

EDGE

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSLETTER

www.netheredge.org.uk

April 2018

Company Limited by Guarantee No. 07414080

Individual views expressed are not necessarily those of the Group

Registered Charity No. 1139239



Snow Challenges Nether Edge Market 10th Anniversary Event

Report on Page16

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The Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group was set up in 1973 with the following aims:

To improve the conditions of life especially of those living or working in the areas of Brincliffe, Nether Edge and Sharrow in Sheffield, without distinction of sex or race, or of political, religious or other opinions, by associating with local authorities, voluntary organisations and residents in a common effort to advance our education, to improve the environment and to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation and leisure time activities.

This edition of EDGE was edited by Howard Trott with Pat Rogers. If you have something to say, or have a comment to make about anything in this magazine, please contact David Pierce by the 12 April deadline.

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NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP - APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To join or renew membership of the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group please complete the slip below and return it, with your cheque or standing order form, to:

Victoria Imeson, 81 Nether Edge Road, S7 1RW Tel: 07930417455 nengtreasurer@gmail.com

I wish to JOIN the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group & receive the magazine EDGE by EMAIL*/HAND DELIVERED* (*Delete as appropriate)

Name _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Tel. _____ Email _____

Your contact details will only be used in connection with your NENG membership.

Annual Subscriptions **due from 1st APRIL** are **£8 per person or organisation (£5 unwaged / concessions)**.

I enclose a completed Standing Order form (downloadable from www.netheredge.co.uk) or a cheque to the value of £_____ made out to "NENG".

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

As a local resident/ supporter of NENG, I also wish to become a full member of NENG, a company limited by guarantee, which entitles me to have full voting rights at the AGM, receive regular copies of EDGE and fully participate in its activities. In the unlikely event that the Company be wound up, I promise to pay the sum of £1 towards its debts if asked to do so, and understand this liability will continue for 1 year after I cease to be a member of the company.

PLEASE NOTE: Should you prefer not to become a full member of NENG you have the option of becoming a subscriber only by deleting the section in italics above. This entitles you to receive copies of EDGE but no entitlement to vote. The annual subscription remains at £8 per person. (£5 unwaged/concessions).



Thildy Lowe: An Educational Pioneer and Local Innovator looks back (and forward).

This year we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Nether Edge markets. In this issue we profile one of the people who had a vision for the markets and was very influential in setting them up.

Mathilde Voser was born in Zurich and met her future husband Tony Lowe while she was working and studying English in London and he was a mature student at the London School of Economics. When Tony eventually gained a professorship in accountancy at the University of Sheffield, they settled in Nether Edge with their six children who all went to High Storrs Comprehensive School.

They found that there was very limited choice in Sheffield with regard to children's nurseries, and none following the Montessori approach to the development of young people.

Having qualifications in Early Years and having worked in several nurseries, Thildy, with a colleague, decided to set up a Montessori nursery, based in her home, which had a very large garden and plenty of space. They started with just three children but this quickly grew to thirty. The nursery became very popular and attracted children from all over Sheffield and further afield and continued for over thirty years. She was totally committed to the Montessori philosophy and believed it was important to allow young children to "develop at their own pace, to explore life and to be creative and to find their own way." On trips to Bhutan and Nepal, Thildy was pleased to find there was real consistency internationally with the Montessori teaching and learning methods.

The nursery took the children (well supervised) on all sorts of adventures, including visits to Derbyshire to see the well dressing, field trips to York and visits to local places of interest including the Crucible Theatre.

The changes in funding did have an impact on the nursery when children were entitled to fifteen free hours paid by the authority. Thildy had always paid staff more than the minimum wage and the funding did present a significant challenge when balancing the business plan.

She said that it was fantastic to see young children blossom and develop, shy children gain confidence, challenging behaviour being channelled into something positive and children learning to look after and care for each other. The team had the freedom to decide what activities would be appropriate for each day, meaning they could respond to the weather conditions and the opportunities it provided. Thildy does miss the nursery but children and parents come back to visit and play in the garden which still has some of the toys and climbing frames from that time.

Thildy was instrumental in getting several community initiatives off the ground. She was very disappointed when the bonfire in Endcliffe Park was cancelled and she got together with like-minded individuals and organised the highly successful Chelsea Park bonfire night, now run by NENG with St Oswald's Scouts. She was also inspired by the 'Market Place' plaque above the Oxfam shop to establish, with the help of others, the regular farmers' markets in Nether Edge. These are non-profit making and have raised thousands of pounds for local charities. Thildy was a Brown Owl for thirty years and enjoyed taking the brownies on pack holidays to the countryside.

Her family are very international in outlook and she has children living in Ireland, Holland, Poland, England and Germany and some of her grandchildren speak Dutch, German and Polish; She is very critical and upset about the situation with Brexit. She enjoys doing craft work and would like to renew her pottery skills. She also sings in two choirs.

