

# Bradway Bugle

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

## Safety at Home

Every year in the UK more than 6,000 people die in accidents in the home and 2.7 million turn up at accident and emergency departments seeking treatment. But, because the accidents happen behind closed doors in isolated incidents, they rarely attract public and media attention.

NHS figures for 2020/21 show that thousands of people injured in household accidents were admitted to hospital during Covid-19 lockdowns. The figures are likely to be just the tip of the iceberg, representing only those who were admitted to hospital for their injuries. Many more accidents would have been dealt with by A&E doctors and GPs.

The figures show the number of accidents fell in many categories as people spent more time indoors. Yet more than 5,300 people were admitted to hospital after falls from a range of playground attractions such as swings and slides. While the average age of these adventurers was nine-and-a-half years old, dozens of parents and grandparents were also injured including eight people over the age of 90!

Meanwhile, as thousands of people turned their attention to household DIY tasks, more than 5,600 amateur builders required hospital attention after coming into contact with an electric hand tool. Another 2,700 people sought medical  
*continued on page 2 ....*

## Volunteer in Bradway

Would you like to be part of a friendly team of volunteers and work in our Age UK Sheffield Charity Shop in Bradway? Roles are varied and include ticketing stock, steaming, till work and more. It's a friendly, supportive environment.

The shop is open Mon-Fri 9-5pm & Sat 9-4. We are based at the top of Twentywell Lane.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information then please pop into the shop and see us and pick up an application form or apply online.

Visit: [www.ageuk.org.uk/sheffield](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/sheffield) and follow 'Get Involved' link.



*National Park Rangers are welcoming walkers to their new programme of guided walks in 2022. See page 40* *Picture: Peak District National Park Authority*

## Festival of the Outdoors

The Festival of the Outdoors returns in March. Once again the city's outdoor organisations, groups, clubs and businesses will come together to offer a unique festival programme of events, with everything from 'come-and-try' taster sessions, demos, rides, runs and urban paddle boarding to guided walks and conservation, as well as some extra special events thrown in for good measure. Whether it's watching, participating or trying something for the very first time, there'll be lots of opportunity to get involved.

Headline events this year are Sheffield Adventure Film Festival (ShAFF - 19/20 March), The Climbing Works International Festival (19/20 March), Pollen Market special (20 March) and the Run for All

The full festival programme (which is continually updated until the beginning of March) is available at The Outdoor City website and you can follow @TheOutdoorCity on social channels for all the latest news and information.

From around mid-February a printed guide will be available through independent businesses and community centres throughout the city. <https://www.theoutdoorcity.co.uk/festival-of-the-outdoors>

## Weather in Bradway 2021

Undoubtedly the main talking point of 2021, like 2020, was the Covid-19 pandemic but nevertheless our weather produced some unusual features and a continuation of the trend of increasing warmth, with the annual temperature being slightly above the long-term average. Just in case you hadn't noticed!

In contrast to 2020, January 2021 gave us a more normal type of winter with snow falling on 10 days and fifteen days with frost being recorded here. Between the periods of snow there was abundant rainfall and only five days had no precipitation. We were in a battleground between cold northerly winds and occasional incursions of warmer air.

Around the 19th temperatures reached 10C associated with Storm Christoph but it also brought rain with 44 mm falling over the 19/20th period. This rain together with snowmelt caused some flooding along the Don but not as seriously as in some recent years. But things soon changed with temperatures not rising above -0.6 on the 24th but back to 9C by the 28 and 29th. It must have been a confusing time for our wildlife.

With lockdown continuing, so did our alternation of warm and cold spells. February started close to average but by  
*continued on page 6 ....*

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## Editorial

With the new year well underway it looks like society is beginning to live with Covid-19, but at an inevitable and under recorded cost in terms of the lives of those people still dying from the virus or suffering long-Covid. Lowering the guard may look good for personal freedom and fiscally attractive to the government, but it could still mutate somewhere in the world and come back to bite us.

What is surprising to me is how unprepared the government was for the impact of the pandemic, especially given the historical precedents. Looking back each major pandemic was followed by social unrest, inflation and changes in government. So present events should have come as no surprise!

Talking of pandemics, one of the books we review in this issue explores their history and impact. While for those of our readers heartily tired of the subject, we have tried to provide some upbeat stories to sustain you till summer.

The author of Now and Then wanders in Bradway's past to illustrate the truth that radio has stood the test of time against trendy newcomers. More is revealed in Roger Tetley's recollections and we have Peter Smithson's exclusive look at our recent weather.

Our usual eclectic mix of articles and news includes updates from local organisations, local politics and your letters. And yes, this is your magazine so we thrive on the news you provide and the issues you raise.

One final thought. This is becoming a digital world. Now the Royal Mail is adding a digital code to its standard stamps so that you can point your phone at them and watch a 'Shaun the Sheep' animation. Why on earth I ask? Is the world going mad? *John Baker, Editor*



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## PUBLISHING DEADLINES

Bradway Bugle is published quarterly in mid February, May, August & November each year. The copy deadline for each issue is near the end of the preceding month. Please forward items for the Summer issue to the address on this page by **Friday 22 April 2022**

## Plans to protect England's national parks

Plans to safeguard England's national parks for future generations have been unveiled by the government. The proposals also aim to improve access to nature and ensure landscapes are key to tackling climate change.

This follows a recent Landscapes Review which looked at whether the existing protections for national parks and Areas of Outstanding Beauty (AONBs) were still fit for purpose.

The proposals include creating management plans for those in charge of the national parks and AONBs, and encouraging local leaders across England to organise campaigns, events and volunteering projects to bring the public closer to nature.

The review's author, Julian Glover, said: "It won't be enough just to try to conserve what we have inherited - we can change the story from decline to recovery, to make them greener, more welcoming and full of hope."

Consultation on the plans runs to 9 April and asks for views on the proposals to drive nature recovery and support communities that live and work in those areas.

Visit <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/>

## Friends of Age UK Sheffield

South West Sheffield Activities for People Keeping Well.- PKW

Friends of Age UK Sheffield run a wide variety of activities, courses and groups across the South West of Sheffield enabling people to get out and about, find new hobbies, stay active and also have fun.

Here is the website link to a timetable and all services offered by Age UK Sheffield:

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/sheffield/activities-and-events/pkw/>

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## Safety at Home

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attention after an accident with a non-powered hand tool, such as a hammer or a saw, and 349 were admitted to hospital after tussles with a lawnmower.

Working from home saw everyday household items pose a fresh hazard, with 2,243 people needing attention after coming into contact with hot drinks, food, fats and cooking oils. And while many people found comfort during lockdowns by adopting pets, 7,386 people were admitted to English hospitals after being bitten or struck by a dog, while 60 others sought assistance after encounters with venomous spiders.

Despite spending more time at home, the number of people needing assistance after being struck by lightning rose from three cases in 2019/20 to 18 in 2020/21.

A spokesperson for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), one of the few national voices speaking out on this issue, said the accidents were a reminder of the breadth of accidents that hospitals deal with on a daily basis. For advice and information visit: <https://www.rospace.com/home-safety>

## Local Area Plan

The South West Local Area Committee held an online consultation event on 20 January 2022. Some 70 residents joined the session to share their views and hear about the new community plan.

The plan can be viewed at <https://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=49695>

Please email any comments to the LAC by 28th February for consideration

## Editorial & Advertising

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

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

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**Tel: 236 9025 or**  
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## Councillors Update

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

In particular, some major decisions have to be taken on Sheffield's finances. Due to a number of issues, including a huge increase in the cost and demand for adult social care due to Covid-19, the city budget is predicted to be overspent by approximately £30m this year. In the short-term part of this can be funded from reserves but some tough decisions will have to be made to put things back on an even keel.

These challenges are unprecedented and all three local Councillors will be questioning the numbers and putting forward sustainable proposals to the budget meeting in March.

Another issue that features heavily in our postbag is public transport. Proposals have been made to extend the operating hours of bus lanes and introduce daytime parking bans along large parts of Abbeydale and Ecclesall Roads. Although most of these changes would be outside our ward, they could have a significant impact on bus and car journeys from our area.

Also there is great concern on the impact this parking ban would have on businesses on these two routes. Whatever we all think of these proposals it's disappointing that the bus companies are

## Bugle publication dates

Details for the next four issues

Copy Deadline	Publication
22 April	11 May 2022
29 July	17 August 2022
21 October	9 November 2022
27 January	15 February 2023

still not making a commitment to increase passenger numbers. It's a glaring omission in their latest long-term plans.

Over Christmas there was great concern when a notice appeared in the Sheffield Telegraph that appeared to imply part of Whirlow Brook Hall and Park was going to be sold off! This was a badly worded notice that spoiled what in fact is a good news story.

What is happening is that a lease is to be given to an operator to develop and open a café on the site of the derelict toilet block just before the lower car park. We have been trying to get a café back in the park for a number of years so this development is welcomed.

The Abbeydale Park Rise lights were splendid again this year. Thank you to the residents for this magnificent community effort. Fortunately this year the traffic flow was more manageable than last year. We were able to provide some cones that prevented random parking and that helped the situation.

There has been a big increase in dog

ownership during the pandemic. Indeed Colin is now the proud owner of Ruby! However, not all dog owners are being responsible about picking up poo. This is particularly difficult in parks and playing fields where children play.

Dog poo is a health hazard and we have instances where football pitches such as at the Whirlow playing fields have been contaminated and junior players have ended up with dog mess over them.

This is unpleasant as well as unhealthy. Please be aware of just what your dog is doing and pick up every time and if you can encourage other dog owners to do the same.

Finally we are pleased to report that local voluntary and community groups have given us some excellent applications for this year's 'Ward Pot' scheme and all of the funds are currently allocated. Projects include funding of the local Neighbourhood Watch, health walks and a local bowling club.

In the meantime do get in contact with us if you are thinking of applying next year. The next funding round should open in June and an early discussion always helps.

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

See you soon,

**Martin, Colin & Joe**

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

*joe.otten@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk*  
*colin.ross@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk*



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## Post Box

Dear Sir,  
**Refugee children**

A big thankyou to everyone who made a donation to our warm welcome appeal in the last issue of the Bugle.

Thanks to your kindness we will be able to continue providing a rucksack containing pens, paper, toys, hat, gloves, toothbrush and paste, drink bottle and cuddly toy, to newly arrived refugee children to our city, for the next few months.

As the crisis continues in Afghanistan the rucksacks are for the children arriving from there at the moment. And now we just had an order from the refugee council for more bags and it says "the children love the bags!"

Donations can still be left in the box outside No 10 St Quentin Mount or you can make a donation to just giving at: [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfundin g/warmwelcome?utm\\_term=ERWq8Me3Y](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfundin g/warmwelcome?utm_term=ERWq8Me3Y)

With thanks

*Dot and Paul Smith*

Dear Sir,  
**Beauchief Abbey**

On the Friday before Advent Sunday Clive and myself, were walking up the lane with the Abbey's Christmas Tree. We had planned to decorate the Abbey ready for the Advent Sunday Service, as usual we had purchased a locally grown tree from Troway near Coal Aston. Turning though the gate we noticed the lawn at the front of the Abbey had been transformed in what looked like a school sports day – rows and rows of white lines?

We were greeted by a small team of Archaeology Students led by Gou and Professor Colin Merrony (see group photograph). The team were conducting a ground radar survey on the lawn in front of the Abbey. Results of the survey will be revealed later in the year together with the Field survey that was completed during September. Colin will be giving a talk in the Abbey later this year, date to be confirmed.

During 2021 the Abbey continued to open and held a total of 63 services. Many thanks to the 11 Ministers who



*The Sheffield University geophysical survey team at Beauchief Abbey. Colin Merrony is on the far right of the picture*

volunteered to lead these services. Additionally we hosted two weddings, 4 baptisms, 2 funerals and a memorial service. Unfortunately it was the second year that we decided not to open Christmas Eve. We are all looking forward to a brighter 2022 as 2021 was a difficult year for many families.

The Abbey is open every Sunday – 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays 11am Holy Communion, 3rd Sunday 2 services are held at 8am (said Holy Communion) and an Evensong Service at 3pm.

The steel City Choir will return in 2022 – date to be confirmed and all being well we will be open for Heritage Open days this year. The Abbey is run by volunteers if you would like to volunteer please contact Liz on 07436 270485.

*Liz Jacques*

Dear Sir,  
**Speed camera update**

I have heard comments on social media about the continuing necessity for the speed cameras. Simple answer, motorists are still ignoring the speed limits, and the majority are from S17.

Question. Do those complaining want

to break the law, and possibly cause an accident?

The reason in the first place that they started monitoring speeds here, was the fact that there were 4 accidents on Baslow Road, at the junction with Marstone Crescent, within 2 months. All were connected with speed and/or lack of attention. A public meeting was held, and this was the only positive outcome.

Over the winter, the camera vans have been fitted with another tool – ANPR cameras (Automatic Number Plate Recognition). Even if a vehicle is not speeding, these cameras can detect vehicles with no tax, test, insurance, if they are stolen, and, if they are on the list of wanted vehicles.

They can also spot dodgy number plates, including those made to look like a name (£60 fine for first offence, I am told by a guilty man).

*Roger Hart*

Dear Sir,  
**Hot Air**

We should all be aware of the very real dangers of global warming but it already looks like Cop-26 will achieve very little more than empty promises. The young will doubtless think that any proposals do not go far enough, those of us longer in the tooth can presume that whatever is decided the result will mean higher prices.

What can we do to help? We can change to low-energy lightbulbs or consider heating options but meaningful decisions, like giving up flying abroad, will be much more painful.

What we could do immediately is to stop using gas-fuelled or electric outdoor space heaters. Their sole purpose is to warm the outside air! This also applies to garden chimneys, outdoor log burners, pyramid patio gas flames, fire pits and flare effects at sports matches. It is high time we gave up all this.

I would allow the hospitality industry time to look at more efficient ways of warming their outside spaces; they need the flexibility but in our own back gardens, why not put on a pullover?

*Robert Smith*

## From your local MP

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

Towards the end of last year I celebrated two years since I was elected the MP for Sheffield Hallam. In that time I have answered over 20,000 individual enquires from people across Hallam; successfully campaigned for a partial ban on peatland burning; won important reforms to miscarriage support; worked with people across our constituency to build a Hallam Climate Manifesto ahead

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of COP26; facilitated a Sheffield Nature Emergency summit; tabled a Bill for stronger protections against abuse for front-line workers and much, much more!

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

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

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

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

Many of you have written to me about the Government's anti-democratic Policing Bill and are rightly very worried about its draconian effect. I can assure you I have voted against it at every opportunity. Over the past couple of weeks I have been working with campaigners in our city and across the country to fight this Bill and protect our

city's proud tradition of standing up for what we believe in, from those campaigning for women's suffrage to anti-slave trade protesters. I was really pleased to have the opportunity to speak at the rally held outside the Town Hall ahead of the Bill returning to the House of Lords.

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

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

Nationalities and Borders Bill and will continue to champion Sheffield's City of Sanctuary.

I am currently working with campaigners to raise awareness about the dangerous effects of this Bill on the LGBTQ+ community and at the time of writing I have just secured a debate in Westminster Hall next week to push this issue up the agenda. I also am proud to have been elected as vice chair for the All Party Parliamentary Group on migration and I am looking forward to working with this group to hold the Government to account over their migration policy.

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

**Olivia Blake**  
**MP for Sheffield Hallam**  
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[olivia.blake.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:olivia.blake.mp@parliament.uk)





Jamie F Knight dip.fd



Tracey Wilson

JF Knight

are pleased to introduce our brand new funeral home at Evelyn House, Meadowhead, Sheffield.

JF Knight independent family funeral directors was set up by Jamie Knight in 2014. After working for 20 years in other funeral homes he felt it was time to take everything he had learned and spread his wings.

His first funeral home opened in 2014 in the Handsworth area of Sheffield after looking after families in the south of Sheffield with previous funeral homes gaining experience of dealing with bereaved families in "the right way".

When Evelyn House became available it was clear to Jamie that it would make a beautiful funeral home in the area that he served well for so many years. The last few months have seen extensive work carried out with the building that has a lovely warm, welcoming, homely feel to it.

As Jamie will divide his time between his Handsworth and Meadowhead branches he felt it important to have the right person at the helm to look after the day to day running of the business and has been lucky to employ "local girl" Tracey Wilson who will be recognised for her years of service in the area.

Tracey came into the business 23 years ago working for the S&E Co-op funeral services (Sheffield & Ecclesall) who were later to be taken over by The Yorkshire Co-op, United Co-op and then finally Funeral Care. Tracey was last based at John Fairest on Abbey Lane before leaving the Co-op.

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## Weather in Bradway 2021

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the 7th icy winds from the east set in with daytime temperatures barely getting above freezing and frost every night from the 7th to the 14th. This was accompanied by frequent snow showers and together with the strong winds at times made things very unpleasant. Fortunately, there was quite a bit of sunshine to temper the chill but not in the shade.

All this changed from the 14th with milder air spreading from the southwest and maximum temperatures rising to double figures for much of the remainder of the month. Eventually high pressure became established so February finished on a dry and mild note after some strong winds on the 23rd and 24th. On balance February ended up statistically as an average month for temperature but well above average for precipitation.

March continued the theme of variety with a cool start and a number of night frosts before an unnamed storm produced strong winds (36 knots) in Bradway and nearly 50 mm of rain on the 10th and 11th.

After this stormy incursion the weather settled down and temperatures rose slightly above average with eleven days without rain. Finally, warmth appeared reaching 21.9 on the last day of the month – the warmest March day in my 15 year record in Bradway (and the highest since 1965 at the Museum).

As high pressure became firmly established over Britain, dry conditions prevailed for almost the whole of April. Associated with the persistent anticyclone, sunshine totals were high and the clear skies at night gave a series of frosts, ten being recorded here, taking the average minimum temperature to 3.7C below my average. The night of the 6th gave the lowest April temperature of my record at -2.2C.

## Abbeyle Miniature Railway Timetable

The railway is closed until

**Sunday 27th March**

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**10th April; 24th April**

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The most notable feature was the number of rainless days (23) so it was not surprising that April ended with very dry soils and a number of early flowering plants suffering from frost damage, though we did experience a few days with light snowfall and hail about this time. At the Museum it turned out to be the fourth driest April on record (since 1883) though some residents may remember 2007 and 1957 which had even less rain.

So many extremes may have seemed enough for one year but May turned out to be another month of extremes and what a contrast to the first May of our lockdown in 2020. This time the month was dominated by low pressure giving plenty of cloud and rain with few interludes of warm air.

It wasn't until the end of the month that 20C was recorded and the rain stopped. Another noteworthy feature was the maximum temperature on the 3rd of only 7.8C – hardly spring-like weather. Even hail and thunder were recorded to give more variety to the month's weather.

