

# Bradway Bugle

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

## HS2 – cost to nature

A new report published by The Wildlife Trusts reveals, for the first time, the vast scale of the destruction and impact that HS2 will cause to nature. ‘What’s the damage? Why HS2 will cost nature too much’ is the most comprehensive assessment of the environmental damage that HS2 will cause. It assesses the broad range of impacts across all phases of HS2 on protected wildlife sites, species and landscape restoration projects.

The report draws on data from the 14 Wildlife Trusts affected by the current plans, including Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust and other charities and landowners along the route. The report shows that HS2 will divide and destroy huge swathes of irreplaceable natural habitat and important protected wildlife sites up the length of England.

This will cause permanent loss of nature, increased fragmentation of wild places, and the local extinction of endangered species.

Locally, in Sheffield and Rotherham, the proposed HS2 project would directly affect five designated local wildlife sites - three of which contain ancient woodland. However the information for Sheffield is limited, with no assessment yet publically available on the impacts of the electrification of the existing line to make it compatible for high speed trains.

*continued on page 2 ....*



*No sign of plastic here on the Idyllic Leeds Liverpool Canal, but the Canal & River Trust are campaigning for its collection. See page 2. Picture by Stephen Garnett*

## The growth of SUVs

You must have noticed the increasing size of cars on the road over recent years. In particular sales of increasingly large 4x4s, (Sports Utility Vehicles), have increased dramatically, demonstrating how much the buying public has fallen in love with the 4x4 idea, and why the anti-4x4 lobby has so much ammunition

Figures from the campaign group Transport & Environment show the average mass of new cars rose 10% between 2000 and 2016, which the group suggested could be down to a trend towards SUVs, heavier automatic and dual-clutch gearboxes and the inclusion of other equipment including cameras and sensors. “An SUV is bigger, it’s heavier, the aerodynamics are poor, so as a result you get more CO<sub>2</sub>,” said Florent Grelier.

Weight, and the looming bulk that goes with it, is one of the big problems. A new

*continued on page 3 ....*

## City Referendum

Sheffield will be voting in a city-wide Referendum for a change of governance model at Sheffield City in May. The referendum was triggered by more than 26,000 Sheffielders exercising their community rights under the Localism Act 2011 and signing the legally binding Sheffield People’s Petition, coordinated by It’s Our City! This has been a pretty amazing and positive campaign, which produced the largest ever petition for a change of governance in the country.

Now, it is hoped voters across the city will clinch this in May’s vote - that is, get rid of undemocratic ‘strong leader’ governance (which is currently enshrined in SCC’s constitution and practised in quite an extreme form in Sheffield), and opt for a modern committee system!

More at the Facebook group ‘It’s Our City! Sheffield’ and on the website [www.itsoursheffield.co.uk](http://www.itsoursheffield.co.uk)

## Dore Art Group

Dore Art Group would love to welcome new members. They meet two afternoons per week and you can join whichever one suits you. Fees are £25 per term.

Tues. 2.15pm - 4.15pm;

Thurs. 1.30pm - 4.30pm

If you would like to join the group or want more information please contact Gerry Doherty on: 01142 368 418

## Weather in Bradway 2019

In 2018 we had very cold start followed by a hot and dry summer. Such are the vagaries of our British climate, the year 2019 was almost the reverse with a mild but dry winter and spring followed by a summer that had average temperatures but was decidedly wet.

However the feature of the year was undoubtedly autumn, which broke many records. From the weather record at the City Museum going back to 1883, September was the wettest since 1968, October was the wettest since 2002 and November was the wettest since records began.

The effect of this wetter than average summer plus the extreme autumn made 2019 the wettest year on record, giving a total of 1176.2 mm compared with the previous record of 1131 mm in 2012 and 1085 in 2000. So three of the wettest years have been in the last 20 years of a 136 year record. For interest the driest year on record was 1887 when only 488.5 mm were recorded.

What of Bradway? The year started with little rain as extreme high pressure dominated. The 9 am pressure was above 1042 mb for the period from January 2nd to 4th. In fact high pressure dominated for much of the month until the final week when some rain fell, plus a few snow showers but our total of 23.4 mm was only 28% of my average (and 32% at

*continued on page 6 ....*

## Editorial

Three months is a long time in politics and since our last edition we have had a national election. So who chose the 12th December for an election, when the results would come out on Friday 13th! As for the result, I am not sure what would have been a good one, at the moment all our current politicians are disappointing.

Looking at the electorate, 32.7% of people registered to vote did not cast a ballot. Plus I have no idea how many others do not even appear on the registration lists. Hardly democratic if that high a proportion were too disillusioned to bother, felt their vote would be wasted or were just thinking nothing would really change.

Somehow we need to move to a more inclusive system. If we are going to have an Australian system for immigration, why not adopt their system of compulsory voting?

And before you know it, local elections will be here plus a Sheffield Referendum - see our front page item.

Elsewhere in our pages you will find details of events and news from many local organisations. We also start the first of a new series on Sheffield benefactors and a column on gardening life. Added to this are regular features on holidays, and aspects of local education.

Hopefully there are also a few articles to make you think or raise a wry smile. These include an original look at changes in domestic furniture, no longer reading the press (Bugle excluded) and a history of pointless promises.

Finally we owe our advertisers a vote of thanks, for they pay the cost of production, and circulation. Please be sure to support them if you can and always mention the Bugle.

*John Baker, Editor*

### BRADWAY COMMUNITY HALL

(Next to the Dore and Totley Golf Club)

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

Charges from 1 October 2018 include:

#### Main Hall

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Small Hall

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

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

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

Other users: **£4 per hour** (£2 per hour if it is used in conjunction with the Main Hall)

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

**RING GWEN: 0114 236 9876**

## 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 Summer issue to the address on this page by **Friday 24th April**

## Canals: Plastics Challenge

Every autumn, Yorkshire's canals are transformed into spectacular corridors of red and gold, as the turning leaves are reflected in the water. While they are great spots for a selfie, the Canal & River Trust is encouraging people to pick up a piece of plastic as they pose for their perfect picture.

As the waterways and wellbeing charity that looks after 316 miles of canal in Yorkshire and the North East, the Trust knows how important water is to the nation's physical and mental health. However, 80% of plastics in the oceans comes from inland, and the Trust's research shows that 500,000 pieces of plastic end up in the sea from inland waterways every year.

If every person who visited their local canal picked up a piece of rubbish and took it away with them, the waterways could be plastic-free in a year. So the Trust wants people to take on the Plastics Challenge, and help make a difference to the health of the waterways:

Pick up just one piece of plastic, and take it home with you and either bin it or recycle it correctly

They want people to join in taking action on plastic pollution. Get involved - go along for a walk and, if you find any litter, pick it up and take it home to recycle. Being by the water makes people healthier and happier so, whatever you choose to do, a trip to the waterways is the perfect way to enjoy an afternoon.

The Canal & River Trust cares for and brings to life 2,000 miles of canals and river navigations across England & Wales. They believe waterways have the power to make a difference to people's lives. By bringing communities together to make a difference to their local waterway, they are creating places and spaces that can be used and enjoyed by everyone, every day.

[www.canalrivertrust.org.uk](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk)

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## HS2 - cost to nature

Liz Ballard, Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust CEO, said: "This hard-hitting report highlights the potential damage and inadequate mitigation currently proposed by HS2 Ltd locally and nationally. Although we understand that people need good quality transport links we are calling on the government to Stop and Rethink HS2 and asking others to do the same.

If HS2 has to go ahead, a new approach is needed - one that, in keeping with current government commitments, takes a greener approach which leaves the natural world in a better state than it was before. "

The Wildlife Trusts' report 'What's the damage? Why HS2 will cost nature too much' can be downloaded at [www.wildlifetrusts.org/HS2-report](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/HS2-report).

## Charity Raffle

Sheffield Vulcan Rotary Club organise a raffle each year, but with a difference. We do all the organisation, get the licence, get the tickets printed, provide the prizes, but, we offer a registered charity the opportunity to sell the tickets, for which they receive 80% and we take 20%, (from their ticket sales) for our charities. There is only one stipulation from us:- to make it worthwhile from the admin. point of view, we need the charity to sell a minimum of 50 tickets, preferably 100.

Interested - give me a call.

**Roger Hart**  
**07831 305881**

## Editorial & Advertising

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

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

Editor: **John Baker**

**Tel: 236 9025 or**

**mobile on 078 1161 4727**

Alternatively you can write to:

**The Editor,**

**Bradway Bugle,**

**8 Thornsett Gardens,**

**Sheffield, S17 3PP.**

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

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### The growth of SUVs

Discovery, for example, weighs nearly three tons, and however much the 4x4 manufacturers talk about their engines' fuel efficiency, the fact is that all this weight needs a lot of fuel to move it. And the weight increases wear on roads.

Then there is the height of headlights blinding drivers of smaller vehicles. High-mounted headlights searing your retinas with xenon-intense blazes. And why do so many people drive around with headlights on when it is perfectly light to see other vehicles.

This height and weight, while potentially giving an advantage to occupants of the vehicle, may pose a risk to drivers of smaller vehicles in multi-vehicle accidents, particularly side impacts. A study shows the rise in sales of 4x4s and people carriers is causing more than 20 extra deaths and serious injuries a year among people in small cars when the two are in collision

Sports utility vehicles (SUVs) have been criticised for a variety of environmental and safety-related reasons. They generally have poorer fuel efficiency and require more resources to manufacture than smaller vehicles, thus contributing more to climate change and environmental degradation.

Their higher center of gravity increases their risk of rollovers. Their larger mass increases their braking distances, reduces visibility, and increases damage to other

### Bugle publication dates

Details for the next four issues

Copy Deadline	Publication
24 April	13 May 2020
31 July	19 August 2020
13 October	11 November 2020
27 January	17 February 2020

road users in collisions. Their higher front-end profile makes them at least twice as likely to kill pedestrians they hit.

Larger vehicles can also create visibility problems for other road users by obscuring their view of traffic lights, signs, and other vehicles on the road, plus the road itself. Depending on the design, drivers of some larger vehicles may themselves suffer from poor visibility to the side and the rear.

The wider bodies of larger vehicles mean they occupy a greater percentage of road lanes. This is particularly noticeable on the narrow roads sometimes found in dense urban areas or rural areas. Wider vehicles may also have difficulty fitting in some parking spaces (try the new shopping centre at Norton) and encroach further into traffic lanes when parked alongside the road.

Finally the height and weight of SUVs can lead to a consumers' perception of increased safety. But the psychological sense of security they provide, may also influence some drivers to drive less cautiously.

### Abbeyle Hamlet 50th anniversary

The hamlet is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its opening as a heritage museum this year! There will be a programme of special events and activities. Full details to be published shortly, but in the meantime some highlights are:

\*Amazing Abbeyle, 9/10 May – a weekend of traditional crafts and skills with family friendly have-a-go activities, music, BBQ and more.

\*Blacksmith 'Forge In' weekend, August bank holiday weekend – in partnership with the British Artist Blacksmiths Association.

\*Golden Easter Egg Hunt for families Easter Sunday/Monday.

\*An exhibition looking at the power, process and people behind Abbeyle.

\*New visitor trails.

\*Heritage Talks Programme - dates and themes to be confirmed as soon as possible

\*Hamlet of Horrors family Halloween event.

\*Abbeyle at Christmas (13th Dec)

Keep an eye on our website: [www.simt.co.uk](http://www.simt.co.uk).

Opening Times:

Monday to Thursday 10am to 4pm

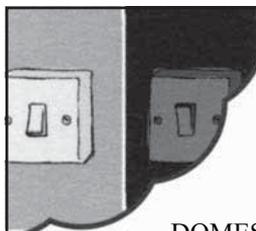
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(Closed Friday)

*Gemma Holden*

*Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust*



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## Greenhill Library

### A library for Lowedges

Ardent Douglas Adams fans may remember an inspired passage in which he gives examples from Dr. Streetmentioner's "Time Traveller's Handbook of 1001 Tense Formations" showing what verb forms to use, for example, when describing something that is in the future for the speaker but in the past for the listener. I mention this because it is precisely the problem I face in announcing the opening of our Lowedges branch library which is set for 12 February at the Lowedges Community Centre. We've opted for a "soft start" with no-fanfare or celebrity visits, but plan a bigger launch event in March. Check our web site for more.

In these times of library closures, opening a new one must be a rare event indeed, and is testimony to how much our confidence has grown over the last five years. Time will tell how successful it will be. The plan is to open for two 3-hour sessions each week (Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning), and we are still looking for a couple more volunteers (preferably Lowedges residents) to work shifts.

We will provide training; however you need to be comfortable using a computer and interacting with others. Volunteers can earn credits with "Time Builders" which can be exchanged for various leisure and educational opportunities or even for a meal in the Time Builders' Café. If you're interested or know someone who might be, email [lucy@greenhill-library.org](mailto:lucy@greenhill-library.org)

### Getting noticed

We recently received a really nice letter from Mary Lea, the council cabinet member responsible for libraries, in which she says "Everyone involved in our associate libraries in Sheffield has done a magnificent job at sustaining our libraries" and finishes "I believe there will be an even greater story to tell as the years go by". A friend also commented that the move to volunteer-run libraries



*All we need now are customers! Lucy is looking forward to welcoming you to our newly-stocked library in Lowedges.*

"has released a lot of energy in the community in a very positive and multi-faceted way"

OK, that's more than enough back-patting.

I wanted to remind everyone that you can browse our book catalogue on-line, both our council books (<http://library.sheffield.gov.uk/uhtbin/webeacat>) and our donated "yellow sticker" stock (<https://greenhill.salcirc.org/>). The council's site lets you view books across the entire Sheffield library system and reserve books held by other libraries. Our own site only lets you view stock at Greenhill or Lowedges Library, and you can't (yet) log in to reserve or renew books.

Our existing book club is full and had a waiting list, so we're starting a second group. The two groups will meet on the same evening (the third Wednesday of each month) with the new group starting on 19 Feb. Our thanks to Kirsty Atkin for stepping up to organise this. Places will be limited so if you would like to join please email [kirsty.atkin1@gmail.com](mailto:kirsty.atkin1@gmail.com)

Upcoming evening events include a talk entitled "Confessions of a Junk Dealer"

with Edward Patnick on 21 Feb, another on "The History of South Yorkshire Mining Villages" with Mel Jones on 20 March and one from Nicky Rivers on 17 April entitled "The State of Nature in Sheffield and the results of the Otterly Amazing Project". Our spring farmers' and artisan market will be on 5 April.

We're in the process of upgrading our cinema sound system with surround sound, and we've recently set our cinema program for the next four months; check the web site for details.

Finally, we'll be running our usual annual "readathon" event on Friday 21 Feb. This is a mixture of story-telling and children's crafts, and this year the theme is "cats".

If you haven't been to the library recently do pop in and visit. We think you'll like what you see!

*Chris Brown*

## We Have the Technology!

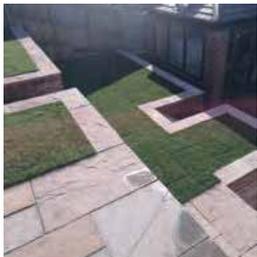
Well, it's taken nearly 20 years, but Mrs B and I are gradually being dragged into the 21st century, courtesy of the kids!

Being of a certain age, I'm afraid I've never quite got to grips with new technology. It took me some years just to get used to the idea of having a mobile phone, and even then I was quite happy with my antiquated Nokia. It enabled me to do all I wanted to do, namely make / receive phone calls and send / receive text messages.

But then, at Christmas, one of the children kindly bought us each a smart phone. It was mainly so we could set up a WhatsApp group to keep in touch with them and the rest of the family whilst they were on holiday.

We're still rather nervous of these clever new devices, and at the time of writing haven't yet dared to go the whole hog and switch our numbers from our old phones. And in a way, having the internet at your fingertips instead of having to switch on the computer is almost too convenient, bringing with it the danger of spending too much time online.

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Hopefully, over the coming weeks, we'll become both more confident with the new arrangement and reasonably disciplined about it.

But that wasn't all! Having picked up on an off-the-cuff comment I made some time ago about the vacuuming becoming more of an effort these days, another of our children promptly presented us with a Roomba vacuuming robot!

Unsure whether to trust this new beast, we eyed it suspiciously for a week without daring to switch it on. Eventually, casting caution to the wind, we charged up the battery and let it loose. Immediately, what I suspect was the main reason for their gift became apparent.

Any clutter has to be removed beforehand to avoid small items getting consumed, and in our house we do tend to leave things lying around. Getting it all cleared up was an added bonus! At one point, the machine disappeared under the television set to great concern for the safety of all the cables, etc. Fortunately, it emerged without incident.

Despite finding that we had to keep a fairly close eye on proceedings to avoid mishap, the overall results were impressive. There was even another added bonus of getting some exercise by having to lift our legs to allow it to gain access to the area in front of our armchairs!

It was disappointing to note, however, that its coverage was pretty random. I thought it would work out where it had been and avoid going there again.

Instead, it seemed to go over old ground several times, and we had to decide when it had done enough. It also had to be coaxed back to its docking point by a little strategic positioning of feet etc. to make it change direction. It only seemed to recognise that it was nearly home from about a foot away.

It occurred to me that being our new family pet it ought to have a name. Since it is essentially a labour-saving device, I did wonder about calling it Boris, but on second thoughts decided that with its unpredictable, erratic nature, Donald would be more appropriate!

*The Bradway Bodger*

## On the Beat

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to wish residents a Happy New Year and that you all have a crime free 2020.

**CRIME UPDATE:** Unfortunately I have to report that a number of residential burglaries have taken place since my last report. There appears to be no pattern to these crimes that can at this time be identified.

The preferred method of entry is still by the rear of the property either by forcing euro locks or direct action against doors/windows.

I still regard it as necessary to remind residents to ensure that their homes are secure at all times even when at home. When vacating your home ensure that the

alarm is set and that all valuable items are taken out of view. The same with vehicles. Please do not leave anything of value in your car as there are still criminals around who are looking for the opportunity to relieve you of your valuables.

At present we are currently in a period of low anti-social behaviour in the Bradway area. Should however any resident feel differently then please contact SYP through 101 giving as much detail as possible at the time. It may seem obvious but early reporting gives the opportunity for officers to attend and hopefully nip issues in the bud before they become bigger problems.

**SYP ALERTS:** As some residents are already aware the Alert system is the current way for SYP to notify residents of criminal activity in their immediate area along with relevant information that we feel is of value to residents. At present the alerts are sent out via e-mail to registered users. We believe it to be a useful tool to keep residents up to date.

Should any resident wish to take part in this FREE service than they can either do so by going to our Internet page and searching SYP alerts or if they wish contact me personally at [ken.blake@southyorks.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ken.blake@southyorks.pnn.police.uk) with their name, address, postcode and e-mail address and I will do the rest.

Thank you for your time.  
Keep safe and crime free  
Regards,

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## Bradway Weather 2019

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the Museum).

Temperatures were close to average until the final few days when cold air reached Britain and under clear skies, the overnight air temperature fell to -6.4°C, the lowest temperature of the year. Such was the cold that even during the day it stayed below freezing with a maximum

### ... the wettest year on record

of -1.3°C. At least it would help to kill off some of our undesirable insect pests.

February was notable for its warmth. After a cool start temperatures gradually picked up as the wind direction veered round to a more southerly direction and by the 21st, the air was from the Canary Islands. Largely clear skies gave much daytime warmth, and from the 21st to the 27th maximum temperatures in Bradway were above 14.0°C, reaching 18.3°C on the 26th. This coincided with the warmest February day on record at the Museum.

As high pressure dominated it was not surprising that February was another dry month with only about half our average rainfall. Even storm Eric on the 9th didn't offset the generally dry conditions though winds did reach 36 knots in Bradway.

