

# Bradway Bugle

*In and around Bradway, Greenhill & Totley*

## Rail link boost

The Government's budget commitment to improving the rail link between Sheffield and Manchester has been generally welcomed. Chancellor George Osborne gave the green light as part of a £130m investment in the 'Northern Hub' with the aim of encouraging economic growth.

The package, designed to improve passenger and freight routes, includes an extra track and platform at Dore, a new passing loop at Grindleford or Dore and bigger capacity at Chinley, at the same time as Network Rail renews signalling and track.

More trains are being promised between Sheffield and Manchester and a reduction in journey times of about five minutes. The capacity enhancements, especially the doubling of the track at Dore, should improve reliability.

The Department for Transport believes train operators will be encouraged to run more and longer trains, after years of complaints that seats are not always available.

The exact timetable for the improvements will be in the hands of Network Rail, but the Government expects the Hope Valley scheme to have been completed by the end of 2018.

The case for the electrification of the Sheffield to London main line is being assessed as part of a review to be published by the end of July.



*Entering into the VE Day spirit at Bradway School were, left to right: Mrs Roberts, Mrs Belk, Mrs Heap.*



## School recreates history

On Thursday 27th March Year 4 children at Bradway Primary School held their own VE Day to celebrate the end of a whole term topic on the Second World.

Guests of honour at the event were local resident Jim Pass, a veteran of both the Dunkirk Evacuation and the Normandy Landings and Peter Stubbs, of Bradway Action Group. Jim gave the children a talk on his experiences during the war and then joined them for a special VE Day lunch of typical 1940s sandwiches, cakes and the ubiquitous cup of tea.

Following lunch the children entertained the guest with a performance of the 'Jitterbug' to Glen Miller's 'In the Mood'. After several weeks practice their moves would rival any of those seen on Strictly Come Dancing. Jim couldn't resist getting up to join in.

The topic was filled with lots of fun filled activities, which really brought to life the Second World War for the eight and nine year olds. The children read and wrote stories about evacuees, met a 'real-life' evacuee, Mrs Gisela Eisner, a pupil's grandmother, who had been evacuated out of Berlin on a 'Kinder Transport' in 1938 and took part in a mock evacuation where they were 'shipped' to different parts of the school, wearing 1940s clothes and gas masks.

Another exciting cross-curricular event was the Rationing Masterchef competition, where the pupils, created, prepared and promoted their own recipes

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*Recreating VE Day Celebrations at Bradway Primary School.*

## Wettest ever April

Last month was the wettest April in Sheffield since records began in 1882. Weston Park weather station recorded 153.4mm of rain, beating the previous record of 151.5mm, set in 2000.

Although there is no shortage of water in reservoirs, and there is no hosepipe ban in the area, a drought designation remains, with consumers urged to use water wisely.

## Jubilee celebrations

The gardens of Chatsworth House will be the location for a 1950s style street party over the weekend of June 2 to 5 to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Visitors are being encouraged to come along in vintage dress and to take part in celebrations that echo those that would have taken place for the Queen's Coronation 60 years ago.

In the house, robes worn by four generations of the Cavendish family at the Queen's Coronation and the Devonshire state chariot used by the 11th Duke of Devonshire and the Dowager Duchess to attend the Coronation will be on show.

Rolls Royce will be displaying a vehicle on Lodge Hill from every year of the Queen's 60-year reign on Sunday, June 3.

## Editorial

Well it looks like we must wait even longer for the new park and ride at Dore and Totley Station, while the search is on for the money to build a new pedestrian crossing. Still people can always walk towards Sheffield and use the new council funded crossing near the model railway entrance. Not that we would recommend it.

The crossing has been sited just where the road narrows and has already caused crashes, while there is hardly room on the carriageway for large lorries going in the Sheffield direction. Several pedestrians have also reported that while on the 'island' they have been swept off their feet by the passing draft from such heavy goods vehicles.

Why couldn't the money have been used for a crossing opposite the station, a far busier location? Still, the long overdue moving of the 30 mph limit towards the Hamlet means traffic is at least a little slower for those taking their lives in their hands (a strange phrase) when crossing the road outside the station.

By the time we next go to press the Olympics will be over, we will all be a little poorer, and maybe some British competitors will be clutching gold. But like with everything else nowadays, the government just doesn't seem to think through its policy decisions.

Who I wonder considered what the impact of holding the Olympics would be beyond London. For a start, other events during the inevitable telethon are doomed to failure, as people sit glued to the small screen (well some anyway). Already we have lost this years Norton Show for this reason. What next I wonder?

In the meantime lets hope the weather improves and that we get some sunshine.

*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 May (Summer) issue to the address on this page by **Fri 27th July**

## No Norton Show

Norton Show is traditionally held on the second Saturday in August, this year falling on the 11th, which is also the penultimate day of the Olympic Games and therefore a busy one.

We have made enquiries as to whether people would choose to visit the Show or to watch the Games on television. Over half said that they would watch the Games as it was a special event in this country.

We are a small Committee and rely on the support of able-bodied younger groups to help us erect the tents and the marquees during the week leading up to the Show, and we cannot be certain that they would be available to help. We are also aware that our financial income could be greatly reduced.

After much consultation, debate, and discussion, the Committee has reluctantly decided to cancel the Norton Show for this year. We apologise to all our loyal supporters, visitors, participants and competitors, stall-holders, traders and car-booters for the upset to your plans.

Enjoy watching the Olympics, and please be ready to support us next year when we will be back at the Showground, Bochum Parkway, on the second Saturday in August 2013.

*Rene Smith*

*Norton Ploughing Association and Show Committee member*

## Festival on the move

The Cliffhanger outdoors festival on July 7 and 8 - the UK's biggest outdoors event - is moving from Millhouses to Graves Park, which is bigger and has woodlands for trail racing. It will feature demonstrations, have-a-go activities, the British Bouldering Championships, a live music stage and on-site camping.

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## Park and Ride

South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive successfully bid last year for funding to upgrade facilities at Dore and Totley station. This involves developing a 130 space park and ride scheme on the site of the former garden centre, which will help resolve on-street parking problems and open up options for people who want to travel into the city centre and beyond.

Although funding for the station improvements has been obtained there is still a need to secure the balance required to cover the adjacent pedestrian crossing, which is a condition of the planning permission. This means that it is highly unlikely that development works will begin on the site before autumn.

## New Safer Neighbourhood Team Boundaries

As you may be aware from local meetings, there is to be a reduction in the number of Safer Neighbourhood Teams in Sheffield from Ten to Seven.

There will not be a reduction in the number of Police Officers and PCSO's working within the Sheffield district, the change is to allow for the geographical boundaries of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams to align with those of the Sheffield Community Assembly Areas.

The change should allow for better partnership working between the Police and other agencies, such as the council, through the teams working within each agency having the same geographical area of operation.

The new structure came into being on 1st April 2012.

## Editorial & Advertising

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

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

Editor: **John Baker**

**Tel: 236 9025 or 236 9469**

**mobile on 078 1161 4727**

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**Bradway Bugle,**

**8 Thornsett Gardens,**

**Sheffield, S17 3PP.**

or: **editor@villagepublications.co.uk**

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## Local Election Results

In the local council elections on Thursday 3rd May Labour captured Beauchief & Greenhill Ward from the Liberal Democrats, who managed to keep control of Dore & Totley Ward. The state of play on Sheffield Council is now:

Labour 59 councillors  
 Liberal Democrats 23 councillors  
 Greens 2 councillors

Overall turnout 32.77%

Just how popular politicians of all parties are was reflected in a general 9% drop in turnout from last year across the whole city. Not surprisingly electors also rejected government proposals for an elected mayor in Sheffield.

### Beauchief & Greenhill

Ayris Steve Liberal Democrat 1642  
 Boardman Peter UKIP 534  
 Grant Michelle Conservative 345  
 Hespe Christina Green 296  
 Munn Roy Labour 2393  
 Electorate: 13,969 Turnout: 38.14%

### Dore & Totley Ward

Moxon Steven UKIP\* 363  
 Rehman Hafeas Labour 763  
 Ross Colin Liberal Democrat 2610  
 Smith Anne Conservative 2140  
 Wilcock Rita Green 422  
 Electorate: 13,393 Turnout: 47.02%

\* The UKIP candidate was suspended by his party before the poll, but too late for his name to be removed from ballot papers, leaving him as an independent.

*continued from page 1 .....*

using Wartime Britain rations.

The highlight of the topic was a trip to Eden Camp, the War Museum in North Yorkshire. A day here is never enough and the children were sad to leave. It was great to see them closely studying the displays, rather than rushing past as is often the case. Many of the facts had been taught and learnt during lessons and the children enjoyed seeing models and exhibits which brought their learning to life.

"This has been the best topic ever" shouted the children as they said goodbye to Jim and fellow guests at the end of the VE Day celebrations. It might not have been the actual date but it was certainly a day to remember.

We were delighted to welcome local residents, Jim Pass and Peter Stubbs to our VE day and Mrs Gisela Eisner's visit a few weeks before really opened the children's eyes to way that war affected so many lives. The school is always keen to gain a local perspective of history.

Indeed on the 1st of June 2012 we will be celebrating the Diamond Jubilee here in school and if any of your readers have local tales to tell of events around The Queen's accession to the throne in 1952 or her Coronation in 1953 we would love to hear your stories. Also if any reader would like to come in to school to discuss their experiences with the children they would be guaranteed a warm welcome and an attentive audience.

*Mrs Jo Heap Year 4 teacher*

School events and key dates

- There will be jubilee celebrations in school on 1st June.
- Half term is 4th to 8th June
- The last day of term is Friday 20th July
- Children start back at school on Wednesday 5th September

## Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Events and celebrations to mark 60 years of The Queen's reign will centre around an extended weekend on 2nd to 5th June this year, including an additional bank holiday on the 5th.

The Queen came to the throne on 6 February 1952 and her coronation took place on 2 June 1953. She celebrated her Silver Jubilee (25 years) in 1977 and her Golden Jubilee (50 years) in 2002.

A Diamond Jubilee website, including two new photographs of The Queen, has been launched by the Royal Household. It features the latest news, photographs, announcements and historical information about The Queen's 60-year reign. Visitors can also send a congratulatory message to The Queen. <http://www.thediamondjubilee.org/>

Royal Jubilees

- the first British monarch to mark 50 years on the throne in a significant way was George III
- the only other British monarch to celebrate a Diamond Jubilee was Queen Victoria in 1897

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## Neighbourhood Watch

As reported elsewhere in this edition in of The Bradway Bugle, on 1 April the boundaries of the Sheffield Safer Neighbourhood Areas (SNAs) were changed to coincide with those of the Community Assemblies. For most of Bradway this means that our neighbourhood policing team has changed.

Instead of coming under the Woodseats Safer Neighbourhood Team, we now come under the South West SNT, joining Dore and Totley. The exception to this is Lower Bradway (from Beauchief Drive / Fox Lane to the junction of Bradway Road with the Greenhill Parkway).

That part of Bradway has always been treated for policing purposes as an extension of Greenhill, and will continue to come under the Woodseats SNT. It will also continue to be covered by the Greenhill Neighbourhood Watch.

For the rest of Bradway, the change to the new policing team will also mean a change in the organisation of Neighbourhood Watch. Before the SNAs were introduced, there was a Bradway and Totley NHW and a separate Dore NHW.

When the SNAs first came into being, the dividing line between the Woodseats team and the South West team left Bradway on one side and Totley on the other, so Totley joined with Dore and Bradway continued to have a separate organisation.

## Bugle publication dates

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

Copy Deadline	Publication
27 July	22 August 2012
26 October	14 November 2012
31 January	20 February 2013
26 April	15 May 2013

Now it makes sense for the liaison with the police all to be handled by a single NHW grouping, so Bradway will join Dore and Totley and the co-ordination will be done by Keith Hill, who was already the Dore and Totley NHW co-ordinator.

Following the addition of Bradway to the responsibilities of the Dore and Totley policing team, it has been expanded by the addition of a new police officer. The team now consists of two police officers, PC Kevin Marsh and PC Martyn Civil, and one police community support officer, PCSO Katie Gavin. They can be contacted on the Local Police number 101 or via email which is: martyn.civil@southyorks.pnn.police.uk – for PC 0192 Martin Civil kevin.marsh@southyorks.pnn.police.uk – for PC 0753 Kev Marsh katie.gavin@southyorks.pnn.police.uk – for PCSO Katie Gavin

*Stephen George*

## Keen to help

Like a lot of people, local 6th form student Gabriella Shaw\* has been upset by footage on TV of children dying around the world because of a lack of safe water. It had such an impact on her that she decided to help in the only way she could, practically with her own time.

Some research quickly established that Raleigh International, a charitable organisation who specialise in voluntary humanitarian expeditions, are travelling to Borneo this summer. All she needs to join them is to raise £3,300.

Starting with her own savings, Gabriella has set to the task, offering babysitting (CRB checked and 1st Aid trained), car wash sessions, Coffee & Cake mornings, a quiz night at the Castle Inn, home cooking and a raffle.

If you haven't been able to attend one of her events but would like to help by donating a small amount please go to <http://www.justgiving.com/Gabriella-Shaw> its easy. She will be delighted.

\* Raleigh International ID No. 800151501

## Maternity break

Readers will wish to join us in wishing Clare from Bradway Physio (now Activ Physio) good luck as she leaves work to have a baby (due end of May). Becky Robinson will be covering for her during maternity leave.

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## Bradway Community Association

Although the Bradway Community Association has been in existence for over fifty years, there are probably many locals to whom the name is not familiar or do not know what current activities are organised by it.

It was founded in the Birchitt Road area at the time the houses were first built there and members gradually joined as the new housing in Bradway developed. There were many young couples with children in the area at that time who were instrumental in setting up the Community Association, and the emphasis was not only on social occasions but also on providing a youth club in the area.