June gave us a return to more normal weather with pleasant daytime temperatures, plenty of sunshine and twenty days without rain. The heaviest daily fall was on the 18th with a mere 7.2 mm so that ground conditions remained dry making it hard for the ground feeding birds. Luckily (for the birds and plants) July started somewhat wetter with thunderstorms on the 3rd and 4th. There was a dry spell from the 14th to the 27th with no rain and temperatures reached the upper twenties without ever breaking the 30C barrier.

Nights were uncomfortably hot from the 17th to 22nd to make sleeping conditions difficult for those without air conditioning! August was a rather disappointing month being drier but rather cool with the highest temperature a mere 21.6C on the 20th. Sunshine was well below average being the dullest at the Museum since 1968.

As autumn began with September so warmth returned. A brief heatwave on the 7th and 8th saw temperatures reach 28.2 (compare it with August); at the Museum the 28.7C recorded there was the highest maximum temperature since 1911 (anyone remember it?). There were nineteen days without rain so it really had the character of a mid-summer month and was 2C above my September

average.

October was an average month in most respects but it did have some marked variations between warm (14.3 on the 19th) and cold nights (2.9) on the 21st. It went out with a bang with a deep low pressure, strong winds and 25 mm of rain. Fortunately tree damage wasn't severe in our area with a "mere" 23 knots recorded.

November remained mild and generally dry until Storm Arwen moved south-eastwards over the North Sea. The strong northerly winds (32 knots) produced a maximum of only 1.9C on the 28th, night frosts and SNOW, which was the first in November at the Museum since 2015 and the thickest since 2010.

December turned out as an average month for temperatures with a few warmer and colder spells and even a few flakes of snow late on Christmas day for Bradway nighthawks. It was however rather wet (122% of average at the Museum) and foggy.

The month's main claim to fame came on the last day when the night-time minimum only fell to 11.1C here following a daytime high of 13.3C. The day turned out to be the warmest New Year's Eve on record though not the warmest December day.

All in all, another varied year of weather in Bradway but at least lockdown didn't extend throughout the year so we were able to take advantage of some of the better features of 2021 weather in Bradway. Overall rainfall was above the long term average with 962mm in Bradway and sunshine at the Museum was very close to average though still the lowest since 2012.

*Peter Smithson*

## Bradway Birds

The UK is unique in its knowledge of many of its animal populations, especially of birds. This is because of its superb blend of academic professionals, and of its amazing number of knowledgeable and committed amateur recorders who are in the field out of love (and despair). Unfortunately, Britain is more like the rest of the world in its inability to arrest declines. In fact, our loss of diversity is the worst in Europe.

Every six years, all our 245 breeding bird species are placed on a red / amber / green traffic light classification, the placing being made by panel of conservation groups and government agencies. The first list was made in 1996, when 36 species were classified as red or of high conservation concern. The update published at the end of 2021 has nearly doubled the red group to 70 species.

The amber list is up by 3 since 2015, to 103 species. The declining green list now stands at 72 out of 245. There are some well loved species involved in the red group. The lovely greenfinch is one, down by over 2/3rds in a human generation. That's uncomfortable. The main cause is a respiratory infection,

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(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:

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

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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**

thought to have passed from pigeons, which are in a quite separate bird family. Green finches do still breed around Bradway, but our garden is now only occasionally visited rather than having them every day.

Sad to say, the disease is now attacking chaffinches, once our 4th most common bird, with 6 million breeding pairs. Ten years ago, our garden was full of these cheerful birds, but now I am glad to see or hear one at all, and almost regard it as a tick on the rarity list.

Pigeons and the virus have reached an uneasy compromise. For the finches it was a new unmanageable threat. Ring any bells? Ash and die-back? Humans and Covid? But we unlike birds have management strategies, we don't have to evolve them, we create them.

Another worry is the swift, that talismanic summer bird of screaming parties and a completely aerial life. The local colonies at Dore, Bushey Wood, Totley Brook Road, Low Edges Fire Station, Totley Church and Glover Road/ Mickley Lane, are still present from May to early August, but they are much reduced.

Nationally, swifts are down by over half since 1996. There are several reasons, though the importance of each is not known. They winter in wet equatorial and tropical Africa, where vegetation destruction is accelerating. This means fewer insects, which means poorer winter survival. The Sahara is getting wider, so fewer get to the winter quarters or return.

On their breeding grounds (here!), insects are fewer too as we still reduce natural habitat and dose the rest with insecticide. We then bemoan the loss of swifts. Buildings are increasingly swift proof with no gaps or nooks and crannies for nesting.

Clearly action can be taken over all these problems. Following COP in Glasgow would make a big difference, as would greener farming and gardening. Be untidy, end the use of chemicals and any new building could include swift bricks for almost no extra cost. Humans seem to be incapable of doing these things.

The delightful house martin is now almost absent from SW Sheffield, but is stable further North. Nobody knows why. Red list again. Swallows have declined in southern England but increased in the North and in Ireland. Nobody knows why but at least the swallow does remain on the green list.

Fortunately, there is some good news. Goldfinches are well up since 1996, and so are buzzards, which have spread all over Britain from their former mountain retreats.

People might be less happy that the resourceful crow family is doing pretty well. The family's biggest gainer is the cheerful and characterful jackdaw. There are plenty of those breeding in Bradway.

As some of the old faithful decline, birds that were genuine rarities in 1996 are now here and set to increase. These include three egrets that were once



*The Greenfinch (Carduelis chloris)  
The lovely bird is down in number by  
over 2/3rds in a human generation*

subtropical birds, the little, great white and cattle egrets. On marshes, you might spot a tall black and white bird with pink legs out of all proportion to its body. That's the black winged stilt.

Robin, wren, blackbird, and great tit are all of no conservation concern. The sparrows and starlings are still at a low

ebb but holding on, and the song thrush is showing a welcome recovery. As is obvious, wood pigeons are everywhere.

No bird that depends primarily on farm land or heath is making any comeback. Isn't that sad?

*John Kirkman*

## Earth Hour 2022

On Saturday 26 March at 8:30pm until 9.30pm the lights will go out on many of 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.

Earth Hour is the world's biggest switch off event – a moment millions come together for nature, people and the planet.

During these difficult times, we need more than ever to find ways to connect with each other and inspire hope for the future.

Our health, happiness and future depend on nature – so this year, look after yourself, each other and our planet - switch your lights in a symbolic show of support. Visit <https://www.earthhour.org>



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## Twenty years a Head

With 2022 now firmly established on the calendar and February in my sights, I have been reflecting on the passage of time and how rapidly it can pass, especially as I get older. For example, many people have commented about how the pandemic lockdown days just disappeared, almost without trace.

According to scientists, this is because many of the days were very similar and this blurring of identical days led us to create fewer new memories, which is crucial to our sense of time perception. However, it was not just lockdown days that seemed to evaporate like a mist: I have been a Headteacher at Bradway for nearly twenty years now and, in a similar sort of way, it seems almost impossible that so much time has passed since I arrived at the school from London.

Twenty years ago, in 2002, Sir Harold Jackson School, which was the school's name at that time, was a very well respected and successful school with positive inspection reports. I had arrived as the new Deputy Headteacher in September 2001 and was teaching a Year 5 class at the time with half a day a week leadership time.

The school had a reputation for excellence in the curriculum but the school budget was very tight after years of underfunding by government and the building needed a lot of work. Indeed, the school infrastructure was similar to how it had been in the 1960s when the school was built, so all classrooms had chalk boards and the children sat at traditional wooden desks, even at the age of 4. There were no carpets in classrooms and many of the reading books and teaching resources were out of date.

Outside there was a climbing frame and some concrete pipes for the children to play on, but little else in the way of play equipment. There were only a few teaching assistants to serve the entire school population, whereas in 2022 we have 16. Speaking to my predecessors I knew that they would have loved to modernise the school, but they just didn't

## Bradway Primary School

Dates for your diary

**Spring Half Term**

Friday 11th February

Monday 21st February

**End of spring term**

Friday 1st April

**Start of summer term**

Tuesday 19th April

have enough money.

In the twenty years since 2002, as budgets have very gradually improved, it has been a real privilege to have overseen the upgrading of almost every area of the school, but there will always be improvements to make of course.

As I write this article, in late January 2022, I am reflecting that, twenty years ago today, I would have been teaching a Year 5 class in this school and it would have been Friday 25th January 2002. Of course, I have no idea exactly what my lessons were like on that day and what else happened specifically.

But on this day I would have only recently been told by the incumbent Headteacher, Mrs Connor, that she would shortly be leaving the school for a promotion into a Local Authority position and that I was to become the Acting Headteacher. So, a huge change was in store for me, a change that took me out of the classroom permanently and into full time leadership.

I am excited about the future for our school as we continue to improve our provision to suit the needs of our current learners, preparing them for the challenges of the 21st century, and I wonder what the school will look like in twenty years' time, on the 25th January 2042, as I approach my 80th birthday. However, one thing is for certain; I will not be the Headteacher then!

**For information:** parking around Bradway Primary School

Those living nearby the school will know that traffic in the area, and across

the nation, has grown worse over the years as more cars are using the roads and as more people drive their children to school. We are currently working with Sheffield City Council to try to improve the safety of roads around the school to make them as safe as possible for pedestrians and we regularly communicate with our parents about the issue of parking.

If you have any concerns about parking in the area around the school, please contact the council on 0114 273 4567. Please do not contact the school if you have a concern as we have no authority over the use of public highways.

**Paul Stockley (Headmaster)**  
**Bradway Primary School**  
twitter:@bradwaystockley

## A Little Bodging

*makes a Big Difference!*

As I've mentioned before, this time of the year is pretty much the close season for bodging, and as I get older this increasingly becomes the case. It's too cold and miserable to be doing much outside, and even inside I'd rather just hunker down in front of the fire.

Meanwhile, everywhere I look I see jobs that need doing. We had a bit of a clear out of the garage before Christmas, so that's one thing less, but throughout the house, the décor, in particular, is looking increasingly tatty. Take the hall, landing and staircase, for example. I can't remember when I last re-papered it, but it must be at least 15 or 20 years ago (Mrs B will no doubt remind me it's nearer 40!).

It's probably too much for me to do this kind of thing myself these days. I'd happily pay for someone to come and do it for me, but the thought of all the upheaval puts me off. But then I noticed that what increases the general air of tattiness is the fact that several of the joints in the wallpaper have lifted. I decided to try and stick them back down.

I ferreted about in the workshop and soon found a tub of border adhesive that must have been kicking around in there for 20-odd years, although still in good condition and perfectly usable, and a little paste brush that the grandchildren used to use when doing handicraft work. I was ready to make a start.

I decided to begin in an area that was fairly inconspicuous in case I made matters worse. It occurred to me that the lifted seams could do with dampening a bit to make them more pliable, so used the little brush for this first to good effect. Now for the border adhesive. Applying it and easing down the seams was simplicity itself, and I was delighted that once the area had dried, the repair was barely visible.

In little over an hour the following day, I'd completed the job and the overall appearance, though not perfect, was much improved. At least, that's my opinion.....!

*The Bradway Bodger*

## Entries Invited for Auctions

Items always invited for regular Antiques & Collectables and Specialist auctions

Consignments are invited for all of our regular Antiques & Collectables Auctions, Fine Art and many Specialist Auctions, from large collections to single items.

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## Greenhill and Lowedges Libraries

If you live in Greenhill, unless you were hiding under a stone on 18th December you couldn't help but notice the wonderful event organised by the "Fab Four" Deborah, Lisa, Joy and Marie, otherwise known as the Greenhill Events Group.

Quite apart from bringing the community out in bulk, their fundraising has allowed them to donate an amazing £2,000 to the library and, we understand, a similar amount to Greenhill School. We are looking forward to working with the same group on a program of events to celebrate the Queen's jubilee in June.

We're excited to be partnering with Read Easy to start up an adult literacy program. Our initial plan is to pair up 12 volunteers with 12 learners over a period of one year. (If you watched the BBC's program about Jay Blades learning to read, Read Easy is the organisation he was working with.)

If you know anyone in Greenhill or Lowedges who could benefit from this, please let us know. You can email [support@greenhill-library.org](mailto:support@greenhill-library.org)

Almost by accident we recently got to meet Gavin, the head honcho at Fletcher's Waste Management, who was looking to support a local charity and has generously agreed to buy an "Activision Touch Table" (think of it as a giant iPad) and a suite of "Early Years" software. We are looking forward to taking delivery of this and introducing it to our younger



*Catherine, now based at Lowedges*

customers. We also hope it might help some folks at the opposite end of the age spectrum who find the tiny screens of their smartphones a challenge for older fingers. Gavin has also paid for our recent newsletter and is planning to fund the Read Easy program too.

It is really humbling when people like Gavin and the Fab Four go out of their way to support us; it makes us very aware of our responsibility towards the community we serve.

Regular readers may remember that the Duke of Devonshire's visit to the library in October had to be cancelled. We're delighted to tell you that his talk is now re-scheduled for 18 March when he'll be talking about the art treasures of Chatsworth. We're expecting this to sell out and will be asking folks to book in advance at [greenhill.bookwhen.com](http://greenhill.bookwhen.com)

Some of our activities are now re-established post-pandemic, including knit and natter (10am -12noon on the first

and third Tuesday of each month), story time (Thursday am see [greenhill-bookwhen.com](http://greenhill-bookwhen.com)), film screenings (first Friday and Saturday of the month), coffee mornings (every Thursday) and book club (third Wednesday of the month).

There are a couple of things we haven't managed to restart yet and would be interested to hear from anyone interested in helping run a Chatterbooks group or restarting code club sessions. The latter requires some knowledge of computer programming, though not at professional software developer level.

In January, we were delighted to bring on board Catherine, our "Library Engagement and Events Coordinator" who has already made a real difference in helping to build the engagement of the Lowedges community with our branch library there.

Thanks to Catherine and volunteers Wendy, Carolyn, Jan and Michael, our opening hours at Lowedges are now back to: 10am – 4.30pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. Do pop in and say hello if you're in the area.

As always, I encourage you to keep an eye on our web site ([greenhill-library.org](http://greenhill-library.org)), follow us on Facebook, or subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter for more timely information about all that's going on at Greenhill and Lowedges libraries.

Well, I've reached my word count before I ran out of things to say. It must be a good month!

*Chris Brown*



### 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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## Bradway Action Group

**Chairman:** Chris Morgan

9, Everard Avenue. Tel 236 9273

**Secretary:** Fiona Vallely

58, Everard Avenue. Tel 236 3991

**Deputy Chair:** John Sharpe

**Treasurer:** Jon Smith

**Membership Sec:** Anne Sharpe

38, Longford Crescent. Tel 236 6388

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

Les Day; Nancy Maitland;

Ian Robinson;

\*John Child (Community Hall)

\*Frank Richardson (Scouts)

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

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

**Facebook:** Bradway Action Group



*The structure of the ground floor at Outram Fields is substantially completed*

### The Old School Field

#### – Bradway Village Green

Discussions with the Council continue to install further equipment in the playground area. We're looking at a family seating area to go in the corner of the small children's play area.

Possible installation of equipment for older children in the area outside of the playground but neither of these items is cheap to buy as they have to be fit for purpose. We have to be guided by the expertise of the Council who need to ensure their suitability as they will be providing the maintenance thereafter.

#### Open Meeting 6th April

7.00 for 7.30 Bradway School with light refreshments and opportunity for informal discussions. The agenda is currently totally open to allow attendees the opportunity to raise any topic related to Bradway. If there is something you'd particularly like to raise please use the

Contact form from our website as above. To those who came to the AGM, we expect to have some adult chairs for this meeting.

#### Forthcoming major work on the railway

We are in relative limbo at present with the project about to start in earnest. The railway triangle area is being cleared ready for the main work site and should be fenced off so that we can still use the diverted path down the side nearest to the mainline. The entry onto Twentywell Lane will be to the higher side of the opening. The work site will include parking for workers' vehicles. A slope has to be built down from the triangle to rail level. This phase should all be complete before the end of March.

Contractors Volker/Story JV start the main construction contract in April. Most heavy materials and construction equipment will be brought in by rail. Volker will be holding further drop-in sessions to explain how the work is progressing from time to time, next probably in March.

It's good to report that Volker are doing all they can to reduce inconvenience to local residents and we have good rapport with their team. It's inevitable with a project of this size that we will experience some inconvenience but it will be kept to the minimum possible. Roll on September 2023 when all should be complete and restitution of the triangle can begin.

#### Christmas 2021

Once again, BAG overcame the problems of ice and snow to decorate the trees and hang the lights at the shops at Twentywell Lane ready for Christmas. This year, we paid half of the cost towards the 12 small Christmas trees, with the traders paying the remainder. The large tree was arranged from the National Trust's Longshaw Estate.

We've received positive comments about the display so hope this brought a little festive cheer; and the baubles stayed on the tree this time – wired firmly on!

There was a small Christmas event at Twentywell Lane shops on 12th December. We were entertained by a children's choir to sing Christmas Carols, Mother Christmas dancers from a local dance school and Father Christmas

arrived by motor bike - Ho Ho Ho! Thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the adult and children's tombola - we sold out in two hours.

Moneys raised from the Fun Day 2021 and Tombola sales will help support BAG projects.

#### Recreation Ground Improvement

Discussions are ongoing with the Council with a plan in place to plant suitable trees to help with the soggy ground, also sowing of a wild flower meadow into an uncut verge around the border of the field.

Both of these will involve BAG members and children from Bradway Primary School. An environmental survey is to be arranged to develop specific areas for wildlife. Possibly a second set of goalposts – where did the old ones go?

#### The Twentywell Lane Care Home - Outram Fields

At the time of writing the ground floor is being completed and the next level will be going in shortly. There is no doubt that the higher it gets the more the close neighbours' objections can be understood. Three more storeys to add!

The contractors have a job to do. They'll do what they can to reduce inconvenience but if there are any immediate concerns please contact the Senior Site Manager for contractors Pacy and Wheatley, Simon Elvin. He is very approachable and can be called on 07392 087252.

#### Outdoor activities

Physical work has continued most Thursdays, most recently the path from Twentywell Lane to the recreation ground. We were considering replacing the broken and removed handrail over the ridge, however we're assured that the council team will be attending to this shortly.

We'll consider anything else that's safe, legal and in the community interest so let John Sharpe know if you see something you feel we could tackle. To make a helpful suggestion, or maybe join us, he's at; [john.c.sharpe54@gmail.com](mailto:john.c.sharpe54@gmail.com)

#### Local Area Committees – LACs

BAG has been monitoring our new South West LAC, one of 7 across the city. Ours includes Dore & Totley, Crookes & Crosspool, Ecclesall and Fulwood wards.



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Good intentions, they're a way for people to get involved in making a difference to their local communities. Some budgets have already been devolved to the LACs for them to be used on issues and priorities that residents and communities have said in questionnaires are important to them.

LACs are a chance for people to influence decision making, share opinions and contribute to positive changes in their communities. They're an opportunity for people to say what they would like to see improved in their area.

Whilst LACs have some initial devolved powers, the devolution of further powers will continue to evolve. Further details about LACs can be found here;

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-citycouncil/local-area-committees](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-citycouncil/local-area-committees)

That's what it says on the tin but what's in it? At a Zoom online meeting last month we were able to ask questions and saw the results from the questionnaire. They may not be available from that website but are from BAG's. So far we've heard lots of good ideas for spending vastly more money than we're likely to get, but early days.

