

Bradway Bugle

In and around Bradway, Greenhill, Dore & Totley

Threat to Pharmacy

Bradway Pharmacy is under threat of closure! Make no bones about it.

This long established, essential community resource has had its existing contract with NHS England terminated from 31st March 2015 and may have to close.

Bradway Pharmacy is Sheffield's only essential small pharmacy, of which there are around 100 in England at the moment. These are all facing the same threat, and despite being located in hard to reach areas where other healthcare facilities are few and limited. Until now these pharmacies have all received a small subsidy to enable them to stay open and service the healthcare needs of their small, often isolated, communities.

This 'subsidy' is deducted from the general pharmacy funding 'pot' and does not specifically cost the NHS, locally or nationally, anything at all: if the money was not used in this subsidy, it would be redistributed back to all other pharmacies in England, each receiving just a little more money, whilst Bradway residents would have the inconvenience of travelling to obtain their NHS pharmaceutical care and Bradway would also lose yet another key local community resource, making the area less self-sustaining, less attractive and more isolated. Local healthcare would not benefit at all by closing Bradway Pharmacy!

It is perhaps interesting to note that in
continued on page 5



A surfeit of Santas. From L to R Laura, Jane, Janine Karen and Tracey add colour to the Christmas celebrations in Love & Best Wishes shop on Twentywell Lane. £ 277 was raised for St Luke's Hospice and £213.82 for Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice

Weather in Bradway 2014

Nationally, 2014 was a year of record warmth, but in Sheffield, the cold spell at the end of December prevented this record being achieved but only by a very small margin. To my mind the year hadn't appeared to be particularly remarkable, unlike the last few years on which I've reported. It was frequently wet but there were few really warm days and no prolonged dry periods which stood out. In fact the warmth stems from unusually mild overnight temperatures. In Bradway we only had 18 nights with air frost and 5 of these were in the December cold spell. Residents in lower lying parts, especially in the Sheaf valley,

Continued on page 3

Supermarket robbery

Police officers were called to Sainsbury's, Bradway Road at around 9pm on Thursday 8 January following a report of a robbery. Two men entered the store and demanded money from two members of staff. A quantity of cash was handed over and the two men left on foot. It is believed the men, who both wore dark clothing, left via a footpath to the back of the store which leads to open land.

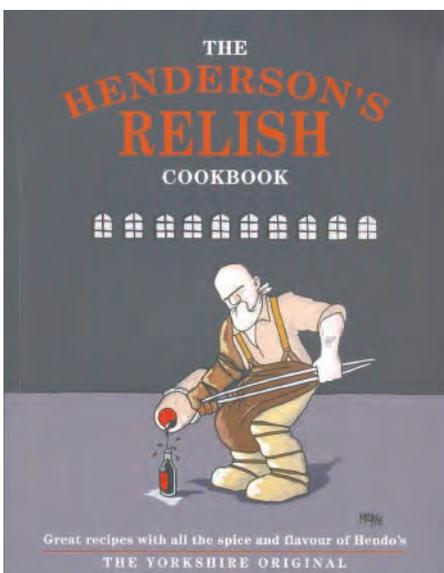
Subsequently Sainsbury's were raided again on Wednesday 28th January by two males with masks who fled the scene on foot leaving across the recreation ground. The staff suspect it may have been the same two culprits. A recent raid on Murco used a similar pattern, arriving on foot and leaving at the rear and recreation ground.

Nobody was hurt in any of these raids and the sums lost weren't huge. However, the culprits may think they're onto easy pickings and may get bolder. Somebody may get hurt. All three companies can afford the losses on a national level, but the individual shop units possibly can't. It's the sort of loss that can turn a profitable unit into an unprofitable one.

Conservation area sale

As we go to press Sheffield Council plans to offer land at the corner of Abbey Lane and Beauchief Abbey Lane for sale once again, after similar attempts 6 years ago raised a public outcry leading to the sale being withdrawn.

The land was gifted to the people of Sheffield in 1931 by Frank Crawshaw, former owner of Beauchief Abbey. It forms part of the Beauchief Abbey Conservation Area, runs along Beauchief Abbey Lane and was intended to remain undeveloped in order to preserve the view of the Abbey from Abbey Lane.



Read all about it on page 15

Editorial

Welcome to our first edition of 2015 containing the usual mix of news, views and articles. Unfortunately due to health issues we are a week later than planned

With an election coming before our next edition I thought it worth repeating some Timeless truths in the form of some thought provoking quotes.

"If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed, if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed":

Mark Twain

"Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else":

Frederic Bastiat, French economist(1801-1850)

"I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle".

Winston Churchill

"A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul".

George Bernard Shaw

"Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you!"

Pericles (430 B.C.)

"What this country needs are more unemployed politicians".

Edward Langley, Artist (1928-1995)

"We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office". Aesop

"I have come to the conclusion that politics is too serious a matter to be left to the politicians". Charles de Gaulle

"Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river". Nikita Khrushchev

May your political party go with you.....

John Baker, Editor

BRADWAY COMMUNITY HALL

(Next to the Dore and Totley Golf Club)

The refurbishment of the Small (Mission Hall) has largely been completed. It will be available for letting in September. There will be a standard charge of £4 per hour (£2 per hour if the Small Hall is being used in conjunction with the Main Hall)

Charges from 1 September for using the Main Hall include:

Self-supporting voluntary/community groups which use the hall regularly: **£5.50 per hour**

Casual hire by self supporting voluntary/community groups: **£11 per hour**

Community/voluntary groups which are able to attract grants and use the hall regularly: **£8**

Party bookings: **£39 for up to three hours, £13 per hour thereafter**

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**

For information about the Hall's facilities and availability, or to make a booking RING GWEN: 0114 236 9876

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 February (Spring) issue to the address on this page by **Fri 24th April 2015**

Neighbourhood planning

The 2011 Localism Act introduced new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new development by coming together to prepare neighbourhood plans. These can be taken forward by town and parish councils or in areas without parishes by community groups designated as 'neighbourhood forums'. These forums can use new neighbourhood planning powers to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in the designated area. These are described legally as 'neighbourhood development plans' and will be used in the determination of planning applications.

One important change to the planning system is that communities can use neighbourhood planning to permit the development they want to see - in full or in outline - without the need for planning applications. These are called 'neighbourhood development orders.' However local councils will continue to produce development plans that will set the strategic context within which neighbourhood development plans will sit.

Neighbourhood development plans have to meet a number of conditions before they can be put to a community referendum and legally come into force. An independent qualified person checks that a neighbourhood development plan or order appropriately meets the conditions, are legally compliant, and take account of wider policy considerations (e.g. national policy).

Proposed neighbourhood development plans or orders then need to gain the approval of a majority of voters of the neighbourhood to come into force. If proposals pass the referendum, the local planning authority is under a legal duty to bring them into force.

The Localism Act also allows for community organisations to bring forward a 'community right to build

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order' which is a type of neighbourhood development order. This allows smaller-scale development on a specific site, without the need for planning permission. This gives communities the freedom to develop, for instance, small-scale housing and other facilities that they want. Any benefit from this development stays within the community to be used for the community's benefit. Such proposals are subject to testing by an independent person and a community referendum.

Following an earlier application, Sheffield City Council has recently designated the Dore Village Society as the Neighbourhood Forum for the Dore Area, in the process significantly changing its role within the community. The Society will now begin the process of drawing up a draft 'neighbourhood development plan' for subsequent submission to a local referendum. You can find a definition of the Dore area on the Council website www.sheffield.gov.uk under planning and what's new.

Council Question Time

There will be a 'South West Cabinet In The Community' meeting on Wednesday 25th February 2015, 6pm - 8pm, at Abbeydale Sports Centre, Abbeydale Road South, Sheffield S17 3LJ.

Sheffield City Council leaders are to hold a 'Question Time' style session to discuss the issues that matter to residents in the South West Area. The items for discussion will be put to the Cabinet by local people in an hour and a half session followed by an opportunity to talk directly with individual members of the Cabinet. Refreshments from 5:45pm.

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:

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Alternatively you can write to:

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or: editor@villagepublications.co.uk

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continued from page 1

would have had a slightly higher total. Even the wetness was the result of more frequent falls of rain rather than heavy falls. Only May 22nd received more than 25 mm (1inch) of rain in a day though this fall contributed to a wet May which received more than double the average. March, June, July and September had much below average rainfall though we still had quite a number of small rainfall amounts; for example, September only had 16.4 mm but it was spread over 12 days with recordable rainfall.

The year started off with a series of low pressure systems driven rapidly eastwards by a strong Atlantic jet stream continuing the pattern established in December 2013. There was only one day in January without rain and the maritime influence of the Atlantic meant that only five air frosts were recorded in Bradway with the year's lowest temperature on the 12th of -2.4°C. February became even more stormy with some intense depressions and associated gales. The month was therefore milder than average with only two nights of air frost and precipitation considerably above average. A brief period of snow on the morning of the 11th turned out to be the only occurrence of the winter and this didn't last long. Damage to some of the trees in Ladies Spring Wood was clearly visible. In compensation the prolonged rainfall over the winter period meant that the water table was fully recharged to maintain tree growth during the summer

Christmas Competition

The prize winners of our 2014 Christmas competition were:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Carole Gray | Christmas Hamper |
| 2. Mrs P Tetley | Bottle of Whisky |
| 3. Mrs N Rust | Tin of Quality Street |
| 4. Mrs R Dungey | Tea & Cakes at Tillys' |
| 5. Mr K Sale | Bottle of Shiraz wine |
| 6. Mrs G Smithson | Book & mince pies |
| 7. Mrs S Wade | Book & mince pies |
| 8. Ms Oldale | Book & mince pies |

period.

March and April were unremarkable but May was unusually wet with more than twice the average amount at Sheffield Museum. In Bradway we had seven daily falls with more than 10 mm and even one morning with air frost on the 3rd, the last one of the season. July was the best of the summer months with only 40 mm of rain and few rain days. Daytime temperatures were a couple of degrees above average and largely above 20°C to give a pleasant summer month. Unfortunately after August 9th the weather became much more unsettled with some substantial falls of rain and daytime temperatures never reaching 20°C. As a result the monthly temperature average was well below the long-term value and rainfall well above. Fortunately September reverted to drier conditions and proved

the driest month of the year with only 16.4 mm and temperatures back above average again.

Warmth continued into October with both day and night temperatures well above average and the 17.8°C high recorded on Halloween was the warmest October day in the Sheffield records. More mild but cloudy weather continued into November and early December with temperatures and rainfall still above average. This pattern continued until Boxing Day when Bradway and much of the Southern Pennines experienced a sting in the tail. A very active, low pressure system crossed our area drawing in cold air from the north to mix with rising milder air from the south. The result was that initially heavy rain (washing salt off the roads) turned to heavy snow and continued for several hours. About six inches of level lying snow was spread across our area causing traffic disruption for several days. Temperatures plummeted and we had our longest cold spell of the year with daytime temperatures not rising above 4°C and night time frosts. The weight of the snow caused much damage to tree branches and blocked several of our local footpaths. Nevertheless the average temperature for the month was close to normal as the early warmth counteracted the later coldness. Overall the type of year we might expect apart from the temperatures being above average compared with the period 1971-2000.

Peter Smithson

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Greenhill Library

Volunteer-run Greenhill Library took another step forward this January, with the announcement of its new Management Board.

Margaret Davis (Vice-Chair) explained that the current board grew out of what was the Steering Group, which in turn was formed from volunteers campaigning to keep many local libraries in Sheffield open and under local council control. Its function will be to oversee the regular activities of the library's 200-plus volunteers.

Margaret is keen to point out, though, that without its volunteer session leaders, library assistants, cleaners and others, there would be no library. "Part of our job is to ensure that our volunteers can work happily and effectively" she added.

In the meantime the board will continue pressing ahead with plans to preserve Greenhill Library as a significant community service for years to come. And it has recently had some good news which should help keep the library as inclusive as possible for all residents.

The library has been granted money from the Beauchief and Greenhill Ward Pot – money allocated to charities by local councillors – to buy a baby change station, and new chairs for older library users. Elderly users had been struggling with the library's low sofas, and had also stated a need to sit near the window in the best light.

Get involved! You can get actively involved with the library by joining their volunteer group.

Rent out the Library. You can book the library for your own meetings outside of our normal opening hours. We can accommodate up to about 50 people. If you're interested, email dsrobson168@gmail.com

Access the library catalogue: You can



Meet the Board! Left to right: Tony Parker, Sharon Saunders, Patrick Coghlan, Cynthia Russell, and Margaret Davis. Inset: David Wildgoose. Below Chris Brown.

Did you know? The library's roof is designed to look like an open book?

Greenhill Library Opening Hours

Monday
10 am - 12.30 pm 1.30 pm - 6.30 pm
Tuesday Closed
Wednesday
1.30 pm - 5.30 pm 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm
Thursday Closed
Friday
10 am - 12.30 pm 1.30 pm - 5.30 pm
Saturday 10 am - 12.30 pm

search the Sheffield Libraries catalogue using Sheffield City Council's website here. If you have a library card and a login PIN you can also renew books and reserve titles.

Hearing Aid Batteries: If you have an NHS hearing aid you can get replacement batteries from the library. Just remember to bring your NHS Hearing Aid battery record book with you.

Jigsaws: We have an assortment of jigsaws available for loan. All we ask is that you return all the pieces, preferably in the same box they came in.

To learn more about Greenhill Library, its facilities, opening hours, regular sessions and special events, and how to get more involved, visit the website at <http://www.greenhill-library.org/>

Craft Courses

Craft Course at the Woodland Centre in Ecclesall Woods have been finalised for the first half of 2015. Within the schedule there are all the 'old favourites' of Basket making, Wood Carving, Pole Lathe Turning etc., plus some new courses.

Please visit their website: www.ecclesallwoodscraftcourses.co.uk/ to see what is available. In the event of any problems booking, please call 0114 235 6348 [the Woodland Discovery Centre Office] on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

Please note the minimum age for all kids courses this year is 12+.

Public Transport News

The latest revisions to bus services took place at the end of January and two routes in our area have seen changes.

Route M17 has seen TM Travel come to the end of their 4 year contract to operate the service under tender to SYPTE, the new tender has been won by Hulleys of Baslow. The weekday timetable is unchanged; however the Saturday service now finishes a couple of hours earlier.

The other bus service to see change is TM Travel's route 218 through Totley, this previously provided an hourly service between Sheffield, Totley, Owlver Bar, Chatsworth, Bakewell and Matlock. This now only runs as far as Bakewell, however is improved to run every half hour Mondays to Saturdays with an hourly service provided on Sundays and bank holidays.

You will probably have read about the impact of this year's spending cuts at South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive as part of the government's austerity programme which take effect in March. This will see our bus shelters cleaned less frequently, printed timetable leaflets no longer available and also the Travel South Yorkshire Information shops close down (these are located in the bus stations in Sheffield Centre, Hillsborough and Meadowhall).

All the travel information you need is now available online at www.travelsouthyorkshire.com or over the phone via Travel Line on 01709 51-51-51. If you buy a monthly ticket from the travel shops there are alternatives available – Travelmaster and Citywide tickets that work on all operators are now available on smart cards from self service machines in the bus Interchanges, First and Stagecoach tickets are available online.

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continued from page 1

Wales, which now enjoys devolved responsibility for its own healthcare, the essential small pharmacy scheme is still in operation and there is no proposal to end it!

Bradway lost its general practice medical facilities many years ago and local residents now have to travel to Greenhill, Dore, Totley and beyond to see their GP. It appears they will soon have to travel similar distances for pharmacy services too, even if it is 'only' for a few paracetamol tablets, an effective and comforting cough & cold remedy, or some much needed ibuprofen suspension for a feverish youngster.

Bradway Pharmacy has had to operate on shortened trading hours for many

years, as the subsidy has never been enough to allow sufficient profitability for the pharmacy to open for more usual trading hours, despite the preferences of the local community and the operator.

Since Green Cross Chemists took over from Sue Lomas in October 2012, they have tried very hard to develop the services available here to more accurately reflect the ambitions and offerings of the modern NHS:

They have refreshed the store, introducing and presenting new inventory and increasing the breadth of medicinal stock available here.

They have upgraded computer systems and introduced and developed:

* MCA (multi-compartment compliance aids) for those struggling to

self-administer medicines accurately

* Large print labels for those unable to see traditional label fonts clearly

* MAR (medication administration record charts) for those who have difficulty remembering if they have taken their medication or for carers to maintain accurate records

* Flu vaccinations – both NHS and private, for those patients who find travelling out of Bradway difficult

* A very popular, FREE home delivery service for the house-bound and infirm

* A repeat prescription ordering service, often combined with our delivery service, so that local residents need not travel the distance to their GP surgery to order authorised repeat medication

* The Sheffield Minor Ailment Service, which enables those eligible for free prescriptions to be treated FREE by our pharmacist for a variety of minor conditions that might otherwise necessitate a trip to the GP or even to the much overworked A&E services&

MUR (Medicines Use Reviews) to help patients get the best from their prescribed medication

* NMS (new medicine service) to ensure patients get the very best from any new medication they are prescribed

Under their ownership, Bradway Pharmacy has slowly progressed and gradually developed towards the extensive range of modern pharmacy services available now. It grew steadily throughout 2014 and enjoyed a record month in December. They were looking forward to 2015 with anticipation and excitement: how sad and demoralising to have their future and your healthcare put at unnecessary risk and at such short notice!

Please help by completing the Patient Questionnaire for NHS England available in Bradway Pharmacy and some local GP surgeries. We are also advised that this will be available on-line soon.

Alternatively, why not let the powers that be know exactly how you feel about vital local services being cut? Contact your MP and your local Councillors, the forthcoming election might galvanise their interest.

Ultimately however, it will be your local healthcare commissioner, NHS England that will decide whether or not to offer Bradway Pharmacy a lifeline. They can be contacted at:

Primary Care Support
South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw
NHS England,
Oak House, Moorhead Way,
Bramley, Rotherham,
S66 1YY.