Thildy would say that Nether Edge is very 'neighbourly' and the residents seem to look out for each other. She feels that people need to be ready to embrace change and that we need to look after all sections of the community, whatever their colour, race, creed, needs or heritage.

Interview by Kevin Hickey and Pat Rogers





Bannerdale Osteopaths



"I pass Bannerdale Osteopaths each day on my way to work, so when I stated with pain in my shoulder and arm, I thought I would give them a try. I had a number of sessions with Steven who was thorough in his diagnosis of the problem. He gave me exercises to do in between sessions to speed my recovery and advice on correcting my posture. I wouldn't hesitate in recommending them."

Deborah, Sheffield

See how we can help you

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The Tuesday Café

A café for those living with
memory loss or dementia
and their carers.

**St Andrew's Psalter Lane
Church, S11 8YL**

(Corner of Psalter Lane and Cherry Tree Road
Parking on site. Access to the church by steps or ramp)

**Tuesdays 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon
from 13th March 2018**

**Hot drinks, cakes, biscuits,
music, memories, singing,
stories, and more..**

For further information please contact the Church Office
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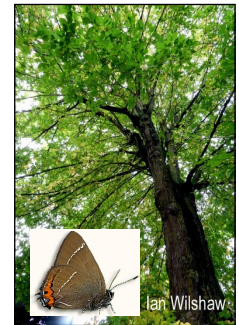
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Paul Selby: An Update on the Chelsea Road Elm

I have been leading the campaign to save the Chelsea Road elm tree from unnecessary felling by Sheffield Council. The tree is a very rare resistant survivor of Dutch Elm Disease (DED) and host to a colony of the rare White Letter Hairstreak butterfly.

Following months of silence, the Council announced they would be pruning the tree on 12th February. There was no community engagement and a refusal to answer questions. Last September the Council told me that the pruning would be severe and then felled a year later. The delay would allow the butterfly colony to be moved to other suitable elm trees. We had never objected to the pruning of the tree. There was a decayed branch that needed removing and the lack of maintenance meant that the canopy required pruning. We did object to severe pruning all in one go, as this would have wiped out the butterfly colony, and opened up the tree to DED infection. So, when the Amey crew arrived to prune the tree, 20 people were already there, to prevent it. The campaign was completely fed up at the Council's lack of engagement about what is now a nationally famous tree, one recognised by experts as a heritage natural asset.



It was clear that the Council and Amey were not expecting us, nor the criticism they received in the national media and I was contacted by Amey who proposed a solution that was 90% of what I had been requesting. They proposed a light pruning and removal of the dangerous branch, but all at once, not over the three years I had proposed. This was the best offer given the circumstances. Amey said they were unwilling to delay the safety work and would come back every day with private security to use "reasonable force" to remove campaigners blocking the pruning. This would be done without any attempt to transfer the butterfly colony.

The compromise offer seemed genuine. Whilst I have many examples where Sheffield Council has breached residents' trust and lied to them, that was less so the case with Amey. So despite my extreme caution, I did trust the offer and next day, despite my remaining concerns, I took the offer to lead campaigners across the city and locally. What followed was five days of text messages and phone calls, with many of the same questions repeated, simply because of the complete lack of trust in the Council and Amey. I was able to answer all the questions as I have lived and breathed everything to do with this special tree for two years. I convinced perhaps 95% of campaigners to support the pruning.

But it was still a nerve-wracking experience on Friday 23rd February. Could I really trust Amey not to take the opportunity to fell or more severely prune the tree? In the end, the Amey crew did a superb job. They took great care, were extremely polite to the campaigners who observed the pruning, and even reduced the pruning in some sections to allow some of the butterfly habitat and colony to remain.

Resurfacing of the road junction around the tree will now occur. This may require the pruning of the root in the road, but experts believe the tree should survive this. The tree will then be monitored to ensure it remains stable and healthy. Felling has been suspended if not cancelled. The official line from the Council is still that the tree will ultimately be felled, but with no specific date. The question is whether this felling will be in 100 years' time or in 12 months' time and whether they are willing to continue to talk openly and transparently.

There are some big lessons to learn from the events:

- 1) The Council have no experts left either in terms of the tree or the butterfly. As a result they genuinely don't think the tree is special
- 2) The Council still believe they are engaging with the community sufficiently. They aren't. In hindsight, I spent nearly two weeks acting as the Council's unofficial engagement officer for the pruning work, persuading the local community of the plan when they should have been doing it themselves;
- 3) Whilst the PFI contract and its perverse incentives drive Amey to carry out unnecessary felling and do all sorts of things I am aghast at, there is a willingness from them to compromise, which the Council have generally not been willing to do. That said, the Council were party to the agreement that was made. They are the official decision maker and ultimately approved of the agreement. So perhaps they are less uncompromising than they want to project publicly?
- 4) With (huge) effort and compromise, the various parties can work together to achieve a good outcome and rebuild trust.