#### BAG website

The BAG website is at; <http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com/> Use the contact us Form or Chairman

link to get in touch.

#### Full Members

Many thanks to all who set up standing orders to renew their membership subscriptions for 2022 on 1st January or soon after.



*Christmas decorations at Twentywell Shops for which BAG paid half towards the cost of 12 small Christmas trees.*

The income allows us to commit to modest projects within the community. If your bank statement doesn't show it as paid please go to our website and follow the details on the Membership page. Paid up members have the right to vote at General Meetings and are eligible to be nominated for committee positions.

We'd greatly welcome more fully paid

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

#### BAG Facebook Group

We've 1250 people in our Facebook Group and add new names every day. Lots of lively information, news and opinions about Bradway, its history and residents. It enables local residents to keep in touch with all sorts of local happenings. Just explain your Bradway connection and accept the simple rules and you should be admitted.

#### Future BAG Activities

Outside work most Thursdays, see above.

Committee Meetings are 3rd Tuesday of each odd month in the small Community Hall.

The next Open Meetings for members are 6th April and 13th July.

The 2022 Bradway Bounds Walk is on Sunday 29th May.

The 2022 Fun Day is on Saturday 10th September.

Bradway website is at; <http://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com/> or contact Chairman as above.

*Chris Morgan, Chairman*



**The Annexe,  
Bradway Road,  
Sheffield, S17 4QS  
Tel : 0114 327 2380**

[www.bradwaypreschool.co.uk](http://www.bradwaypreschool.co.uk)

#### Open Term Time.

We are a nursery grant provider. For more information, please contact our administrator on 0114 327 2380

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Monday to Friday

#### Afternoons

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591548

## Gilbert & Sullivan Society

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Derek Habberjam*

**The Pirates of Penzance by Dore  
Gilbert & Sullivan Society at  
The Montgomery Theatre  
Performances - 6th, 7th and 8th  
April at 7:30pm with a Saturday  
matinee at 2:30pm**



*Formidable policemen, Mark White, Bryan Eley and Derek Habberjam from the 2012 production of *The Pirates of Penzance**

## Ups and Downs

I lead a simple life, uncomplicated, but every night when I go to bed I have ten things to carry upstairs: My glasses, the book I'm reading, carafe of water, medicines, ointments, tissues, keys, a socket set. They magically morph into thirteen things I have to carry down in the morning. How does that happen?

What with all the trudging up and down stairs, I am nearly worn out even before I get the breakfast, then a circular came through the door, "Are you tired of walking upstairs?" How do these blighters find out? They weren't selling any old junky and clunky old stair-lift - but a cutting-edge real lift for the home!

*Never before will you have experienced the sensation of travelling up and down so smoothly, silently and effortlessly.* I've got news for them: I've been going up or down for years, so silently that you would hardly know it.

My life has been an entire process of moving up and moving down, yet I hardly know it has happened.

Take my house: purchased new in a Luxury Prestige Development of 5 houses overlooking open fields. In our cul-de-sac we were executives, going up in the world, until they built a new estate on our view. Then they built another estate, then another, and my private cul-de-sac is a through route to bedlam.

It used to be a spacious 4-bedroom home but even though the kids have gone, it seems to have shrunk; once-spacious rooms have compromised their comfort to be common lodging houses for all our junk. It can truly be said that the sum total of one's belongings expands in sympathy with the space available.

As its price has inexorably risen, the house has gone down, in my estimation. It's the same with cars. I used to drive cars that were fashionable: I owned a

Morris Minor Series 'E', the acme of perfection.

Then, as part of my work I was issued with a series of glamorous vehicles to help me polish the tarmac. I had a big Citroen that might have doubled as a pantechnic; driving it was like flying at zero altitude.

There was walnut and leather everywhere. There was a corded phone built into one of the armrests, windows were double glazed and tinted; the Coronation coach would have been a very poor substitute. Thirty years later, I am driving a practical but mundane family runabout. I don't get out much anyway.

The man, who used to cross central London as easily as crossing the lounge carpet, is now a home bird. I'm frankly frightened on motorways, my head spins at roundabouts, my reversing is a comedy turn.

I used to own a Hi-Fi so stylish that bats hung outside my window, listening to Brahms and Beethoven. Nobody listens to music any more or, if they do, it's only a lickety-snicketty jangling in their earbuds. Who on earth can listen to 'rap' music without wishing to rip out the voice boxes of the perpetrators?

Common sense and courtesy have yielded to a world where bits and bytes take precedence over brains. "The computer says no," takes precedence over reasoned discussion. You can't argue with a machine. Even medical practitioners trust unthinking screens to treat their patients rather than using holistic care.

In the days of pen and ink, you could stop and think. Now everyone expects to live beyond their means, achieve their wildest dreams, enjoy constant love and laughter, and win 'First Prize' in the game of life. Something tells me it was never meant to be this way: life consists of ups and downs. Watch your step.

*Robert Smith*

## Bradway Scouting

The new term in the New Year saw movements up through the Sections – Beavers to Cubs and Cubs to Scouts. We still have a healthy complement of young people, ready to be reported in the annual national Scout census at the end of January.

Meanwhile, the weekly meetings have continued, observing the so-called “Plan B” Covid precautions at least until just before the Bugle deadline date when we were all released back into the community.

Before Christmas the Beavers decorated and sold cakes for Children in Need, which raised a very creditable £36.00. This term they are working towards the My Skills challenge badge (please do not enquire too closely what those “skills” are). They have just completed the Air activity badge which involved making plenty of paper aeroplanes as well as helicopters and balloon rockets! There is no longer a need for them to be able to identify Luftwaffe planes from their silhouette. Later in this term they will also cover the Communicator badge.

Cubs were very busy last term: making lanterns for Diwali, learning about (and making) the different coloured Remembrance Day poppies, assembling bodies and defusing bombs! Our enthusiastic Pack secured themselves two Challenges Awards for all their efforts – ‘Our Skills’ and ‘Team Work’. Some of our older Cubs worked towards their

Personal Challenge Award, which included tasks such as playing an instrument in front of an audience, learning to cross a busy road, leading the Cubs in a new game and doing a good turn every day for three weeks. One of our amazing Cubs raised money for a local charity, ACCT (Asperger’s Children and Carers Together), through a sponsored hike.

The year ended with a Christmas party featuring lots of party food! We asked parents to supply an empty wine bottle (not many complaints!) so Cubs could make lanterns with LED lights and silhouettes; we had some beautiful creations going home for Christmas. Our Group Scout Leader, Frank, made an appearance to present two of our dedicated Cubs with Chief Scout’s Silver Awards, well done to them! Eight Cubs moved up this year but our numbers are picking up and we have a Pack (full of energy!) working on their Money Skills Activity badge.

Before Storms Arwen and Barra (remember them?) hit us, the Scouts managed to plan and go out on an overnight expedition, to camp at Eric Byne Memorial site near Baslow, returning by train from Grindleford the following morning. They followed that up by performing for a video log of the event. This is still being edited, the plan being for it to be premiered at the half-term indoor camp at Whiteley Woods.

There’s a Bradway tradition that the Patrols compete to prepare, cook and eat a Christmas meal for themselves and for

a celebrity guest who decides which is best. In 2021, it was our new District Commissioner Jamie Thompson who sat down to 4 different meals then claimed he had never had such consistent good quality from which to choose a winner.

But he did plump for one Patrol, who would have represented us in the District Indoor Cooking competition at the end of January had it not been cancelled because not enough other Troops were interested. This year’s theme was to have been “a meal from any non-European country” and we might have had a clear advantage with our winning Patrol Leader being ethnic Chinese?

Covid put a bit of a dampener on the numbers at the Scouts’ Christmas party which was held at the Explorer Unit in Woodseats. Attractions included the climbing wall and a pool table, both of which brought out some friendly competition among those present. In this new term, the Scouts are working towards the Skills (that word again) and Team-Work Challenges, both of which include developing problem solving skills.

*Frank Richardson  
For Bradway Scouts  
[www.bradwyscouts.org.uk](http://www.bradwyscouts.org.uk)*

### 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. See page 2 for contact details.

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## Neighbourhood Watch

First, a happy new year to all our residents in Bradway. Let us hope that the new year starts better than 2021, Covid appeared to be controlled to a certain degree as the vaccination program got started, only for the new omicron variant to rear its ugly head in December.

On a similar basis, crime in the S17 area started with a number of vehicle theft and hit a peak towards the end of the year. Only the actual Christmas week appears to be when the villains have stayed at home, hopefully the situation will last a bit longer but remember there are now a lot of new products they could be looking to get their hands on.

Not that anything seems to stop the scammers in their various forms, be it text messages, emails or telephone calls, all have one thing in common they are trying to get hold of your money in one way or another.

Whether the message claims to be from a delivery company saying they need to re-despatch a parcel to you, but it will need a redeliver charge of £1.99. All they really want are your card details so they can take money from or charge your account, please do not get taken in by this or similar scams.

Beware of items being offered for sale on social media where the vendor is demanding a deposit or payment via suspicious methods prior to even being able to view the products. In many cases there are no products just scammers attempting to get money or card details to. None of us are immune to their efforts I regularly get scam emails on my Hotmail account and fortunately can quickly identify them as such, whilst my wife gets her ration as text messages, if in doubt report them and then delete them.

Recently Amazon and possibly other companies are allowing their delivery drivers to leave parcels on your doorstep after ringing your bell or knocking on your door. I personally have had a few instances where packages have been left without any notification until I got a text or email notification.

This is all well and good if you are home but not very satisfactory if you are out for a couple of hours. If this has happened to you, consider alternative delivery options, many of the major companies have drop off /collection points in local shops or post office. Just leaving a package on a doorstep is just asking for it to be stolen.

In the S17 postcode area we have a significant number of residents who are members of Neighbour Hood Watch (S17NWA) which is increasing on a regular basis. Many provide cover for their neighbours in various ways, be it as a key holder, a carer or like Julie Gay leading the litter pickers on regular clearing trips. Others have a sense of public duty about preventing criminal activity and spreading the word regarding protecting themselves, neighbours or their property.

It is not a group of busy bodies peering

behind the curtains spying on all and sundry, although they are more likely to report suspicious activity by people or vehicles around their road. Why don't you consider joining NHW, it does not cost a penny in membership fees, you will receive regular incident reports informing you of the latest criminal activity and measures that can be taken to reduce the chance of becoming a victim yourself.

NHW has a number of small alarms suitable for windows, door handles and personal alarm torches at very nominal cost and will help with advice on other security products that may be more suitable for your circumstances. A membership form can be downloaded or completed online at our website, along with lots of useful contact numbers and information. It is not a forum for discussions although we do have Facebook presence as well.

If anyone is interested in setting up a local street group please contact me to provide whatever assistance is required including window stickers and possibly street signs.

*Les Day*

*Les\_nhw@hotmail.com.  
07985 424363.*

*Web page: www.s17nwa.co.uk*

*Facebook: S17NWA NHW Group*



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

It may seem odd for a history group to be looking to the future but, although the Group has expanded and flourished over the years and is financially stable, there are two factors posing serious threats to its continuance.

The first is the current pandemic we are all living through which stopped our activities in their tracks and has proved challenging to emerge from. A couple of meetings were held by Zoom and, although sparsely attended, at least allowed us to maintain some momentum. "Real" meetings have been restarted and attendances beginning to recover but the omicron variant may have an impact for a while.

The other threat is the shortage of people coming forward to help run the Group by joining the committee. Most of the present committee have been in post for many years, some since 2008 and it is inevitable that some will seek to retire in

the next few years. Ideally we are looking for a new Chair and for someone to take on the task of writing articles for local publications.

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

On April 13th we will be holding our AGM, at 7:30 pm at Totley Library which will be open to both members and non-members. The main topics will be a display of the group's achievements over the 14 years it has been running and then to consider future activities of the Group.

We are still looking for new committee members to come forward to help to ensure the longer term future of the Group. If you are interested in finding out more about what being on the Committee entails please send an email to [secretary@totleyhistorygroup.org.uk](mailto:secretary@totleyhistorygroup.org.uk) We would be happy to hear from non-members as well as members.

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

For updates on all our activities please visit [www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk](http://www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk)

*Norman Rolfe*

## Highway Code changes

Rules for all types of road users have been updated in The Highway Code to improve the safety of people walking, cycling and riding horses. These changes which include 50 new or updated rules came into effect from 29 January.

There are changes in 8 important areas:

- introducing a new hierarchy of road users

- crossing the road at junctions
- walking, cycling or riding in shared spaces

- positioning in the road when cycling
- overtaking when driving or cycling

- cycling at junctions
- people cycling, riding horses and driving horse-drawn vehicles on roundabouts

- parking, charging and leaving vehicles

Why staying up to date is important.

It's important that everyone understands their responsibility for the safety of other road users.

Many of the rules in the code are legal requirements, and if you disobey these rules you're committing a criminal offence.

If you do not follow the other rules in the code, it can be used in evidence in court proceedings to establish liability.

Find out what's changed at <https://www.gov.uk>

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## Totley Library

We hope everyone had a restful and healthy Christmas and a positive start to the New Year!

### Hello from our new Chair

I am Julie Kitlowski, a local GP and the new Chair of Trustees for Totley CRIC (Community Resource and Information Centre). The Library has now emerged from Covid with an energised and enthusiastic group of volunteers to steadily get operations back to normal.

I would like to thank Norman Rolfe, our previous Chair for his invaluable contributions over the seven years that we have been a volunteer library. I am keen to see further development of the library as a community hub, where we can support the health and well-being of our communities.

I hope that you will come and visit us as our building opens up to more regular activities and meetings. Any suggestions for future developments and activities are very welcome - we have a new suggestion box by the lending machine so do tell us what you'd like to see in the future.

Covid precautions are still in place with open windows for regular ventilation to help protect our many volunteers, we are also still encouraging users to wear a mask and use the hand sanitiser when visiting.

Library opening hours are:

Monday 1.15 - 7pm

Tuesday and Wednesday 10am - 5pm

Friday 10am - 1pm

Saturday 10am - 1pm

### Events

**Baby Time** Tuesdays 1 - 2pm - a friendly weekly session with action songs, music, rhymes and fun for little ones 0-18 months.

**Children's Activity Time** Wednesdays 10am - 11.45am. Delivered by the Story Time team, we are providing craft activities for younger children on a different theme each week during term time.

### 50th anniversary of Mr Men & Little Miss by Roger Hargreaves

We are partnering with Greenhill and other volunteer libraries in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Mr Men and Little Miss books. We will be creating a display, a dedicated activity session and access to a variety of resources for children to create their own Mr Men and Little Miss characters from half term onwards. We would welcome donations of any Mr Men and Little Miss books to support these activities, just get in touch.

### Weekly Chair Aerobics

We are running Chair Aerobics (supported by AgeUK Sheffield) every Thursday between 12 and 1pm. Sessions are £3 - just turn up there is no need to book.

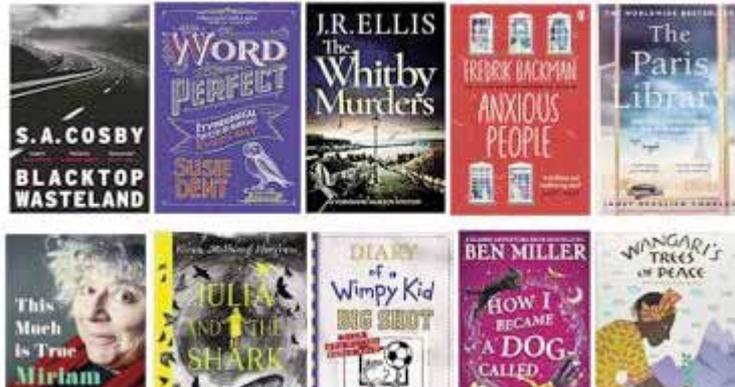
### Book Sales at Totley Library

Saturday 19 February 2 - 4pm &

Saturday 19 March 2 - 4pm

These are vital monthly fundraising events where you can purchase new and high quality hardback and paperbacks with homemade cakes and refreshments on offer. We are happy to receive donations, contact the library if you have books you are happy to part with.

Do check our website and social media pages sites for updates on our events <http://www.totleycric.org.uk/>



**New Book Additions.** We have a range of new books for loan including some recent bestsellers. You can recommend a book online or email us at [bookpurchasing@totleycric.org.uk](mailto:bookpurchasing@totleycric.org.uk)

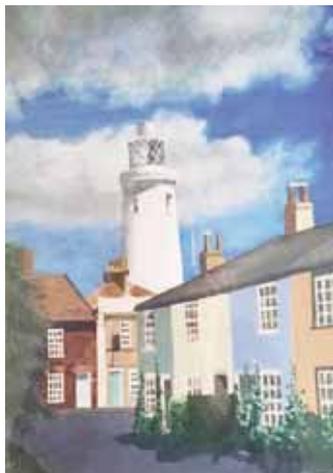
**Book Amnesty** - do you have overdue books at home?

We are appealing to all library users to please check and return any orange sticker scheme books they may have at home - we have a large number that are missing. All library book fines are currently suspended to 31 March 2022 in line with Sheffield Council's policy

### Totley Library Community Art Space

We are delighted to exhibit new art works by Angela Harpham, Sarah Wild, Gina Hodges and Andrew Jeffery with original art and art prints for sale at very competitive prices.

We are now looking for local artists who would like to exhibit for 3 months from April and July



A picture by Sarah Wild

### Totley Library Cinema 2022

Our Spring cinema programme is now available for booking. in person or by calling 0114 236 3971. Refreshments will be served at all these films - we are currently operating a reduced capacity of 20 for screenings to maintain social

distancing. Admission to films involves purchase of a raffle ticket, £3 per adult and £1.50 per child (these can be bought in advance and on the door). Thursday matinee films are free for the over 65s.

For the full list go to our website What's on - cinema page

Friday 25 February 2022 at 7pm - **Judas & The Black Messiah** (15) story of the US Black Panther leader, Fred Hampton

Sunday 13 March 2pm -

**Peter Rabbit 2 (U)** family film following the antics of the popular Beatrix Potter character

Thursday 24 March 3pm - **The Courier (12A)** a real life, cold war espionage drama starring Benedict Cumberbatch

Friday 1 April 7pm - **The Good Liar (15)** starring Helen Mirren and Ian McKellen, with McKellen as the elderly con artist trying to scam wealthy widow played by Mirren.

**Totley Library Lottery** To help keep the Library open, we run a monthly Lottery with

75% of income going towards library funds.

## On The Beat

The year has started as the last finished with a rush of burglaries across South West Sheffield, particularly over the New Years weekend. The majority of these occurred whilst the occupants were away from home and were discovered some days later on their return. I know I've mentioned it many times before but make no apology for repeating myself. Please, when leaving the house unoccupied for any length of time, try and take steps to make the house still look like it is lived in.

