and large shrubby (even wooded) gardens. They contain fruit, seed, food specially put out and freedom from shooting, badgers, weasels and stoats. There are rooftop and aerial watchpoints and singing posts, and thick bushes to shelter and even nest in.

So now, our local wood pigeons never go to the countryside at all. Bradway has dozens of them that are fully and totally urban. They wake you at dawn, they are in our garden birches, they are constantly in the air displaying and wind clapping, and they are there last thing at night, settling to sleep and going nowhere.

They use the environment in very similar ways to collared doves. When one species was rural and the other urban, competition was occasional and light.

Now they are in the same places I think they illustrate an old principle, that if two species use the same environment in the same way one, one will increase, the other decline and fade away. The pigeon is probably dominant over the dove when they are in direct competition.

The doves might have died, as an indirect result of the pigeons' superior ability to Hoover up food; or they might have left for more rural areas, a strange reversal of roles. At least hunters don't, as yet, shoot collared doves.

The same principle could be one factor behind the kestrel's decline as the

buzzard has spread nationwide. But by contrast, buzzards and sparrowhawks have very little food overlap, and the hawks are maintaining numbers well.

Birds come and go. Collared doves reached Britain in the mid-fifties, spread throughout the islands, and are now



The common Buzzard can often be seen sailing over Bradway. Picture - RSPB

declining a little. Wood pigeons are now in every British nook and cranny except city centres. Buzzards have spread from Highland fastnesses to the whole country, and ravens might do so in the near future. Turtle doves can no longer flourish in our intensively farmed lowlands and are shot to pieces on migration by cowardly wretches in Malta and Cyprus.

Large birds of prey such as buzzards, kites and eagles display in the open air. The float and soar beautifully, so it makes sense to use these skills to communicate to other birds, to attract mates, to repel competitors, possibly even to express delight in their skill. Sad to say, it makes it so easy for keepers and anyone else with an itchy trigger finger to kill them.

Buzzards over Bradway can soar, call, and display to their heart's content. Consequently, I am surprised that Red Kites haven't followed, because they are doing so well in many areas. In Reading, they visit gardens, something a buzzard would never do. No doubt they are heading our way. Currently, they are spotted in our city region a few dozen times a year, which is "small beer" compared to buzzards.

A good start to June did its best to rescue an awful May. Cold, dark, wind, hail, all battered plants that were very late to set leaf. There were almost no butterflies. Orange tips were around in small numbers, in June, a month later than their usual peak. I hope there were enough to lay eggs for next year. Butterflies remain very scarce in July in what has been a dreadful year for many breeding attempts.

Bumblebees did a little better. They're tough, resilient and have sheltered nests, but how they fed their young I don't know. Still, some did and now you hear their buzz on any walk. How silent was May when they were missing.

Our garden Great tits didn't fledge any young until remarkably late – June 15th. Even so, there

were only three of them, which means there were very few caterpillars in the late leafing trees. The blue tits raised no young, which is bad news for a species that lives so short a life.

A touch of good news is that the Everard Drive collared dove pair returned. Perhaps they never went, but I walk on that road every day, and didn't see or hear them for eight weeks. Welcome back!

John Kirkman

Bradway Bowling Club

Well here we are nearly half way through the summer and considering the limited activity we have been allowed this year, time still goes very fast. Another three months have gone by since I last wrote an article and it seems like yesterday. At least this one is a little more up-beat as things do seem to be starting to improve.

As club we are now fully open with just the small requests of still wearing masks at the bar, signing in and using hand sanitizer. We have got both snooker tables in use, our Thursday night free learn to play bowls is in full swing, bowling matches and competitions are being played on four or five days of the week and the art classes will be starting again from Wednesday the 1st of September. It really feels that normality is slowly creeping back. Fingers crossed when I next have a chat I will be telling everyone about up and coming functions as well.

New members are always welcome and you can pop in any time that we are open to have a look round.

Also as things are starting again we have a comfortable lounge which doubles as a function room that is available for members and non-members of the club for private parties.

Please keep your eye on the notice board outside or the Web site bradwaybowling.org.uk for any new information or you can always contact me with any queries on 079 0022 0696

Stay safe everyone

Jean Morton

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The Bodger Enforces Social Distancing

The fence down the side of our back garden has been in need of attention for some time. I've been reluctant to tackle it myself because it actually belongs to my neighbour. However, for the final 8 metres or so, the neighbours have planted a conifer hedge on their side of the fence.

The trouble is, with the fence being there, despite its dilapidated state, the hedge hasn't really grown on our side, so to keep the boundary looking decent from our side the fence really needed replacing. Needless to say, in the circumstances it hardly seemed fair to expect the neighbours to pay for it!

The side of our pergola coincides with part of the boundary in question, so the length of fence that needed replacing was only about 5½ metres. Having been impressed by several local examples, I decided to opt for narrow timber rails about 10mm apart fastened horizontally to timber posts.

I concluded that the most economical and visually pleasing arrangement would be to install four posts 1.8m apart (total length 5.4m), then build up the fence using a series of one and a half pieces of rail 3.6m long with staggered joints, i.e., alternating the joint between post two and post three each time.

I then turned my attention to fixing the posts. Although various forms of fence "spikes" are available these days, I much prefer to use the traditional method of

digging holes and fixing the posts in position with concrete. However, I didn't want to find that the new posts needed to be where any concrete for the old fence posts was, so I removed what was left of the old fence to examine the old fence posts in more detail.

I discovered that not only had fence spikes been used instead of concrete, but that the bottom of the old posts had completely rotted away, with the bracket at the top of each spike now filled with a mixture of soil and bits of rotten timber. Perhaps I could re-use them?

I fashioned a bit of metal into a handy scoop to clear out each of the brackets, and then examined them in more detail. They seemed sound enough. One was a bit bent, but I figured I could manage with it.

I started inserting my new posts. To begin with, all went well. Even the bent one played ball after a bit of coaxing. But on the very last one, as I hammered in the post, it started twisting. The more I hammered, the worse it got. It transpired that the bracket had split down one corner! It would have to be replaced.

Only then did I realise that due to my rather niggardly decision to minimise timber wastage, the old fence spikes weren't quite in the right place anyway. Time for a rethink!

The twisted post easily came out of the broken spike, but the others were so tightly fixed, I had to saw them off. Luckily, I had sufficient leeway to do this as the timber merchants I bought the

posts from gave me the next size up due to being out of stock of the ones I originally ordered.

I gave up on the idea of bedding the posts in concrete due to access difficulties (the closeness of the hedge and adjacent supports for raised beds) but getting hold of new spikes was a bit of a struggle due also to lack of stock. After having to wait a week or so, I was ready to start again.

Before doing so, I found it necessary to refix the concrete edgings to the adjacent raised beds as the timber posts holding them in position had also rotted away, causing the bed edging to fall away into the line of the fence, but once I had a clear run, all went reasonably well. It was slightly unfortunate, though, that having taken great pains to make sure that the posts were vertical in both directions, I failed to check that one of them was correctly aligned.

I resolved this problem by cutting a wedge off adjacent sides of the bottom 150mm of the post in question and glued them back on the other two sides, so although the spike was out of line, the post was spot on.

Fixing the rails to the posts was simplicity itself using my son-in-law's nail gun. I have to say, though, that all things considered, the whole process was more of an ordeal than I expected, no doubt mainly due to my advancing years. Luckily, I can leave replacing the rest of the fence to my neighbours!

The Bradway Bodger

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Greenhill Library

The big news from Greenhill Library this time around is actually not from Greenhill but from Lowedges, with the opening of our branch in "The Meeting Place" at the Lowedges terminus on 19 May. We are already establishing a small but regular clientele including a few older members of the community who until now have been unable to access any library due to mobility issues, and who are particularly grateful and pop in, either to borrow books or just for a chat.

We have recruited a couple of new volunteers but are interested in meeting more. If you would like to work with us in the Lowedges community, please contact lucy@greenhill-library.org or just call in and see us. Opening hours are Mondays 10-1 and Wednesdays 10-4. Photo shows Lucy, the project lead, volunteer Wendy, and Elaine, the centre manager for The Terminus Initiative, with whom we are partnering and sharing the premises.

Despite doom-and-gloom forecasts, the weather treated us kindly for the Open Gardens Weekend 10-11 July. We sold over 300 tickets and raised £2,250 for the library. Our thanks to all the gardeners for their hard work and to everyone who came.

Back at Greenhill, our outdoor coffee mornings have developed well, thanks to the efforts of Wendy, Michael and others. We have acquired a group of "regulars", but don't be surprised if you get dragged in off the street if you happen to be passing by. As a reminder, coffee mornings are held (weather permitting) on the tarmac area behind the library from 10.30 to 11.30 every Friday. The coffee, tea, biscuits and conversation are

all free!

Our library service offering itself hasn't changed much since my last piece for The Bugle in April, though we have extended our opening hours (look on the web site!). Despite the so-called



Lucy, Wendy and Elaine at "The Meeting Place"

"Freedom Day" on 19 July we're very aware of the current high incidence of Covid infections and have retained many of our "Covid secure" adaptations for now, with mask wearing and social distancing encouraged.

We haven't re-instated any of our seating yet and are limiting numbers if necessary. The Summer Reading Challenge (for children up to 11) is underway and is attracting significant numbers of children back into the library, which is so good to see. We are extremely grateful to those volunteers who continue to work with us to provide a library service in difficult circumstances. Special thanks to our operations manager, Ann, for her truly heroic efforts to pull everything together.

By the time you read this, our Scarecrow Festival, which runs from 7-21 August, will be all but over and the winners will have been chosen. Right now, we have 33 entries. We know we've got a tin man, Mr Bump, Sonic the Hedgehog, and Cruella Deville (complete with Dalmatians) but we'll have to wait and see what the others will be. For sure, there will be photos on the web site in case you missed it entirely.

We're trialling a "safe cinema" event on Friday 20 August when we'll be showing the classic musical "My Fair Lady" with strictly limited audience numbers to allow for social distancing. It's free, but we're taking bookings online (another first for us!) to control the numbers. If it's a success we hope to re-instate a regular cinema program. We're also hoping to run a pop-up outdoor cinema event, probably in early November, but no details yet. (You may remember us projecting "Jungle Book" onto the rear wall of the library some years ago.)

Looking back over my recent writings in "The Bugle" there is a common theme of uncertainty about the future. I would like to think that in the next edition I will be able to report that everything is back to normal, but who knows? Uncertainty certainly seems to be the name of the game at the moment.

Chris Brown

New treatment at Activ Physiotherapy

Activ Physiotherapy is a well respected clinic based in Totley and Hope. It has been established for 14 years and apart from providing physiotherapy to the local community has podiatry, sports massage and gym facilities available.

The Covid-19 pandemic put a lot of pressure on the clinic and it had to drastically reduce its services last year. "We had to shut our doors between March and June, only providing emergency appointments and remote sessions" reports Andrew Okwera of Activ Physiotherapy. "This was a difficult and frankly scary time as no one knew the extent of what this virus could do at the time".

The clinic returned to full practice last July and has been going from strength to strength since. Robert Mooney, a physiotherapist with Activ has been rushed off his feet. "We have had an increase in patient numbers over the past 9 months, more than ever seen before. We have even had to take on another member of staff".

The clinic has also used the time to review the services they provide and are excited to tell all about a new treatment they have available called shockwave.

"Shockwave is a non-invasive treatment that has been used in medicine for many years to treat kidney stones and enhance fracture healing" states Robert. "Recently, it has been found to be beneficial in treating chronic tendon problems, soft-tissue injuries and plantar fasciitis. It is increasingly being used in healthcare and sports medicine to treat various long-term, stubborn problems."

Shockwave works by delivering energy pulses using a pneumatic treatment gun. The treatment stimulates the metabolism and blood circulation to promote healing in long term tissue damage.

Andrew is excited about the future for Activ. "We have a reputation for treating painful problems and rehabilitating people from injury with physiotherapy, exercises, acupuncture, massage, ultrasound and cupping. Now shockwave further enhances the services we provide.

If you would like more information on the new treatment, or to give it a try, get in touch on 0114 235 2727 or email us at: mail@activphysiotherapy.co.uk.

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 30th at 4pm.

It is a full Band concert with a short Act of Remembrance. All welcome.

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

All profits to the Royal British Legion.

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Friends of Graves Park

As we have all struggled through these difficult times during the past year, the Friends have been unable to hold face to face meetings. Many of us have had our own difficulties during the pandemic, yet despite this, like many other voluntary groups and charitable organisations, we have managed to keep going.

Our volunteers continue to maintain and improve Chantreyland Meadow and the Arboretum. We are also in regular contact with SCC's parks department. Although we have requested permission to start the restoration of the next section of the old nurseries site back to parkland, so far we have been unable to get an answer. It seems that the council is unwilling to honour the long-standing agreement to let us restore this section of the park and add it to the rest of the arboretum.