Please let them know how you feel!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

New headache for Bradway Pharmacy and local residents

Bradway Pharmacy is Sheffield's only essential small pharmacy and has for many years received a subsidy from the funding allocated by the NHS for pharmacy services.

From 1st April 2015 the subsidy will be withdrawn and Bradway Pharmacy could face closure.

NHS England are circulating a questionnaire about pharmacy services in Bradway: please take part and help us make it clear to NHS England just how important this pharmacy is to the health of your Bradway community.

Questionnaires are available from Bradway Pharmacy, Avenue Medical Practice and Meadowhead Group Practice.



Green Cross Chemist Bradway Pharmacy
298 Twentywell Lane Sheffield S17 4QH
Tel: 0114 2360675
Mon - Fri 9.00am - 3.00pm



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Orchids on show

The Sheffield and District Orchid Society annual show will take place on Sunday 10th May this year at the Cavendish Hall, Chatsworth.

Post Box

Dear Sir,

We have recently formed a station adopter group - the Friends of Dore and Totley Station (FODATS). We're doing this in conjunction with Northern Rail which manages the station and the Association of Community Rail Partnerships which promotes community station adoption schemes.

Our main thrust is about our local station, its heritage, train services and the forthcoming redoubling of the line, reinstatement of the second platform and replacement of the footbridge. But we're also concerned about the following detailed issues, some of which we share with the Hope Valley Rail Users Group:

- given the current train operator re-franchising exercise, maintaining a reliable and predictable hourly Hope Valley service every day of the week;
- providing Hope Valley service coverage slightly earlier and later in the day to integrate with long distance services into and out of Sheffield;
- selected additional stops for the faster trains (i.e. those to/from Manchester Airport and Liverpool);
- robust/smart technology/effective on-train ticketing (the remote ticket machine at Dore and Totley only takes credit cards and isn't totally reliable);
- replacement of the current rolling stock (which is 30 years old) and providing rolling stock and train formations which give adequate seating space for people and room for luggage and bikes/prams.

Along with these objectives there is clear local interest in finding a new use for Totley Tunnel East signal box when it is closed in around eight years' time. Network Rail, who are responsible for the signal box, operates a scheme to work with communities to give continuing life for redundant boxes. Some of these are now used as, for example, meeting rooms, cafes, art galleries, bookshops and museums.

We have already approached Network Rail to express our interest. The article elsewhere in this issue goes into more detail about the working of the box.

People can me or Dawn Biram (tel: 235 6907) if you require any more information. Thank

Mike Peart
Tel: 236 8100

Email: m.peart1@gmail.com

Dear Sir,

Neighbour Hood Watch

With the many cut backs in the Police force it is becoming increasingly more important that we residents take a larger part in helping keep our areas safe and secure.

Neighbour Hood Watch is a way to coordinate your local residents in protecting you and your neighbour's property. No costs are involved just a sense of public community spirit, keeping an eye out for potential criminal or anti-social behaviour. It may involve keeping an eye out for a neighbour's

Bugle publication dates

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

Copy Deadline	Publication
24 April	13 May 2015
24 July	19 August 2015
23 October	12 November 2015
29 January	17 February 2015

property whilst they are away or checking on an elderly person living alone.

NHW does not try to replicate the Police but adds a local set of eyes in support to them protecting your community. It can be involved in reporting defective street lighting as well as other road hazards. It is what you make it.

Advantages are not just in having a greater sense of security but can include discounts on home insurance if you are a registered member of your local NHW scheme.

Members and additional coordinators are always welcome.

If you want further information or wish to join please contact:

Les Day (Bradway NHW).
les_nhw@hotmail.com.
Tel: 0114 2362219

Dear Sir,

Why do houses never show their house numbers?

An interesting question and you probably think, "oh yes they do", at least in a suburban area like Bradway where every house is allocated a number. Unfortunately, it's actually far from the case. House numbers are, more often than not, unreadable from a distance - i.e. the bottom of a driveway. The numbers are often too small to be read from a distance, in obscure positions, hidden by garden foliage or painted the same colour as their background mount.

This is really frustrating for postmen, delivery drivers, taxi drivers and so on who waste a lot of time searching and often have to back track when they find an infill 36a or whatever has messed up their calculations; or when there is a gap in the series as we see here with Longford Road for example. Ok a regular postman will soon grasp the nuances, but others will not.

What do I know about this? - Well, I guess it all started with my Saturday job when still at school, working for W.H Smith down in Devon. One of my jobs was to cover the rounds of the paperboys who hadn't turned up, so I was exposed to varied rounds on an irregular basis, hence I was frequently stymied by this problem. The same thing happened when I was student and worked as a Christmas postman for 3 years, again differing rounds, the first of which every day was always in the dark. And then lo and behold, as a parent of a child attending Beavers, Cubs & Scouts in Bradway, the

good old Scout Christmas Post - again always in the dark.

So spare a thought for the problems people have. It's actually getting worse with the rise of internet shopping and the plethora of delivery vans cruising around. The number hunt leads to deliverers prowling up and down driveways for the elusive right number. Some reported prowlers have been innocents just trying to do their job; others may not be, so please remain vigilant.

Take a few moments to stand at the bottom of your driveway and see if your house number is obvious - it probably will be as you know where it is (hopefully!). Better still, review a neighbour's number and let them know the outcome.

For a few bob, invest in some clear numbers that can be seen easily from the road and make life a lot easier and efficient for a number of people - and save fuel!

John Sharpe
Bradway

Dear Sir,

I have had my dog for five years now and I would like to think that my husband and I are responsible dog walkers who pick our dog poo up and bin it.

I know it's always been a problem in Bradway, but I am really getting sick and tired, especially this time of year when it's getting dark. There always seems to be more dog poo on the pavements and peoples grass verges outside their properties. But saying that, it has been bad all summer. It is not fair to anyone and especially school children running to school who walk into it on the school path.

There have been two bins at both ends, why can't they bag it and bin it. All the dog walkers in Bradway who leave it on the pavement, you know who you are; you should not be dog owners. That's the job you take on when you buy a dog.

If the dog would to do it on your carpet or kitchen floor would you leave it? No you would not. So please take responsibility for your pet and bag it and bin it. As leaving it in a bag on the pavement is worse, if you have managed to bag it, have the decency to bin it as well.

We have the same problem round the golf course on the path and fields. There are two bins there especially for dog poo please use them.

Kim Winkley

Dear Sir,

Most people are now aware of the loss of wildlife in this country. The lack of bees, butterflies and birds are fairly obvious but it is more far-reaching than that. Pollinating insects are vital to OUR food supplies.

Over millions of years, natural ecosystems have evolved with plants and animals co-existing and supporting each other in the many different geological, topographical and climatic conditions. In our ignorance, we have disrupted this delicate balance, so much so that vital

habitats have been lost or greatly reduced.

Urbanisation, industry and intensive farming as well as various human leisure activities have had a devastating effect. As a result, many plants and animals have become extinct and many more are in danger of extinction. Research at Kew Gardens has found that 20% of our wild flowers are on the Red List now and little is being done to arrest this decline, despite the efforts of a considerable number of conservation and wildlife charities.

British gardens cover a huge acreage of land which once supported masses of native fauna and flora, but fashion trends for cultivated, showy, brightly coloured and often foreign plants, along with immaculate lawns and too much hard landscaping have all had a detrimental effect. Overall, the pollen and nectar from our wild native plants are much more beneficial to our native insects than that from foreign or cultivated plants.

Native plants also provide better conditions for hibernating insects, their eggs and food for caterpillars. Many foreign and cultivated flowers are extremely attractive to our insects - one excellent example is the popular buddleia - but this has added to the loss of our wild flowers as they are not being pollinated and are consequently disappearing.

Well-known TV gardeners and designers have contributed to the problem by enthusing about the colour of

Bradway Bounds Walk Sunday 31st May

Tony Smith will be leading the annual Bradway Bounds Walk for Bradway Action Group.

Starting outside the Spar at 10.30am and lasting approximately 2 hours.

various varieties of flowers and foreign plants, and prizes are awarded to garden designs where there is far more concrete than soil. Garden centres are filled with mass-produced plants for instant show, hardly any of which will help our declining wildlife, and supermarkets and some greengrocers, too, supply a quick fix. Nor, as "Maggie Pie" wrote in an issue of Bradway Bugle in 2005, are estate agents any help whatsoever as they promote immaculately lawned gardens with little other planting as "easy to care for".

An article printed in the Soil Association's magazine some years ago explains that the soil is teeming with micro-organisms, eg bacteria, fungi and protozoa, and that the activity of these creatures is responsible for the soil's crumbly texture and its fertility. They also "fuel and drive the organic nutrient cycle and create a nutrient-rich, water-retaining and life-giving humus", as well as being involved in the absorption of nutrients themselves in various ways.

However, any chemicals used on the

soil suppress these micro-organisms and the soils become starved of nutrients and water. It has already become a matter of international concern with intensive and inorganic farming methods as well as land covered by gardens and even towns and cities being studied, particularly in this UN-declared Year of Soils. We all need to be aware of what is happening and do what we can to mitigate the damage already done and stop further decline.

I garden organically - no chemicals, and I am gradually replacing all non-native plants with wild native ones.

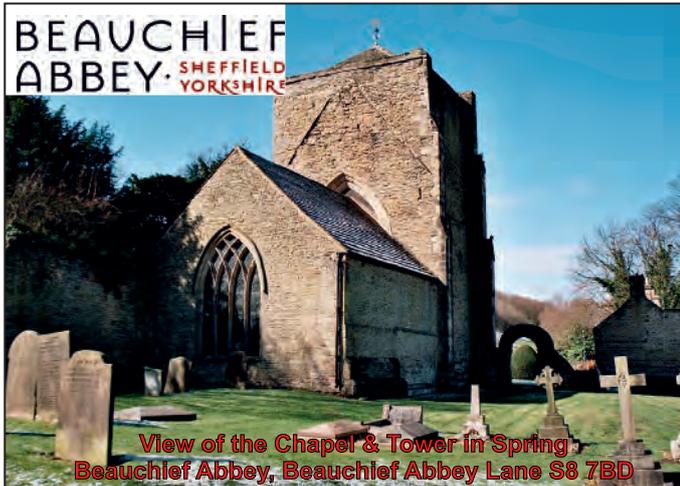
It needs patience, and there are disappointments, but there are many rewards to having a wildlife garden and wildflowers are delightful. There is always something to do (for all the family), but it is very relaxing too.

I use a nursery near Nottingham which can supply a booklet listing the plants they offer and giving much helpful information. For any help I might be able to give, my telephone number is (0114) 236 2177.

On the walls of the café at Ryton Organic Garden Centre near Coventry are several thought-provoking quotations. One, from E B White, speaks volumes:

"I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for Man if he spent less time proving that he can outwit Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her sincerity".

Marian N Tiddy (Mrs)



Holy Communion:

Ash Wednesday

18th Feb 7.00pm

Sun 22nd Feb 11.00am

Sun 1st March 11.00am

Sun 8th March 10.30 am

Sun 22nd March 11.00am

Palm Sunday

29th March 11.00am

Easter Sunday

5th April 11.00am

Sun 12th, 26th April 11.00am

Sun 3rd, 10th, 24th May 11.00am

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(third Sunday):

Sun 15th Feb 3pm

Mothering Sunday

15th March 3pm

Sun 19th April 3pm

Sun 17th May 3pm

Other Services

Maundy Thursday

Thurs 2nd April 7.00pm

Good Friday

Fri 3rd April 2.00pm

Ascension Day

Thurs 14th May 7.00pm

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A Little Piece of England

Fancy helping to be part of a performance out in the Totley countryside?

I've been commissioned to write a short show about St George's Farm and its legacy. I'm envisaging at least two performances, provisionally on Midsummer's weekend – 20th and 21st June. These may be part of a walk along the lane by the Shepley Spitfire and up to Woodthorpe, meeting characters as we go! I'm on the look out for a small cast of local people to perform in it. Great fun!

Why St George's Farm? John Ruskin, the popular Victorian art critic and social reformer funded an argumentative and ill-fated farming and boot-making colony here – at the farmhouse above Mickley lane allotments - in 1877-79. He saw it as 'a little piece of England given into the English workman's hands, and heaven's.'

It was a funny old time – of a utopian 'communism' not influenced by Marx, but more by ideas of the dignity of communal hand labour in opposition to a Britain increasingly in thrall to mass industrial production. But the colonists all fell out with Ruskin - and sometimes with each other.

These ideas of craft, agriculture, the beauty of the rural landscape, collective working and social reform, even revolution, didn't go away however. We can see them taken up right here in Totley and Holmesfield - for example by the sexy sage of Millthorpe, Edward Carpenter, growing potatoes and making sandals in his quest for the simple life; by the curmudgeonly Clarion Rambler G H B Ward from Moorwoods Lane and by Kinder Mass Trespasser Bill Keane from Green Oak Road, campaigning to open up the moors to ordinary people.

The work of Ward and Keane helped the formation of our beloved Peak National Park. Ward also helped set up the Council for the Protection of Rural England and Sheffield's Green Belt – the first ever in the country and still one of the best protected.

We hope the early colonists and their families, Carpenter, Ward, Keane and others will all make an appearance in the show. Perhaps even the utopian artist William Morris and the inventor of stainless steel Harry Brearley – yes they both admired Ruskin and came to Totley.

The performance will be part of a big programme of events taking place all over the city to celebrate 'Ruskin-in-Sheffield' and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Other events to celebrate him and his relevance to contemporary life will include exhibitions, talks, walks, performances, land based workshops, research and even a pop-up museum.

But here in Totley, we welcome you to perform, research or just to help with the show – costumes, props, refreshments for example. For more information and/or to offer help, contact me gold Sally@googlemail.com or phone 07887 383 282

Sally Goldsmith



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The Auction Gallery team

Sheffield Auction Gallery

Established in Sheffield, England since 1840, Sheffield Auction Gallery are the regions oldest Auctioneers and Valuers, and recently announced a merger with A. E. Dowse & Son Limited adding a number of additional auctions into a busy schedule of established auction sales at their newly purpose-built, state-of-the-art premises.

A team of Specialist Valuers are on hand to give free advice and pre-Auction Valuations and accept entries for all sales Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 4pm. Bringing items in for valuation couldn't be easier. There is a large purpose-built two story Auction Gallery with large car park and disabled access.

Fortnightly Antiques and Collectables Auctions are held along with a monthly General Sale on Saturdays and Quarterly Antique & Fine Art Auctions with an Evening Auction of Silver, Jewellery and Watches, together with a range of specialist auctions for Sporting Memorabilia, Collectable Toys, Militaria plus Coins, Stamps and Postcards.

Many auctions feature live internet bidding, with the facility to watch, listen and bid in real time. They also hold many regular Valuation Days at the Gallery and at Specialist Events throughout the region with an exhibition trailer.

Michael Dowse (third generation auctioneer and fellow of the National Association of Valuers & Auctioneers), undertakes all professional appraisals and written valuation work, along with talks to community and society groups in the area, plus a regular advice phone-in show on BBC Radio Sheffield.

Michael has a wealth of experience and is available by appointment for home visits for all manner of valuations, including professional reports, community and group talks, etc. Private daytime tours of the Auction Gallery are available, please contact the Saleroom office.

A new daytime television series is currently being filmed to be broadcast in April/May and they will be hosting BBC Flog It! again this year. With the recent addition of a first floor Saleroom at the Gallery and an additional two new auctions every month, 2015 is set to be an extremely busy year!

If you would like to receive a once a fortnight email notification that the next Catalogue is available on-line fully illustrated, please sign-up via the home page at www.sheffieldauctiongallery.com

All forthcoming auction information, item previews, events dates and auction information can be found on the comprehensive website, or give them a call at the saleroom on 0114 281 6161. sheffieldauctiongallery.com

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Henk's Woodwork



Inside artist studios

Did you get a chance to visit your local and Sheffield artists last year? If not, Open Up Sheffield 2015 will take place again on two May weekends. Sat 2nd, Sun 3rd, Mon 4th (Bank holiday), Sat 9th, and Sun 10th. Opening times 11am to 5pm. Entry is free.

The artists and venues can vary from year to year but Dore, Totley and Bradway are all represented again. Two of your local artists can be contacted for more details. Christine Rodger at www.christinerodger.co.uk, email 30rodger@gmail.com, and Rosemary Watson at www.rosemarywatson.co.uk, email info@rosemarywatson.co.uk

The free Open Up brochure is available from mid April, and gives the studio locations of all the participating artists across Sheffield and surrounding area. They are available from the artists, your local shops, garden and community centres, libraries, art groups and galleries. They go very quickly, so please contact us if you would like some for your group.

More information about all the participating artists can be found at www.openupsheffield.co.uk

There is such a variety of styles and presentations that it can be helpful to select those which appeal most to you in order to maximise your visiting times.

Why not come again and see how personal projects have developed over the year, look at new dimensions with

materials; be adventurous and add a new artist or craftsperson to your list.

The work is usually for sale but there is no obligation to buy. You can expect a very friendly welcome for all ages, so please put these dates in your family diary.

Transport 17

We closed the year with everything reasonably intact and just solvent (the gospel according to John Savourmin!!). It was a horrendous year and we are all hoping that 2015 will be considerably better for us all.

Thankfully the first snow of the season arrived whilst the clubs were closed and we sincerely hope that none of you had falls on the ice. The Americans are suffering badly with lots of snow and major sub-zero temperatures -let's hope that it isn't going to hit us. Fingers crossed!

One of our clubs has had to close temporarily because it doesn't have a cooker hood over its gas cooker. We are hoping that this will be resolved soon to enable the members to resume their activities.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2015. Let's hope it will be an improvement on last year.

Felicity Revill

T 17: 172 Baslow Road, S17 4DR
Phone:0114 236 2962

Three Valleys Festival

The Three Valleys Beer Festival is due to take place again this year on Saturday 6th June. This sees a number of venues in S17 and S18 put on special events on the same day with an extended range of real ales, live music, food and more to enjoy.

All the venues will again be linked by a free bus service; this will run every half hour from midday until about 11pm.