Whilst alarms and CCTV may play a part in protecting your property, in our experience it is the small practical steps you can take which will deter people from attempting to enter your house. Firstly look at the access to your house, think about where you would target if you lost your keys, have any windows been left open or ajar? How easy is it for you to get to the rear of the house, maybe using the handily placed wheelie bins to climb on and over any fences?

The majority of burglars will look for easy access to the rear where they can't be seen. Have you checked your door locks? Even recently constructed patios can be fitted with the older style eurolock which is an easy target for burglars, ensure you have anti bump and snap locks fitted which are a lot harder to break. If you are unsure have a look at [www.locksmiths.co.uk](http://www.locksmiths.co.uk) and request a visit from an approved locksmith.

If you have a close neighbour or a trusted friend who is willing to go into your house each evening and draw

curtains, pull blinds etc this can show people checking streets on a regular basis that there is movement within the house. Consider the use of a couple of timer light switches, stagger these so they come on and off at different times, again creating the illusion of someone moving around the house.

Have a look at online retailers and invest £10 or so in a TV simulator. These plug in and when dusk comes automatically turn on creating the flickering effect of a TV or computer. Make sure they are placed in a room which is visible to the front of the house but where the simulator cannot be seen through a window.

It may sound a bit daft but even if you have not got a dog, consider 'Beware of the Dog' signs on gateposts, or by your front door. Anything which will make a burglar hesitate about whether your property should be targeted is worthwhile.

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

I've noticed a few comments on the BAG Social Media group recently about parking so thought it might be a good time to let you know what we as Police

can and cannot do. Most parking powers were transferred to the Council including enforcement of any line (single yellow, double yellow, clearway etc) offences. Police are however still able to issue tickets for obstruction where a highway is totally obstructed or if you are unable to get off your driveway. These offences would need to be witnessed by a Police Officer to be enforced, we unfortunately cannot take retrospective action from photographs sent to us.

Police also have the power to issue tickets for dangerous parking, this is defined as "If a person in charge of a vehicle causes or permits the vehicle or a trailer drawn by it to remain at rest on a road in such a position or in such condition or in such circumstances as to involve a danger of injury to other persons using the road, he is guilty of an offence."

Again this would need to be witnessed and assessed by a Police Officer before any ticket could be issued. Parking near to a junction is a Highway Code "should not" but does not have a prosecutable offence attached.

It is also not an offence to park wholly or partially on a pavement as long as there is still room for, for instance, a wheelchair user to still pass by on the pavement safely. We're all aware of inconsiderate and bad parking but unfortunately as yet these are not classed as ticketable offences!

As usual I can be contacted by email on [adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk](mailto:adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk) or on my work mobile 07787 881945.

Please do not use this to report crimes or incidents. These still need to go through 101 or be submitted via the online reporting portal accessible from the SYP website.

Take care and lets have a safe and peaceful 2022!

**Adrian Tolson, PCSO 8136**

South Yorkshire Police  
Sheffield S W Neighbourhoods Team  
Woodseats Police Station

## Pavement parking

New plans to clamp down on city centre pavement parking

Residents and businesses are being urged to share their views on new proposals to ban pavement parking in the city centre as Sheffield City Council shares plans to introduce new powers to tackle inconsiderate and dangerous parking.

The introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order in the New Year will allow parking enforcement officers to clamp down on drivers who park on the pavement. Fines for £70 (£35 if paid within 14 days) will apply under the new rules.

The ban will be enforced across the city centre in phases and will include some of the busiest streets such as West Street and Arundel Gate. Signs will inform drivers of the ban.

The police can still fine drivers for obstructing the footway.(See article on this page).

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## Whirlow Brook Park

Since our last update, the Friends of Whirlow Brook Park (FoWP) have continued their hard work in the park. A new fence has been completed and a snowy morning was spent removing the ivy roots which had become well established before a beech hedge will be planted alongside the fence.

Just before Christmas, FoWP were successful in a bid to the National Lottery Community Fund's 'Together for Our Planet' securing money to address the issue of climate change as it affects the park and woodland. Environmentalist, Professor Ian Rotherham is helping to manage the project. The Friends and others in the community will be invited to survey the park and woodland to establish a base line against which interventions can be measured.

Volunteers will be trained in mapping and monitoring techniques, and encouraged to monitor wildlife, water flow and soil erosion. There will be a series of events throughout the year and a community action plan will be developed. If you are interested in joining them please email [friendsofwhirlowbrookpark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwhirlowbrookpark@gmail.com)

The project will be launched on the afternoon of Saturday 12th March in the Hall and members of the community will be welcome to attend. More information on the website shortly.

Future volunteer sessions will involve planting up the sunken garden which has now been laid out and fertilised,



*Volunteers preparing the ground by the fence ready for planting a hedge*

repainting some of the park benches, cutting back the cornus shrubs which have been neglected for many years and hopefully opening up the view to the millpond. If you would like to volunteer then please visit their website at [www.friendsofwhirlowbrookpark.org.uk](http://www.friendsofwhirlowbrookpark.org.uk) Volunteer sessions take place on the first Saturday and the third Monday of the month. Meet on the grass near the top car park at 9.45am – 12.00. Next sessions are, Monday 21st Feb, Saturday 5 March and Monday 21st March.

*Maggie Girling  
FoWP Publicity Officer*

## Coming out of Covid

As we enter 2022, it appears we are finally making progress down the road out of Covid restrictions. Decision makers appear to be moving towards treating it as an endemic rather than a pandemic. This time last year schools were closed and intensive care units were stretched to breaking point. Comparatively, this year, we managed to have a fairly normal Christmas and seem to be avoiding lockdowns.

Unfortunately, the unusual ability of Covid-19 to replicate even in those with immunity, and the large swathes of the unvaccinated world mean the road out of pandemic is likely to be a bumpy one with the possibility of new variants and possible rises in cases or hospitalisations. In spite of this, hopefully, every few months will feel more normal and safe.

Although we are still in the thick of the Omicron wave, confidence is growing that restrictions will be reduced and the age of lockdown does seem to be over. The use of boosters and mass testing rather than more stringent restrictions to get through the current wave suggest we are "living with Covid."

It is interesting that society seems to be feeling this way at a time when a substantial number of people are infected (1 in 15 as I write this). Pushing Covid aside to make space for a resumption of busy lives isn't just about virology, rather a human tendency to adapt regardless of how shocking or scary a scenario may seem at first. This is seen in those living

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in war zones getting used to the bombing. It is entirely human to start thinking about the future and the past, and not just getting through the present day. Ministers are now talking about how we adapt for the long term and while much remains uncertain, in the next few months the outline of post-pandemic Britain will start to take shape.

Social distancing is likely to be a part of life in one form or another for quite a while. If cases remain high, there will be caution around socialising, and working from home is likely to continue. Masks may remain compulsory too in many settings. As infections fall, these measures are likely to ebb away.

Most experts seem to agree that school closures cause far more problems than benefits, so closures are extremely unlikely. Hopefully, the many businesses devastated by Covid closures (retail, hospitality etc.) can plan with more confidence for the future.

It seems very hard to predict what will happen with travel and testing, as the government seems to change its mind regularly. Testing does seem to be here for the foreseeable future although less restrictive.

While lateral flow tests are not totally accurate, mass use of them has helped to keep the country functioning. Despite them proving their value, it seems that the huge cost of mass testing means free lateral flows will not be continued for too long. Testing will gradually be restricted to care homes, hospitals and other high-risk environments. Businesses will have to decide whether to pay for testing for their staff to avoid outbreaks and isolation among their workforce. If this is something you would like, please talk to us as we can offer this service.

Of course, testing can lead to mandatory isolation. Decision makers seem to be taking a more pragmatic attitude towards isolation, especially with regard to the length of isolation period. It seems that cutting isolation to 5 rather than 7 days does not cause a significant increase in spread of the virus.

Covid vaccines are likely to become a routine annual jab (much like the flu vaccine has been for a long time) rather than us trying to keep count of whether we have had a 5th or 6th vaccine. Administration will become routine, planned and targeted to the vulnerable rather than rushed, ad-hoc and across the population.

There is talk of Covid vaccines being combined with other respiratory vaccines such as the flu vaccine. To actually treat Covid, some antivirals are showing promise, although they are presently very costly. Hopefully ongoing trials can produce more medicines that can reduce hospitalisations and deaths.

When Omicron arrived, it felt like Covid groundhog day, and it is likely that other variants will appear in the future, complicating the exit from pandemic. The blessing seems to be that newer variants are milder and less likely to kill in large numbers. This seems normal for

viruses, with them able to infect us, but with us becoming more able to fight them off. Hopefully it also mutates less in the future.

Our country has seen the value of mass testing for Covid, and preventative measures in improving health outcomes. Health leaders are hoping to capitalise on this shift in behaviour to encourage prevention and self-care as the preferred option for healthcare rather than trying to treat illnesses when they are deeply rooted.

This seems an entirely sensible way to approach healthcare. Such an approach would also allow the NHS to function better when it is needed. The pandemic has shown that a creaking NHS cannot cope with the demands of a growing population that is living longer with more illnesses, with ever growing waiting lists.

Early treatment of minor symptoms and ailments can quite often prevent progression of an illness. Many minor ailments can be treated by yourself with over the counter medicines. It makes sense though to get such treatments from

a pharmacy where you will get the correct advice. You may be able to pick up some Lemsip or Calpol from a petrol station but have they really got the training to ensure you pick the best option?

During the pandemic we have seen the enormous benefits of exercise, both mentally and physically. The value of companionship has also been highlighted, and this is another benefit of many forms of exercise or sport. We are very fortunate to live in a community where there are many groups that can help in these ways. With so many options locally, hopefully you can find some form of exercise to enjoy.

Covid also highlighted the huge benefits of a healthy diet supplemented with the correct vitamins. We certainly saw a huge increase in demand for Vitamin D and C to boost the immune system. For advice on a healthy diet and which vitamins would suit you best, pop in to see us for advice.

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## TOADS

Hello everyone! I am delighted to report that TOADS were able to present a play this November! It's been 2 years since our last production and we were all raring to go! The play this time was a thriller, 'Something to Hide' written by Leslie Sands and directed by my John – a great plot with twists and turns all the way through, with great performances given by all, and with an incredible back-stage crew. We weren't put off by the snow which fell on Friday night and Saturday (well, I was a bit!), which made our journeys home a bit scary.

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

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

We have performed 2 of Alan's plays in the past – 'That Week in August' in May 2017, and 'Biddie's War' in November 2019, when I had the pleasure of acting alongside my dear friend Judy Savournin, who sadly passed away in October 2020. Sadly missed.

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

We usually meet every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the Guild Room at St John's church, Abbeydale Road South. However, we will not be meeting before 11th January 2022. It would be lovely to see you.

*Anne Bettridge*



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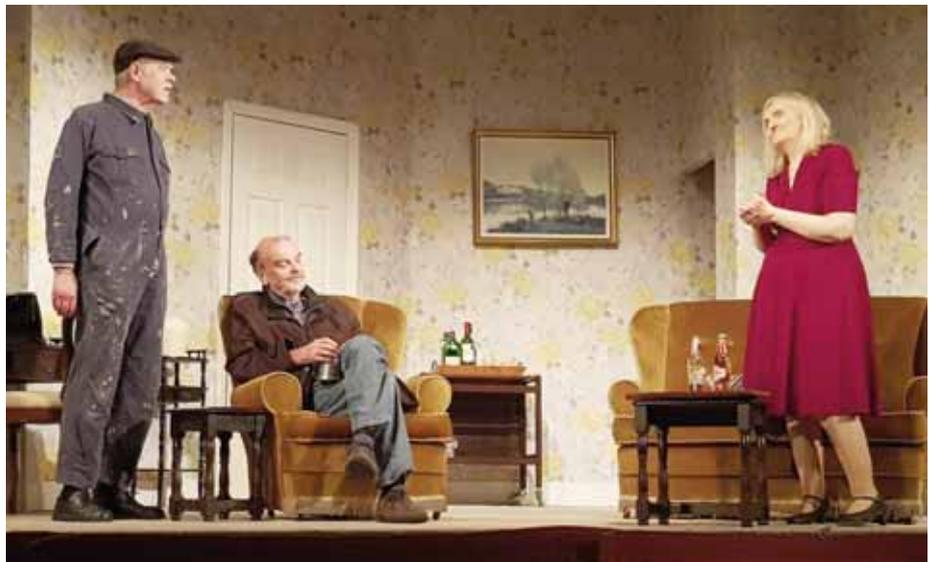
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*Something to Hide with John Savournin, Alan Wade and Sarah Scott*

## NOW and THEN

*Where Time opens wide and goes 'Ah!'*

## WELL, WELL, WELL

Before we go any further, let's be clear about something; the act of cognitive reconstruction of events, people and places from your past does not indulge in prestidigitation. Although it might seem an everyday magical act of human ability, your memory does not play tricks.

Managing expectations here, it's also fair to say that it doesn't function as totally accurate recall either. Even dashcams, CCTV and inexpertly manipulated mobile phone cameras can be pointing the wrong way at a crucial moment.

Despite the computational analogies we use to describe our brains, the storage of facts, faces, outlines, smells, noises and the rest of the general perceptual baggage of life, is only partially a physical distribution process. Bringing all the stored parts back together again (literally 're-membering') at a later date requires reversing an act of diffusion that occurred at the time of receipt. Inevitably, our route through the filing system might not follow the same path as when first tucked away.

Instead, I prefer the image conjured up by art historian A H Gombrich, who likened the work of historians to lighting strips of paper, dropping them down a deep, dark well and recording what they lit up on the way down. So it is with our mental reconstructions of the past; a penetrating darkness, a floating, flickering light, the weathered but still-solid bricks and mortar of our personal sequential chronology glimpsed fleetingly. Yet remembering is always more than the sum of its parts, somehow triggering immersive experiences of having built the well itself in its entirety.

Thus, before I start tossing firefighters down my own mental water feature (the one that always ends up in the Bradway of half a century ago) you may find my

choice of accelerant as important as what might be illuminated. This time round, I'm choosing technology, so if an image has just flashed through your mind of me giving a camera drone a light coating of petroleum jelly before igniting it and dropping it aquifer-wards, all well and good.

In many ways, technology is not a natural choice as a memory prompt. We've all been trained over the years, (mainly by manufactures with a vested interest in this way of seeing their wares) to accept that layers of tech build up like geological strata, each one crisply distinct from its predecessor. As our foot-to-the-floor approach to technological evolution and proliferation bears out, each successive layer is getting thinner, to the point where currently no-one has to plan for obsolescence, they just have to wait for five minutes.

True, there are always devotees of those earlier stratas who blur the dividing lines between the layers, some even causing a resurgence of interest in and use of their beloved items. Think of the persistence of vinyl records (for persuasive reasons, I might add), the lively trade in Trimphones (for which it is almost worth keeping your landline) and even the remarkable longevity – in relative computing terms anyway – of the floppy disk.

But there is one product of industrial science that can be dropped down the deepest of memory wells, one that is not just riding the tides of change, but has got out its surfboard and is carving some impressive Hang Tens. Pick your intervention point, but I refer of course to the receiver / wireless / radiogram / tuner / transistor aka 'the radio'. It's had so many premature obituaries that rebounded on those that wrote them that no-one even thinks of going out on such a limb any more.

In my own late 50's Bradway childhood, the radio provides the soundtrack to the visuals that I can still dig out. The BBC's Light and Home Programmes delivered both music and an endless stream of adults talking, broken occasionally by a plummy maiden auntish voice that asked whether I was sitting

comfortably and, without waiting for a reply, that she would then begin.

This last was 'Listen With Mother', a programme for children that should more properly have been entitled 'Listen Without Mother While She Puts Her Feet Up/Goes and Lies Down In A Darkened Room/Gargles with Gin'.

My first soap opera, 'Mrs Dale's Diary' and thus my first catchphrase emanated from the radio. 'I'm worried about Jim' said in a serious tone could be dropped by us kids into any pause in my parent's conversation and was guaranteed to be met with a smile or a laugh, lightening the mood.

The etiquette around broadcast 'media' was unlike the media itself, often finely tuned. Television, when it arrived, was told to go and stand in the corner, well out the way at mealtimes. Yet radio was never treated that way and was often invited to dine with us like a genial but slightly deaf Uncle who regaled you with a never ending stream of anecdotes and stories. On the other hand, if you were a solitary listener and you were joined by others or visitors, the radio was an Uncle one politely quieted immediately.

And that is the first hint of its unique properties as a medium and as a falling torch in our well of memory. Because it can be so many things to so many people, it illuminates not just itself or its content but our reaction to it. Though earlier thinkers bemoaned broadcast radio's lack of two-way communication, this never stopped radio audiences from reacting and then noticing their own reactions.

The result is that memory squirrels away interior mood, tone and emotion as well as exterior light, people and places. As intimate as a quiet conversation while watching warm, soft rain fall outside, as spell-binding as a narrative spoken aloud

over forgotten tea time sandwiches, as drowsily ambient as a cricket commentary on a hot summer's day; radio remains less a medium and more an incantation.

When we collectively became 'consumers' of media output, some forgotten time in the 1980's, it was radio listeners who didn't respond or object. They knew that we all remained 'listeners'. We listen still and rather than consume, are willingly consumed by radio, our lives adhering to the sounds we will recall in all our futures.

And podcasts? Well maybe next issue.

*Chris Sheldon*

### Queen's Platinum Jubilee coin



The Royal Mint has produced 1.3 million 50p coins marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with the first released via post offices on the 7th February, 70 years and a day after the start of the Queen's reign. The design features the number 70 on the tails side of the coin and is the first 50p to enter circulation in commemoration of a royal event.

The 50p coin was designed by artists Osborne Ross

## Greenhill Village History Society

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, Ted Hancock's digital steam train journey from Heeley to Dore & Totley station is unable to take place on March the 9th at the Sheffield Transport Ground. However, other potential presentations are in the pipeline.

I understand there has been much comment about the Greenhill village pump on Social media and in local hosteleries.

To set the record straight – this is undergoing extensive and delicate heritage trades which cannot be rushed. Progress is being made - very slowly and carefully to preserve what remains of the pump fabric. (it's not just a case of 'nipping down to a B&Q for a tin of Hammerite'). The funding raised is securely held in the Greenhill Village History Society Bank Account.

The Community noticeboard should be in situ by the middle of month. This is to be sited on the green area opposite the White Swan.

There have been lots of changes In the Society – the most important at the moment is the digitalisation of our Archive catalogue. Discussions have been taking place and initial steps taken – it's a mammoth task, but a team of members have agreed to work on this important document.

In the meantime a web page of what's going on in the Society' can be accessed from the Greenhill library website under 'Partners'.

Further details and enquiries from [lesley.fox3@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.fox3@btinternet.com)

*Lesley Fox (Chair)*



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## Places in Time: The Art of Kenneth Steel

Exhibition at Weston Park Museum until Monday 2 May

Born in Sheffield, Kenneth Steel was a skilled artist and commercial illustrator who created visuals for classic mid-century travel posters and architectural landmarks, yet his name remains little known.