The Friends, however, will not give up and will endeavour to obtain this permission in the near future. It is strange that a section of Graves Park, long identified by SCC as unused and surplus to requirements, cannot be regenerated as woodland and parkland, especially when the council has declared a climate emergency in Sheffield and is supposedly committed to protecting the environment.

If we receive no positive answer in the next few weeks, we intend to launch a new petition, to encourage the council to agree to this restoration and to show the

public's support for this.

The Arboretum

Both the Arboretum and Chantreyland Meadow have been much used during the restrictions of the pandemic. With extra footfall, however, the "Secret Garden" is



Pond Renovation in Chantreyland Meadow

not quite so secret, resulting in a certain amount of damage, in addition to, quite shockingly, theft and destruction of plants. The saddest of these was the theft of the 4 year old purple Japanese maple, which would not have survived the move.

On the positive side, the Friends have cleared an area of dead trees and are in the process of creating a "fernery" in the dappled shade of the clearing. This will create yet another section of interest for visitors to the park.

Digging Deeper for All

Back at home behind the scenes, the Friends have now completed and

submitted the application for support of our latest proposed project to the National Lottery Heritage Fund and are currently awaiting their decision. The new project, "Finding Lost Norton Park: Digging Deeper for All", will build on the results of our previous project, "Finding Lost Norton Park", which back in 2019 uncovered evidence of the importance of Graves Park in terms of its preserved historical and archaeological landscape.

In our next project, if we are successful in our bid, we hope to uncover more detail and definitive evidence, which can be used to resubmit an application to Historic England to get the park listed and protected. We also hope to involve and include as wide a range of the public as possible, so if we succeed, watch this space for details!

Ancient Woodland in Graves Park

As part of our work to protect Graves Park, we are hopeful that we can accurately identify the ancient woodland within the park, then encourage SCC's parks department to actively protect it for the future. At the moment there is little being done to protect or restore this ancient woodland. The Friends will continue to promote the protection of Graves Park's ancient woodland and to encourage the council to care sensitively for this rare and beautiful landscape.

<https://friendsofgravespark.org/>

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Gilbert & Sullivan Society

I would really like to have something cheery to report but with the delta variant now bowling along June 19th has become July 19th and heaven knows what after that.

I guess most of us have had at least one jab and hopefully, except for the young, two. That said, do any of you fully understand the rules and the logic behind them? Does anyone even in the Cabinet? Over 40,000 football followers in one venue, admittedly outdoors, but jumping around each other and hugging everyone in sight with few, if any, masks to be seen.

In a theatre, however, with social distancing, masks, covid checks and everyone facing forward, effectively away from others, all have the effect of pushing capacity down to about 30% which is unsustainable of course. We, along with the other groups have no chance as singing indoors is still not allowed and you certainly cannot sing while wearing a mask. My glasses steam up even when I'm not exerting myself and taking a deep breath involves getting a mouth full of material.

What is also concerning is that many of the older and shall we say tentative mixers may not wish to get together yet but we have to bite the bullet at some point or nothing will ever happen again. I am still hopeful that by September we will be able to gather and rehearse a programme of music for Christmas and start the show rehearsals. Roll on The Pirates of Penzance in April next year at The Merlin Theatre.

On a brighter note, we can now hug (with limitations) - something I have missed - and I hope that you are making the most of your leisure time. Ann and I seem to be doing a lot of walking. At least it helps to keep us fit. We surprised ourselves over this last two weeks as we did a walk from Longshaw up to White Edge Lodge down to Grindleford and back up Padley Gorge to Longshaw, a distance of over 5 miles and over 700 feet of climb.



Derek Habberjam doing his best to scare the rest of the company while appearing in an earlier production of Pirates of Penzance

Then last weekend we walked from Burbage over Higger Tor and Carl Walk to Toad's Mouth and back, another 5 miler with a 600 foot climb. My knees suffered a little and I don't think we'll do many more strenuous ones like that. We are getting too old to keep proving ourselves (well that goes for me at least). I think we'll stick to the gentler Longshaw trails for a while.

The picture is to remind us of what our "normal" looked like!

Keep safe, relax as much as you can, look after yourselves and your friends and let's hope things gradually improve soon.

Derek Habberjam

Bradway Scouting

Hectic times! The national lockdown throughout early summer challenged us to keep providing activities, but that was helped by an "on-line" District Camp in May with some events that could be taken on individually covering the whole of Sheaf District from Meersbrook up through Woodseats, Norton and Greenhill to Bradway. Locally, face to face meetings continued, following guidelines that applied across the whole

community. Our youngsters were not at all upset that we still planned to hold our meetings outside even though the weather was not always kind to us.

Then an extension to the lockdown at the end of June put paid to our plans for a delayed 50th birthday party. We could not foresee a time for a further postponement, so we reluctantly abandoned the whole event. This was a disappointment to many of those who had been involved in Bradway Scouting in the past: some of them have suggested that a sort of reunion could be organised in its place, so we are looking into this for later in the year. Covid permitting, of course.

There are currently 6 Beavers, and the waiting list for this Section is healthy. This term Beavers have been back to a bit of normality with face to face meetings allowed. Even so, their plan was to be outside as much as possible despite it raining four Mondays on the trot! They worked towards their Outdoor challenge, Camp Craft and Aircraft activity badges, and had an evening walk and picture hunt around Bradway.

Cubs continued to grow in numbers, but still have room for more. They have worked on a lot of new team games, with Kabaddi being especially popular. Enthusiasm was also evident at a session on forest skills which covered fires, the tools required, cooking hot dogs and, finally, how to extinguish them. Among all of that, work continued on the Challenge Awards: at least two Cubs are predicted to have completed enough for the Chief Scout's Silver Award by Christmas, and many of them are working on personal challenges throughout the summer.

Cubs aim to continue meeting during the school break, and are even hoping to arrange an off-site camp.

The Scout Section finally completed work on the Photographer Badge, then started on the Skills Award and the Outdoor Award, mostly completed at summer camp. Arrangements for this camp were complicated when five of the fifteen who had signed up for it were obliged to self-isolate just before the start date because a classmate at Bradway school had tested positive for Covid. But we pressed on with the other ten who did seem to enjoy 4 nights at the Girl Guide Outdoor Activity Centre at Whiteley Woods - just across the hill from Bradway.

We managed to cram in a night hike to Robin Hood's cave, some cycling at Lady Canning, walking up the Rivelin valley in the river to a plunge pool, weaselling at Higger Tor, and an exhausting walk up Win Hill. To round it off, we cooled off with some wild swimming in the Derwent near Grindleford where we were not arrested. During the camp, the Scouts cooked their and their Leaders' meals on wood fires. Nobody died.

*Frank Richardson
For Bradway Scouts
www.bradwayscouts.org.uk*



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The Gardening Life

Well, here we are again. Hurting towards autumn as our gardens reach their colourful summer climax. It seems that all the plants burst forth in a rush after the late spring, only to then contend with rains and winds, followed by July's mini heatwave. As a result, many of you have been desperately buying plant supports to try and keep everything upright for a little longer!

But even as you rush around propping everything up, it's often interesting to look and see how you might avoid it another year. We've got a lovely *Potentilla* called 'Esta Ann' in the nursery garden, but it's a real flopper. It would look much better if we'd planted it amongst other more upright plants that would give it some natural support through which it could spread its flowers like tentacles. *Geums* and *Stokesia* are similar and often look at their best when propped up amongst other plants.

Why has my garden lost its colour?

Keeping eye-catching colour going into the autumn is quite a challenge. You can obviously plan it ahead, studiously designing your garden to have something of interest in each season. Or you can be like one of our customers who comes in every month to buy a plant that is in full flower, fruit or berry to ensure that in years to come he always has something attractive in his garden regardless of season.

But if you haven't been that organised (and, frankly, who is?) the months after

midsummer can feel as though your garden has gone to sleep. Many customers complain that the fresh leaves and colours of spring and early summer have been replaced by the tired greens and abundant weeds of late summer.

It doesn't have to be that way! How about these ideas for some late season colour and excitement...

Asters: lovely, tall daisy blooms in shades of purple, white and pink

Sedum: perfect for bees and butterflies with succulent foliage in a variety of colours topped by dusky pink flower heads

Japanese Anemones: pink or white flowers float on wiry stems above attractive green foliage, and are great for a shady spot too!

Caryopteris: dark blue, fluffy flowers cover this shrub right at the back end of the year just when you think that everything is over. Great for a sheltered spot.

Pyracantha: another shrub, great against a wall and smothered in red, orange or yellow berries amongst evergreen foliage. Blackbirds just love them in late winter!

Leycesteria: not for the faint-hearted, but if you have the space this is magnificent semi-evergreen shrub has clusters of claret and white flower followed by shiny purple berries in winter

Bulbs: yes, there are autumn bulbs too. *Colchicum* (looking like a big crocus) flower before their leaves appear and are often called 'naked ladies'. Other

favourites are the autumn cyclamen (*c. hederifolium*) and *Nerine*, which are from South Africa and love a well-drained spot.

And don't forget grasses, often at their best when their beautiful leaves and seed heads are illuminated by the old low light of autumn.

On The Nursery

As I write this in late July we're starting to recover from a long spell of heatwave and watering. The nursery garden, which rarely gets watered, is looking good but we are starting to cut some early-flowering plants back to get them to flush up again. Hardy geraniums are an obvious example.

But do think carefully about this and don't go in too hard, even as winter approaches. Lavender and *Erigeron*, for example, just need a light prune this time of year. Leave enough top-growth on to protect the crown during winter and tidy up properly in spring.

We're also ordering bulbs and deciding what new varieties to try. *Scilla* and *Camassia*, which we hadn't done before, proved to be a big hit this year. So what's next year's excitement...? Watch this space!

Millthorpe Nursery

Dore Show 2021

The show will be on Saturday 11th September and open to the public from 1:30pm-5:15pm. There will be a slightly reduced format to ensure compliance with coronavirus regulations.



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(L to R) Katie Thompson, Dawn Fieldhouse, Christine Johnson and Lynne Hollands

Matron Celebrates 20 years' service

The Glen Private Nursing Home helped Christine Johnson celebrate her 20 years' service on 9 July with a surprise party.

Following a successful career over many years' service in the NHS, Christine was appointed Matron and Registered Manager of The Glen in 2001. Since then she has nurtured the careers of many staff and contributed in no small way to the valued reputation of The Glen.

Assistant Matron Kathryn Ferris has worked alongside Christine for 18 years, initially as a carer whilst training to become a registered nurse. She values Christine's role as her mentor and now is one of the directors of The Glen Private Nursing Home Ltd, her family having purchased the business in 2018.

Many other staff at The Glen have long service records. At the party to celebrate Christine's anniversary three other staff who have served over 20 years were also presented with gifts and flowers.



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Public Transport

Many bus, tram and train services are now on summer schedules which in many cases involve a slightly reduced daytime frequency reflecting the schools and Universities being on holiday and less people commuting to work. It also helps the situation with driver shortages that most operators find themselves in due to the significant numbers being pinged by NHS Test & Trace to isolate. In the case of the 25 bus in Bradway buses now run from the Redcap terminus every 15 minutes in the daytime (normally every 12 minutes on weekdays). The M17 is unaltered and still hourly. Timetables are available online at travelsouthyorkshire.com or call Travel Line on 01709 51-51-51.

The Sheffield City Region is currently funding a summer "Travelmaster" ticket sale to offer discounted unlimited travel, until 27th September. This includes the Citywide pass valid on all buses and trams in Sheffield, the SY Connect pass valid on all buses and trams in South Yorkshire and the SY Connect+ pass which also includes train travel. They are available as a 1 day, 7 day, 28 day or annual pass, additionally there is a Flexi5 option which is a bundle of 5 one day tickets to be used on the day of your choice within a month of purchase. For more information and to buy tickets online visit sytravelmaster.com. You require a smart card to load Travelmaster tickets onto; these can be obtained for £1 either from a bus driver or online.

The Young People's concessionary fare schemes are being rebranded by South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive. Children under the age of 11 automatically get the discounted fares, those age 11+ must show a pass to qualify for the discount, these can be applied for at travelsouthyorkshire.com and are only available to those resident in South Yorkshire. The passes available are "Zoom Under 16", "Zoom 16-18", "Zoom Beyond" (18-21) and "Zoom Zero". With all the passes the holder qualifies to travel for a flat fare of 80p per ride and a range of discounted 1 day, 7

day and 28 day unlimited travel tickets are also available to most pass holders.