There are a record 18 venues taking part this year including the Castle Inn and Shepley Spitfire in S17.

Over the border into Derbyshire the rest of the venues are Barlow Brewery, Ticked Trout at Barlow; Miners Arms, Jolly Farmer and Talbot Arms in Dronfield Woodhouse; Hyde Park Inn at Hill Top, Three Tuns at Hallowes; Victoria, Manor House Hotel, Green Dragon, White Swan, Dronfield Arms and Coach & Horses in Dronfield; Royal Oak in Coal Aston, Travellers Rest in Apperknowle and Miners Arms in Hundall.

For those living in Bradway, the easiest way of experiencing the festival is to start locally at the Castle Inn and pick up the free bus from their car park and explore a number of other venues in the festival using the bus, ending up back in Bradway at the Castle from where you can walk home!

Andrew Cullen
Festival Co-Ordinator,
Three Valleys Festival
www.threevalleysfestival.org.uk

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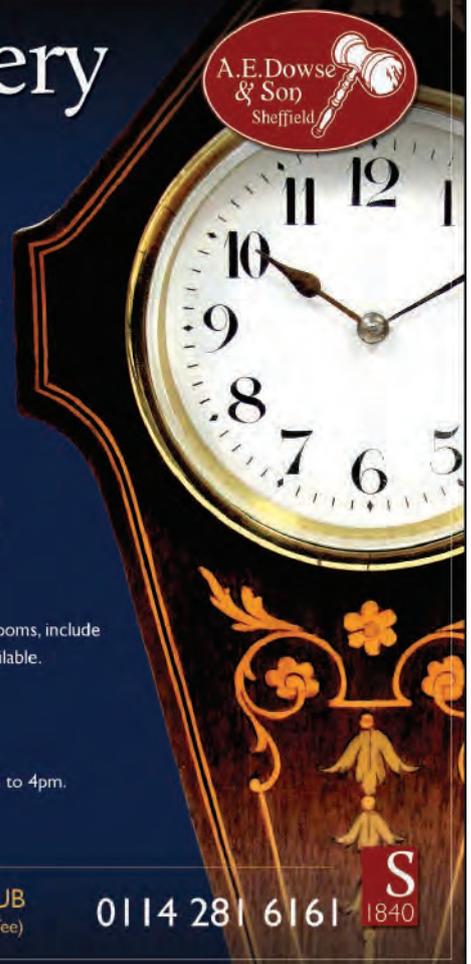
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When I first attended a BAG Open Meeting I said nothing. It wasn't until the third that I felt compelled to speak. We'd spent far too long discussing efforts to keep a NatWest branch in Bradway. Commercial logic said the branch should have closed years ago. I may not have been popular for saying this, but the world moves on.

When the Bradway Hotel closed it was regretted, but insufficient customers had used it to have a viable future as a pub or restaurant. By this time I'd been invited to join the BAG committee. When Sainsbury's submitted their plans we looked at the options and implications in some detail. We took soundings within the community and realised a third were in favour, a third were opposed for a variety of reasons, and a third weren't too bothered either way.

Consequently we did not oppose the application, however we submitted constructive comment in an endeavour to get some improvements to the plan. Not much was changed, but the bland planned building is slightly less bland as built!

A major concern of many was a perceived threat to the Post Office and newspaper delivery services provided by Spar. These were not valid planning grounds to object to Sainsbury's, however those fears could be about to come to pass. Spar have put their shop up for sale and at the time of writing we've heard of no takers. As I said a year ago, if we don't use the services at Spar we may lose the Post Office. Sainsbury's have clearly stated they wouldn't take it on, or newspaper deliveries either. Does that matter?

Separately we've heard that the chemists is also under threat, with closure possible as early as April due to imminent termination of a subsidy they've enjoyed up to now. The Castle

Bradway Action Group

Chairman: *Chris Morgan*
9, Everard Avenue. Tel 236 9273
chair@bradwayactiongroup.org
Secretary: *Fiona Vallely*
58, Everard Avenue. Tel 236 3991
secretary@bradwayactiongroup.org
Website:
<http://www.bradwayactiongroup.org/>
Deputy Chair: *Anne Sharpe*
Treasurer: *Peter Smithson*
Membership: *Philip Righton*
Committee - elected and *co-opted
Mike Bloy
Andrew Tabor
Nancy Maitland
Lynn Smith
Rob Wilks
**John Child (Community Hall)*
**Frank Richardson (Scouts)*

Inn's owners are seeking a new tenant from June and there don't seem to be any takers for that.

What can BAG do? It's been suggested a community pub, but that's a major undertaking and not one we're currently set up for. However we can encourage everyone to complete the questionnaire at the chemists as that may help any negotiations by the owners to retain a substitute financial package through the NHS. Should we do more?

BAG wants to foster a greater sense of community in Bradway and to that end we joined with the traders on Twentywell to help with their Christmas festivities - most noticeably by helping to finance the first lights along the row. OK, they weren't brilliant, but they were better than we've had before. The traders had a special Sunday with Father Christmas in Tilly's and a giant reindeer outside Makinson's. The butchers had a chestnut roast, and Love & Best Wishes were giving away mulled wine and mince pies.

We started very late and a lot of lessons were learned. Plans are already in hand to do better this year. It's good to report that the raffle raised £277 for St Luke's Hospice and a further £213.82 for Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice from face painting, reindeer poo sales and hair braiding. Well done to those who entered into the spirit and ensured there was a good buzz on the rather cold day.

BAG keeps a close interest in the Old School Field and has pressed the council to repair, or even replace, the surfacing on the pitch between the goal mouths. We've been told there may be cash available at the end of March to do something - watch that space! We've replaced two of the broken bench seats and will be replacing the third as soon as the weather lets up. We're not happy about the vandals who keep kicking panels out of the fence, but try to replace them as soon as we can. Pack it in!

Tony Smith will be leading the annual **Bradway Bounds Walk on Sunday 31st May starting outside Spar at 10.30 for about 2 hours.** Tony has lived in this

area since most of Bradway was still green fields and his explanations make fascinating hearing. Please join us to learn more about our area and its past - it's free.

Our new Deputy Chairman, Anne Sharpe, made her mark with the Christmas events and will be ably assisting Fiona Vallely and Nancy Maitland's team to put on a really good children's **Fun Day on Saturday 5th September.** Any offers of raffle prizes, help with preparation, and on the day will be most welcome to ensure the children have lots of fun.

Our team of litter pickers may not be conspicuous, but they try to ensure Bradway is clearer of litter than many other suburbs of Sheffield.

As Chairman I'd like to see more younger people involved with BAG. To that end we've invited **Paul Stockley, Headmaster of Bradway Primary School to give us a short talk at our next Open Meeting on Wednesday 11th March at 7.30 in the school hall.** He'll tell how Primary Education is changing in the 21st Century, quite different from what many of us knew in our youth - yet the aims remain the same.

There'll be an opportunity to ask questions and that will be followed by our usual open forum to raise any matters relating to Bradway. The meeting is open to BAG members, and anyone who'd like to come along and see what we do. Hopefully one or two may join and help us address new areas of concern. I personally welcome all input - including constructive dissent!

Chris Morgan

Make a will

Make a will this April and support St Luke's Hospice

Research shows that almost 50 per cent of people mistakenly believe that their estate will pass to their partner when they die...but this isn't the case. And that's why nine Sheffield law firms are taking part in April's St Luke's Will Month, encouraging people across the city to make a will and support Sheffield's only hospice at the same time.

Participating solicitors will draw up a will for a suggested minimum donation of £85 for a single will or £125 for a joint will, with all the money raised during the month going direct to the charity.

The participating companies include Bell & Buxton, Best Solicitors Walk in Centre, Coates Solicitors, h/w Keeble Hawson, Norrie Waite and Slater, PM Law, Rosalind Watchorn Solicitors, Slater & Gordon Lawyers and Taylor and Emmet.

All money raised by Will Month goes directly to St Luke's Hospice, which means you will help to continue to provide free specialist care to Sheffield people who have incurable illnesses and to support their families.

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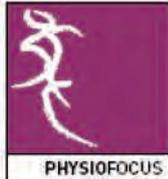
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Oh Deer!

Many of us have been fascinated to see deer at the sides of the roads, or in fields, on our way into Derbyshire. A warning sign has been erected on the A621, below the Brickyard at Totley, and many motorists will have wondered why, if driving in daylight. How many have slowed down? It is there as deer use this area for grazing and moving from The Blacka Plantation, at Dore, where Neil Fitzmaurice has spent many early mornings studying them, to Gillfield Woods.

They are now seen more frequently at Owl Bar, and many spend their rutting time opposite The Grouse Inn at Longshaw, from where this article started. Sally and Mark Fletcher, the landlords, had commented a few weeks ago, how noisy the rutting was, and how many deer were present, in the field opposite to the pub. Visitors were coming from far and wide to see and hear them.

Mark observed a deer take one leap from the field, across the road, into their car park. However, recently, Sally informed us of a decision to cull deer on the Eastern Moors, by the partnership formed between the National Trust and RSPB. The 50 or so deer, which have been around for some time, have increased. In the last 12 months, figures have "jumped" (their wording) from 183 to 263, on Big Moor alone. How did they count them, I wonder.

Numerous complaints have been received from property owners in Curbar and Froggatt about the damage caused to their gardens, and accidents have occurred with cars, some by drivers swerving to avoid the deer in the highway. One car had its windscreen smashed by antlers. The friends, with whom we had spent the evening in the Grouse, reported that, on their way home,



near to The Chequers Inn, a deer was standing on the verge, but nearer to Froggatt, a stag was standing in the road, and then, on their approach, trotted, in front of them, before going into someone's garden. Imagine looking out of your window at 11-30pm and seeing such a brute in your garden.

Their natural predators, wolves, are not present any more, so a professional deer manager will be employed, to reduce the figures to 200. How that arbitrary figure has been calculated, I do not know. If 50 have created 263 in about 10 years, how long will it take 200 to get back to the same number?

A cautionary tale for anyone driving on the outskirts of Sheffield and in Derbyshire, at night – beware of deer.

Roger Hart

Women's World Day of Prayer

This will be held at the English Martyrs Church at 10.30am on 6th March. Everyone is welcome.

The service this year has been prepared by the Women of The Bahamas. If you have any enquiries, please phone 236 3027.

Religion in school

Philosophising our way towards a more tolerant society

Nowadays the news is often filled with stories of religious extremists committing terrible acts of barbarity in the name of God. Currently Islamic extremists dominate the media coverage but let us not forget the Buddhist monks involved in ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya people in Myanmar, sectarian killings in Northern Ireland or the murder of doctors willing to carry out abortions, amongst many other examples. These are atrocities committed against those with views or religions that are different to those of the perpetrators.

The victims are targeted because they

hold different opinions; and difference, to some people, is a threat. It is hard enough for adults to understand these events so it must be utterly baffling for children. After the recent Paris attacks a large part of my subsequent Junior assembly in school was devoted to the importance of tolerance, and to explaining, with these older children, what free speech is. There was that sense of community shock which comes after any major disaster and it was important to acknowledge the event with the pupils. It was one of those assemblies when I knew, by their careful attention and insightful questions, that the children were very interested in the subject matter.

As a consequence of these troubling events across the world there has been a great deal of debate amongst politicians and educationalists about how we best prepare children for the world that we live in, and how we can prevent extremist views taking hold in our wider society. A sharper focus on 'British values' has been demanded of schools as one way of achieving this. The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools, Lord Nash, has explained that this focus on British values is designed to "tighten up the standards on pupil welfare, to improve safeguarding, and the standards on spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, to strengthen the barriers to extremism".

There are increased expectations that schools should be at the front line of this battle against extremist views. A typical headline in The Times Education Supplement. 23rd January 2015 was 'Teachers are uniquely placed to divert young people from the path of terrorism'.

This is not the first time that schools have been called on to provide checks and balances for societal trends such as this. For example, Ofsted has been inspecting the degree to which schools promote 'community cohesion' for some time now, after problems between community groups became a headline issue, with riots in 2001. In Sheffield, tensions in areas like Page Hall, remain high.

However, despite this understandable focus on the role of schools in promoting cohesion and, now, to prevent extremism, a wider discussion about the much more contentious topic of religion in schools appears to have been largely avoided, despite, in my opinion, being equally relevant.

Bradway, as a Community state school, has to teach religious education and legally should have regular acts of collective worship which are 'of a broadly Christian character'. We use our Religious Education (RE) lessons, as well as some whole school events and assemblies, to provide children with an overview of world religions, and our acts of collective worship are used to instil tolerance and understanding of different cultures and faiths.

We do not tell children what to believe, rather we aim to show them the range of beliefs and views which people have,

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including the view that there is no God, with the hope that, if they understand, they will be more tolerant of people with differing views to their own. It seems to work because the community of Bradway children is a happy one, where everybody is valued for who they are, and where difference is celebrated and encouraged.

In this context it appears strange to me that, in a world where religious intolerance is a very real and current problem, schools funded by the state are being asked to hold acts of collective worship at all. But even more perplexing, is the fact that many state funded schools in England are faith schools.

In 2012 one third of schools were publically funded faith schools, free to teach about only one religion. Faith schools are mostly run like other state schools. They have to follow the national curriculum, except for religious studies, where they are free to only teach about their own religion.

These schools are often high performing institutions, providing an excellent standard of education in most areas, but because they are only focusing on one religion, children are not necessarily given the range of viewpoints which they need in order to make their own minds up.

Although many faith schools do provide a more balanced approach, the decision about how to teach religion in school is much too important to be left up to individual schools to determine. Although some schools may not fully

**BRADWAY ACTION GROUP
OPEN MEETING
Wednesday 11th March
7.30pm
Bradway School
Speaker Mr P Stockley
Everybody welcome**

exercise their freedom to promote one religion, others certainly do, as can be seen by visiting the websites of prominent faith schools across the country. I think that a better way of promoting tolerance in our society would be to have the same expectations of all schools with respect to religion, rather than the current contradictory mixture, in order to give all children the knowledge required to make an informed decision.

If I was to redesign the teaching of religion in schools from scratch I would be looking at the generic ethical values and qualities that are the bedrock of our society, and of most religions too, rather than being specific about a particular faith. For example the use of Philosophical discussions, which we use at Bradway, enables all children to discuss their views, including religious views, in a controlled way, with the teacher modelling and facilitating. Philosophy For Children (P4C) is a recognised and widely used method of

encouraging important behaviours such as good listening and good discussion skills, in a non-judgmental, safe environment of discovery. Pupils really enjoy the sessions and Year 6 had this to say about learning in this way when I asked them recently:

'In P4C there is no right or wrong. I really enjoy it because you can say how you feel'.

'You learn how to contribute in front of the whole class and it helps you if you are shy'.

'You can say what you believe in and also you can say what you don't believe in, in order to get more depth in the discussion'.

This encouragement and freedom to explore ideas in an atmosphere of tolerance is what most parents hopefully want for their children, and should be an integral part of what all state funded schools stand for in this country. By promoting and refining the ancient art of philosophical discussion amongst our children we can look forward to a more tolerant future, and a world where we have a better chance to, as the idiom says, 'live and let live'.

We all still have the freedom in this land of free speech, to educate our children at home about our beliefs and to instil our own moral code and schools should be part of the solution to tolerance, not part of the problem.

**Paul Stockley (Headteacher)
Bradway Primary School**
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Your Local Rugby News

As the rugby season rolls into its second half both our local sides are poised for promotion from their respective leagues.

Sheffield Tigers have been building a young talented squad this season, introducing players from their Colts XV, coaching them with the 1st XV squad until their ready to debut at national level. This formula has been working very well as since October Tigers have been top five in the National 3 North & are presently on the brink of taking the playoff position sitting in three place.

Tigers' coaching methods have produced a double edged sword for the club though, as some players have improved & come into the first team, others have been headhunted for the rugby elite with three players going to Rotherham Titans and Leeds with a further player on assessment with Titans.

Sheffield Club have maintained good results down the road at Abbeydale Park, reaching the top spot in North One East earlier in the season and steadily holding around an eight point lead, which should be enough to clinch automatic promotion.

It looks like Abbeydale will have some new tenants next year as Rotherham Titans, who are in dispute with their Clifton Lane landlords, are looking closely at a move to the 'Abbeydale Sports Ground'. Although nothing official has come out of the club or Abbeydale Park there are a lot of discussions and media reports coming across the border from Rotherham, saying a move to Abbeydale will be happening next season. A move which would potentially put three national level rugby clubs in the area.

Next Home Fixtures

- 28th February Tigers v Rossendale
- 7th March Sheffield v Northern
- 21st March Tigers v Hudders'ld YMCA
- 28th March Sheffield v Pocklington
- 11th April Tigers v Lymm
- 18th April Sheffield v West Hartlepool

Improving your health

"Make 2015 your year to remember by improving your health" says Activ Physiotherapy. Keeping up with New Year's resolutions can be straining for your body and may lead to unexpected injuries and pain. "Here at Activ physiotherapy we have a team of therapists with a wealth of experience and knowledge on how to manage, manipulate and eliminate these injuries." Andrew Okwera, Georgina Hollinrake, Clare Heward and the team specialise in several areas of physiotherapy such as; sports injuries, women's health, musculoskeletal pain and home advice on improving your health.

"We commonly see people who have taken up new hobbies as a spur to improve health such as long gym sessions and long distance running. However, in my experience regular exercise without the proper preparation can lead to injuries that otherwise wouldn't occur.

We have a system of preventative rehabilitation or 'prehab' as it's commonly known that can help prepare a person for exercise and also aid their recovery, thus reducing the risk of an injury. Most people may think this type of therapy is only available to professional sports people, however here at Activ we ensure that it is widely available for all."

Activ Physiotherapy is based at Bradway and Topley in Sheffield and Hope. Phone 0114 2352727 for appointments.

Andrew Okwera

Abbeydale Park Bowling Club

The Club will be holding an open morning on Saturday 18th April between 10am and 12noon for anyone who would like to try their hand at crown green bowling. Previous experience is not necessary as instruction will be given.