This exhibition sheds new light on Steel's considerable achievements, bringing together the most comprehensive collection of his art ever to go on display, including over 100 drawings, paintings, prints, posters and more.

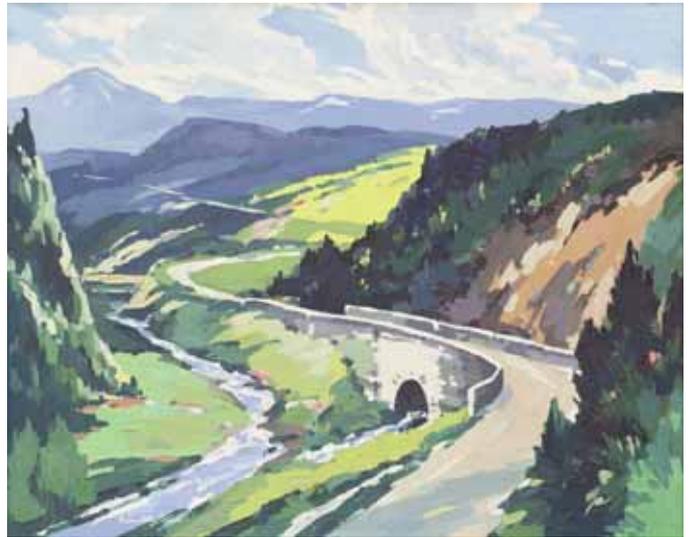
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Image right : *The Snake Pass, 1958*. Image © Rob Whitrow

Image below: *Skegness is So Bracing, 1956*. Image -® Science Museum Group



## Public Transport

This March sees the second anniversary of the original Coronavirus lockdown followed by a tone of message from both government and local authorities discouraging travel - certainly by public transport anyway - and again I find myself writing a piece for the bugle not knowing whether it will still be correct by the time it lands on doormats around Bradway!

As at 27 January 2022 the national legal requirement to wear a face covering on public transport and many other Coronavirus restrictions have been removed. However many bus, train and tram services are still running a reduced frequency timetable due to staff shortages caused by a combination of circumstances.

These include staff being off sick self-isolating after testing positive for Covid and the reduced capacity for training new staff whilst Covid-Safe working practises need to be observed. In our area we have also suffered industrial action at some of the Stagecoach Yorkshire bus depots in

December and January but that has now been resolved.

Despite all the recent negativity, as things become much closer to “normal” bus, tram and train operators are looking forward to being able to start restoring normal service levels, offering a normal travel experience and welcoming more passengers back on board for both commuting and leisure travel.

If you fancy a day out various all day unlimited travel passes are available including adult, child and family tickets. Easily reached destinations in our area include Chesterfield & Matlock (Stagecoach X17 bus from Meadowhead), Chatsworth & Bakewell (TM Travel 218 bus from Totley), Hope Valley & Manchester (train from Dore & Totley station); alternatively get the 25 bus into Sheffield City Centre, maybe then get a tram on to Rotherham or Meadowhall.

Visit [travelsouthyorkshire.com](https://travelsouthyorkshire.com) or call 01709 515151 for latest timetables and route maps.

The Department for Transport decided to delay the annual National Rail fares increase that normally happens in January until March. It is expected some of the bus and tram ticket prices may increase at the same time - these have been frozen at January 2020 levels throughout the pandemic and Covid bus service support funding from the government ends around this time.

We've got a guide to Bradway bus tickets available on the local Bradway Action Group community website ([bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com](https://bradwayactiongroup.weebly.com)); this will get updated when any changes are announced. Remember if you plan to take more than one ride in a day it will often work out cheaper to buy an unlimited travel pass (1 day, 7 day and 28 day tickets are available).

The government last year announced a “Bus Back Better” fund for investing in improved bus services post Covid. Local authorities have been encouraged to bid for a share, however a condition is they must set up either an Enhanced Bus Partnership working with established local operators or move to a publically funded franchising system. The South

Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority has put a partnership proposal together which sees investment in ticketing, timetables and bus stops; increased bus priority measures on the roads that will improve the reliability and journey times of services along with high specification vehicles.

There is also a proposal to replace some tendered services in poorly served areas with “demand responsive transport” where you request a minibus ride via an app or phone call with the booking system varying the bus route according to demand. This was put out to consultation as part of the process of putting the bid together (to prove public support of investing in bus services). Whilst the consultation has now closed you should still be able to read the documentation at <https://southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/South-Yorkshire-Enhanced-Partnership>.

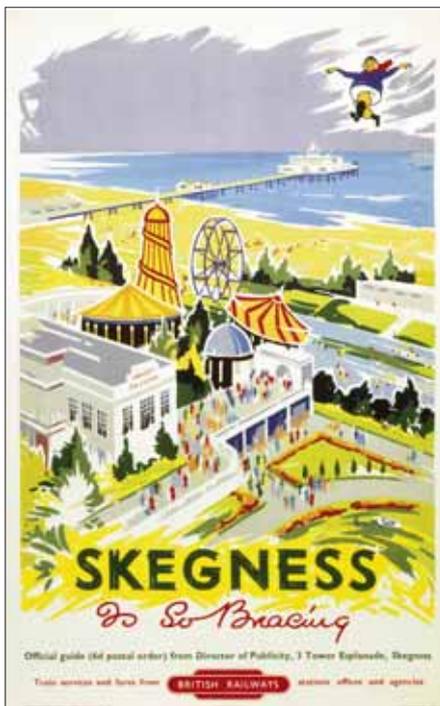
It is worth noting that South Yorkshire may not get as much funding as the bid aspired to as the national pot is limited. And of course improving the bus lane situation for the buses to run quicker and more reliably on some congested key corridors into the city such as Abbeydale Road, is likely to be politically difficult. Outside the traditional rush hours the bus lanes are basically used as car parks by shops and residents, who have already been very vocal on the matter during the consultation.

Buses currently serving Bradway are:  
24/25 (First/Stagecoach joint service) Bradway and Lowedges to Woodhouse via Meadowhead, Woodseats, Heeley and Sheffield City Centre: runs about every 15 minutes in the daytime 7 days a week, less frequent early morning and evening. Services operate from 5am to around 11pm.

M17 (Hulleys of Baslow) Dore to Jordanthorpe via Totley Brook, Totley, Bradway, Lowedges and Greenhill: runs hourly Monday to Saturday daytime from 9:30am until 5:30pm (3:30pm on Saturdays).

725 (First) Meadowhead School bus (students only). Departs Bradway on weekdays at 7:50am.

Andrew Cullen



## Raise a Laugh!

How lucky am I? There is no need for me to fear being hungry, or cold, or short of money in my pocket but I often find myself without laughter. Not canned laughter, retailed by cheap comedians at low prices but the free explosion of laughter following a good story, or chance remark, amongst family and friends.

People used to laugh more: a family festival was filled with mums, dads, aunties, uncles, having a laugh. Children laid on the floor, pretending to be busy with jigsaw puzzles, but with ears out like organ-stops, waiting for the bellies to shake, the sofa to shake, the very walls to shake, with gales of glorious laughter.

My mother was one of five sisters: they had a tough upbringing but they never met up without laughter. It came in waves, rolling in like the tide, unstoppable and unrelenting; until tears ran down their cheeks even if they had heard the same thing many times before, as the stories gained ground at each repetition.

The little ones would enjoy the fun, even if they didn't understand the saucier stores told in soft voices. Mums spoke of bothersome babies, back pain, bronchitis, bunions, boils, blisters or blocked up bowels. It sounded to me like a list of the Trials of Job but, amazingly, every torrid tale concluded with laughter.

I heard that a savoy cabbage leaf is a sovereign remedy for 'soreness', (I never caught the precise details) and that a pile of old newspaper is equally essential for mothers 'lying in' and the laying out of the dead. They said Pastor Ivatt spoke after death, insisting the undertaker didn't lay him on the News of the World.

Whilst all this was going on, fathers and uncles were gathered outside the back door smoking cigarettes, speaking quietly and then emitting bellows of laughter which echoed down the road at regular intervals. Children were excluded but we caught the odd 'naughty word', which we then repeated to each other.

An innocent story, relished by both groups, was of a modern-minded father. Most men avoided babies but he insisted on pushing his son out in the pram; a brave act, especially during the harsh winter of 1947. All went well until he encountered a lady acquaintance, who requested she see more of his son and heir.

As the proud father lifted him from the pram, baby's nappy slipped off and dropped in a muddle puddle. Embarrassment was compounded by the predictable effect of a sudden rush of cold air upon a baby boy. There being no spare nappy, the lady improvised with father's scarf, "which was never the same again."

Our treasured memories and favourite anecdotes were resurrected if we had any cause for celebration. After the salmon sandwiches, salted nuts and sweet Sherries had been handed round, we shared stories.

As a party progressed, we little ones played party games and grown-ups had an excuse to 'play the fool'. We watched as our parents played guessing games, What's My Line, Musical chairs or Postman's knock; then it was our turn; we shy youngsters playing Kiss in the Ring, or a the noisier Squeak Piggy Squeak. There was no television but we had balloons and blow-out squeakers and we laughed until our bedtime.

I remember Uncle George, a dignified and formal fellow, disappearing upstairs to remove his trousers. He returned with a towel round his waist, serving as a kilt, with a rubber hot-water bottle as a sporran and wearing a tea-cosy on his head. He then proceeded to dance his own version of the Highland fling.

We laughed ourselves silly. I have seldom felt so warm, so safe, so happy, or so loved since those days.

We've lost a lot during the Covid years: stuck indoors, few family gatherings, less opportunities for fun. I can see the convenience of working from home, but laughs with workmates or school-friends

are lost. Let's hope we can soon meet up again soon for a meal or a drink, to share stories - and to have a laugh.

*Robert Smith*

## Bradway Agewell Leisure Club

Forthcoming meetings:

*Tuesday 1st March - AGM*

*Tuesday 5th April - Buckingham Palace and Hampton Court. Pat McLoughlin*

*Tuesday 3rd May - By Train to Mongolia. Sheila Dyson.*

Meetings are held at South Sheffield Church, Greenhill Parkway (Next to fire station) Coffee and biscuits served from 10am until 10.20am, followed by a talk from the invited speaker

Currently, meetings are open to members only. Whilst we are unable to welcome visitors, we have limited availability for new membership. Should you be interested in joining please give me a call for further details.

*Stuart Sawyer, Tel. 236 9830*



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

*In this issue we re-join with his boyhood exploits around the start of the war*

There were several boys in the area. Frank Ryalls, the youngest son from the farm further on from Hall Farm, was my best pal, and I used to divide my time between both farms, particularly by working when not at school either hay making or spending time in the cow sheds or barns or stable right to the root of the farming business. I took in the mechanics of milking from Mary Vickers and mucking out from the farm lads.

With Franky Ryalls, I shot poor little sparrows on the wing with my air gun. Only rifle practice! Shame on me! No wonder my army pay book contained the entry 1st class rifle and LMG (light machine gun). The rifle was a SMLE and the mgun a Bren gun. Mind you, Frank Ryalls shot me in the backside whilst I pinned a paper target on a dog kennel in our back yard, just so I knew what the sparrow felt. Served me right.

I have mentioned the pond in the field at the back of our house but to proceed, this loomed very high on the priority list. I sailed small boats being a first class naval architect and one of these served as a suitable vehicle to bury one of my white mice at sea. Not being a veterinarian I gave the mouse, by mistake, the wrong food I think.

The pond used to freeze over much more than they do today, so with my dad's old skates, when I grew older, I used to skate well, cross my feet over, to execute turns, do single axels as well, quite confidently, until one frosty morning I let my feet get in front of my body and fell backwards breaking my right arm in two places. Mother used a folded magazine as a splint and bound it, (the forearm) and I had to spend a sleepless night before I could see the doctor. I had an impacted fracture of both the ulna and radius. I survived!

During the 1940's I had a crystal wireless set, and with a long aerial,

received the Home Service so loudly, that with adjustment of the various coils, could hold the headphones at a distance and receive a very loud signal. When it thundered and lightened, I threw the offending aerial out of the window and lowered a length of string out of the window to rescue the aerial next day, when the bad weather passed on.

By the way, another factor in this situation was that in our second year at school we were not able to attend school for a whole year because of the war, but had lessons at home, which were at best a slight effort by all our elders to maintain discipline and education. Fortunately, this time off allowed us to explore and enjoy the countryside.

In the autumn and winter when the wind howled round the farm buildings we used to go into the corn chamber adjacent to the stable or cow shed and the animals next door used to keep the place warm by the weight of the numbers and bodily heat if one could stand it. In those days our milk used to come straight from the farm and an interesting fact, little known nowadays, was that from the second milking after a cow had calved, produced a very rich milk from which beautiful custards can be made.

This milk was known as Beasting or Beastlings milk and made the celebrated 'Beastings Custard'. It could be likened to a creamy blancmange and would cut cleanly into semi-solid sections or portions. It could be transferred from the whole onto a plate using a cake slice or server.

I have not mentioned much about the happier aspects of wartime childhood 1938-9-40 etc. We were happy enough. Plenty goes on in the countryside i.e. the downward slope of Bradway Bank, the hill that proceeded downward from the pasture behind our house, 250 Bradway Road, and the pub immediately above the entrance to the railway tunnel approx three miles in length to Dronfield, through which the express ran to Ilfracombe via Unstone, Chesterfield etc.

The downward slope provided good

swiss-style sledging in or on a variety of vehicles, there being an abundance of snow in those days. The more active of the boys, and their fathers, constructed fine sledges toboggans etc. and used to proceed to emulate the continental toboggan runs down the humps and dips of the Bradway, quite speedy, runs.

I manufactured my sledges out of wood from old beds, and other cast-off wooden materials, using glue, screws and incorporating woodworking joints, mortice and tenon etc. so that my efforts had the professional touch.

Some of the boys and girls had wealthy parents who provided Swiss sledges imported from Switzerland, prior to the war. "Davos" as they were labelled. We were very adventurous, speeding downhill doing the belly flop, our noses cutting a swathe through the powdered snow, and our wellies filling with the wet slush on occasions, never mind, we could retire to a nice warm or hot coal fire at home with a cup of warming cocoa.

Oh happy days.

Before the war, quite frequently, the RAF fighters of the day used to appear over Sheffield and do aerobatics. These planes, survivors of which may be preserved at Cranwell in Lincolnshire, were quite streamlined bi-planes e.g. Hawker Fury's, Hart and Audax They were powered by the fore runner of the spitfire engine, a 16 cylinder in-line engine. They used to do 'loop the loop' and 'falling leaf' manoeuvres from roughly 2000ft and completed in time to recover.

Some of the aerobatic planes used to try to make forced landings in the fields around us. Norton aerodrome (a First World War air base) was used for air displays before the war and Sir Alan Cobham brought his air shows there every summer. There were flights over Sheffield in an old German passenger plane and short flights in a First World War vintage plane. Also, a bird man would free fall with fake wings and then parachute to ground.

Several of the hawker fighters made crash landings and we boys used to scour the site for souvenirs. After a few days a lorry with a trailer would cart away the remains. There being a war on, when weather conditions prevented outdoor activities, we lads turned our attentions to aircraft modelling in the spring and summer.

There were kits to be bought with diagrams and instructions to build models of Spitfires, Hurricanes etc., in balsa wood with paper covering, rather stronger than tissue, that could be treated with dope, which tensioned the covering of the balsa framework, and made it a perfect finish for aerofoils etc. like the real thing in miniature.

Donald Beehl, a German surname I believe, made large planes probable 3 foot wingspan – tricycle undercarriage, powered by string elastic band and a large propeller (no radio control). It disappeared into the distance and, having observed its possible area of landing, you

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had to plod along in hopes of finding it. Being a comparatively expensive machine with the requirement of many hours of work. However, Don Beehl volunteered for the army, Royal Artillery, and cut quite a dash in his battle dress, with the insignia of the Guards Armoured division; an eye on each shoulder. He was a Don R dispatch rider (motor bike) and went from the landings just after 'D' day and right through Germany. On demob he became manager of Fitzalan Square (Sheffield) office Barclay's Bank.

*to be continued in our summer issue*

## Local Pubs and Beer

There are now no legally mandated Coronavirus related restrictions affecting pubs or other hospitality or entertainment venues since the 27 January removal of the requirement for late night venues to see a valid Covid Pass as a condition of entry and going out to socialise is a bit more normal again.

Some venues have however chosen to keep some measures in place, primarily to reduce the risk of staff being off sick self-isolating, for example perspex screens over bars or between tables and a request for customers to move away from the bar area once served.

Some City Centre venues have suffered a lack of custom over the key Christmas period with factors such as office workers still being encouraged to work from home and a general reluctance to

travel. However to some extent local community pubs have benefitted with people choosing to socialise more locally.

In our area the Castle Inn seems to be ever popular as a dining destination with a great reputation for fresh, good quality food and have kept their "Castle Keep" marquee providing extra capacity. Meanwhile the Shepley Spitfire is starting to reintroduce live entertainment some weekends along with their food and drink offers and TV sport.

Work is well underway fitting out the "Tunnel Tap" micropub at Totley Rise shops, so keep an eye on their social media for an announcement of the opening date. Also close by in Totley the Cross Scythes, Crown and Cricket Inn continue to do what they do successfully!

Slightly further away a small new craft beer bar has been proposed for Woodseats in an empty shop unit, to be operated by the same people as the "Boozehound" bar at Cutlery Works food hall.

On the beer front, the previously mothballed brewery located underneath the Dronfield Arms pub is now back in production leased out to a new brewing company called "Temper Brewing". This is a new start up but the guy behind it has brewing experience with the likes of Buxton Brewery and Little Critters.

Little Mesters Brewing, attached to Mitchells Wine Merchants at Meadowhead, continue to brew and have a range of 7 beers currently available -

bitter, lager, pale ale, IPA, red ale, Black Forest Porter and Vanilla Porter. These are available in can to drink at home or on cask or keg in pubs and bars. The brewery have recently been recruiting a manager for a pub they are taking over, however they have yet to announce which one!

Abbeydale Brewery have a number of new limited batch beers for February, including Hopback CF27, Salvation Irish Stout and Wanderer Cryo New England IPA. If you can't get to a pub that has them on tap you can order cans from the brewery website for home delivery.

On the events front, March kicks off with Rotherham's charity real ale & music festival at Magna and Sheffield's Indie Beer Feast at Abbeydale Picture House (advance tickets for both available online). This then leads into Sheffield Beer Week with pubs, bars and restaurants across the City putting on various celebrations of the local beer scene.

You can keep up to date with news and views from the local pub and beer scene on the Sheffield Campaign for Real Ale website and in their Beer Matters magazine - [sheffield.camra.org.uk](http://sheffield.camra.org.uk).

*Andrew Cullen*

## News in brief

Globally the last seven years have been the hottest on record "by a clear margin", the European Union's climate monitoring service has reported.