For our first month of spring it was wind speeds which were the most noticeable feature. Storm Freya on the 3rd gave gusts up to 28 knots but then Storm Gareth added to the windy weather culminating in gusts up to 39 knots at 6.21 am on the 15th and accompanied by considerable rainfall and occasional snow. Thereafter pressure built rapidly, daytime temperatures increased but in the drier air night time temperatures stayed low with some ground frost and negligible rain after the 17th.

April was another very dry month with 21 days without rain, 18 of them consecutively but it did have a cold snap from the 11th to the 14th with night frosts before warmer air moved in and we had a

mini-heat-wave from the 18th to the 22nd reaching 22.3°C on the 20th – higher than average summer temperatures! The month finished with Storm Hannah which dropped the maximum temperature to 7.9° on the 27th and brought gales and some much needed rain. May was an average month with maximum temperatures slightly below average and rainfall again well below average amounting to 43.8 mm and 17 days without rain.

The first summer month started disappointingly with temperatures well below average and copious rainfall, from the 7th to the 15th there was heavy rain each day amounting to 111.6 mm. More heavy rain fell towards the end of the month before a sudden burst of warmth raised temperatures to 29.0°C on the 29th which was the highest June maximum for nearly 20 years.

Early July saw a return to average temperatures and was largely dry but cloudy, especially in the middle of the month. However from the 22nd the warmth built up reaching 33.9°C on the 25th accompanied by 13 hours of bright

### July 25th recorded 35.1°C at the City Museum, the highest temperature ever recorded there

sunshine. The figure at the Museum of 35.1°C was the highest temperature ever recorded there in any month, Inevitably the heat wave was short lived and on the 28th and 30th the heavens opened as a stationary frontal system delivered 54 mm over the two days.

August continued the theme of rather changeable weather with several days of heavy and prolonged rainfall but 15 days without rain. Maximum temperatures gradually increased to peak in the period 25th-27th at 29.1°C. After such a summer there was no danger of the drought that we had experienced the previous year.

And then the rain really got going. Wow! What a season. It was towards the end of September that low pressure systems started to dominate. The last week of the month produced 101 mm,

well above the monthly average and some of it was torrential with a rate of 38 mm per hour being recorded at 12.10 pm on the 24th. Otherwise temperatures were slightly below average with few warm spells. The rains continued into October with only three days without rain. Much of it was relatively small amounts until the 25th and 26th when another 57 mm fell as a cold front became stationary over our area, Even

### ... wettest November on record

the maximum temperature on the 26th only got to 6.6°C that day, about 5°C below average.

As if this was not enough the downpours continued into November to give us our wettest November on record. The worst day was the 7th when 77 mm fell in Bradway and the Sheaf at Twentywell Lane rose to a depth of 1.73 m compared with a normal low-level flow of 0.2m. Further substantial falls on the 11th, 14th 17th and 22nd gave us a monthly total of 227.4 mm.

By this time all our reservoirs had reached capacity, the ground was saturated and parts of the lower Don Valley were under extensive floods. Almost immaterially monthly temperatures were a degree below average with air frost on six occasions. The year then petered out with a very average December, only three frosts and no snow.

What a contrast from 2018 when the Beast from the East gave very low temperatures in February and March and 10 days with lying snow at the Museum. Such is the variability of our British climate.

Peter Smithson

## Earth Hour 2020

On Saturday 28 March at 8:30pm, the lights will go out on the world's most famous landmarks, businesses and homes across the world, as a call to reconnect to nature and draw attention to the issues our planet faces.

More people than ever before are waking up to the crisis. We've destroyed forests, polluted the oceans and messed up the climate. But what happens next is up to us. This Earth Hour, be part of the change.

Earth Hour gives a powerful voice to people everywhere who want to put the world on the path to recovery. Each year, millions of people around the world switch off their lights and organise events - at home, in their community or in their towns or cities - to show they care about the future of our planet.

Last year people sent a clear message: we're fighting for our world. From the Sydney Opera House and the Empire State Building to Buckingham Palace and Edinburgh Castle, communities like ours switched out their lights in a symbolic show of support.

Visit <https://www.wwf.org.uk/earthhour>



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## The power of reading

Perhaps one of the least expected predictors of life success is one's reading ability in primary school. Reading with pleasure, and especially reading fiction, is far more important than many people believe so finding ways to develop engaged readers is important for every child.

Increasingly, new research across many countries is showing that the best predictor of future education achievement and life success is reading ability - or, more significantly, being an engaged reader. The ability to read is a better predictor of whether someone will go to university than, for example, other socio economic factors such as gender, parental education and income.

Researchers at Edinburgh University, have proven the connection between reading well and future job success by analysing the relationship between early reading skills at seven and later socio-economic life, following more than 17,000 people in England, Scotland and Wales over 50 years from 1958. They showed that reading well at age seven was a key factor in determining whether people went on to get a high-income job. Reading level at age seven was linked to social class even 35 years on. "Children with higher reading and maths skills ended up having higher incomes, better housing and more professional roles in adulthood," the authors concluded.

If all reading is helpful, reading fiction offers added benefits - in fact, astounding benefits! It has long been argued that reading great literature improves us as human beings. Neuroscience is proving this claim to be truer than we ever imagined. Functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) studies show us that the same regions of the brain that are activated during a real event are activated while reading about it in a story so reading really can open up new worlds for us.

Raymond Mar, at York University, performed an analysis of 86 fMRI studies. He found that narratives in novels offer a unique opportunity to engage in what is called "theory of mind." He, along with Keith Oatley in Scientific American, reveal how we identify with the hopes, dreams and

## Bradway Primary School Dates for your diary

### Spring Half Term:

Monday 17th February  
– Friday 21st February

### Easter Break:

Monday 30th March – Friday  
Monday 13th April

**May Day holiday:** 4 May

**Summer half term:** Monday  
25th May – Friday 29th May

frustrations of the novel's characters, speculate about their motives, and follow their relations, conflicts and activities with friends and family. Literature allows not just learning about emotions, but experiencing them. It is a form of practice for real life. It appears from this growing body of research that individuals who read fiction are better able to understand other people, empathise with them and see the world from their point of view.

So the act of reading, particularly engaged reading, as opposed to the mechanics of reading, is a powerful predictor of life success by any measure and neuroscience is proving that reading fiction is one of the most powerful means of developing sympathetic individuals, with better social skills and higher levels of self-esteem, resulting in increasing self-improvement and positive social behaviours.

As mentioned in previous articles, we would be delighted to welcome further reading volunteers from the wonderful Bradway community, to join our growing team. The children love reading to the volunteers and this is what they've been saying:

'It's fun because I like reading and I get excited when I go to read'.

'Some of the grown-ups make jokes about the story which makes me laugh'.

'When I get stuck on tricky words, I know that a helper can support me'.

If you think you would like to help with reading, please get in touch by contacting enquiries@bradway.sheffield.sch.uk or by telephone on 01142363723, or just pop in to see us!

### Let's get our children reading!

And finally...Calling all ex-pupils!

If you are an ex-pupil We need your help please!

We are excited to announce that we are now working with the education charity Future First to reconnect with former students and friends of the school. These supporters can assist us in many ways - as career role models, mentors, fundraisers, in-curriculum volunteers, governors and more. Perhaps you are one of our ex pupils or perhaps you know someone who is...

These ex-pupils are a rich resource for the whole school to use but firstly we need to build the network by reaching out to former students as well as friends of the school. Are you still in touch with any former students or former employees of our school? If so, please send them this link and ask them to sign up: <https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/signup/bradwayprimary>

Thank you very much in advance for your support with this.

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

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## Friends of Graves Park

As many of you know, in February 2019, the Friends of Graves Park went to court to try and seek a declaration, to protect all of the charitable land in Graves Park from sale or disposal and to establish that the sale of Cobnar Cottage and the charitable parkland on which it stood was a breach of trust. Unfortunately we lost and had maximum costs awarded against us, as well as being refused permission to appeal. We have now agreed a final amount with SCC to conclude the settlement of costs and this has now been paid off.

The Friends of Graves Park would like to thank all of you who donated towards our legal action over the past four years. Because of your support and generosity, we have been able to settle our debts in full.

The Friends are now in the process of putting together a letter to the Charity Commission, from whom we had permission to go to court and who stated that this case was in the public interest, to question their responses to us regarding this case. As soon as we have an update on this, we will share it with you.

In the meantime, we are very busy with many other things. Our extremely successful project last year, 'Finding Lost Norton Park', uncovered so much information and posed so many more questions, that we are keen to try and apply for a further grant, possibly up to £75,000, to enable us to run a larger project in more depth. We are currently filling in the appropriate forms and collating information, so if you are interested, watch this space!

The Friends are also keen to get on with raising funds for various improvements in Graves Park. One of the areas on



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which we need to focus is the long awaited Arboretum part 2. The Arboretum part 1, which officially opened in 2016, is on part of the site of the old Norton Nurseries, which was saved by local people from being sold for housing back in 1998. When the Friends finished Chantreyland Meadow in 2007, which was the first section to be restored back to parkland, we were then in a position to begin the restoration of the next section, which was the Arboretum part 1.



*The Arboretum part 1 Summer 2016*

We knew that because of the constraints of time and money, we could only do this restoration properly by undertaking one section at a time. Over the years each restoration has had to be put on hold while successive threats to the charitable parkland were addressed. Now that our legal action is concluded, we are hopeful that Sheffield City Council will keep their word and allow the Friends to restore the next section of the old Nurseries site to parkland. As it will be an arboretum, which by definition will be full of trees, in this now climate change aware age, we are hopeful that our plans for this section of the park will be supported. Again, watch this space!

Both Chantreyland Meadow and the Arboretum are maintained by volunteers from Friends of Graves Park, every Sunday. If you would like to join us as a regular volunteer (very healthy and a way of learning about the environment) please get in touch, preferably by email. If you have not yet visited these areas of the

park. You can access them on the south side of the park. The path to Chantreyland Meadow is the first path on the right from the Norton Park View entrance.

Website: [www.gravespark.org](http://www.gravespark.org) and email [friends@gravespark.org](mailto:friends@gravespark.org)

*Caroline Dewar*

## Preventing skiing injuries

A winter holiday is tough work. A full week of skiing can leave you feeling exhausted and with an aching, tired body. Training your muscles before you even leave home is the best way that will not only enhance your skiing experience but it could also prevent a nasty injury putting you out of action for weeks or even months after your skiing holiday.

Accidents and injury are unfortunately all too common in skiing. Skiers are particularly prone to knee injuries,

especially those involving the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL). It is useful before you travel to work on your balance, core and strength. There are a few select exercises I would prioritise for the skiing population, some more technical than others.

Three basic exercises are outlined below:

- Squats
- Heel raises
- Calf stretches

Most of us have done a squat in some shape or form in our lives. When you look at how a squat is executed, it does not look too dissimilar to someone skiing down a slope- bum out, back straight. This will strengthen your bum and the main muscles groups of the legs. You can easily perform these every day, even at work - pop to the toilets and do 10 squats three times. Or even more convenient, stand from your chair and sit down until your bum hovers over your seat before standing again. When performed correctly, a squat will also recruit your core muscles, essential for efficient movement.

Practicing 3 sets of 10 heel raises will help your ski preparations no end. Stand, hold support and rise onto your tip toes. Finally, keep yourself limber by holding calf stretches for 30 seconds, have your back knee straight, heel on the floor and feel the stretch. Repeat the stretch three times daily if you can.

*Rob Mooney,  
Activ Physiotherapy*



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## Abbeydale Park Bowling Club

The Club will be holding Open Mornings on Saturday 18th April and Saturday 25th April between 10am and 12 noon for anyone who would like to try their hand at Crown Green Bowling.

Crown green bowling is an outdoor activity which provides an opportunity to meet people and forge new friendships. Previous experience is not necessary as free instruction will be given and practice sessions organised.

Our Bowls Club is primarily a social bowling club with informal sessions running each day in the morning, afternoon and evening. Playing groups are made up by members as they arrive.

Friendly Inter-Club Matches are held throughout the season as well as internal competitions for the many trophies bestowed on the club. Social events are held regularly throughout the year including Dinners, Treasure Hunt 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 bowling green is situated on the right hand side at the top of the Abbeydale Park Sports Complex where ample car parking is available.

Please come and join us at our Open Days, equipped with suitable footwear (flat with no heels), where you will be warmly welcomed. All other equipment can be provided. We have a selection of bowls from which you can choose, to borrow for play.

If you require any further information, please contact:-

**Doreen or Richard Bertram**  
Telephone: 0114 289 1423, email:  
richardsprinta@gmail.com



*Clls Martin Smith and Colin Ross by one of the HGV restricted access signs.*

## Councillors Update

Your Local Councillors have access to Council funds that can be used to help community groups in Dore, Totley, Bradway & Whirlow. This is known as the 'Ward Pot' and although limited in size it has enabled us to support and develop many local initiatives.

This year we have been able to give funds to Transport 17, Totley Health walks, the Bradway Community Hall, and Whinfell Quarry Gardens. In previous years we have supported for example Totley Library, Dore recreation ground and local lunch clubs that provide activities for elderly residents.

Funds for this financial year have all been allocated but we encourage community groups to get in contact with us as soon as possible for next year. Applications can be made now for projects in 2020-21. If you need more details of the ward pot then contact one of us by email (see below).

After a two year campaign by Lib Dem Councillors we were delighted when the Council finally imposed HGV restrictions on Twentywell Lane, Prospect Road, Queen Victoria Road and the surrounding roads.

In 2017 we uncovered the fact that these roads were among the worst 'hot spots' for HGV traffic across the whole city. A local petition soon followed and, as a result of our intervention, traffic surveys were undertaken that showed this area was the highest priority for action in Sheffield. The Council knew for years that these roads are totally unsuitable for heavy trucks and local residents are glad to see that action has been taken.

Negotiations on getting a permanent café into Whirlowbrook Park are progressing and it is hoped that work will start in the early spring. The old toilet block will be transformed into the new café and if weather conditions are favourable it is hoped that the café will be open well in time for the summer season.

**Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Joe Otten**  
To email follow the name with:  
@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk

## Neighbourhood Watch

Some of you will know of a neighbour who was unfortunate to have had their home broken into or an attempt to do so this winter. The time between 4pm and 7pm has always been a prime time for burglaries as many of the properties are in darkness with no signs of anyone being home. I have already provided advice on simple and low-cost precautions we should all be taking and your local PCSO can also provide guidance on protecting your property. However, as we move out of the winter evenings and the consequential threat of coming home from work and finding your property has been broken into, it is still worth reviewing your home security especially your door locks.

If you have UPVC front, back or patio doors, these will almost certainly have eurolock's fitted as standard. The typical standard lock can be "snapped", and entry gained within thirty (30) seconds. Keys, bags, phones etc, left near the door can be taken, even cars and the thieves are away before you even react to any alarm even if it is switched on.

The latest version of these locks is classed as virtually unbeatable and will defeat most criminals. The "Ultion" anti-snap locks cost a bit more, but the protection they give far out ways the increased cost. Some of our NHW members can check your locks for you at no charge and provide details to take to Harold's locksmiths to get you our preferential price. If you want more information, my contact details are below.

One of the simplistic ideas we promote is having a neighbour as a key holder for your property, not just when you go away on holiday but all the time. One of our members unfortunately lost his house keys whilst travelling back to Sheffield on a train. Fortunately, he had left a spare key with a neighbour so he could gain access to his home without having to resort to more costly remedies.

More often the spare key comes in use should your property get broken into whilst you are away. This will allow the responding Police Officers to gain access to the property where necessary, ON NO account should a keyholder enter the property if the alarm goes off, you don't know who may be in there. Call the Police on 999 and wait for them to attend.

This leads to the option of what number to call the Police on, we have all heard the stories about the response time if using the 101 number and in all honesty, there is some truth in these. However, the advice from SYP is as follows.

If you see a crime taking place or something life threatening then call 999 immediately, no quibbles the sooner they know the better and the more likely the chances are of catching the criminals in the property or nearby.

If you come home and find your house has been broken into and the rogues have gone then use the 101 number, it will not be an emergency however disturbing it



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may be for you. You can also report this type of incident online at <https://www.reportingcrime.uk/>

I have received several complaints / comments recently on the increased number of cold callers / hawkers / maintenance men etc. Some who are genuine companies but many who are not. The latest have been by a security company who claimed that they were responding to recent burglaries on the road they were door knocking on. If you are a member of NHW we provide official "No Cold Calling" stickers, these have been provided by Trading Standards and are now enforceable in law.

Should any of these companies or individuals knock on your door, (where you are displaying one of these stickers,) please try to get a leaflet or business card from them. Then ask them to leave your property pointing out the sticker which means that they are now liable to enforcement action for "harassment". Pass any of these cards/leaflets etc to myself for forwarding to Trading Standards to take the relevant action.

Some of you may have seen an article in the "Star" recently about a Community Speed Watch program. This involves local members of the public working with SYP to reduce the amount of speeding drivers on certain roads in their area. Volunteers are trained in the use of handheld speed cameras and work with the local PCSO or traffic officer on a stretch of road. These will have been identified as having had an excessive number of drivers exceeding the speed

limits.

Once detected the Officers will issue warning notices to the offenders, unlike the automatic ticket from the Camera van detectors. Two of the local roads identified as potential sites for the camera team are, Long Line and Twentywell Lane. Unlike the Mobile camera vans the dates of their use is unlikely to be published in advance, so be warned.

If reading this article, you decide you want to receive our weekly incident reports and security advice, why not join your local Neighbour Hood Watch group. It does not cost anything and the increase in the membership helps make our communities a safer place to live. Just contact me as below:Regards

**Les Day**  
**Regional Coordinator NHW**  
**Les\_nhw@hotmail.com**  
**07985 424363**

## Lambing at Whirlow

19th-20th February 2020, 11am - 3pm

We are opening our barn doors early this year and inviting you to meet our gorgeous newborn lambs during February half term. Come and get a glimpse of life at our working farm as we prepare to herald in the Spring time.

You'll have the chance to get up close to our adorable additions and we have a brand new selection of rare breed sheep to visit. There will be something new for the whole family to learn about the busy farming tradition of lambing. Watch our

newborns frolic, play and feed, and if you're lucky you might even see some being born!

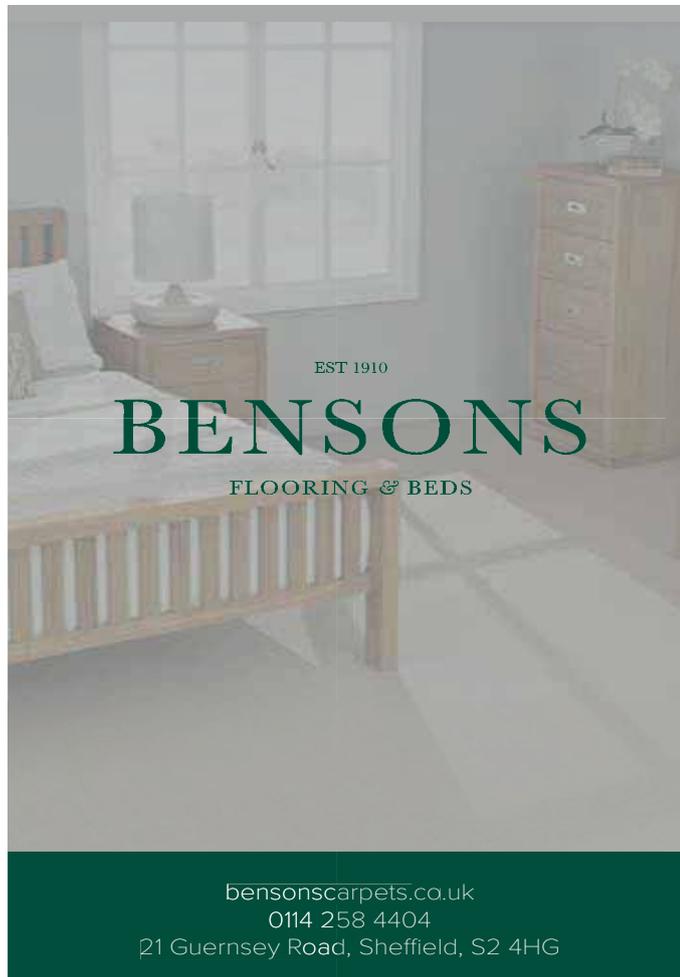
The event also includes a selection of family entertainment activities including pony riding, free craft activities for children, slime making, facepainting, puzzle trail and Punch & Judy shows throughout the two day event. Our excellent farm shop and café will be open throughout, as will our famous Whirlow BBQ. We will also have storytelling sessions and the chance to visit our horses, chickens and small animals. There'll be loads to do and loads to see on a fun packed visit to the farm. Plus, all the money raised at the event will go toward supporting the charitable work of the trust.