I'd like to think this might have been the beginning of something. But three days after the pruning, 30 Police, and 30 "yellow jackets" (private security, evidence gatherers, felling crews and barrier crews) turned up on Thornsett Road to try to enforce the unnecessary felling of 25% of that road's healthy street trees. And so ensued three days of extreme tension as legal peaceful direct action was met with force and that usually quiet street was host to what amounted to a series of tense and at times violent battles. Compromise is clearly possible when there is the will. But the Council in particular seem generally set against it in most circumstances. So I fear the Council's actions will lead to more pitched battles on all the 26 roads in our area that contain the remaining threatened 162 trees.

Join our big, family-friendly bike ride to say

Sheffield needs safe Space for Cycling!

on Saturday the 28th of April

Meet at Devonshire Green from 10.30am, ready to start at 11am

The ride will take around an hour

There will be marshals with the riders and at key junctions.
Sign up to the event on Facebook if you can, and invite your friends

See you on the day and have a great ride!



Do you have memories of Abbeydale Picture House?

Katharine Butchers, a Master's student at Sheffield University, is on work placement at the Abbeydale Picture House. To help with the preservation of the building's heritage, she is looking for people to interview about their experiences of visiting the cinema whilst it was open. If you can help, please email klbutchers1@sheffield.ac.uk

Saturday April 21st.at 6.00pm

Fun family concert by the Sterndale Singers conducted by Robert Webb

**Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo by Flanders and Horovitz
and St. George and the Dragon by Robert Webb**

at St. Andrew's Church Psalter Lane S11 8YL

Enjoy these stories set to lighthearted music with some audience participation and great soloists.
Prizes if you come in costume as one of the main characters - St. George, The King, The Princess,
The Dragon, Noah or an animal.

For the adults, fabulous settings of some Shakespeare songs by Matthew Harris

Grown-ups £10 (£8 in advance) Under 16s free. Students £6 (£5 in advance)
Tickets from www.sterndalesingers.org.uk

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

Company limited by guarantee no. 741080, charity no. 1139239

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on Thursday 26th April 2018

**at Nether Edge Bowling Club
Nether Edge Road at 7pm**

A G E N D A

7 pm Arrivals & Welcome

7.30 pm Business including

Minutes of the last meeting

Chairman's Report

Treasurer's Report

Group Reports

***Election of officers and committee members**

9 pm Finish and informal gathering at the bar

***Nominations for officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) should be sent to Ruth Bernard, NENG Secretary at nengsec@gmail.com. All nominations must include the names of a proposer and seconder and be accompanied by the nominee's declaration of their willingness to serve.**

Please do come to our AGM. It will be a relaxed and friendly affair, subject to the minimum of formality. We want to hear your opinions and sufficient attendance is essential to give NENG the authority to continue our work.

Chairman's Report

It has been another successful year for NENG with much to celebrate and yet I feel it may be remembered as the Year of the Barbarians. As our year drew to its close the Council/Amey tree-felling army finally arrived in force in Nether Edge intent upon destroying our beautiful, healthy trees. There has been a series of incredible events in our normally quiet suburb as the army of 65 'yellow-jackets' (30 police, 20 security men, 15 Amey personnel) were met by local residents determinedly protesting. Shockingly and disturbingly many 'arrests' were made, protestors were roughly handled and severe damage was done to police/community relations. But now, as I write, the media is awash with the news that the Council has tried to withhold information about how many of our 36,000 highway trees were under threat and that as a result of patient pressure from tree campaigners, the Information Commissioner has forced them to disclose that the figure is 17,500. This exposure is significant and welcome news following the alarming events in recent weeks and is the result of years of hard work by the campaign to save the trees.

NENG has supported the trees campaign since its start and in spite of some criticism has been confident that it reflects the view of the majority in Nether Edge. EDGE has featured news of the developments and continues its practice in our April edition with a description of the negotiated and peaceful resolution to the Chelsea Elm dispute. And EDGE has also of course featured a wide variety of articles about Nether Edge life including fell-running, local wildlife and allotments, our local theatres and our Brownies group,

Continued on Page 8



local women and their achievements and much more. It has featured the very worthy work of our sub-groups; the History group and its excellent new book, *Aspects of nether Edge*, the Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood and our Festival and Market. We were delighted this year to have a wider range of editors to ensure that EDGE itself is a changing and assorted publication. Congratulations are due to them all and others who have helped to create such an interesting place to live. A special word of praise must be directed to those who ensure the continuing success of the Farmers' Market. At the March market they celebrated their tenth birthday. It's so hard to believe that it's been going on for so long and has made such an impact on our community and on their way has raised over £70,000 for local charities.