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## Skydive 2022

Reach for the skies

The adrenaline, the adventure, the excitement...the St Luke's Hospice Skydive is back for 2022!

One of the charity's most popular challenges makes its return to Hibaldstow Airfield in Lincolnshire on Saturday, April 23. It's a great opportunity to enjoy the experience of a tandem skydive and raise funds for St Luke's patient care.

"Imagine the adrenaline buzz of the cold wind hitting your face and the noise of the plane's engine roaring as you take a leap into the air 15,000ft above the ground," said St Luke's Fundraising Account manager Matthew Sheridan. "This really is a once in



*The St Luke's Hospice Skydive is back for 2022!*

a lifetime experience for anyone brave enough and all you have to do to secure your place is pay a £50 deposit and then raise a further £370 minimum sponsorship."

Everybody who signs up will get the support of the St Luke's fundraising team to help beat the fundraising target with tips and advice - as well as on the day support at Hibaldstow.

"Our skydives have always proved enormously popular and places are limited so if you are interested in signing up and enjoying this great experience then we do advise contacting us as soon as possible to reserve your place."

To find out more or to register t [www.stlukeshospice.org.uk/support/events/detail/skydive](http://www.stlukeshospice.org.uk/support/events/detail/skydive)

*John Highfield*

## Friends of Dore & Totley Station - FoDaTS

**It was the station's 150th birthday on 1st February - See separate article**

### Better services from December 2022

If all goes to plan, and it often doesn't on the railway, we should have a regular Northern service, stopping at all stations every hour this year, a year earlier than we'd expected.

Departures to Sheffield will be about 58 minutes after each hour and towards Manchester about 23 minutes past. Currently we're drawing attention to the loss of the 8.24 into Sheffield, retimed at 8.58. TransPennine trains will be extended to Liverpool instead of Manchester Airport.

One dark cloud is passing, EMR should be resuming Sunday services now their strike is over. Sadly TPE now have industrial relations issues with both drivers and guards which may lead to cancelled services, particularly at weekends and especially on Sundays.

At the time of writing all three operators have withdrawn some regular trains due to Covid absences. EMR are also short of trains. These cuts may continue until May so always check times carefully before going to catch any train.

### Cycle shelter

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

### Looking forward,

#### Great British Railways et al

As 2022 progresses we will be seeing work to construct a third track from the Westview Lane flats along to Dore West Junction and to redouble the tracks through the station, plus second platform construction. Short term pain for longer

term gain.

There'll be some night work and at weekends when buses will replace trains. So far the contractors, Volker/Story, have been very open about what is to happen and when. Watch out for their letters, social media posts, consultation meetings and posters at the station.

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

FoDaTS contributes to the Hope Valley Railway Users Group, not least because most of us use the line. They're holding a very belated AGM at the Memorial Hall in Hathersage on Thursday 31st March at 7pm, all welcome. Their guest speaker will be Sir Peter Hendy, Chairman of Network Rail. Northern will also be well represented.

Our own belated AGM should be before you receive the next Bugle, details being finalised.

As I close this report we've just met Northern and seen a suggested shelter for new Platform 2. We aren't too impressed but discussions will continue. Bigger and better should be possible. It might have solar panels on the roof.

If you're a Facebook user, you can find and join us by searching for FoDaTS. It's a very active group and is updated frequently with topical information and comments. Alternatively look for our website at [www.fodats.net](http://www.fodats.net)

If you're not on Facebook and would like more information please send an email to our Secretary; [njbarnes@outlook.com](mailto:njbarnes@outlook.com)

There's also lots of information on our website at; [www.fodats.net](http://www.fodats.net)

*Chris Morgan,  
Chairman*

## Make this year a hit!

Ringinglow Archery and Target sports take pride in offering a wide range of fun and challenging target sports, with a new edition to their activities in a Tactical Shooting Challenge.

Using the latest BB Tactical Assault Rifles this new activity utilises a revolutionary and exclusive reactive targeting system with targets that react when hit, recording hits, misses, reaction time and more. Unlike laser target shooting their BB Rifles have a realistic feel and the targets react to an actual hit by a BB pellet.

With a wide range of games to play on the system you can challenge others as well as yourself making it extremely addictive and fun. You can also download the latest App on your smart phone and then as well as seeing your results on a big screen whilst you are there you can also see you results on the App when you go home.

It really is a unique Fun, Challenging and Rewarding addition to their range of target sports.

## Friends of Gillfield Wood

Talk on Monday 21st February

### 'The Tenants and Workers of Abbeylea Forge 1738-1933'

Totley Library, Baslow Road 7.30pm

Following its growth from a single grinding wheel dependent on the River. Sheaf for power, the talk covers the aspirations of its tenants in the development of the forge, as well as its eventual decline as the steel industry expanded throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Covering the highs and lows of both tenants and workers' lives, it aims to illustrate the industrial and social past in Abbeylea and Totley.

Check before hand that this meeting is going ahead via Totley Library or at [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com)

## Dore and Totley United Reformed Church

We have faced the challenges of coronavirus restrictions with both caution and determination to keep church life going as much as possible. For those who come to worship at Totley Brook Road, it is an important time of spiritual nourishment and fellowship.

Churches tend to be places where good friendships are built and loneliness is healed. However, we had to cut back our activities and celebrated Christmas in a restricted way which was, of course, disappointing, but we wanted to keep people safe as much as possible.

Now we are moving into the season of Lent, a period when we are encouraged to do some serious reflecting upon our lives and what is in need of change, trusting that through faith and the love of God, transformation is possible. We reflect upon the nature of sacrifice and the response to Jesus' ministry, leading to the arrest, trial and killing of Jesus.

It can be a very sobering thought when we think about how people reacted and continue to react to a message that was and is fundamentally about radically inclusive love, caring for the poor and the marginalised, and being right with God.

Lent is an important time for the churches which leads us towards Easter and the Christian belief that, despite the horror of the Cross, and the apparent loss of hope, God was at work. The Easter message of new life, resurrection,

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forgiveness and hope is at the heart of all that we do in the churches.

So we hope that we will be able to open normally and offer plenty of opportunities for worship, fellowship and reflection. We will continue with Sunday morning service at 10.30am and with a short service on Wednesdays at 11.30am.

We'll increase other activities as soon as it is allowed and safe to do so. We offer a warm invitation to anyone who would like to join us for any activities.

**Rev Barry Welch**

**Singing Teapot Choir** This group meets on Tuesday mornings in term time. Anyone over 50 is welcome to join in to sing well known songs under the guidance of Yo Tozer-Loft. Meet at 10 am for a cup of tea or coffee and sing from 10.30 to 11.30 am. All welcome.

**Carers Cafe** We meet at 10.30 am on the first Wednesday of each month at All carers are welcome, with or without the person they care for. More information from Elaine Ferguson, 07929 720977.

## Royal Mail stamps

The invention of postage stamps more than 180 years ago transformed the way people sent and received letters. Now they are being brought into the digital age, with QR codes being added to everyday Royal Mail stamps.

You can now buy stamps with a QR code which can be scanned using a Royal Mail app to watch an animation featuring Shaun the Sheep. Eventually it will be possible to watch videos and even greetings from senders.

The QR codes will be available on so-called "definitive" stamps - the everyday stamps featuring the profile of the Queen.



Non QR-coded stamps - including Christmas stamps - will now only be valid until January next year. This means that many stamps will need to be used by January 2023 or swapped for new ones. However, they can be exchanged for the new ones through Royal Mail's 'Swap Out' scheme, which opens on 31 March through post offices.

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## Dore and Trolley Station opened in 1872

*The history of the station*

At the start of the 18th Century transport around Britain relied on old tracks and remains of roads dating back to Roman times. Bulk loads went by sea and small ships were brought up rivers as far as they could get. All the biggest British cities were ports.

By the middle of the century the Industrial Revolution was transforming Britain. Small canals had existed long before then but a massive surge of major canal building got under way and by 1800 tunnels of 2 miles under the Pennines were becoming routine.

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

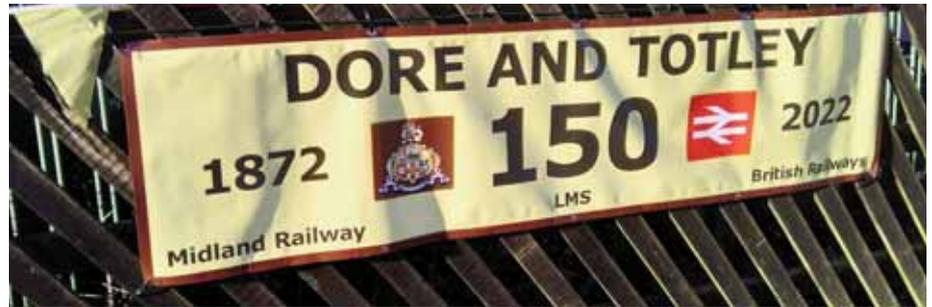
Coal was being mined in ever increasing quantities and by 1800 horse drawn tramways were being built to move it from collieries to the coast. Step forward George Stephenson who did so much to survey new railways and design steam engines, most famous for the Stockton & Darlington and the Liverpool and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

In 1835 George surveyed a line between Derby and Leeds for the North Midland Railway following river valleys avoiding tight curves and steep gradients. It was to meet the Sheffield and Rotherham Railway at Masbrough. That spur opened in 1838, the North Midland north to Rotherham in 1840. (History repeats itself for HS2 was also planned to bypass Sheffield for similar reasons - plus a lot of housing and industry now in the way.)

Then as now the people of Sheffield weren't happy to be left on a branch line backwater. In 1821 the population was 84,540 growing to 134,599 in 1841 and 219,634 by 1861. Public meetings were held and in 1864 an Act of Parliament authorised a new direct line via Dronfield, the 'new road'.

Things happened quite fast in those days and work started in 1865. It was completed by late 1869, including Bradway Tunnel. At that time Dore, Trolley and Bradway were not considered significant enough to need a station. Beauchief was to be the nearest at a cross roads and Beauchief Hall, opened in 1870. Dore Road didn't exist.

Once construction got underway the local disruption was considerable. Many more people came to the area pouring money into the local economy. Quarries, brick works, beer houses, butchers, grocers and other traders all benefitted. New brick buildings sprang up. However spoil from both the



deep cutting and Bradway Tunnel were dumped on the old Walk Mill site at the bottom of today's Twentywell Lane. That became known as the railway triangle after 1894, but that's skipping ahead a little.

### Why no station at Dore?

By the 1860s almost everyone wanted a local railway station but at that time the route of Dore Road was just open green fields. Local landowners like the Duke of Devonshire and Earl Fitzwilliam clearly saw opportunities to make the railway work for them. As the line was about to open the Sheffield Daily Telegraph reported on Saturday 29th January 1870;

*"Opening of the new railway to chesterfield On Thursday, a special train from Derby passed over the new line, stopping at the several intermediate stations of Chesterfield and Sheffield, including Unstone, Dronfield, Abbeyhouses, Ecclesall, and Heeley. The train contained the station masters and porters, with the furniture for the stations and matters necessary for the working of the line.*

*The whole of the stations have a neat appearance, the platforms being very commodious. It is understood that in addition to a new station now in progress at Whittington Moor, it is also intended to construct a station in Abbeydale, near to the bottom of "Twenty-well-sic-lane," for the accommodation of Trolley and Dore".*

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

*"Abbeydale and the new railway.—As was expected the new railway will effect great changes to this picturesque valley, both as regards the number of inhabitants and also the making of new*

*roads. The well-to-do tradesmen of Sheffield are said to be anxious to take their residence in the 'dale', and with the view of meeting this requirement Earl Fitzwilliam and the Duke of Devonshire are leasing eligible sites for the building of villa residences.*

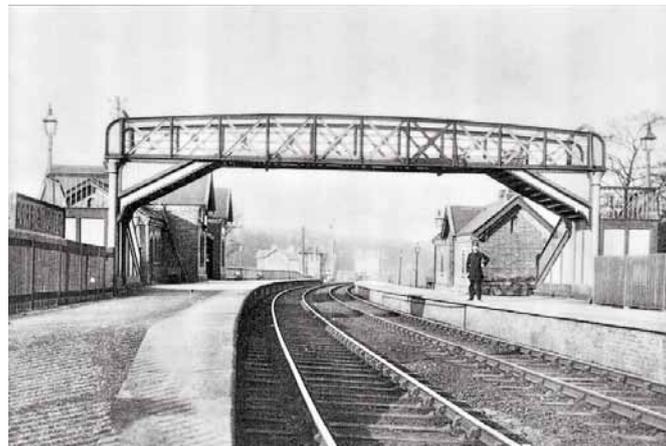
*It is also understood to be the intention of Earl Fitzwilliam to widen the current road leading from Abbeydale-road, Beauchief Bar, to Dore Moor. It is also intended to make a new road from the Abbeydale opposite the Twenty-well-sic-road to Dore.*

*This part of the dale, beside the attractions of great natural beauty, possesses another commendable feature—being out of the borough the rates will be but nominal in amount in comparison with borough rates. The new railway station too, promised to be erected by the Midland Railway Company will be within a stone's throw of the land on the side of the proposed new road. It is also understood that the property owners, who are but few, will not sell on lease any property for manufacturing purposes".*

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

*"Important meeting at Dore. A numerously-attended meeting of the ratepayers this township was held in the school-room on Thursday evening last, the Vicar in the chair. The Chairman, in opening the meeting, said they had met together pursuant to notice, in order to discuss the best method of widening and improving the upper part of what is called Dore-lane.*

*Some time ago memorial, signed by the inhabitants of Dore, was forwarded to the directors of the Midland Railway Company, petitioning for a station further up the valley than Beauchief, and at a point nearer to Dore. This request had been granted, subject to a proviso that a road from Dore to the proposed Station should be constructed, the lower part of which had been surveyed and staked out by J. M. Withers, Esq., at the request of the agents of the Duke of Devonshire, and it only remained for the parish to continue that road in a westerly*



*The original pedestrian bridge over the railway*

direction from the point where it leaves his Grace's property up to Dore itself.

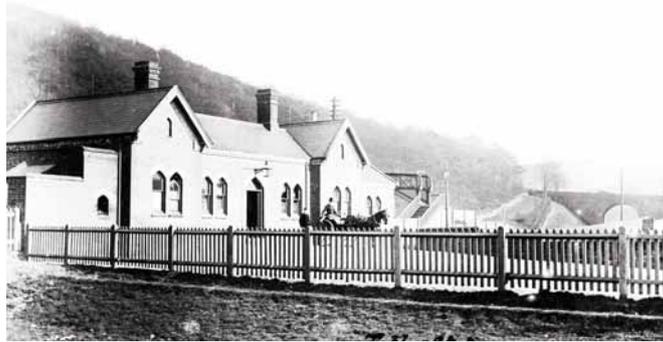
After remarks from Mr. Hancock, Mr. Withers explained the plan of the road, the gradient of which, at the lower end is 1:13.5, and grows much easier as it advances. Resolutions were proposed by Messrs. Hancock, Unwin, and Roe empowering the Surveyor to improve the road as proposed, and deputing a committee apply for an order of magistrates to do away with certain footpaths shown on the large ground plan exhibited by Mr. Withers to the meeting.

The feeling of the meeting was unanimous on all the resolutions, and considerable satisfaction was expressed that this scheme, which Mr. Hancock stated, had been contemplated nearly thirty years, was at length definitely settled. The new road will not only place this village in direct communication with the fast-increasing suburbs of Sheffield, but also supply the town with a site for villa residences unequalled both in the beauty of its situation and in the abundance of its water any place in the neighbourhood around.

So the roots of our belated little station had started to appear, as had Dore New Road. Pressure continued and on 6th May 1871 the Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald reported;

**"Dore. A meeting of the inhabitants of Dore (and very fully attended one) was held on Friday evening last, with reference to that portion of the new road to the Midland Station to be made by the**

**majority of 33 to 2. Mr. Wethers, surveyor of the Duke of Devonshire's part of the road, kindly offered his advice in the formations of the parochial portion. The station, we understand, is already marked out".**



Dore Totley station pre-1901

parish. The question at issue was—by rate, or by applying to the landowners for subscriptions. It was argued by Messrs. Taylor and B. Unwin that the larger sums collected from a few would save the pockets of the many; the other side Mr. Hancock and the Chairman (the Rev. T. Aldred), that as the road is an advantage for all, small and great, the cost should be distributed upon all, especially as the Duke of Devonshire, the largest landowner in the parish, had already undertaken the greater part of the road.

The meeting taking this view, carried the resolution to proceed by rate, by a

**Census.** -The following is the Census return for the township of Totley and Dore. Township of Dore in 1861, 610; Township of Totley, in 1861, 396.

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

At that time there were two platforms and the footbridge was at the south end of the platform. It was removed and reassembled elsewhere when a further two platforms were built about 1900. Older readers may remember 4 platforms with a footbridge to the north of the station buildings.

That forms the next part of the story of our little station. Suffice to say that in 1872 it was a huge success and the popularity of Dore, Totley and Bradway for well to do commuters grew, safely away from the smoke and high rates in the city of Sheffield.

Chris Morgan

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## Spanish Superbreak

*Beautiful Barcelona- one of my favourite cities to visit.*

With a few days holiday to take and cheap flights available which cost less than the journey to and from Manchester Airport, it was hard to turn down the chance to visit again.

First stop on our sightseeing agenda was to arguably Barcelona's most famous site, the still as yet unfinished Sagrada Familia Cathedral. Designed by the iconic architect Gaudi, the cathedral has now been under construction for over 130 years and is still not due to be completed until 2026 at the earliest. Gaudi has left his unique design on many other Barcelona buildings as well the beautiful Park Guell gardens, situated high above central Barcelona and offering amazing views over the city.

We stayed centrally at the Hotel Condado. I have stayed here previously and love its location close to one of Barcelona's busiest streets, Diagonal Avenue. Lined with high end shops and tons of bars and restaurants, we enjoyed going for tapas and drinks before taking a stroll down the avenue taking in the sights. If you get tired of walking or have had one too many sangrias, there is a metro station nearby and the system is safe, easy to use and serves all the sights.

One of the most popular things to do for most visitors to Barcelona is to take a stroll along the tree lined boulevard, Las Ramblas. This pedestrianised boulevard runs for nearly a mile from the Placa de Catalunya, one of Barcelona's main squares, down to the re-developed harbour area. I highly recommend taking a walk down the length of the Ramblas, pausing along the way for a drink in one of the outdoor cafes and sit and people watch the various street performers that make the Ramblas their home.

I always like to take a de-tour via the



*Sagrada Familia Cathedral*



*Streets of colourful market stalls*

Boqueira Market, one of Barcelona's main markets which is full of hustle and bustle as tourists and locals alike barter for all the delicious Spanish food that is on sale. If you have time, take a seat at one of the main eateries on offer and sample for yourself.

We finished our walk down by the harbour which was treated to a major makeover when Barcelona hosted the 1992 Olympic Games. We enjoyed a great meal and drinks here at sunset, watching the ships leave Barcelona's busy port and the cable cars trundling to and from Montjuic hill.