We are an educational charity working with children across South Yorkshire to improve aspirations and improve the life chances of vulnerable young people outside of mainstream education. We believe that every child deserve the opportunity to learn and develop to their full potential, whatever their circumstances. By attending our events you are supporting this valuable work.

\*Entrance: Children under 14: £4, Adults: £5, Family Ticket £16 (x2 children, x2 adults), Under twos go free, FREE PARKING. Some activities are chargeable separately

*Lambing Barn not advisable for pregnant women.*

For more info visit <https://www.whirlowhallfarm.org/events/lambing-2020/>



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## Greenhill Village History Society

During the last few months, Greenhill Village History Society have been involved with the 'Lost Norton Park' Project – this gave some members the opportunity to work with experts and other enthusiastic historians on a number of related topics, including recording the ecology of the area and mapping evidence of ancient woodland.

However, the majority of the group worked on two main areas. The first was to browse through our collection of Local History books and indicate those which contained references to Graves Park. This ensured that researchers were able to source books locally, without having to resort to visits to the Central Library Reference section.

Secondly, using the rental ledgers and field numbers from the Fairbank collection within Norton Park, held at Sheffield City Archives - these were matched up and an annotated map was produced which shows the names of the land owners and tenants who lived and worked in the park at that time.

Findings have been cross-referenced and links with people who still live in the area have been found. This work was displayed at Greenhill Community Library in September and proved an interesting topic of discussion for visitors.

During 2020, it is hoped that further research will be completed on the area to the south of Norton Park, which will include the areas of Chancet Wood, Little Norton, Meadowhead and their links to the village of Greenhill.

On Tuesday 10th March 2020 at 7.30pm in Greenhill Community Library, Greenhill Village History Society are pleased to announce Ted Hancock – Society member and local railway enthusiast will be giving a 'now and then' presentation, taking us on a digital journey in the golden age of steam on the long climb from Sheffield Midland station with stops including Queens Road goods depot, Heeley station, Millhouses locomotive shed & station and Beauchief station to Dore and Totley station.

Ted's book ('The Hope Valley Line - Dore to Chinley' Vol 1 ..... Price £30) will also be available to purchase and of course, Ted will be available to sign your



*L to R: Awards host, Irena Care Supervisor, Ton Care Assistant, Cheryl Deputy Manager & Nicola Registered Manager the far right Care Awards speaker*

copy. Places must be pre-booked at Greenhill Community Library Reception and will be available from w/c Monday 10th February.

Greenhill Village History Society meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 2pm in Greenhill Community Library. If you enjoy local history and problem solving, as well as meeting new people with the same interests, why not come along and join us? Further details can be obtained me Lesley Fox – Chair (Tel: 0114 2377928 / email: lesley.fox3@btinternet.com)

*Lesley Fox*

## Palliative Care Award

In November Twelve Trees Care was presented with the prestigious Palliative Care Awards 2019 for Palliative Care provider of the year in Yorkshire and the Humber. Since then, the Nether Edge Sheffield based residential and domestic care provider has been hosting dementia friendly events such as the Memories of Friends social and Better Together Christmas sponsored by Henry Boot construction, Uber, Gripple and the Mowbray, in celebration of their award.

Their award comes from a long history of exceptional care and involvement in the community. Twelve Trees has been recognised in the past for leading the

Sheffield Carers Community Group, a support and collaboration group that is held for all carers to talk about ways to improve the quality of life for the elderly and mentally ill.

Carers from all companies and backgrounds are welcomed quarterly to Twelve Trees in Nether Edge to take part in making Sheffield and the surrounding communities a leading region for social care. Twelve Trees also has now started their training and academy, where they share their expertise with carers across the region.

This is the second year in a row that Twelve Trees has been recognised for their outstanding contribution to social care and the community, winning the Dignity in Care award in 2018. They have also won the Homecare.co.uk Top 20 award.

The Great British Care Awards recognises and pays tribute to those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding excellence within their field of work in the care industry. The awards are inclusive, bringing together statutory, independent and voluntary sectors; as well as unpaid carers.

Says Lisa Abbott, Director of HR, "We are thrilled to have been nominated, let alone win such a prestigious award. Our team really does go over and above and it's such a wonderful recognition to be given and a great celebration for the year". to come."

## Sporting Chatter group

The Sporting Chatter group run by Age UK in Totley library every other Friday, is looking for a volunteer to help coordinate sessions, make sure everyone is ok and help with refreshments.

The group runs from 10am-12 noon on a regular basis, with the next four dates on 14/28 Feb, and 13/27 March.

*Virginia Lowes (Wednesdays & Thursdays) Volunteer Coordinator  
Age UK Sheffield  
Tel: 0114 250 2850*



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## The Gardening Life

We are Carl and Deirdre, and we run Millthorpe Nursery, just down the hill from Holmesfield. We're now in our fourth year of offering friendly advice and lovely plants to put colour in your garden all year round. So when the chance to write these articles came up, we thought it would be a great opportunity to offer more helpful ideas and insights into the care and development of your garden, as well as giving you a little 'behind-the-scenes' view of what we're up to at the nursery as well.

**Spring is coming.** After a dismally wet autumn and very mild December we all need to begin to get ready for spring. Although there's undoubtedly still cold weather to come, it's worth a moment to take stock of your garden. Unfortunately, many of us (and we're often the same) stand at the window, wondering where to start – don't be overwhelmed! There are two main things to consider, as you drink a nice warm cuppa.

**Cleaning and tidying up.** Nowadays gardeners often leave perennials standing through the winter to provide some points of interest and as a habitat for wildlife. But now, with winter being so mild, look to see if small shoots are forming at the base of your plants. If so, begin cutting back the dead stems and tidying up. Roses should also have been pruned (although we haven't done ours yet!). Don't get hung up about this, they're robust plants so just give them a

cut back to the size and shape you want them to be.

**Areas you're not happy with.** Perhaps there's a clump of perennials that are congested, in the wrong place or just too big? Now is a good time to dig up and either replant somewhere else, divide into several smaller plants or simply replant a smaller part of the clump. However, plants that are early spring flowerers are best left till the autumn to divide. Deciduous shrubs also can be trimmed and moved now, but again not if they are early flowering ones.

Does your garden have interest all year round? Some plants come alive in winter, brightening a time of year when some gardens look less exciting. Many also have a great scent to attract bees - popping one near a path or doorway means you get the smell too!

- Hellebores are a popular winter plant but Sarcococca are lovely evergreen shrubs with an amazing fragrance that will enjoy a shady spot too.

- Mahonias have put on an amazing show this winter. Yes they are spikey but the bees love them and they can be cut back hard if they get too big.

- Deirdre's favourite, though, are the little Iris reticulata, bulbs who bravely poke their heads up in February, reminding you that the colours of spring are on their way. If you didn't plant bulbs in the autumn don't worry, many nurseries offer ready-grown pots you can pop in straight away.

**On the nursery...** February is when it all starts for us, and the months ahead

will be our busiest. Seeds have been ordered and we'll do an early sowing of first-year flowering perennials and slow growers in the next couple of weeks. At the same time we'll start to receive deliveries of young perennial plants, all of which will need to be potted up along with the many plants we produced ourselves last autumn.

As soon as the weather warms the pots of spring bulbs that we planted in November will burst into life and fill the nursery with colour. That's also when the potting really gets going, as we work our way through many thousand plug plants that will eventually become our summer bedding, baskets and containers. We'll also set our dahlia tubers off on the heated bench so that we have lots of lovely cuttings to grow on for later in the year.

And in all this, we'll be chatting to customers, giving advice and generally helping you make the most of your garden.

*Millthorpe Nursery*

## Helping hedgehogs

Helping hedgehogs is easier than ever with a new app from the 'Peoples Trust for Endangered Species'. Receive monthly tips and advice straight to your phone or tablet, plus log hedgehog sightings on the go using the Big Hedgehog Map. Download the app via <https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/hedgehogstreetapp/>

# Millthorpe Nursery

## We're getting ready



Is your garden beginning to wake up from winter?  
We're busy growing lots of lovely spring flowering bulbs and plants and are back open in early February

Millthorpe Lane, Holmesfield, S18 7SA

(Behind the Royal Oak pub at the bottom of Millthorpe Lane)

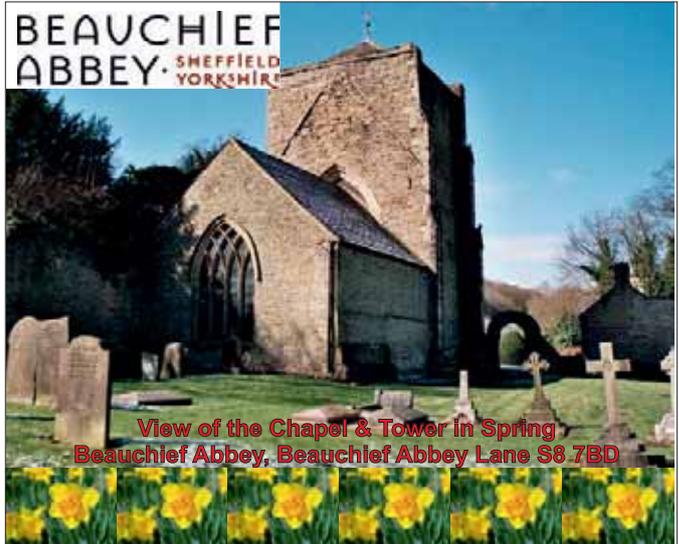


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## Bradway Action Group

**Chairman:** *Chris Morgan*

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

**Secretary:** *Fiona Vallely*

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

**Deputy Chair:** *John Sharpe*

**Treasurer:** *Jon Smith*

**Membership Sec:** *Anne Sharpe*

38, Longford Crescent. Tel 2366388

**Committee** - elected and \*co-opted

*Hazel Brand; Les Day;*

*Nancy Maitland; Ian Robinson;*

*Peter Smithson;*

*\*John Child (Community Hall)*

*\*Frank Richardson (Scouts)*

**Website:**

<http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com/contact.html>

**Facebook:** Bradway Action Group

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

### Next Open Meeting, 1st April, Bradway School, 7.15

After the successful format of our AGM we'll be repeating that in future. No rows of seats but clusters around tables for tea and coffee as well as wine, cheese and biscuits. We'll have stalls from local organisations such as ourselves, Neighbourhood Watch, Scouts, and Friends of the station. If your community group might like to be there please drop us a line.

The agenda is open, so please come along and have your say. It would, however, be helpful if you do wish to raise a subject to let us know in advance so any research can be done before the meeting.

### Poynton Woods paths and other outdoor activities

John Sharpe's barrow boys have been hard at work. Working most Thursday mornings, and other days when convenient, they've been trying to keep the paths as passable as possible after all the recent rain. The Castle Inn are benefiting from those walking round the path accessed off Rosamond Avenue.

At night it's good to see many now

using the paths with head or smartphone torches. Joggers, dog walkers and people walking up from the station or buses on Abbeydale Road South. Mind you, it's surprisingly bright thanks to light scatter from the Sports Centre's floodlit pitches!



*Staff and volunteers at the AGE UK shop on twentywell entered the spirit of Christmas*

If anyone has a hedge that's overgrowing the footpath, and has difficulty cutting it back, please get in touch and our outdoor team may be able to help.

We usually meet about 9.30 on Thursdays and tackle what needs doing until lunch time. John leads this team and we'd welcome further help. It's informal, only a couple of hours to do as much as you'd like to tackle.

We may do gardening on the Village green or reinforce the paths on the recreation ground behind Sainsbury's. We're aware of a lot more that needs doing, not just more paths to improve. We'll do what we can to improve our local environment, just suggest what you think should be done.

Are you able to join us, or want to make a helpful suggestion? Please contact John by email at; john.c.sharpe54@gmail.com

### Christmas on Twentywell

It's now an established tradition that BAG puts up the lights along the top of the shops. This year new traders added extra impetus and what we'd hoped to arrange from the start happened, brackets with small trees mounted along the entire length of the parade. The lights were able to stretch that far.

Thanks go to Tilly's for providing the power, and Father Christmas. Hartley's window display was superb and Love and Best Wishes ladies were their festive best. All joined in and BAG provided a Sunday tombola. It's hoped we can all work together to make it better than ever in 2020 as our local shops open on the Sundays before Christmas. Shop local.

### Streets Ahead – Amey

Poynton Wood Crescent was resurfaced early in October and residents were unhappy with the quality. Amey have been asked to check if it is up to specification and have still to reply! There has been much adverse comment about the recent pavement work. At least the grit boxes are full.

### Planning

A developer is wanting to build an 80 bed nursing home on a site off Twentywell Lane. Their representatives made public an outline of their outline proposals and requested comments from local residents prior to submitting a planning application. The final date for that consultation was 24th January and what we know can be seen on BAG's website. BAG officers have met a representative and made, hopefully, constructive comments. No details of the proposed building/s were provided to us. It seems the development will primarily be a north-south, split level building up and down the centre of the site with car parking around it.

We had concerns about traffic and visited the site. The road at this point is quite wide (made so to allow tipping of waste from Supertram works 30+ years ago) and there is a good sight line. The gradient is steeper above and below the entry. We think there should be traffic calming measures and no parking should be permitted on Twentywell below the crest of the hill. We felt the suggested parking on site was inadequate for 40 staff, residents families and professional service providers visiting the home. We expressed concern that cars will be parked nearby in dangerous positions. Neighbours may find the development intrusive.

We couldn't comment on the building/s themselves because details won't be known until a full planning application has been made within the next few month's.

### Graffiti, litter and dog poo

Different offenders. Litter is being picked up by residents as seen and from time to time by organised litter picks, spurred on by Totley litter champion Julie Gay and her teams. If you see a blackspot let us know and BAG will be onto it, unless Julie gets there first! Keep Bradway tidy.

Dog poo is a recurring complaint. It

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seems to be a small number of dogs so a small number of owners. If your dog is on a lead you know what it's doing. Bag it and dispose of it in a bin. Letting the dog off the lead does not absolve the owner from liability. It has been suggested that such dogs are the main culprits.

Over the Christmas holiday period graffiti appeared in a number of places. It's the responsibility of the property owner to remove it and when advised the likes of BT and SYPT clean up their cabinets and shelters. Amey clean road signs. Private property may be tackled if the council is informed. See the BAG website for contacts to help with this.

It's been suggested that we should have a specific graffiti wall. Nobody has come forward to offer theirs for this purpose and doubts have been expressed as to how effective it would be in tackling the problem.

#### Trees and verges

We continue to pursue those responsible for street trees and verges in the hope that dead and dying trees can be replaced, and more trees planted where possible. Bushes too if appropriate.

#### A defibrillator and Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training

A defibrillator has arrived and at the time of writing we await the electrician to install it outside The Castle. It's all taken

longer than we'd expected to arrange. Just one makes a start. If you're interested in taking part in some cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training please contact us through the website. We're trying to get a group

If you're on Facebook ask to join our Facebook Group. Currently we're adding 5-10 names a week. Lots of lively information, news and opinions about Bradway, its history and residents. Latest hot topic as I write – burst water mains!

#### MEMBERS

Many thanks to all who have set up standing orders to pay their membership subscriptions for 2020. The small amount of income received allows us to commit to modest projects within the community. Our only other income is any surplus from the Fun Day and voluntary donations.

**We'd welcome more members.**

**To join BAG please go to:**

<http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com/membership.html> or contact Anne Sharpe as above. It's only £2 a year, £3 for households.

#### Future BAG Activities -

Open Meetings 1st April, 8th July, AGM 7th October.

24th May Bounds of Bradway Walk – including 150th Anniversary of Bradway Tunnel

19th September Bradway Fun Day  
More details on our website or Facebook page;  
<http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com/> or contact Chairman as above.

*Chris Morgan, Chairman*



*BAG provided a Sunday tombola for the Christmas celebrations on Tewntywell.*

together. Early and effective CRP treatment and/or defibrillation helps to keep a casualty alive until an ambulance arrives.

#### BAG website and Facebook group

To find the most up to date news from BAG, check local bus and train timetables, find how to report pot holes, dog poo, and much more, please go to the BAG website at; [bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com](http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com)



#### Sometime...

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

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## Pointless Promises

I was expecting a really special Christmas last year but I haven't received the presents I was expecting.

I was promised more police on the beat, more nurses, more good teachers, new hospitals, better public transport... The only thing I wasn't promised was three acres and a cow. I was especially looking forward to the Train Set; you know, the one that will connect Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds but Santa seems to be running behind and I'm worried that when it arrives I won't be able to afford a ticket! Lots of shops promised to save me oodles of money but I somehow ended up spending more than ever. I'm so sick of worthless guarantees that I'm starting a Society for the Prevention of Pointless Promises.

Promises are a funny thing; having one makes you feel better but you don't always get what you expect. I am old enough to remember the development of nuclear power. We were promised "Electricity so cheap that it won't be worth sending a man round to read the meter." That didn't turn out to be true. And I don't think any promises about gas/water/electricity being more efficient, or better and cheaper when we flogged them off to foreign companies helped. Why would you want to sell off vital services?

I remember being promised that our young people would all benefit from a university education but I can't see that starting out in life with £50,000 debt is a good thing. I recollect the promises of affordable housing but somehow this gave the green light to developers to cover the country with badly designed concrete boxes: overpriced, no garden, but they do have plenty of ground rent and service charges.

We've seen some false promises concerning pensions: we've reached the

point where pension liabilities and mismanagement are closing firms down, putting people out of work. Who will pay their pensions? Don't even get me started on investments! My Building Society interest is nothing or less than nothing.

Everybody is guilty of expecting too much but some people must be guilty of exploiting the situation.

We have been promised that Smart-meters will solve lots of problems: let me know if they solve yours.

There have been numerous promises made to do something about the state of struggling town centres but, if they keep putting up business rates and parking fees, out-of-town centres will read the benefit. And who will promise to do something about international internet giants taking unfair advantage of us?

Would you like a few genuine guarantees? I promise that you won't save our poor planet by buying an electric car – not if you fly off to Florida for your holiday afterwards. I promise that no pill or potion you swallow and no ointment you slap on your skin will make you look suddenly lovelier or handsome.

I promise that if you buy a car that can do over 150 mph you will still end up stuck on the motorway.

I promise you won't make children slimmer or fitter by confiscating chocolate bar from packed lunches, and any attempt to tax naughty foods will only make poor people poorer. Isn't it funny how kebabs and burgers and chips are condemned as junk food but pâté de foie gras and dauphinoise potatoes are not? There's no such thing as junk food only ill-chosen food, even the best restaurants use fat, sugar and salt.

I promise that you won't save the British Industry by buying Chinese steel for infrastructure projects.

One last promise; as long as the Bradway Bugle keeps going I'll still find something new to moan about, but I think you are lucky to live in such a flourishing and friendly community.