Both TM Travel (who run the 218 bus to Bakewell via Totley) and Hulley's of Baslow (who run the M17 between Dore and Jordanthorpe) have recently upgraded to new ticket machines and have joined Stagecoach and First in offering contactless payment for tickets on board along with live bus tracking. The live bus tracking data is used by independent website bustimes.org (as well as various apps) where you can see a map with all the buses in our area showing, always useful if you want to be reassured your bus is on its way!

The government lifted legal Covid safety requirements that applied to public transport from 19th July and all seats are now in use, however there is still a recommendation to wear face coverings and keep windows open for ventilation, particularly at busy times.

Andrew Cullen

NOW and THEN

Past/Present –

Buy One, Get One Free

ON GIFTEDNESS

Philosophically, ethically or culturally, it might be debateable as to whether there is anything that can be called a free gift. Yet historically, well, that's another matter entirely. Not knowing any better, eight year old me had yet, in 1964, to look that particular horse in the mouth. Free gifts seemed to be everywhere and the very materiality of the concept occurred frequently enough to warrant taking matters at their face value (no pounds, no shillings, no pence) without recourse to taking up equine dentistry every time a horse with a freebie appeared.

Take for example a sunny June day in Bradway that very year, where a small crowd of even smaller boys and girls are emerging from Mr Jessinger's corner emporium, each clutching a copy of 'Wham!' comic. Do they know that, even as the publication is liberally daubing their fingers with several shades of colourful ink, they are grasping a first edition that will become a pannapictagraphist's dream?

Do they wonder at Leo Baxendale's (creative genius behind the Beano's 'Bash Street Kids') unconstrained, anarchic and seemingly endless inventiveness as he pens such classic strips as 'George's Germs', 'Eagle Eye: Junior Spy' and 'Footsie the Clown'?

The short answer, dear reader, is 'No, they do not'. For what really drives these proto-pester-power consumers is access to the most amazing free gift ever seen anywhere and at any time, let alone on Bradway's quiet streets. This may lose something in the telling, but nestled in between 'General Nitt and His Barmy Army' and 'Kelpie the Boy Wizard' lay a two dimensional cardboard pistol of cunning artifice.

Bradway's streets were in for a torrid time acoustically speaking, for this particular flattened firearm came with its own noise making device; viz a V-shaped sleeve of brown paper concealed in the barrel of the gun, which flicked out with a satisfying 'Crack!' as the sidearm was brought smartly downwards by a young Bonnie and/or Clyde. That is until said young desperados had to halt their crime spree to go trotting home for tea.

60's comics were endlessly inventive when it came to promotional giveaways: code makers and breakers, wall-charts and panels, noise makers, boomerangs, even press-out rubber-band slingshot gliders. The astute will already have spotted the common theme of the marketing – if it's flat and made out of card, it's in.

True to the gender stereotyping of the time, publishers of girl's comics saw their audience as in need of even greater enticements, due somehow to a greater fickleness. Additional objects of desire glued to the covers included combs in the shape of sea horses, expanding two sided bracelets and complete friendship booklets. The juvenile market was clearly a competitive place, even leading one memorable set of promo-pundits to create a new part of the pre-adolescent anatomy (what, pray, is a 'wristlet'?) just so a giveaway purse could be strapped to it.

Unlike other gifts, for us, things that were marked 'free' had no sense of obligation attached to them. We knew our loyalty was not being sought, just our attention – and only for long enough to decide whether we would enjoy the literary content. However, it seemed like a fair deal in some ways; the gifts rarely lasted long enough to be sported more than once or twice in the playground and our attention rarely lasted long enough to spark a strong preference for any one comic title.

Our sense of value and parity though, seemed almost instinctual when it came to anything that was free. We knew there would be a price of some sort to be paid. Cereal packets that contained plastic submarines that sank and rose in water when you added baking soda to a small receptacle on its underside? The price was having to eat your way through to it's accessibility, parental rules invariably forbidding digital extraction of the submarine prior to its natural surfacing in a breakfast bowl.

The free cards in PG Tips or Brook Bond tea? They were usually educational about a worthy-but-boring subject like 'Flags of the World', 'Tropical Birds' or 'Nobel Prize-Winning Entomologists' (OK, I made up that last one). The free games on the bottom of the Christmas chocolate selection box? Having consumed the contents in sixty seconds flat, most of us were too hyperactive to sit still long enough. They always seemed like a generous afterthought, as though to make up for the presence of an all-too-adult confectionery item in the mix; no child under 15 would have countenanced

Fry's Turkish Delight, even in 1964.

From our innocent perspective, the word 'free' inspired early contact with feelings of blissful ease and largesse. Looking around, it certainly appeared to us that we were not alone in such a reaction.

Without much effort, we could observe the very same effect on the adults as we watched them bring home plastic roses with their soap powders, free glasses from petrol stations and thick collector's albums for their Green Shield stamps, to say nothing of helping them clip endless collectable discount vouchers from newspapers, magazines and leaflets.

Trainee anthropologists as we were, we perhaps didn't appreciate that only those who have known and lost something precious to them are more likely to spot potential resources and squirrel them away for rainy days.

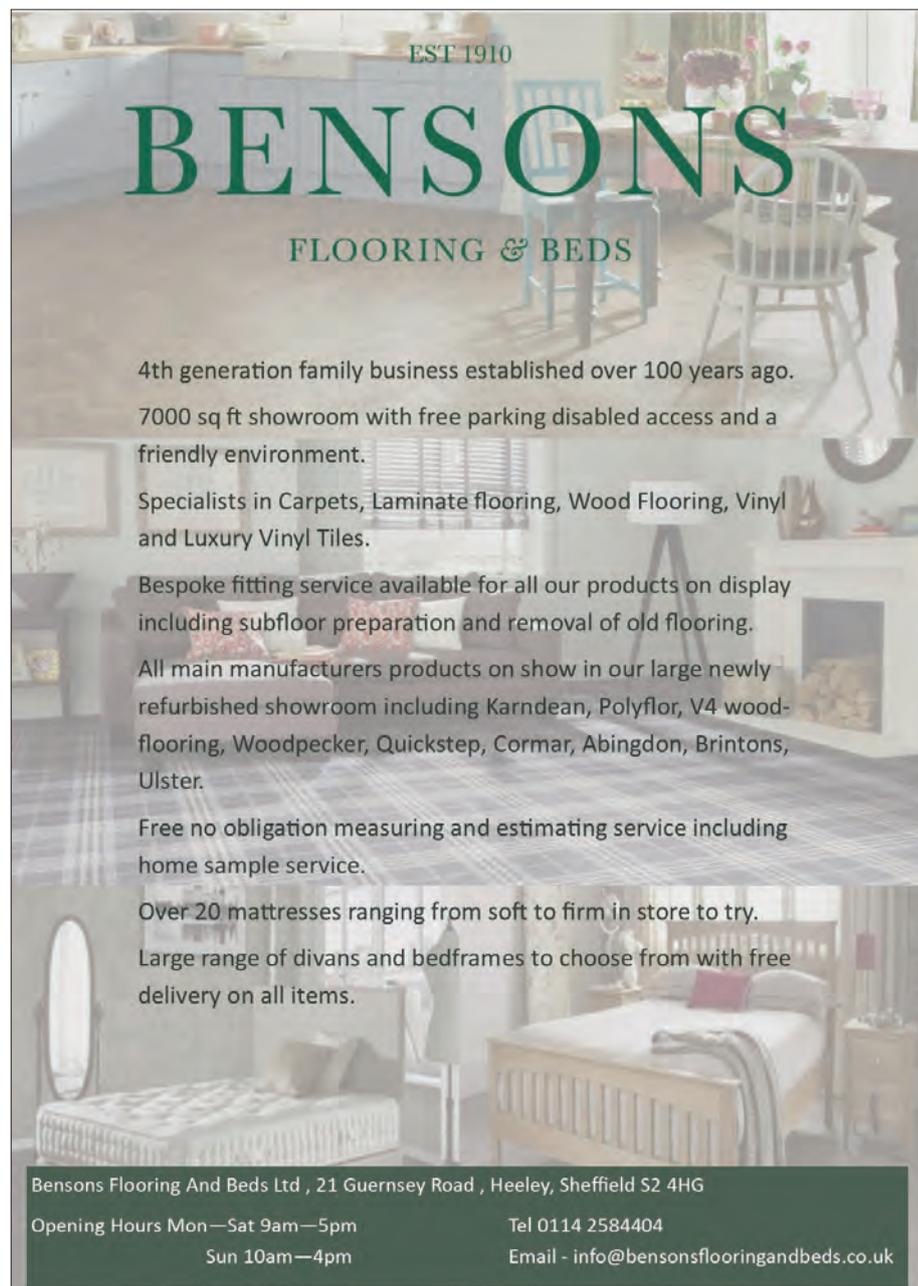
Value propositions are thus not as new as they seem. While the values themselves may shift and waver, the basis of the propositions has hardly ever varied. Post Modernism worked on the

idea that it was sufficient to be offered Nothing (an absence of novelty) in return for Something (our time), intellectually at least. In our current interlude, while we are still sorting ourselves out, Something for Nothing has emerged again, revealing post modernism to be a luxury enjoyed by those who didn't even know they had it all. For now, something freely given, whether it is time, or support, or thoughtfulness, or care, has emerged from the crucible changed in value beyond words.

In many wonderful unspoken ways in recent months, from drive-by birthdays to sign language choirs, we have started to move beyond the quibble of 'free at the point of delivery' and rescued 'free' from its ignominious fate as a four letter F-word in the mouths of the Marketing Division.

So I can say with some certitude that it was on Bradway Road, in 1964, that I learnt to recognise anything that is priceless cannot also have a price tag. True then, true now.

Chris Sheldon



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Sheffield Park Project

"We'll rock up and say 'Wow!' and start scurrying around these green spaces, and I sometimes imagine a nearby dog walker thinking, 'Whoaa, who are these girls who don't belong here with their southern accents and white board sign?'" said Jenni Sayer. "They might well be confused by these two excited girls running around their park."

This is the Sheffield Park Project, and like so much enthusiasm for The Outdoor City, comes from folk who only see how special this place is because they weren't born here.

When considering moving from her Norwich home to study at the University of Sheffield Jenni was warned by her dad that it was grim up north. "He said you can't move to Sheffield, have you not seen The Full Monty?" she reflected. But she came anyway. "I was in halls near Endcliffe Park and I was bowled over by how green it was, there were trees everywhere you looked, and you were always above or below something. It was amazing!"

We Sheffielders tend to forget about our green hills and valleys, until someone unused to such urban landscapes reminds us. And that's one of the tasks Jenni and friend Laura Appleby set themselves four years ago when they launched the Sheffield Park Project (and this year a new 'Sheffield Park' app).

"The idea is for local people to discover and engage with green spaces, especially ones they don't know about," said Laura. The app, designed by their friend Tim Cropper-Williams, has been soft-launched for iPhone now, with the Android version coming very soon, said Laura.

"People can search for nearby parks, or for a park with a cafe and tennis court, for example. But we also want people to contribute their local knowledge. It's a really collaborative community project, and as more people contribute, we hope to build a really extensive database of green spaces in Sheffield."

Of which there are many hundreds, they've discovered, ranging from the wild heath of Blackmoor to the four metre wide Armstead Road Garden in Beighton. Many of Sheffield's voluntary Friends groups have already helped the project, and while Laura says there seems to be an increase in groups setting up, some existing groups worry people may have drifted away while onsite work stopped during the pandemic.

"We'd like to help them attract new members, because we know some groups may only have six active members, where the youngest is 72, for example." Joining a Friends group can work for younger people too, she adds, since most don't ask for any particular level of commitment.

"They often say we're having a litter pick next weekend, just come along if you can." The Park Project is also voluntary, both Laura and Jenni work in Sheffield, and usually explore parks on

weekend mornings, sometimes now with their two year olds, Sophie and Emlyn.

They noticed a big increase in park users, with parks now being seen as social as well as recreational spaces over the last year. Now, it's time to discover new places, they say, whether it's the community feel of Abbeyfield Park, the spectacular woods of Gleadless, the picnic spots of Manor Fields or the 'amazing, hairs on my arms standing up' Jurassic Park qualities of Whinfall Quarry Gardens. And then share your finds with the Sheffield Park Project app, or on social media.

"This project has let me explore a city I've adopted, and love very very much. It's an extraordinarily beautiful city," said Jenni.

<https://sheffieldparkproject.com>

David Bocking



Park lovers Jenni and Laura with an unusual visitor to Sheffield (T Rex)



Classic view of Sheffield the green city



Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials

The Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials will take place again this year from 2nd to 4th September on Longshaw Pastures in front of Longshaw Lodge, near Grindleford, starting at approximately 7.30am each morning. We are very honoured this year to have Mrs. Sarah Shuttleworth as our President.