Time passes and at our AGM in April there will be some changes in our committee. We hope that there will be volunteers to fill the posts that become vacant. Since its inception many people have worked hard to pursue NENG's mission 'to improve the conditions of life' in Nether Edge. It would be a major step backwards if in the coming year the Council succeeds in destroying so much of our much-loved environment.

David Pierce

Nether Edge History Group

The History Group has had a very satisfying and successful year with established events continuing to prosper and new initiatives underway.

The Open Meeting, which forms the key vehicle for member interaction, continued to meet every 2 months at The Union Hotel. Each meeting saw around 20 people attending in an informal atmosphere which allowed attendees to share their research interests, make appeals for information and catch up on Group initiatives. The circulation list for the Group continues to expand and stands at well over 50 people.

Established events were again offered successfully through the year including a third series of Festival talks, a second Traditional Sheffield Carols sing in The Union and several popular walks around the area.

The restructuring of the Admin team at the start of the year seems to have worked well with a number of projects moving forward in a more structured way. Thanks to Roy Pilkington our fledgling archives have now been listed and many moved into the dedicated space the Group has taken up in The Nether Edge Bowling Club. Liz Jolley has continued to gather memories of Nether Edge from older residents and copies of those submitted in 2018 are now available for the cost of copying. The walks brochures are in the process of being reprinted and hopefully will sell as quickly as the original printing. Progress has also been made on rationalising our publications, sales and stock policies. Pril Rishbeth and Elizabeth Birks have completed their exercise in photographing every street in Nether Edge, a snapshot in time which will grow in relevance as years go by. At the moment the Group is working out how best to make this accessible to members and other residents of Nether Edge.

In December the book of articles on Nether Edge history, 'Aspects of Nether Edge', went on sale after months of hard work by contributors and helpers. The aim was to pay back NENG for underwriting the cost of publication within 2 years. In the event the loan was paid back within 3 months, testament to the very positive reaction the book has had, not only from locals but also from dispassionate academics.

The Group is looking forward to building on all this with an even more successful year. Proposed projects include : the publication of a book of shorter articles along the lines of 'They Lived in Sharrow and Nether Edge', establishing relations with other Local History Groups, the enhancement of the History Group page on the NENG website, organisation and expansion of the archives, and the possibility of historical notice boards around the area.

Anyone interested in getting involved in these projects, using the Group to help in their personal researches, or offering other ideas would be welcome. Membership is free and our approach open and welcoming, whatever your level of experience. Please come along and help us make 2018 /2019 an even better year than the one just past.

John Austin

The Farmers' Market

The Farmers' Market has had another very successful year, raising a total of £9695 through our 4 quarterly markets.

This income is raised through the fee of £30 that we raise from each stall and we have an average of 70 stalls at each market. The maximum number of paying stalls we can accommodate at each market is approximately 75 + 6 spaces that are occupied by NENG and our charitable beneficiaries for which no charge is made.

Our recent March market was somewhat snow-bound, but thanks to tremendous volunteer effort, the streets were cleared and we managed to accommodate 32 stalls and an impressive crowd of customers. With any luck there will be an article about it in the Sheffield Telegraph.

We are always over-subscribed by applicants, so we prioritise on the basis of stalls that meet our criteria of locally grown / locally made ethical produce and owner-run stalls. Sadly this means that we have to turn away quite a few applicants, but we always try to ensure an interesting mix of products for sale and a proportion of new applicants, whilst retaining our most popular regular stalls.

Howard Fry

Nether Edge Festival

Past History

Nether Edge festival started three years ago after the success of the farmers' markets. A small but dedicated group of organisers were ably led by Maggie Little who worked very hard to make the event successful.

Last year's festival

This was the biggest and arguably the best festival to date. The weather was very kind to the organisers and the outside events were particularly popular. The organisers made sure that all the residents of Nether Edge had, by the beginning of September, a brochure delivered to their doors. The programme had over 70 individual events spread over 10 days.

Common Ground

A new event on the calendar starting on the first morning of the festival was very successful and saw over 100 people attending.

Changes in Management

The 2018 festival is now in the planning stages and thanks have to go to Maggie Little who is standing down as Chair. She is remaining on the planning group where her knowledge continues to be incredibly useful. The planning group are a great team and have mostly stayed together for another year. The new Co-chairs Mark Doel and Richard Taylor are working to producing an equally good festival for September 2018. The dates are set, starting on Saturday 15th through to Sunday 23rd.

Raffle and finances

The raffle depends upon the generosity of our local businesses and we must thank them. The festival continues to make a small profit each year thanks to grants and the raffle. Long may it continue.

Successes

Building on the successes of the past, key events have been put into the programme. These include the Farmers' Market, Party in the Park and the Art and Craft Fair. Thanks to all the residents of Nether Edge who volunteer their services during the week. We are always dependant on their generous help in stewarding and directing people to various events. Thanks must also go to the local shops that sell tickets for all the events. Steve at the sadly missed News shop and Vicky at Wickwire have proved invaluable.