The Bowls Club is primarily a social bowling club with informal sessions running each day in the morning, afternoon and evening. Members assemble and groups are made up as people arrive.

Friendly Inter-Club Matches are held throughout the season as well as internal competitions for the many trophies bestowed by the club. Social events are held regularly throughout the year including Dinners, Garden Party and a Race Evening, as well as regular Coffee Mornings during the close season.

Members of the Bowling Club are automatically enrolled as members of Abbeydale Sports Club and can enjoy the facilities provided by the Pavilion. The Bowls Pavilion is situated at the top of the Abbeydale Park Sports Complex where ample car parking is available.

Please feel free to join us on the Green equipped with suitable footwear (flat with no heels) where you will be warmly welcomed. All other equipment can be provided. We have a large selection of bowls from which you can choose to borrow.

If you require any further information please contact:- Doreen or Richard Bertram (Membership Secretary)

Telephone: 0114 289 1423 email: richard.bertram@btconnect.com

Open Garden

Garden Opening dates at Fernleigh, 9 Meadowhead Avenue, Sheffield S8 7RT
PACT - 26th April - 11am to 5pm
Admission £2

RSPCA - 31st May - 11am to 5pm
Admission £2

NGS (National Garden Scheme) 28th June, 26th July and 30th August 1pm to 5pm
Admission £2.50

Children free when with adult on each date.

There will be refreshments on sale and home made cake. Also plants for sale all grown in our garden and for the children an Animal Search. We look forward to seeing visitors who come each year and also welcome new faces. Thank you to everyone for your support - Chris and Keith Littlewood. Tel: 01142747234

Recipe Corner

Monkfish Pipérade with Sauce Vierge

Ingredients (serves 4)

- 3 tbsp olive oil
 - 2 shallots, finely chopped
 - 2 finely chopped garlic cloves
 - 1 red pepper, finely diced
 - 1 yellow pepper, finely diced
 - 2 skinned and chopped plum tomatoes
 - 6 large leaves fresh basil, shredded
 - 200g full young spinach
 - good knob of butter
 - 4 x 150g monkfish tail, skinned and membrane removed
 - pinch of cayenne
 - sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Method*

In a saucepan, heat 2 tablespoons of the oil and sauté the shallots for about 5 minutes until softened but not coloured. Add the garlic and sauté for 1 minute. Add the peppers and cook until soft. Stir



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in the tomatoes, season, cook for a couple of minutes, remove from the heat, mix in the basil, set aside & keep warm.

Wilt the spinach in a spoon of olive oil and butter, seasoned.

Lightly season the monkfish fillets. Heat a large non-stick frying pan. When the oil is hot, slip in the monkfish and pan fry for 3 to 4 minutes or until nicely browned. Carefully turn over. Cook the other side for 3 to 4 minutes, until the fillets are just tender but still a little springy to touch.

Place the wilted spinach in the centre of four plates. Top each with a monkfish fillet and spoon over the pipérade on top. Drizzle the sauce vierge around and serve.

Sauce Vierge

Ingredients for about 150ml

50ml extra-virgin olive oil

1 small shallot, finely chopped

juice of 1 lemon

2 ripe tomato, skinned, de-seeded and finely diced

1 tsp of finely shredded basil and one of coriander

½ tsp balsamic vinegar

sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

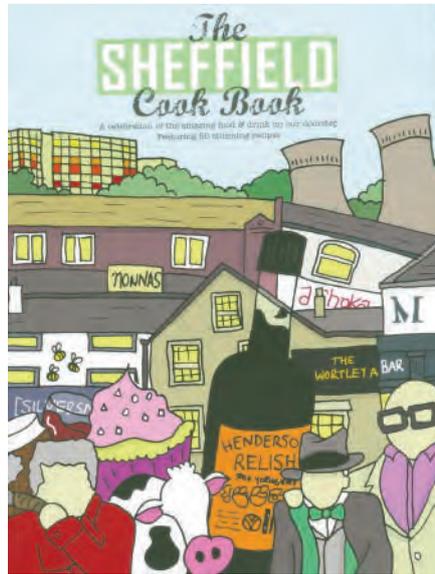
Method

In a small saucepan, heat 2 teaspoons of the oil and gently saute the shallot for a couple of minutes. Add all the remaining ingredients. Season to taste and stir well.

Leave to infuse for at least 5 minutes before serving.

Bon appetit!

Serge Le Chef



Cook Books

There cannot be many homes in Sheffield without a bottle of Henderson's in the cupboard. It was first blended in Sheffield in 1885, and is still produced to that original secret family recipe. Now for the first time, **The Henderson's Relish Cookbook** features a huge variety of delicious recipes helping you to add a touch of Yorkshire spice to your food.

Inspired by the spicy sauce, it contains exciting innovative recipes by chefs, famous figures and local enthusiasts, from Yorkshire brisket, to sausage casserole, from ice cream to Nick Clegg's

pasta bake. The book also delves into the history and mystery of the sauce, taking a look at the cultural icons that have been inspired and comforted by a splash of Hendo's, from Richard Hawley to Pete McKee and Kid Acne, among others.

The book is beautifully presented and a challenge to anyone's taste buds. A fitting tribute to Sheffield's best kept secret.

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I believe a cookbook should be a pleasure to thumb through, as well as a source of well-chosen and presented recipes. **The Sheffield Cook Book** scores on all points featuring 50 of the very best recipes from Sheffield's culinary community, in the process showcasing the secrets to their success. Chock-full of recipes, stories and anecdotes, it's your window into a world that people from Sheffield rarely shout about.

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The Time Travellers Travelogue

True to form, The Time Travellers have kept up their very high standards of putting on quality local history events throughout the chilly months of winter. First up was a trip to the Ecton Copper mine near Ashbourne where we donned hard hats and caving lamps for our journey underground. Ecton mine dates from the Bronze Age and had been worked more or less continuously for 3500 years up to 1891. The Duke of Devonshire made vast profits from the copper and lead mining, sufficient to build the Georgian Crescent in Buxton.

November included two excellent talks based at our 'base' at the Old School in Dore. Firstly, one of our members Anna De Lange, who has written a book on the subject, told an enthralled audience about Sheffield Steelmaker Harry Brearley's invention of 'Rusnorstain' cutlery at Robert Moseley's Portland Works. Anna's impressive slide show was particularly enjoyed by a very good turnout. Later in the month, Colin Merrony's presentation about the history of Beauchief Abbey was attended by almost 50 members and visitors, who were also treated to a fascinating summary of how religious beliefs developed and their place in modern day society.

Our traditional pre-Christmas social evening was enjoyed by a great turnout of members and other halves. This marked the Winter Solstice providing a seasonal opportunity to enjoy a couple of drinks whilst mingling and browsing through exhibitions of the progress made by our projects – the Brigantes, the Roman Road Group and Poynton Villas. There was also a very humorous slide show (showing that Time Travellers can definitely laugh at themselves, and there has been a lot of material to go at!) There was an appropriately themed cake of Ironbridge in Shropshire which was the venue for the 2014 September Archaeological weekend.

The projects have continued with their efforts; the Roman Road Group have been especially busy going out in all weathers in their quest to track the lost course of the Roman Road between Brough and Templeborough. A light dusting of frost or snow actually enhances the landscape features and of course at this time of year the bracken has died down on the moorland areas under investigation. There has been a lot of progress and an excavation in the Wyming Brook Valley will start as soon as the weather eases.

The wintry weather has scarcely interrupted work at Poynton Villas, although the first task before getting our trowels out has generally been to saw up and remove fallen tree branches brought down by either snow or gales. It made for a good warm up before shifting bricks! Recent activity has focused on excavating the numerous outhouses to



Gazing down the Main Shaft at Ecton Copper mine.

the rear of the houses and we have made some interesting finds. The use of some of the structures remains a mystery and it will probably take us until we reach a floor level before we can solve this.

Coming up over the next couple of months we will have many more visits and walks including a follow up to the Robert Moseley talk with a tour of the Portland Works in February. In the same month John Baker will reprise his ever popular walks through Ecclesall Woods and then in March we will be arranging a tour of Beauchief Abbey. For the more active members, we will be continuing to roam across the Peak District and plan to have a closer look around the prehistoric sites on Eyam Moor. Watch out for the trip to Armley Mills near Leeds on 1st April if you are particularly interested in industrial archaeology, as the Mill engine will be activated especially for us. Our annual weekend excursions are always popular and this September will feature a fascinating few days in the Bath area.

Finally, the Time Travellers AGM date has been set for 14th April when Bill Gordon, a well-known face in the Peak District National Park, will talk about the Rock Engravings of the Peak District, followed by refreshments and a brisk canter through the formal business of the Society. If you are interested in finding out more about the programme of activities that the Time Travellers have lined up for the winter then log on to our website at thetimetravellers.org.uk

*Glynn Burgin
The Time Travellers*

Illustrated Talk

Holmesfield Church proudly presents – 'The Packhorse Routes of Derbyshire'. An Illustrated Talk by Prof. David Hey, to be preceded by a pie and pea supper on Friday 6th March, 6.30 pm at Holmesfield Church Hall. Tickets £12 from Jane and Robin Greetham - Tel 01246 412767. Proceeds to Holmesfield Church Restoration Fund.

Gilbert & Sullivan Society

The two concerts we performed in December were a complete success, the one in Dore being a sell-out. I did warn you! What was gratifying was that the less experienced acquitted themselves wonderfully well and out of the twenty-three contributors, Monica, our MD worked extremely hard to get to the peak of performance (I still wonder how we managed to perform Freddie Mercury's "Bohemian Rhapsody" so well!), Peter, our accompanist supported us brilliantly as well as giving us a splendid rendition of Leroy Anderson's Sleigh Ride and 17 out of the 21 singers performed in solos or duets. That is the sort of strength in depth we now have in the Society.

Rehearsals are well under way for the 2015 show which, as I have mentioned previously, will be The Gondoliers. The show will be from 29th April to 2nd May, 2015 at The Montgomery Theatre in Surrey Street. For tickets (£12 each) and timings please contact Judith Bettridge on 0114 2507155 or write (including SAE with money) to Judith at 238 Carterknowle Road, Sheffield, S7 2EB. Booking forms can be found at website: <http://www.doregass.co.uk/page7.html> Alternatively, you can always phone me on 0114 236 2299 or our chairman Mark White on 0114 236 0723 for further information.

We all hope that you will come and support us in April/May at The Montgomery and have a thoroughly enjoyable time.

Derek Habberjam

Bradway Bowling Club

The club is looking forward to the new bowling season and if any new members wish to play, then they will always be welcome. The VETS play during the day on Wednesdays and Fridays while any age can play on Tuesday or Friday evening and Saturday afternoons. There is also a special ladies league on Wednesday evenings.

Bowls can be played at any age and is very competitive when playing in a team but friendly matches can be played at any time at the club. Anyone wishing to learn how to play bowls can do so when free lessons are given on Thursday evenings during the summer. Bowls is a great game to play and provides a competitive sport along with gentle exercise and many new friends.

The Bowling Club also offers a full range of activities both sporting and social. There are 2 snooker tables, an art club, a walking club, yoga sessions, a very cheap bar and lots of social activities for all your friends. Hoping to see you in the future Stuart Wood.

If you have local news to report or know a local organisation that we could write about, please give us a call or drop an email to the address on page 2.



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You're never too old for physio

There are nearly 14.7 million people in the UK over the age of 60, which means there are now more people aged 60 and above than there are under 18. With this in mind it is more important than ever to help to keep older people as active and well as possible. Physiotherapy specifically dedicated to older peoples' physical problems is very beneficial in helping to improve mobility, confidence, strength and balance and in reducing the risk of falling.

Falling is not specifically caused by getting older, but there are elements of ageing that clearly don't help. There are definite ways to reduce your risk of falling. Taking advice from Physiotherapists on specific balance exercises, assessment of the home environment and use of correct equipment where necessary are all important.

If a fall does occur then one of the unfortunate effects can be a broken bone, the most common being the hip or the wrist. Physiotherapy treatment is crucial in helping to get the joints moving again and build up the strength in the surrounding muscles. Of huge importance is the recovery of confidence with mobility after having a fall. Anxiety is understandably common following a fall, and physiotherapy can help recover confidence with one to one mobility practice, individually tailored exercise programmes, time, patience and support.

Another situation that is helped by physiotherapy is after joint replacement surgery. Joints are swollen and stiff for some time following surgery. Physiotherapy helps recover joint range of movement, muscle strength, reduces swelling and scar tissue formation and helps regain independence quicker. Likewise for people who have suffered a stroke, physiotherapy will help achieve the best outcome for the patient by working on their muscle tone, control and gait and incorporating functional

goals into their treatment programme.

There is a certain amount of community physiotherapy available on the NHS but this can unfortunately be quite short lived due to the pressures on the services. There are now specialist local physiotherapy services that help to fill in the gaps that the NHS cannot accommodate. People can achieve so much more than 'functional' if they take the opportunity. We need to ensure that the older people in our community are helped to regain, maintain and improve their strength and mobility. Everyone deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential and live as independent and full a life as possible.

Jennifer Turner
Best You Can Be Physiotherapy
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Real Seniors

They are the 'long-lived', the 'very oldies' and 'wisdom warriors', but a recent poll suggests the term most people (40%) aged over 85 would prefer, to be called by is 'real seniors'. The 'long lived' came second with 26 per cent and 'wisdom warriors' at 12 per cent. The 'very oldies' and 'the venerables' scored 6 per cent each. The remaining 10 per cent either did not know, or did not choose any name.

With more than 1.5 million people now in this age bracket, and with numbers expected to increase to five million by 2050, Radio 4's 'The Invisible Age' felt that a distinct name was needed to ensure they weren't ignored by wider society.

Fire drill

I was at the local pensioner day centre today and failed a health and safety course that was put on for us oldies. One of the questions was: "In the event of a fire, what steps would you take?" Clearly, "great big ones" was the wrong answer.

TOADS production

TOADS May production will be a "spooky" comedy, written by Doris Hilliard, and entitled "The Haunting of Harold" !!

This promises to be a very entertaining play and will be directed by Beverly Clubley. Some of the older members of our audience may remember Beverly from several years back when she was an active actress and director with the Society. She "retired" from TOADS seven years ago to pursue her career in education, but has now returned to join our ranks once more. Welcome back Beverly!

Once again, we are lucky enough to have two more new members who are treading the boards with TOADS for the first time in this production. Welcome Alex and Michael!

The dates of the play are Wednesday 13th May to Friday 15th May at 7.30pm, and Saturday 16th May at 2.30pm. Please come along and support us, your very own local am-dram society.

The venue is as usual St John's Hall, Abbeydale Road South. Please call 0114 2351206 to reserve your ticket or contact any TOADS member – we look forward to seeing you there.

As always, if you are interested in treading the boards or helping out backstage, why not pop down to the Guild Room at St John's Hall any Tuesday at 7.30pm. Or contact me, Anne Bettridge, on 01246 460318, or any TOADS member. Or visit our web-site www.toadsdrama.co.uk

Age and the NHS

(from a letter to "The Independent")

There has been much talk about the NHS saving money by concentrating on prevention rather than cure. This cannot work and is brought about by the lazy use of language.

Preventative medicine is clearly a very good idea. Childhood vaccinations and cancer screening work very well. They do not however, save lives. They prolong lives.

The long term effect of the superb service from the NHS is that we have an ageing population, with record numbers in their 80s, 90s and even 100s. So it is disingenuous to pretend that preventative medicine saves money. It creates ever increasing numbers of older people on whom, quite rightly, large sums of money must be spent to meet their medical needs.

Earth Hour

World Wildlife Fund's Earth Hour 2015 will be on Saturday 28 March, 8.30pm.

Some of the UK's biggest landmarks, including Big Ben and Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace and Edinburgh Castle have already confirmed they'll be switching off! Will you be ?



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Wildlife Watch



Sheffield & Rotherham

Ecclesall Woods Wildlife Watch Group takes place on Saturdays once a month 10am to 12 noon for 6 to 13 year olds (under 8s must be accompanied by a responsible adult)

Upcoming sessions in 2015

- 7th February
- 7th March
- 18th April
- 16th May
- 13th June

Suggested donation of £2 per child



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Email: Isabel.Shephard@sheffield.gov.uk

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Bradway Birds

The birds of prey you can see within five miles of Bradway offer a neat illustration of the features they share that make them successful hunters; and also, in contrast, of the differences between them that allow raptors to hunt such a range of prey in a variety of environments, a range that would not be possible if all the species followed an identical design. They also represent the mix of fortunes of raptors nationally.

Take that “love-hate” bird, the sparrowhawk, which is found all over Sheffield and The Peak, and is frequently seen locally, for it is a local breeder. Its eyes are so obvious and striking, and all the hawk/eagle group have far more nerve endings in their eyes than we do. They can't see any further than we can, but see in much more acute detail, in the range of three to eight times. Small prey are much clearer to them than to us. Their night vision is no better than ours, and to avoid collision damage, they retire well before dusk.

Flight powers are superb but adapted to their habits. Longish but broad wings with rounded tips, and a long tail, give great acceleration and splendid twisting and turning. Sparrowhawks like cluttered environments: houses, trees, shrubs, hedges, allowing them to catch by surprise. They cannot chase prey down over open country, as peregrines do, or soar high above as eagles and vultures can. They will hover over a field, but look cumbersome and heavy doing so.

Talons are common to all raptors. A Sparrowhawk's are long and fine to pierce the trunk of small prey and so avoid damage caused by a struggle. They have thin legs, not powerful crushers as eagles have. And of course the beak is pointed and hooked, but quite dainty. The bird plucks meat with it, but does not use it to kill, as a peregrine will.



The Red Kite once scavenged in every town and city in Tudor England.



Nationally and regionally, the breeding population is up by 250% since the 1970's, when agricultural DDT in their prey accumulated in them. This made them lay paper thin egg shells that broke and failed to hatch. Numbers are now stable and probably at capacity.

Peregrine numbers have the same recent history as the sparrowhawk's, and UK pairs are the highest that have been for centuries, at around 1,400. Mentioning peregrine, in a local paper? Aren't they birds of wild western crags and northern fastnesses?