One of my other favourite parts to visit in Barcelona is the Gothic Quarter. Most of Barcelona was re-built in the late Victorian age with wide, long boulevards, however the Gothic Quarter remained un-touched and is full of windy, paved streets dating back as far as Roman times and is conveniently close to Las Ramblas.

All too quickly, our brief visit to Barcelona was coming to an end. We had a great two nights exploring this gem of a place and no doubt will be returning at some other point. Having visited many times before, two nights was just enough for us to enjoy a short break but for any first time visitors I would say you would need at least four nights to truly

experience the city to its full potential.

If you have the time, you could even extend this further and take advantage of the great transport links available to explore more of the surrounding area such as the beautiful city of Girona, the stunning coastline of the Costa Brava or if you are feeling really adventurous, jumping on the high speed train to one of Spain's other great cities such as Madrid or Seville.

I am keeping my eyes peeled for more flight bargains with the low cost airlines ready for my next city break adventure.

*Gareth Fleming*

*Hays Travel Bradway Team*

## Beauchief Environment Group

We follow a programme of work agreed with Sheffield City Council. Most work in the area is done by ourselves on Monday mornings from our base at Beauchief Abbey Barns, but we occasionally have help with the larger jobs from partners such as SCC, Green Estates, Abbeydale Golf Club and Beauchief Hall. Work undertaken from late October onwards includes:

- \* repairing the fence behind the deer park at Beauchief Hall;
- \* removing inedible plants in the field between Beauchief Drive and Parkbank Wood to enable cattle to graze there;
- \* trimming the hedge between Abbeydale Golf Course and Gulleys Wood Meadow;
- \* laying surfacing material on the potholed section of Beauchief Drive;
- \* cutting back vegetation on Little Wood Bank, including the gorse and meadow, and brambles to facilitate the planting of a patch of heather;
- \* cutting back vegetation encroaching on saplings and our tree nursery above Beauchief Allotments, transplanting trees that had grown sufficiently to replace those lost elsewhere;
- \* scraping mud and leaves from the path behind the deer park, laying surfacing material and creating rustic borders to protect nearby flowers;
- \* clearing debris from the grilles at the Abbey Ponds and cutting back the adjoining hedge;
- \* clearing leaves and mud from Beauchief Abbey Lane and the Round Walk in Ladies Spring Wood;
- \* repairing steps and clearing debris from a den in Parkbank Wood;
- \* litter picking across the area.

On 10 January, we took a break from the work for a walk led by an archaeologist from Sheffield University, visiting recent excavations on Beauchief Golf Course seeking the entrance to the Abbey, and industrial sites in Parkbank Wood.

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

*Jon Smith*

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## New homes for barn owls

On a crisp sunny day just before Christmas, the Sheffield Lakeland team from Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust, put up their first new barn owl box. A large oak tree in the Bradfield area, close to where barn owls have recently been seen, was carefully chosen for the location of nest box. It was attached around 5m up the tree, looking out across open countryside to give it the best chance of being seen by a flying barn owl looking for a place to nest.

The boxes are specifically designed to attract barn owls that in the past would have nested in holes in trees or old barns. With a sharp decline in the number of mature trees with holes and accessible barns, putting up barn owl nest boxes can help to support local barn owl populations. They are deep enough so that the owlets can't fall out, and include features such as a platform for the young owls to hop onto whilst stretching their wings.

Barn owls are one of 5 species of owl found in Britain and can be seen all year round. Numbers of barn owls crashed in the mid-20th century, due to pesticide use, and although they're now thought to be increasing, there may only be around 4,000 breeding pairs within the U.K., according to the RSPB.

Barn owls have specially adapted feathers which enable them to fly silently whilst hunting. This gives them an advantage over their prey but comes at the cost of not being very waterproof.



Barn owl. Picture by Russell Hague

This makes it difficult for them to fly in wet weather, so in a wet spring they may struggle to be able to feed their young.

The Sheffield Lakeland Landscape Partnership will deliver a £3.4m package of projects conserving and celebrating the natural, built and cultural heritage of north-west Sheffield over the next 4 years part funded by the Heritage Lottery.

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust (SRWT) is a registered charity no. 700638

## Bradway Bowling Club

Well here we are with another new year and hopefully a much better one than the last two. 2020 was the bowling clubs centenary year and it was so disappointing that we couldn't celebrate it as we had planned. We are now very hopeful that we will be able to fulfil most of the activities that we had organised this year instead. So please keep checking the notice board and our Web site for anything new.

The winter seems to be very kind to us at the moment so our thoughts are already turning to the opening of the bowling green around the end March (weather dependent). So for anyone interested in playing bowls we will be having our free learn to play bowls sessions every Thursday from the beginning of May. Why not come and give it a try, you never know you might find that you really enjoy it.

For something a bit different we have also started our own choir which meets every alternate Sunday evening. Everyone one who attends seems to be enjoying themselves and are having fun singing together.

We are a very friendly, private club with a lovely lounge if you would like to hold a private party and will always welcome new members. Why not just pop in and have a drink and look around and don't forget keep checking the notice board or you can always give me - Jean 07900 220696. bradwaybowling.org.uk

Jean Morton



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## Friends of Graves Park

### The Arboretum Extension

Since the council's refusal to release the next section of the Nursery site for restoration and after failed attempts to meet with SCC to discuss our plans for the Arboretum Extension, we have launched our petition "Allow FOGP to Complete the Arboretum on the Old Nurseries Site in Graves Park Now" on the Change.org website. At the time of writing we have over 1000 signatures and are continuing to spread the word. If you have not yet signed, please do!

While we are disappointed, we are not surprised, as this is the pattern we have experienced for some 24 years. In the meantime, we have requested information about the "heavy machinery" which the council say they need to store on the Nursery site. We would like to know where it is being kept now and why it can't stay there. The boundary of the arboretum extension goes up to the wall before the glasshouses; this boundary was agreed with the parks department less than 10 years ago.

One way or another, we will complete our restoration of this site! In the meantime, we have written to the Charity Commission regarding the situation. Our Freedom of Information request, to find out what SCC's plans are for this piece of charitable land, has so far yielded little information. We were unable to find out who the SCC men in hard hats were, with plans, who were talking about a building and marked out the site, although their vehicle had the council's logo on the side. We shall have to follow up our request.

After meeting with Louise Haigh MP to view this area of the despoiled ground, FOGP considered it would be worthwhile producing a scheme for the area. A scheme for landscaping has been drawn up, with tree planting and a footpath layout. This includes a specification of development works with a detail of types of tree, shrub, herbaceous and bulb planting requirements. The plan is to turn this site into a winter and spring

woodland. However, until SCC decide to allow FOGP to restore this despoiled area, we cannot progress the proposals further, although we are now prepared.

### Finding Lost Norton Park

The Friends are continuing to modify and improve our application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, for our new project, "Finding Lost Norton Park: Digging Deeper for All", which will build on the results of our previous project, in 2019. The NLHF have asked us to include more diverse groups; with this in mind we are actively seeking groups to join us and intend to re-submit our application in the very near future.

As you know, the first project uncovered evidence of the possible national importance of Graves Park in terms of its preserved ecological, historical and archaeological landscape.

### Rose Garden Refurbishment

SCC park officers and FOGP agreed the rose garden needed refurbishment. The SCC parks team have taken out the diseased box hedging, replaced the roses and added new compost and organic matter. FOGP paid for new good quality floribunda roses, lavender and fertilizer.

FOGP successfully applied for funding from the council's Ward Pot fund and received £1000 which, together with the funds from FOGP, paid for sufficient plants to refurbish the whole rose garden.

It was very good to be able to work with the new management of Graves Park to the benefit of the Rose Garden, which is very much used by large numbers of park users. The centre bed is now planted with Queen Elizabeth floribunda roses in honour of Her Majesty the Queen.

### Chantreyland Meadow and Arboretum

Finally, the meadow has been mown by SCC parks and is now ready for the display of cowslips in the spring. Make sure you visit to enjoy the spectacle, now an annual treat, in May. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain this wildlife area.

*Caroline Dewar*

<https://friendsofgravespark.org>

## The Gardening Life

I don't know about you but, as I sit writing this in late January, it feels nothing like winter. Despite a few overnight frosts it's generally been really mild and today the sun was shining away raising the temperature in our tunnels to a balmy 24 degrees.

So as much as it's tempting to sit in the comfort of the armchair, cup of tea in one hand, seed catalogue in the other planning what excitement to grow this year, it really is a good time to step outside the backdoor and rediscover our gardens.

The days are beginning to lengthen too and we're all looking forward to the first bursts of colour to push through. Whether it's the clear, fresh white of snowdrops or cheerful yellows of winter aconites, nothing says spring is on its way more than the emerging delight of the first bulbs.

Despite the vast range on offer we find that narcissi are still incredibly popular, from the very floriferous Tete-a-tete bravely starting the colour in late winter through to the tiny, delicate Hawera that often don't show their heads until early May.

So now you've got your coat and shoes on, what can we do to make us feel that spring is coming?

### Pruning

A spot of pruning is always a pleasant way to start the year as you get to see all those little buds swelling up with promise. We were actually asked to do a talk on pruning recently but it's such a massive topic and can be quite plant specific, so we didn't really know where to start – or end! Writing this was equally tricky, but here we go...

### Fruit trees

Prune apples and pears while they're still dormant (up until early March). It's easy to see the overall shape and size of a tree while it doesn't have leaves on. Start by removing crossing branches; any dead, diseased or dying ones; and any growing towards the centre of the tree. You want to make an open, goblet shape. Finally reduce the length of each main branch by about a third to encourage new growth.

Remember that stone fruit – plums, cherries and apricots – are usually pruned in the summer, so leave these for now and make a note for later.

### Roses

Myths abound here but don't panic! They are very robust plants. For bush roses, simply cut back the branches to form a good sturdy framework. And be bold – you won't kill a rose by overpruning.

Climbers are no different, but the key here is to train them as horizontally as possible, as this encourages flowering along the length of the stem rather than just at the ends. If it's growing up a pergola then the trick is to wind it around the post.

### Late-flowering shrubs

Deciduous shrubs that flower after



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midsummer typically bloom on the current year's growth, so cutting them back just as winter turns to spring gives plenty of time for new shoots to form, mature and flower. Fast-growing vigorous shrubs such as buddleia and caryopteris can be cut right down to a low woody framework.

**Clematis**

Late February is the ideal time to prune back your summer-flowering clematis. Exactly what you do depends on the "group" your clematis is in:

\* Group 2 plants flower early summer.

Cut each stem back by about a third and then reduce further until you reach a pair of nice strong side shoots. You're trying to create a nice woody framework.

\* Group 3 plants flower in late summer.

Cut back each stem to a nice strong pair of buds about 6"-18" from the soil. This type of clematis flower on the ends of new growth.

If you don't know your clematis group a good rule of thumb is: If it flowers before June, don't prune. Otherwise, prune in late February like a group 2 and you should be fine.

**Hydrangeas**

Apparently hydrangea pruning queries account for over half the questions on gardening advice websites. Our simple view is this:

\* The classic mophead types flower on old wood. In late winter remove dead heads down to a strong pair of buds and then cut out a third of the oldest stems at the base to encourage new growth.

\* Varieties such as the conically-flowered paniculata and the white-balled Annabelle flower on new growth. In late winter cut back each stem to a pair of buds about 12"-18" from the soil.

**On The Nursery**

This really is the start of our main growing season. Plants divided in the autumn are potted on if they show sufficient rooting; perennial, hardy annual and herb seeds are sown on our heated bench – and often covered with fleece on a very cold night to keep them snug.

This year we're determined to mulch our nursery garden. We find it really does suppress weeds and helps retain moisture, so to save work later on we need to get this done now.

Last year we had a lot of badger fun when it turned out he or she was very partial to tulip bulbs, often eating seven pots in one night. Fingers crossed that this year they have forgotten where we keep them!

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**"Did you know ....."**

That the land now used as a sports field by the De La Salle Club at Beauchief Hall was originally a deer park?

These fields have recently hosted archers, golfers, cricketers, bowls players and footballers whilst the deer are now grazing in a large field at the back of Beauchief Hall.

**Plant a tree**

In the UK only 13% of our land area is woodland cover. This is much lower than the EU average of 37%.

A lot has been written recently about how we can improve our local environment and increase biodiversity. In terms of helping our environment and biodiversity, planting a tree is one of the most important, yet simple things any of us can do.

Planting a tree can help to absorb carbon, provide shade, improve air quality, combat climate change and help animals and insects with food and shelter. Trees also protect our landscape against flooding, and erosion and improve our air quality.

What kind of tree should you plant? Well, that's up to you. Things to consider when choosing are what size would suit your garden, whether you'd like to have blossom and fruit, or what wildlife you'd like to attract.

Different trees will attract different species, so it's always worth doing a bit of research before deciding. Things to consider before planting a tree are where to place it (think about both you and your neighbours' gardens) and how the roots and branches may spread.

Check what time of year your tree is best planted, and how long it will take to grow. Check whether it needs staking or protecting, and finally how much maintenance it might need in the first few months or years.

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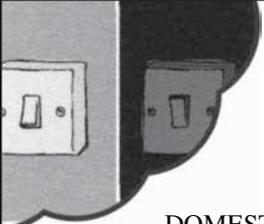
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## Organic Wildlife Gardening

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

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

In contrast, most of the gardening industry must have a huge carbon footprint. From inorganic potting composts to bedding plants, many of which are produced a long way from where they will be planted, only to finish up in a bin once they are past their best a few months later. While I have not been in a garden centre for a very long time, adverts do not give me the impression

that they are adapting what they have to offer to the needs of wildlife, despite the fact that so many conservation organisations are urging us to go back to nature and plant native flowers, trees, and shrubs.

It is a great shame that many people feel that they cannot manage without a green bin. Most gardens have room for at least

amount and variety of rubbish in it was almost unbelievable.

Last spring, the first flowers to appear in my garden were the wild primroses, which never let me down. They were followed in March by the wild daffodils which are so much more delicate than the cultivated varieties, and are at risk of dying out. Others were wild garlic, lesser celandine, wood anemones and wood sorrel. No other flowers seem to cheer us up like our native wild spring flowers, but while we love snowdrops, they are not native to the British Isles. I am gradually removing them and trying other native varieties e.g. Lily of the valley, and Solomon's seal. Another of our favourite spring flowers is the bluebell, but our delicate and beautiful native English variety is at risk from the Spanish variety which is invading our gardens and woods. Climate change could also affect them which is



*First flowers to appear - wild primrose*

one compost heap, which do not have to be large and can easily be hidden by some natural fencing or shrubs. They provide protection and food for many species of hibernating wildlife, and plenty to spread around your plants another year. Some years ago a television programme showed a huge green bin lorry depositing its load on farmland. The

worrying. If you find the Spanish variety in your garden, please do nature a favour and remove them.

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



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

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

News that disease, possibly bird flu, is having a devastating effect on bird populations is extremely worrying. Thousands of barnacle geese have died around the Solway Firth and other coastal areas, and huge numbers of puffins have died of starvation.

I do not know what has caused it, but strongly suspect that human activity could be at least part of the problem. No bird food has been put out here since the

spring, but there have been more blackbirds and regular small birds around, and far fewer bullying magpies and pigeons.

Years ago I noticed that ivy had seeded itself by the hedge. It grew into a large shrub and last year it was covered with small clusters of tiny white flowers. These attracted many different insects



*At risk of dying out - wood sorrel*

including various bees, hoverflies, blue and green flies, and some of the tiniest insects I have ever seen. They came every day for many weeks, even on cooler, sunless days.

In early December, two programmes on BBC2 showed how a wildlife photographer, Colin Stafford Johnson, made around an acre of land into a

wildlife garden. Most of it was made into a wildflower meadow, with a mixture of grasses and wild flowers.

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

Keep safe and keep the wildlife safe too.

*Marian Tiddy*

## The taste of Honey

The taste of British honey has changed over the past 60 years, with bees becoming more and more reliant on agricultural crops as native wildflowers die out.

Scientists have examined samples of honey from around the country for particles of pollen which shows what the bees were harvesting. Back in 1952 this found that the main food sources were clover and heather. Today they have found that honey bees are increasingly shifting their diets to feed on oilseed rape and Himalayan balsam.

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## Book shelf

Living in Sheffield we may think we know about the city and its history, but do we? In his new book *The Story of Sheffield*, Tim Cooper sets out to explore this heritage looking at the different periods of development and of the industries which influenced this.

We have all heard of Harry Brearley and stainless steel, but how many have heard of the Great Filemakers Strike of 1866. It is the people themselves as much as the industry they supported, which have made Sheffield what it is and are reflected in its past reputation for independence culminating in its branding as the 'People's Republic of South Yorkshire'.

The final section of the book looks at changes after the war and the Sheffield Blitz. Improved education, urban renewal and immigration have all played their part in the city's current unique(?) character.

Published by The History Press as paperback, 310 pages with 120 B&W illustrations, price £20 ISBN: 9780750967631

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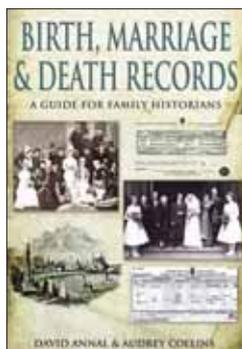
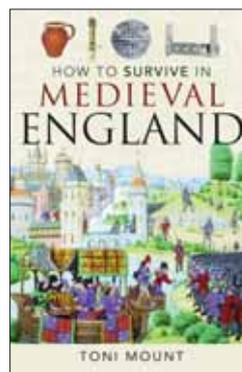
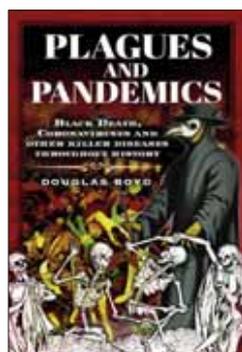
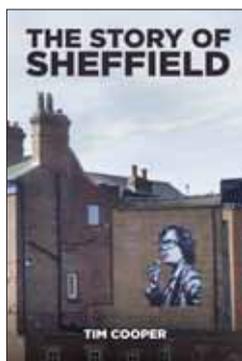
### *Plagues and Pandemics. Deadly diseases of the past, present and future.*

Perhaps you will have had enough of pandemics by now, or maybe you would like to know more about these in the past and the lessons we should have learnt but sadly have not. All you need for a plague to go pandemic are population clusters and travellers spreading the bacterial or viral pathogens.

History is littered with records of plagues and pandemics, while others are evidenced by the sudden collapse or decline in civilisations as discovered by archaeologists. Roman Emperor Justinian I caught bubonic plague in 541 CE, which killed 25 million people. Later dubbed Black Death, it killed 50 million people 1346-1353. Any disease can go epidemic.

Everyday European infections brought to the Americas by Cortes' conquistadores killed millions of the natives, whose posthumous revenge was the syphilis the Spaniards brought back to Europe. Chillingly, historian and author Douglas Boyd lists many other sub-microscopic killers still waiting for tourism and trade to bring them to us.