Over the years sporting activities were added to the Youth Club with tennis, table tennis, badminton and bridge played by members in a number of local locations. For a short time there was also an Art Group. Family activities also featured with family rambles on Sundays, an annual bonfire when land was available until all the houses were finished in the Rosamond and Everard area, and a children's party and carol singing in the Castle at Christmas.

Of these there is still a walking group which enjoy walking 5-8 miles in the Sheffield area and Peak District on the first Sunday in the month and a badminton group which plays in the Scout Hall at Bradway every Thursday

evening 8.30-10pm.

Over the years we have also raised money for mainly local charities, the main fundraiser being an annual Fun Run which was held for eleven years between 1988 and 1998 raising just over £25,000.

More recently we have supported the Refurbishment of the Bradway Community Hall via profits made at our social events and at our recent annual general meeting we voted to continue supporting the Hall with its plans for the refurbishment of the Mission Hall.

Although we do not have as many activities as formerly, we still have an active social calendar in which most of the events are held in the newly refurbished Community Hall, apart from the annual treasure hunt, which is a walk around hunt in one of the local villages.

This year we have held a quiz night, a murder mystery night and a beetle drive. For the future, we plan a Street Party on May 26th (in the Hall in anticipation of inclement weather) to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, a Salmon and Strawberry evening on July 7th and a Treasure Hunt on Sunday July 29th. In the Autumn we hope to hold a race night, a cheese and wine tasting evening and a Christmas Celebration. A regular newsletter is sent round to members to keep them informed about future events.

New and old members would be welcome at any of our events. Gwen Smithson 236 9876 can be contacted for general queries, Jean Hunter 236 4922 for social events, John Child 237 6577

for badminton or Peter Smithson 236 9876 for details of the walking group.

## A refreshing break

As you enjoy a refreshing break in a new coffee shop at Millhouses, convenient for the park and local shops, you might be surprised to discover that it is run by two nurses. Suze Goodman and Sheila Clapham met as young SRNs over 30 years ago and became life-long friends sharing a mutual dream to one day open their own tearoom. Now that dream has been realised at the Vanilla Coffee Shop at 984 Abbeydale Road, where they are proving that there's a big cross-over between looking after patients and keeping customers happy. Although they are both still keeping their hands in working part time as nurses, the cafe is open every day thanks to the help of two members of Suze's family.

The Vanilla Coffee Shop aims to use locally sourced food and drink, including Yorkshire Crisps, Sheffield Honey, Catherine's Choice preserves and Heavenlies Cakes. It serves old-fashioned treats like iced gem biscuits, Tunnock's teacakes, Horlicks and Ovaltine alongside hand-made sandwiches and soups, jacket potatoes and salad platters. It also has its own blend of freshly ground coffee which is roasted in Sheffield.

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## Post Box

Dear Sir,

May Day, Bradway School, 1948

This is a photo of the whole school celebrating May Day and the crowning of the May Queen and her consort. Following this, there would be a picnic on the playing fields and we would dance round the maypole watched by parents and the school's pet rabbit (from his hutch)!

I can identify some of the children on the front row from left to right.

The Queen and Consort (I can't remember if they were the retiring pair) are Paul Coffey and Joy Grassick. The Queen standing alone, is Judy Tidy. The boy holding her train is John Holmes and next to him is Jeanne Blantern. The taller girl at the end of the front row is Pamela Ingram of Bradway Road.

Each year, the Queen had to choose a flower and thus she would be crowned - "Rose or Margeurite etc". It was a magical ceremony and made a lasting impression on me.

*Jeanne Mary Blantern*

P.S. The school cook at that time was a Mrs. Greatorex who lived in the cottages opposite the school.

Dear Sir,

In the Autumn 2011 edition of the Bradway Bugle, John Kirkman wrote at some length about our garden birds and their predators. He started his article by describing the Sparrow Hawk and it's natural liking for Tits, Finches and Sparrows.

Backing on to farm land on Prospect Road, our garden is visited regularly by the usual culprits feasting on nut and seed feeders. I have to say that I have never seen a Sparrow Hawk, that is until Thursday 3rd May.

Perched like a statue on a post at the top of the garden, a majestic Sparrow Hawk sat for around ten minutes, presumably waiting for a meal to appear. They must have known though, not another bird in sight, not even the Wood Pigeons!

Eventually it was disturbed by next



*May Day, Bradway School, 1948. Picture provided by Jeanne Blantern.*

door's cat as it strolled across the lawn and it took flight across the field. The other birds reappeared shortly afterwards.

So there is at least one Sparrow Hawk around Bradway, possibly a pair.

Keep your eyes peeled, it really is a wonderful sight to behold.

*Stephen Coates*

Dear Sir,

50+ Mobility Issues

What choices do people with mobility difficulties have when it comes to getting around? We can drag a manual wheelchair around the 7 hills of Sheffield. Admittedly, we can board any public transport (PT), but how do we get to and from the PT?

We can get a neighbour to push us, but what if he threatens to have a heart attack? Or we can just drag ourselves. Have you ever tried going up a hill in a manual wheelchair? Try it sometime.

Or we can use electric wheelchairs. Mine has skittered off pavements 4 times and tipped me into the road. Not a healthy option either. (Try googling 'electric wheelchair safety'.....)

Or we can use scooters. Mine is brilliant - smaller than my manual wheelchair. Except for one thing - PT is very funny about it. Sheffield Community Transport

and Stage-coach have always accepted it, but not so First Bus. My local bus is a First Bus, and it's a long way down to Abbeydale Road to catch a Stagecoach bus. So I started putting First Bus under pressure to allow me to board their 22 bus outside my house. After many, many weeks of campaigning... I have won!

So I went straight to the railway station to tell the trains -and received very short shrift.

Many months ago my mother, in Leeds, was dying. For some (obviously totally selfish) reason, I wanted to go up and say goodbye to her. Arriving at the platform for the train the guard came and stood in my way. So I picked up the front wheels of my scooter and plonked them on the train. Then I reached around and lifted the back wheels on.

The guard informed me that the train was going nowhere until I got that thing off. So I sat and looked at him. He said he would call the police. So I said 'Fine'.

Two station coppers duly arrived, looked at my little scooter, and said to the guard, 'What's the problem?' And I got up to Leeds to say my sad farewells. Some good friends took me up to deliver her eulogy.

Then my brother, who lived with my mother, started growing a horrible cancer on his neck. So I had to fight my way to Leeds again to say goodbye and then to deliver his eulogy.

The Victorians could do better than this!

So I still have to win my battle with the trains and I have every intention of doing that as I still have some living to do yet. I want the right to travel to exotic places like Huddersfield, Thorne and even Cleethorpes.

In fact, I demand that right. So long as the wheelchair space isn't already legitimately occupied, in which case I would wait for the next train.

*Ian Wallace*

### Foot Note:

May Queen 1944

In our last issue we reproduced a picture of the Greenhill Methodist Church May Queen from 1944 provide by Mrs June Besley. We can now confirm that the May Queen was in fact Brenda Holland.

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Dear Sir,

Many thanks for publishing my email in the Post Box column of your latest (spring) issue. A letter in the same column was about an experience in Twentywell brickyard, which stirred my own memories of this location.

I understand that it started as a stone quarry and commenced manufacture of bricks for lining the railway tunnels at Bradway and Totley. It was owned by Tedbar J Tinker and called The Twentywell Stone and Brick Works. Whether Tinker's Corner at the junction of Bradway Road, Prospect Road and the Holmesfield turn was named after him, I am not sure.

The works closed in 1939 and was abandoned virtually intact, presumably because the Second World War stopped all demand for it's output when almost all building work ceased.

My brother and I and our friends Tony Holmes, Basil Mc Ilroy, Roger Vernon, Barry Wragg, David Easton, Graham Turner and others from the Old Park Road / Avenue and Westwick Crescent used to go to the site to explore the old workings and to catch crested newts frogs and tadpoles in the deep milky coloured waters of the old quarry.

There were no health and safety regulations in those days to protect us from the considerable dangers present on the site. We just had to use commonsense, despite our young age. Neither did our parents worry as many of our outdoor activities involved similar risks and they were used to us coming

home with cuts, bumps and bruises or soaking wet.

The decaying brickworks was still there in 1950 when we moved to Leicestershire, but was demolished not long after that date.

An article in your Bradway People column had a reference to Adlington's Ashlea farm which was on Bradway Road just past the gatehouse at the top of Beauchief Drive. This prompted further memories. Tom Adlington, the son of Thomas and Annie Elizabeth Adlington used to deliver our milk in the 1940's. (His elder brother Harry lost his life in the First World War and his name is on the memorial in St. James churchyard in Norton).

The milk was brought to the door of the house in a small churn and then poured into a half or one pint measure and tipped into a jug provided by my mother. This continued until well after the end of the war when eventually bottles with the circular waxed cardboard tops became more readily available, following the lifting of war restrictions on their manufacture.

It is surprising that such reminders as these can prompt memories of over 70 years ago and these will now be added to my family history records.

*John Smith (Hereford)*

*If you have news or information about local events, or memories you would like to share, then drop us a line or email to the address on page 2. Alternatively give us a call on 0114 236 9025.*

## Adele's a winner

Adele Peat is enjoying the lighter side of life after losing 4 st 13.5 lbs in less than 6 months and being awarded the title 'Greatest Loser'.

In September, the 31-year-old from Totley, Sheffield weighed 18st 5lbs and her size was affecting every aspect of her daily life.

Now after joining her local Slimming World group in Totley, not only is she 4st 13.5lb lighter she's also won the club's Greatest Loser 2012 prize for the member who's lost the most weight in the past 12 months.

Adele says: "I feel like a new woman since losing weight – in fact, people I haven't seen for a while say they don't recognise me – I look so different and much younger! I feel happier and healthier, I've got more energy and I'm more confident in general.

Adele joined her local Slimming World group at Dore and Totley United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, Totley, Sheffield.

Jo Elsey, who runs a group in Greenhill as well as the Totley Slimming World group, says: "The change we've seen in Adele is amazing. She's unrecognisable, inside and out, from the person who walked into the group all those months ago".

"She's an inspiration to the other members and I hope her success will inspire other people in Sheffield who'd like to lose weight and become happier and healthier to take action too."

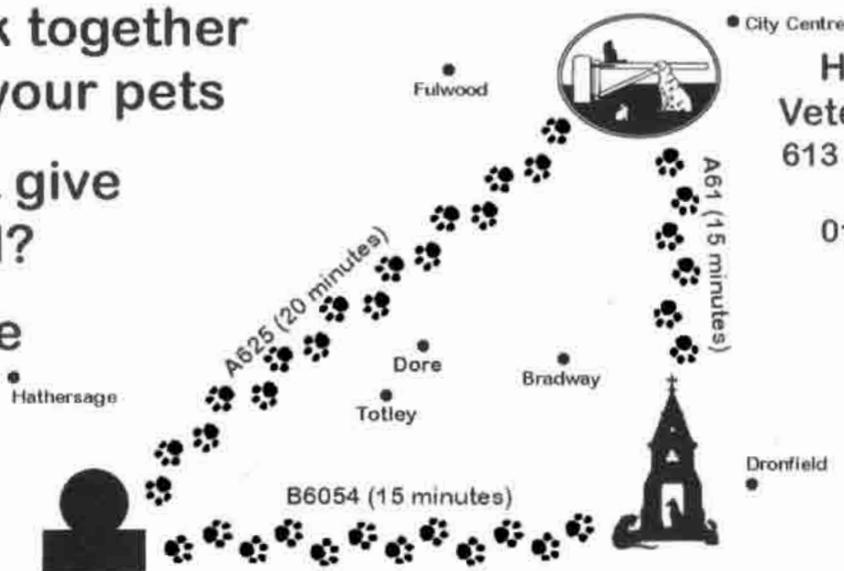
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## Bowling & Snooker Club

The time has come around again, for the opening of the bowling greens. Here's hoping the weather will be kind to us, now that the bowling matches have started. Don't forget that there is a fun night on a Thursday night, where anyone wishing to learn to bowl, can come along and join us. All will be made welcome.

Our winter snooker leagues have now finished. There are now club competitions which all members can join.

Our Wednesday night art class with professional instructors are now in the second year and still going strong. All members and friends are welcome. The art sale and exhibition on the 7th and 8th April was well attended and a great time was had by all.

Now and then we have entertainment nights on Saturdays. Our recent attraction 'Blue Ice' took place on Saturday 5th May. They have performed for the club before and provided a very enjoyable evening.

Anyone interested in hiring a room for parties etc. please contact Jackie our bar manager.

**Bradway Bowling & Snooker Club**

## Shepley Spitfires play

RED Redemption Theatre are to stage a new play by Kay Massey, The Shepley Spitfires, commemorating the exploits and achievements of the Shepley family of Holmesfield during the Second World War which culminated in a local fundraising effort to raise money to buy a new Spitfire. Descendants of the family helped the writer with her researches.

It is to be performed at Affinity on Arundel Gate on May 24-26.

Tickets and information: 255 1367 or email priorymount@blueyonder.co.uk

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## Abbeydale Hamlet

The Hamlet is open throughout the summer until 7th October. General admission is FREE. A small charge applies to adult admission on event days and living history tour dates.

### Family Event Days

- kids go free, Adults £3.

*Sunday 15 July* Traditional Skills - Local craftspeople share their skills, try your hand at lacemaking or woodturning and join the blacksmith at his forge. 'Sheffield Steel: Best in the World!' - join the characters Benjamin Huntsman and Henry Bessemer for a Living History tour

*Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 August* Summer Festival - A feast for summer senses with seasonal produce, animals, willow weaving & crafts, live music and dance! Living History Tours & family activities.

*Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 October* Steam Gathering - This annual favourite returns with a celebration of steam rollers, road locomotives and engines.

### Living History Family Tours

Living History tours will take place on the following dates - see a colourful cast of characters bring the hamlet's industrial past to life.

*Sunday 20 May* - Danger, Death and Disease at Abbeydale! Learn about working conditions, home life, medicine and traditions.

*Sunday 17 June* - The Scythe Grinders Union spells trouble! Join Mr Tyzack and find out what happens when the Grinders' demands are refused, leading to death and destruction.