*Robert Smith*

## Driving after Brexit

As a member of the European Union (EU), UK driving licences can be used to drive in countries in the European Economic Area (EEA) - that means EU member states plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

When the UK leaves the EU on 31 January it will enter a transition period during which pretty much everything will stay the same until the end of the year. That will mean UK licences will still be valid for visiting EEA countries during transition.

What happens next will depend on negotiations on the future relationship between the UK and the EU.

There will be different arrangements in place for each country - specific advice for each country will be available from the government.

## Local Public transport

**Ticket changes:** 2nd January saw new fares across all modes of transport. Aside from the normal annual price increase that reflects the pressures of inflation on operating costs, there have been some changes to the range of tickets available.

Stagecoach have simplified their choice of day, week and monthly passes to three levels - City, Silver and Gold.

If you still require buses in Sheffield then you are advised to buy the "Citybus" ticket, which offers unlimited travel on all buses in Sheffield, regardless of operator. Silver tickets include all Stagecoach buses and Supertram in South Yorkshire and Chesterfield whilst Gold includes an even wider area - all Stagecoach services in South & West Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire - you can get to places such as Buxton, Matlock, Nottingham, Mansfield and Leeds on this!

The Five for a Fiver offer is still available at the weekend, offering unlimited all day travel on Stagecoach buses for a group of up to 5 people across South Yorkshire and Chesterfield (same boundaries as the Silver ticket but does not include Supertram) for just £5.

Another change of note is that all adult weekly tickets and some child weekly tickets now have a discount if purchased online in advance. For example the Silver Megarider is £17 from the bus driver but £16 online and the child Getabout is £9 from the bus driver but £8.30 online. It is hoped this will reduce delays to buses at stops caused by drivers selling weekly tickets, especially on a Monday morning. Stagecoach tickets can be bought on their app or at [stagecoachbus.com](http://stagecoachbus.com) whilst Travelmaster all operator passes can be bought online at [sytravelmaster.com](http://sytravelmaster.com).

A reminder that the school service (725) and the evening buses between Bradway and the City Centre (24) are operated by First and the local M17 bus to Dore & Jordanthorpe is operated by Hulleys, therefore in many cases the Travelmaster range of tickets that include all buses may prove better value than the Stagecoach only tickets.

**New buses:** The majority of buses on Stagecoach route 25 from Bradway are now operated by brand new ADL Enviro 200MMC vehicles. These have Euro6 engines which meet the latest emission standards, e-leather seats, free wifi, USB sockets for charging mobile phones and automated next stop announcements.

**Timetables:** The next timetable change is in February, however nothing has yet been announced that affects S17, however note there are changes to Dronfield buses. Keep an eye on [travelsouthyorkshire.com](http://travelsouthyorkshire.com) for any news.

The 218 Sheffield-Ecclesall-Totley-Bakewell/Chatsworth service is currently running to its winter schedule, the summer timetable commences from April when an improved Sunday service comes into operation as Peak District tourist demand increases!

*Andrew Cullen*



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Mark Firth, 1819 - 1880

Sheffield has had several generous benefactors, important philanthropists who had hugely successful careers, often making their names and fortunes as steel manufacturers and who gave money, land and property to the people of our city. This series of articles describes their professional successes and the legacies they left behind for the ordinary people of Sheffield. We start these stories with a look at the life and impact of 'steelman' and politician Mark Firth, whose name will probably be most frequently associated with 'Firth Park'.

Mark Firth was born in Sheffield on 25 April 1819, the son of Thomas Firth from Pontefract who was the Head Smelter at the crucible steel works of Sanderson Brothers at Darnall. Mark also worked at Sanderson Brothers in his youth, leaving in 1842 at the age of 23 to set up a steel making business with his brother, Thomas Jr. Later that year, Thomas Sr also left Sandersons, joining his sons and creating Thomas Firth and Sons.

Mark took the lead on sales for that company, eventually taking over running the whole business on the death of his

## The Steelmen of Sheffield Mark Firth

father in 1850. The firm was initially based at Portobello Works on Charlotte Street in Sheffield but their successes led in 1852 to a move into much larger premises at Norfolk Works on Savile Street. Here they boasted the largest steel rolling mill in Sheffield.

Mark Firth had a large family. His first marriage to Sarah Bingham Taylor in Sheffield in 1841 produced five children by the time she died in 1855. Sadly, several of their children died at very young ages. The Firth family expanded by a further seven children following his second marriage in 1857 to Caroline Gedding from Nottingham. The first Firth family home was on Wilkinson Street at Broomhall before moving into Oak Bank House in Ranmoor by 1861. In 1875 Firth built Oakbrook House, a grand mansion in the midst of extensive gardens, next door to 'Thornbury', the home of Sir Frederick Mappin.

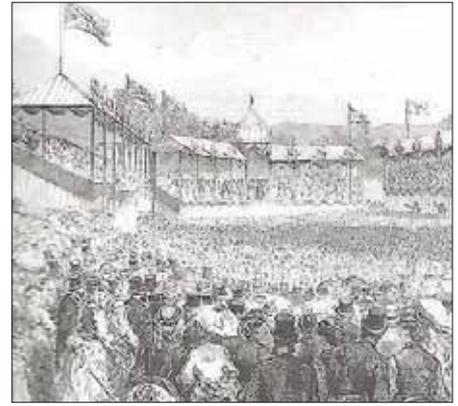
Mark suffered a stroke at the Norfolk Works and died 12 days later on 28 November 1880. Thousands of people, including the great and good of Sheffield and hundreds of his own employees attended the funeral. He was buried in Sheffield General Cemetery, his grave monument is a Grade II listed monument. By 1891, Mark's widow Caroline was living alone, except for a handful of servants at Oakbrook House. The house was taken over by a group of nuns in 1919 when they established the Notre Dame High School at that site.

Personal accolades and achievements were numerous for Mark Firth. He was Sheffield's Master Cutler between 1867 and 1869, becoming the first person to be re-elected to that position. Mark was also the Mayor of Sheffield between 1874 and 1875 and also an Alderman for Sheffield – this was a post elected by other members of the Council, rather than the people of Sheffield.

By the time of Mark's death, Thomas Firth and Sons had become a huge producer of armaments. They initially made round shot for cannons used in the Crimean War before manufacturing gun barrels, including famously in 1871, a 35 ton gun carried by HMS Devastation. Known as the 'Woolwich Infant'. This was capable of firing a missile six miles, easily penetrating the hulls of the iron clad warships of Britain's enemies venturing into any closer range.

Even that achievement was soon surpassed by Firths with the production of an 81 ton 'Thunderer' gun. Much of the steel used for the British and French navy's gun making came from Firths. By the start of the First World War, Sheffield had a reputation for its armaments producing capability and advanced technology and was, in some circles, referred to as the 'Arsenal of the World'.

Mark Firth was a great believer in education for all classes of people and in 1879 he gave £25,000 for the construction and establishment of the



*Firth Park ceremonial opening on 16 April 1875. The weekly newspaper The Graphic reported that the royal visitors arrived at Firth Park in a procession of forty carriages from Victoria station with the band of the Hallamshire Volunteer Rifle Corps playing the "Firth Park March".*

*The royal couple were seated in a temporary pavilion designed to look like a Turkish minaret and 15,000 school children were assembled in front to sing the national anthem.*

Firth College for Arts and Science. This became the University of Sheffield in 1905 and the name 'Firth Court' at the University shows appreciation for this. His name is also attributed to the 'Firth Wing' of the Northern General Hospital, marking his generosity to the medical profession of Sheffield. A further example of his consideration for others was through the building of alms houses at Nethergreen.

His generosity was typified in 1875 when Firth presented 36 acres of greenspace to the town of Sheffield. Firth Park was officially opened later that year by Albert and Alexandra, Prince and Princess of Wales. This royal visit was a great occasion for Sheffield and its people, who turned out in vast numbers to line the streets as the royal party passed by in their carriages. Banks closed for business at noon and the majority of workers took the day off – quite probably without any approval of their employers.

The visit cost the town several thousand pounds even though the Royals stayed at Firth's home, 'Oakbrook', the mansion he had completed in that same year at Ranmoor. The well to do of Sheffield joined the royal visitors that evening for a ball before the Prince, later to become Edward VII, enjoyed a spot of shooting at nearby Longshaw, as the guest of the Duke of Rutland.

There is evidence all over Sheffield, at the University, the hospital, parks and elsewhere that shows how much Mark Firth used his considerable wealth to improve the lives of Sheffielders. He is therefore one of the city's greatest benefactors.

Next time we'll have a look at the impact that another 'steelman', Sir Frederick Mappin made on Sheffield and particularly the educational opportunities he created for ordinary people.

*Glynn Burgin*

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## Totley Library

Could you spare a few hours a week to help run Totley Library?

We rely entirely on volunteers to run Totley Library and currently we are looking for people to help us in many different roles. Keeping the library clean and tidy is a really important role; the gardening team are coming up to the busiest time of the year; our cinema club needs help with setting up and operating our projection equipment; we want more people to join us doing library duties, and we need more people willing to act as trustees, helping to run Totley Library as a whole.

All these jobs are important. None need take more than a few hours a week. If you think you might be able to help, please ask for more information at the library, or call 0114 236 3971.

### Sheffield Year of Reading.

2020 is the Sheffield Year of Reading! There is information about this and various events on Sheffield City Council's website or from a leaflet

available in the library. We are hoping to hold some events with local authors – watch out for details later!

### 'Findmypast' and 'British Newspaper Archive':

We are offering both these services on the public computers in the library. Users can register their accounts and by doing so, they will also gain access to the My Research area which will enable them to keep track of their searches and bookmark their viewed items into folders and use the family tree program to build their own family tree.

### March Book Sale.

There will be a Saturday book sale on 7th March from 10am to 12noon. The theme will be Spring, walking, gardening and nature books. Refreshments will be available, along with information about Friends of Gillfield Wood, the Library garden volunteers and the Wednesday Health Walks.

### Children's Events

Our Babytime sessions are held every Tuesday (except school holidays) between 1pm and 1.45pm, with singing,

action rhymes, musical instruments etc for babies - and parents/carers can stay as long as they like afterwards for a drink and chat.

We have a new music session on Fridays called Music with Mummy. The times are 10.30 to 11am for ages 14 months to 3 years, and Jolly Babies for ages 0 - 14 months from 11.15 to 11.45am. Email [beccamwm@gmail.com](mailto:beccamwm@gmail.com) for more details and prices.

### Totley Library Cinema

Cinema Entry: £4 for adults £2.50 for children which includes a raffle ticket for a prize draw, and can be bought in advance from the library or at the door. Refreshments available. You must be a library member in order to watch a film. Thursday afternoon shows are FREE for the over 65s.

If you want to become involved in choosing film titles for future showings, you can take part in our survey via our website.

### Children's Films at 2pm Sunday:

23rd February, *Toy Story 4*

22nd March, *Ralph Breaks the Internet*

19th April, *Frozen 2*

### Films for adults:

Friday 14th February, 7.30pm:

*Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*

Thursday 20th February, 3pm:

*Casablanca*

Friday 20th March, 7.30pm:

*Red Joan*

Thursday 26th March, 3 pm:

*Gone With The Wind*

Thursday 16th April, 3 pm:

*Once upon a time in Hollywood*

Friday 24th April, 7.30 pm

*Downton Abbey*

### Community Art Space.

Are you a local artist? Would you like to exhibit and sell your artwork while getting involved in a rewarding community initiative? Or perhaps you are looking for that perfect piece of art for your dining room or a unique present for a special occasion.

The library is now looking for local artists who would like to join this exciting new venture and exhibit in April and July. For further information, please call in at Totley Library or email [carolynjallcroft@gmail.com](mailto:carolynjallcroft@gmail.com).

### Library Gardening

2019 was a really successful year for the library gardeners with a plant sale in May, raising over £1500. Individual volunteers worked hard to clear, re-plant, and maintain significantly large areas of the grounds including the flower bed at the bottom of the car park, the large planted area by the front door.

Our plant sale this year is going to be held on Saturday 2nd May. Please keep us in mind as you tidy your gardens, divide perennials, and plant seeds in the next few months. We welcome all plant donations, the quality of which significantly contributes to the success and popularity of the sale.

To join the team or to plants donate please contact Fiona Smith at [fionaksmith@gmail.com](mailto:fionaksmith@gmail.com).

*Phil Harris*



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## Gilbert & Sullivan Society

Happy New Year everyone. Let's hope that sanity prevails this year because there has not been much in evidence from our lords and masters over the past few years. Enough, Derek!

On to more joyful matters. The concerts, while musically and comically excellent, were not as well attended as they have been in the past, but I fear that this was due to lack of publicity as much as anything. Unfortunately I was not too well around deadline time for two of the local papers and missed it but nevertheless the Dore concert was pretty full. I have to thank Gwen Nimmo in getting us to a very high standard for the concerts and to Monica Eyley for selecting such a splendid programme of festive music.

Never mind, I'm back in the saddle again so I can bore you all with more about The Society.

We have two concerts of G & S music coming up, (both with the same programme with selections from several operettas), one at Whittington Moor Methodist Church and the other at The Merlin Theatre. Both concerts are aimed at raising funds for the two venues as well as ourselves and the programme will be filled with favourite G & S songs from several of the operettas.

The Merlin Theatre concert will be on Saturday 15th February at 7:30pm with tickets available from Gill Rugg on 0114 248 9573 / 97813 672766 as well as on the door. The Whittington Moor Methodist Church concert is on Saturday February 29th at 2:30pm with tickets from either Mike Spriggs 01246233475 / 07484169003 or Gill Rugg as above. It is advisable to purchase tickets for this venue as it is always very well attended. Tickets for either concert are £8 each.

We hope as many of you can attend one of the concerts for two very good reasons. One you will have a wonderful afternoon/evening's entertainment where many of the songs will be so well known there will always be a temptation to join in and secondly you would be helping to raise funds for two organisations which contribute a lot to the well being of the less able.

Then, of course, we have our annual show at The Merlin Theatre (Meadow Bank road, S11 9AH). We could not be more pleased that we have retained Stephen Godward as musical director and the brilliant Graham Weston as producer. Both are masters of their art and will ensure that it will be a wonderful show. It runs from Wednesday 1st April to Saturday 4th. The Wednesday, Thursday and Friday performances will be at 7:30pm and the Saturday performance will be a matinee only at 2:30pm.

The operetta this year is "Patience". It is a satire based on the aesthetic movement of 1860-1900 where poetry was king and Algernon Swinburne and Oscar Wilde ruled the day. Gilbert takes the Mickey mercilessly with dear Archibald and Reginald whom the ladies adore while



*Alex Hayward- Brown and Derek Habberjam in concert. Alex is cast as a poet Archibald Grosvenor in Patience*

the Dragoon Guards, who think that they own the ladies turn their hand to all sorts of ridiculous antics to try and win them back

It makes for an evening full of fun with Sullivan's music sure to send you home singing "Say Boo to you". For tickets - £15 and £7.50 (under 16) - ring John on the ticket hotline - 0114 236 3797 or 0758 5802915 after 7:30pm.

We hope to see you at either concert and the show so 'til then I hope the winter is not too dramatic.

*Derek Habberjam*

## Local Pubs & Beer

Not a lot to report in the Bradway area - the Castle Inn gastropub continues to turn out good fresh food to an appreciative audience whilst the recently refurbished Shepley Spitfire continues to operate as a more traditional community pub with local real ales, an extensive range of gin, entertainment and value for money food. There also appears, at the time of writing, to be no change at the Samuel Smith Brewery owned Old Mother Redcap, which is still closed and advertising to recruit a management couple.

Abbeydale Brewery continue to brew monthly specials and experimental beers alongside their core range. For 2020 they plan on showcasing how they can use their 'hopback' equipment to maximise the flavours and aromas different hop varieties offer, whilst the latest beer from their "Funk Dungeon" project is a saison brewed with locally foraged nettles!

We're heading into beer festival season now and the charity event at Magna (between Meadowhall and Rotherham) is back at the end of February then a bit closer to home we have the Indie Beer Feast at the old Abbeydale Picture House on 6th and 7th March. This isn't a huge venue so advance tickets are essential; this sees a number of highly rated independent craft breweries bring their own bars showcasing some quite interesting and special beers; the event also includes street food vendors and a

wine bar.

The week after Indie Beer Feast is Sheffield Beer Week, which sees pubs, bars, restaurants and breweries across the City put on events that celebrate good beer, visit [sheffieldbeerweek.co.uk](http://sheffieldbeerweek.co.uk) for details as they become available.

Looking further ahead, a great new event in the Peak District is taking place for the second time on Saturday 20th June which sees a gathering of preserved buses of various vintages running a network of free services centred on the Peak Rail station at Rowsley South. Not only do you get a scenic ride on interesting heritage vehicle but the bus stops at a number of pubs and breweries for refreshment stops too!

The easiest way for someone in the Bradway Bugle area to enjoy this event is to jump on the TM Travel bus 218 from Totley out to Bakewell (home of Thornbridge Brewery and the Joiners Arms micropub) and pick up the free heritage bus service there. More information can be found on the Derbyshire Beer & Bus running day event page on Facebook.

*Andrew Cullen*

## Abbeydale Park Bowling Club

The Club will be holding Open Mornings on Saturday 18th April and Saturday 25th April between 10am and 12 noon for anyone who would like to try their hand at Crown Green Bowling.

Crown green bowling is an outdoor activity which provides an opportunity to meet people and forge new friendships. Previous experience is not necessary as free instruction will be given and practice sessions organised.

Our Bowls Club is primarily a social bowling club with informal sessions running each day in the morning, afternoon and evening. Playing groups are made up by members as they arrive.

Friendly Inter-Club Matches are held throughout the season as well as internal competitions for the many trophies bestowed on the club. Social events are held regularly throughout the year including Dinners, Treasure Hunt as well as regular Coffee Mornings.

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

Please come and join us at our Open Days, equipped with suitable footwear (flat with no heels), where you will be warmly welcomed. All other equipment can be provided. We have a selection of bowls from which you can choose.

If you require any further information, please contact:-

*Doreen or Richard Bertram*  
Telephone: 0114 289 1423, email:  
[richardsprinta@gmail.com](mailto:richardsprinta@gmail.com)



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**Do you spend much time fretting about money? If your finances cause you sleepless nights, you're certainly not alone. With mental health and wellbeing increasingly under the spotlight, financial worries are a big contributor, including for those in steady employment.**

A Financial Wellbeing Index<sup>4</sup>, assessing the financial wellbeing of UK employees, reveals a large number of UK employees are suffering from money worries, with over three quarters (77%) of the workforce saying that money worries impact them at work. This figure was even higher for millennials at 87%.

It seems that over a third (34%) of people are not financially prepared for a loss of income or unforeseen costs. Although one of the biggest money worries was coping financially if they lost their job, only 8% of employees have purchased an income protection product.

A large part of financial wellbeing is having the confidence that you can achieve your financial goals. It was therefore surprising to find that 55% of employees do not have a financial plan and 76% don't know what tax allowances and reliefs are available to them or have some awareness but are not sure if they are taking advantage of them.

<sup>4</sup>Close Brothers, Mar 2019

## Save to Succeed

Data<sup>5</sup> has revealed that 20% of 16-21-year olds believe they will "need savings to succeed in life", but

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17% say they currently don't save anything. Of those who save regularly, six out of ten put their cash with a bank, while 22% save money at home.

One fifth of respondents were unable to identify what 'ISA' stands for, whilst 33% didn't know how much you can save into one. Four out of ten said they don't have an ISA; the survey suggests that a lack of knowledge and financial education is partly to blame.

The survey highlights that family members are integral to encouraging this age group to save money, as 15% of respondents said they would definitely save more if their family was better at saving.

<sup>5</sup>BMO, 2019

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## Bradway Birds - Winter

People often grumble about winter, and mope around, waiting for spring. It is pretty tough for birds too, especially for those entering their first winter, a season of which they have no previous experience. They don't seem to mope, however, and accept they have to get on with it.