They were, but now you can see them in Dovedale, the headwaters of the Upper Derwent, and in the city centre! A pair successfully breeds there nowadays, and they used to favour the Tinsley viaduct cooling towers. Urban feral pigeons go down very nicely and they even feed moorhens to their young.

The bird has heavy flight muscles, short pointed wings and a short narrow tail. It can't catch small birds in gardens, hopping over hedges or nipping behind houses and sheds. It can rise high and power down in a steep dive, sometimes knocking their preys' head off. The beak is much more powerful, with matching upper and lower notches which can sever the spine at the neck, if such a move is needed.

By having these different bodies and behaviours, the falcon and the hawk catch more of the total prey available.

In the 1970's, Britain's only Red Kites lived in mid Wales. There were only five or so of a species that once scavenged in every town and city in Tudor England and these five were protected and fed by a friendly farmer. The chance of seeing one in Sheffield air space was zero. Introductions of Spanish and Scandinavian birds have led to a kite boom; now at around 3000 pairs, no

further foreign birds are needed. They breed in North Yorkshire and the Midlands, but not in Sheffield as yet. However, there are dozens of sightings a year, as juveniles leave home territories to make their own.

We saw one over Everard Avenue on December 23rd and of course, so did the crows, which gave it their full attention. Those who disapprove of the latter tribe will be glad to learn that kites sometimes feed crows and magpies to their young.

Long wings and a long forked tail, with a light body and no great barrel chest, fit the bird's floating flight, gliding or soaring to spot prey or carrion before quietly dropping onto it. This is a bird that is bound to increase in our area, and a fine chestnut sight it is if the sun catches it and it flexes its forked tail to change direction. It's the equal largest bird you will see in our local sky, equal with the heron, but the two cannot be confused.

Kestrels used to be our commonest raptors, a pointed-wing member of the falcon family. Kestrels are much less urbanised than sparrowhawks, requiring open space where hovering will reveal the prey of small birds, rodents and even large beetles. A far better hoverer than hawks, it will also still-hunt from posts and poles. They live just to the west of our built up area, but occasionally appear over Bradway, usually flying rather than hovering.

Sad to say, kestrels are on the decline nationally, by a third in thirty years, though by only a 10th in our region. More intense farming is likely to be one reason, but when the research is in, I wouldn't be surprised to find that the rapidly increasing buzzard is at unintended fault. Once another denizen only of hill and moor, the buzzard is now Britain's commonest raptor and it feeds on much the same species as the kestrel. However being bigger and stronger it also eats rats that can't be eaten by kestrels. Hardly anything increases without causing something else to decrease.

With its broad wings, feathered wing tips and lazily circling flight, buzzards are like small eagles. Calling and chasing crows will certainly let you know if one is near-by! Incidentally, the kestrel is thought to be the world's most numerous bird of prey.

A dramatic small falcon is the hobby. With white cheeks and a red moustache, it resembles a small peregrine. Until recently, it was restricted to the south-east, but has quadrupled its range since 1980, and increased by 100s of per cent in numbers. It migrates each autumn to tropical Africa, but now breeds in the Peak and South Yorkshire. Hobbies are superb flyers, fast and agile, able to catch dragon flies, swallows and swifts, all handy flyers themselves. Where to find them? They breed near Strines, the moorland edges between here and Hathersage, Totley Bents and White Edge near The Grouse Inn at Longshaw.

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This well-known local landmark is the last survivor of four railway signal boxes in the Dore area. There are plans afoot to extend its life after closure. It sits on the Hope Valley line between Grove Road and Totley Brook Road.

As the railway around Dore changed during the 1960s, the signal boxes at Dore Station, Dore West Junction and Dore South Junction closed and were demolished. There was no longer a need for them as Dore station had become unstaffed, main line services ceased to call there and the layout of lines and points was simplified. Bear in mind that Dore and Totley station once had four platforms. There was also a five track carriage siding to the north of the station which was used to store carriages for extra trains at peak periods: this area has now been totally reclaimed by nature.

Incidentally, if you stand on the footbridge by the signal box and look towards Sheffield you will see three "countdown markers" with red diagonal stripes at 100 metre intervals. These are to show train drivers the distance before the stop signal before they enter the stretch of curved single line by Poynton Wood through Dore and Totley station.

Totley Tunnel East box in railway terms is a Midland Railway Type 2B signal box. It was built in 1893 and has twelve signal and point levers mounted in a cast iron "tumbler" locking frame. Levers are painted in red, yellow, black and white to show their particular function. The black-painted frame stands out from the floor and makes the levers easier for the signaller to pull. This was especially so in the old days when pulling a lever meant getting many heavy yards of signal wire or metal point rodding to work properly to move the signal or points correctly. In extremes of hot and cold weather signal wires expanded and contracted so they had to be adjusted either to slacken or tighten them.

Totley Tunnel East signal box

The "tumbler" part of the description refers to the mechanical equipment which ensures that levers, points and signals controlled from the box are

equipment and there was usually a smell of black lead, floor polish and metal polish in the air.

In days of old, the box relied on an impressive range of polished wood and brass block signal instruments with dials and block bells which rang with codes to describe particular trains. The instruments and bells were mounted on the "block shelf". The block shelf still exists but now it holds more modern electronic equipment and an illuminated diagram showing the position of trains on the lines controlled from the box. These are between Grindleford through Totley Tunnel to beyond Dore and Totley station and round the Dore curve through the short Dore Tunnel to join the main line to Chesterfield and beyond.

Wherever you are on the railway, the lines are usually described as the "Up" and "Down" lines. In our case, the "Down" direction is towards Manchester and the "Up" direction is towards Sheffield. The single line through Dore Tunnel is both "Up" and "Down"!

Signalling today's railway is being revolutionised with the introduction of about a dozen Rail Operating Centres (ROCs) which will in time signal all of Britain's railways. Signal boxes

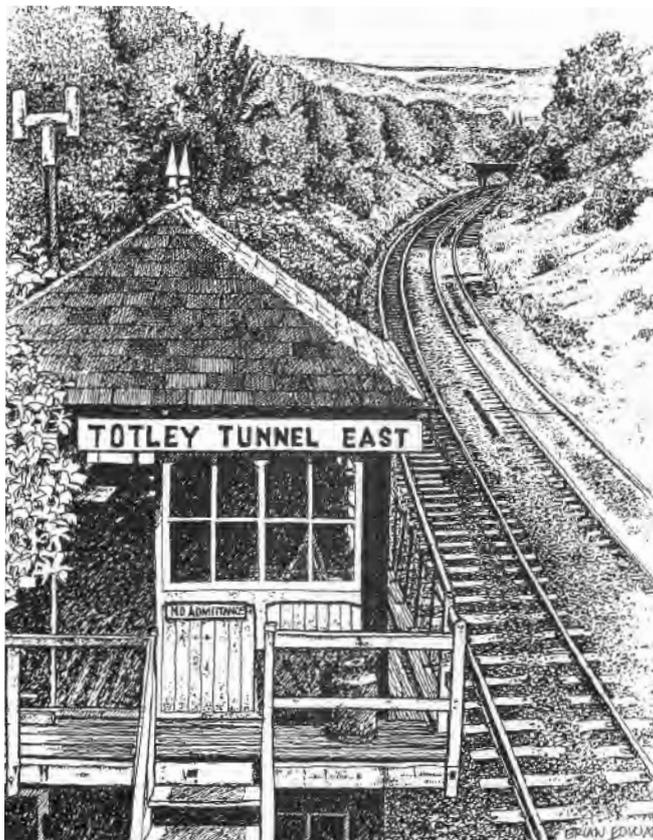
started to be used in the 1860s and by 1900 there were 13,000 of them. By 1978 there were 2,400 and the figure fell to 800 in 2013, 500 of these are so-called "mechanical" boxes like ours.

Totley Tunnel East is expected to close within the next eight years as a result of the improvements and re-signalling of the Hope Valley line. Our signals will then be controlled from Derby and those on the Grindleford side of the tunnel from Manchester. At this point the box will become redundant and in normal circumstances would be stripped and demolished.

It is not a listed building so there is no pressure to retain it. It does, though, feature in an English Heritage booklet about railway signal boxes where it is pictured before and after renovation. However, there is considerable community interest in Dore and Totley to negotiate with Network Rail to keep the box as a beneficial community resource.

The Friends of Dore and Totley Station (FODATS) have already approached Network Rail to log their interest in a new future for our signal box. Let's hope there's enough local "leverage" to make it happen.

If you support this aim and wish to be kept in touch with progress then please contact FODATS (Dawn Biram at dawn.biram@btinternet.com or by phone on 0114 235 6907 or Mike Peart by email at m.peart1@gmail.com or on 0114 236 8100).



Drawing by Brian Edwards

"locked" until they are released. This makes certain that conflicting train movements are impossible and that trains are spaced apart, don't meet head-on or end up on the wrong line. It also ensures that when the signal boxes on either side ask if a train can be allowed through, once permission is given the locks are released so that the levers work. They also have to be pulled in a particular order. Any old order won't do and traditionally signallers always used a duster to grasp the shiny steel handles of the levers. There was always pride taken in the cleanliness of the box and its

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Tax efficient saving with an ISA or pension

Many of our clients will be aware of the tax advantages that can come from using an ISA or a pension to save for your future. If you are not currently a client however, or are unfamiliar with the tax benefits available, then it is worth briefly recapping just what you could be missing out on!

Both pensions and ISAs offer various ways to reduce the amount you pay in tax. Though there are many different types of pension – and two different types of ISA – the main difference between the two is broadly that, with a pension, you are typically locked in to saving for longer, whilst with an ISA you could access your money whenever you wanted to, though this may affect the returns you generate.

Deciding on which one is right for you or whether, as many clients do, that you would like to pursue both options, is a matter for each individual's financial planning. If you are saving for an income in retirement, for example, then typically a pension would normally be appropriate. If you are perhaps planning on a large purchase in your 50s then it could be that an ISA, along with other more sophisticated financial planning strategies, can help you to achieve that.

The tax benefits of both savings options can be significant and are worth considering when deciding on your financial plan. ISAs present the promise that, in most cases, you pay nothing on any income you withdraw from your ISA account. The money you put in will more than likely have been subject to income tax already, so rather than taxing the money twice, ISAs allow you to report a gain, without incurring another tax bill. Depending on how and when the money is invested, and how long it is invested for, the gains from ISAs can potentially be sizeable, so the fact that there is no tax to pay can form significant extra income.

Pensions, meanwhile, save on tax at source. By paying in to a pension, you do not need to pay income tax on the sum submitted to your pension savings, as you do with the rest of your income. When you retire and gain access to your

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pension, you can take 25% of it tax free and then pay a rate of income tax on anything else you withdraw from your pension pot. If this amount lands you in a lower tax band than you had when you were working, then you could make a further tax saving here.

When it comes to deciding on how to leave your inheritance too, there is also a decision to make on how you save and pass on your wealth. More pensions than ever will now avoid the so-called 'death tax', which saw some pensions taxed at 55% before they were passed on to beneficiaries. This potentially makes pensions a very good option for passing on wealth, as ISAs form part of your estate for Inheritance Tax purposes, whilst pensions do not. If your estate is worth more than £325,000 on death, anything above this amount is taxed at 40%.

As you can probably tell from the above, careful individual financial planning can really help to make sense of when ISAs and pensions can be most beneficial for you and your family. There's little doubt, though, that as part of a properly conceived financial plan, both could help to provide a real boost to your savings, helping you out in both the short, medium and long term.

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Bradway Bodger

A Shock for the Bodger!

After all the stress of getting the kitchen replaced last summer, it was a while before I got around to finishing the decorating. The main element of this was the tiling. As might be expected, we spent weeks dithering around trying to decide which tiles to get. A particular problem was that it's virtually impossible to get hold of tiles with a glazed edge anymore. That's because all the old British tile manufacturers who used to produce tiles of that kind have long since gone out of business due to stiff competition from abroad. Nowadays, you have to make do with an edging strip instead. But they are not much to my taste, so instead we opted for some small stone mosaics that have a natural edging to them.

But when I say small, I mean small. They were not much more than 2cm square, despite being about 1cm thick. This presented me with the problem of what to do at external corners. I was reluctant to have to cut the tiles, partly because of the difficulty of doing that, but mainly because it would result in having two joints roughly very close together, which I thought would look clumsy. The main challenge was the window sills. I decided to get round the problem by using some old tiles that were kicking about in the garage to raise the level of the sills by whatever it took to finish with a full tile.

Despite all this, some cutting was still needed, so my next worry was how to do this with such small tiles. The last time I did some tiling, I used the old "glass cutter plus matchstick" technique. Clearly this wouldn't work with little bits of stone. But then my son came to my rescue by lending me his electric tile cutter which made light work of the problem. The wonders of modern technology!

Local Sheffield Councillors Dore and Totley Ward

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6-7 pm in Totley Library

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Simon.clement-
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richard.shaw@sheffield.gov.uk

The tiles went on easily enough, although the adjusted level of one of the window sills still wasn't quite right and I had to use a thicker layer of adhesive than normal. Annoyingly, this shrank when it dried leaving the window sill not quite as flat as it should have been, but hopefully it won't be too noticeable.

Then came the grouting. I'd bought a 5kg bag of grout that needed mixing with a litre of water and using within about half an hour. Realising I'd no chance of achieving this, I carefully weighed out half the powder and added just half a litre of water, still worrying that I wouldn't be able to apply it all in time. The mixture seemed fairly sloppy, but being the first mix, I'd no feel for whether it was the correct consistency. It seemed to go on OK, but then I came to grouting around one of the power sockets. To get a decent joint, I'd eased this a millimetre or two away from the wall then tightened it up again with spacers positioned between the socket and the wall. Needless to say, the sloppy grout had a tendency to disappear down the back of the socket, and it took a few attempts to get it right.

I'd been using a rubber float to apply the grout, but when it came to doing the splash-back behind the hob, I couldn't get the float right down to the bottom of the tiles because the gas rings were in the way. I reverted to the tried and trusted method of using my index finger.

I began to notice a slight tingling sensation. Now, I do have a bit of a problem with my nerve endings, and at first I thought the grout was stimulating the end of my finger. Good therapy, I thought. But it gradually got worse, and I then realised I was slowly being electrocuted! The wet grout had obviously come into contact with the live wire behind the power socket. I quickly finished the grouting off with a stick! Obviously, once the grout had set it no longer presented a problem, but for twenty minutes or so the whole area was live!

When I came to combine the remaining half of the grout powder with its half litre of water, it was a much stiffer mix (clearly I need some new scales!) and there was no repeat performance with the other sockets. I was relieved to emerge from the job unscathed!

The Bradway Bodger

A menace to society

Competitive sports, as currently organised, are at best pointless and possibly a menace to society.

There is no evidence that organised sport, over the last 50 years, has made the general population more fit, more svelte or more 'sporting' in their outlook. Quite the opposite: we are increasingly tied to our cars, 23% of the British population are officially obese, and seven out of ten PE teachers have witnessed violent or abusive behaviour by parents at school sports matches.

And what of international sport at the highest level, i.e. where there is the most money to be made? Of the embarrassment that is FIFA I need say nothing and the fixing of contests (in any sport) to serve gambling interests or the use of performance-enhancing drugs is beneath contempt; suffice to say that whenever country meets country on the field of play there will always be gentlemen, players and dirty rotten scoundrels.

The 2012 London Olympics have come and gone; there is no 'legacy' except the enormous expense. The Games cost us £10billion, whilst Sport England continues to report the loss of playing fields all over the country; 90% of sports clubs have had no positive response to Paralympics and UK Sport removed funding from sports where there was no prospect of our winning medals. Is this playing the game?

Wayne Rooney, whom I understand to be a footballer of some note, was paid over £10m in 2012. Good for him, I'm sure he must deserve it but policing football matches costs millions of pounds and results in thousands of arrests and banning orders. Is this an example of the values we want to set our children?

It might be of passing interest that somebody can run faster, jump higher or dive into a pool of water with greater precision than anybody else but in no way do such people deserve to be overpaid, lauded as heroes or wreathed with laurels. Those who earn their living by bat or ball are probably stronger and more agile than the rest of us but they cannot correctly be described as 'courageous' or 'dedicated'. Soldiers are courageous, doctors are dedicated - athletes are merely overage children doing what they wish to do.

Feel free to enjoy exercise and keep fit but don't expect society to stand in awe and applaud your efforts!

The records set by so-called champions could doubtless be equalled by hundreds of other people if they too gave up their gainful employment and devoted all their time and effort to sport.

If you don't play, stand and shout on the touchline or at the ringside if you must, we all have a right to enjoy ourselves but remember that you are participating in a tribal ritual, not something great and glorious.

Robert Smith



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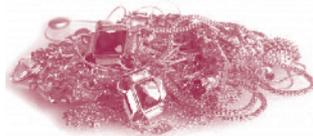
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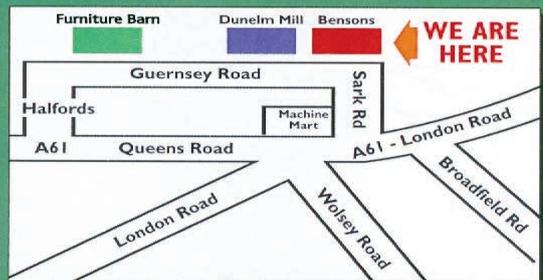
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Take a Break

Time for a Staycation?

Having left the travel industry in 2014 you may think that would affect my wanderlust, alas no! In fact it has broadened my horizons and made me look at travel in a more dynamic way, using independent advisors and meeting new people initially via their blogs and twice last year in person ... and I'm still here to tell the tale! So, 2014 was still an amazing year with plenty of vacation time spend travelling the world - hurrah!

However, I still like to take advantage of sometime in the UK and in October we headed 'down south' for a couple of nights in Devon before moving on to Cornwall.