*Sunday 16 Sept* - Living History Tours Shepherd Wheel Workshop is opens to public during weekends and Bank Holiday Mondays.

## Oxfam in Dore

Oxfam, the international charity, are hosting an evening in the Old School, Savage Lane, Dore on Tuesday 22nd May at 7pm, inviting everyone to come along and find out more about their work.

Oxfam supporter and volunteer, Tracy Woods, will be talking about her first hand experience of Oxfam's work from her recent trip to Cambodia with the charity.

This is a unique opportunity to hear what Oxfam are doing for the world's most vulnerable people, updates on their emergency response work, and what the key focuses are for 2012.

Refreshments will be provided! Please RSVP to Harriett on 07557 291 868 or email to hroberts@oxfam.org.uk

## Jane Eyre exhibition

An exhibition of costumes from the three film and TV adaptations of Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre will be held at Haddon Hall, near Bakewell, from July 28 to September 2.

## Totley Music Festival

This summer will see the fourth annual Totley Music Festival, a week of concerts and musical events with something for almost every taste. The principal organisers, Phil Harris and Sue Hare, are hoping that this year, the Festival will see even more contributions from local young people, as well as regular Festival events such as the Folk Concert and the popular Variety Cabaret evening at the Leonard Cheshire Home.

They are always on the look out for local musical talent - if anyone knows of talented people living locally who might perform, please let them know.

The dates for this year's Festival are 14th to 21st July - check the progress of the preparations at the Festival's website at [www.totleymusicfestival.co.uk](http://www.totleymusicfestival.co.uk) where you can contact the organisers.

## A L'eau, C'est L'heure!\*

(I think!)

Towards the end of March, Mrs Bodger and I had a short trip over to France to visit our son and his family. I always find it difficult to adjust to French time, and am constantly comparing the time there to what it is over here. The "It's a bit early for an aperitif just yet, it's only 5pm in England," kind of thing.

The situation wasn't made any easier by having access to English TV programmes via satellite, a constant reminder of English time (but useful for catching up with the football results!). Now, I have difficulty enough as it is not falling asleep through the evening programmes, but it's a bit worrying when you wake with a start to discover the One Show is still on. Must have been that 5pm aperitif!

But being the end of March, there was a further complication. We were due to move the clocks forward! I was pretty sure, but not absolutely certain, that BST would commence whilst we were away, but what about the French? Did they alter their clocks at the same time, or was it a week or two different? An important question, as it would affect our journey home.

I tried asking some Frenchmen in the car in front of us on the train through the tunnel, but got merely a gallic shrug and a throwaway "sometime in April". But having just witnessed their team being walloped by the Welsh in the Six Nations Championship, they were perhaps not concentrating fully.

Other enquiries at our overnight stop, in supermarkets and at petrol stations proved equally fruitless. They're a pretty laid back lot, the French. Mind you, we'd unfortunately left our French dictionary at home, so perhaps I was asking the wrong question!

The considered opinion amongst the expats was that the clocks in France are altered at the same time as those in England, and that it was indeed the weekend we were away. But no-one

seemed absolutely sure, and that small element of doubt remained. It was a bit unnerving to be driving back through France with the clock on the car dashboard now potentially two hours behind French time.

By the time we arrived at Calais, I'd almost convinced myself that the French clocks had altered at the same time as ours, but after an overnight stop, just to be on the safe side, we set off in good time for our scheduled departure on the

assumption that they hadn't.

Despite twice taking the wrong turn and driving several miles further than necessary, we still arrived early at the terminal, where they confirmed that the clocks had indeed moved forward. However, they kindly booked me on to an earlier departure at no extra cost (it seems they only levy a supplementary charge if you stray into a different tariff band). Even another unintended diversion, this time a couple of circuits of

the terminal car park, didn't prevent us from setting off an hour and a half early. Needless to say, we then promptly lost most of this in hold-ups on the M1!

C'est la vie!

\* A normally reliable friend of mine once told me in all seriousness that this was the motto of a sailing club in North Western France. But he may have been pulling my leg. Try reading it out loud, and you'll see what I mean!

*The Bradway Bodger*

## Whirlow Hall Farm Events

### Things are hotting up this summer at Whirlow Hall Farm

Summer is fast approaching and that means events season at Whirlow Hall Farm. From jazz to comedy, you are bound to find the perfect event for you and your family.

The fun kicks off with the first Beer and Bangers event of 2012 on Saturday 26th May; Dress down and relax in the barn for an evening of side splitting comedy, the city's best Real Ales from Abbeydale Brewery and our course the famous Whirlow Hall Farm bangers on the BBQ. Note the second summer date on 30th June.

Next up 'Barn Dance' in a real barn!

Revel in the sounds of 'Drop of a Hat' Ceilidh band in this unique venue, learn the dance steps and have lots of fun. With a fully licensed bar and a Whirlow pie and pea supper included in the ticket price; you are sure to leave with the memories of a brilliant barn dance experience!

Bistros nights at the Cruck Barn Cafe with Silversmiths restaurant will combine Whirlow's high welfare meat with their award winning chefs (19th August and 21st October 2012). Be sure to look out for the popular 'Music in the Yard' brought to you by local jazz duo Verlan; various Sundays through the summer.

And don't forget Pick Your Own fruit and seasonal veg is back for 2012. Please contact the farm shop for availability.

For further information please contact a member of the Whirlow team on 0114 2352678

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## Greenhill Hall

One of the more attractive historic buildings in our area was Greenhill Hall. It is now approaching 50 years since it was demolished so perhaps a few notes to remind readers about what was lost are appropriate.

It was built in c.1560. To me it is of particular importance because the main two bay original building (the right hand two gables on photo 1) appears to be largely unchanged since it was originally built. So many old buildings of this date were altered in later years. The hall is early, at the beginning of the reign of Elizabeth 1st. By comparison, other fine houses in our area are Beauchief Hall, 1671 and Totley Hall, 1623.

A notable family to own the hall was the Kirkes. A grandson of the first Kirkes, David, became a famous merchant seaman. After many adventures he obtained crown permission to found a colony in Canada. In 1629 he commanded a fleet of 3 ships and captured Quebec from the French, later it was returned until captured again by Wolfe in 1759.

One of the later private owners of the hall was James Smith Andrew. Harold Armitage in Chantrey Land made the following comment "It is a great comfort to know that he appreciates its charms, and is not aching to pull the old place down to build upon its site a commonplace modern mansion".

Alas, he spoke too soon, in 1948 the hall was bought by Sheffield Corporation only for them 16 years later to tear it down, then finally to demean the site by using it as a works department depot. However the area has been developed in the last few years with good quality housing.

An ancillary building has survived, the long block shown on the map, and this has been incorporated within the new housing development. One other remnant from the hall itself has also survived; the ornate plaster ceiling from the notable "oak" room has been re-fixed in Cartledge Hall at Holmesfield.

As a last word, to quote from Craven and Stanley, "in 1948 it was sold to Sheffield Corporation, and in

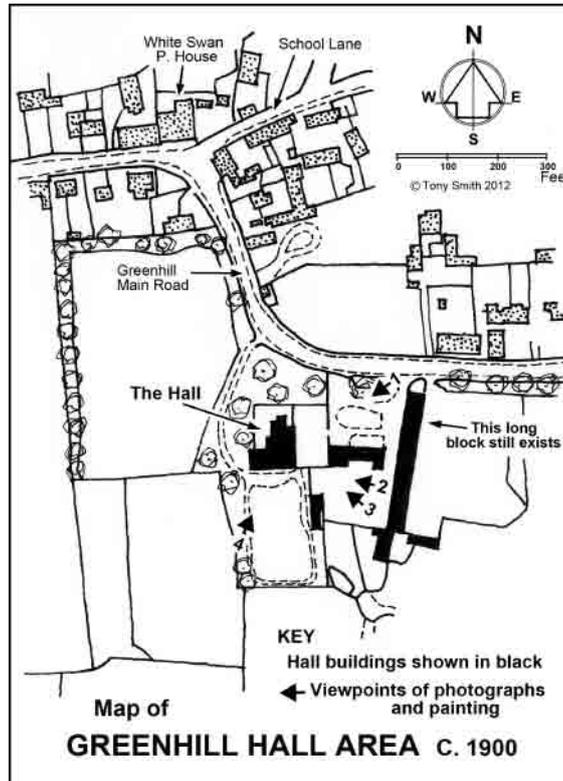


the long run, its fate was sealed. Its loss was incomparably the most serious of this type of house in the county (Derbyshire) and is to be most emphatically deplored".

*Tony Smith*

*Greenhill Hall before it was demolished in the early 1960's.*

*The viewpoints for each photograph are indicated on the central map.*



### Main sources.

1. Chantrey Land by Harold Armitage 1910, reprinted 1981 and 1998. Applebaum.
2. The Buildings of England. Yorks, West Riding by Nikolaus Pevsner. 1959. Not included in the second edition.
3. The Derbyshire Country House, Volume 2 by Maxwell Craven and Michael Stanley.
4. Derbyshire Museum Services.

With many thanks to the following for allowing their photographs and painting to be published.

- A John Sowerby for Photos 1 and 2.
- B. Peter Haddock for item 3, painted by his late uncle, Mr. E. C. Waller. And for Photo 4.

Please see the colour painting of Greenhill Hall (item 3) featured on the back page of this issue.



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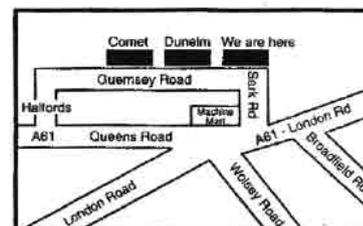
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In the last edition of the Bugle I outlined five priorities that the Committee had identified for BAG. These were: (1) planning issues, and particularly the defence of open space; (2) the Bradway Bugle and communication with the community more generally; (3) engagement with the Ward Forum and with other community groups; (4) fund raising for improvements to the playground and other facilities on the Old School Field; (5) protection and enhancement of the local environment.

On 27 March we had an excellent discussion of these at the Open Meeting. It was clear that those members and residents who were present agreed with our priorities, but that there was also widespread concern about other issues, especially traffic.

The issue that stirred up the strongest feelings was the parking of vehicles on grass verges. This is ironic, because when Peter Stubbs became Chair of BAG five years ago, one of his first initiatives was to get a note printed asking motorists not to park on the verges and footpaths. The idea was that BAG members could have copies of this note and put them under the windscreens of vehicles that were parking on verges and footpaths.

It proved to be the most controversial thing that BAG had done. Several motorists reacted very angrily to the initiative, and there were heated exchanges in the letters column of the Bugle. All of which means that we need to tread carefully. At the time of writing the issue was on the agenda for the next meeting of the BAG Committee, which will have taken place by the time that you read this. It would be difficult to ignore such strong feelings, and certainly

## Bradway Action Group

**Chairman:** *Stephen George*,  
33, St Quentin Drive, Tel 236 4564  
**Secretary:** *Andrew Tabor*,  
83, Rosamond Avenue, Tel 236 0906  
secretary@bradwayactiongroup.org  
**Website:**  
[www.bradwayactiongroup.org](http://www.bradwayactiongroup.org)

parking on verges, with the damage that it causes to the grass, comes under our fifth priority of protecting and enhancing the local environment.

The other traffic issues that were identified were the problem of HGVs using Twentywell Lane and Prospect Road; and the possible introduction of 20 mph speed limits. The Highways Department is currently conducting a City-wide review of HGV routes, and BAG will ensure that the concerns we discussed are fed into that review. BAG will also continue to work on these and other traffic-related issues through the Traffic Focus Group of the Ward Forum (see below).

Returning to our original priorities: there have been some developments since my last article in each of these areas.

**First**, on the Village Green applications: we were informed at the end of February that both of our applications (for the Old School Field and for the Recreation Ground) would be heard in the next batch of four, "after the 29th March". We have subsequently received a letter informing us that the Recreation Ground application has been ruled inadmissible because the land was purchased specifically as a recreational facility, so the public had access by right and we cannot claim that the fact of the public using it for informal recreational purposes means that it is eligible for village green status. We are obviously checking the legal position, but this may be the end of the road for that application. We have yet to hear anything about the application for the Old School Field, where this argument cannot be used because the field was not purchased specifically for public recreational purposes.

**Second**, on the Bugle, my thanks to those who came forward after the last article to offer to deliver copies. Also, we are pleased at the response from local residents with suggestions for and offers of articles. In both cases – deliverers and contributors – we could still do with more. If you think you can help please contact either me on Sheffield 236 4564 (for offers to deliver) or John Baker on Sheffield 236 9025 (for offers of or suggestions for articles of local interest).

Still on the broad priority of communication: the notice board next to the Bradway Pharmacy on Twentywell Lane is available for the display of community notices subject to space being available. The board belongs to the South

West Community Assembly, and their notices take priority; but there is usually plenty of space for others. If you have a notice concerning community affairs, such as a poster advertising a local event, you can arrange for it to be put up by contacting either me (236 4564) or the Deputy Chair of BAG, Fiona Vallely (236 3991).

Our **third** priority was engagement with the Dore and Totley Ward Forum, and I reported in the last edition that there would be a meeting to discuss the future of the Forum on 28 February. At that meeting it was agreed to discontinue the regular meetings, but to continue with the system of Focus Groups on specific issues that have a clear Ward-wide dimension to them. To drive forward the process it was agreed to appoint as co-ordinator Roger Hart from Totley, who has been one of the strongest advocates of co-operation between residents in different parts of the Ward. Roger's own outline of the current position appears elsewhere in this edition of the Bugle.

Turning to our **fourth** priority: fund raising for improvements to the facilities on the Old School Field was never going to prove easy in the current economic climate, but Dorothy Astle and Peter Smithson have made several applications most of which are still pending.