Venues

Nether Edge is blessed with some fabulous venues for the festival to take place. The Merlin and Lantern theatres continue to support. St Andrew's Community Hall [Saturday Ceilidh] have allowed us to use their facility for free. Nether Edge Bowling Club continues to attract large crowds and is a great community asset. St. Andrew's Psalter Lane Church and the King's Centre open their doors for many events.

The closure of Baldwin's Omega has put more pressure on the Kenwood Hall Hotel to stage more events. They have stepped up and the festival dinner will be held there on the Thursday of the festival week.

The local pubs, The Stag, The Union and the Broadfield support us in every way and what would we do without the restaurants and our many coffee bars?

Plans for 2018 are well under way and let's hope the next festival continues to attract many visitors.

Richard Taylor

Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood

We are just coming up to five years since the current 'Friends' group was formed and the work continues with good support from our Volunteers. A grid map of the Wood has been devised and this, together with new spreadsheets, allows us to monitor the management activity following each work session.

We also have a much closer grip on the annual calendar with each quarter being planned well in advance.

With advice from SCC Parks and Woodland, and comments from Wood users, we aim to improve access for those with reduced mobility, always conscious that a light touch is needed. The assistance of SCC Rangers remains of increasing value in our work.

We now have a Facebook page with a growing audience and we hope, through this medium, that we will be able to widen our appeal throughout the diverse Nether Edge community and bring in younger supporters. We believe in the importance of attracting families, particularly those with young children who would benefit from outdoor activities and gain a better understanding of nature as it can be experienced in Brincliffe Edge Wood. Discussion is ongoing regarding some kind of family woodland trail and the possibility of making the old track ways more defined. Again, we would aim at making these changes in as subtle a way as possible so that we retain the character of the woodland.

As our work becomes more widely known through contact with other 'Friends' groups and through our Facebook page we are looking at the possibility of "twinning" with another group either within the UK or abroad. The group regrets the malicious theft of plants just introduced and has reported this to the police. Volunteers' time, not to mention money given for plants by NENG, has been wasted but we have learned from this and moved on.

Ken Phillip

Treasurer's Report

NENG are pleased to say we have had another successful year, making a small surplus of £959. With the overall accumulated reserves being £18,468. Membership and Subscriptions remain constant, with about 900 subscribers to the Edge Magazine and 330 Members.

The Festival had another hugely successful year, with funding again being received from the Ward Pot Funding Scheme this means we can provide added value for the events without worrying about making any surplus.

We continue to fund the planters at the cross roads, the Christmas decorations in the centre, support Friends of Brincliffe Edge woods so they can carry on their hard works in the woods and Chelsea Park improvements, all for the enjoyment of local residents and visitors alike.

The Farmers Market is continuing to grow in popularity with stall holder applications coming from all over the greater Yorkshire area and beyond and attendance from members of the public from all over Sheffield and surrounding areas. We are extremely proud to say that unlike most Farmers Markets which are run for profit we donate all surpluses to local Charities.

Summary Account YE 31st October 2017

Income

NENG Income	8,104.00
Farmers Market	9,695.00
Festival Activities	5,117.00
Ward Pot Funding	700.00
History Group	426.00

Total Income	24,042.00
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Expenditure

Edge Magazine	6,169.00
Market Costs	1,556.00
Festival Costs	3,884.00
Ward Pot Expenditure	700.00
Insurance	322.00
Printing Postage & Stationery	290.00
Room & Storage Hire	575.00
Accountancy Costs	792.00
Other Costs	574.00
Bad Debts	(80.00)

Total Expenditure	14,782.00
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Surplus Before Donations	9,260.00
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Donations	8,301.00
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Net Surplus	959.00
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Nether Edge Open Gardens

The annual Nether Edge Open Gardens event took place on 11th June last year. As usual, many Nether Edgers and their families and friends took the opportunity to visit the gardens and to exchange hints and tips on all manner of garden questions. Some gardeners also provided teas and plants for sale - all in aid of their favourite charities. In total, donations amounted to over £2000.

The Gardens

Natalie Glass, Psalter Lane
 Richard Knowles, Montgomery Rd.
 Peter Machan, Kingfield Rd
 Brian and Helen Palmer, Wostenholm Rd.
 David and Gina Pierce, Montgomery Rd.
 Marion Rout and Mick Beck, Kingfield Rd.
 Barbara and John Shuker, Union Rd

The Charities

RSPCA Sheffield
 St Luke's Hospice (2)
 Village Aid
 St Wilfrid's Drop-in Centre (2)
 Medecins sans Frontieres