On 2nd and 3rd 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. Alf Kyme from Lumb, near Rossendale to judge the open classes and championship once again, and to judge the brace and local classes, Mr. John Elliott, from Sheffield.

At approximately 3.30pm on 2nd subject to any unforeseen circumstances, there will be a parade of local hounds courtesy of the High Peak Harriers and the Ecclesfield Beagles then at approximately 1.30pm on Friday 3rd there will be a display of English Bloodhounds courtesy of The Four Shires Bloodhounds.

Following the local class sheep dog trial on Saturday 4th the Longshaw Fell Race is to be run. Starting at approx. 10.30am, this is to be pre-entry only.

Starting at approximately 12.30 on Saturday 4th 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 and keep the prestigious Longshaw Championship silver tea pot very generously sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. E. Rigby

Entrance charges are just £5 per adult each day, 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, e-mail lsdta@talktalk.net or check out the website www.longshawsheepdog.co.uk

This will be the 123rd 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.

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Golfing marathon for charity

Three keen golfers, four great courses and one full day to get round them all...that's what it takes to raise more than £4,000 for a trio of top Sheffield charities.

David Stewart, his brother James and their friend Ben Roberts took on the golfing challenge in memory of David's wife Jess, who died at St Luke's earlier this year.

Their original intention was to raise £929 to mark Jess's 929 day battle with breast cancer, with the money to be split between St Luke's and the two other city charities that supported her, Weston Park Hospital cancer Charity and Macmillan Cancer Support. Up to now, though, they have smashed that original target, raising £4,476 - with that number still rising!

The friends started their challenge at 4.50am - just after sunrise - at Stanage Golf Club and then went on to Beauchief Golf Club for a 9am tee off, followed by Dore and Totley Golf Club from 1pm and ending at Abbeydale Golf Club, where they completed their epic session at 8.50pm.

"These are three charities that really are changing people lives and offering help when they need it most," said David. "Jess and I wouldn't have been able to have the quality of life and enjoy the things we did without these charities and the sterling work of all the people involved.

"St Luke's even helped us to arrange our wedding, which meant so much to both of us. "To be able to offer some assistance in return and repay some of the kindness that was offered to us is the least we can do."

There's still time to support David, James and Ben - simply visit justgiving.com/team/theback9bandits



Three keen golfers for charity

It's not just about acting, you know....

Part II. We continue the reminiscences of Jeff Bagnall from our summer edition

I suppose that one of the ways in which I have made my mark at TOADS is the time and effort which I have put in to create scenery and scenic effects so that our players have the best possible backdrop for their acting. Over the years I have had assistance from many others and I like to think that I have learnt new techniques and methods from all of them whilst occasionally injecting my own ideas.

Chief among those would have been Paul Pratt, Daniel Hines and Richard Brook and latterly, largely through earnest discussion as the "kitchen committee", Mike and George. The word perfectionist has been bandied around over the years but if I have been fastidious and/or over-zealous in my quest for authenticity and realism I trust that the Society has benefitted from my efforts. So where do I begin now?

It is 2002 and we are presenting "A Class of their Own". Whilst discussing the set with Monica, who was directing, she mentioned that she would like to have a proper country kitchen; you know, a Belfast sink with draining boards and an AGA. Oh, yes, the sink would have to have running water etc. etc. I started with the Belfast sink and the unit to support it. Daniel agreed to do the plumbing which included a header tank above the scenery which, of course, had to be refilled every night. So that was one problem solved but we still had the AGA to sort out.

I did some research and started to think on the lines of approaching AGA for some illustrations I could use. By chance I met a friend who asked me how the new play was coming on so I told him of my woes about the AGA. "Oh", he said. "would it help to come and look at ours and perhaps take some measurements". I jumped at the chance and discovered that his AGA was one of the small ones ideally suited to our stage so measurements were taken.

A couple of days later I was busy doing some preliminary drawings when the doorbell rang to disclose my friend with the AGA. "We had a film in our camera which needed developing but hadn't been

used up so we took some pictures of the AGA for you"; those are the kind of friends you need.

I got on with my work and the play was a success as usual but it was only at pay-in night that a comment was related to me. Apparently a member of the audience spoke to a cast member and remarked "How on earth did you get that AGA on stage, they are bloody heavy?" I believe that the cast member had the presence of mind to retort "Oh, Jeff just carried it up onto the stage".

Also in 2002 we presented "Young Wives' Tale" for our 50th Anniversary. The play was set just after World War II and demanded a set in keeping and lots of fixtures, fitting and properties of the period. A museum (Sheffield Heritage Museum on Ecclesall Road unfortunately now defunct) helped a bit, as did my friend with the AGA who supplied me with a small box containing a quantity of round pin plugs and sockets of various sizes. What we couldn't easily source were baby's nappies, a clothes horse and an ironing board.

Nappies were easy, I found the towelling in a shop in Attercliffe and the ladies of the company hemmed them into squares. What we didn't foresee was that the young lady playing the wife had only ever been used to disposable nappies - a quick lesson folding nappies from some older members of the company sorted that one. The clothes horse was knocked up in an afternoon but the ironing board was a bit trickier. Using some basic measurements from a modern board the required item was made and suitably "aged" but the real fun was watching the actress trying to erect and/or dismantle said ironing board. If you have ever seen one of those comedy sketches where somebody tries to set up an old-fashioned deck chair you will know what I mean.

We digress now into the world of door handles. The set is all finished, the technical run through is under way when the action pauses. Director calls out to actress, why haven't you come on? Actress replies that she cannot open the door. Director shouts to Stage Manager, she can't open the door, Stage Manager says have you turned the handle to which actress comments "Oh, does it work?"

On another occasion an actress had a magnificent exit through a pair of double doors up-stage centre. She gave her line, flounced through the doors, turned and grasping both handles, forcibly slammed shut the double doors. 30 seconds later the actress appeared before me with both hands full of door knobs, "Er, they came off". Fortunately, the people still on stage were able to exit as on this occasion we had used ball catches and the handles were dummy and fixed separately on each side of the doors.

These days when we have telephones on stage we are fortunate to have Mike at the rear of the hall to operate the appropriate sound effect and kill the ringing as required. In my early career as a Stage Manager I was required to ring a bell off-stage so that it sounded like an



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old-fashioned double ring telephone; the ringing should stop when the telephone is answered.

Imagine the scene, SM rings telephone, actor approaches 'phone, actor places hand on handset, SM stops ringing, actor takes hand away. There are various combinations of this including the actor standing between the 'phone and the SM's station so that the latter can't even see what is going on. Cue the adaptation of a real phone so that the bell cuts off as the handset is lifted.

In part one of my talk I mentioned that the SM was usually called on to operate lights as well as sundry other duties. In 1999 we presented "No love lost" a play written by Rony Robinson. Our lighting man, not Mike I hasten to add, decided that he would not be available for the performances so he just gave me a list of cues and left me to it. Somebody else was pressed into service for curtain opening and scene setting etc. and I got light and sound; operating from behind the flats with sight of the stage through a window.

The play was in two parts, the first went from A to Z in time and the second from Z back to A; with some 50 lighting cues in each half. The interval required a trip to the rear of the hall to refocus a follow-spot to another section of the stage. Because we couldn't open the curtains to do this I discreetly fastened a safety pin on the house tabs – worked every time.

The real problem came in the technical rehearsal. The very first scene consisted of a number of people on stage waiting to

hold a surprise party for the owner. Two actresses were keeping watch out of the window for said owner and on sight of him they would call for the light to be killed leaving the flat in darkness (I did that) but they then, for effect, drew the curtains although this had never been called for in rehearsals.

The actor came on and tried the light switch at which point the lights should have come up and the party started – it stayed dark until everybody realised what the problem was – if you draw the curtains over the window the lighting operator just cannot see when to action his cues. At this point I should mention that the actresses involved were the aforementioned actress of the door handles and a 12-year old on her acting debut.

There have been many highlights over the years and you don't want me to go on for ever. TOADS has been a rewarding hobby, it has taken up a lot of my time and quite a bit of money – mostly on shiny power tools - and, hopefully, I can continue my involvement into the future. Anno Domino creeps up on all of us and our capabilities lessen. When my abilities at wielding a hammer and screwdriver are more of a hindrance than a help I will have to concentrate fully on holding the fort at the door. To determine how long this will carry on we just have to seek solace in the words of the dear departed Lil Robinson who on any question as to the future would simply say "if we're spared".

Jeff Bagnall



Beauchief Abbey

Visit us for the Heritage Open Days Festival on Sat 18th & Sun 19th September 11pm - 3pm

On the Sunday join us for Evensong at 3pm, a service that has been part of our Heritage for hundreds of years.

Beauchief Abbey sits within a peaceful site and is surrounded by ancient parkland. Noted to be the oldest building in Sheffield the Abbey is scheduled as an ancient monument. It belonged to the Premonstratensian Order whose members were canons. It was dissolved by the commissioners of Henry VIII in 1556.

During the 17th Century a small chapel was built in the nave of the Abbey. Visitors can see the medieval tower, the 17th century chapel with its original box pews, as well as trace the original old monastery cloisters.

Our Sunday services are based on the Book of Common Prayer. All Welcome



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Bikes for Africa

Ten years ago, Mohammed Ayoub and his friends were looking for a new holiday destination. "They asked if I fancied going to Gambia," he said. "I'd never heard of it, but it seemed quite a cheap holiday, so I said I'd give it a try."

Two weeks after arriving on the West African coast he found himself organising (and paying for) digging machines to build a new well in a village near the hotel. "I'd decided to visit the villages nearby and after chatting to people, I saw they needed quite a bit of help. Families had no water facilities, and over there the diggers cost a very small amount, so I decided to help them."

Since then, Mo has visited Gambian villages many times, helping to build wells and schools, and taking container loads of household and engineering equipment, and rice and tinned food during the Covid pandemic.

But he found one of the most effective means of helping rural Gambians is the bicycle.

"A bike can be a lifeline for a lot of people," said Angela Walker from A Different Gear in Heeley, who help provide Mo with secondhand Sheffield bikes for Gambian villages. "Having a bicycle might be the difference between a kid being able to go to school, or not go to school," she said. "It can open up the opportunity to learn and have a completely different life, just by providing that kid with a bike."

Since 2014, Mo and his Aid 4 Gambia charity team have transported around 500 bikes a year to West Africa, helping many hundreds of children cycle rather than take a 90 minute walk to school, and enabling up to 2,000 workers and college students to cycle instead of facing an unreliable two hour bus trip. "There might be a small once a day minibus making the journey, but not everyone can get on it," Mo explained.

As the scheme progressed, many of Mo's friends and family joined in to help along with local companies Sterling Commodities and Specialised Movers (who provide containers). Mo, who owns the MA Tooling engineering tools business in Attercliffe, set up the charitable work "because I can see the benefits it brings, and I just like to see people happy," he said. "I come from a poor background myself, and I would have loved to have a bike as a young child, but we couldn't afford one."

Most customers pay a small fee for their bike, to help cover costs, and the charity now employs six workers in Gambia, including mechanics fixing up donated bikes to use on rural African tracks. A Different Gear spruce up second-hand bikes to sell to Sheffielders at their Heeley shop, but their policy of taking in all donations means, as a social enterprise, some bikes are not economically viable to mend and sell on locally.

A previous arrangement with a national African bikes charity meant costly trips



Mo Ayoub and Angela Walker with donated bikes

transporting unsaleable donated bikes to the charity's base in Colchester, so Angela decided a link up with Heeley neighbour Mo would benefit both parties. "The bikes we need don't have to look beautiful, as long as they're fairly robust," said Angela.

Racing bikes with thin wheels aren't so useful on African tracks, but old mountain bikes or hybrids, or reliable schoolkid's bikes are ideal, she said. "We don't want those old bikes going to landfill," said Angela. "We want to do everything we can to get them back on the road."

Bikes can be left at <https://www.adifferentgear.com> in working hours or call 0114 2507717

David Bocking

Beauchief Environment Group

Most of our work is done on Mondays at 9.30am from our base at Beauchief Abbey Barns. Such activities undertaken from late April onwards include:

- * repairing broken steps on public footpaths in Old Park Wood and Hutcliffe Wood;
- * repairing broken revetments on the public footpath along the top of Parkbank Wood;
- * filling in a pit and removing debris resulting from the construction of a large den in Old Park Wood, with Sheffield City Council assistance;
- * laying surfacing material on the muddy path around the edge of the Beauchief Hall estate;
- * planting donated potted trees in the woodland meadow near Beauchief Allotments;
- * resetting a fallen public footpath sign at a junction of paths;
- * removing docks and thistles from the large meadow near Beauchief Allotments;

- * cutting back vegetation encroaching on saplings planted near the boundary of Beauchief Golf Course and Ladies Spring Wood;

- * cutting back vegetation encroaching on the Round Walk path in Ladies Spring Wood and the public footpaths around the Beauchief Hall estate;

- * completing the long task of repairing the fence behind the deer park at Beauchief Hall;

- * litter picking across the area.