In the meantime, we have had another unfortunate incident of vandalism to the fence around the playground. A male youth was caught in the act of kicking in a section of the wooden fence panel, apparently in an attempt to impress two young females who were present. He ran off quickly enough when confronted by an angry BAG officer and a neighbour who had a mobile phone with a camera facility. The damage was serious: four of the wooden palings had been loosened from their supports and the horizontal top beam had been broken and wrenched from the posts. We are tremendously grateful to Peter Stubbs, who performed a repair so good that the Bradway Bodger could not have done better.

On our **fifth** priority of maintenance and enhancement of the local environment: the Open Meeting produced an offer from a small group of local residents to try to keep the railway triangle clear of litter. Through the good offices of the South West Community Assembly, BAG has managed to obtain some more litter pickers, some plastic rings to hold open the black bags, and some high-visibility jackets. This will allow us to make a permanent loan of litter-collection equipment to those residents good enough to offer to keep the triangle clear.

It was also suggested that improvements need to be carried out to the public footpath that runs up from the stile near the bottom of Twentywell Lane to Poynton Wood. Contact has been made with the SCC Public Rights of Way Officer and with the Woodlands Officer, and a site visit was in the process of being arranged at the time of writing.

On a less positive note, the assurances from the contractors to Network Rail

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**Regular for profits users:**

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**Casual hire by for profits users:**

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**0114 237 7427**

who are clearing the trees on the railway banking next to Twentywell Lane proved not to be worth as much as I thought when I reported on them last time. It is understandable that the workforce was withdrawn from the site when the snow came down in February, but disappointing that two emails from myself to the address given to me by the original site foreman produced no reply. In the emails I asked when work would resume and reminded the company of the importance of not disturbing nesting birds. At the time of writing the contractors had appeared again on site and seemed to be felling trees, then disappeared again. So much for getting the work done quickly, nor does there

seem to be much concern to avoid disturbing the birds during the nesting season.

Finally, the Norton Show may have been cancelled because of the London Olympics, but the annual Bradway Fun Day will go ahead on 17 August, five days after the closing ceremony for that other event. But it does seem as though some of our regular helpers have held back on their annual holiday until after the end of the Olympics, so more are away than usual. Any offers of help will be very gratefully accepted and should be made to myself or to Fiona Vallely (numbers given above).

**Stephen George**

*Chair: Bradway Action Group*

## Walking the Bounds

On Sunday 27th May, Bradway Action Group have once again organised their annual Walking the Bounds of Bradway with local historian Tony Smith.

For those who haven't done this before, it provides a great opportunity to get to know the area better and learn something of its historical development.

This is a free guided walk with easy walking.

Meet at the corner of Twentywell Lane and Bradway Road, near to the Spar at 10am.

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## On The Road Again

A working chap on the street can often find it difficult to penetrate the logic of the intellectual classes. Take for example the arguments of the Esperantists. These people faced with a situation of too many languages in the world decided yet another language, Esperanto, would be the solution to the problem.

Your working chap would probably have said that any language spoken by millions of people already must be a far better candidate as a world language than Esperanto. My personal favourite would have been Latin, but in a world where we already have too many languages, the creation of yet another one seems perverse.

Unfortunately this Esperantic logic is being rolled out by Sheffield council on a weekly basis. One problem that they are addressing is that there are too many cars on too few roads causing delay and congestion. Their solution is to reduce the number of roads available to road users and close access to some roads at the most busy times of the day.

There are several examples of this. One is Glossop Road southbound to Bradway which is closed to cars between 4.30 and 6.30 on weekdays when it would be of most use to people exiting the city centre. However, you can drive freely through this route at quiet times of the day when few people need to.

Many drivers find these part time routes

confusing. Often the essays written on signs confuse drivers because they require more time to interpret than drivers have available.

A good friend of mine who is a very experienced driver was caught out on the maze of routes collectively known as The Wicker. In the old days drivers who were confused with a situation could pull over and sort themselves out or they could find a side road to turn around. These days a camera takes their picture and a brown envelope lands on their mat the following week. This is unfair to drivers and there is no realistic prospect of appeal.

Recently, after an early morning lesson, I dropped my customer off at a gym near Waitrose. As my next pickup was in the city centre I headed via the Waitrose petrol station on my regular route down to London Road. At the last moment I spotted that an unobtrusive black sign had lit up telling me that a route I have used regularly for many years is now a no through route in the morning.

I was now forced to turn around and make an already congested Waitrose roundabout even more congested. At a later date I checked if I had missed a warning sign that would have prevented me getting caught in the rat trap and found that no warning sign exists on the approach route that I had taken.

This brings me to a further point. Not content to confuse us all with irrational road systems and set us up for a "trial by camera", our ruling politicians have sold

all of our personal car details to private organizations who can also make up rules and send you brown envelopes.

Another friend dropped his wife off at Netto to do some shopping and then picked her up later. Netto sent him a parking fine for staying too long in their car park as their rubbish system could not deal with the concept of dropping someone off and picking them up after they had finished. The BBC programme Watchdog advises you to do what they did and ignore such demands.

So why does any of this matter? Well, how many readers have had literature from the political parties over the years asking them about road traffic problems? How many of those politicians actually did something sensible about your comments? How many of you voted for your details to be sold to private organizations or councils for you to be unjustly fined? My personal experience is that our politicians have a poor record in working with even experienced and organised groups. I also believe that selling private motorists personal data to commercial organisations is sinister.

Roads should be designed to keep traffic flowing, public transport should be designed to tempt us out of our cars and our personal data should be for the use of police to catch criminals. At least that's my view, but then I guess I'm so old now that I'm one of the few that can also remember when hand dryers blew warm air and when sick people could get an

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appointment for the doctor.

Do our political masters care about the views of the man in the street five minutes after they've shaken your hand and thanked you for your vote?

Safe driving until next time.

**John Barker DipM DSA ADI**  
*is a local driving instructor.*

**Your questions answered:-**

Q. - My sons driving instructor stopped off during a driving lesson to pick up some car parts from the local dealer. It took around fifteen minutes off my son's lesson. Is this normal?

A. - No. Most instructors would be horrified by this story. Drop the instructor now and make a complaint on the Driving Standards Agency Website. You should receive the lesson time you have paid for in full.

Q. - My son failed his test for moving away too slowly from Darnall traffic lights and his instructor was vague about this. My son say's he was just being careful? Surely this is not a fail situation as my son was not dangerous and did not cause an accident? Should I complain about the examiner?

A. - At the end of the test your son will have been offered an explanation and his instructor invited to listen. I don't know whether your son declined this or not. However, your son will have failed under the general area of either "undue hesitation" or for failing to make "normal progress". The examiner will be aware that sometimes a little hesitation can save

your life but if this becomes excessive drivers following can become frustrated creating a dangerous or confusing situation. The examiners marking criteria is relatively, they ask themselves what they would have done in the situation that your son found himself in.

If your son deviates significantly from what the examiner would do then this would be a fault. If it were bad enough then the fault becomes serious and your son would be failed. I assume this was the case. In this situation you would need to have a water tight case for a complaint to prevail against the examiner, for example if an expert witness such as the instructor was in the car and disagreed with the examiners marking.

Call John on 0114 236 8855 if you have any questions that you would like to ask, or email [john@johnbarkermotoring.com](mailto:john@johnbarkermotoring.com)

**20's Plenty now official**

Following a Cabinet Highways Committee meeting in March, it's now Council strategy to introduce 20mph speed limits in residential areas throughout Sheffield, unless there's strong local opposition. This won't apply to arterial routes, eg. existing A roads, which will remain as present. A full report is on the Council website, and our Ward Forum's Traffic focus group is monitoring progress to see how and when it's likely to affect us.

Things won't change quickly, for the initial 2-year phase will consider a "pilot" in each Community Assembly area. A review of hot-spots will select residential areas on a "worst first" basis, so it's up to local residents to lobby their councillors and the SW Community Assembly, whose next public meeting will be in our Ward on 19-July.

This is in line with government guidelines to all local authorities, which were revised by Dept for Transport in 2008, and recommends lower speed limits. These are now easier to install, for expensive speed bumps, etc are no longer required. But some think progress in Sheffield is too slow, and are lobbying for this to happen sooner, which may need more political will and resources.

In parallel with this, the Council recently announced Amey as the successful bidder for the major PFI contract to refurbish and maintain all Sheffield's roads and verges for the next 25-years, replacing Streetforce. During the first 5 years, all road surfaces and signs are due to be replaced, and it would make sense for this to be co-ordinated with 20mph speed limits. But the terms of this contract were agreed some time ago, and it remains to be seen how much duplication can be avoided.

For those who'd like to know more, these national and local websites are useful — [www.20splentyforuk.org.uk](http://www.20splentyforuk.org.uk) and [www.20splentyfor Sheffield.org.uk](http://www.20splentyfor Sheffield.org.uk)

*Alan Kewley*

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## Totley and the Tunnel

Chat with anyone about local history and the conversation is sure to come round to the Totley Tunnel - the building of which changed Totley forever - and Brian Edwards, the local historian. Now Brian has reprinted his book, this time with a neat spine binding.

Brian tracks us back to a time when Totley, a small village still largely separate from Sheffield, was already rapidly changing. Trains had recently come to the newly built Dore and Totley Station in the 1870s. Land values were rocketing, landowners cashing in with the development of new houses for the well to do on Dore Road - and later around Devonshire Road, Totley Brook Road and Victoria Road. Indeed, the Victorian expansion of Totley can be attributed to the railway - not only new villas for the well to do, but the building of the small terraced houses for workers on Totley Rise (or "Bricky Row") and Lemont Road.

We learn about this huge engineering feat and the organisation responsible - the Midland Railway Company and its backers. A line to Manchester and beyond to Liverpool was to be a hugely profitable enterprise - not so much through passenger travel but because of the money to be made from the transport of coal to the North West.

We learn about the engineering problems that had to be solved in order to get under the 1300 feet high moorland and the methods used - some using up to date technology of the time, but mostly still relying on gunpowder, human brawn and craftsmanship.

We learn about the Totley Brickworks that made the bricks to line the tunnel, some of the navvies living rough up there. And indeed, we learn about the navvies - the people we seem to be most



*A rare photograph of the entrance to Totley Tunnel during construction. Picture from Ted Hancock, who recently gave a talk on the tunnel to Totley History Group. This review first appeared in the Totley Independent in March 2012.*

interested in - those who did the dirty work and sometimes paying with their health and lives.

Here the book does not disappoint with some detailed social history. Living in temporary huts near Moss Road or lodging at The Grouse, Totley Rise, Lemont Road or walking in from further afield, the navvies are surely the real heroes. They had to work in some of the worst conditions seen in railway construction - water from the many watercourses around Totley and Grindleford burst into the tunnel. Indeed at the Padley end some of the navvies even had to get to work by raft. Who cannot be entertained by the contemporary accounts of the challenges to law and order brought by such a massive influx of rough itinerant labourers, even the Village policeman taking a knocking?

Who cannot sympathise with the tiny village school that had to accept so many extra poor children living in terrible circumstances? Contemporary accounts of navvies sleeping in shifts - some turning out to let the next lot into bed so that up to sixty people could be lodging in one small unsanitary house - are astounding.

Who cannot be moved by the accounts of disease - only one out of fourteen houses in Lemont Road unaffected by smallpox? Or by the photo of one of the small gravestones in Dore Churchyard marked perfunctorily "S.P. (ie smallpox) Full Up 1893."

The image that sticks with me is not when the first passenger train travels on the new line to the accompaniment of acrobats and brass bands in Summer 1894, but the moment in October 1892 when the navvies from either end of the tunnel finally meet in the middle - and shake hands.

Copies of the 4th reprint of Totley and the Tunnel are available from Totley Rise Post Office £8.99.

## Big Tree Plant

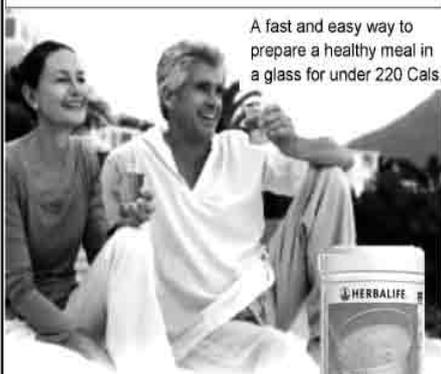
The Big Tree Plant is a campaign to encourage people and communities to plant more trees in England's towns, cities and neighbourhoods. It is a partnership bringing together national tree-planting organisations and local groups working with Defra and the Forestry Commission to plant trees throughout England. To date over 195,000 trees have been planted.

The Rotary Club of Sheffield Vulcan, with the assistance of Sheffield City Council and Handsworth Community Trust, made a successful application to the Big Tree Plant Fund, and a grant of £945 enabled the purchase of over two hundred young trees, which also covers the cost of three years' maintenance. During February, March, and April these trees were planted by Vulcan Rotary Club members in Handsworth Community Park, with a small number also at Fox Lane. The trees are all British native deciduous trees, mainly oaks, hornbeams, ash and rowans, and vary in size and age. Sheffield Vulcan annually also plants thousands of bulbs and tens of trees in Sheffield in schools, parks, waste land, and alongside roads and verges, and in collaboration with Sheffield Parks Department.

Sheffield Vulcan is one of 34,000 member clubs of Rotary International, a volunteer service organisation of 1.2 million members worldwide. The Club meets weekly at Abbeydale Sports Ground in Dore, and undertakes many projects for charities, schools and other worthwhile causes, both locally and Overseas, typically through fund raising, guidance and support, and the provision of manpower from its volunteer membership. For more information, see [www.vulcanrotary.org.uk](http://www.vulcanrotary.org.uk).

**Alan Brown**  
Rotary Club of Sheffield Vulcan

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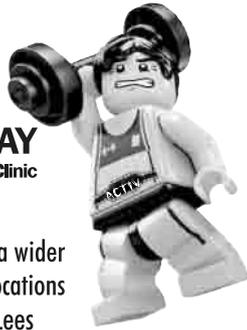
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## Take a break

### *The Lone Star State*

In a state as big as Texas there are unique adventures around every bend, so when we made the decision to visit we knew we'd have to narrow down the options to a manageable size ... and boy it did not disappoint.