Marion Rout

Donations this year from funds raised at the Farmers Markets, Festival and from our General Surplus included: Friends of Sheffield Children's Hospital, Homeless & Rootless at Christmas, Sheffield Young Carer, Sheffield Cemetery Trust, Prior Bank Nursing Home, Sheffield Family Holiday Fund, No Panic, South Yorkshire Eating Disorder Association, Twelve Trees, Sheffield Carers Centre, Sheffield Parent Carers Forum, Kingfield Holt Residential Care Home, Rethink Mental Illness

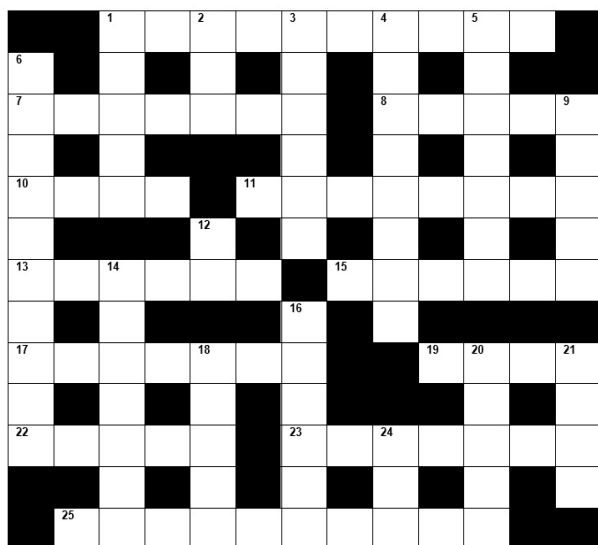
This has amounted to over £8,300 which equates to over 35% of our income.

A copy of the full draft accounts as prepared by VAS, Voluntary Action Sheffield, can be found on the website at www.netheredge.org.uk.

Victoria Imeson



Celebrating Sprat's 100th Crossword!



Across

1. Cheese (10)
7. Nonsensical (7)
8. Wanderer (5)
10. Four inches (4)
11. Yorkshire terrier? (8)
13. Cheerful (6)
15. Principles (6)
17. Depiction of a scene (7)
19. "Let it stand" (4)
22. Background artist (5)
23. Native British mammal (3,4)

Down

1. Mound of stones (5)
2. Nest (3)
3. It makes jam set (6)
4. Allusion (8)
5. Erotic Brazilian dance (7)
6. Dark outline (10)
9. Squirrels' nests (5)
12. Sun God (2)
14. South African dish, similar to Cottage pie (7)
16. Hard silica-based rock (6)
18. Large antelope (5)
20. Lock of hair (5)
21. Historical neck ornament (4)
24. Self-esteem (3)

Sprat says: "My One Hundredth Crossword!
Do I get a telegram from the Queen or something?"

You deserve one, Sprat. Watch the post. Congratulations on your remarkable achievement! Ed.

Chris Venables traces the fascinating history of the EDGE crossword:

The crosswords first appeared in March 1999 and were compiled by NENG Committee Member John West, calling himself 'Salmon' and 'Tuna' after the canned fish products. Those by 'Salmon' are Cryptic crosswords and somewhat more difficult than the Quick ones of 'Tuna'.

In 2001 John introduced a new character. 'Alfie' appeared on the scene with an alphabetical crossword for Christmas and a similar one for Christmas 2004. Also, "solely for online members", four "Special" Alfies were added between 2002 and 2005. Alfie also devised two different Specials - "for those of you with a seriously twisted turn of mind". Though sadly John died in 2005, his unpublished crosswords continued to appear in EDGE until February 2007. Describing himself as "very much in John West's shadow", a new compiler started the 'Sprat' crossword series in April 2007. His identity remains a closely guarded local secret.

Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood (Report on Page 9)



FoBEW Volunteers installing a new bench at the Oak Hill Road entrance and planting snowdrops and primula

Speeding and Parking Problems

NENG has received a letter from a resident of Ashland Road, expressing concern that many motorists are exceeding the 20 mph speed limit and often fail to give way to other vehicles. The problem seems to be particularly bad during the rush hour. This resident is also concerned that cars belonging to non-residents are left parked for days and sometimes weeks at a time, making it difficult for people to access their driveways. She asks if anything can be done.

This would seem to be a matter best reported to the police by dialling 101 (see page 13).



"Weerz me tree?"

Seen on Kenwood Road: a lone bereft squirrel brings a lighter touch to the trees issue.



OUTDOOR THEATRE FOR ALL AGES

Explore the stories of the woods

Thursday 5th April
Thursday 12th April
10 - 12 & 1.30 - 3.30

Spy Kids &
The Great Egg Mystery

TOP SECRET!
Spring Chicken's Easter Eggs - Stolen!!!

We are recruiting courageous and clever agents to decipher codes, follow clues and overcome obstacles. Come and join us on our mission to **save Easter!**



Suitable for families with children of all ages (children must be accompanied by an adult).