Nevertheless, it is a season with a heavy death rate. Even successful species such as robins, blackbirds, and blue and great tits enter spring with roughly the same population as the year before. What happened to the large flocks of the previous summer? They died, of course.

The first problem is that days are short. There is less time to find food. Then, secondly, food is scarcer and thirdly, nights are not only longer, they are colder. More food is needed to get them through the longer time when they can't feed.

Dawn and dusk are also longer, and like us, birds are not much better in the gloom than they are in the dark. Feathers are brilliant insulators, but heat is still lost at higher rates than in summer and for more of the time. The fourth problem is that there is less shelter and more wind chill when deciduous trees have dropped their leaves.

Ignoring our full migrants, such as swifts and swallows, some of our supposedly resident species will leave Yorkshire for southern England or France and Spain. Leaving is less dangerous than staying, despite the flight involved. The proportions migrating vary in ways no one can yet predict. There is little correlation with the conditions actually experienced. It is highly likely that a range of strategies benefits the species as a whole.

More of our local species are highly sedentary. More or less all sparrows, robins, dunnocks, tits, crows and wrens stay and put up with whatever comes. They have to squeeze as much sustenance and shelter as they can from their hard-won and hard-defended

territories. Let's hope you all feed them.

Local numbers of these species are increased by winter migrants from the Netherlands, Germany, Poland and Scandinavia. Few of these birds have work permits or visas! The countries of origin frequently have cold anti-cyclones with temperatures averaging below 0, intensifying the pressures felt by our resident birds.

An Easterly wind in January will bring us a sharp reminder of what the Polish weather is like, and will bring birds with it. Even tiny wrens and goldcrests, so immobile here, will arrive. Being such tiny bundles of feathers, unknown numbers won't make it, falling into the North Sea.

Blackbird, chaffinch and starling numbers are most likely to increase. You might find a dozen blackbirds in your garden and most will be from the continent. This is problem five, and the local birds most certainly see it as such, spending much energy in chasing away the migrants.

Try to watch your blue tits. They pair for a season only, and often the older and newer adults form winter flocks. From their interactions and constant calling, flocking would seem to give them comfort and companionship. A scientist might frown at such language, but to do so seems to ignore or deny the behavioural evidence.

Flocking means that food has to be shared, but also means that more is found, because more eyes are operating on a broader front. Also there are more eyes to spot and warn of predators such as nasty ginger and white cats or a hungry sparrowhawk. The extra eyes help because a leafless environment offers few hiding places, and a bird on its own can't both look around and feed to the full. The extra numbers probably improve winter survival.

We have low bushes by our front window, and blue tits will often be in them and can be watched from a metre or less away. They are searching all the time, their eyes only a centimetre from

potential prey.

And the prey is? They are looking for insect eggs, camouflaged pupae, over wintering caterpillars, tiny flies, and clusters of spider eggs. Failure to find them means death, perhaps that night if it is cold, windy and with long hours of darkness. Birds have to be light and mobile, so store very little fat. Small species can't last for two foodless days.

But, if they've fed on your garden food, the blues will socialise in little dancing parties. Males and females will start to flirt and chase from December. Our nest box is prospected and fought over from weeks before New Year by a nearly formed pair that will also spend time with the flock.

Robins, of course, are solitary, though the males are quite happy to welcome a possible mate. All the activities the blue tits share are carried out by the robin on its own. This has an upside, a territory of its own, but comes with a price tag. One pair of eyes is less secure than many, and cats kill far more robins than they do blue tits.

So we have a range of strategies across different bird groups. The main objective is to survive until spring, to take part in another or a first breeding season.

*John Kirkman*

### Dear Sir,

I am by no means a bird watcher but I do notice what is going on in nature and always read the Bradway Birds piece. The mention of starlings in the last piece made me think of how much has changed over the years. We moved to Greenhill in the early eighties and when you placed food on the bird table in the back garden, by the time you had got back into the house it would be mobbed by starlings. On other occasions I would see them walking along the lawn in a straight line, twenty or thirty abreast, pecking at the ground.

In the early nineties when I worked in town, at dusk in autumn there would be a massive cloud of starlings swirling over charter square roundabout before roosting on the ledges of the Grosvenor hotel. It was a magnificent sight. Now, I can't remember the last time I saw a starling.

Rooks also used to be a daily sight, flying east at dawn, noisily and untidily over Greenhill school, then returning at dusk. I have not seen these for many years either. In the summer I used to sleep with the bedroom window shut, so loud was the songbird dawn chorus.

Now, all I seem to hear at dawn are magpies, crows and those infernal wood pigeons. In the world of birds, change has definitely not been for the better.

*Jim Allen*

### Reader feedback

We welcome feedback from readers, whether letters on local issues, snippets of local history, or information about local or charitable organisations.

Just drop a line to the address on page 2, give us a call or drop us an email.

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## Cavendish Cancer Care

Cavendish Cancer Care is a local independent charity based in Sheffield. It provides a range of therapies for patients, their carers and their children. Therapies include reiki, shiatsu, hypnotherapy, counselling, acupuncture, aromatherapy art therapy, and play therapy. The charity also runs a specialist Children and Young People's Service which provides a place for children to come and get support when a close relative is diagnosed with cancer. People can refer themselves to the centre and do not need a referral. Initial appointments are provided, usually within 5 working days.

Cressida, 58, is one of the 1,900 people who benefitted from Cavendish services in 2019. After being diagnosed with an incurable brain tumour "out of the blue", Cressida came to Cavendish for support. "Cavendish taught me coping techniques, which helped me get through my radiotherapy sessions without getting panicked or upset. One of the things I really appreciate about Cavendish is its connection to conventional healthcare - I've always felt safe there. You can put your trust in them, because they take care of people with cancer every day. Cavendish have been a big part of helping me to keep going."

Cavendish Cancer Care has now launched its new 250 challenge. They are looking for 250 local heroes, who will pledge to raise £250. Cavendish Cancer Care relies almost entirely on the



generosity of local people to keep its doors open to the 1900 local families who turn to them each year. Government funding only keeps the charity running for two weeks each year.

The challenge runs for 250 days but can take as much or as little of this time as is needed. You can do anything you like to raise the money, whether that's running, baking, cycling, arts and crafts, or something else entirely.

Sign up to the 250 Challenge today at [cavcare.org.uk/250challenge](http://cavcare.org.uk/250challenge). Contact the team on 0114 275 4070 or [hello@cavcare.org.uk](mailto:hello@cavcare.org.uk)

Cavendish Cancer Care, Tim Pryor Centre, 34 Wilkinson Street, S10 2GB. Phone: 0114 278 4600 Website: [www.cavcare.org.uk](http://www.cavcare.org.uk) Facebook: [facebook.com/cavendishcancercare](https://www.facebook.com/cavendishcancercare) Twitter and Instagram: @cavcancercare

## Sheffield Together 2020

The annual Sheffield Together walk/run – a fun and friendly event in Ecclesall Woods, will be held on Sunday 8th March to raise money for local charity Cavendish Cancer Care.

"Following my own cancer treatment and fantastic support from the Cavendish Centre, I decided to sign myself and my children up to Sheffield Together as a way of raising money to give back to the centre," Says Julie, who attended the event last year. "I walked/ran it with my 8 year old son, while my 10 year old daughter charged off ahead! It's a really well organised event - well marshalled and signposted - in a lovely location. We will be having another go this year!"

In 2019, Sheffield Together welcomed over 150 people to Ecclesall Woods. Runners, walkers, and dogs alike took to the mud and raised £7,000 in sponsorship money. This year's event is set to be even bigger and better, with a brand new route through the woods to be unveiled.

"This event is suited to anyone. It doesn't matter what age you are, or whether you've never done a walking or running event in your life! It's all about getting together and enjoying the atmosphere whilst supporting a fantastic local charity." Says Helen, who is organising the event.

Visit [www.sheffieldtogether.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldtogether.co.uk) or for more information, get in touch with Helen at [helen@cavcare.org.uk](mailto:helen@cavcare.org.uk) or call the Office on 0114 275 4070.

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## Four legged volunteer

He's Bruce the cockapoo... a new breed of St Luke's Hospice volunteer! Bruce is the companion of St Luke's volunteer hairdresser Erica Hanson-Fountain – and he's also at St Luke's Pets as a Therapy dog.

Erica first brought Bruce to the hospice to visit a friend's mum during her time as a patient but after seeing the difference that one visit made it was clear that the much-loved family pet could be a perfect candidate for the national PAT Dogs scheme.

"The impact of bringing Bruce to St Luke's is massive and everyone wants a piece of him," said Erica. Having him at St Luke's also helps to bring a sense of normality, a really normal vibe for our patients."

Erica usually brings Bruce to St Luke's on the days that she herself is volunteering and visiting relatives who have become used to his friendly welcome often pop in to the St Luke's salon specifically to see him. But the biggest difference Bruce has made has definitely been to the lives of animal loving patients.

"We had one patient who had been here for eight weeks and had not seen his own dog at all in that time and who actually said he didn't want his dog to come in," said Erica. "But one day I brought Bruce in to see him and after that he asked for his dog to be brought in for a visit – that's the difference that Bruce can make."

*John Highfield*



*Erica and Bruce, St Luke's volunteers*

a city that wants to be Age Friendly, and I am calling for change by the end of the year".

"People are more likely to get out and about, go shopping, and spend money in the local economy, if they know they won't get caught short. This isn't just an older people's issue. Thousands of Sheffields of all ages are living with long-term health conditions and this is also a vital issue for parents of babies and toddlers."

He added: "I recognise this cannot be a free-for-all, and that businesses can't open their doors to anyone who wants to come in. But where people are genuinely in need of somewhere to go, they should be welcomed." Unfortunately, cuts and privatisation have led to the closure of many public toilets across the whole country.

The charity will produce a directory of all places which have signed up in time for the busy Christmas shopping period.

For further details about how to get involved and to sign up for the scheme, please phone Age UK Sheffield on (0114) 250 2850 or you can email: [cally.bowman@ageuksheffield.org.uk](mailto:cally.bowman@ageuksheffield.org.uk)

## NOW and THEN

### *A Kick up the Past*

## THREE PIECE SWEETS

For the budding social historian (and who amongst us is not?), a trip to a charity shop, especially those with old furniture, can be an archaeological bonanza. No need to don all weather gear and slow foxtrot your way across a field with a metal detector; put an end to damp knee misery while sieving a metric tonne of soil through a flour sifter.

Instead, go hunting for the mysterious 1950s by delving beyond the clothing rails, bookshelves and shoe bins. With luck you may alight upon objects both intriguing and enlightening.

For it is through such places that the furniture that litters the memories of my childhood in Bradway will pass at some point. Like actors, such furniture is now usually 'resting' between jobs, seeking a new situation and a new role.

We aren't talking high end stuff here; our family home on Bradway Road had no place for escritorios, commodes or cocktail cabinets (although come to think of it, such a collection does sound like a good night in for the jaded *bon viveur*).

Yet it would have been unthinkable for our house, like most others of the era, not to have access to a 'sideboard'. Indispensable to us back then, now they squat in clearance warehouses, sturdy, four-square, silently brooding over their former glory days. Falling between two stools as it were, they are neither the shabbiest of chic, nor the chic-est of shabby.

For the purposes of clarity; in the 1950s, elderly maiden aunts had 'credenzas', farmhouses and the rustically inclined had Welsh dressers and those who liked to entertain had 'buffets'. The rest of us had sideboards, whose function was inextricably woven into the family life of the time.

HOLDERS of the plates, cutlery, china for best, place-mats, table cloths and napkins, they were the repository of all the flummery and finery required when eating at home.

They had different roles on high days and holidays (when distant relatives or visitors came to stay, for Christmas,

## Accessible Toilets Campaign

Age UK Sheffield has launched a campaign to get 100 locations in the city to make their toilet facilities freely available to those most in danger of getting caught short, such as older people, those living with long-term health conditions, or parents with toddlers

Steve Chu of Age UK explains that "Sheffield is one of England's largest cities, yet there are only seven city centre premises signed up to the Sheffield BID's LAVS (Lavatory and Ablution Venue Scheme) scheme. It is not acceptable for

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Emer: 07792422909, Rachel: 07956908454



Birthdays) from those of the everyday (those now forgotten collective events such as 'Sunday lunch', 'teatime' and 'supper').

By way of illustration, on Boxing Day, these wooden wonders would remember their heritage as buffets and be laden to the point of groaning with cold meats, leftover turkey, pickles, chutney, sauces, cheese, biscuits, trifle, cake and drink. More than just a static hostess trolley, half the fun of such an arrangement was the indoor picnicking throughout the house that it encouraged.

For sheer novelty, we children established elliptical orbits around the sideboard like hungry Sputniks. Adults on the other hand eschewed such opportunities and preferred instead to maintain a more geo-stationary relationship to the spread.

The clue, then, to the sideboard's fall from grace is its link to changing eating habits. It isn't just that modern day open plan living/dining/kitchen areas are more flexible to use or cheaper to build, though they may be both. It was simply the dropping away of the formality associated with mealtimes; eating in front of the television was a rarity not a default.

Then again, during the 'Sideboardacene' era, many television screens were small enough to be hidden away behind cabinet doors themselves, while even radiograms had hinged lids like upright pianos.

Proponents of Darwinian-style arguments claim that technology, or

fashion, or the free market accelerated furniture evolution; yet 'survival of the fittest' is most evident where a more complex ecology of living subtly disrupts the food chain of usage. Telephone tables and stereograms are obvious victims of engineering advance.

But the fading away of bed chests, console tables by the front door, display units, hall trees and double-decker tea trolleys don't readily conform to such simplistic explanations. When a Famous Department Store announced in 2016 they would no longer sell three piece suites, they were following, not leading a

### *...changing eating habits.*

trend.

Whatever the ultimate cause, we would be foolish not to acknowledge that with a change of object goes a change of subject. What changes the owner, changes the owned and vice versa. Furniture items in regular use take on a veneer, not just of age and wear, but of the person who most uses them.

When paused for a moment, most of us can think of a family member and a piece of furniture that we associate with them virtually in the same neural spark-gap. If we allow ourselves thus to shimmy through the beaded curtains of our assumptions, it's pretty clear that even the most unfashionable furniture absorbs memories in a way that technology does not.

By way of example: my Mother was

keen to ensure our Bradway home, emerging as it was in the late 50's from an age of austerity into the first hints of the economic sunny uplands of the 60's, was not only comfortable, but looked it. Small drop-leaf side tables at chair-arm height are hard to find now, but I still use the set she had from new and which later, she lovingly refurbished.

Using the same number of lacquered top layers as are lavished on a Rolls-Royce, she made sure they could withstand the heat of re-entry into the atmosphere, never mind that of an errant coffee mug. They are, however, indelibly stained; not just with teak oil, but with her.

Such melding of the animate and inanimate is usually reserved for unfortunate occurrences in the Transporter Room of Star Trek, the ready quips of futurologists and the more colourful suggestions of those reduced to incandescence by flat-pack self-assembly Anything. Yet as always, Life has a habit of trumping Fiction (even when the two of them are playing Three Card Brag and Fiction bends the rules), so for once, it's nice to be able to write with a straight face 'Try this at home'.

If you are in your own living quarters, look up from the Bugle and glance around the room; perhaps where you are isn't so much furnished as peopled. For while we worry that we might be part of the furniture, we forget that the furniture might be part of us.

*Chris Sheldon*



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## Take a Break

### My Florida Journey ... more than theme parks!

When we think of Florida we think of theme parks and Disney. For me, it has so much more to offer and is a perfect destination for some Winter sun, mixed with a bit of history in the Sunshine State!

Spanish Conquistador Ponce de León discovered the Florida coast over 500 years ago, landing in St Augustine, which is now the oldest continually occupied city in the United States. Often overshadowed by Jamestown, Virginia, which is lauded as being the cradle of American civilisation, St Augustine offers a world away from the screaming scramble of Orlando and resonates with the clip-clop of horse carriages carrying tourists around the tree-lined streets of exotic architecture, from Colonial to Moorish.

It is often part of our Floridian adventures. The city's oldest building, Castillo de San Marcos, dating back to 1672, dominates the water front and makes for a wonderful historic tour, as well as the beautiful Flagler College, dating back to the more civilised 1800s era. Once a luxury hotel, with its towering terracotta spires, it's a must see when in the city.

If history isn't your thing, then like us, head to pristine Atlantic coastline. Having read there was a possibility of several Space-X rocket launches from Cape Canaveral during our stay, we wanted to be able to experience a little of what the Space Coast had to offer, but having visited the amazing Kennedy Space Centre before, we didn't feel the need to stay near there.

We chose a stay at the coastal resort of Ormond Beach, just north of Daytona Beach, in a beachfront condo with views over the ocean and offering incredible sunrises vistas ... and relax!

With an aborted space launch due to high winds several miles above the earth, we were ecstatic to head to Ponce Inlet and Light House State Park the next day to watch the rocket finally head into



*Kissimmee Lakefront Park*

space alongside several other onlookers, WOW! Albeit many miles away, it was still a pleasure to see. Maybe one day we'll head closer and get a front row view from the official grandstand.



*Orlando Wheel, International Drive*

After a few days exploring the beautiful beaches and meandering along bouncing boardwalks and picturesque piers, catching glimpses of many wonderful sea birds, brown pelican, osprey, egret, cormorant, heron, gulls, terns, plovers and kittiwakes, we headed inland in search of manatees and boy did we hit the jackpot!

Approximately half way between Ormond Beach and Orlando, Blue Springs State Park is one of over 1000 natural springs throughout Florida, each a little different from the next. For us Blue Springs was the gem we were looking for and with a small entrance fee of \$6, it was well worth the visit.

From mid November to March, when the hot Summer air temperature drops, the Florida manatees head to the crystal clear waters of Blue Springs, where the temperature stays nice and cosy. Perfect for the manatees, making it perfect for a visit. In peak manatee viewing months, hundreds of manatee migrate from the St John's River to the hot spring outlet, making it an amazing sight to behold.

Best tip is to arrive early, as later in the day the manatees head back into the St John's River to feed. Not only does the Blue Springs State Park offer a wonderful boardwalk to wander along with stunning views across the waterway and the manatees seemingly floating in the beautifully clear water, there is also a chance to see other creatures.

We had our eyes peeled for alligators, but sadly on this visit there wasn't any to see, but we were lucky enough to see many large fish swimming alongside the manatees and a cheeky armadillo frantically digging and scurrying under the

boardwalk and across a grassed area. Amazing!

We've seen manatees in the wild at many areas throughout Florida, however, this was one of the more beautiful spots



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to see them and so pleased we did.

Heading back to the Orlando area, we were in search of a fill of festive activities, combined with days poolside catching a few rays

On the list was a visit to the giant gingerbread house at the Grand Floridian Hotel, part of the Disney resorts. With no park tickets, we had read that we could park at Disney Springs, take the shuttle bus to the Contemporary Resort, then the Monorail to the Grand Floridian Hotel and wander around the resort inside and out. Perfect and of course, free, the best part of perfect for me, haha!

Not to mention the gingerbread house was incredible! They start baking it in August! Crazy!

This has only been a small insight into what Florida has to offer outside of the theme park world. During our many years of wintering here, we have visited some amazing places.

Including driving an air boat in the Everglades, watching dolphins frolic in the calm waters of Fort De Soto Park & Beach on the Gulf Coast, catching the classic cars at Old Town Kissimmee, manatee viewing at Apollo Beach Power Station, swimming with dolphins in the Keys and watching the perfect sunset

from Kissimmee Lakefront Park, along side the alligators swimming in the lake! Can't wait to go back and explore more of this beautiful State.

Here's to the next adventure: Lindsay



Castillo de San Marcos - St Augustine

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### Three Peaks Challenge

There are some walks in the park that are definitely more of a challenge than others. And now for the third year running St Luke's Hospice is looking for

outdoor enthusiasts keen to take on the ultimate park event – the famous Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge.