Other activities undertaken during the period include:

- * assisting South Yorkshire Badger Group and SCC in repairing damage caused to the public footpath behind the driving range by a badger sett;

- * removing Himalayan balsam from the bottom of Ladies Spring Wood;

- * meeting SCC and local residents to discuss ideas for improvements to the field above Old Park Wood, following damage caused by a joy-riding incident in February.

Please see our website www.beauchief-environmentgroup.co.uk or call 0114 2369876 for more information on the group, including news, events and how to become a member.

Jon Smith

Heritage Open Days

The Heritage Open Days 2021 festival runs for ten consecutive days from Friday 10th to Sunday 19th of September. Each year the festival has grown and further developed. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – all of which are FREE to explore.

With many events organized around Sheffield there is something for everyone. A chance to learn more about your area and its heritage.

Pre-book to guarantee your place. Visit the Heritage Open Days Official Website to see what's on offer in the Sheffield: <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

Heart Cell Foundation

A personal story by Barry Newman

This chapter of my life began in February 2014 when I became unwell with a virus. After several trips to A&E due to being unable to breathe, and being passed from pillar to post I eventually had an MRI scan that diagnosed dilated cardiomyopathy with an ejection fraction of (the heart's ability to pump blood) 13%. I was told at that point I would need a heart transplant.

I was referred to Leeds Community Healthcare trust where one of the treatments they tried was a new 'miracle cure' medication called Entresto. Unfortunately it dropped my blood pressure too low and I was unable to function day to day so that was stopped. I had a course of Cardiac Rehab which helped a bit. Another symptom of my condition was that my blood pressure also dropped after I had eaten food and I had to be admitted to hospital on several occasions.

I was in a sorry state of health, unable to get through each day without being totally wiped out and having to go back to bed in the daytime. One evening in 2017, I was watching the one show and an item came on about a charity called Heart Cell Foundation which had worked since 2004 to pioneer a treatment that used a patient's own stem cells to help regenerate into heart cells to help the heart pump more efficiently. I was amazed by their work and the next day I



Barry Newman and his partner Nicki

found them on Facebook and started my enquiry as to the suitability for me to be able to have this intervention.

The whole process took a year and in November 2018 I was finally on my way to St Barts in London to receive this life altering treatment. The stem cell treatment took one week. I was injected daily with a medication that boosted my bone marrow and early on the 6th day my stem cell were harvested from my hip, sent to another hospital to be sorted and then returned later that day and then put into my heart via an angioplasty.

This involved a tube being put into an artery in my wrist and threaded all the way to my heart where the cells were dripped into the heart. On the 7th day I was discharged from the hospital and made my way back home.

Over the next few days I noticed that my blood pressure didn't drop after eating and I started to feel a lot better in myself. After a few months I was able to get a job working full time as a driver.

I am now back on the Entresto and up to the maximum dose without it wiping me out completely.

I hope that my condition continues to improve and that I can help to raise funds and awareness for the Heart Cell Foundation charity and the amazing work they are doing to try and eventually get this treatment on the NHS so everyone who fits the criteria can have as much success as I have had.

Barry Newman

For more on the Heart Cell Foundation visit: www.heartcellsfoundation.com

Bradway Agewell Leisure Club

Following the easing of the Coronavirus restrictions it is hoped to resume meetings shortly.

We have a number of things to sort out prior to our return, not least our licence agreement and insurance.

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back shortly

Members will be contacted individually once we are in a position to provide details of the first meeting.

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Make a wildlife pond

According to the People's Trust for endangered species, making a pond is one of the best things you can do to help wildlife in your garden. It will attract all sorts of species, such as dragonflies and frogs, and provide water for birds and hedgehogs. Large or small, any size pond benefits wildlife.

Don't think you have enough space for a pond? Don't worry. Large or small, any size pond will benefit wildlife. Your pond can be as simple as a buried water bucket, or be the 'textbook' perfect pond, either way; you're still doing your bit for wildlife.

How to build your pond:

1. It's better to place your pond in a non-shady area of your garden, as frogs, tadpoles, insects and plants prefer sunny and warm conditions. You can mark your pond out using rope or a hosepipe.

2. Now you can start digging. Make sure the edges of your pond are level using either a spirit level or flat plank of wood. 3. Once you've dug your hole, remove any sharp rocks from the bottom so they don't puncture your pond liner. Then add a 5cm-thick layer of sand, to provide a protective barrier under your liner.

4. Dig a small trench around your pond and place the liner in the hole, tucking the ends into the trench. Use large rocks to weigh the liner down and cut off any excess using scissors. 5. Fill your pond with water (preferably rain water). You can collect rainwater using a water butt. Ponds can be filled with tap water but it needs to be treated first, as it contains



A small pond adds interest to a garden as well as providing a wildlife habitat

chloramines and chlorine (which are harmful to frogs and tadpoles).

6. Remember to add a ramp so hedgehogs can get out of your pond safely. You can use a pile of stones, some chicken wire or a piece of wood.

7. Introduce aquatic plants to your pond a week or two later. Make sure to choose local and native species that will benefit your local wildlife.



Your pond doesn't have to be large

Corporation in 1946, through the generosity of the Graves Trust and Sheffield Town Trust for £15,000, with a view to making it a public park. Much work needed to be done before it opened to the public in 1951.

Tom Smith, manager of Whirlow Brook Hall (which is managed by Vine Hotels) gave Sir Jamie and family, along with members of the Friends Group, a tour of the house followed by lunch for the guests. Afterwards, the Lord Mayor thanked the SU3A for all their hard work over the last 10 years and noted what can be achieved when communities work in partnership with Sheffield City Council (SCC).

Next came the opening of the shelter in the Commemorative Garden. The Lord Mayor and Sir Jamie untied the ribbon and Sir Jamie spoke about the history of the Hall and his ancestors, and how pleased he is with all the work that SU3A have done and that the new Friends group has been launched.

"So having never been here before' Sir Jamie said," We have found it today and I have to say I have been totally blown away. I had no idea that it was so beautiful and so well looked after by the volunteers. Thank you also for asking me to be Patron of this merry gang of gardeners. I am very flattered and would like to accept that. I do have my cheque book with me to give you a small donation today."

Shelagh Woolliscroft, Chair of the new FOWP, explained that Whirlow Brook Park has been very close to her heart for many years and now that the Friends group is finally taking off, she was delighted that they can now extend the work from the Commemorative Garden to the rest of the park and hopefully, parts of the Limb Brook too, in the future. She went on to explain how FOWP will be landscaping the area around it.

Sheffield U3A video group were there to record the event and there was also a musical accompaniment from 'Cellar V' a local band, who regularly practice in the park.

Maggie Girling

The next FOWP volunteer day will be on Saturday 4 Sept starting at 9.45am : friendsofwhirlowbrookpark@gmail.com



The new shelter in the Commemorative Garden at Whirlow Brook Park being unveiled by the Lord Mayor

Friends of Whirlow Brook Park

The Lord Mayor of Sheffield was amongst the guests at an event organised by Sheffield University of the Third Age (SU3A) in June to launch the newly formed Friends of Whirlow Brook Park (FOWP). Those present also took the opportunity to celebrate 70 years since the park was opened to the public in 1951, as well as 10 years of dedicated work by SU3A in establishing a Commemorative Garden. The event also marked the opening of a new shelter in the park.

Sir Jamie Benton Jones, the 5th Baronet of Treeton, was accompanied by his mother, Lady Margaret Benton Jones. It was Sir Jamie's Great Grandfather and Grandmother, Sir Walter and Lady Madge Benton Jones (nee Fawcett) who lived at Whirlow Brook in the 1920s and 30s and established the lovely gardens there with the help of the RHS. When Madge died in 1938, Sir Walter moved to the family seat at Irnham Hall, in Lincolnshire. The house and gardens at Whirlow were acquired by Sheffield



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Friends of Dore & Totley Station – FoDaTS

Hope Valley Capacity Scheme This has been gestating for over 20 years but we are starting to see evidence of action. The first was the appearance of a drilling rig to test the ground for the foundations of the new footbridge lift towers. By the time you read this there will have been an opportunity to take part in a Microsoft Teams meeting hosted by Volker/Story, the main contractors, and Network Rail when they'll have explained about the scheme. There will be other meetings over the next 2 years before the job is complete.

If all goes to plan some minor timetable changes may be possible in December 2023. That might include stopping the 13.14 and 21.14 out of Sheffield at Dore. More major changes won't happen before May 2023. In theory we should get a third hourly fast passenger service between Sheffield and Manchester. After Covid that's likely to be reviewed. Could the extra fast capacity be provided by longer trains? Might a second semi-fast limited stop service be more helpful – like extending the current New Mills stopping service to Sheffield calling maybe at Chinley, Hope and Dore? Whatever, we need at least a second hourly service into and out of Sheffield, all day.

Rail recovery In the last two issues I said rail recovery was patchy and that remains the case. Leisure users on the Hope Valley stopping trains are enjoying the new Class 195 trains, a huge step up from the old Pacers in so many ways, smoother, more comfortable, more space, faster, air conditioned. What's more we're getting some 3 and 4 coach trains, and they're proving popular. Walkers and cyclists are heading for the Peak District from both Sheffield and Manchester. Lower fares than TransPennine Express and East Midlands are attracting large numbers of through passengers too.

Commuters please come back! TransPennine's hard won 6 coach trains have masses of room, particularly in the last 3 coaches, possibly no more than 25% of pre-Covid users. It seems the through train reversal to Manchester Airport is not going to be restored and it will terminate at Piccadilly. However in 2022, but maybe delayed into 2023, the South Pennine service is likely to be extended to Liverpool instead. There'll be many reservations about that. It's part of a much bigger reorganisation of services across Manchester intended to improve punctuality all round. It certainly needs shaking up, but users of almost every route don't like it.

The East Midlands services are currently suffering from two big problems. During the week there are cuts caused by a lack of trains. The section west from Sheffield is seeing a lot of them. They've lost old units and

replacement redeployed rolling stock is delayed due to late arrival of brand new units elsewhere. That means a number of services have been withdrawn until further notice, probably until December. That includes our 8.28 into Sheffield and on towards Norwich, a good backstop for any who missed Northern's 8.24. Some are being short formed.



The drilling rig investigating ground conditions for constructing the Platform 1 footbridge lift tower.

On Sundays they have a long running strike of train crew so have cut all their trains west of Sheffield until the dispute is over. We lose our only two, one in each direction, however both are covered by other services. Hopefully the strike will soon be over.

Summer's here, time for a trip See Britain by train! Let's go exploring this summer and autumn.

Have you ever visited Shrewsbury, off the beaten track from Sheffield, the family home of Charles Darwin? It's a compact and ancient city, the centre almost surrounded by a large loop of the River Severn with the railway station across the neck. An Abbey, Cathedral, Castle, shops, cafes, restaurants, old buildings, and The Dingle Gardens in The Quarry. Possibly a boat trip on the

wide river or an interesting riverside walk from English Bridge on the east side to Welsh Bridge to the west. Look it up and you may be surprised by all there is to offer.

It may even be easier to get there by rail than by road. A possibility could be outwards on East Midlands' 7.35 from Dore arriving Stockport 8.24, then 8.39 Transport for Wales towards Milford Haven via Crewe arriving at Shrewsbury 9.49. Return services hourly connect with TransPennine at Stockport. Apart from seeing Shrewsbury young train enthusiasts will enjoy all the different trains they see along the way!

Looking forward Let's get travelling, safely. In 2021 always check very carefully that chosen trains are running on the day. A new printed timetable has appeared on the station. It includes the East Midlands trains noted above that aren't currently running! As I write we appear to be in a pingademic. Railway staff aren't immune from unexpected isolation at short notice. Masks are still expected to be worn on trains. We are getting through this crisis and must get back to a new normal as soon as possible, but must continue to take all due care.

Stop press – Northern have experienced a ransomware cyber-attack and all station ticket machines had to be taken offline for over a week. As more are buying tickets to hold on mobile phone apps it's been less of a problem than it would have been a few years ago.

If you're a Facebook user, you can find and join us by searching for FoDaTS. It's a very active group and is regularly updated with information as received. If you're not on Facebook and would like more information please send an email to our Secretary; njbarnes@outlook.com There's also lots of information on our website at; www.fodats.net

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Staycation Wales

Hello everyone. My name is Gareth and many of you may know me from my many years of working at the travel agency on the Twentywell Lane shops. I am delighted to be writing my first feature for the Bradway Bugle and to tell you all about my recent holiday to North Wales.