First stop Houston and NASA, headquarters of America's manned space program on their Level 9 private tour, taking us to see all the infamous areas of the facility. For any space geek, this is a must and we loved it ... Houston we didn't have a problem, in fact it was one of the highlights of our trip !

Onwards to San Antonio, home to the most famous spot in Texas, The Alamo. This unusual city had more to offer than meets the eye, with a vast array of differing sites to keep the most adventurous amongst us happy. We started at the Paseo Del Rio (River Walk) edged by hotels, art & gift shops, restaurants, boutiques and live music – a real party atmosphere, grab a margarita and watch the world go by ! Further afield the River Walk becomes more peaceful as you venture to the historical sites like the Pearl Brewery or the King William district with its elegant colonial mansions dating back to the late 1800's – or why not try a Trolley Tour with Alamo Trolley ? Be sure to ask for LeRoy, he was an absolute hoot !

With only 3 days in San Antonio, we still had a lot to cram in and hot footed it to Hemisphere park, home to the Tower of the Americas built in 1968 for the HemisFair. Take the glass elevator to the observation deck 750 feet above for breathtaking views of the city, but give the revolving restaurant a miss ... which we wished we had done !

Next we were on a mission, as we explored the churches of Mission



*Mission National Park, Texas*

National Historical Park – these walled, medieval communities were key to survival after the Apache raided from the north and deadly diseases travelled from Mexico in the early 1700's. Now these beautiful ruins are dotted around the area ripe for exploration, not to mention FREE !

With time against us our days in San Antonio were at an end and so much we hadn't done ... SeaWorld, Natural Bridge Wildlife Ranch, Botanical Gardens, Museums, Zoo, Segway Tour or Six Flags theme park to name a few. At least there was one last chance to view the River Walk from the water on the Rio San Antonio Cruises – time to sit back and watch the world drift by ...

Travelling to Fort Worth was an adventure in itself, as we were almost caught in the tornados that ravaged the Dallas area, thankfully all we saw was the most explosive thunder storm. Taking refuge in an Outlet Mall we watched in awe as it passed over, not even thinking of taking advantage of some much needed retail therapy, our eyes were peeled for a twister !

Once in Fort Worth you could not mistake the feeling of the Old West, as with a jingle of spurs and the rhythm of hoofs on the cobbles the longhorn cattle were driven through the Stockyards by cowboys on horseback. The romance and mystique of Cowtown had come to life, well at least for 2 shows a day for the tourists !

Rodeo night proved as much fun too, with bull riding, tie down roping, team roping and barrel racing – we watched eyes wide as the brave cowboys took to the backs of the bulls. Albeit only staying onboard for a few seconds the pain must have gone on for hours if not days for some of the participants ... rather than me !

With Dallas a calling we headed east – next stop the American Airlines Center and a night at the ice-hockey, Sheffield Steelers eat your heart out ! In typical

American fashion this turned into an extravaganza of a night with freebies shot into the crowd, dropped from the rafters or handed out, not to mention the best half-time show of sumo-costumed wrestlers - only in America ! Continuing in theatrical style we headed for Southfork, home to the 80's TV show 'Dallas' before succumbing to a couple of hours of retail therapy, then to our luxurious home-stay for a dip in the pool.

The JFK Sixth Floor Museum started our last day. Based in the actual book depository on Dealey Plaza from where the alleged shots were fired, this informative audio tour chronicles his assassination and legacy. With eye-witness accounts, artefacts, photographs and film & video footage it gives you a chilling account of actual events and most certainly a must see.

From here we headed out on a walking tour of Dallas with some lovely photo opportunities, before heading back to Houston the next day and our flight back home ... why, oh why, oh why are vacations over so quickly ?

## Valuable Landscapes

As much as 55% of England's countryside could be at an increased risk from development under the Government's planning reforms, according to detailed maps produced by CPRE. They are calling for the new planning framework to follow previous legislation and recognise the intrinsic value of the whole rural landscape - not just offering protection to specially designated National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Green Belts, but to the bulk of our 'ordinary', yet priceless, countryside as well. Visit [www.cpre.org.uk](http://www.cpre.org.uk) for the full story, including national and regional maps of England's unprotected countryside.

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## Model Ship Society

Sheffield Ship Model Society was founded 75 years ago in 1937 with the help of the Sheffield Society of Model and Experimental Engineers. They meet every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday mornings at Millhouses Park, Abbeydale Road South, Sheffield, S7 2QQ between around 8am and 1pm

Members range in age from 7 years old to 91 years young, the latter being a former member from the beginning in 1937. Just about every type of boat is sailed in Millhouses Park including Club 500, Yachts, Square-riggers, Tugs, Cargo, Steam and Lifeboats. The only one not allowed is internal combustion engines.

Safety is of paramount importance. All members follow a strict code of safety and members of the public are kept at a safe distance. They also operate a Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults Policy.

New members are always welcome. If you or any of your family think model boating may be for you then come down to Millhouses Park on the days above and have a chat with friendly members. There are always Committee Members on duty at the same time for information on joining.

Millhouses Park has something for everyone. While you are sailing there is a nice Cafe serving drinks, snacks and meals, play areas for the children, skate-board park, tennis, ice cream parlour, public toilets and riverside walks.

### Some history of the Society

Initially members built static display models however, there was soon the desire to see the models sail, most of them semi scale yachts. Ready made sailing waters in Millhouses Park were made available by the City Council, and it became the regular meeting place for model boat enthusiasts, just as it is today.

The war years saw the Society curtail boating activities but by the early 1950's membership increased. A magazine was started and this was sent to those still in the services to keep them in touch with events within their hobby. It is recorded that they were sent as far afield as Italy and New Zealand.

In the following decade (1960-1970), membership gradually increased, as did the variety of scale models being built. In the 1960's, with the introduction of more efficient radio control equipment, using solid state electronics, together with the miniturisation of the internal combustion engine, greater interest was being shown in Model Power Boats.

At the request of the Parks Committee regular sailing exhibitions were held for public entertainment. The Regatta's held in the various parks were geared to provide more competitive sailing, encourage improved workmanship, and attract new members and juniors. The first National Scale Regatta was held in 1979 in Millhouses Park.

The Society then went through a modernisation process. A Guiding Committee, a revised set of Club Rules



*Just one of the many different model boats, Yachts, Square-riggers, Tugs, Cargo, Steam and Lifeboat, to be seen on the boating lake at Millhouses Park. Picture provided by Sheffield Ship Model Society.*

and consolidation into what has become a well founded Society. In 1980 trophies were introduced for Society events especially for Junior members to encourage them to expand their knowledge and building skills.

In 1980, with the assistance of the Sheffield Star they organised 'Starship Enterprise', a competition for Juniors with no previous experience to build a model boat, designed by a Sheffield member, Wally Heslington.

Realism was the name of the game in the 1980's. During 1982 the then Chairman Les Hampshire built a P&O Ferry. He was subsequently asked by the Shipping Line if he could produce small scale working models for their use in publicity, which he did. It was featured in Boat Modeller.

The modelling skills of the Society are being maintained with one of our members regularly contributing designs and articles for 'Model Boats', another reviews new kits for a manufacturer and writes reviews, and one who is achieving the highest awards for exhibits at the Model Engineering Exhibition in

London. One of the longest serving members has written six books on ships (well he has been involved in ships his whole life and his father before him being an engineer) and has completed almost eighty model ships by commission to some of the biggest names in the shipping world. The club still has an Honorary Member who has been a member since the Society was formed.

With an active current membership, many with over 20 years experience, the Society is soundly established. The assistance given by Sheffield City Council Parks Department, for the hire of Millhouses Park Lake and facilities is greatly appreciated.

### Charity walk

The annual Wye Charity Walk organised by Sheffield Vulcan Rotary takes place on Sunday, May 20 in aid of Whirlow Hall Farm Trust in Sheffield and Fairplay in Chesterfield. Entry fee is £6 per person or £15 for a family ticket with a choice of three different walks.

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### Cheshire Home - Mickley Hall

Summer Fayre 30th June 10am to 4pm  
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### Fun Dog Training Workshop

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Totley All saints Church Hall, Totley  
Hall Lane. see [www.iccdogtraining.co.uk](http://www.iccdogtraining.co.uk)  
for further details

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### Dogs Unleashed

Bakewell Showground 23rd & 24th  
June, 10am-5pm. Lots of have a go  
events, flyball, agility, dog show,  
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### National Garden Scheme

Yellow Book Opening at 16, The  
Grove, Totley S17 4AS 1-5pm on  
Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July.  
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### St Peter's Church Greenhill

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May 27th Pentecost Sung Eucharist  
10am

June 9th Diamond Jubilee Summer Fete  
11 am to 3 pm

June 30th Christian Aid coffee morning  
10 am to 12 noon

July 28th - Coffee morn 10am-12noon

For more information about social  
events, telephone Carole Wattam 274  
9661, Margaret Kohler 274 7203 or John  
Child 237 6577. For Church Hall  
bookings ring Michelle Hayes 237 7102.

For pastoral needs, telephone Father  
Harry Steele 327 3103.

New Sunday Services times from 3rd  
June: 8am Eucharist (said) 9.30am Sung  
Eucharist 11am Informal Sunday  
worship. Weekday services: Morning  
Prayer at 8.45am Tuesdays, Thursdays,  
Fridays and Saturdays. Eucharist 10 am  
on Wednesdays.

Other regular activities

Bubbles for Mums and Toddlers, from  
bumps to pre-school, for playtime,  
singing and snacks every Monday and  
Tuesday morning from 10 to 11.30 pm  
(ring 327 3103 for more information.

The Living Room, 6 pm on Tuesdays in  
the Vicarage, an opportunity for  
teenagers to come together and spend  
some time getting to know God, eating  
together and having general good times

Baby café 10 to 11 am on Fridays ring  
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Parish Office (for enquiries about  
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noon on Saturdays 26 May, 30 June and  
28 July.

Alternatively arrangements can be  
made to look round St Peter's at a  
mutually convenient time between 9am  
and 5pm on any day of the week by  
telephoning a key holders: Father Harry  
Steele 327 3103, Mrs Pat Burdett. 237  
4513; Mr David Memmott. 237 4874;  
Mrs Gill Stern. 237 7794.

[www.stpeters-greenhill.co.uk](http://www.stpeters-greenhill.co.uk)

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The Guild meets at 10am on the third  
Tuesday of each month (except August)  
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of a friendly welcome. For further  
information please contact Mrs Iris  
Rodgers, (Chairman) Tel: 236 8659 or  
Dorothy Murray (Secretary) Tel 235  
1848, or come along and join us.

----

### Tuesday Afternoon Group

Meets in the Parish Hall of the Church  
of St Peters, Greenhill at 2pm on the  
second and fourth Tuesday of the month.

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Contact Mrs Sheila Holbrey 235 1670



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Many people underestimate how much income they will need when they retire. If you've been used to having two cars, going on foreign holidays and eating out then it is unlikely that you'll want to give those up simply because you've stopped work. In fact, many people find that their need for income actually increases when they retire. After all, if you're behind a desk all day, the only money you'll spend will probably be on a sandwich at lunchtime. Contrast this with how much you spend on a day off.

As worries about income in retirement increase many people are opting to keep working after their normal retirement date, with 1 in 10 of those over 65 now being classed as 'not fully retired.' This figure is likely to increase in the future, and there are undoubted attractions to 'cutting back a bit' – especially if you enjoy your job. That's fine if your health stays good, but although people are now living longer, they are not necessarily living longer in good health.

Source Websites: [www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk) [www.moneywise.co.uk](http://www.moneywise.co.uk)

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## Well Dressing Diary

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

These are just some of the dates and venues for 2012. You can find out more at [www.welldressing.com](http://www.welldressing.com).

### May

17-23 Tissington

### June

2-6 Wirksworth

2-10 Middleton-by-Youlgrave

2-11 Ashford in the Water

2-11 Monyash

16-24 Cressbrook

23-28 Youlgrave

23-28 Rowsley

23-30 Litton (nr Tideswell)

23-1 Hope

23-1 Tideswell

29-7 Killamarsh

30-6 Old Whittington (Chesterfield)

30-8 Bakewell

30-8 Dore

### July

7-13 Coal Aston

7-14 Whitwell

7-14 Hathersage

8-16 Buxton

9-14 Harthill

12-19 Pilsley (nr Bakewell)

13-20 Dronfield Woodhouse

13-22 Cutthorpe

13-22 Millthorpe

14-21 Little Longstone

14-22 Over Haddon

14-29 Great Longstone

15-22 Bamford

15-22 Burngreave Cemetery

21-30 Stoney Middleton

### August

4-11 Wingerworth

4-12 Bradwell

15-21 Barlow

16-20 Great Hucklow

## Holmesfield Flower Club

Saturday 16th June - Annual Club Day - Coffee Morning and Plant Sale. Also cakes, cards, books and flower arranging materials etc. 10am - 1pm at Holmesfield Church Hall, Holmesfield. Come along for coffee and to find out more about the club and meet the members.

Wednesday 20th June - Demonstration of Flower Arranging by Sasha Gallagher (NAFAS area demonstrator) entitled (Summer Meadows) 7.30 pm at Holmesfield Village Hall (off Woodside Avenue) Holmesfield. Ample parking. Tickets available at the door: £7 (members £3.50) includes refreshments. The arrangements will be raffled.

## Bradway Birds

Recently, on behalf of the Bradway Action Group, I contacted John Gilpin, the council's Woodland Officer, as to the status of Poynton Wood and other woodlands in our corner of Sheffield. Is there a plan? Is our local woodland managed? Are trees regenerating? Are there any worrying threats? Will they be totally abandoned in the cooling climate of cuts?

There is no doubt that some of our forest birds are in trouble, or are struggling to maintain populations, in some regions more than others; in the south and east more than elsewhere. Scottish birds in woods are doing better – devolution?!

John Gilpin rang me and we had a long and mainly reassuring conversation. All the council woodlands are visited regularly and are managed sustainably, with a view to maintaining (and increasing) biodiversity of trees, other plants, invertebrates and birds; not necessarily mammals, of which more later.

