

# EDGE

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSLETTER [www.netheredge.org.uk](http://www.netheredge.org.uk)

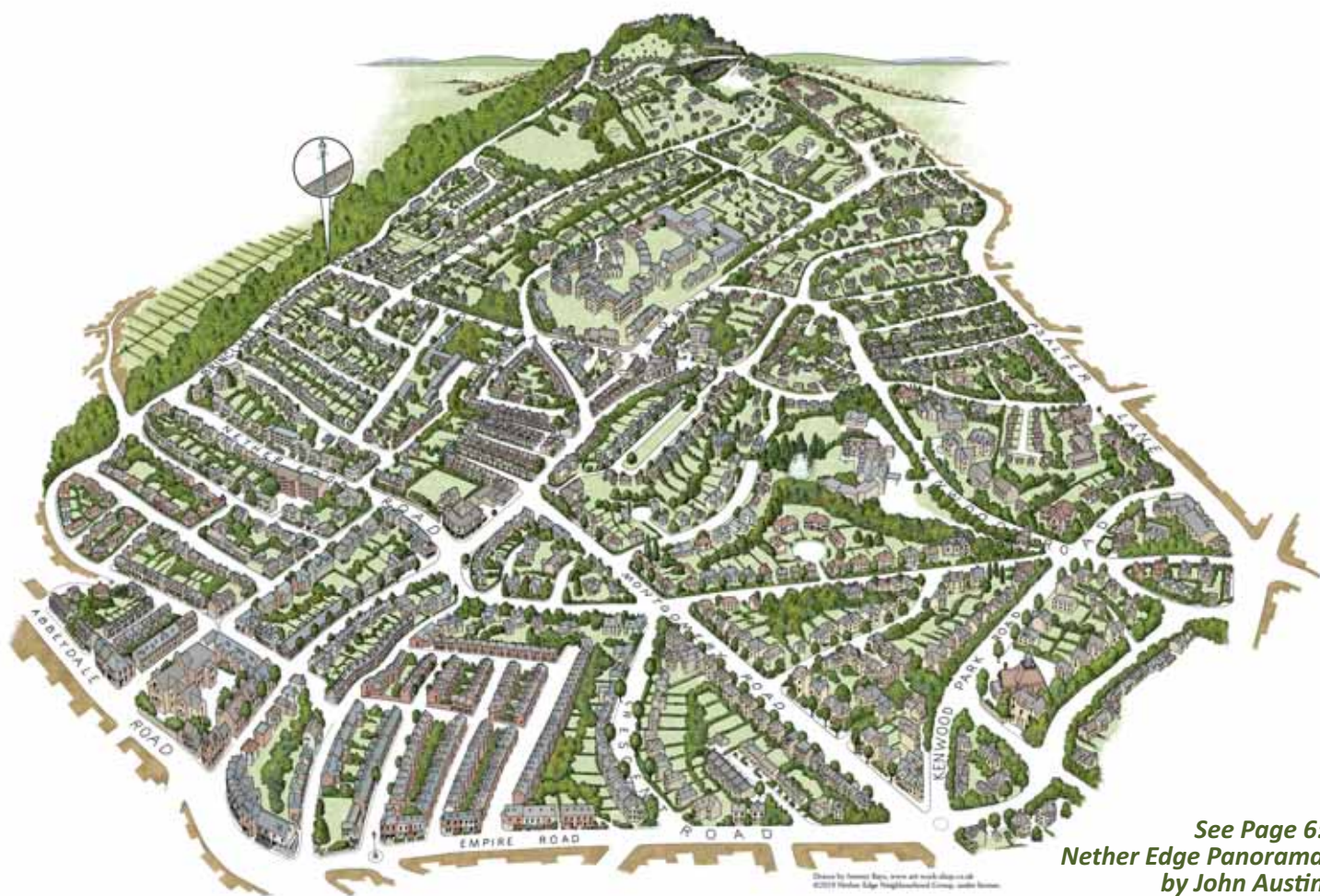
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December 2019/January 2020

Registered Charity No. 1139239

*Nether Edge: as you've never seen it before*



*See Page 6:  
Nether Edge Panorama  
by John Austin*

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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 produced by David Pierce. Howard Fry and David O'Connell will be editing the February edition. Please send letters or prospective articles to Howard Fry by 12th January 2020.*

### **NENG Committee Members** (\* indicates Trustee / Director)(<sup>EB</sup> indicates Editorial Board)

\*Ken Lambert, Chair, Company Secretary; (Membership Secretary), 32 Thornsett Rd S71NB 07518 118789

[kenlambert227@gmail.com](mailto:kenlambert227@gmail.com)

\*Mazhar Hussein, Vice Chair; 28 Rundle Road S71NX, [mazhar.ch@hotmail.com](mailto:mazhar.ch@hotmail.com)

\*Howard Fry, Secretary, (Market), 20 Chelsea Road S119BR 07798 801670 [nengsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:nengsecretary@gmail.com)

Mike Buckley, Treasurer, 29 Adelaide Road, S7 1SQ [nengtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:nengtreasurer@gmail.com).