The 26 mile challenge takes walkers through the stunning Yorkshire scenery of the Dales National Park, starting with smallest of the peaks, Pen-y-ghent, before going on over 12 hours to tackle the peaks of Ingleborough and Wharfedale, climbing a total of 1585 metres!

The St Luke's team will be taking up the challenge on Saturday June 13, with participants paying a £30 deposit fee and then raising a minimum of £200 per person – all of which will go to patient care at Sheffield's only hospice.

"This is a real challenge for anybody who wants to tackle some of Britain's most beautiful scenery," said St Luke's Ellie Tomlin. Last year we had more than 40 walkers cross the finish line in less than 12 hours and their fantastic effort and enthusiasm meant that the day raised more than £17,000".

"This year we aim to do even better – and hopefully we'll have the sun shining to help us on our way!"

For information or to register email fundraisingevents@hospicesheffield.co.uk or call 0114 235 7553.

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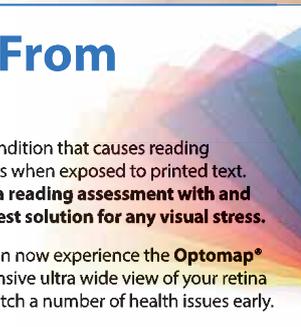
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## Transport 17

January 2020 - a new year, a new decade and as I write this article the dates on the calendar are already flying away. Hopefully you will have had a lovely festive season and I guess like us all, it is now just a distant memory.

2019 ended on a real high for Transport 17. Back in deepest November we held our Christmas Fayre which was a huge success raising £1097 building on the £1000 raised last year. There was a fantastic atmosphere as people enjoyed the social occasion and the usual amazing refreshments provided by the Cross Scythes - cakes as well as mince pies this year - scrummy.

As always huge thanks go to Ben and Scott, without their generosity we would really struggle. Once again they allowed us to take over their space and fill it with stalls, provided staff to support the event and helped in so many ways that all contribute to what we are able to achieve.

Transport 17 are so lucky to have a great team of volunteers who give their time and effort to fund raise for us. They are right up there with the volunteers on the buses as being the heart of Transport 17. They are a brilliant team to have on board and as Chair of the Fundraising Events Subcommittee I cannot thank them enough for their time, effort and commitment it couldn't happen without them. I also know that Mike Finn and the Management Committee would reinforce all I have said.

The other aspect that makes our fundraising events so successful is the support we get from the local community,

not only from businesses but also individuals which of course includes you!! THANK YOU.

Les Firth presented us with a cheque for £250 from the proceeds of Totley Show.

At the end of November it was an

associated with it. Each week we take people to the Dementia Café they have set up. We were also able to take the Sporting Memories group to visit the Football Museum in Manchester.

Since I last wrote we have welcomed two new members to the Management Committee, Karen Goldthorpe and Rosie Fry. They both have a wealth of experience which will be invaluable to Transport 17. We hope that they will enjoy helping to keep our wheels turning.

After such a positive end to the year it is disappointing to report that we have not got off to the best of starts in 2020. Our treasurer, Peter Marquis, resigned from the Management Committee and we need to find a replacement for him as soon as we can.

If you or someone you know has experience in finances and ICT and feel that utilising those skills to contribute to an efficient and effective running of a small local charitable organisation would be of interest, we would love to hear from you. Please email transport17ltd@gmail.com We would like to thank Peter for taking on the role and are really pleased he is continuing to help us as a passenger assistant. Sadly our administrative assistant, Kerry Machon, also left us on the 17th of January. Commitments with another job she has have meant she is unable to fulfil the role at Transport 17.

Finally may we all at Transport 17 wish you the very best for 2020.

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



*Presentation of a cheque for £4664.95 from the COOP Local Community Fund.*

*L to R Sandra Longley, Kath Ruddiforth, David Longley*

honour to go to the Coop in Dore and collect a cheque for £4,664.95 from the Local Community Fund that we were a part of last year. What a fantastic amount and a direct result of your support at the Coop. We can't thank you all enough. The money is going directly into the bus fund.

We have also received donations from Saint Marks Church £500, Totley Open Gardens £950, Provincial Grand Charity £100, Totley Independent £250, Rotary Raffle £300, Bradway Discussion Group £100, Cavendish Ladies Probus Club £170, and cash donations of £48.50. Dore Methodist Tuesday Group have selected us as their chosen charity for this year and have given us £250 as a part of this. Once again we have also received a very generous donation of £2,000 from the Facey Family Foundation. Huge thanks go to all of them for their support.

However the icing on the cake, a true Christmas present, was the extremely generous donation from the Jockel family. As you will probably be aware Alan Jockel, Stella's husband, set up Transport 17 and Stella has continued his work providing donations and in the past helping with the fundraising.

The donation this time has given the bus fund a substantial boost so replacing the MX05 in 2020 is looking like a reality and has given us a real focus for fundraising events as we push for the total of around £52,000. What a great start to the new decade.

Planning is already afoot for events this year. The first one being a Coffee Morning on Saturday 14th March 10.00 - 12.00 at the Cross Scythes. There will definitely be a Chocolate Bonanza Lucky Dip and a raffle to look forward to. So pop the date in the diary and we will all look forward to seeing you there.

Our involvement with People Keeping Well continues, it is good to be able to help facilitate some of the activities

## Race walking in Greenhill

Race walkers in the Greenhill and Millhouses area continue to produce successful performances, the group is 7 strong.

The longer established walkers continue to pick up medals in the senior England Athletics championships. Ana Garcia, still an U20 took the bronze medal in the 10km championship in March and was then selected to represent England Athletics in an U20 International match in the Czech Republic. Ana is now at University in Newcastle doing physiotherapy and not training locally.

Natalie Myers recently missed out on taking the England Athletics indoor title by less than a second after a race long battle and came away with the silver medal. She won the North of England 10km title and was also invited to take part in the annual Manchester International where she took the bronze medal.

Two of the younger walkers Ellis Simmonds and Ben Heley took the first two places in the national Race Walking Association U13 championships.

*Brian Adams*

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## Relay Championships

250 teams of fell and hill runners arrived for last autumn's 2019 British Fell and Hill Relay Championships on the National Trust's High Peak moors. Hosted by the local Dark Peak Fell Runners club, the relays are "a prestigious and substantial national event," said Dark Peak's David Holmes.

It was a monumental three year task to organise, he added, but the club were determined to ensure the championships worked for the local people and countryside as well as for the 1,500 athletes.

"In our view, the National Park is giving us so much, it's a phenomenally beautiful wilderness place to do exciting fell racing, and I think people will go away stunned by the countryside they've been running in, and impressed by the stewardship of landowners like Severn Trent Water and the National Trust," said David. "In some ways, we're on the take, so we want to make sure we give something back."

The Peak District National Park Authority ask event organisers to seek permission from all landowners along proposed event routes. Landowners of the moors above Ladybower, the National Trust, have an online event application page, and say organisers should ideally apply a year beforehand, as Natural England also often have to clear events running through sensitive areas.

"Organised events are at an all-time

high," said Katherine Clarke of the National Trust, "which is good news for us because we want people to enjoy the places we look after. But we also need to keep a balance between enjoyment and protection of the countryside."



*The start of the 2019 British Fell and Hill Relay. Championships in front of Ladybower Dam. Photo by Mark Harvey*

People love running, cycling, climbing and walking in the Peak District because of its landscape and wildlife, she added, but if an event is in the wrong place at the wrong time, or not organised sensitively, it can cause damage to the landscape, disturb wildlife or disrupt the lives of local people.

Dark Peak Fell Runners spoke to

farmers and landowners and held public meetings so everyone knew how to make sure the championships left minimal impact while still bringing plenty of income to the local camping, eating and drinking economy. Over 170 volunteers guided visiting runners and spectators, coaches and cycle parking were provided to reduce cars in the Derwent Valley, and Runners Against Rubbish organised pre and post championship litter picks.

"The National Park, National Trust and Severn Trent are working in this area all the time, they know where the sensitive places are and they have the expertise to help you avoid making mistakes," said David Holmes. "By working with them from the start, you'll actually get a better event. In the end, it was a thrilling day for us after the years of planning." see: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/kinder-for-an-organising-an-outdoor-event-how-to-guide>

*David Bocking*

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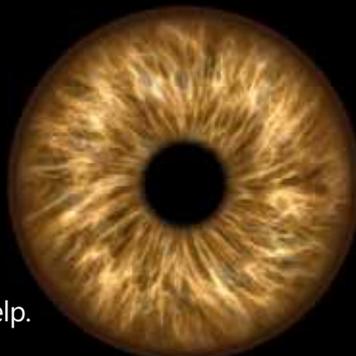
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## Rangers in Nepal

While their colleagues were carrying out winter repair and tree work in drizzly Derbyshire, lead National Trust ranger Rachel Bennett and colleague Lucy Holmes have spent nearly three weeks meeting fellow rangers from 70 different countries at the ninth World Ranger Congress in Nepal's Chitwan National Park. The idea was for the 650 rangers from Africa, Asia, Europe the USA and Australia to listen and learn from one another.

"Every day was really inspiring," said Rachel. "Everyone there was committed to protecting wildlife, and to working with local communities to both make people's lives better and help the local wildlife."

One of the conference themes was female rangers, and the challenges they often face. Women rangers are quite well represented in the Peak District, said Rachel, but women only make up a small percentage of the global ranger workforce. "In some places, it's not seen as acceptable for women to do this kind of work." "Someone once asked me when I was busy digging a hole if I'd actually prefer to be putting my make up on," said Lucy. "You just shrug that kind of thing off."

The Longshaw women met the Akashinga rangers of Zimbabwe, a special team of women rangers who patrol a former trophy hunting area of the Zambezi Valley to deter and catch animal poachers. The Akashinga, recruited from women who had themselves been raped, assaulted or orphaned by AIDS, work with local people to encourage the protection of wildlife.

Evidence shows that women rangers invest more of their income locally, said Rachel, and by talking diplomatically to local people can help communities to value wildlife as an asset and support anti poaching schemes. "These women really are in the front line against poaching," said Rachel. "We told them how amazing they are. Despite the challenges, people like that are fully committed and willing to put their lives on the line for what they believe in. I think that's a really powerful message."

Whether their working day involves rhinos, red deer, crocodiles, or great crested newts, Rachel said there are many common aims for all international rangers. "We're all engaging people in their local wildlife, and in respecting and protecting the environment," said Rachel. "Here, both of us patrol the Peak District, one of the busiest National Parks in the world, and we want the people we meet to support what we do and love the rich wildlife we have here as much as we do. So when we ask them not to have barbecues, or to keep their dogs on a lead, we're not trying to spoil their fun, it's because we want them to help us protect this wildlife."

But there are not enough rangers to protect the world's wildlife on their own, said Lucy. "So we have to get everyone



*National Trust rangers Rachel Bennett and Lucy Holmes who attended the ninth World Ranger Congress in Nepal*

behind the idea. And everyone's next door neighbour."

*David Bocking*

## The Time Travellers Travelogue

Welcome to your first update of the new decade from The Time Travellers, your local history and archaeology group.

We saw 2019 out in traditional fashion with our ever popular Winter Solstice social event. This gave us a chance to meet up and review what the group had been involved in during the last year, whilst enjoying a pie and peas supper, a challenging quiz and a look at the photographs that our Secretary, Dorne Coggins, had accumulated over the last twelve months.

Last autumn saw two excellent presentations, firstly a report from Tom Parker, site Project Officer for ARS Ltd. Tom talked us through an excellent set of photographs detailing progress and discoveries made at the latest excavation at the site of the civilian settlement associated with the Roman Fort at Navio. You might know this site better as Brough, on the road to Castleton. The second event was a historical talk by Carl Clayton about William Humfrey's part in the development of lead smelting in Derbyshire and water powered smelting at Beauchief Abbey.

We did our 'usual bit' for community archaeology by attending the Heritage Exhibition at the Sheffield Millennium Gallery in January. Plans are also progressing for the next annual 3 day Time Travellers excursion in September, when we are going to Tewkesbury, an area rich in historical and archaeological sites.

The informal monthly coffee mornings held on Friday mornings at the Dore Old School were a great addition to our programme last year. These tend to focus on specific historical topics such as archaeological finds that members have made, or photographs and maps that we have taken and are worth discussing. As well as more coffee mornings, we have lots of events lined up including a talk on

Mesolithic and Neolithic flints by the eminent archaeologist Dr Clive Waddington. Clive will also have a look at any flints that members have collected and help identify their type and age. Also coming up is an update on recent discoveries at Bishop's House and a talk on the history and archaeology of Troy.

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

*Glynn Burgin  
The Time Travellers*

## South Sheffield Church

South Sheffield Church is an independent Church. It is the only Church in Bradway and therefore YOUR Church. Do come and visit us. You will find a warm welcome, friendship and support.

South Sheffield Church is a Church which reaches out to the Community through its Toddler Group, Children and young people's groups and Oasis, which is a social time for the older generation, to mention some.

On the last Friday of every month there will be a Gospel evening beginning on February 28th at 7pm. It will be a relaxed evening with a meal and modern Christian music. Do give this a try.

*Christine Wilson*

## Bradway Scouting

**Overview:** Dark evenings and the move of the Scouts' meeting night from Friday to Tuesday have conspired with the dreadful weather to restrict the number of outdoor activities all Sections would normally indulge in. That did leave plenty of time to work indoors on other skills: first aid, navigation and cooking.

Planning has begun for the District Camp which this year will be from Friday to Sunday of the new "May Day"/Victory in Europe bank holiday. The theme, perhaps unsurprisingly, will be "Victory in Europe".

**Beavers:** The parent rota continues to work well. Beavers are working towards the My Scouting Skills challenge badge and have kicked off the term with the air activity badge - always popular as it involves learning how to make paper airplanes!

The Section is full at the moment and having squeezed in 3 Beavers from Greenhill Methodists whose Colony recently had to close because of a lack of adult support. Others from Greenhill have been added to our waiting list.

**Cubs:** A few of our Cubs (now Scouts!) successfully completed their Our Personal and Team Leader Challenges and have finally been awarded the Chief Scout's Silver Award - a superb achievement. We are very proud of them.

This term we are celebrating Burns

night by reciting poetry and making (and eating) shortbread. By Easter, our Cubs will be awarded their Artist activity badge for creating Mother's Day cards, 3D models from clay and Cub Scout 'values' posters - to go on our beautiful new display boards in the Scout Hall. We also have a fantastic trip planned to visit The Chesterfield Barnett Observatory - fingers crossed for a clear sky!

The section is almost full and we thank all the parents who continue to help.

**Scouts:** Dark nights don't always keep our oldest Section indoors on Tuesdays. They were lucky that the weather was kind for their November night hike, back across the moors above Totley Tunnel. Less mellow weather afflicted the bonfire-cum-AGM meeting but it didn't prevent another mighty conflagration and the fireworks display.

Our swimmers in the annual Winter Splash at Graves Leisure Centre came 4th out of 6 teams. The "competition" consisted of 3 not very silly challenges, organised and supervised by the District team. And throughout November, all Scouts worked on their Chef's Badge, which involves not just the preparation and cooking of the ingredients but also planning healthy menus, food hygiene and the ever-popular (not!) washing-up by hand.

**Jubilee:** All Sections had been invited to design a T-shirt to be produced so that every member of the Group can buy one. Felicity Prestwich's colourful version was chosen, and negotiations are now under way with suppliers to achieve an

affordable price. Meanwhile, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are preparing their activities intended to celebrate 50 years on June 20th.

For further details please contact Pamela Powell on their email: 297at50@gmail.com or 0114 235 0191.

### Ian Cox – Obituary

We have all been saddened by the news of Ian's death on December 8th. He had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer 3 years ago.

Ian came to Bradway in 1976 as an IT specialist along with employees who moved *en bloc* from London with the (then) Midland Bank. He had been a Scout, and subsequently a Scout Leader, in his home town of Poole so it was no surprise that he signed up again shortly after arriving here as an Assistant Scout Leader with Bradway, where he immediately threw himself into helping with the late lamented Scout Christmas Post.

He moved up the hierarchy in June 1986, taking on the role of Group Scout Leader (GSL) – overseeing the activities of Cubs as well as Scouts, and eventually the introduction of Beavers. During his time as GSL he recruited new adult Leaders, some of whom are still with the Group today, and with them he revived the traditional week-long summer camps which remain a much enjoyed feature to this day.

From his native Poole, Ian brought sailing and other water-based skills which he shared with all of us who

showed an interest, while also honing his own abilities with the sailing club at Dam Flask. This led to his Scouting appointment as South Yorkshire County Water Activity Adviser in 1993, a position he held for 20 years.

This led him to be a major influence on the very popular annual Splashdown week-end in Rother Valley – now sadly discontinued. His contributions to these organisations were recognised by an Order of Merit plus Bar from the Scout Movement, and by a Service Award from the RYA which was presented to him by the HRH the Princess Royal.

Although Ian resigned as a Scout Leader in 2001, he continued to be involved in local Scouting, firstly as Sheaf District Secretary and later as a member of the Scout Fellowship and its successor the Scout Active Support, and still he found time to help with Greenhill Scouts. As District Secretary he used his IT skills to good purpose every February while guiding his less tech-savvy colleagues through the labyrinthine annual census of Leaders and youngsters.

In every one of his roles, Ian was a knowledgeable and patient companion, always prepared to answer questions and to expand on his replies if that was needed. His grasp of all Scouting skills – not just sailing and kayaking but also knots, first aid, navigation, camping, cooking, games and ceremonials – was extensive and his advice was willingly dispensed.

We shall miss him.

*The Bradway Scouting Team*



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## Friends of Dore & Totley Station – FoDaTS

### It's getting busier down at the station:

From time to time we conduct surveys to see how many use the commuter trains and are able to compare figures over 4 years. They can't be precise. There are reasons why odd days chosen at random aren't fully representative but the trend is ever upwards. It can safely be said that over 400 commute from the station before 8.30 most weekdays, more going towards Manchester than Sheffield.

Not all are commuting. The new service at 5.15 to Manchester Airport on 16th December was used by 8 who went all the way. That's useful for those with early flights and may make it possible for business users to spend a full day in a European centre and get back on an evening train to Dore.

Difficulties with 97/98 buses are encouraging more people to use trains. For a single journey into town it's actually cheaper by train than bus, and trains take only 7 minutes, non-stop. Trains are scheduled to leave Dore & Totley for Sheffield at 7.57, 8.04, 8.24 and 8.28 and over 150 make use of them. In recent months the balance is moving away from Manchester and more towards Sheffield. We still have, and will continue to have until 2023, a lack of trains back to Dore from Sheffield at many times of the day.

Latest official passenger number statistics estimates based on ticket sales have just been released for 2018/19. They show 198,948 used the station compared with 178,580 in 2017/18, an increase of 11.4%. For 6 months of that period Northern provided no Saturday services due to strike action, Saturday being the busiest day for leisure users. With a full 7 day service now restored we should see a further increase for 2019/20.

**What's new?** At long last Northern's Class 142 Pacers have gone? No, not quite, not yet. Most are now lined up in sidings at scrapyards awaiting recycling. A small number are going to heritage railways to provide cheap rides during quieter periods and some are going to museums. However, about 20 have been kept back in Manchester until May. They



*A warming start to the commute with Zozzy's Coffee, served Monday to Friday from 6am until about 9.30am.*

can only be used if attached to a better unit that's compliant with modern standards. That means we may see them in the dark, attached to evening commuter trains out of Manchester, possibly until March. Very soon no trains will have toilets that discharge onto the tracks!

We are now getting the longer Class 150, 156 and 158 trains. They're 30+ years old, but are being refurbished for another 10 years. Let's not get too carried away, but by May we'll have an occasional brand new Class 195, the type now being used on the Nottingham – Leeds route that stops at Dronfield.