John Gilpin himself visits Poynton Wood. He told me he greatly enjoys his work, which is good to hear in itself, and because it is reassuring to hear from someone having oversight of such an excellent local amenity. The trees produce lots of seed, I suppose because of reasonable rainfall, sunshine and temperatures, positioned as we are half-way from Channel coast to northern waters, and in the lee of the southernmost Pennines.

And the seedlings do well, with an excellent ratio of seeds to saplings. It's less a question of helping growth along, more a matter, city-wide, of thinning to allow the sideways spread that gives trees more strength than having a myriad of thin, tall, branchless poles! Oak, silver birch and rowan predominate in Poynton, all excellent for invertebrates and therefore bids; there are some holly and sycamores, and a grove of beeches at the woodland foot towards Totley Rise. You will notice these are more negative, casting a deep shade and shedding leaves that rot slowly. Nothing grows under them.

Sycamores, I am told, are not invading woodland cores, tending to skulk round the outskirts. In any case, they are not necessarily the rogues they are painted as, for they feed and harbour a host of the insects so vital to promote a productive food web. Any in your garden? You'll have noticed the aphid clouds they support!

Lower layers of plant life are reasonable in Poynton and Lady Spring: young trees, holly, hazel, brambles, ferns, grasses, spring bulbs. This complex structure is essential for richness of bird life. Pigeons, crows, the thrushes and tits, robins, nuthatches, tree creepers, will all be fewer if there are only tall trees and nothing else.

Wrens prefer to creep around and nest in thick, lower plant layers; so do willow warblers, chiffchaffs, garden warblers and black caps. Woodpeckers and tawny owls do best where there are plenty of older trees, with rotting wood and nest-holes where branches used to be. Poynton Wood does have the range from saplings through mature standards to old dodderers and fallen carcasses. These last should not be cleared away. Tidy woods are far poorer.

Sheffield woods are (fingers crossed) safe from their biggest threat which is total removal for housing or industrial use. The biggest worry, for the Peak District National Park and our council, lies outside our boundaries: will deer invade? England's deer population is probably as high as it has been since the ice age ended ten to twelve thousand years ago. That includes Norman and Plantagenet times, when large areas of the country were sterilised of human inhabitants so that the robber barons whose descendants still rule us could hunt away their days. Offending peasants trying to use the forest met a range of grisly mutilations or deaths.

Now there is far less hunting, even by the blue-blooded, and no wolf or lynx predation. There are a few fallow deer near Beauchief Hall, red deer towards Fox House. These are less of a worry than the roe deer, which I have seen just beyond Owl Bar, and, even naughtier, the introduced deer which have become naturalised and are thriving.

One such is that cheeky chap the muntjac, from the Far East, now here by the hundred thousand. Only the size of a Labrador dog, it has small tusks. Packs in central Birmingham have them. Pargoes are unaware of this, because they, roe and fallow, are such experts at daytime concealment, but Springwatch's heat seeking cameras found them. It is likely that they arrived along the scrub that grows beside the railway tracks.

Roes have not moved into suburban Sheffield so far, and John Gilpin told me that the nearest muntjac are probably at Welbeck. If we are hit, all the ground layers will be eaten, as well as shrubs up to the deer's reach, including when straining up on back legs alone. A browse-line will appear, as you will see in deer parks such as Chatsworth and

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Wentworth. Tree seedlings will not make it.

The knock-on effect will be drastic: the food and cover for ground living mammals will go. Owls and hawks will have to manage on small birds alone. Small birds will also decline, especially wrens, warblers and great tits that nest and feed around tree bases and stumps, and in thickets.

Our city, free of deer and rabbits, has excellent tree regeneration; but all this could change. John Gilpin told me that the Peak and the city are talking together, realise that they need a strategy that works, but have got so far got one! No area of the country does, as far as I know.

This is where you, the public, can help,

not by going into the woods with deerhounds, guns, welsh long-bows, crossbows or poisoned stakes, but by reporting any sightings. Mind you, your bush craft will have to be pretty good to see one before it senses you. The university's natural history society has a project to monitor the city edge for encroaching deer.

If you have a sighting, or see a sudden grazing of ground and shrub layers, or grooves in the bark where antlers are rubbed, please contact the editor with time and location, and I will pass on the information to John.

A wild section of the North-east highlands might see the reintroduction of wolves; the zone will be heavily fences.

This is unlikely (!) for Bradway, though lynxes would be a lovely thought. Wolves do not attack people, but love venison.

Hunters and rifles would be the alternative, but not before our woods became unrecognisable, and largely silent of bird-song.

Information is the first need, so please be observant and vigilant.

Meanwhile, local walkers will have noticed birdsong as early as February, from blackbirds (fluty), song thrushes (piercing repetitions), greenfinches (wheezing whistles), great tits (teacher teacher), and robins and dunnocks (watery jingles).

*John Kirkman*

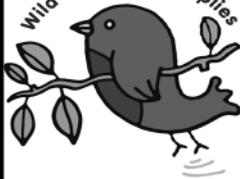
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## Keighley to Bradway (Via Port Stanley)

When young men with a sense of adventure leave home to join the Royal Navy, they probably imagine exotic ports, exotic drink and exotic women. In 1982 eighteen-year-old Peter 'Skinny' Barling, now a Bradway resident, got all these and more – an all-expenses-paid trip to the South Atlantic and intense contact with some hostile Argentinians.

Sadly, Peter isn't a Sheffield native. Born in Erith, Kent, his family moved to Oakworth (as featured in the film 'The Railway' Children), near Keighley, when he was seven. He had an interest in all things maritime and joined the Sea Cadets while still, metaphorically at least, in short trousers. This led to him joining the Senior Service at the age of 16 (he told his mum the form she signed was permission to join a Sea Cadets trip overseas), and a couple of fairly eventful years growing up around some more experienced matelots – of whom more later.

In 1982, I thought that Argentina had put gunboats somewhere off Scotland when I heard that they had captured the Falkland Islands. I wasn't alone, as apparently Adrian Mole's dad had the same reaction. However, in May 1982 Peter's ship, HMS Bristol, got the call to escort the QEII to the Falklands, and then to join existing forces in the area. QEII was serving as a troop ship, carrying 5,000 soldiers and some 650 Cunard crew volunteers to the conflict.

Pausing only in mid-Atlantic at the Ascension Islands to transfer stores for their tour of duty, the ships arrived in the Total Exclusion Zone (TEZ) on 26th May, to take over the position formerly occupied by HMS Sheffield, which had been sunk following an Argentine attack on 4th May.



*These pictures were taken at the wreath laying ceremony for HMS Bristol on 21st April. They represent some of the members of the HMS Bristol crew with Vice Admiral Sir Peter Spencer KCB (third left in the front row).*



*Peter 'Skinny' Barling.*

As a Weapons Engineer, Peter was part of a team maintaining the sophisticated weapons systems on HMS Bristol. The ship came under attack from the Argentinians from both air and sea, and more than once was close to being lost; the order for the crew to 'Brace, brace, brace' against attack was given a total of eight times. Thankfully she and her crew survived and they returned to Portsmouth in September of 1982. Peter left the Navy with the rank of Petty Officer in 1993.

Members of the 1982 4J Port Mess of HMS Bristol have maintained a close bond and keep in regular touch. Over the weekend of 20th to 22nd April this year, some of them held a reunion in Bristol to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Falklands War and to lay a wreath at the War Memorial for comrades lost in other conflicts.

Peter 'Skinny' Barling was joined by his mess-mates Laurence 'Flipper' Byrne, Mark 'Jock' Rennilson', Matt 'Tug' Wilson, Alan 'Chippy' Carpenter (among many others) and their commanding officer at the time of the Falklands conflict, Vice Admiral Sir Peter Spencer KCB. Far from being a

wholly sombre affair, however, it involved a great deal of, er, socializing, and the WAGs went too!

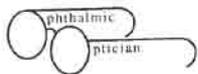
Peter now lives in Bradway, having come to Sheffield to study Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Sheffield Hallam University in 1992 and stayed because he met me...and what better reason to stay than meeting a Sheffield woman?

A note on nicknames: it appears that it is customary for pretty much everyone who serves in HM Forces to be known by a name other than the one they were given at birth. Just don't ask me where they came from.

*Amanda Barling*

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## The Wildlife Garden

A blackbird with an injured leg and only a few white feather shafts for a tail - the result of an all too close-encounter with a cat - stood lopsidedly by my feet. He was 'vacuuming' up the mealworms I had thrown down for him so quickly, anyone would have thought he was a competitor in a 'how-many-mealworms-can-you-eat-in-a-minute' world record attempt.

Mind you, the reason for his haste soon became apparent: my garden's dominant blackbird landed just a few feet away, feathers bristling in fury as the usurper devoured 'his' mealworms. Yet unlike the injured bird who was emboldened by hunger, he did not dare venture closer.

Sensing this, the lame blackbird carried on eating and if anything, it was at an even faster pace than before, when all of a sudden, a wren shot out from beneath a nearby shrub and landed next to the larger bird. With a high-pitched squeak, it grabbed a mealworm right from under the startled blackbird's beak and flew back to the bush in a whirr of tiny wings.

Being so small and elusive, I find it hard to accept that, according to the RSPB, wrens are in fact Britain's most common species of breeding bird, with just over 8 million pairs. Nevertheless, they are most abundant in deciduous woodlands and consequently this is the best place to hear their lovely clear song: a trilling call that rises and falls like a roller-coaster, finishing with a flourish and delivered at the same frantic pace as everything else

the bird does. It is also very loud, surprisingly so for such a small bird, but in reality this makes perfect sense, because the male's song has to reach a female that spends most of her time skulking around in the undergrowth.

The males also do something else unexpected, they build a number of nests in their territory and try to entice a female to accept one of them. When food is plentiful, they may even get two or more females laying their eggs in these nests. As well as open-fronted nest boxes, wrens also use crevices in trees and walls to make their spherical nests, yet while the nest shape makes the chicks notoriously difficult to study, it does little to protect them from predators.

If all goes well, the female lays 5 or 6 whitish coloured eggs which she incubates for approximately 16 days, a similar length of time as the chicks take to fledge. Remarkably, she rears them all by herself and then goes through it again in July, with a second clutch of eggs. To succeed, she needs an abundant supply of small insects and spiders, not only during the breeding season, but all year round.

Harsh winters are especially difficult for wrens and many can die from starvation or succumb to the cold. To help overcome this, during severe weather wrens will sometimes gather together, cramming themselves into an empty nest box to keep warm. The highest number ever recorded was 63 wrens in one nest box, but this is likely to have been surpassed during the last

record-breaking winter.

Usually, the only time I catch sight of wren in my garden is when one flits between shrubs; a brown blur as it moves amongst the climbers or plant containers, feverishly searching in every nook and cranny for insects, more akin to a cartoon creation than anything alive.

However, one cheeky character has recently started sitting on my kitchen door-handle and peers in through the window whenever she wants feeding. When live food is in short supply, wrens may take crumbs of cheese from the ground, nonetheless prefer suet and of course, mealworms especially if they can be snatched right from under a blackbird's bill.

*Maggie Pie*

## Dore Garden Club

Did you know that there is a garden club in Dore? Set up nearly 4 years ago they meet monthly and have a varied programme of talks, slide shows, demonstrations, plant sales, coach trips and visits.

The annual subscription is £12 per person or £2 per person as a visitor.

They meet on the 3rd Wednesday or Thursday (alternately) of the month at the Methodist Church Hall, at 7.30pm.

New members are welcome - so if you are interested just come along or contact Janet Herridge Tel: 236 0915 email:janet.herridge@btinternet.com

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## Getting into the swing

### Beauchief Golf Club

*We conclude our look into the formation of our local golf clubs with a visit to Beauchief, which is different in that it is a municipal golf course, open to the public.*

This means that anyone with access to a set of golf clubs and appropriate clothing and footwear can book a tee time and play without being a member. That said, there is a thriving golf club based there comprising around 700 members, including over 100 ladies and a strong junior section. The club organise over 350 competitions and matches per year and will make golfers of any ability welcome for a comparatively small annual membership fee.

Beauchief is one of those courses in Sheffield where people traditionally have given golf a try, learned to play and then perhaps moved on to private clubs. There are though many long time members including over a dozen who have all racked up over 30 years membership!

The golf course at Beauchief had been created in 1897 by the previous tenants Abbeydale Golf Club, largely as it was ideally situated at the time right next to a railway station and the Abbeydale Hotel. Abbeydale had commissioned Scottish golf professional Sandy Herd to design the course at Beauchief, first as a nine hole course going as far as Beauchief Drive. A further nine holes were added on the other side of the Abbey in 1912, this time under the guidance of the eminent golf course architect, Herbert Fowler.

### A new course

When Abbeydale Golf Club moved the short distance to their current home, also on the Beauchief Estate in 1924 it was the Sheffield Corporation who took over the course, buying the clubhouse and other course buildings from Abbeydale and leasing the land from the new land



*The first wooden golf clubhouse at Beauchief created by what was then Abbeydale Golf Club in 1897. Victorian ladies are enjoying tea on the terrace, with the Abbey Lane bridge over the railway in the background. The site lies in the grounds of what today is the Beauchief Hotel*

owner and property developer, Frank Crawshaw.

Beauchief Golf Club was established in 1925 and it seems clear that the course was acquired and the Club founded on the principle that it was a facility provided for the benefit of the city. Efforts are still made to ensure that both the course and the Club are open to all.

By 1931 the Council had bought the land from Mr Crawshaw, a deal that included the Abbey grounds, ruins and graveyard along with the adjacent cottages as a 'gift to the Citizens of Sheffield' on condition that Church of England services should continue in the Abbey and that it should not be used for any other purpose.

The golf course itself has some very interesting historical features that add to the ambience of the environment. There are three ponds on the course today that date all the way back to the days of the Premonstratensian priests. They were referred to in documentation dating from 1912 as being the 'Monks Ponds' and were stocked with fish up to quite recent times. Despite signs saying that this is no longer the case, fishing enthusiasts will still take their life in their hands by angling in the largest pond right in the path of the 11th hole.