Published by Pen & Sword in hardback, 204 pages with B&W illustrations price £20 ISBN: 9781399005180



## flehs koob

There can be few of us who have not wondered what it would have been like to have lived in particular periods of the past, but what if we faced the reality. Imagine you were transported back in time to Medieval England and had to start a new life there.

This would be an alien world compared to life today. Life without mobile phones, ipads, internet and social media networks, when transport means walking or, if you're fortunate, horse-back. How will you know where you fit in society? Where are you likely to live? What will you eat? What are your clothes actually like? How about money when there are no bank notes, cash machines or cheques? What about health, or crime?

All these questions and many more are answered in this new guide book for time-travellers: *How to Survive in Medieval England*. You can also enjoy interviews with the celebrities of the day, from a business woman and a condemned felon, to a royal cook and King Richard III himself. Have a go at preparing medieval dishes and learn some new words to set the mood for your time-travelling adventure.

Published by Pen & Sword in paperback, 159 pages with B&W illustrations price £14.99 ISBN: 9781526754417

\*\*\*\*

Most often research into family history is prompted by an interest in old family photographs or oral tales from relatives. If you embark on serious research you will soon discover that birth, marriage and death records are a prime source of information.

This new guide for family historians, *Birth, Marriage & Death Records* sets out to explain the history behind these records and how they can be explored and interpreted. There is help in understanding the different sources which vary between England and Wales and those in Scotland and between churches.

Other useful sources of evidence for births, marriages and deaths are explored and, of course, the authors David Annal and Audrey Collins cover the online sites that are available for help in this crucial area of family history research.

Published by Pen & Sword in paperback, 185 pages with B&W illustrations price £14.99 ISBN: 9781848845725

## Abbeydale Park Bowling Club

The main news from the club is that we are having a big extension to our pavilion which will make it much more suitable for visiting teams and some small indoor events. We have had quite a lot of donations from club members and some money from charities. Everyone is looking forward to the beginning of the new season although we have had a few social events in the Abbeydale pavilion.

## Bradway Community Assn

The group have restated events with the following now planned:

26 February - Games Night  
8 March - March Ramble  
26 March - Crazy Card Night  
April 3 - April Ramble  
April 28 - Annual General Meeting  
May 1 - May Ramble  
For more information ring  
Gwen Smithson 0114 236 9876

## "Did you know ....."

That Abbeydale Golf Club was first located at Rycroft Farm on Dore Road? The club initially played on a nine hole course from 1896, using the dining room of the farm house as a clubhouse. The club remained there for just two years before creating a new course on Abbey Lane, where Beauchief Golf Course is now located. The move to their current base, occurred during the early 1920's.

## Walking the Dog

*This story is totally true.*

Just once I saw them, and then only for a few minutes but do you know how a picture sometimes fixes itself in your mind? This was the scene: a quiet road, a quiet day, I stopped at the traffic lights and saw them on the opposite corner. An old lady was pushing a pushchair in no hurry, a steady afternoon stroll, and in that pushchair was her dog.

The pushchair stopped. Was the old lady pausing for breath? Or was she giving Fido, (if that was his name), every bit as elderly as his owner, a chance to take in the scenery?

Fido raised his muzzle and made his enquiries with a sniff. He took the air. He read the news: who had passed that way and who might be expected. Did he detect the prospect of romance, or danger or some change in the weather?

Perhaps it was a regular route: maybe Fido was checking out familiar territory and renewing old acquaintances. He might be visiting the playgrounds of his youth, remembering the days when he could run, and fetch, and play. Now 'stay' was the only command he could answer.

Was his owner retracing old footsteps in the hope of experiencing the simple pleasures of days gone by? Or was it a voyage of discovery for them both? Were they sole companions for each other, taking joy in being together, making the most of their autumn years, or was there a family at home? Who can tell?

We live in a world that can sometimes seem selfish and uncaring, but there are still those who still take pleasure in doing acts of kindness, like taking Fido for his walk, when he couldn't walk any more.

The lights changed, I drove on, a happier man. As long as Fido gets his walk, there is some hope for us.

**Robert Smith**

## Sheffield Steelkings Para Ice Hockey Club

The Sheffield Steelkings Para Ice Hockey Club was founded in March 2014 and I joined them in the summer of that year. The sport itself is a direct descendent of ice hockey and was invented at a rehabilitation centre in Stockholm, Sweden, in the early 1960's by a group of Swedes who, despite their physical disabilities, wanted to continue playing the game they loved.

The men modified a metal-framed sledge and fitted two regular hockey skate blades. Using round poles with bike handles for sticks, the men played without goaltenders on frozen lakes in and around the Swedish capital. The sport gradually caught on in various countries with Great Britain establishing a team in 1981. It became an official event at the 1994 Lillehammer Paralympic Games in Norway.

Due to the pandemic, the UK league



*Picture showing the a metal-framed sledge used in Para Ice Hockey*

was suspended, but is due to be reinstated within the next two months. However, we have continued training down at Ice Sheffield as restrictions allowed and also converted a negative into a positive by building a second team. Whilst we are well on the way with this, we are looking to bolster it and are recruiting new players. Para ice hockey is a tough, physical, full-contact sport which requires good upper-body strength. Whether male, female, disabled or able-bodied and think you have got what it takes, get in touch and give it a try.

[www.Sheffieldsteelkings.co.uk](http://www.Sheffieldsteelkings.co.uk) email: [sheffieldsteelkings@gmail.com](mailto:sheffieldsteelkings@gmail.com)

**John Oakley**

## Easter Lambing at Whirlow Hall Farm Trust



This will be the first lambing event post COVID-19 and we are extremely excited to be opening our doors again to share such a magical time at the farm with the community. Our lambing shed is well ventilated, and most of the activities are outdoors. This is a fantastic opportunity for the whole family to enjoy the wonder of newborn lambs, during the Easter Half Term.

We will have lots of exciting activities to keep your little ones busy including Easter Egg Hunt, Face-Painting, Easter Themed Crafts, Forest School Activities, Children Entertainment Shows with Barney Baloney in the morning and afternoon, Story Time, and some delicious Street Food Stalls for a tasty lunch, including the famous Whirlow BBQ.

The main attraction though of course will be the beautiful newborn lambs and the rest of our farm animal family. Plus our playground will also be open! Thank you for your support, we look forward to welcoming you

All funds raised from this event will

support our vital work with vulnerable young people in our area.

The Trust plays a vital role in supporting children and young people facing a complex combination of difficulties, including medical and mental health conditions, learning needs and disabilities, and heart-breaking personal circumstances.

Whether our students are living with cancer, anxiety, autism, or ADHD; overcoming neglect or coping with bereavement, our unique farm provides a safe, nurturing environment that equips them with the tools to learn, grow in confidence, self-esteem and resilience.

**Sarah Kerrigan**

## Art at Beauchief

Driving towards or away from Beauchief, is not the time to be looking for, or at, art. I was slowing down for the lights, early in December, when I noticed workpeople on the verge and footpath on the new development side of the road. They had cut 'blind' holes in the wall.

My sleuth of a neighbour investigated and found four blocks of stone have been carved, and then inserted into the 'blind' holes. The Planning Consent required the developers to put some art into the scheme. The stone carver's comments are shown below.

**Roger Hart**

Steve Roche: - "Hello all. Some of you may have noticed these carvings in the wall of the old Beauchief Hotel on Abbeydale Rd South. I was asked by the architect to come up with a project as part of the public art planning condition, paid for by the developer. As the site was the station hotel, it made sense that the carvings were based on the railway history of the site.

All but one of the trains illustrated have pulled the Master Cutler service from Sheffield to London over the years. The other one I got to pick myself! (the Mallard) The designs are based on art deco travel posters - with a sharp vanishing point. The corners are curved to look like train carriage windows and the scenes are a little window on the past. I have cut the carvings in quite deep relief to give the sensation of movement when the viewer walks or drives past. Just thought I'd explain the project. I hope people enjoy them!"



*One of the Steve Roche carvings.  
Picture by Alison Holden*

## Transport 17

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

With all the festivities behind us we are looking forward to cracking on with the very best that 2022 can bring. You may remember we faced a number of disappointments towards the end of last year but we are pleased to say that the outlook now feels more positive. Firstly, a big thank you to all those who made seasonal donations to T17, however big or small. In particular, both Totley All Saints Church, the Facey Family Foundation, and the Nevil Talbot Lodge of Freemasons for their generous donations.

All are very much appreciated and go towards enabling us to continue to provide transport to those older people who would otherwise be unable to get out. This in turn gives them the opportunity to socialise in the local community which reduces social isolations, has a positive impact on their mental health, and improves their quality of life.

As the new year starts most lunch clubs are operating with transport being provided by our buses. Given all the events of the past 1 ½ - 2yrs we feel pleased that people continue to feel confident enough to get out and access social opportunities and hope we will be able to facilitate this further in a safe and secure way over the coming months.

### Changes in Circumstances

Having introduced our new admin assistant in the last article it was a

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



*Liz Croft has had a long career in many aspects of the travel industry both in the UK and abroad and has more recently been caring in a local nursing home which she found particularly enjoyable and rewarding. She enjoys the outdoors and going running, and travelling has always been a passion.*

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

We made the tough decision to cancel the Christmas Fayre last year which meant we were unable to hold any of our community fundraising events during the year. It would be lovely to be able to hold a Spring/Summer fundraising event later in the year incorporating some additional activities alongside the more familiar stalls. We would like to encourage some of the younger members of the community to join our longstanding supporters at the T17 fundraising events. Please look out for further details nearer the time. We will be advertising events on local noticeboards and in shop windows, on our Facebook page and on our website.

Many of you will be familiar with seeing our buses parked up in the English Martyrs Church car park. Having the buses on our doorstep and so easily accessible was a tremendous help in operating the service we provide. However, we found ourselves in the position of having to search for a new home for our minibuses as the church made alterations to the arrangement. We would like to publicly register our huge thanks to Frank, and the church for their past support.

We have been very fortunate in our search for new homes for the T17 minibuses. Abbeydale Sports Club have agreed to accommodate 2 of the buses and the Cross Scythes very kindly agreed to have the other one. Thanks go to

Richard Ibbotson, Andrew Watson and the board at Abbeydale Sports Club, it was such a relief when they welcomed us in, and of course similar thanks to the Ben and Scott at the Cross Scythes who so often go the extra mile to help us. We feel lucky to have such supportive individuals and organisations within our community.

When the new Operations Manager started last autumn, nobody envisaged such a frustrating and difficult start but we are delighted that progress is being made. Colin Muncie has been beavering away in the background at T17, providing a lead on a number of issues and helping us to operate more effectively and efficiently. We are benefitting from his wide experience and diverse contacts, enabling us to build on the steady foundations of the organisation.

We now have an arrangement with the Cavendish Motor Company, based on Edgedale Road, Sheffield S7, to service and help maintain the buses. The location is more convenient for us and having the servicing, maintenance, and statutory inspections all completed at one local site means less additional mileage for the buses and volunteers.

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

### Funding and a thank you!

The 2020-21 Coop Local Community Funding period came to an end in October last year and we collected our final cheque of £2,987.03 on Saturday 20th November at the Dore Co-op store. This will mean we have received a total of £3,955.80 over the year. The money from this grant goes into a fund for replacement minibuses which is an ongoing fundraising objective alongside funding the services we provide and the servicing and maintenance of the buses. We would like to thank you for supporting us by choosing T17 as your local cause.

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

## SOUTH SHEFFIELD CHURCH

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With Children's group

**Bible Study** Tuesday 10.00am  
& Wednesday 7.0pm

**Tuesday Group** Tuesdays 2.30pm  
Songs-Talk-Fellowship- Drinks

**Oasis** 10.00-11:30am  
1st & 3rd Wednesday each month  
Coffee morning-games-craft

**Toddlers** Friday 9.30-11.30am  
(in term time) For babies,  
toddlers, parents & carers

## EVERYONE WELCOME

Enquiries Phone 07712 153958  
[www.southsheffieldchurch.co.uk](http://www.southsheffieldchurch.co.uk)

following year.

It is sometime since we applied for funding grants so it has been extremely heartening that two applications we made were successful. We received £2500 from the Freemasons and Lieutenancies Partnership Fund and £1000 from the Cutlers Company Charitable Trust last summer. Sandra Longley represented T17 in July at the Cutlers Hall to collect the Company's cheque from the Mistress Cutler. It was also an opportunity to network with others and to be able to promote T17.

As well as these grants we have benefitted from a number of donations from local organisations. Totley Open Gardens made a sizeable donation to T17, and Totley Show have supported us despite the event being on a much smaller scale. Sadly, Totley Methodist Church Lunch Club and the Women's Fellowship Group/Dore Methodist Church have both made the decision to close. In their closing meetings, both very kindly chose to donate funds to T17. We are very grateful for this ongoing support from the local community.

#### New Volunteers

We are still in need of new volunteers to help us to continue to operate the organisation and maintain our current transport commitments, as well as planning for future developments. Perhaps you are starting the new year thinking about how you spend your time each week? If so, this could be the time to consider volunteering. There are many opportunities here at T17 including driving the minibuses, assisting passengers on the buses, fundraising, DIY/buildings maintenance, and helping in the office.

We are also recruiting to Trustee/committee posts. For these, we would particularly be interested in anyone with financial experience for the Treasurer's role, individuals with a legal or communications background, and individuals with experience of working as part of a community group and/or

charitable organisation. Please contact us on 0114 236 2962, or at [manager@transport17.co.uk](mailto:manager@transport17.co.uk), if you are interested in finding out more about the opportunities available.

**Fiona Smith,**  
*T17 Operational Manager*



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

thousands of young trees and spring bulbs. As part of that aim we have "adopted" Beauchief Gardens, near to the Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet. During the Autumn, we trimmed a large number of bushes, and carried general maintenance. We also continued planting crocus and daffodil bulbs, so look out this Spring for a wealth of early colour.

Although this is now the quiet season, we have not stopped planning for this coming year. The contractors working on the Hope Valley railway line improvements have offered to help improve the Gardens, and jointly with the Manager from Sheffield City Council we have been planning possible schemes to improve the structure of the Gardens by reducing the height of many of the older trees, reduce the winter flooding risk in the low-lying parts, and upgrade the flower beds. The Gardens are open all year

### The Rotary Club of Sheffield Vulcan

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

Our local community work is varied; last year for example we acted as stewards at Whirlow Hall Farm for their Superhero Fun Day, and at Meadowhall for a Musical Drive-in in aid of the Roundabout charity (helping homeless teenagers). We have also supported Food Banks by providing volunteer drivers to reach the household, distributing food supplies, and cash grants of £9,000.

We annually financially support a pantomime visit for a local school, have collected usable clothes for asylum seekers in need, and held bucket collections in support of local causes. In 2021, we raised over £15,000 for over 40 (mainly local) charities.

We seek to improve and enrich our environment in Sheffield – over the past 10 years, we have planted many

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

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

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

So, if you have a bit of spare time, like the idea of joining a group of people who, want to put something back into the local and world-wide community, why not visit [contactus@sheffieldvulcan.org.uk](mailto:contactus@sheffieldvulcan.org.uk) or view [www.vulcanrotary.org.uk](http://www.vulcanrotary.org.uk)

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## Sheffield Photographic Society

### The Ken Doney Trophy

The Ken Doney Trophy Competition honours a popular and well respected ex-President who sadly passed away in 2008.

At that time the Society was running the annual Lilian Alsop Trophy for six slides on a theme, which was attracting reduced numbers of entries as digital imagery took over. This competition was relaunched in his memory as the Ken Doney Trophy for six digital images on a theme, with a new trophy in the form of a letter “ D “ commissioned. The first KD Trophy was held in December 2008 and has continued annually to the present day.

The KD Trophy now traditionally takes place on the first meeting in January\*. Members submit six digital images on a theme of their choice. Sets of images are paired off against each other at random, with the members attending on the night collectively judging for their favourite set. The winning sets of images go into the next round, and the process repeated on a knock out basis until we have the last two sets, and finally a winner. \*Held 4th January via zoom.

### Programme of events

(P – Prints, D – Digital, AV – Audio Visual)

All Tuesday evening meetings at St.Peter’s 7.40pm for 7.50pm

#### February

22nd Alex Hyde Wildlife and landscape images from across Europe, with a focus on macro work. (DP)

#### March

1st Members’ Evening, featuring the work of Linda Jackson, Peter Mason and Mike Newman. (DPF)

3rd Council meeting

8th John Gill, “After the Coal Dust” showing life in former industrial towns in our region. Monochrome. (DP)

15th Members’ Print Competition - Round 4 Judged by Ian Pinn from NEMPF. (DP)

19th Inter Club Digital Knockout Competition. Invited clubs show their best digital images. Judged by John Cartlidge APAGB EFIAP/p BPE5 from Cannock. (D)

22nd Dave Cudworth from Rolls Royce PS “From sea level to extreme altitude” a journey from Whitby to the Himalayas, called (DP)

25th The Annual Exhibition at Sheffield Cathedral (provisional dates)

29th Laura Page, “From philosophy to photography”. How philosophy influenced her work photographing people and communities. (DP)

#### April

05th “The AV Show” Annual presentation of Audio Visual sequences.

3rd Council meeting

12th Brian Trout LRPS and Sue Trout LRPS, “Out of Africa”. (DP)

Easter Break

26th Presidents’ Choice format to be decided. (DP)

#### May

3rd AGM and presentation of Society Awards

A programme of summer walks and other events will be arranged. All members welcome.



*KD Trophy Winner Eddie Sherwood with his sequence titled “The Big Moor and its Red Deer “*



*KD Trophy runner up Judy Smith “Winter in Yellowstone”*



*KD Trophy runner up Trevor Unwin “Seascapes of Scotland “*

## Ranger led guided walks

National Park Rangers are welcoming walkers to their new programme of Ranger led guided walks. These popular Peak District walks are back and available to book online now, with walks throughout the year from January to December.

Engagement ranger Paul Wetton said: “We are delighted to offer our guided walks again and we’re looking forward to helping visitors explore the Peak District’s hills and dales once more. Now our walk leaders are ready and raring to

go with a fresh list of walks to refresh mind, body and soul.”

“With a New Year and a new set of walks, it’s a great time for people who are new to walking or new to visiting the Park to come along and give it a try.”

There is a wide variety of walks covering a range of themes from archaeology to map reading and navigation skills to wildlife. Some walks are at weekends, some on weekdays. All the walks are led by experienced, knowledgeable National Park Rangers. Highlights of the walks programme in coming weeks include:

Sunday 13th March: Explore Longstone Moor – follow a fascinating route back in time in the Great Longstone area to see Bronze Age monuments and evidence of lead mining.

Wednesday 13th April: Hidden Past of the Upper Derwent – explore off the beaten track to find lost farms, old stories and hidden paths among deep cloughs and dark forests.

More details are on the Peak Park website [www.peakdistrict.gov.uk](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk) To view more walks and to book, visit the Events page, and click on book online . <https://peakdistrict.cinolla.com/ranger/>