With 2 nights in our vacation ownership, Woodford Bridge Country



Club, it was the perfect base to explore the area. Our first stop was the seafront at Westward Ho! A 30 minute drive from our countryside haven. We researched parking and found free street parking a little out of town, but within an easy walk to the seafront promenade and coastal path, get in! With our backpack full of 'snap' for a picnic lunch along the walk we headed off.

Right from the get-go the coastal path took us via surfers and boogie boarders having fun in the thrashing waves, before finding a quaint row of traditional multi-coloured beach huts, ripe for a photo op!

It then continued along a the old railway tracks and onwards to the natural splendour of the rolling hills and cliffs along the path, then down to an amazing giant pebble ridge on the beach ... and to top it off it was t-shirt weather in October, perfection!

All too soon it was time to head to Cornwall, specifically St Ives and time with old friends. With a meandering route as near to the coast as possible we took a side trip to Port Isaac, home to various TV series, including Poldark and more recently Doc Martin. Originally a busy coastal port from the middle ages, tourism now plays a major role!

After a whistle stop tour in Port Isaac

we headed to Polzeath, one of the worlds most renowned surfing destinations. Parking again out of town you drop down to the beach area to find a multitude of water enthusiasts enjoying the rough waters. Picture perfect.

So, once settled in St Ives our first day proper took us to Newlyn Harbour followed by a pleasant walk to Mousehole, where we took our picnic lunch and ate looking out over the Mousehole harbour before heading back and onwards to Penzance. Another great day.

Day 2 took us to Falmouth, the world's third largest natural harbour, taking a yomp around Pendennis Headland, with fantastic views across Falmouth Harbour and along the Cornish coast. Bliss!

With time for plenty of photo opportunities, I was in my element.

Onwards, our next conquest was upon us as we headed along the coastal path to Swanpool, finding a scenic picnic table for lunch.

With our final day upon us, we decided to have a pleasant walk around St Ives itself, as our friends headed back to work. From our apartment on the terrace we



Who can resist the temptation

headed down to The Malakoff with picture perfect views, before clicking away at every turn once in town. This is such a quaint place to visit and we rarely tire of meandering around.

Our final stop was St Ives Holiday rentals to drop off our keys before legging it back to the car as the heavens opened. Thankfully the weather had been more than kind to us, so we could forgive it for this parting gift. Now we had a long drive home ahead of us! Boo!

Lindsay Allen

Blue light damage

(MKO) has highlighted ways to reduce the damaging effects on eyes and general health of excessive exposure to the blue light which emits from the sun and artificial light sources.

Research has shown that exposure too much blue light, particularly in the evening, from LEDs, computers, mobile phones, some TVs, fluorescent tubes and low energy light bulbs can cause migraines, sleeping problems and slight depression. Prolonged exposure can also contribute to the formation of cataracts and macular degeneration (MD), both of which are prevalent in older people.

There are two possible solutions. One is to wear blue light blocking spectacles. In one study people who wore them for three hours before bedtime reported major improvements in their sleep patterns and reduced the troubling after effects of cataracts operations. In the past blue blocking lenses have had to be tinted but now Martyn Kemp Opticians (MKO) can provide a clear coated lens to a patient's own spectacle prescription which blocks out blue light and UV, giving the best eye protection possible.

The alternative is to take a diet supplement called Macushield which builds up the pigment that protects the eye's macular - the part of the eye providing clear and detailed central vision. Exposure to too much blue light and UV is thought to accelerate macular degeneration. Macushield tablets are available at each MKO practice.

Advice on either of these ways to reduce the harmful effects of too much exposure to blue light is available from Martyn Kemp Opticians. Visit mko.co.uk for more information.

Relax

Since The Relaxation Den moved to Bradway last year their business has boomed. Not only have they launched a new hair and beauty salon to the area but also train new therapists into the industry

After winning 2 awards in the autumn as recognition for their efforts, The Relaxation Den is are growing further and will be launching more business opportunities in the near future to help other local businesses in Bradway including the Business Bootcamp they hosted on January 24th.

New Year Checklist

Welcome to the latest edition of Senior Snippets: the monthly advisory column with the older members of our community in mind, brought to you by Bryn Evans, Director of Home Instead Senior Care in Sheffield.

The New Year is now in full swing and hopefully your resolutions are too. Many of you may be trying to keep active, save more money or spend more time with loved ones, but one resolution we can all make is to stay healthy and safe at home.

Your home is where you should feel most secure and now is the perfect time to carry out a few quick checks which are easy to do at the start of each New Year to ensure your homes (and you) are the safest they can be.

Here are some top tips for safeguarding you and your home:

Change the battery in all of your smoke alarms and set yourself a reminder to then check they are working properly once a week. The New Year is all about a new start, after all!

Many of you may have a safe at home. With cleaners, care staff, doctors and delivery men all potentially having the code, there are a good few people who could get to know your code through the year.

Therefore by changing the code every January, it will reduce the risk of unauthorised people getting their hands on your keys. I always say its good practice to NOT use a birth year starting

with 19 as the code, because it naturally reduces the number of combinations that someone would need to try before they might gain access.

It's always handy to have a list of any medication you take with your doctors contact details on display where someone can easily find it in case of an emergency. Perhaps by the telephone or on a notice board? Then, in the event of an emergency, this list could travel with you and provide useful information to those looking after you. Alongside this, it's also useful to keep a list of emergency contacts, including any family or friends, who might need to be contacted.

Falls are the most common accident to occur within the home; so to lessen the risk of trips and slips, make sure to get any loose carpets or rugs fixed and keep floor space clutter free.

Of course, it's important to stress that this advice shouldn't make you afraid of being in your own home. Rather, I hope it simply acts as a gentle reminder to make easy checks which can significantly reduce the risk of anything serious happening.

So, this concludes the first Senior Snippets of 2015. Whilst I already have plenty of exciting topics in store for 2015, I also welcome any suggestions for future topics from you all. All you have to do is write to me at bryn.evans@homeinstead.co.uk or by post to 6 Shirley House, 31 Psalter Lane, Sheffield, S11 8YL.

Bryn Evans

Life at Beauchief Abbey

Since the last edition, the Abbey experienced a busy December with the additional Christmas Services.

Over 140 visitors attended the Annual Christmas Eve Carol Service. Professor John Rogerson led the service which included traditional carols, readings and poems which told the Christmas Story. Visitors to the Abbey were also treated to an excellent performance of 'O Holy Night' from Soloist Rebecca Lambert.

2015 dawned a few weeks ago and spring time is just around the corner. The Abbey has started to prepare for the next busy period of Lent.

The English name Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *Lentene* meaning the time when the days lengthen. Lent in the Christian Calendar starts on Ash Wednesday for the 40 days leading to Easter. This year Ash Wednesday is on 18th February 2015.

Traditionally Lent is often known as a period of fasting and some people observe this by giving up certain foods. It's a good time to lose those extra pounds and keep fit by doing some spring cleaning!

For details of services during Lent and Easter please see the Abbey's separate advert in this edition of the Bugle or check out our web site www.beauchiefabbey.org.uk or contact info@beauchiefabbey.org.uk Everyone welcome.

Liz Jaques, Beauchief Abbey

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Beauchief Hall in 1950's

Totley History Group has recently been contacted by Reg Stones who was an under gardener at Beauchief Hall in the early 1950's, although for the last 50 years has lived in Dorset.

Reg has been recounting his memories of the house and work at that time...

The Hall was occupied by Arthur Kingsford Wilson, Chairman and joint Managing Director of Spear & Jackson Ltd, and who had been Master Cutler in 1929/30.

The gardeners saw nothing of him but Mrs Wilson, his 2nd wife, would enthusiastically discuss plans she had for the grounds with the Head Gardener, although a nod of the head as she passed was all Reg remembers of his own contact with her.

She had a lucky escape from serious injury when she failed to notice an open trap door in the darkness of the boiler room and fell down a shoot into the coke store! Heating was needed for the 80ft glasshouse where peaches, grapes and tender flowering plants were cultivated. Geraniums grew all year round and reached the roof some 10-12ft high. Sadly this no longer exists.

Fred Allen [head gardener] and his wife lived in the old Pegge House with clock and bell turret. Daughters Isobel and Freda lived there too, Freda working as a hairdresser in Sheffield.

There were three gardeners, Fred Allen, 2nd gardener Eric Pashley from Woodseats, and Reg. Eric Pashley was later replaced by Trevor Gibbs who came from Middlewood.

A number of other staff worked the estate including Brian Kirby from Greenhill who was the cow man, and a Mr. Vaughan who managed the trees. Bill Roach, an Irishman, was handyman at both the house and the firm.



Beauchief Hall, built in 1671 by Edward Pegge of the Ashbourne family

Staff for the Hall included a butler whose wife was the cook.

There were two 'tweenies', housemaids who had rooms in the attic. Reg thinks they came from Bolsover and were probably daughters of a miner. Staff amounted to around eight in all, but as Reg says 'A lot fewer than the twenty or so employed in the earlier years of the century', which reflected the social changes taking place across Britain.

A plan to restore the gardens had begun just prior to Reg being employed and borders, ponds and paths were cleared, with seating added for people to use when watching the newly acquired fish in the carp pond. The garden was opened to the public in the spring of 1951 during the daffodil season, raising funds for the RSPCA.

The Hall's two drives had been heavily gated and a Mr Watson lived in the gatehouse on Hemper Lane. Bent with age and always wearing a long mac, Reg remembers him trudging up and down the drive to do odd jobs for another landowner at the bottom of the hill.

Fifty acres of land were attached to the hall at that time, all of it grazed or producing hay. Basic powder slag was used as a fertilizer, a waste product from the steel-making industry.

The deer park had originally been to the left of the house surrounded by a stone wall some 7 ft high, although no deer were kept at that time.

Cattle were held prior to going for slaughter, having been raised on land owned by the family in Lincolnshire. The breed they favoured was the Lincolnshire Red Poll a cross between the Lincolnshire Red and Aberdeen Angus. The animals went to Sheffield Abattoir via a Mr Lee [butcher] the agent of a very elderly Mr Swindon of Crooksmoor Rd who rented land from Mr Wilson.

Mr Swindon was taken to the farm in Lincolnshire in a large Humber Snipe driven by his son-in-law, Mr Lee, and the farmer from there also visited the hall. They were having a problem with the bull that was proving to be aggressive!

One stormy night the cattle were alarmed by thunder and broke through fencing, eventually ending up in the gardens of houses on Twentywell Lane. Mr Swindon was far from happy the following morning, but neither, I imagine, were the homeowners!

Cattle over-wintering at the Hall were kept indoors in the buildings originally erected by Pegge in the mid seventeenth century. They had deep beds of straw, which produced warmth as it decomposed when mixed with their dung. Hay and grain were stored in a loft, its little windows glazed with 'bubble glass'.

They kept a grey Shire horse that went to Holmesfield for shoeing, a couple of Sussex saddleback pigs that went for slaughter once they reached 20 stone, and a small flock of bantams...getting too close to the cockerel would result in him having a go at you with the spurs on the back of his legs! Also some Rhode Island Red hens were kept near to the back door, probably handy for the kitchen scraps.

Reg noticed the wild life too... tawny owls nesting in the woods, a colony of rooks, redstart in the walls, and red squirrels in the yew tree in the veg. garden. A feral cat helped keep the rat population down and foxes roamed the grounds in daylight as well as under cover of darkness. The Wilson's gamekeeper from Horsleygate would visit to try to rid the Hall of the foxes and wood pigeon.

In the spring a mass of marching toads were to be seen heading for their spawning pond behind the Abbey, although they had none at the Hall. Even then, when traffic was so much lighter, some failed to cross the lane safely.

Rabbits were snared against the south wall of the rookery wood, Reg taking them home for his mother's cooking pot. A cat that had her litter away from the house was seen catching rabbits to feed them and the order went out to drown the kittens.

There were two wells, one in the yard

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and another on the drive. The latter was said to have had a gas driven motor at one time which pumped the water to tanks at the top of the house. Reg wonders if these could be the origin of the St Quentin's Well legend that gave Twentywell Lane its name.

A spring feeds the ponds and the river flows through Gulley Wood, all making it the ideal place to establish the Abbey nearly 1000 years ago. There was a bothy dug behind the 2nd pond to retreat to for refreshments in bad weather, a low, flat-roofed space just 8ft by 5ft but thankfully above the water table...just!

Alongside the house a reinforced bunker had been dug, presumably in WW2, for the protection of family and staff and there was an old domed roofed and stone lined icehouse some 15 ft deep, accessed by a long iron ladder.

There were stories of previous residents...the stockman in the 1930's who died after being crushed by a cow in a stall and the suicide at the house in 1927 of William Wilson who had rented the Hall for over thirty years before buying it in 1923. He was the father in law of Marjorie Elsie Milner who had grown up in Totley Hall and had married his son, another William, in 1909. They were the branch of the Wilson family who owned the Snuff Mill at Sharrow and lived at Horsleygate.

It was said that Arthur Kingsford Wilson had owned a Rolls Royce before WW2, too big for the garage it was kept



Reg Stones

in one of the barns.

Reg found a few remnants hidden away under the steps to the hayloft. He wonders if German POW's from Norton Camp at Meadowhead had once laboured there...if all the Fraus lived over

the sea, what a good swimmer Fritz would be... a note he found.

Reg's time at the Hall was more than 60 years ago, his wage was £1-10s-0d per week of which £1 was given straight to his Mum. He also worked for Mr Swindon when Brian Kirby left, taking on extra responsibilities and learning skills such as stone-walling, thatching haystacks etc. but this period of Reg's life ended when he was called up to do his National Service in 1953.

Arthur Kingsford Wilson died the same year and the Hall was eventually sold to De La Salle Catholic School in 1958.

Pauline Burnett
Totley History Group

The Bugle is always interested to hear about local characters from the past. Just drop us a line to the address on page 2.

Language courses

Going on holiday this year? Want to speak the native language? Come and taste the holiday lingo or teach yourself one of 19 languages!

From Thursday 23rd April for 6 weeks Meadowhead Language College is offering Holiday Tasters classes in French, Spanish & Italian. These fun courses will arm you with the essential language skills for holidays abroad. Topics covered include: basic greetings, food & drink, numbers and telling the time, travel arrangements, asking for directions, shopping and prices. Family groups are also welcome and to encourage this, one free child's place is offered with every paying adult!

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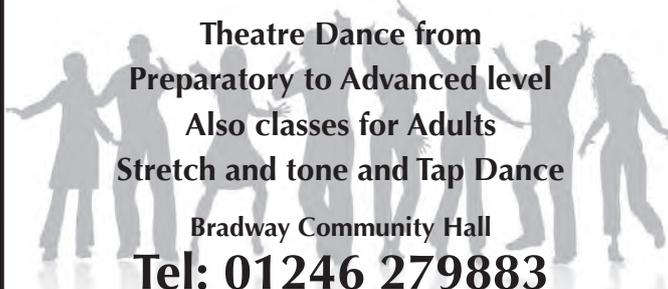
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Searching for Stars

Charity Support Dogs are searching for stars in the South Yorkshire and Derbyshire area to help transform the lives of children and adults affected by autism, epilepsy and physical disabilities.

Based in Sheffield, they train assistance dogs to help transform the lives of adults with physical disabilities, epilepsy and children with autism. For the past 22 years Support Dogs have worked tirelessly to partner over 200 adults and children with their assistance dogs and 2014 is no exception with an amazing 9 new partnerships made.

With reward based training these incredible dogs learn to help those in need by learning a range of skills such as loading and unloading a washing machines, opening and closing doors and fetching named items. The charity is the only registered organisation in the UK to train dogs to give a 15-50 minute advanced warning of seizures to people with epilepsy.

As Support Dogs do not have a breeding centre the charity recruits dogs from a number of sources. This includes rescue centres and pet dogs that need to be rehomed.

Support Dogs are asking if anyone has or knows of a pet dog that needs to be rehomed and is within 2 hour drive from Sheffield, to consider Support Dogs, giving unwanted dogs a second chance and a loving home.

They are currently looking for dogs aged between 10 months and 3 years, who are confident with people and other dogs. All dogs will be assessed by the charity and please note some breeds may not be suitable for our programme.

If you would like to help please contact Support Dogs 0114 261 7800 or email info@supportdogs.org.uk

Lauren Sweeney, Trust Fundraiser



Charity Support Dogs held a special Graduation and Awards Ceremony before Christmas. One partnership attending was Bobbie and Poppy from Sheffield.

A life changing accident on holiday and four unsuccessful operations left Bobbie Hubbard-Marks paraplegic. Previously a nurse in the armed forces Bobbie was keen to gain back her independence and that came in the surprising shape of her beloved pet Poppy. Poppy, a black Labrador, has been trained as a Disability Assistance Dog for Bobbie, helping with everyday tasks that we may take for granted. But the most important thing that Poppy provides is emotional support for Bobbie when the pain becomes unbearable.

My dog ate my homework

My dog ate my homework.
That mischievous pup
got hold of my homework
and gobbled it up.

My dog ate my homework.
It's gonna be late.
I guess that the teacher
will just have to wait.

My dog ate my homework.
He swallowed it whole.
I shouldn't have mixed it
with food in his bowl.

Kenn Nesbitt

Fundraising event

An evening with Alan Biggs at Totley Library. Monday 20th April at 7.30pm.

Well-known Sheffield sports journalist and broadcaster Alan Biggs, will be speaking, and answering your questions, about football and his career over many years.

Alan was sports editor of Radio Hallam, and became a regular football reporter for the BBC. You may be familiar with his reports on 5 Live and Final Score. He also writes for the Daily Mail and Daily Express, and writes a weekly column for the Sheffield Telegraph. He has written three books, including 'Confessions of a Football Reporter'.

Tickets £5 (£3 concessions) on the door, in aid of the Library. Refreshments available.

Healthy cats

Keeping your older cat fit and healthy. Thanks to better diets and care in general, more and more of our cats are living to an advanced age and it is now not at all unusual to see cats in their twenties.

As cats grow older, the key to keeping them healthy is early detection of any problems. Whilst a number of conditions are common in older cats, They are extremely adept at masking any signs of illness!

So what are the signs to look out for? There are several things that you can keep an eye on and these include:

Appetite - any increase or decrease?