TransPennine Express have three new classes of Nova trains being used on most of their routes, but not ours! They've had major teething problems and the intended cascade of their older Class 185 trains that should have come to us months ago has been delayed. By the time you read this most of the busiest trains stopping at Dore should have 6 coaches. That will make an immense difference for those catching the 7.14 and 8.14 for Manchester.

**Defibrillator:** This installation has been delayed, not for lack of money, but because the various parties involved with anything rail related can't sort out who needs to give permission to who, who will fix it, and confirm longer term financial responsibility for maintenance. FoDaTS have agreed to monitor on a regular basis. Maybe it will soon appear.

A cynic might marvel at how quickly the Amazon box appeared when income was involved!

**Planters and a bench:** Snowdrops are already in flower and the crocuses and daffodils are starting to show. Abbeydale Rotary Club have kindly agreed to provide a bench and two planters to go beneath the large conifer at the entrance, providing somewhere to sit while waiting to be picked up by family or taxis. Installation by Easter envisaged.

**Zozzy's Coffee:** Zoe Kent and her partner Lee started operating their early morning coffee facility out of a Smart car and trailer at 6am on 7th January. They intend to trade Monday to Friday from 6am until about 9.30am. Their 3 month trial licence from Northern allows them to trade for longer but this seems to be the busiest period. The more we use them the longer they'll stay open. Zoe has a full time job so we'll probably see more of Lee. They're learning how cold it can be at those early hours!

**Looking ahead:** The car parking situation is currently being considered in a feasibility study for SYPTE, part funded by TransPennine Express.

The Liverpool - Norwich route may see changes in December, possibly moving to TPE – although that decision might get deferred again to 2021. There's more to write about for the next edition.

**Stop Press:** From 2nd February TransPennine Express introduced a Penalty Fare scheme to mirror that of Northern. On the evening of 22nd January all tickets were checked for arriving passengers. Despite there being

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9 ticket machines and a booking office at Sheffield station a significant number were caught without tickets. No penalties were levied that day. A film crew working for Channel 5 was on hand filming for a new series featuring workers on the trains of TPE.

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

**Chris Morgan,  
Chairman**



*Increasing numbers of two wheel commuters are using the station.*

## Read all about it

I have a confession to make: I don't take a daily newspaper any more. I cannot be bothered to read one.

It was different in the old days: when I were a lad we had the *Daily Express* (for Dad) and the *Daily Mirror* (for Mum) delivered each day. We had to go and fetch the *Express* and the *News of The World* on Sundays. What with the *Radio Times* and my *Dandy* and *Beano* the newsagent was as important to us as the butcher.

My butcher shut down years ago and we haven't got an independent newsagent either but who cares? Last year finished me for newspapers. I cannot be bothered to read them. They're of no interest to me.

I never want to read another word about *Brexit*. I do not want to know about politicians of either party. And, I never thought I'd say it, but I am not interested in the Royal Family: apologies to Her Majesty. I can't read about President Trump and other world leaders who wouldn't know the truth if it bit them.

There are few things in Waitrose that are worth paying the extra so I sometimes call in on a Saturday. It's good for a laugh: they had Persian-inspired bread with harissa halloumi, in the café. No, me neither. I accidentally spent over ten quid and got a free newspaper. I took the *Telegraph* as it had the most pages.

Afterwards, I wished I hadn't bothered. Never have I been so reminded that

England is two countries.

There was an advertisement for 'Fortnum and Mason Non-Alcoholic Sparkling Tea' at £16.95 a bottle, a vegan leather jacket at £590, Brazilian Bum-Bum Cream at £44, and a Copper Bath Tub at £2,099.95. All that is no more than a bit of fun but then I saw 'dinner for two, £140, excluding drinks and service'. Yes, it was a swanky London restaurant review, and not the dearest, but it hit me at the wrong time.

Only a few days before I used my bus pass for a day out. (I won't say which town, could be anywhere.) There were too many shut-down shops in the town centre; I pretty much expected that to be the case, but every shop doorway was a beggar's bedroom: sleeping bag, old duvets, cardboard boxes for carpets. I have never seen many beggars; it suddenly came to me that when I was a boy there was no begging. We did see a tramp occasionally and a knife-grinder came on his bike once year, but nothing like this!

There were men, women, all ages, youngsters that I feared for, begging for pennies in the freezing cold. This, in the same country where people like me might go out and spend over £140 just for the fun of it.

It cannot be right. And it cannot be humane to think "Don't give any money, it'll only encourage them." Who on earth

could be 'encouraged' to crouch on a pavement in the biting wind begging for pennies? You also hear "If you give them cash they will only spend it on drink or drugs." Know what? So would I.

Yes, there are the idle and the shiftless and many who should be in the care homes we've closed down. There are people down on their luck, many who have served in the Armed Forces, and a few criminals but I don't care who they are. There is something wrong with my country if these people have to beg.

It cost me a few quid in loose change but I was really hit hard by one dirty-looking chap with his dog. Both looked hungry. I found a few coins then popped into Gregg's and returned with a hot sausage roll. He seemed grateful but I couldn't help noticing that he only ate half and gave the rest of it to the dog.

It wasn't an act: it was a kindness. I cannot cry, due to a medical condition, but I might have that day.

We cannot house the homeless in pop-up tents, cardboard pods, survival bags and shipping containers but, fortunately, I have an easy answer. From October to March the Government should commandeer all conservatories, summer houses and garden sheds\*. You don't really need any of them in the winter. Then any homeless people should be allowed to use them as of right, to sleep in and store their all stuff.

They would escape the winter wind and rain, sleep safer and be better equipped to sort out their lives. The more charitable amongst us might even offer a hot drink and a biscuit, and listen to their problems. It would be a minor inconvenience we'd soon get used to and you might even make a few new friends.

**Robert Smith**

\*Local Authorities would assume responsibility for storing your lawn mower.

## Reader feedback

We are always pleased to hear from readers, whether letters on local issues, snippets of local history, or information about local or charitable organisations.

Just drop a line to the address on page 2, give us a call or drop us an email.

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## Organic Wildlife Gardening

The Soil Association was founded in 1946. In the first quarterly magazine ("Mother Earth"), one of the articles included was written by the founder, Lady Eve Balfour. The following is an extract from that article: "Disorder and chaos are not natural phenomena. Left to herself, nature always produces order. It is man who causes chaos by his persistent attempt to resist or ignore natural laws, an attempt doomed to failure from the start."

The magazine is now called "Living Earth", but many areas are not "living". The fires in south-east Australia are killing wildlife and the land will take many years to recover. Other countries are suffering from drought, the ice-caps are melting, the oceans are warming and, in this small country, the seasons are not as predictable or as pleasant as they were relatively recently. It's not looking good.

As individuals, there are many ways that we can make a difference to global warming and the environment, although one's economic situation may affect what you can achieve. Travel less by air, if at all - it causes huge amounts of carbon emissions, and cruising causes damage to the sea-bed and the wildlife that depends on it. Britain may not always be sunny, but it is a beautiful country with varied landscape, much to do and see, and lovely places to stay. Caravanning can be cheaper, but the sites are a real blot on the very landscape you want to enjoy.

Home insulation is important and using sheep wool in the loft is better for the environment than cheaper, unnatural alternatives. Solar panels and storage batteries if possible are worthwhile and, where appropriate, wind turbines and ground/air source heating. While expensive initially, all these are very good for household budgets and the climate.

Buy an electric or hybrid car and a home charger, which can be used when convenient and, if you have solar panels,



*"The bark path is on its way, with short spur to the water butts." Bark path edged with logs produced from the Alder trees which recently had to be cut down.*

when the sun is shining! Some models can actually be synchronised with solar panels. Whichever car you have, drive it as smoothly and economically as possible (much more relaxing for passengers, and safer too!).

Think before you buy - do you really need it? Look for more environmentally-friendly cleaning products and personal necessities. Buy organic cotton clothing, bedding and towels where available. The manufacture of organic cotton uses far less water than non-organic cotton and no chemicals.

Buy organic food as availability and finances allow. It is generally produced without chemical fertilisers, herbicides or pesticides. An article in a recent issue of "Living Earth" reports on evidence exposed by the Soil Association and the Pesticide Action Network (PAN) on mixtures of pesticides in our food, water, rivers and soil, and government testing data for 2018 showed residues of 157 different pesticides in food. Sixty-three are known as possible or probable

carcinogens and 43 are suspected endocrine disruptors. Forty-three percent of bumble bees had detectable levels of 2 or more pesticides, with up to 7 found in one bumble bee.

We are being encouraged to eat less meat as cows produce methane which contributes to global-warming. Eating less but organic meat would be healthier for us all, support the environment and support organic farmers who are producing meat in the most sustainable way.

Outside space is important too. Have as little hard-standing area as possible at the front and back of property. The earth below will be lifeless. I currently have flagstones as step-stones for a path up most of my back garden, but it is now being replaced by a bark path edged with logs produced from the Alder trees which recently had to be cut down.

It will be much better for wildlife, drain easily, pleasant and safer to walk on, and look more natural and attractive. While some upkeep will be necessary at times, it will be worth it. I am also considering reducing my patio. Too much decking, if any, will also have an adverse effect.

A small shed may be necessary to store garden equipment and chairs etc. if the garage cannot accommodate them, but the trend for rarely-used hot tubs and summerhouses (lovely though some of them are) do not help the situation.

The garden should be as natural as possible with native trees, shrubs and wildflowers which support our native, and struggling, wildlife. Every cultivated or foreign plant will be taking up space that could be filled with our wildlife-friendly native plants. Unfortunately, many foreign plants do attract bees, but their pollen and nectar is not as beneficial as native ones.

Lawns should not be mown too regularly or too short. If it's very dry, allow some of the cuttings to cover the lawn as they will help retain moisture and support the lawn and wildlife beneath naturally. Never use chemicals. Even if the lawn dries out, it will recover when rain returns, so no need to water the lawn!

A pond, or even a shallow boggy area, is very good for a huge variety of wildlife. I am hoping that all the frogs, newts and insects which were around last year will appear again in the early spring.

I am awaiting the delivery of four trees to plant among others at the top of the garden. With some professional help, I have decided on two Alder Buckthorn, one Downy Birch and one Goat's Willow. These are different from anything I already have and will be good for all sorts of wildlife as well as helping to take up excess water which tends to collect in that area.

The reliance of horticultural industries on peat has meant that huge deposits, which have taken millions of years to form, have been and are being torn up with the resultant release of massive amounts of carbon into the atmosphere. Scientists have commented recently that



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the large peatlands in this country are on a par with the Amazon Rainforest in terms of carbon storage. This is a serious matter, so please check when you are buying plants or compost from any suppliers that no peat has been used.

There are many very hard-working organic farmers, who are producing top-quality food. Intensive farming needs to change to improve the soil, the quality of our food and animal welfare. It is not all the farmers' fault, however. We have demanded cheap food. The Government's new draft Agricultural Bill is a step in the right direction as it aims to put the soil at the centre of future policy.

The Soil Association has worked for years, lobbying governments to improve our soil, food quality and animal welfare. They have done so much on our behalf and would be grateful for any support.

Visit their website at: [www.soilassociation.org](http://www.soilassociation.org)

*Marian Tiddy*

## Leaf blowers and insects

Leaf blowers fatal to declining insect populations, Germans are warned

The German government has warned against the use of leaf blowers over concerns for insects and the environment. Their Ministry for the Environment said leaf blowers were too loud, polluted the air (using fossil fuels) and posed a fatal threat to insects.

The guidance comes after studies



suggested insect numbers were plummeting in Germany and across the world, prompting calls for better protection. A study in 2017 suggested that flying insects had declined by more than 75% over almost 30 years at 60 protected areas in Germany.

Scientists said they were not sure what had caused the dramatic decline in Germany. But experts say that, in general, insect decline is being caused by intensive agriculture, pesticides and climate change.

Experts say insects make up the majority of creatures that live on land, and provide key benefits to many other species, including humans. But in February, a scientific review of insect numbers suggested that 40% of species

are undergoing "dramatic rates of decline" around the world.

An action plan to protect insects was announced by the German government in September. Under its plan, the government has sought to strengthen environmental regulations and restrict the use of pesticides. The controversial weed killer glyphosate, for example, will be banned in Germany by 2023. The German environment ministry's guidance about leaf blowers is the latest move to protect insects.

Many other studies in recent years have shown that individual species of insects, such as bees, have suffered huge declines, particularly in developed economies.

Where Germany leads we may follow?

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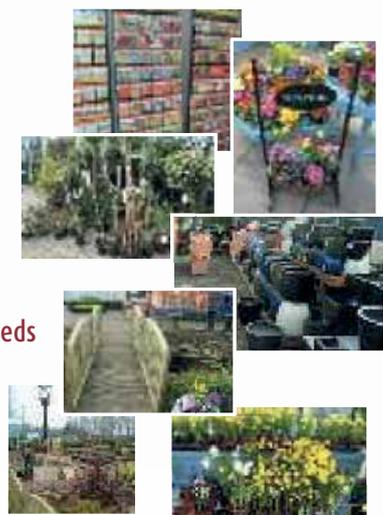
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Travelling in the Peak District one can see the challenge the terrain presents to laying a railway, yet evidence of their existence in the past is witnessed by a landscape of modern cycle ways, numerous impressive bridges and old railway buildings. A new book **Railways in the Peak District**, explores the history these lines from the first crude horse-drawn tramways to the birth of British Railways in 1948 and the subsequent Beeching axe.

We read that Sheffield and Manchester were connected in 1845 by the first line through the notorious Woodhead Tunnel, followed by a gradual infilling of lines connecting Peak District towns and villages. The line between Dore and Chinley was the last main line in England to be driven across the Pennines in two huge tunnels.

Today many of the most famous routes have been restored and reopened as long-distance footpaths and heritage lines – a renaissance to be enjoyed by today’s tourists. The book is comprehensively illustrated with old and modern photographs, plus sketch maps and posters.

Published by Amberley Books in paperback, 96 pages price £14.99 ISBN 9781445693842

\*\*\*\*

From what we are taught at school the medieval era must have consisted of dynastic struggles and gruesome wars all under the formidable influence of the Church. But what about the everyday life of the common people?

A new book **A year in the life of Medieval England** sets out to shine a light on the fabric of medieval life as it was really lived, in its folk songs, recipes and local gossip. With a diverse range of entries - one for each day of the year - historian Toni Mount provides an almanac for lovers of all things medieval.

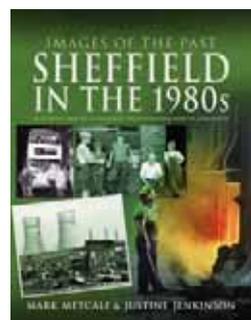
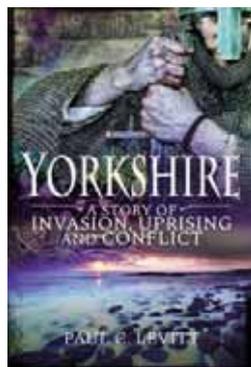
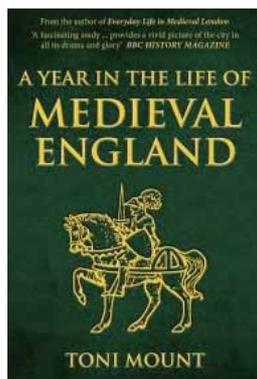
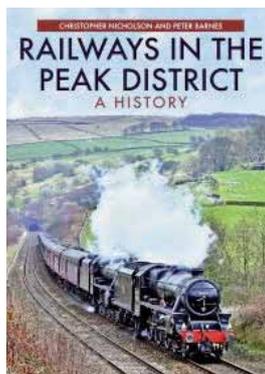
A detailed picture is gathered from original sources such as chronicles, manor court rolls, coroners’ rolls and the records of city councils. We learn not only of the royals and nobles of official history but also the quarrels of a miscellany of characters and the world in which they laboured, loved and lived.

Published by Amberley Books in paperback, 352 pages price £10.99 ISBN 9781445694443

\*\*\*\*

**Sheffield City Battalion: The First and The Last** by John Cornwell. This is the personal stories of two Sheffield men from very different social backgrounds, who both volunteered in early September 1914 and joined the new Pals battalion.

Vivian Simpson was a well known 31 year old solicitor who was an outstanding footballer, playing for Sheffield Wednesday. He was the very first man to enrol for the new battalion and was commissioned in January 1915. He was awarded an MC in 1917, but was killed in the German offensive on the Lys in April 1918.



Reg Glenn was a clerk in the Education Offices who served as a signaller in each battle the 12th Battalion fought in until the summer of 1917, when he was selected to become an officer. He went back to France in 1918 as a subaltern in was wounded on the Aisne in his first day of combat as an officer. He was never fit enough to go back to the trenches. He survived the war and lived to be 101 years old, making him the last survivor of the 12th Battalion.

Published by Pen and Sword in hardback, 209 pages price £25 ISBN: 9781526762245

\*\*\*\*

This is a story about Yorkshire and its people, from the earliest period up to recent times. Foremost it is a story about invasion. Archaeological finds have shown that Yorkshire was occupied by early hunters from continental Europe then the first European farmers, followed over time by waves of invaders intent on pillage and land grabbing. Picts, Scots, Romans, Angles and Vikings arrived and finally the Normans.

Each invasion would leave its stamp on Yorkshire’s culture and life, while battles would later be fought on Yorkshire soil during both the Wars of the Roses and the English Civil Wars. This book reveals the key places where battles were fought and Yorkshire history was made.

**Yorkshire, a story of Invasion, Uprising and Conflict** is Published by Pen and in paperback, 128 pages price £12.99 ISBN: 9781526752550

\*\*\*\*

**Images of the Past: Sheffield in the 1980s.** The social, industrial and economic changes imposed on the Sheffield area during the 1980s are captured with remarkable clarity in this book featuring the work of freelance photographer Martin Jenkinson (1947-2012). Jenkinson, who constantly sought ways to improve his skills, photographed people in their everyday lives at work and at play.

However, where he excelled was his work with the trade union and labour movement in workplaces, on protests, demonstrations and pickets. His photographs in such situations create a political awareness that fills the page and forces the observer to seek to find out more.

For long term residents of Sheffield this is a walk down the past, for more recent arrivals a clue to the city’s industrial and social makeup.

Published by Pen and in paperback, 150 pages price £14.99 ISBN: 9781526761361

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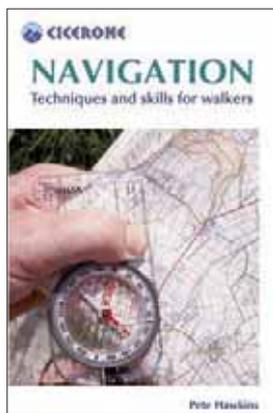
Walking is one of the UK’s most popular hobbies, but effective navigational skills are essential to fully enjoy our varied countryside. This revised pocket handbook **Navigation Techniques and skills for walkers** provides a clear and comprehensive guide to the key techniques - giving you

the confidence to navigate successfully with map and compass and to plan and execute your own routes.

Chapters include map scales, symbols and contours, grid references, map reading, bearings, route planning and night and bad-weather navigation, as well as navigating with a GPS.

The text is illustrated with explanatory photos and diagrams as well as extracts from real maps and map keys, and practical exercises are suggested to help you practise and develop your skills. Perfect both for novices seeking an introduction to navigation and also those wishing to brush up on old skills.

Published by Cicerone, pocket size with plastic cover, 152 pages price £9.95 ISBN: 9781852848910



## Beauchief Environment Group

### Family Fun Day

We will be running a Family Fun Day on Saturday 9 May between 10am-3.30pm supported by Sheffield City Council and Sorby Natural History Society, in the Beauchief Nature Park around Beauchief Allotments. The event will be part of Sheffield Environment Weeks from 25 April – 7 June.