Wonderful Wales - admittedly not my first choice of holiday destination but with the continued restrictions at the time regarding foreign travel and with a few days annual leave to take, a staycation was on the cards.

After researching our options we settled on the pretty seaside town of Llandudno. We got a bargain rate for a hotel which was located right on the seafront and the fact it was just a 2.5 hour drive from Sheffield was a bonus and there seemed to be lots to see and do in the local area.

This was my first proper visit to Wales and wow was I impressed. Llandudno is a compact town and very flat which made it easy to navigate around. We enjoyed many walks along the prom and on the pier taking in the lovely views of the sea and the famous Great Orme- although we wasn't brave enough to take the cable car up to the top.

I am told those with a head for heights are rewarded with amazing views of Llandudno, the Irish Sea and beautiful Snowdonia.

Llandudno has all the facilities you would expect from a typical seaside resort, but it retains its Victorian charm well and I found it was a lot less commercialised than many of our other seaside towns.

There are lots of lovely little shopping arcades along with well-maintained squares and public gardens which give the town a refined feel. There are plenty of places to eat and drink to suit all tastes from fast food chains and cafes, all the

way to up market restaurants.

Llandudno is also a great base to explore the surrounding area. You could head into Snowdonia, to the pretty town of Betys y coed or to the other local seaside resorts such as Colwyn Bay and



A classic harbour scene

Rhyl. As we were only here for a few days we limited our exploring to a day trip to neighbouring Conway. Just a short ten minute bus drive away, this pretty seaside town is home to an World



Conway Castle World Heritage Site

Heritage site castle that sits proudly on the harbour where we spent an enjoyable afternoon getting in to the holiday mode with a few drinks overlooking the characterful harbour and exploring its quaint streets and historic city walls.

A must visit in Conwy is to the UK's smallest house located on the harbour front. Measuring just 3.05 x 1.8 metres, the last owner- a 6ft fisherman was forced to vacate as the rooms of the house were too small for him to fully stand up in. You can explore the house for yourself for a small entrance fee.

After two enjoyable nights it was time to check out and sadly bid Llandudno a fond farewell. I am sure we will be back as there is so much in the area that we didn't have the time to see.

In all honesty before the current pandemic, I never gave the idea of a staycation much of a thought, always opting for holidays for foreign shores. But we thoroughly enjoyed our staycation and shamefully realised how many beautiful and interesting places we have right on our doorsteps that we have previously overlooked.

I admit I can't wait until we can safely get back on a plane and visit an exotic destination abroad but I'm sure this won't be our last staycation either. The only question is where to next- the Lake District, Norfolk or Scotland maybe? Who knows, but I do know I now have a new found interest in exploring more of our green and pleasant land

Gareth Fleming
Hays Travel Bradway Team

Oasis community group

The Oasis community group at South Sheffield Church has now resumed for coffee, crafts and a chat.

Gatherings are on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10am.

The Church continues to open its doors to anyone on Sunday mornings for a 10.45am service. Refreshments are now served before the service at 10.15. There is currently still no evening service.

Many people underestimate the value of the items they store in their shed, garage or garden.

Unfortunately, criminals are fully aware of the value of the goods that some people do store in vulnerable places.

Shed Security - Sheds can be an easy target for thieves, they contain expensive equipment and are often poorly protected. Whilst a shed is not designed to withstand any form of determined attack, there are simple measures you can take to make them considerably more secure

- Position your shed as near to your house as possible
- Paint your house number and name on garden equipment
- Avoid storing valuable items such as power tools, fishing tackle, and golf clubs in a shed

Household security tips

- Fit strong hasp and staple, secure with long coach bolts

Garage Security - Garages usually contain valuable items and many have integral doors which a thief could easily use to access your home.

- Up and Over doors are usually fitted with a central locking door handle, these are often quite weak. Try fitting with Hasp and Staple and a strong padlock as well

• If you have a household alarm, consider extending the system to cover your garage

- Fit British standard approved locks to all external doors, including integral garage doors

Your Garden - Many people invest a lot of time and money in their garden, plants, shrubs, water features, solar

lighting and expensive garden furniture are all very attractive to thieves.

- Use strong lockable high gates at side/rear of your home

• Put trellis on top of walls/fencing this will collapse should anyone try to climb over it, therefore making unwanted noise

- When building a path in your garden, consider using gravel, the noise made when walking on it can alert householders to possible intruders

• Good lighting is an excellent way to deter intruders - use Lights with Dusk to Dawn sensors

- Use defensive planting - Prickly plants/hedges which act as a physical barrier.

Finally take the opportunity to stand back and think how you as a thief would try to steal items from your property. You might spot a glaring security weakness before they do.

Body and Soul

I was once obliged to learn how to solve differential equations, a skill I haven't employed in sixty years. How much information are today's school students made to absorb I wonder, much of it to no purpose; why not give them a thorough grounding in the most devious machines ever invented, their own bodies?

Would you know where to find your spleen? Why have you got one? What happens if it starts to swell? Does it matter if you frequently have to run to the lavatory? Is it normal to get out of breath climbing stairs? We cannot all be doctors, but you should have an idea of how your lump on two legs is meant to work.

It's never too early to start and small children love to talk about 'bodily functions'; listen to them in the playground! They needn't learn the Bristol Wind Scale but they can learn why bodily functions sometimes arrives too fast or not at all and why changes in your bodily routine is a bad sign.

Youngsters tend to shout and that requires breath. An explanation of how lungs work is simple enough, coupled with examples of how seriously the process can be damaged by smoking or airborne pollutants.

Perhaps a talk on why many mummies and daddies still smoke or drive fossil-fuel cars might be of value?

We're getting along famously! Do you grown-ups know where your liver and your kidneys are situated? We could

make up a funny action song, along the lines of 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes, Knees and toes.' 'Liver, kidneys, heart and lung. Heart and lung' Are you joining in at the back?

When their understanding is sufficiently developed, children should be taught to look after themselves: don't climb in unsafe places, don't play near busy roads, don't play with fire, don't eat strange berries but practice using a phone and saying, clearly, "Mummy is asleep on the floor and I can't wake her up."

If children know how their ears work, they are somewhat less likely to fill them with small bits of *Lego*.

If they know why their biggest organ (the skin) is important, they will see it's not good to get sunburn. If they know that bones sometimes break, they'll know what can happen when you fall off your bicycle.

That brings us to blood; we all see more than enough blood on television but where does it come from?

An explanation of why we have blood and how the heart pumps it round the body need not be too long, leaving plenty of time to show how losing blood in a car accident or a knife fight can end someone's life.

This is also a good time to explain that even though we all want to be healthy, happy and terribly clever; it doesn't work out that way for everyone. Some children don't walk, talk or learn as quickly as others. Many will live their lives in wheelchairs and you have to show them a

little patience and understanding.

Now, for the older children, a game along the lines of 'Pin the Tail on the Donkey' but with the organs!

Take it in turns to point to your skull, bladder, pancreas, gall bladder, heart, stomach, pituitary gland...

In round two, point to your tibia, fibula, femur, spleen, sternum, and rectum.

At Secondary School, young adults should be able to recognise the first signs of a stroke or heart attack, and know how to respond. Everyone, *everyone*, must know how to do the tumbler test for meningitis, and a Basic First Aid course is more useful than learning the names of the Kings and Queens of England.

If you understand how your body works, it is but a short step to realising that it's not good to be too fat, or too thin, to let yourself get addicted to painkillers, to rely on laxatives, or to take recreational drugs.

It's good to enjoy sport, but not too much alcohol. It makes you do silly things and can harm your liver.

We are well on the way to creating a community of informed adults who understand their symptoms. We would support necessary vaccinations (ignoring false prophets) and better understand pandemics, knowing there is no point in pressing politicians to say 'all clear' because we want a meal out at the pub.

Knowledge is strength, knowledge is power, and, through education, we can be happier and healthier.

Robert Smith

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Organic Wildlife Gardening

There was so much rain until June and, for a number of reasons, any gardening was more or less out of the question, but all the plants here have benefitted from it. Last year many plants had seeded wherever they had been blown, and, as happened a few years ago, the white deadnettle had spread everywhere. They are an early and very popular bee food. It was not long before the whole garden was completely green and had a lovely fresh spring feeling.

The greater celandine had seeded among various patches of herb robert and they looked lovely together. One patch had extended back between the surface roots of an alder tree stump making a very natural and quite delightful picture. The red and white hawthorn blossom was spectacular this year, resulting in a very pleasant and relaxing atmosphere.

There were more species of birds than previous years. Wrens, robins, goldfinches, bullfinches, chaffinches, greenfinches, house sparrows, dunnocks, blue-, coal-, and great-tits, and starlings. A family of excited young starlings were brought along to feed on meal worms sprinkled on the lawn. At first the female had to feed them, but they soon got the idea.

Gradually, more young birds arrived and learned to use the seed feeders, but some magpies appeared one day and caused panic. One was attacking a female blackbird among dense plants. I thought her life was over. I know that one should leave nature alone, but I could not resist going to her aid. While the bird song this spring has given me so much pleasure, I would love a song thrush to be around again; it has such a beautiful song.

According to the British Trust for Ornithology, many blue tit fledglings have not survived because of the cold weather and lack of caterpillars for the adults to feed them on, and cuckoos are already on their way back to Africa! Well - can you blame them!

The bee numbers built up quite quickly, and I was really surprised at the number. About 99% of the plants in the garden are

native, and the bees seem to know where they can source the most nutritious food!

Anyone visiting the garden who knows that I grow natives would be surprised to see a small shrub with quite large and mainly red flowers that bloom in the spring. It is a Pieris and certainly not native. It was given to me by a very dear friend who died about twenty years ago and I haven't the heart to remove it.



Up the garden path!

Of course, other insects are just as important as bees and have also been attracted to the garden. Many species are extinct and there is no doubt that human activity is responsible for that with the use of pesticides on farmland and in gardens. If you find aphids on your plants, leave them, as they are food for their predators, eg ladybirds, which are not as prolific as they used to be for the same reason.

One morning, we noticed a red insect on a bird food cage. It was about an inch long. On checking the Collins Guide to British insects, it appeared to be either a Cardinal Beetle (*Pyrochroa coccinea*) with a black head, or a similar one (*P.serraticornis*) with a red head. The

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust quickly came to the rescue when we emailed a photograph. It was the latter, which has tended to live in the south of England in the past. Climate change?

This local charity and the one in Derbyshire have recently given lectures about insects on Zoom for members. They were given by highly qualified people and members could ask questions. Many species of insects are already extinct. However, there are still thousands of species and scientists believe there may be many more to be discovered. We do need to look after them.

The Woodland Trust reports that, while the area covered by their woods has increased, many are not in a good condition. The causes of this problem include pine trees and non-native trees and shrubs. The popular buddleia plant has escaped from gardens and could well be part of the problem. It has also escaped to various situations where it is damaging structures and costing thousands of pounds of tax-payers' money to remove each year. They are very attractive to our native butterflies which are addicted to the nectar and will be spreading their pollen around, but buddleia are not native to Britain and will not provide the most nutritious nectar for our insects.

Rhododendrons are another non-native plant causing problems. They were growing in my garden when we came to live here but, when I realised they were not native, I got a spade and removed them which had the added advantage of getting me extremely fit!

The Government and many wildlife charities and environmentalists are asking everyone to plant a tree. I do have room for another tree at the top of the garden and had decided on an ash tree. There is a beautiful ash tree in another garden nearby. It is magnificent; very old and, thankfully, not affected by Ash Dieback.

With the plants in my garden "taking off" in a somewhat disorderly manner this spring, it was a while before I noticed a woody stem emerging through some leafy wild garlic shoots in the bed at the top of the garden. Eventually, as it grew taller, I took a lower shoot off in order to check exactly what it was and to my delight it is an ash tree and clearly an offspring of the fine specimen nearby. Positioned very close to the place where I would have planted one, it is growing taller by the day which is wonderful and long may it live.

We need to cherish all our native plants, they do so much for wildlife, for wildlife lovers, and all the others too.

Marian Tiddy



Red-Headed Cardinal Beetle

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Totley Open Gardens

The open gardens weekend on the 10th and 11th July was incredibly successful. Visitor numbers were much higher than we used to have - 380 coming to one garden over the 2 days.

We found that people were really happy to be able to get out and have an afternoon enjoying gardens, getting inspiration and ideas. The pent-up demand meant that all the gardens had a constant stream of visitors, which was really gratifying for us, and the weather stayed fine and sunny, which was so critical.

Visitors came from a really wide geographical area - The Wirral, Mansfield, Hayfield (near Glossop), Doncaster, Derby, Bamford, all over Sheffield, Chesterfield, Nottingham and of cause locally

We received some lovely comments too - "Me and mum had a wonderful day! She travelled from South Derbyshire to come for the day. Thanks to everyone involved".