£5 per child · Under 2s free with a paying sibling

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

To book, please visit
www.growtheatre.org.uk

077 45 46 53 91

Suitable for families with children of all ages (children must be accompanied by an adult)

Woodland Discovery Centre, Ecclesall Woods, Abbey Lane, Sheffield, S2 2QZ

Antisocial Behaviour

There are important changes to the way Sheffield residents should report antisocial behaviour issues:

Sheffield City Council are responsible for incidents surrounding:

- abandoned vehicles
- dead animals
- dog fouling
- fly posting
- dumped, fly-tipped waste
- inoffensive graffiti
- non-hate crime graffiti
- littering
- lost or stray dogs
- noise nuisance or DIY related noise
- syringes or needles dumped, fly-tipped waste (nobody present)
- lost, stray or barking dogs

Call 0114 2734567 or visit sheffield.gov.uk/asb.

As well as these changes, from 1 February, if you call 0114 2734567 out of standard office hours to report concerns for vulnerable adults and children, and matters relating to homeless people, you will be dealt with by a Sheffield City Council call handler, not a police call handler.

South Yorkshire Police are responsible for incidents relating to:

- begging
- dealing/taking of drugs and drinking alcohol in the street
- gangs and youths drinking in parks
- harassment or intimidation
- hoax call to emergency services
- hate crime related graffiti motivated by prejudice or intolerance toward an individual's nationality, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.
- fly-tipping in progress
- misuse of fireworks
- intimidating dogs
- prostitution and indecent behaviour
- vandalism
- lighting fires
- suspicious vehicles
- threatening/violent neighbour disputes
- hoax calls to emergency services

Call 101 or visit sheffield.gov.uk/asb.

Can you help?

A new Edge distributor is needed for the Brincliffe Edge Road area, as the current distributor is retiring. This would involve delivering about 20 copies of Edge once a month (except August and January).

We also need relief distributors to cover absence or illness. Could you offer occasional help by delivering EDGE in your local area?

Please contact Ruth Bernard at nengsec16@gmail.com if you are interested.

Solution to Sprat 100 (See page 11)





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 Enjoy Sheffield produce to your door.
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Away next week?
Not a problem
skip a week



Add / Remove Items
and confirm your
preferences



Update on the fly.
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 Tel: 07930417455 or email
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1-5 Buttermere Road
 Sheffield S7 2AX



Exciting News for Nether Edge Primary School

Dear *EDGE*,

At Nether Edge Primary School we have just received this letter from the Education Department in London saying we're in the top 2% in the country in terms of progress between KS1 and KS2. Obviously we're all very pleased at both the results and the recognition. Here is part of the letter, signed by the Schools Minister, the Rt. Hon. Nick Gibb:

Your school's key stage 2 results, as published on 14 December, show progress scores of 7, 4.7 and 5 in English reading, writing and mathematics respectively. This means that your school is amongst the top 2% of schools in England in terms of the progress your pupils make between key stage 1 and the end of key stage 2.

Maggie Little, Governor, NE Primary School.



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What's On in April in and around Nether Edge

Every Wednesday 12noon-1.45pm. Psalter Lane Lunch Club and cameo activities at the Salvation Army, 12 Psalter Lane. Tel 266 8127. £3.50.

Every Wednesday 8.30-11.00pm. Nether Edge Folk Club, singers' night. Nether Edge Bowling Club.

Sun 1st April 2.00-3.30pm. Second walk 2.15pm if turnout is high. Guided History Tour of Sheffield General Cemetery. Discover the history of the cemetery and its residents. Meet at the gatehouse Cemetery Avenue. S11 8NT

Sun 1st April 7.30-10.30pm. 'Monster Mash' Sharrow Lantern Carnival 2018. No age restrictions. Set off at 8.00pm from Mount Pleasant Park, parade 8.00-9.00pm, arrive at Sheffield General Cemetery 9.00-10.30pm for food, dancing, music, fire spinning.

Mon 2nd April 10.30-4.00pm. Friends of Porter Valley (FoPV) Bank Holiday Duck Race, Endcliffe Park, Rustlings Road, S11 8TF. A quacky good family day out. Family of six ducks £5. S11 8TF.

Mon 2nd April 10.00-11.30am and 1.00pm-2.30pm. Tots on the Farm. 'The Little Red Hen'. No age restrictions. Whirlow Hall Farm. Bring your little ones to listen to a story and enjoy some activities and visit the farm. Tel 235 2678.

Wed 4th and Thur 5th April 10.30am-3.00pm (last entry 2.30pm) Easter Lambing at Whirlow Hall Farm. Tickets, child £4, adults £5, family £16. www.whirlowhallfarm.org.

Thur 5th April 7.00-10.00pm. Film: The Messenger with Q&A. This film explores a deep-seated connection to birds and warns that the uncertain fate of songbirds might mirror our own. Regather Works. Tel 2731258.

Thur 5th April 7.30pm 'The Washboard Resonators' return to Cafe#9 for the umpteenth time to play vaudevillian blues, jazz and folk.