### A fishy story

I have my own story to tell about fish in the waterways of Beauchief. During one round of golf a number of years ago I was amazed to find half a dozen goldfish swimming around in the stream that runs in front of the seventh hole, swollen following a thunderstorm the previous night which must have filled up a garden pond to over brimming on nearby Bocking Lane.

Other signs from the working past include clearly visible remnants of ancient ploughing furrows running across the fairways around the Abbey. The land adjacent to the Abbey has been the subject of a couple of archaeological digs

over the years and one in particular located a cobbled courtyard just behind the 3rd green.

Back in 1912 the course was just short of 6000 yards in length and boasted two 520 yard holes that had a par score of six. The course has been developing all through its history and would certainly have had to have been redesigned around the 1920's and 30's as Mr Crawshaw had used slices of the golf course to build houses along Abbey Lane and Bocking Lane. Further evidence of the property developer's activity may be related to Crawshaw Avenue and Crawshaw Grove which are to be found through the trees of Parkbank Wood, bordering the present 10th hole.

1933 and 1934 saw further significant remodelling of the course as a patch of new land was bought alongside Beauchief Drive, now known as the Triangle (perhaps Beauchief's own 'Amen Corner'?) which enabled three new holes to be accommodated and allowed others to be extended.

### The Second World War

The Second World War left marks in several ways on the golf course and the lives of its members, particularly from the three bombs falling on the course! Members requested in 1940 that relief be given for golf shots striking, or impeded by National Defence Posts on the course. The Defence Posts were often gun emplacements sited on or near the perimeter of open spaces from which an arc of fire could be brought to bear on planes attempting to land. The City Council was asked to remove them in September 1944.

Parts of the course were used for growing food as the Dig for Victory campaign and the car park was used to celebrate VE day with a huge bonfire attended by hundreds of local residents. At the start of war, it was decided that members called up for conscription to the armed forces were to be invited to



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become Honorary Members during their year of conscription (this 'year' turned out to be much longer for many!). When at home on leave their green fees would be paid by the Club, a practice that continued until July 1945. The Club was also asked to provide golfing facilities to our American Allies whilst they were on leave. The War had a particular impact on one member, Mr D J Page who was elected as Captain for 1942 but within a few weeks was called up to serve in the Navy and was missing for most of his year in office.

### A new clubhouse

The very first golf clubhouse at Beauchief was a wooden shack on the Abbeydale Road side of the railway lines, in the grounds of the present day Beauchief Hotel. At the time, county boundaries meant that the clubhouse was in Yorkshire whilst the course was in Derbyshire. The first request for provision of a permanent Beauchief clubhouse was made to the Parks Committee early in 1934. They reacted remarkably speedily and the Pavilion was officially opened by the Lord Mayor on 11th April 1935.

Over the years, there was regular contact between the Club and Town Hall officials over issues that arose. Mostly these concerned the need for better maintenance of the course and the clubhouse. In general, the Council reacted favourably and speedily when approached. One issue that took some time to reach a conclusion was a plea to allow golf on Sundays. The first request was lodged in 1931 and this was repeated every year until permission was finally granted in 1940.

### A new management

Since 1996, whilst still owned by Sheffield City Council along with Sheffield's other municipal courses, Beauchief has been managed by Sheffield International Venues. This attracted some extra investment and the attention given has resulted in good course maintenance with some greatly needed drainage improvements and much improved clubhouse facilities.

My thanks go to the current Club President, John Milsom who has been searching through the club archives and has passed over some gems for this article.

Beauchief witnessed some of my own early experiences of 'hacking' around a golf course and retains a solid place in my affections. It is a good, testing short course, where you'll rarely find the ball at same level as your feet. There are some beautiful views, try the sight of the Derbyshire Peaks while waiting at the second tee or gazing at the Abbey ruins from anywhere on the course on a sunny day and it might lower your blood pressure after the 'disaster' in the sand bunker at the previous hole!

*Glynn Burgin*

It seems appropriate while writing to say a little bit about Beauchief Abbey and its origins:



*Beauchief Abbey as featured on an old postcard and photographed before encirclement by the golf course. It is interesting to compare this with the front page picture in our last issue, where the background hill in this shot is now covered in housing. The ivy on the tower is long gone with trees now growing to its right.*

### Beauchief Abbey and its origins

A group of Premonstratensian priests from a religious order founded by St Norbert from Prémontré in the Aisne département of France settled at Beauchief and began building the Abbey in around 1183. Over time the Abbey was granted huge swathes of land so that by 1300 church possessions included parts of Ecclesall, Topley, Greenhill, Dore, Fulwood, Eckington, Staveley, Dronfield and Chesterfield.

The Abbey would have been a hub of religious and commercial life in the area and between 12 and 15 priests who wore distinctive white robes and were known as 'canons' as they were 'ordained' priests, lived and worked in the Abbey. They controlled local industries as diverse as agriculture, mining and brewing and exploiting the natural waterways by overseeing water mills.

Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries led to the demise of the

Abbey. The building itself was vandalised by the King's men with items of any value removed, windows were smashed and the lead was stripped from the roof. As the building fell into ruin the King sold the land at Beauchief to Sir Nicholas Strelley for £223 and in 1648 this came through the marriage of Gertrude Strelley and Edward Pegge into the possession of the Strelley-Pegge-Burnell family. They would keep it for the best part of the next three centuries.

The Abbey church building was restored in the 1660's and a chapel was constructed that extended from the remains of the medieval Abbey tower. This chapel and tower remain as the church building today. The rest of the building however was by then in a very poor state and much of the stone was taken a short distance up the hill and used for the building of Beauchief Hall. This was completed in 1671 and replaced the Monastic lodge that had previously served as the family home.

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## Ward Forum

I was interested to hear, recently, from two sources, that the Ward Forum, had died. Both sources had been present at the public meeting, on 28th. February, along with about 25 other people, when I was elected as the coordinator, of the Ward Forum, in order to keep it going! It is not dead!

It was agreed, however, that there would not be regular meetings, as in the past, but meetings would be arranged to discuss the findings of "Focus Groups".

An example is the Traffic Focus Group which was set up to discuss traffic problems affecting areas within the Ward, e.g. at Dore, Totley & Bradway. Representatives from each of Bradway, Dore, Totley & Whirlow areas were present at the first meeting, and have subsequently kept in contact via email. I am the coordinator of the group, and it has been kept as informal as possible.

Dore told us that they were already investigating their parking problem, with a survey, and subsequent public meeting. The local councillors had already decided to carry out a survey, so we backed off that issue, but Alan Kewley, from Bradway, alerted the group to a proposal for 20 MPH restrictions on suburban roads. We involved the local councillors, who initially were not enthusiastic, the South West Community Assembly, and members attended meetings to gather information.

The outcome, was that the councillors

became enthusiastic, and the South West Community Assembly called a public meeting, on 26 January. The Ward Forum has been an experiment, but I hope to take it further than that. I aim to get it established, as a useful medium for residents, businesses and service organisations, to raise for discussion, issues or complaints, which affect the wider area than that already covered by a community/residents group. Or an issue which an existing group do not wish to pursue or do not have the time or skills to pursue.

Existing groups will be invited to be involved, on a Focus Group and I do not see the Ward Forum as taking anything over from anybody, unless the existing group wish it to do so. Interested residents will also be invited to play their part, either as affected persons or having skills, knowledge or an interest in the area under discussion. My role is to act on an issue or complaint, which has been raised, or has come to my attention, to coordinate the setting up of a Focus Group.

I do not wish to be directly involved in each Focus Group. I shall, however, hope to be "kept in the loop" by email, by the group, and when necessary, arrange a public meeting to inform the wider audience, including councillors, officers and The South West Community Assembly Manager, of the outcome of the Group's findings, together with recommendations.

The Ward Forum, those people in

attendance at the public meeting, will decide on the outcome of the deliberations, and any actions which they deem is needed.

I shall chair Ward Forum meetings, but I will be very grateful if anyone would offer their services as minute secretary. It is not an onerous task, as it is unlikely that there will be more than three meetings a year, unless that person wishes to participate in the Focus Groups, as a minute secretary.

**Roger Hart,**  
07831 305881

## Driving in France

From July 1st this year, all drivers on French roads must carry disposable breathalyser kits to check they're not over the limit to drive. Those without kits can be fined 17 euros. There's been a mad rush to buy these in the UK and prices are also higher than in France at present.

Before getting onto the ferry, check you have all the other requirements too:

Headlight deflectors; GB sticker if your numberplate doesn't already have a GB on it; First Aid kit; Yellow reflecting jacket for at least the driver (and wear it if you break down); Spare bulb kit, for the car you're driving and a Warning triangle.

Dog passport, road map, new Motorway Walks in France book and water also a good idea.

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## HGV Routes

Sheffield Council plans a network of recommended HGV routes within the city, and has asked its Highways division to consult all concerned, including adjacent councils, and submit a report to Cabinet within the next month or two. Distinction would be made between HGVs visiting sites within the city, eg. supermarkets, and through traffic, eg. from Derbyshire quarries to the motorway network.

Local residents' views are obviously important, but few are aware of this. Information has been circulated to some, with a request for comments by 25 May, and our Ward Forum's Traffic focus group now has a copy. But we found this

difficult to understand, and requested a public meeting to answer questions.

This was raised initially at the SW Community Assembly on 29-March following a story in The Star, but none of our councillors could answer. So SWCA called a special public meeting on 15 May to enable us to discuss these proposals before the deadline.

One of the documents circulated is a list of hot-spots reported over the past 6 years, which would be used as evidence in this report. So it's up to us to ensure any local hot-spots are included on this list. In the meantime, if anyone wants to know more, please contact our Ward Forum who'll try to monitor this on our behalf.

*Alan Kewley*

## Lowedges Festival

This year the Lowedges Festival, Sheffield's biggest independent festival, takes place on Sunday, August 12, from noon to 5pm.

Planned attractions include a medieval re-enactment by Escafield Medieval Society, dog show & dog agility, classic cars & motorcycles, birds of prey and live music, with several bands and the B-Box Choir. More information on the web.

Stephen Rich, chairman of the Greenhill and Bradway TARA, said: "It will be bigger than ever." The last event attracted more than 10,000 visitors.

The festival will be hosting around 140 stalls. To book a stall call Stephen on 0114 237 4492.

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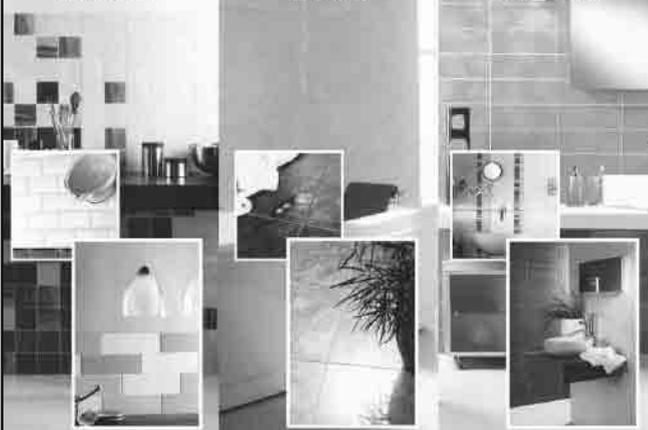
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## Cactus / Succulent Society

The objectives of the British Cactus & Succulent Society (BCSS) are to promote the study, conservation, propagation and cultivation of cacti and other succulent plants. Membership includes the whole range from novice windowsill growers to experts.

The Sheffield branch of the BCSS has been in existence since 1946 and is one of over 90 branches in the UK. They have an active programme of local events supplemented by regional and national events across the country.

Meetings are held at the Scouts Headquarters on Trippet Lane, Sheffield. S1 4EL (Car parking at rear of the building) on the second Friday of each month, at 7:30pm.

Sheffield branch meetings are free to attend to all comers. Usually each meeting heralds the arrival of one of the societies many expert speakers and consists of a talk with a short recess midway for refreshments. Members are encouraged to bring along plants of interest and plants in flower for the table show / further discussion. Members and speakers are also invited to bring along sales plants which are sold on a 50:50 commission basis in aid of branch funds.

Forthcoming events include the 57th Annual branch show and plant sale, at Sheffield Botanical Gardens, on May 26th / 27th.

Guest of honour is Brian Fearn, owner of the biggest and oldest cactus nursery in the country, Abbey Brook at Matlock. He founded this while completing a botany degree at the University of Sheffield, having grown and researched succulent plants since he was a kid in short trousers. He has supplied plants to countries all round the world and has established a reputation as an expert on hybrid cacti as far afield as Japan.



## 'The Garden Code'

There is a very simple formula with plants that could revolutionise your garden. A formula that if you apply it and then perhaps experiment with it a little you can create stunning, interesting borders that may even be award winning. The formula '1+2+3=balance'.

For our code 1 = a Thriller (or feature plant), 2 = 3 x filling plants and 3 = 5 x spillers - smoothing covering plants. To see the best results picking 3 and 5 of the same plant makes the biggest impact.

The breakdown:

Code number 1: 'Thriller' or 'feature plants' sound expensive but don't need to be. All we are talking about are plants that form the back bone of a border that stand above the surrounding plants and draw your eye to focal points around the garden. Upright plants make the perfect features, especially in small gardens. Examples such as upright Pines, Ceanothus, Philadelphus (look for the shorter newer varieties), taller Japanese Maples, Twisted Hazel, and Fatsias or Bamboo (for a tropical look) would be good plants to choose. They will normally be woody perennials so that you have some interest all year round.

Code number 2: 'Filling plants' don't sound very inspiring but it describes how they fill the gap between the two other 'layers'. Filling plants should be great plants in their own right. They can be woody perennials or herbaceous perennials\*. Good examples of woody perennials are Fuchsias, smaller Hydrangeas, Smaller Rhododendrons, Roses, Potentilla, Blueberry (yes the ones you eat) or Cistus. Herbaceous perennials that should be considered include, Echinacea, Achillea, Alstromeria, Anemone, Coreopsis, Crocosmia, Verbascum and many more.