An increased appetite is sadly not necessarily a sign of good health – it can for example be hyperthyroidism a relatively common thyroid condition. Any decrease from normal may suggest a problem as well.

Thirst - any increase? Increased drinking may be seen with a variety of conditions including chronic kidney disease, hyperthyroidism and diabetes mellitus.

Eating? For example, dropping food when eating, or only chewing on one side, can be signs of dental problems.

These are only three of the more obvious signs to look out for! If your cat is showing any of these signs, please bring them in for a check-up. The good news is that identifying problems at an early stage gives us the best chance of successfully treating (or at least slowing the progression of) many conditions.

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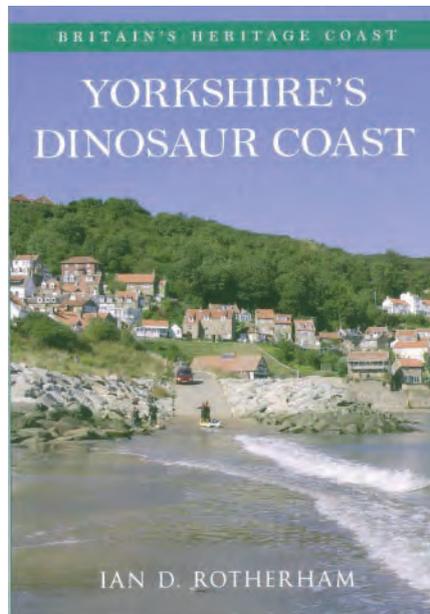
Most of us worry that our brain, particularly our memory, does not work as well as it used to. In *'Our Ageing Brain'*, Dutch neuroscientist André Aleman shows that although the decline in our mental capacities begins by age 20, far earlier than we think, this is not such a bad thing. In fact, the ageing brain is also an experienced brain, so that older people can be more resistant to the effects of stress, cope better with their emotions and with complex situations, and are, generally speaking, happier than their younger counterparts.

Drawing on the latest research in cognitive science, the book outlines what takes place in the brain as we age, how to recognise the early symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, and how to distinguish fact from fiction when it comes to ways of slowing down the ageing process. It concludes with the seven most important things we can each do to keep our brains healthy. So, learning a language or how to play a musical instrument is much better than crossword puzzles and Sudoku.

This is a refreshing, informative, and ultimately reassuring examination of what happens to our most important organ as we grow older. Published by Scribe in paperback, 208 pages, price £12.99 ISBN: 9781922247636

When we think of the Victorians we gender up an image of industrialists and explorers on the one hand and the near slavery of work in the mills or on the land, on the other. Yet it was a period that saw the growth of leisure for the rich and the provision of parks libraries, art galleries and museums, all activities also benefiting the poor. So how did the people of the Industrial Revolution amuse themselves in their spare time? What weird and wonderful activities were invented solely for the pursuit of pleasure?

In *'Amusing the Victorians'*, author Pamela Horn explores the various activities enjoyed by the Victorians, including sport, the music hall, fashion, fairs, drink and travel. It seems after all that they had a wonderful capacity for humour, turning the woes of rent day and



domestic disputes into sources of laughter at the theatre. Published by Amberley Publishing in paperback, 416 pages, price £9.99, ISBN: 978-1445643649

'The Penguin Book of Witches' is a treasury of historical accounts of accused witches that sheds light on the reality behind the legends and helps readers to understand the seemingly inexplicable and persistent popular phenomenon of belief in witchcraft from the seventeenth century into more modern times.

From a manual for witch hunters written by King James himself in 1597, to court documents from the Salem witch trials of 1692, to newspaper coverage of a woman stoned to death on the streets of Philadelphia while the Continental Congress met.

The book brings to life stories like that of Eunice Cole, tried for attacking a teenage girl with a rock and buried with a stake through her heart; and Increase Mather, an exorcism-performing minister famed for his knowledge of witches.

Through its pages, author Katherine Howe, herself a direct descendant of two of the accused Salem witches, provides a unique insight into the darkest history of English and North American witchcraft

and the evidence that was so often believed. Published by Penguin Classics, in paperback, 294 pages price £9.99 ISBN 9780143106180

North Yorkshire boasts some of the most stunning countryside and amazing seaside anywhere in England, and its history is equally dramatic. Within its pages, *'Yorkshire's Dinosaur Coast'* takes us on a journey in words and full-colour pictures along Yorkshire's Dinosaur Coast. Whitby Museum holds evidence of the great sea creatures that formerly populated this region millions of years ago. The soft shale rocks reveal and release fossils of remarkable sealife from small ammonites to giant plesiosaurs.

Discover the twentieth-century seaside resorts of Filey and Scarborough and the secret cliffs of Robin Hood's Bay. Visit the home of Dracula, the fishing villages of Staithes and Runswick Bay, and stand on the pier at Saltburn to watch the great ships that still service the area's industry.

Wildlife, history, heritage and landscape combine to make the northern coastline of Yorkshire a fascinating place to visit. This is Yorkshire at its best. Author Ian Rotherham is Professor of Environmental Geography and Reader in Tourism & Environmental Change at Sheffield Hallam University. Published by Amberley Publishing in paperback, 96 pages, price £14.99 ISBN: 9781445618050

Martyn Johnson's *'What's Tha Up To This Time?'* continues his wonderful stories about policing during the 1960s and 1970s. As with his previous two volumes, the best selling 'What's Tha Up To?' and 'What's Tha Up To Nah?', this book is written from the heart, not so much nostalgia as genuine feeling for the people, animals, places and history of Sheffield.

From naked young ladies at Wentworth Woodhouse to suspicious scrapyards and second-hand shops, shoplifters, burglars and pickpockets, Martyn takes you on an amazing journey through an almost lost world of crime and characters.

Published by Pen & Sword in paperback, 145 pages price, £12.99 ISBN: 9781473827660

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19th century Militia

Using records from the Sidney Hoffman Archive held by the Dore Village Society we can build up a picture of life in the period 1813 to 1816. It was a time of great unrest in Europe – Britain and France were at War and Napoleon's Russian Campaign had just come to an unhappy conclusion.

The policing of Dore and Totley was carried out by a Constable, and between 1813 and 1816 that role fell to firstly, George Marsden and then John Pinder. Before the 1829 Metropolitan Police Act Authorities had few resources to cope with riot, crime and disorder. County parishes and smaller market towns had Constables and the local Watch which was essentially the same system as in Tudor times. Sometimes Troops were called in to keep order. Local Militia were used to deal with local problems.

From the Records of the time the Constable paid to the Local Militia the sum of £2 and 3 shillings. The men who received this sum on 3rd June 1815 were Samuel Hopkinson of Totley, William Turner, Jacob Green, James Broom and Henry Wilkinson. They would all have volunteered and although there might be pressure to join the Regular Army this was not the rule, even though they were given basic Army training at an Army depot.

Once that was completed they returned to civilian life. At regular intervals they



An example of a Militia cockade of the period which would be similar to those issued to the Dore Militia. A cockade is a knot of ribbons, or other circular- or oval-shaped symbol of distinctive colours which is usually worn on a hat.

reported for military training usually on a weapons range and there was an annual 2 week training camp. They received military pay and a financial retainer, (a most useful addition to their civilian wage.) Many of the Militia saw the annual camp as a paid holiday, and it was a very appealing prospect to agricultural labourers, colliers and the like who could leave their job and pick it up again.

From the Accounts submitted for Militia expenses the men were examined by a Doctor at a cost of 5 shillings; for going under the Standard 2s; Swearing in 5s; cost of Cockades 10s; and most importantly, expenses for Dinner and Ale 18s 8d.

Dorne Coggins

From the press ...

Commenting on a complaint from a Mr. Arthur Purdey about a large gas bill, a spokesman for North West Gas said, "We agree it was rather high for the time of year. It's possible Mr. Purdey has been charged for the gas used up during the explosion that destroyed his house."

(The Daily Telegraph)

Countryside lovers

Sheffield is the best city in the UK for those who love the outdoors.

With 71 per cent of the overall vote, Sheffield beat cities including London, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds and Bristol in a BBC Countryfile online poll to find the Best UK City for Countryside Lovers.

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Challenging a Perception

What do you know about the freemasons or freemasonry? Did you know there are two Masonic Centres in Sheffield one based at Tipton Hall on Shore Lane and one at the bottom of Dore Road?

Freemasonry means different things to each of those who join. For some, it's about making new friends and acquaintances. For others it's about being able to help deserving causes – making a contribution to family and society. But for most, it is an enjoyable hobby that encompasses the previous perspectives.

Freemasonry is a worldwide fraternity, a brotherhood (commonly but erroneously referred to as a secret society). It is one of the world's oldest, largest, non-religious, non-political, fraternal and charitable organisations. It teaches self-knowledge through participation in a progression of ceremonies.

Members are expected to be of high moral standing and encouraged to publicly speak openly about Freemasonry. There is nothing incompatible with civil, moral or spiritual values. Members are taught principles (moral lessons and self-knowledge) by a series of ritual dramas – a progression of allegorical two-part plays performed within each Lodge – that follow ancient forms, using stonemasons' customs and tools as allegorical (representational) guides.

It instils a moral and ethical approach to life with values based on integrity, kindness, honesty and fairness. Members are urged to regard the interests of the family as paramount but importantly it also teaches concern for people, care for the less fortunate and help for those in need.

From its earliest days, Freemasonry has been concerned with the care of orphans, the sick and the aged, with large (normally unpublished) sums donated to national and local charities. It is said to be the highest donor being second only to the national lottery. All the monies being raised internally from its members.

In the UK Freemasonry is governed by a Central Body "The United Grand Lodge of England", with headquarters in London, based in a magnificent, palatial historical building (open to the Public) on Great Queen Street London WC213 5AZ – well worth a visit.

The brotherhood is broken down into Geographical areas. Believe it or not "Dore" Freemasonry is in the catchment area of the "Provincial Grand Lodge Derbyshire" (before constitutional boundary changes it was originally a part of Derbyshire – not as is now, in Sheffield) whilst Tipton is in the area of the "Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire West Riding".

There are over a quarter of a million Freemasons under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England with additional Grand Lodges in Ireland and Scotland who have a further combined



The Masonic Lodge building opposite Dore & Totley Station



The Masonic Lodge room



The function suite (available for private hire)

total of about 150,000 members. Worldwide, there are between five to six million Freemasons.

Freemasonry has been practised at the bottom of Dore Road for well over 100 years. It is considered as one of the larger of the Seventeen Derbyshire Masonic centres that extend from Burton on Trent in the South to Long Eaton in the East, with Derby, Chesterfield and Alfreton, being more centrally positioned, with Ashbourne and Glossop in the West and Dore being considered as in the North.

The Masonic site at Dore exists in two parts. A row of grade two listed cottages that front Abbeydale Road South (opposite the Railway Station) that contains the Masonic Lodge room. To the rear there is a function suite (available for private hire) with a private car park accessed by Dore Road.

The site was not originally a Masonic Centre as would perhaps be regularly thought. It was constructed in 1877 by Sheffield and Rotherham Licensed Victuallers Association as an "Asylum for poor and distressed members of that Society".

The Licensed Victuallers moved to Dore from their original site in the Grimesthorpe area of Sheffield due to the exponential growth of Industry in that area. Their original site at Grimesthorpe had once been green fields of rolling countryside and Woodlands. The foundation stone at Dore was laid by the Rt Honourable Lord Edward Cavendish.

Interestingly some five weeks after the laying of that stone a newly constructed Masonic Building (as part of Yorkshire) was opened in Surrey Street by Colonial Sir Henry Edwards Bart. It still stands today opposite the Central Library. Membership from there however later moved to Tipton Hall with the Masonic Building in Surrey Street becoming a Pub. Conversely and ironically the Dore building ultimately passed from the Licensed Victuallers to be owned outright and operated as a Masonic building in 1951. A peculiar twist in fate!

There are also historical records showing that the Dore building was taken over by the British Red Cross from 1915 to 1919 and utilised as a Military Hospital during the Great War.

In the present day at Dore Masonic Hall ten individually named, separate Lodges meet, hereafter listed in the order they were formed. Chantrey, Hope Valley, Beauchief Abbey, King Egbert, Bretwalda, Round Table Lodge of Derbyshire, Sure and Steadfast, Amadeus, Dronfield and Meridian.

Members are not an elitist subversive or clandestine group – just ordinary everyday people, from all walks of life, who try to uphold and practice the Principles referred to in the introduction of the article!

People have their own reasons why they enjoy Freemasonry. The following is a sample of some of reasons given by some:

Achievement - "progressing through the various offices in the Lodge to become Worshipful Master".

Brotherhood – "making new friends and acquaintances from all walks of life, every background and age group".

Charity – "being able to contribute to deserving causes, both Masonic and non-Masonic".

Education – "learning from peers and mentors by practicing ritual and making short speeches".

Knowledge – "finding out about the history, mysteries and meanings of Freemasonry".

Self improvement – "making a contribution to your family and society".

If the characteristics describe how you lead your life or a life style you may wish to attain, Freemasonry may well be for you?

Paradoxically a recent demographic survey showed that we have very few

members living within five miles of the Hall.

If this article has sparked your interest from a historical, organisational or fraternal perspective then why not follow your inquisitiveness or intuition and make enquiries?

Freemasonry - Not a secret really
www.ugle.org.uk

Email: doremasonichall@btconnect.com
Manus Booth
Chairman Dore Masonic Hall

Cash in the Attic

Your Cash in the Attic could support St Luke's Hospice. Television antiques expert Charles Hanson will be bringing his valuation skills to Sheffield as he takes part in a special day in support of St Luke's Hospice.

The Derbyshire based star of the BBC's Antiques Road Show, Flog It, Cash in the Attic and Bargain Hunt will be heading a team of five experts hosting the Hansons Auctioneers and Valuers Valuation Day at Sheffield Cathedral on April 18.

The event will run from 10am to 5pm and although valuations are free of charge, there will be a suggested donation of at least £5 per person, with all the money raised going to Sheffield's only hospice.

"Go have a rummage in your attic and bring along your rare toys, books, Chinese and Oriental objects, decorative arts, modern art glass, furniture, jewellery, silver and collectables," said St

Luke's Community Fundraising manager Clare Robinson. "This is going to be a fantastic opportunity to find out if you're sitting on an unknown fortune and at the same time you'll be making a real difference to the lives of St Luke's patients and their families."

For more details call 0114 235 7561 - c.robinson@hospicesheffield.co.uk

Beware the camera

The speed camera van has been operating on Baslow Road, again, but this time at night! 6 pm to be precise, on Tuesday 27th January. It was testing some new equipment, and, if the results are satisfactory, offenders will be prosecuted. The camera works on both carriageways, both for vehicles travelling towards and away from it. The highest speed was 57 mph. When they did the earlier survey on 26 November, the highest speed leaving Totley was 76mph (by a car), and inbound 63mph (by a motorbike). These could of course have been emergency vehicles, as the survey was not manned.

Totley Rise Post office was busy accepting payments for fines after the November speed checks. Then 198 offences were detected in a little less than 5 hours; 64 of these were vehicles whose keepers live within the S17 postcode; over half were from surrounding postcodes (S7, S8, S11, S17, S18 and S32)

Roger Hart

Longshaw Car Park

Planning permission has been granted for a total overhaul of the National Trust car park, doubling the number of spaces and improving and widening access from the road. The car park will be closed from the end of February for about 3 months to allow work to commence, weather permitting.

Visitors are asked to make use of other parking facilities in the meantime, such as at Haywood, Wooden Pole, Surprise View or by Grindleford Station. National Trust apologise to users for the inconvenience. Full closure will allow the job to be completed as soon as possible and bring all the spaces into use by the summer.

Walking group

On Wednesday 4th March at 10 am, Robin Greetham and Michael Ibbotson will lead a walk for Holmesfield Church walking group from the Hackney House cafe in Barlow. (Please park round the corner on Wilkin Hill). We will then walk to Wilday Green, then Linacre, and then back to Hackney House where we will have (optional) lunch.

The cost of the walk is £3 and the proceeds will go to Holmesfield Church Restoration Fund. If you would like to come just turn up on the day. The walk is approximately 5 mls long. If you have any queries please phone Robin on 01246 412767.



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The Ash Tree

Author and tree expert Oliver Rackham shares his love of - and fears for - this iconic species

Ash is one of the commonest trees, from the mountains of South Wales to the glens of Scotland, the hedges of Ireland, and the railway banks of the English Midlands. Most ash trees are wildlife, like bluebells or badgers or birch trees; they look after themselves and cost nothing.

Ash is under-appreciated: it has not the glamour of birch, the mystery of lime, the ruggedness of black poplar, the antiquity of yew, the magic of rowan, or the lore and legend of oak. It is a very recognisable tree that people are fond of in a quiet way, but not one that people are usually moved to write books about.

There are nearly as many ash trees in Britain as there are people – but what does such a statement mean? Like most statistics, it is hedged about with problems of definition (how big does a little ash tree have to get before it is counted?). The internet has plenty of official figures about ash, but not knowing exactly what they mean I shall not make much use of them.

Everyone knows what an ash tree looks like. There is only one British species. Ash comes into leaf late and loses its leaves early. In summer the compound leaves (with leaflets on either side of a midrib and one leaflet at the end) in opposite pairs are highly distinctive. In autumn the leaves fall usually while still green, but may turn yellow; the bunches of flattened ash keys, each one enclosing a seed, then fall. In winter it is recognised by the thick curving twigs in opposite pairs, with fat dull-black buds.