Sat 7th April 10.00-12.00 noon. Friends of Porter Valley Walk. 'Seasonal Change': Paul Arden will lead a walk looking for signs of seasonal change such as early flowers, emerging invertebrates and breeding bird activity. Meet Rustlings Road entrance to Endcliffe Park.

Sat 7th April 12.00-4pm. Heeley City Farm Spring Fair. Arts and crafts, food stalls, children's activities, veg Puppet Theatre, other activities, bar and music. Free.

Sun 8th and 22nd April first train 1pm-last train 5pm. Abbeydale Miniature Railway. Unlike last year, the railway will not be open on Bank Holiday Mondays. www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk/

Wed 11th April 9.30am-12.00 noon. Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood Volunteer Day. Meet at entrance next to 245 Brincliffe Edge Road. For more info contact Ken: phillipk@vip.solis.co.uk, 07756891802 or see Facebook.

Fri 13th April 7.30pm. Heretics' Folk Club presents James Elkington and Huw Costin. Regather Works Tel 273 1258.

Sat 14th April 6.30pm. Sheffield Bach Society performs Bach's St Matthew Passion at Sheffield Cathedral. Booking www.sheffieldbachchoir.org.uk. Admission £16

Sat 21st April 6.00pm at St. Andrew's Church Psalter Lane S11 8YL. Fun family concert by the Sterndale Singers conducted by Robert Webb. Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo by Flanders and Horovitz and St. George and the Dragon, by Robert Webb. See page 6.

Sun 22nd April 12.00-4.00pm. Sharrow Vale Farmers' Market. Fresh produce, books, clothes, crafts, music and activities for all the family.

Wed 25th April 8.30pm. Miranda Sykes, acclaimed singer and bassist with 'Show of Hands' at Nether Edge Bowling Club. Nether Edge Road.

Thur 26th 6.00-8.00pm. Festival of Debate: Charles Dowding. 'No-Dig Organic Gardening'. Regather Works Tel 273 1258.

Fri 27th April 7.30pm. Scott Doonican One man Show. Lantern Theatre. Ticket enquiries: 03336663366.

Sat 28th April 10.30am for 11.00 start. Family-friendly bike ride to say "Sheffield needs safe space for cycling" See page 6.

Sat 28th April 7.30pm. The Basstree String Band play classic and contemporary blue grass with close harmonies and blistering instruments. Cafe#9. Tickets £11.

Sat 28th April 7.30pm Judy Doyle and the 'Band of Perfect Strangers'. The Lantern Theatre.



Volunteers' early morning efforts enable the Market to go ahead

As a follow-up to the story of the Farmers' Markets in the February edition of EDGE, David Pierce reports on the response to the challenging weather conditions of the anniversary market on Sunday March 18th:

This day was a highly significant one for the Nether Edge Farmers' Market. It was ten years old. Since 2008 we have organised four markets each year. The number and variety of stallholders has constantly changed over the years and we are only restricted by the space available. It has truly transformed Nether Edge and its popularity is only affected by the weather. It is ironic then, that on March 18th we only enjoyed the presence of about a third of our usual stallholders, no entertainment and a reduced number of 'customers'. Why? That was the day the snow came. Sheffield ground to a halt. Planned events all over the city were cancelled but our farmers' market continued, just as it has 39 times previously. Similar weather caused problems in 2010 but as then, this year volunteers were out on the roads from 6.00 am to clear the snow away. Their hard work was supported by Steve from Moss Valley Foods who brought his tractor along to help with the really heavy work and it was appreciated by those who were able to enjoy three hours of market activity. And the more active people were, the better they felt because it was very, very cold.

Are you a current smoker who wishes to stop smoking?

Would you be interested in being supported in your stop smoking attempt by an experienced advisor and use either e-cigarettes or the NHS stop smoking services?

Then contact us!

Sheffield Hallam University is undertaking an ethically-approved study, funded by Heart Research UK that will explore the effects of e-cigarettes on the arteries and small veins in people making a stop-smoking attempt.

All participants will be randomly allocated to one of the three study groups:

In one group, participants will receive free nicotine-rich e-cigarettes and refills for a 3-month period as well as advice on how to successfully stop smoking.

In another group, participants will receive similar advice as well as complimentary, nicotine-free e-cigarettes and refills for a 3-month period.

Finally, one group of participants will be referred to the NHS stop smoking services and will be reimbursed by the research team for their stop smoking prescription expenses.

Participation in the study will be free and assessments will take place in Collegiate Hall
Collegiate Crescent Campus of Sheffield Hallam University.

Participants using their own transport will receive complimentary parking.

To receive more information, please contact Dr. Gareth Jones Tel. 0114 2254312
HeartResearch@shu.ac.uk or visit: <https://ecig2017.wordpress.com/about/>.