The total funds we have raised, at the time of going to press, look like being around £5,000. This will be distributed to the 4 local community organisations we have agreed to support this year, allocated as follows: Cherry Tree Support Services (35%), Transport 17 (25%), Totley Scout Hut (25%) and Totley Library (15%).

We will present them all with cheques at the TOG Social in October.

For next year's Totley Open Gardens, we already have 2 more allotments taking part on Mickley Lane allotments, and wonder if there is anyone on Francis Fields allotments who would like to take the plunge? If so, please email me.

A big thank you to the 13 gardens and 2 allotment holders who opened this year. Linda Prosser and Avril & Andy Holmes did even more by providing teas and cakes to make visitors' day complete, and raise us even more money! And a big thank-you to all those who visited.

A real community event.

Jennie Street
jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk

Wildflowers and Wildlife

For some years now Marian Tiddy has written a column in the Bradway Bugle under the title 'The Wildlife Garden' (in the last edition it became 'Organic Wildlife Gardening'). Her column is invariably interesting, and contains many suggestions for wild-flower planting. Mrs Tiddy's main concern, though, does seem to be wild flowers rather than wildlife.

She uses only native British plants in her own garden and is keen to encourage others to do the same. So far as wildlife is concerned, most of her references are to pollinating insects. Her argument is that native plants are the best for native wildlife as the flora and fauna evolved together.

Now, it is true that both our wildflowers and our pollinating insects have experienced long-term declines in numbers. There is a strong argument for gardeners turning over at least some of their plots to native wildflowers, or else integrating native wildflowers into their wider planting schemes, to help offset this decline. But it is less clear that planting only native wildflowers is the best way to help our native pollinators.

It is important to realise that we have many species of pollinators that are an essential part of our existing ecosystem, but are not 'native' in the sense that they were introduced to Great Britain, or perhaps brought themselves over on favourable winds. A prime example is the Western Honey Bee, which was brought here by the Romans.

Most people would consider something that came over that long ago to be 'naturalised', but it is not strictly a 'native' species. Yet it is one of our most valuable pollinators of food-crops, and the primary source of one of our most traditional treats ('Stands the Church clock at ten to three? / And is there honey still for tea?').

Unlike many insects, honey bees are not endangered. Their numbers have declined in recent years, but this is because the widespread infestation of hives by the varroa mite has meant that much more stringent hygiene measures are required to keep colonies healthy, and this has prompted many of the older beekeepers to retire rather than adapt to such a radical change in their way of life.

New younger beekeepers, though, are starting to take up the practice in increasing numbers; and there is no problem about increasing the supply of honey bees, because we know how to breed them, just as we know how to breed cattle or sheep.

Many of our wild pollinators are in decline, though. Changing agricultural practices and changing fashions in such practices as cutting roadside verges have put them under pressure, and this is particularly because they are specialist

feeders, not generalists. As Mrs Tiddy says, they evolved in conjunction with the native plants, and many have not adapted to other sources of food (although some have).

Honey bees, in contrast, are generalist feeders. If one source of nectar is not available to them, they will seek out another. This is what makes them so valuable as pollinators, particularly of commercial crops. But because they are generalists, they also feed from and pollinate the remaining native wildflowers, and their greater numbers mean that they outcompete the native specialists for these sources of nectar.

In research undertaken with the specific purpose of identifying the preferences of different pollinators (e.g. Salisbury et al., 2015), it seemed that where native wildflowers are planted near to non-native flowering plants from other northern temperate zones ('near-native' plants), honeybees prefer the non-native plants, and leave the native plants to the specialist pollinating insects.

It seems, then, that to maximise the benefit that our gardens can give to native wild pollinators, the best strategy is for gardeners to plant both native and non-native plants in separate parts of the garden. That way we provide a food-source for both the specialist native pollinators and the honeybees.

Mrs Tiddy is absolutely right in arguing that we ought all to do our bit for both native wildflowers and native pollinating insects; but going to the lengths that she does in her own garden to exclude non-native plants may not be the best form of gardening to help wildlife, as opposed to gardening to help wild flowers.

Stephen George

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The Wheels Are Turning!!!!!!

We are delighted to report that once again Transport 17 are back in action. It is just first steps but it feels like massive progress given all the difficulties everyone has faced over the last 18 months or so.

The first of our clubs to start up is St John's on Abbeydale Road South. They have decided to hold coffee morning events with reduced numbers. On their first trip everyone was happy at being able to return to something they love and get so much pleasure from.

We have been extremely lucky to have Fiona Smith working for us. She has managed the whole process of the start-up making it possible to get those wheels turning as soon as was possible. Working within the guidance of the Community Transport Association and Covid rules she has seen to it that we provide a safe and secure service for both our volunteers and our passengers with appropriate procedures.

One of the main changes is that the seating capacity on the buses has been

reduced by half and we have had to adopt a seating plan so we can maintain a Covid secure environment. Windows remain open to ventilate the bus and all individuals are asked to wear masks and sanitise hands. Our passenger assistants are still able to provide assistance to help passengers where necessary but do so in a Covid secure way. It is crucial that people feel confident and comfortable as things move forward.

Fiona also attended Voluntary Action Sheffield Zoom Meetings for the lunch club providers on our behalf. These meetings have provided an excellent opportunity to meet up with the providers, for us to be up to speed with current information, to be able to liaise with the clubs about the service we could offer to support them, and for them to inform us of their specific requirements.

Prior to us starting up again all the buses had to go through their required safety checks which Mike Roberts has been in charge of. Many thanks to Mike along with Dennis Dacey and David Longley who have been ensuring that the famous blue buses were all ready for action.

The first journey was on 3rd June. Dennis Dacey, Stuart McDonald, Diane Ellis and Simon Gray were the volunteers who got the plans into action and all went smoothly. They were able to give us helpful feedback and procedures were amended as will be the case as we move out of lockdown and as guidance changes. St Marks at Broomhill began operating on 7th July and Dore Open Door in late July. It means that more and more of our volunteers will be back in action.

Fiona Smith has also been very busy tackling some of the general administrative duties that needed doing and lifted a lot of pressure from the management committee. Joanna Woodward from People Keeping

Well has been coopted onto the Management Committee which has strengthened our relationship with the network. We have still continued to attend the S17 meetings and we are poised to join the South West network which Joanna also heads. Alan Jockel saw the need for a community transport service way back in 1984 and that need still remains key in 2021 so Transport 17

Yorkshire Photographic Union

The Yorkshire Photographic Union (YPU) is the regional photographic federation of which Sheffield Photographic Society (SPS) is a member together with 68 other Yorkshire clubs.

The highlight of the YPU's year is their Annual Exhibition when members of the 69 affiliated clubs are invited to enter Prints and Projected Digital Images.

The 121st Annual Exhibition in 2020, scheduled to be hosted by Pontefract Camera Club, attracted 1356 print entries from members of 41 affiliated clubs. The prestigious nature of this exhibition is demonstrated by the fact that only 201 prints were accepted (14.8%) into the exhibition. SPS members submitted a total of 96 prints from which 17 by 10 members were accepted (17.7%).

Sadly the 2020 Exhibition was never put on display due to Covid-19, and the 2021 exhibition has been confined to Projected Digital Images only.

With the relaxation of Covid restrictions the 2021 YPU Annual Exhibition, hosted by Bradford Photographic Society, was on display at the Bradford National Science and Media Museum.

Unusually this 2021 exhibition features the 2020 accepted Prints, plus a selection of the highest scoring 2021 Projected Digital Images.

Right: John Gorman - The Store Room



The images on this page are a selection from the 17 SPS prints accepted into the 2020 exhibition



Gareth Morgan - Tom Dick and Harriet - Cert of Merit



Linda Jackson - Dawn at Castle Rigg (The Stone Circle)

should go from strength to strength.

As the service gathers momentum our need to recruit volunteer drivers and passenger assistants becomes more pressing. So the search is on. Perhaps the last article about our volunteers might have triggered a thought that this might be something you would enjoy.

There are of course other ways in which you could volunteer to help us and we would be happy to chat to you about those opportunities too. If you would like more information or would like to register your interest please leave a message on 0114 2362962, e-mail admin@transport17.co.uk or visit www.transport17.co.uk We would love to hear from you.

Fund-raising is another important aspect of our work and as with many organisations we haven't been able to hold any of our events. The gradual lifting of restrictions has seen more and more of our local organisations getting back into action and we are conscious we need to get going again. We have booked our Christmas Fayre at The Cross Scythes for Saturday 20th November and are talking about a walking treasure hunt in the coming months.

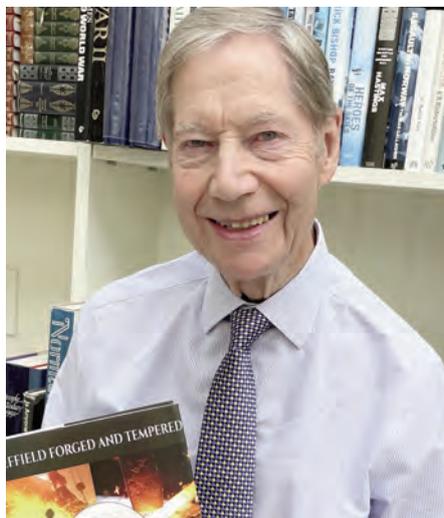
We've continued to receive generous donations from individuals along with over £250 from a collection box in the Cross Scythes. Our grateful thanks as always for all this help. We have also embarked on applying for grants to support the running of Transport 17.

This needs to be a central part of our fund-raising activity. We are of course very lucky to be one of the Coop Local Causes this year and are benefiting from your support through that. If you haven't done so already you can nominate us as your local cause.

As you read this article there will have been more changes and developments as we go forward. This will be easier for some to cope with than others but Transport 17 hopes it can play its role in supporting the community wherever it can so we all grow strong together.

*Sandra Longley
(On behalf of the Management
Committee)*

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Barrie Cottingham and his book

Barrie supports St Luke's

When Barrie Cottingham set out to write his life story he simply intended to give his Australian-born grandsons some idea of their South Yorkshire heritage. By the time he had completed the task, though, he had enough material for a complete book spanning more than eight decades. And that story, *Sheffield Forged and Tempered*, has now been published and all royalties will go to St Luke's Hospice, the charity he has supported for many years.

The book covers his childhood in Depression era Sheffield and the war years, his National Service Days with the RAF, his successful career, both at home and abroad, as an accountant and the charitable work that led to him being awarded the MBE.

"We are delighted that when Barrie chose to share his story, he also decided to support the work that St Luke's is doing throughout Sheffield," said St Luke's Senior Fundraising Manager Clare Collingworth. "The royalties from his book really will make a difference to the lives of St Luke's patients and their families."

Sheffield Forged and Tempered, from Grosvenor House Publishing, is now available through most booksellers.

John Highfield

BBQ Marinaded Flank Steak

The recent hot weather has brought on the barbecue season, and this recipe makes a nice change to the standard fare of sausages and burgers. A bonus is the use of less common and hence cheaper cuts of beef, which are nonetheless surprisingly tender and flavourful.

Although they all come from the same part of the animal, there are several different cuts to choose from, namely flank steak, hangar steak, thick cut minute steak, or skirt. This recipe works equally well for all of these, depending on what your butcher has available. The steak should be about 4 to 5 cm thick with any membrane removed.

Ingredients:

- 125 ml oil
- 75 ml soy sauce
- 75 ml red wine vinegar
- 75 ml honey
- 2 tbsp. lemon juice
- 1½ tbsp. Worcester Sauce
- 1 tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 round shallots
- 3" ginger; 2 sprigs rosemary
- 1 kg flank/skirt steak



Method:

Liquidise the marinade ingredients and pour half into a rectangular dish the size of the steak. Push the steak down firmly and cover with the remaining marinade. Pierce all over with the point of a knife and leave in the fridge overnight.

Scrape the marinade off the meat and simmer on a medium heat while you barbecue the meat on a hot grill for 15 minutes or so until rare or medium rare. Rest the meat for 10 minutes, then cut thinly across the grain. Pour the marinade into a gravy boat and serve with the meat together with baby new potatoes and a green salad. Serves 6

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A graphic for a curtain and Roman blind design and making service. It features a black and white checkered valance at the top, with two vertical curtains on either side that have a white background with black stars and stripes, resembling the American flag. The text is centered below the graphic.

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Book Shelf

Who doesn't love the Puffin, a tough little sea bird with an orange beak? Now with this recently published handy sized book, you can take an intimate journey into the bird's life, with award-winning wildlife photographer Drew Buckley. In **'The Puffin Book'** he observes and explores the trials and joys of the Atlantic Puffin, the UK's most recognisable seabird. Enjoy informative insights into the puffin's biology, migration, facts and some interesting stories about the daily struggles of this tenacious little bird through the different seasons of the year.