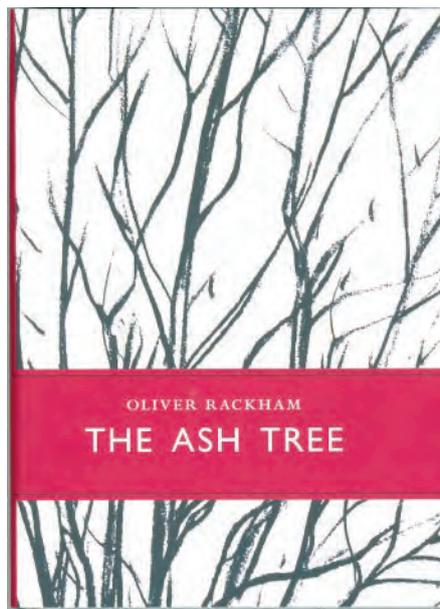
Ash bark is pale grey, but now increasingly covered with many-coloured lichens. The tree spreads widely where it has room: most old ashes have several trunks from a common base. It can be a huge tree, second only to lime as the tallest of native trees. It is one of the few trees to have a distinctive sound – the clattering of the twigs of an ashwood in a gale is unforgettable.

I was asked to write this book as a response to the first noticing of 'Ash Dieback' disease in Britain in 2012. This was seized on by the Press as a man-made disaster and a scandal that should have been avoided. Ash is a successful tree that is more than capable of taking care of itself: yet people had been planting ash trees in their millions, and importing little ash trees by the million, and inevitably introducing this inconspicuous pathogen, which supposedly was on the way to killing every ash tree in Europe.

As I shall show, on present information it would be wrong to put all the blame for Ash Disease on the nursery trade. But the disease was not an isolated event: it brought to immediate public attention something that I have been rabbiting on about for years without anyone listening. The greatest threat to the world's trees

and forests is globalisation of plant diseases: the casual way in which plants and soil are shipped and flown around the globe in commercial quantities, inevitably bringing with them diseases to which the plants at their destination have no resistance. This has been subtracting tree after tree from the world's ecosystems: if it goes on for another hundred years how much will be left?

Oak and hazel, like ash, once looked after themselves and cost nothing, but they now have lost much of their power to grow from seed – oak perhaps from the introduction of the oak mildew fungus, hazel from the deliberate introduction of the grey squirrel. Before the latest round of Elm Disease, elms used to be in this category too.



Ash is the commonest remaining self-maintained tree, followed by birch. Some trees should continue to be wildlife, retaining their independence from the human species: partly because people's enthusiasm for trees comes and goes on a shorter timescale than the lifespan of trees; but also because Homo sapiens have proved to be an increasingly unreliable guardian of the world's trees.

Oliver Rackham

Oliver Rackham's latest book, The Ash Tree, is the first to be published about Britain's ash trees. An ecological and cultural history of the ash, it also explores the cause of the 2012 ash disease outbreak and calls for a radical shift in our attitude to trees. Published by Little Toller Books, in hardback, 178 pages, price £15 ISBN 9781908213143

Eastern Moors Partnership

Part of the Peak District National Park, the Eastern Moors sits on the fringes of Sheffield. Boasting a diverse mix of heather moorland, acid grassland, blanket bog and woodland, the entire site is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Home to an abundance of

wildlife species, the Eastern Moors is well known for its population of adders and herd of red deer, and is also home to the elusive water vole and nationally scarce golden-ringed dragonfly. Its designation as a Special Protection Area (SPA) reflects the presence of bird species such as short eared owl and golden plover. Its dry heath, blanket bog and sessile oak woodland habitats have resulted in a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designation.

With 5700 archaeological sites recorded across the Eastern Moors, including medieval guide stoops, industrial millstones and WW2 mortar scars on the rocks, the site is of significant historical interest.

Most of the Eastern Moors is under open access, with a network of bridleways and footpaths as well as internationally renowned climbing edges. Appreciated by many, the site entices wildlife enthusiasts, adventure sport seekers and those looking for quiet enjoyment of the landscape.

The Eastern Moors Partnership is part of a wider vision for the area under the Sheffield Moors Partnership (SMP). This enables joined up thinking between adjacent land management, benefiting wildlife and people on a greater scale. The Partnership is a joint venture between the National Trust and the RSPB, managing the Eastern Moors on behalf of the Peak District National Park Authority.

As the UK's leading conservation charities, the National Trust and the RSPB have a reputation for excellence in upland land management, management of historic environments and quality visitor enjoyment.

The Partnership works under a Partnership Board made up of key representatives from the National Trust and the RSPB, in consultation with site staff. The Partnership has developed its own brand and culture to support its identity as a new organisation, with staff jointly managed by the Partnership.

In January 2011 the Eastern Moors Partnership signed the lease to manage the Eastern Moors on behalf of the Peak District National Park, with whom we retain a key relationship.

To find out how you can get involved, about Youth Rangers, adult volunteering or family friendly Muck In Days, call on 07738 738844 or you can email me at, katherine.clarke@easternmoors.org.uk

Katherine Clarke

Flying Gardeners

The Flying Gardeners are returning to Beauchief Gardens on Saturday 28 February, from 10am to noon. We shall be weeding, pruning and litter-picking, under the supervision of a council ranger who provides all tools and equipment. Volunteers just need to bring gloves and boots. Hot drinks will be provided at 11 am. Everyone is welcome - you do not need to be a member of SU3A.

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More local events

South Yorkshire

Industrial History Society

Mar 10th. Sheffield and the naval arms race: 1906 to 1916. David Bournnell. The twenty-fourth Dr Kenneth Barraclough Memorial Lecture. Joint meeting with the SMEA. 5.30 pm for 6pm, at the Holiday Inn Royal Victoria Hotel

Apr 20th. English cutlery through the centuries, and the people who used it. Paul Iseard

May 18th. The building stones of Sheffield. Peter Kennett

Events will be at Kelham Island Museum and will begin at 7.30 pm, except where indicated. Contact: Derek Bayliss (tel. 0114 230 7693, email v.baviliss@btintemet.com

Bradway Agewell Leisure Club

Meet on the first Tuesday in the month at The South Sheffield Evangelical Church, Greenhill Parkway (next to fire station) Coffee and biscuits are served from 09.45am to 10.10.am, followed by a talk or other activity between 10.15am and 11.30am .Visitors £3.50 incl. admission. New members welcome.

March 3rd. A.G.M. - members only

April 7th. Egypt and the Great pyramid - Talk by Peter Bradshaw.

May 5th. Randini - Talk by Ann Beedham.

More information from Stuart Sawyer. Tel. 236 9830

Bradway Community Association

March 1st. March Ramble

March 21st. Games Night

April 5th. April Ramble.

April 22nd. Annual General Meeting

May 3rd. May Ramble

Badminton 8.30pm Bradway Scout Centre Thursdays. John Child 237 6577
Walks: Peter Smithson 236 9876
Social Secretary Jean Hunter 236 4922.

Dore Art Group

Apr 10th. Art Exhibition. Dore Old School 2-6pm

Apr 11th. 9.30am-5pm

Free admission - Browse or Buy. Refreshments. Meet the Artists.

Lifeblood Thrombosis Charity

Mar 21st. Bring and Buy sale / Coffee Morning at Woodseats Methodist Church 9.30am-1.30pm

Totley History Group

Feb 25th. The Story of the Snake Road, Talk by Howard Smith

Mar 25th.. The Thompson Postcard Collection. Showing of local photographs with Christine Shimell

Apr 22nd Annual General Meeting followed by Mary Queen of Scots, the captive years 1568-1584 Talk by David Templeman

May 20th. Ruskin and his Connection to Sheffield Talk by Mark Frost

Meeting are held at 7.30pm in Totley Library unless otherwise announced
www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk

The true story

Baby Bear goes downstairs and sits in his small chair at the table. He looks into his small bowl. It is empty. "Who's been eating my porridge?" he squeaks. Then Daddy Bear arrives at the table and sits in his big chair. He looks into his big bowl and it is also empty. "Who's been eating my porridge!?" he roars.

Mummy Bear puts her head through the serving hatch from the kitchen and yells: "For goodness sake, how many times do I have to go through this with



you idiots?"

"It was Mummy Bear who got up first. It was Mummy Bear who woke everyone in the house. It was Mummy Bear who made the coffee.

It was Mummy Bear who unloaded the dishwasher from last night and put everything away.

It was Mummy Bear who swept the floor in the kitchen.

It was Mummy Bear who went out in the cold early morning air to fetch the newspaper and croissants. It was Mummy Bear who set the table.

It was Mummy Bear who walked the dog, cleaned the cat's litter tray, gave them their food, and refilled their water.

"And now that you've decided to drag your sad selves downstairs and grace Mummy Bear with your grumpy presence, listen carefully, because I'm only going to say this once: I haven't made the porridge yet!"

special event, early arrival advisable.

Meetings at Holmesfield Village Hall, Vicarage Road (Off Woodside Avenue), Holmesfield S18 7WZ – ample parking.

Totley (M) Townswomen's Guild

Mar 17th. AGM

Apr 21st. Great Halls and Houses - Derbyshire.- Talk by Ellen Outram

May 19th. Courtship and Weddings - Talk by Joanne Brunt

There are also separate meetings of the Social Studies Group, the Choir, the Walking Group and Scrabble Group. Outings are arranged regularly. New members and visitors are assured of a friendly welcome.

For further information, please contact Mrs Eileen Mason, (Chairwoman) tel: 236 7190 or come along and join us.

Sheffield Photographic Society

Apr 19th. Annual Exhibition at Sheffield Cathedral

St Peter's Church Greenhill

Tea Services 2 to 3.30pm Meet with friends over tea and cakes to share stories, pray and sing Entrance Free. Feb

27th. Mar 13th. Mar 27th. Apr 10th. Apr 24th. May 8th. We can provide transport to Tea Services and Themed Teas for people with mobility difficulties Call Margaret on 274 7203

Mar 15th. Mothering Sunday 9.30 and 11 am congregations come together at 11
Mar 30th to April 3rd. Easter Escape-a week long youth residential.

Apr 2nd Maundy Thursday Eucharist including commemoration of the first holy communion 7.30 pm

Apr 3rd Good Friday Services 10am & 7.30 pm

Apr 5th Easter Sunday 9.30 and 11 am congregations come together at 11

Sunday Service times 8 am Eucharist (said). 9.30 am Common Worship Eucharist with hymns but said liturgy (not on March 15th or April 5th

11 am Contemporary Worship ,with Eucharists on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of

the month otherwise Services of the Word. 6 pm House of the Parched service in the Parish Centre-more informal.

Weekday services

Morning Prayer at 8.45 am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Eucharist at 10 am on Wednesdays

Other regular activities

Impact for young people is on Sunday mornings at 9.30 am in the Parish Centre

Bubbles for Mums and Toddlers, from bumps to pre-school, 10-11.30am on Mon & Tue in term time (Ring 07729 200215 for more information)

Energy youth club for years 5 and 6 from 3.45 to 4.45 pm on Wednesdays

Parish Office please telephone the Vicarage on 327 3103 or 07949 470178 for a mutually convenient appointment

For social events tel Margaret Kohler 274 7203; young people's activities tel Joe Corrigan 07535 688996, Church Hall bookings tel Michelle Hayes 237 7102, Pastoral needs tel Rev Harry Steele 327 3103 or 07849 470178

www.saintpeters.co

Totley Rise Methodist Church

Winter/Spring Events

Messy Church

Come and enjoy watching your children enjoy crafts, games and friendship. Share a light meal together and learn about God and the amazing stories in the Bible. Suitable for pre and primary aged children.

Saturday 7 February – Love Contact

Rachel on 07912 352 543 for details and how to book and with any special dietary needs. There is a small charge of £2 to cover your meal and craft supplies

Quiet Garden A lovely space beside the Church which is always open for meditation, peace and tranquillity.

Easter in the Quiet Garden Good Friday April 3 – Easter Monday April 6

The Quiet Garden will be open from Good Friday to Easter Monday for an 'Easter Trail' for children and adults about the Easter Story.

Please check our website, www.totleyrise.co.uk for all Church Services over Easter

Ongoing Events:

Knit, Natter, Craft and Chatter Every Tuesday 12noon -3pm Church Centre

They may natter and chatter but they are certainly productive. They aim to include more people from the area, even the housebound. Housebound does not mean isolated. The group will happily provide wool, needles and a chat for those who cannot travel to the church. Young people are also welcome as part of our community. There are skilful, lovely ladies ready and willing to help those new to knitting and sewing.

Many charities benefit from the groups' work: Butterfly Wings (stillborn babies), Sheffield premature baby unit and the Christmas shoebox appeal. Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind have adopted knitted Ellie the elephants as their mascot and have given a certificate of grateful thanks. Members can knit/sew (a sewing

machine is available) for their chosen charities. Maxine, the organiser, says that all the ladies love coming. Men are also welcome. You can stay for as long as you like up to three hours. We offer tea, coffee, biscuits and, most importantly, friendship.

Sheffield Citizens Advice Bureau

Every Tuesday 10am-12noon No appointment needed. A drop in free and confidential Advice Service at the TRM Centre. Advice on legal, financial, employment, benefit and any other matters.

Coffee Mornings Every Tuesday 10am-12noon Church Lounge. Need a time to relax among friendly local people? Would like to make new friends? Then this spot is just for you. Stay as long as you like and relax with coffee and biscuits.

Pushchair Club Every Thursday afternoon 1.30pm – 3pm

Babies and Toddlers 0-5yrs come together with their carers to play and chat in a Christian atmosphere in the TRM Centre. For more information contact Rachel, our Family and Children's Worker 07912352543

Tuesday Ladies 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8pm. Church Lounge. About 35 ladies consisting of both church and non church members meet to enjoy speakers or a quiz or beetle drive. Sometimes the evening includes food eg salmon and strawberries or cheese and biscuits. If you would like more information please call Janet Savage on 0114 236 9002

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9am to 1pm Saturday. Tel **235-1444**.

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Hedgehog Corner

Garden designer Tracy Foster's fondness for hedgehogs resulted in the award-winning Hedgehog Street Garden at last year's Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.

We asked what drew her to work with the People's trust for endangered species PTES and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

"One of my earliest memories is of a family of hedgehogs visiting our Sheffield garden when I was a small child and I'm sure it contributed to my lifelong fascination with wildlife and gardens.

When I heard that hedgehogs were struggling to survive because their habitats are being carved up by impenetrable boundaries I realised that gardeners, designers and landscapers have been unwittingly making the problem worse.

When I found out that the Hedgehog Street project was looking to create a show garden I immediately sent them my ideas and was lucky enough to be chosen.

The garden was designed to show people how easily they can help hedgehogs and still have a stylish garden – and what better place than a garden show to get the message across?

Producing the show garden was a fantastic experience, and I learnt so much about hedgehogs along the way. It was wonderful to see how enthusiastic the public are about making holes for hedgehogs to move between gardens and now I'm making sure that every garden I work on has a hedgehog hole or two!"

The Hedgehog Street Project aims to show that hedgehogs need to be able to get from garden to garden in order to survive so please, please make sure your fences have a hole (only 13cm x 13cm) in the bottom, or under them so that our prickly friends can pass.

If you want to help a hedgehog, you can visit this website for further information:

www.hedgehogstreet.org

Record centenarians

It used to be a rare occurrence that a 100th birthday telegram from the Queen was dispatched but in the last decade this has risen by more than 70%. It is now estimated that one in three children born today will reach 100, with a predicted 111,000 centenarians by 2037. The figures released by The Office of National Statistics, reveal there were 8,050 centenarians in 2003, which rose to 13,780 in 2013. (Half a million of the population are over 90)

Although there has been an increase in the UK population of childbearing age, in one year, in 1920, there was a rebound in births, so sudden and so big that it remains the record year for babies in UK history.



Garden designer Tracy Foster with a hedgehog friend in the winning garden at Hampton Court Palace Flower Show. Picture by Iain Green - wildwonder.co.uk

Totley Library

Its five months now since the community charity Totley CRIC took over the running of Totley Library. We are very pleased with the support from our dedicated volunteers. Over 90 people have now given their time freely to work in the library, for which we are all very grateful.

When we re-opened as a community run library we decided to change the opening hours slightly so that we are now open at lunchtime. We continue to open late until 7pm on a Monday night and also on a Saturday morning.

Monday 10am to 7pm

Tuesday 10am to 5pm

Wednesday 10am to 5pm

Thursday closed

Friday 10am to 5pm

Saturday 10am to 1pm

This spring we have a couple of upcoming events. For young children, we will be celebrating World Book Day with a dinosaur themed Toddler Craft and Storytime session on Wednesday 4th March. All are welcome with their parents/carers from 10.30 to 11.30am.

On Saturday 9th May we will be holding a plant sale at Totley Library. The quality of the plants and the prices will be first rate so please come along to support this library fundraiser.

You can also become a Friend of Totley CRIC. As a Friend you make a small annual donation to help ensure the future viability of Totley Library. You will receive discounted entry to our fundraising events and regular information updates. The minimum annual donation is £5 per year, but if you can pay more than this, it will really help fill the funding gap! Application forms are available from Totley Library or you can join via our website www.totleycric.org.uk.

Natasha Watkinson

History at risk

Time to rescue Sheffield's iconic Old Town Hall. The newly-established Friends of the Old Town Hall say it's about time the building's owners took their responsibilities for the Grade 2 listed building seriously.

The Old Town Hall – also known as the Old Courthouse – was built in stages between 1808 and 1896. It was and is hugely important to the people of Sheffield, playing a central role in their lives over many generations. From being the target of Chartist activity in the 1830s, and the place where Samuel Holberry was imprisoned; to being a place of refuge for people made homeless by the Great Sheffield Flood of 1864, and the location of the subsequent enquiry into compensation – the Old Town Hall has been part of the story.

And it's where Charlie Peace was indicted for murder in 1879, to the sound of a huge crowd that gathered outside in Waingate - the magistrates were so concerned about the crowd that the court sat in a corridor! The building became purely a courthouse when the current town hall in Pinstone Street was opened in 1896 and empty since the courts moved out in 1996.

The Friends of the Old Town Hall has been established to campaign for the restoration of this wonderful and important building and the regeneration of the historic area around it. It is seeking grant funding to commission a professional appraisal of potential new uses for the building. It is working in co-operation with the Friends of Sheffield Castle and other organisations with an interest in the area.

For more information contact Valerie Bayliss 0114 230 7693 or v.bayliss@btinternet.com The Friends are on Facebook, and have a blog at: friendsoftheshield.wordpress.com/