The entrance to the site is at S8 7BA on Beauchief Drive, just below the entrance to Beauchief Hall. It can be reached on foot from Bradway via Beauchief Drive, or the public footpath from the end of Twentywell Rise across Abbeydale Golf Course. Parking space will be available for anyone driving up Beauchief Drive from Abbey Lane.

All free activities planned for the day include: a nature walk; pond dipping; making willow wigwams and planting beans; making wooden animals; making bee homes; wooden games such as giant Jenga; various crafts. Refreshments and toilet facilities will be available. Contact Jennie Hinton on 07779 464 044 or [info@jenniehinton.co.uk](mailto:info@jenniehinton.co.uk)

Beauchief Abbey will also be open and offering refreshments. Abbey queries to Pam Hodgson on 0114 235 3263.

### Other activities

Recent activities undertaken by the Group include:

- \* trimming grass and other vegetation encroaching on the fruit trees in the orchards behind Beauchief Allotments, and replacing dead saplings;
- \* planting trees in various areas
- \* cutting back vegetation encroaching on footpaths and repairing the paths following erosion due to flooding; replacing worm steps on the steep path behind Beauchief Hall in Ladies Spring Wood, and clearing leaves and other debris from the path;
- \* cutting back invasive holly and rhododendron growth near the top of Ladies Spring Wood and burning gorse on Little Wood Bank, below Bradway Recreation Ground;
- \* litter picking in numerous locations around the area.

The main working group meets on Mondays at 9.30am at Beauchief Abbey Barns, but there are occasional sessions on Saturdays. The latest details can be found by calling 0114 236 9876. During 2019, there was a total attendance of 445 over 45 Monday mornings, resulting in 1,112.5 hours worked.

New volunteers on working mornings are welcome; tools and equipment are provided and no previous experience of such work is needed. The group is fully insured to cover BEG members. Any regular attendee should consider becoming a member and the subscription of £3.50 covers membership and regular newsletters.

Please see our website [www.beauchief-environmentgroup.co.uk](http://www.beauchief-environmentgroup.co.uk) for more information on the group, including news, events and how to join.

*Jon Smith*

## Blacka Moor Devastation

The destruction of trees by Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust (SWRT) on Blacka Moor continues. Across the woodland are many stumps of trees that had recently been mature, healthy and include a variety of species, including native trees. The justification they want us to accept for this destruction is that it apparently 'improves conditions for some bird species including Pied Flycatcher and Redstart.

However, it seems to me that we can increase the amount of dead wood on the ground without deliberately felling valuable mature trees on Blacka Moor and incredibly at a time when we most need them.

We are in a climate emergency and so we are all a vulnerable species now! Trees help to combat climate change and we need a lot more of them not less. Destroying mature healthy trees in this woodland to promote a particular couple of bird species will become insignificant compared to the loss of species caused by climate change.

We are facing a mass extinction and SWRT are yet again chopping down healthy mature trees. This is the same organisation that was so critical of Amey - where are the yellow ribbons for the trees of Blacka Moor.

Trees are not only vital for their carbon capture, but they also help prevent the water run off that adds to flooding problems that have already taken and endangered the lives of both the wildlife and people of Sheffield and are set to get much worse in the coming years.

This brutal devastation of healthy trees on Blacka Moor has included many of the trees on the path that leads from the stepping stones across the stream and follows the stream up the steep valley of Blacka Dike.

The trees on this bank, besides helping to prevent water running off into the stream, headed for Sheffield, also help to stabilise the bank and keeps it safe. It has been proven many times on Blacka Moor that one interference generally leads to the 'need' for another interference. I'm predicting that in a few years or less, we

will have an SWRT appeal for more public money to be urgently donated to them for another interference: to fence this lovely valley to make it safe, shore up the bank and prevent water run-off.

For anyone not aware, Blacka Moor was purchased by Alderman Graves in order to protect it from development and was donated to us via Sheffield City Council, secured with a covenant, to be held in perpetuity for the recreation of the public. It is regarded as a very special piece of land and a much-valued local escape from urbanisation and city life for many residents of Dore.



These feelings were strongly expressed by local residents when Sheffield Wildlife Trust first took over managing the land. A shared vision for Blacka Moor was created that, above all else, valued its unique wild feel and variety of habitats. We were promised therefore to have only minimal management by SWRT.

But it soon became apparent that this was not the case, starting with the installation of the barbed wire fencing dividing the land. We were then assured that we would see some visible change in the first few years to get the land in order and then there would be little more management required. Yet since this time the interference on Blacka Moor has been of large scale and unrelenting.

Blacka Moor was given to the people of Sheffield for our enjoyment but the sight of all these large tree stumps has done nothing for my enjoyment of the land, in fact can't bear to go there. The biggest threat to Blacka Moor is the land-managers and their need for continual new projects.

*Dawn Biram*

## More local events

### Bradway Agewell Leisure Club

Meet on the first Tuesday in the month at The South Sheffield Evangelical Church on Greenhill Parkway (next to fire station) Coffee and biscuits are served between 09.45am and 10.10am followed by a talk from an invited speaker between 10.20am and 11.30am. Visitors £5 admission. New members welcome.

Mar 3rd AGM

April 2nd Sheffield in the 1950's - Talk by Neil Anderson

May 5th Joseph Paxton - Talk by Ann Beedham

For more information contact Stuart Sawyer on 236 9830

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### Bradway Community Association

Feb 22nd Crazy Card Night

Mar 1st March Walk

Mar 21st Annual Quiz Night

Apr 5th April Walk

Apr 22nd Annual General Meeting

May 3rd May Walk

Badminton 8.30pm Thursdays

Dee Hastings-Stroud 236 3560

Walks: Peter Smithson 236 9876

Membership June Wright 262 0603

Social Secretary Jean Hunter 236 4922.

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### Totley (M) Townswomen's Guild

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

Feb 18th Sheffield in Tudor and Stuart times. Talk by David Templeman

Mar 17th AGM

Apr 21st Elizabethan cosmetics. Talk by Maureen Taylor

May 19th Floral arrangements - Spring into Summer by Sarah Whitaker

There are also separate meetings of the Social Studies Group, the Walking Group, Scrabble Group, occasional outings and lunches.

New members and visitors are assured of a friendly welcome. Membership details from Marie Tabor, Treasurer, (tel: 236 0906) or come along and join us.

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### Totley History Group

Feb 26th The Old Town Hall: past, present and future. Talk by Valerie Bayliss

Mar 24th The History and Residents of Zion Graveyard, Attercliffe. Talk by Penny Rea

Apr 22nd The History of Stained Glass Talk by Ann Beedham plus AGM

May 27th Through Kirton Tunnel completed 1849 for the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway Talk by Stephen Gay

Meetings 7.30pm Totley Library. Non-members welcome visitors £3

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### Friends of Ecclesall Woods

Events in the woods

Mar 8th Annual fund raising run for Cavendish Cancer Care 9.30 am

www.sheffieldtogether.co.uk

Mar 29th Winter Tree Walk Leader Fran Halsall 2pm. Free to FEW members £3 non members

Apr 8th April Ecology Group walk around coppiced areas 2.30pm

Apr 26th April 10am - 4pm Spring in the Woods Free event organised by the rangers with FEW helping

May 2nd Walk to see Bluebells and other Spring Flowers 10am Leader Julie Riley. Free to FEW members. £3 non members

Events start at the Woodland Discovery Centre, Off Abbey Lane.

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### Gilbert & Sullivan Society

Feb 15th Concert at the Merlin Theatre Meadow Bank Road, Nether Edge 7:30pm Tickets £8 from Gill Rugg 0114 248 9573

Feb 29th Concert at Whittington Moor Methodist Church, S41 8NA 2:30pm Tickets £8 from Mike Spriggs 0124 6233475

Apr 1st - 4th The operetta Patience at The Merlin Theatre, Nether Edge 7:30pm Tickets £15 each (under 16 £7.50 each) from John on 0114 2363797

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### Totley Probus Club

Feb 26th In War & Peace - The Life of William Cavendish, 1st Duke of Newcastle - John Taylor

Mar 11th Some heroes & heroines of Science - Prof. Charles Stirling FRS

Mar 25th A Short History of the Solar System - John Stone

Apr 8th Nepal - History, Culture, & a Trek Through the Mountains - Dr. George Clark

Apr 22nd Dicing with Death, 5500 Years of Human Dissection & the Autopsy - Dr. Julian Burton

May 13th "Traversing the USA" - Ray

& Kath Lawrence

We are a social club for retired & semi-retired gentlemen with meetings at Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall on the second and fourth Wednesdays. 10am until noon. If you would like to attend as a visitor, please phone John Appleton 0114 236 6106, or just turn up on the day. We have interesting talks given by visiting speakers and social occasions.

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### Sheffield Photographic Society

Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings at St Peter's Church, Reney Avenue, Greenhill. 7.50 pm Prompt Start - Visitors £4. Anyone with an interest in photography is welcome to attend up to four meetings without becoming a member of the Society. If Society membership is subsequently taken out, the subscription will be reduced by the amount already paid.

Feb 18th "8 for 10". 8 members show their pictures for 10 minutes.

Feb 25th Members' Evening

Mar 3rd "Underwater Photography 1" - David Keep

Mar 10th Members' Print Competition

Mar 17th "The Art of Metamorphosis" - Andrea Hargreaves

Mar 24th "Adventures In The Wild" - John Beatty

Mar 31st "The AV Show". Our own AV Group

Apr 7th "Same View - Different Perspective" - Mark Gilligan

Apr 21st "Realising Your Photographic Potential" - Brian Law

Apr 28th Presidents' Choice. Our President, Past President and President Elect show their personal selection from the prints not selected for the Annual Exhibition

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### Keeping Well

Activity Timetable just some of the activities. Contact Joanna for more.

### Body Conditioning Class

Dore and Totley United Reformed Church Mondays 2pm-3pm + Coffee No booking required

### Exercise to Music Class

Dore and Totley United Reformed Church Thursdays 2.30pm-3.30pm +Coffee No booking required

### Sporting Chatter

Totley Library Every other Friday 10am-12pm 24th May onwards No booking required

### Sporting Chatter Cinema

( Sport docs and films ) Totley Library every other Thursday morning- Start date TBC No booking required

### Table Tennis

Bradway Community Hall Thursdays 3pm-5pm and Fridays 7pm-9pm No booking required

For all queries and bookings call 0114 250 2850 or email Joanna at joanna.glaves@ageuksheffield.org.uk

All ages, abilities and mobility's welcome !!

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### Totley Rise Methodist Church

For details of community events, facilities and church services visit <http://www.totleyrise.co.uk/calendar>



### South Sheffield Church

Serving the community

Greenhill Parkway

Bradway S8 7JP

Pastor - Peter McCool

**Sunday Services** at 10.45am & 6.30pm

**Oasis** from 10.00am to 11.30pm

1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month

Coffee morning - Hobbies - Free Activities

**Quest Tuesday** 6.30pm for years 7-9

**Kids Club** Wednesday after school 5.00pm

Craft, games, stories & drinks

**Toddlers** Friday 9.30am-11.30am (in term)

For Babies toddlers, parents and carers

**Cafe Service** 6.30pm last Sunday monthly

Songs - Quizzes - Buffet meal - Short talk

**Tuesday Group** at 2.30pm each week

**Bible Study** Wednesday 8.00pm. Repeated

on Tuesday morning at 10.00am

### EVERYONE WELCOME

For more information Call 07712 15395 or visit [www.southsheffieldchurch.co.uk](http://www.southsheffieldchurch.co.uk)

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## Bradway Bowling Club

Happy New Year to you all from the Bradway Bowling Club. Another year starting and we are all looking forward to an exciting one. As it is our centenary year and we only ever get to see one we have to make it a really enjoyable one.

Basic activities in the club will be as normal, internal snooker and darts, league snooker, the art group and dominoes and crib, but also we are going to be holding monthly bingo nights with £100 jackpot at each one. This will be open to the public.

Weather permitting the bowling green will be open again from the end of March with the league games commencing in the middle of April. FREE learn to play bowls starts in the middle of May if anyone is interested in giving it a try.

We have excellent evening entertainers booked and full afternoon of outside entertainment in August so please keep checking the notice board and website [www.bradwaybowling.org.uk](http://www.bradwaybowling.org.uk)

We have a lovely, friendly, welcoming club and are looking forward to seeing some new faces.

*Jean Morton*

## Tennis Club

The Dore and Totley Tennis Club at 48 Devonshire Road, has just installed a brand-new playing surface and is inviting local people who are interested in playing tennis to come along to an opening event on Sunday 5th April at 10.30am

This will be an opportunity for those who might be interested in joining the club to see the facilities. You will also have an opportunity to play on the courts from 10.30 to 11.30 on Sunday 5th or at our first summer season social play event on Monday 6th April at 6pm, Wednesday 8th at 6pm or any other Monday or Wednesday at 6pm.

We are a small local club with excellent facilities and offer a good range of social tennis and local league teams. The club is always keen to welcome new members of all ages and abilities. Details can be found at [www.doretotley.co.uk](http://www.doretotley.co.uk)

*Pete Alcock, Committee Member*

## TOADS

Hello everyone! Here I am again with the latest TOADS' update!

Our last play, "Biddies' War", was written and directed by Alan Wade, and was set on a farm on the eve of the D-Day landings. It was a lovely play to appear in and was very well received by our audiences.

Thank you to our back-stage ladies who decorated the entrance hall and auditorium with memorabilia, bunting, war-time posters, etc., which served to set the atmosphere for the play.

But onwards and upwards! We are now rehearsing for our May 2020 production! This time my John is directing, the play of choice being a comedy written by Simon Brett, entitled "Murder in Play". Doesn't sound very funny, does it, but it is! It is a very difficult play to stage, but John is well up to the task, having been acting with TOADS for over 35 years!

The dates for your diary are Wednesday 13th May to Friday 15th May at 7.30pm, and Saturday 16th May at 2.30pm. The venue is as usual St John's Hall, Abbeydale Road South. Please call 0114 235 1206 to reserve your ticket, or contact any TOADS member. Ticket price £6/£5 for concessions.

Please save the dates, and come along and support us, your very own Am-Dram Society. It will be lovely to see you.

*Anne Bettridge*

## Holmesfield Church Walking Group

Gosforth Valley Walk

On Wednesday 26th February at 10am Robin Greetham will lead a walk starting from the Jolly Farmer pub in Gosforth Valley. We will go up to Cartledge and then Cowley Hall, then back to the Jolly Farmer where we will have lunch (optional). If you wish to come just turn up on the day.

The cost of the walk is £3 and the proceeds will go to Holmesfield Church. A short cut is available.

If you have any queries please phone Robin on 01246 412767. The walk is about 4.5 miles.

## Hallmark of Harmony

The Hallmark of Harmony barbershop chorus have proved they're a cut above with their continued support for St Luke's Hospice. Since 2014, the popular choir's support for Sheffield's only hospice has raised almost £3,000. Their latest donation of £691.60 was made as they made their annual Christmas Day visit to entertain patients at the St Luke's In Patient Centre.

"The Hallmark of Harmony provide brilliant musical and financial support for all our patients," said St Luke's Fundraising Coordinator Zoe Manders. "Their annual Christmas Day visit is always a real highlight for patients, visitors and staff."

*John Highfield*

## Deer Survey

A survey of records and sightings of deer in the region is ongoing. UKEconet are especially interested in the increasing incidences of deer coming into the urban areas and have had reports of Roe Deer in gardens in Woodseats area and from Graves Park and the Shire Brook Valley.

So, if you do see any deer, please go onto their web-page and fill in the short recording form. The site includes a useful Deer Identification Guide

Deer Surveys (Information and links to survey form downloads and online survey can be found on Page 1 of the Guide) <https://www.ukeconet.org/deer-identification.html>

## Plant a fruit tree for wildlife

Planting trees for wildlife is best done in the winter when the trees are dormant. Fruit trees provide food for many types of wildlife, whilst providing cover and shelter from the cold. Once established, fruit trees provide an abundance of fruit year after year and require minimal care. How to plant a fruit tree <https://ptes.org/my-garden/how-to-plant-a-fruit-tree/>

## Sheffield Photographic Society Annual Exhibition

The Annual Exhibition is the Society's premier event of the year, showcasing the best recent work of its members, and is a print only Exhibition.

The Exhibition will be held in the Sheffield Cathedral, Church Street, Sheffield S1 2GN from Friday, 20th March to Sunday, 29th March 2020. Kim Streets, Chief Executive of Sheffield Museums will officially open the Exhibition at 12 noon on the 20th March.

Entry is free during normal Cathedral opening times. Visitors are asked to be respectful of any services or other activity taking place in the Cathedral. Light refreshments are available in the Cathedral's 1554 Coffee Shop

Our member's work that feature in the Exhibition will have been selected by our Exhibition Judge Marilyn Roberts DPAGB BPE3\*, President Elect of the Yorkshire Photographic Union who is a member of Positive Image Camera Club.

Selected images will reflect the following classifications:

Open which includes Pictorial, Altered Reality, Portrait, Photojournalism and Monochrome sections.

Beginners.

Junior.

Photo Essay.

Record.

Natural History.

Sheffield its Life and Environs.

Small Prints.

Society members regularly achieve a high standard in the exhibition which will include commended (29 in 2019) and highly commended (30 in 2019) images on view in addition to 12 trophy winning images. The total number of prints displayed in the exhibition is expected to be approximately 180.

## Woodland Heritage Festival

The Woodland Heritage Festival celebrates its 6th birthday on May 25th, featuring experimental archaeology, talks, hands on activities for all ages, and more! Don't miss the chance to learn about Sheffield's heritage from community groups and students at Sheffield University's archaeology department.

Open from 10am - 4pm at the J G Graves Discovery Centre, on Abbey Lane in Ecclesall Woods.



David Atkinson - Beak to Beak - Natural History

## Peak District National Park Foundation

Wildlife, hedgerow conservation and hydro electricity projects are the first to benefit from funds through the new Peak District National Park Foundation launched during National Parks Week in April.

The Fairer for Nature gardening project in Fairfield, Buxton has been awarded £2,043. It aims to get young people excited about wildlife by encouraging them to improve their own - and other peoples' - gardens as wildlife habitats.

Pinder's Meadow charity in Hope has received £671 towards the costs of planting 300 mixed hedging plants to restore and enhance hedgerow and to provide nesting sites and food sources for birds.

Meanwhile, Bradwell Hydro Project has been granted £800, helping it to refurbish, upgrade and extend its water-powered Christmas lights. The project works in conjunction with Bradwell Junior School, teaching children about renewable energy and sustainable power sources.

The South West Peak Landscape Partnership has also received a grant of £2,500 from a generous donor, via the Foundation, to support the Elkstonian Society's project to upgrade their village website and digitise archive material about the history of village life.

Jen Lowthrop, chair of the Peak District National Park Foundation, said: "These projects are the first of many we want to fund and, with the love that exists for the Peak District, we're looking forward to funding many more."

The Peak District National Park Foundation is a registered charity, established to raise funds for conservation and habitat restoration and projects. More information can be found at [www.peakdistrictfoundation.org.uk](http://www.peakdistrictfoundation.org.uk) and by signing up to the newsletter at <https://www.peakdistrictfoundation.org.uk/newsletter/>

Donations can be made by text or online - text Donate peak 1' to 88802, confirming the amount, or go to <https://peakdistrict.charitycheckout.co.uk>

## Health Walks with Step Out Sheffield

Walks last no longer than one hour and are at your own pace. Ditch the walking boots, this is a gentle way to improve your health, have fun and meet new people in your local environment!

**Ecclesall Woods** Tuesdays Meet at 10.30am at Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet car park Thursdays Meet at 10.30am at the J.G. Graves Woodland Discovery Centre

**Porter Valley** Tuesdays Meet at 1.30pm at Endcliffe Park café