Things you might not know, including myths and legends, accompanied by outstanding photographs.

Published by Graffeg in hardback, 150 x 150mm, 160 pages price £9.99 ISBN 9781912654796

The Puffin Book is just one of eleven (so far) in the compact Wildlife Book series, exploring our relationship with some of Britain's best-loved wild creatures. Other books include:

The Badger Book

- ISBN 9781913634209

The Hedgehog Book

- ISBN 9781913134419

The Robin Book

- ISBN 9781912654994

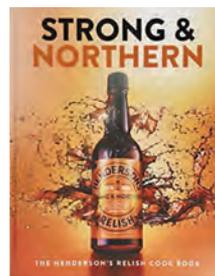
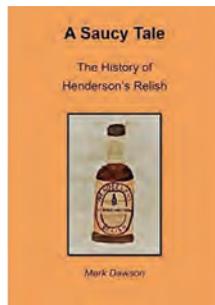
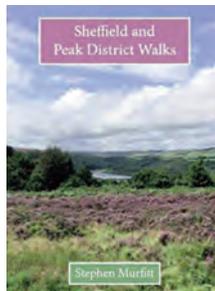
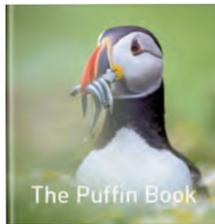
The Bee Book

- ISBN 9781910862315

Local walk leader Steve Murfitt has recently published a new book containing his favourite 30 walks around Sheffield and the Peak District. Ranging from 4 to 9 miles, each walk starts with an introduction to its nature and difficulty, a map of the route, things to look out for, local refreshments and even suitability for dogs. There are colour pictures of features and handy notes about the author and his walking group.

Included in the book are walks close by at Blacka Moor, Redmires, Wyming Brook, Hathersage Booths, Burbage Moor, Padley Gorge, and Millhouses. **'Sheffield and Peak District Walks'** is available locally at Foothills in Nether Edge, or by contacting Steve at sheffieldandpeakdistrictwalks@gmail.com

Published in paperback, 150 pages price £11.95 ISBN 9781800494213



flehS koob

Open any food cupboard in a true Sheffield family and there you will find a bottle of Henderson's Relish (or Hendo's). But how did Sheffield's favourite sauce come into being? Now in a new book, and with access to Henderson's own company records, Mark Dawson has delved into its past to write a remarkable story.

Follow the history of Sheffield's best kept culinary secret from its humble origins in a Victorian grocer's shop to its present-day cult status and now modern production in a state-of-the-art factory.

A Saucy Tale The History of Henderson's Relish, is published in paperback, 58 pages price £5 incl delivery, available from O.N. Books Tel 0777 5848374 ISBN 9781914408281

Talking of Henderson's Relish - **Strong and Northern, The Henderson's Relish Cook Book** is a reminder of what people use Hendo's for every day: splashing over their favourite meals, whether that's a proper pie or Friday fish and chips.

This book features 60 recipes that reflect the diverse cultures in Sheffield today. It also covers the classics such as Meat and Potato Pie and Stew and Dumplings, as well as new and different dishes such as Pork Sancocho and Yemeni Chicken.

Sections include pies and pastries, family favourites, one pot meals and Northern classics. There is a whole section dedicated to vegan dishes too. Each recipe features someone who loves Sheffield, and has served the city through their art, sporting endeavour, music, work, or community contribution.

Published by Meze Publishing in Hardback 192 pages, widely discounted ISBN 978-1910863527 £20

The Outdoor Swimming Guide features over 400 great places to swim outside in Great Britain. Covering England, Scotland and Wales, it includes lidos, rivers, lakes and other stretches of water specifically designated for open water swimming. It's the perfect guide for the travelling swimmer and an essential companion when heading on holiday with the family or children.

Presented in an easy-to-use format and packed with useful information in ten regional sections, it includes descriptions of swimming venues in every part of the country. Alongside an overview of each open air swimming spot, there's practical information on what to expect, such as facilities and access, as well as safety information – and it's illustrated with colour photography.

Discover previously unknown local swimming spots, plan fun days out for all the family, and travel to unfamiliar areas around the country with quality outdoor and wild swimming.

Published by v-publishing in paperback 224 pages price £20 ISBN: 9781839811067

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Andrew McCloy with the Hope Valley Explorer

Hope Valley Explorer returns

The Hope Valley Explorer summer bus service has returned to the Peak District following a successful pilot season in 2019, and will operate until 30th October. Operators Stagecoach will offer the service across weekends and bank holidays throughout the summer, with onward links via bus and train to Sheffield, Manchester and Chesterfield.

For the first time, space for two bikes will also be available on the service - via racks - on a first-come, first-served basis. Ticket prices have been frozen at £4 for a single journey and including £6 return and a £12 family ticket.

The Hope Valley Explorer aims to reduce the number of car journeys within the National Park during its busiest season and the school summer and autumn holidays. As well as a flexible hop-on, hop-off service, the Explorer continues to feature an audio commentary of the rich natural and cultural history of the area; from its extensive cave network and wildlife, to the Dambusters of the Derwent Valley.

The route will include key stops at Castleton, Hope and Fairholmes visitor centre in the Derwent Valley. Iconic locations like Winnats Pass, Mam Tor and the Great Ridge will all be available to enjoy from the route.

Andrew McCloy, chair of the Peak District National Park Authority, said: "We're delighted to be bringing back the Hope Valley Explorer with our partner operators Stagecoach this summer, especially as so many people may be

looking closer to home for days out and a holiday break. The continuing aim is to support a reduction in private car journeys in these areas and help promote more sustainable ways of getting to, and enjoying, the UK's first ever National Park."

Further information is available at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/hopevalleyexplorer or by calling Peak District National Park customer services team on 01629 816200.

Well Dressing Calendar

This year in some cases events will not take their usual form, so it is important to check events near to their planned date. The calendar at www.welldressing.com will be kept up to date as changes are notified.

August 27 - September 5 Holymoorside

August 28 - September 5 Eyam

Note: The usual large dressings will not be made this year, instead a number of small dressings will appear, as in 2020.

August 28 - September 5 Foolow

August 28 - September 5 Wormhill

Planned from September 5 Longnor

September 11 - Sept 19 Chesterfield



BIG Hedgehog Map

Now summer's here, keep an eye out for hedgehog families in your garden. Their breeding season runs from spring to late autumn, so please take care when gardening. Log any prickly sightings on the BIG Hedgehog Map, which is run as part of Hedgehog Street, along with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

To report your sighting and to find out lots more about how you can help Hedgehogs visit:

<https://bighedgehogmap.org/>



A group of smiling runners stand next to a white Peak District trig point

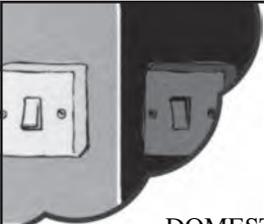
Run For the Birds

Generous runners and walkers have raised more than £4,000 to help the Peak District National Park Foundation fund vital habitat restoration at the iconic Stanage North Lees. The Run for the Birds challenge was organised by Derbyshire-based Peak Running.

Peak Running launched its virtual Run for the Birds challenge as part of the Peak District's 70th birthday celebrations in April. From then until 25th June - 70 days - people were invited to run, hike or stroll distances which suited them. In total, 278 people took part, plus a whole school - Ashbourne Hilltop.

Runners and walkers clocked up over 88,000 kilometres, raising more than £4,000 for the Peak District National Park Foundation.

The money will be used to fund woodland restructuring and tree planting on the Stanage North Lees estate. This will boost feeding and breeding opportunities for woodland birds such as the Tree Pipit, Redstart and Pied Flycatcher as well as foraging opportunities for the Ring Ouzel, which nests at Stanage Edge.



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“Magic” find for Sheffield Photographic Society

In March 2020 Sheffield Photographic Society were contacted by professional photographer Roy McAdam from Malvern, Worcestershire. Mr McAdam had acquired items of antique photographic equipment amongst which was a large number of “magic lantern” slides dating back to the late 1880’s / early 1900’s.

The magic lantern is an early type of image projector that projected pictures of paintings, prints, or photographs on transparent glass plates via one or more lenses, and an artificial light source.

Because many of the slides were labelled Sheffield Photographic Society or “T G Hibbert, Sheffield”, Mr McAdam kindly offered the collection to the Society. Whilst the society was delighted to take custody of the slides, transportation had to be carefully planned due to their delicate nature and which was considerably delayed by the lockdown until September.

Gareth Morgan, who was the Sheffield PS President at the time, then took on the task of sorting, identifying, cleaning and digitising the 400 slides in the collection aided by other members of the society. He found that the slides, which are 3.25 inches square and glass mounted, were of high quality and covered a wide range of subjects and locations.

Gareth’s initial research discovered that the “Picture Sheffield” website contained photographs by T G Hibbert, leading him to conclude that he was a Victorian professional photographer. However further research revealed that he was in fact Thomas George Hibbert, a member of the family who once owned the famous Hibbert’s Art Shop (later Greaves) on Norfolk Street.

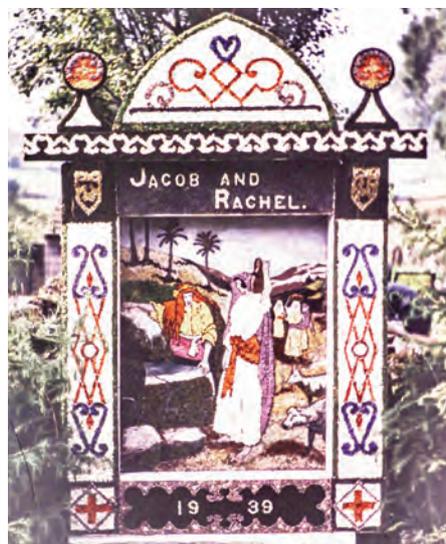
Although listed as an Art Dealer T G Hibbert was also a keen and proficient photographer, and became an early member of Sheffield Photographic Society, regularly participating in club activities and duly becoming a committee member. He is mentioned several times in The Photographic News in the late 1880s having given demonstrations on developing and toning and on Kallitype printing.

He was a regular and successful participant in local, regional and national photographic competitions including images accepted in the Royal Photographic Society’s annual exhibitions, whilst winning the national Amateur Photographer Prize Medal in 1901.

Over half of the 400 strong image collection is “Floral” consisting of Victorian flower portraits, garden plants in situ and wild hedgerows and trees. These slides are labelled Sheffield Photographic Society and are thought to have been used as presentations to the Society and other clubs.



A family outing. A fascinating record of fashions and culture at that time in history



Well dressing Stoney Middleton 1939



A winter scene, location unknown

Over 100 slides are scenic shots of landscape and local beauty spots mostly taken in and around Sheffield and North Derbyshire with a few from the east coast and further afield.

Also included is a separate set of slides taken by T G Hibbert’s son William, a resident of Malvern, who was an accomplished photographer in his own right being an Associate of the Royal Photographic Society. Many are

interestingly in colour, mainly scenic shots including the Sheffield Botanical Garden, Derbyshire well dressings, Malvern and Devon. There are also a small number of Scottish scenes including some taken by the famous Scottish Victorian photographer George Washington Wilson.

Perhaps the most interesting pictures are those of people. These slides are devoted to portraiture with group and individual portraits in formal and informal styles, with some covering public events. They are a fascinating record of fashions and culture at that time in history, as well as being excellent photographs in their own right, despite being mainly family shots.

The images have all been digitised and it is planned to give a presentation to all members of Sheffield Photographic Society at the beginning of the new season in September. The Society regards this find as an important addition to its archives and is considering other ways in which they could be made more widely available.

Rubbish days out

There have been a few rubbish days out in the Peak District recently for our communications officer. Fiona has been photographing litter in some of our most stunning landscapes for a series of hard-hitting social media posts in support of our newly launched Peak District Proud Fund.

The fund’s first target is to buy litter picking kits for volunteers and community organisations who help to look after the National Park. It also aims to raise awareness about problems posed by discarded litter in the countryside – including danger to wildlife and increased fire risk.

The social media campaign includes some shocking statistics showing how long certain items take to decompose when left behind as litter. For example, did you know...?

A banana skin takes TWO years to decompose

A crisp packet takes 80 years to break down

A plastic bottle takes 450 years to break down

While we urge all visitors to take their rubbish home with them, the figures show just how important it is to support the vital work of our army of litter pickers.

Our Peak District Proud Fund is raising money to help the fight against litter in the Peak District. Please can you help. Just £10 funds a litter picking kit for a volunteer. You can donate at: <https://peakdistrict.enthuse.com/Proud#!/> or text ‘Donate peak 16’ to 88802 to give an amount of your choice.

Peak District National Park Foundation