Code number 3: 'Spillers' or tumbling plants. Using 'Spillers' has the aim of covering your soil or allowing plants to tumble over low walls. This layer is the front of your border. You can use rockery

plants such as Aubretia and Phlox, bedding plants and low shrubs such as Dwarf Rhododendrons, Rock Roses, small leaves Hebes and Thyme. Low growing herbaceous perennial's include Bergenia, Heuchera, Alchemilla, Campanula (short), coreopsis and Hardy Geraniums.

Why combinations of 1, 3, 5? Odd numbers of plants always look good. Even numbers of plants always look awkward in an informal border. Advance practitioners might try mixing in a run of 7 plants to link two groups together. If you have a formal garden style you can use even numbers.

This principle can be repeated along a border, changing the combinations as you go. I haven't mentioned colour themes or combinations, nor sun, shade, and soil type. Check any plants you are thinking of buying with your garden first. That is to say, it's important to note or remember which are your sunny borders and at what time of day they are sunny. Note shady parts and very wet spots. Then you can make sure your select plants that thrive.

Neil Grant

Ferndale Garden Centre

\* Woody perennials are plants with woody stems that live from year to year in your garden. Herbaceous perennials are plants that 'die' down to their roots every winter but grow again every spring and summer.

## Open Gardens

A variety of gardens will be open to the public in Dore on Sunday 1st July from 2-6pm and in Totley on the weekend of the 14th & 15th July.

Programmes can be bought at individual gardens on the day or for Totley outside the Ironing Parlour on Baslow Road.

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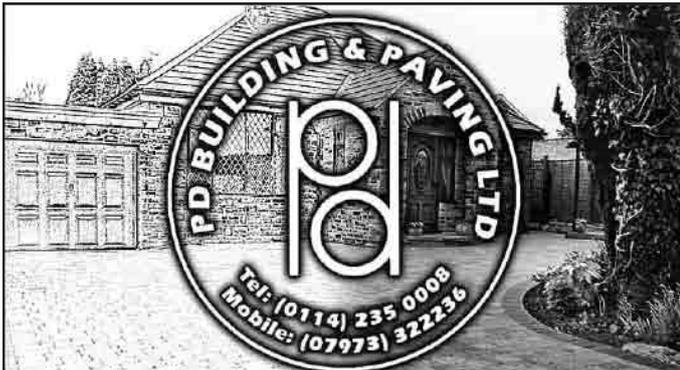
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## Book Shelf

Most local readers will be aware of the basic Eyam plague story and the sacrifices made by its residents to stop the spread of the disease. But how many will have looked at the story in more detail. A new book *Eyam: Plague Village* by David Paul, provides a chance to follow the story from transportation of the plague from London on a consignment of cloth, through the creation of a 'cordon sanitaire', to the individual stories of the victims.

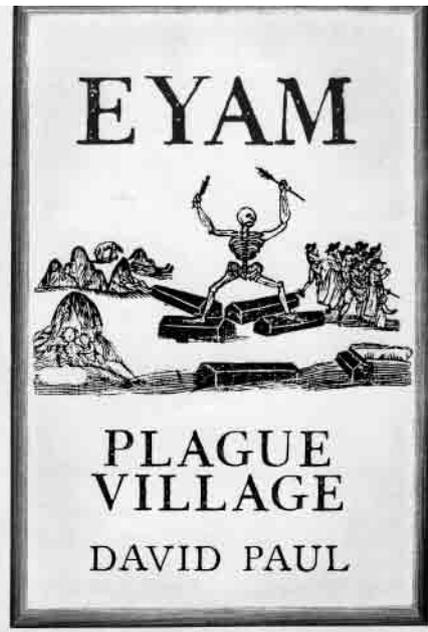
Based closely on the known facts, the book sets out to describe the events from the perspectives of the rector, his wife Catherine, and a fictional character Beth Hounsfeild, bringing this astonishing story to life in an immediate and emotive way. The book includes wills, letters and other official documents as well as death and burial records of the people that perished in Eyam. There are also colour photographs of the present day plague houses as well as images of the respected tombs of the dead. Written with visitors to the area in mind, but full of useful detail, published by Amberley Publishing in paperback, 160 pages price £14.99 ISBN: 978-1-4456-0396-4

\*\*\*\*

We are lucky to live so close to some of the best mid-level walking country in England and it is always refreshing to find new books helping us to explore this. *River Manifold Walks* by George Shufflebotham & Phil Rushton is yet another handy sized guide, this time featuring a 23 mile Manifold Trail linear walk (in 3 stages), and 12 circular walks from 2 1/2 to 9 miles long. Together they take the walker on a journey along the length of the River Manifold, from its source in the high and remote moorland at Flash to the popular wooded valleys of Ilam and Dovedale where the Manifold becomes a tributary of the River Dove. Full of maps, essential details and B&W pictures the book is published by Sigma Leisure in paperback, 128 pages, price £8.99 ISBN: 9781850589129

\*\*\*\*

Almost inevitably when you start tracing your family tree, you will come across relatives swept up in the events of the Second World War. More records



than ever are available to researchers whose relatives served during this war, but how to find and interpret them. *Tracing Your Second World War Ancestors* by Phil Tomaselli is the perfect guide for family historians in this quest. It explains how to locate and understand these sources, covering the three armed services, the merchant navy, the Home Guard, POWs, women's wartime organizations and some lesser-known ones. Also included are a glossary of service acronyms, information on useful websites, an introduction to the National Archives and details of other useful sources. Published by Pen & Sword in paperback, 176 pages, price £12.99 ISBN: 9781848842885

\*\*\*\*

There must be few keen gardeners who don't have a greenhouse, but it is not always so easy to make the most of this valuable resource. *The Greenhouse Gardener* by Anne Swithinbank, trained at Kew and for many years Glasshouse Supervisor at the RHS Garden at Wisley, comprehensively describes the techniques that will allow you to greatly expand the growing capabilities of your garden. In spring, you can start young plants from seed; raise tender perennials to fill gaps in the garden; give vegetable

a head start; sow early lettuce while the soil is too sticky to work outdoors. During spring and summer, you can raise greenhouse crops like tomatoes, cucumbers, aubergines and chillis. You'll be able to overwinter tender plants such as bananas and cannas. And the greenhouse can be a showcase full of beautiful, unusual and exotic plants. Whether you are just starting out, or need expert advice, this is a book to add to your book shelves. Published by Frances Lincoln Ltd, in Paperback, 192 pages with 350 colour photographs, price £16.99 ISBN: 9780711233362

\*\*\*\*

The Peak District is noted for its folk tales, many related to historic features such as stone circles, others to historic events or mysterious sightings. *Folk tales of the Peak District* by Mark Henderson pulls together sixty-two of these tales, including both wonder tales (fairy tales) and local legends, together with a few genuinely historical stories that have caught the popular imagination.

Some of the tales are tragic, some are comic; some are very short, some are longer; many (even the historical ones) have ghost-story elements, which readily attach themselves to real-life stories. What they all have in common is that they reflect aspects of Peak District life, character, scenery and history. Notes explain the sources and significance of each tale and sketch maps and photographs indicate the locations in which the tales are set, so interested readers can visit the scenes. Or in the case of the Nine Ladies stone circle, if they dare. Published by Amberley Books in paperback, 160 pages price £14.99 ISBN: 978-1-4456-0107-6

\*\*\*\*

As you would expect from its title, *Crime and Punishment in Derbyshire* over the centuries by Peter Naylor contains chapters dedicated to a different subjects from highwaymen to crimes of passion, from revolution to murder. It includes a separate detailed explanation of the many

severe punishments compared with today - 'Hanged for a sheep' is an old but true saying. Published by Sigma Press in paperback, 122 pages, price £8.99 ISBN: 978-1-85058-866-5

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**OPEN DAY!**  
**Saturday 26 May 2012**  
**From 10am to 4pm**

# Discover the secret...

There is a venue in the city where you can have a bite to eat in relaxed surroundings. Unlike others this one has stood the test of time, but is not resting on its laurels.

The newly named cafe' at WORK Ltd in Bents Green, which has been established for a long time, is part of a business that offers more than just refreshments and a friendly atmosphere.

Visitors should have no trouble referring to the place now as...

## 'The Hidden gem'

and the staff are adding some Saturday opening times for the summer in a specific period, just as they do in the lead-up to Christmas.

**Hidden Gem** is part of the registered charity WORK Ltd which creates opportunities for people with learning disabilities.

Considerable improvements include the conversion of a large greenhouse into a workshop and there is a new outside garden cafe' area. Further attention to the gift shop, cafe and garden product sales section make this a tranquil and pleasant place to spend an hour or so...

- **Hidden Gem** serves drinks, snacks, home-made soups and sandwiches etc in fresh and bright surroundings
- Choose a gift from our new, inspirational and vintages range, including jewellery, cards, modern stained glassware, plus jams and chutneys
- A range of unique arts and crafts made by our own students
- Spring and summer bedding and celebration roses, plus garden furniture and accessories Spacious car parking and open sports field
- **OPENING HOURS** Mon - Fri 9am to 3.30pm  
**SUMMER SATURDAY OPENING**  
 16 June until 28 July from 10am to 3pm



**The Hidden Gem and WORK Ltd can be found at Folkwood Grove, just off Ringinglow Road, Bents Green, Sheffield, S11 7TB, opposite where the Fire Station used to be.**

**Telephone: 0114 262 0094**

**Website: [www.workltd.org.uk](http://www.workltd.org.uk)**

Registered Charity No 1050876



## Recipe Corner

*A quick and easy recipe for the family, which can be made also with Hake, Pollock or undyed Smoked Haddock (omit salt if using smoked haddock).*

Ask your fishmonger to prepare your fish, removing the skin and bones.

**Roast Cod** with Cider Braised Leeks, Peas & Pancetta.

### Ingredients:

To serve 4, you will need:

4 thick fillets/loins 120g to 140g each.

50 g of diced pancetta

1 whole leek cut into medium sized rings

150g fresh or frozen peas

A dash of olive oil

25 gm of butter

150 ml of medium dry cider

3 tbs of crème fraiche

1/2tbsp of finely chopped parsley

Sea salt and ground black pepper

### Method:

Preheat oven to gas mark 6 /200 degrees

Fry the pancetta gently with olive oil in a roasting tray until golden brown. Discard oil.

Add butter to tray. Add leeks and peas, - sweat for 1 minute, then add the cider.

Place fish on top, season, and cover with foil.

Cook on middle shelf for 10 minutes. Remove from oven. Add crème fraiche in small dots around the fish.

Stir carefully to dilute the cream.

Return to oven for a further 10 minutes.

When cooked sprinkle with parsley and stir carefully into the sauce.

Serve straight from the roasting tray with steamed / boiled new potatoes tossed in butter and chives, or sweet potato mash flavoured with a hint of roasted garlic and a toasted baguette to dip into the sauce.

Bon Appetit !

*Serge le Chef de Bradway*

## British Summer Time

So now it is British Summer Time and we have all observed the bi-annual ritual of changing our clocks and watches. But why did we start playing with time ?

It's all down to William Willet, a builder born in 1856. He enjoyed early morning horse rides in Kent and whilst partaking, he often considered what a waste of time it was that people were still asleep in their beds. In 1907, he published a pamphlet called 'The Waste of Daylight' which outlined plans to get people up earlier by changing the clocks. The government refused to allow it and Willet died a frustrated man in 1915.

Fighting the First World War sharpened the government's focus and in 1916, just one year after Willet's death, they re-considered his plans in an effort to save coal. They quickly passed the Summer Time Act 1916 and the first day of British Summer Time (BST) took place on 21st May 1916.

Now transformed into a hero for his jolly good idea, William Willet's

## Idle thoughts

*from a wandering mind*

I planted some bird seed. A bird came up. Now I don't know what to feed it.

I had amnesia once - or twice.

All I ask is a chance to prove that money can't make me happy.

They told me I was gullible and I believed them.

Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.



*Greenhill Hall before it was demolished in the early 1960's. Copywrite Peter Haddock. Painted by his late uncle, Mr. E. C.Waller. See page 10 article.*

favourite wood, Petts Wood in Kent, was purchased and preserved in his name and there is a memorial in the form of a sundial to him there.

From 1968 - 1971, Britain experimented with keeping the clocks permanently at BST. At the end of the experiment, their findings showed clear benefits, but also definite disadvantages and so they decided to return to the twice yearly clock change.

And that's roughly where we still are today. Occasionally, someone resurrects the idea of keeping BST, only to find it quashed by those who would be disadvantaged by the change. No doubt, it will rumble on for a long time to come.



*Enjoy a tasty coffee at WORK Ltd*

Teach a child to be polite and courteous in the home and, when they grow up they'll never be able to merge their car into traffic on the motorway.

One thing about egoists: they don't talk about other people.

My weight is perfect for my height - which varies.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.

If swimming is good for your figure, how do you explain whales?

## Give & Gain Day

Give & Gain Day is the UK's only national day of employee volunteering, which encourages thousands of volunteers across the globe to spend a working day volunteering for good causes in their local community. Launched by 'Business in the Community', Give & Gain Day, is taking place on Friday 18 May. This year's beneficiary in South Yorkshire will be W.O.R.K Ltd, on Ringinglow Road, a charity working to create opportunities for people with learning disabilities to develop life skills which, helps to build confidence, self-esteem and encourages each individual to strive to reach their potential.

Businesses in the region have a strong history of supporting volunteering in the local community. Last year 42 companies in the region, sent out 544 volunteers on Give & Gain Day - helping 16 community organisations and meaning 3682 individual beneficiaries were supported.

Glynis Philliskirk, & Diane Wilson Centre Manager's, W.O.R.K Ltd said: "Connecting employers with our service users will be a very positive experience for our clients. Having the opportunity to work with businesses will allow us to showcase and raise awareness of our project".