\*Richard Taylor, Festival Co-Chair; [richardtaylor635@hotmail.com](mailto:richardtaylor635@hotmail.com)

\*David Pierce<sup>EB</sup>; (Market) 96 Montgomery Road S71LR. 0114 2819414 [davidpierce96@icloud.com](mailto:davidpierce96@icloud.com)

\*Nicky Erlen<sup>EB</sup>, 52 Chelsea Road S119BR [nickyerlen@gmail.com](mailto:nickyerlen@gmail.com)

Helen Willows, (Planning) 94 Montgomery Rd S71LR 0114 2552095 [helandpete2@hotmail.com](mailto:helandpete2@hotmail.com)

John Austin. (History). 39 Meadowbank Avenue S71PB [john.austin@btinternet.com](mailto:john.austin@btinternet.com)

Ruth Bernard<sup>EB</sup> 52 Meadowbank Avenue S71PB [ruth.bernard52@btinternet.com](mailto:ruth.bernard52@btinternet.com)

Kevin Hickey<sup>EB</sup> 32 Edgebrook Road S71SG [k.hickey10@icloud.com](mailto:k.hickey10@icloud.com)

Pat Rogers, Minutes Secretary, [patrirog@gmail.com](mailto:patrirog@gmail.com)

Ian Wilshaw 205 Bannerdale Road S119FB [ianwilshaw@hotmail.com](mailto:ianwilshaw@hotmail.com)

Rosalind Watchorn, [roswatchorn@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:roswatchorn@hotmail.co.uk)

Kate West, [familyvoicesheffield@gmail.com](mailto:familyvoicesheffield@gmail.com)

Laura Fitzgerald, [nengwebsite.editor@gmail.com](mailto:nengwebsite.editor@gmail.com). Although no longer a committee member, Laura has kindly agreed to continue as Website Manager pending a replacement being identified. [Any volunteers please contact the Chair.](#)

### **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:

Ken Lambert, Membership Secretary 32 Thornsett Road [ken.lambert227@gmail.com](mailto:ken.lambert227@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 household or organisation (£5 unwaged/concessions)

I enclose a completed Standing Order form (downloadable from [www.netheredge.org.uk](http://www.netheredge.org.uk)) or a cheque to the value of £\_\_\_\_\_ made out to 'NENG'

**To pay by bank transfer**, use sort code 30-97-51 A/c No 36208368 NENG and confirm by e-mail to Ken Lambert.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

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*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 is still £8 per person (£5 unwaged/concessions).



## A Season of Goodwill?

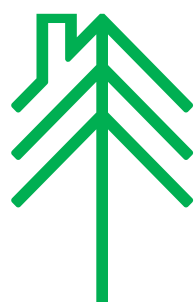
Formally, an editorial presents an opportunity for the editor of a publication to express his or her views upon a particular issue. In this packed edition of EDGE there would not be room for your editor to express an opinion about the vast range of issues that disturb or interest him. In any case editors of EDGE are constrained by the aims of NENG to avoid political and religious matters. That narrows the field of opportunity quite considerably.

On the other hand this is a Christmas issue. Its engrossing potpourri of articles about foxes and films, scones and scones, hedges and lodges are supported by a collection of festive material, all with an emphasis on the happiness, joy and fun of the season. There is little reference to the religious aspect of Christmas. Yet one of its most well-known Christmas messages is eternally relevant to our daily lives and experiences and it may be legitimate for comment here. To hope for 'peace and goodwill' is surely a message that everyone would subscribe to. The seemingly never-ending search for peace is too big to discuss here but the second half of that wish, 'goodwill to all', is more manageable and achievable. It echoes NENG's aim to help create a better neighbourhood, to encourage friendship, neighbourliness and helpfulness. I hope then that the following thought is not regarded as inappropriate for inclusion in an EDGE editorial. Is it too much to hope that the political debate of the coming weeks and in particular the attempts to communicate with each other on social media will, at the very least for the festive season, be marked by the obvious presence of sincere goodwill to each other?

With best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year to all our readers,

David Pierce

**What do you get if you  
cross Santa with a duck?  
A Christmas Quacker!**



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## AN INTERRUPTED BREAKFAST By Adam Pemberton

As a long time hen-keeper my relationship with Reynard is at times strained. On a daily basis and as a dutiful hen man, the first thing I do, after rising from my bed, is check that my birds are safe and well. This I did the other day, cup of coffee in hand, still in my pyjamas. On checking their fox-proof pen I saw that my hens were fine, so I went further to check that all was well inside my hut. As I arrived at the door (left ajar to allow my nesting wren easy access) I looked inside, only to see Reynard looking back at me! He made as if he owned the place.



*Photo sent to EDGE by Barrie Hedley*

As he and I have not seen eye to eye in earlier times, I thought this was a golden opportunity to tell him exactly what I thought of him. Sadly, having no common language I had to cast about for sounds that I thought he would understand and grasp my message - that he was both unwelcome and in danger. After a moment's thought I decided that a slow but loud and menacing growl (as might be heard from an ill-intentioned grizzly) was the way I should go. So this is what I did.

Reynard clearly had more experience of bears than I anticipated, and just stared blankly at this white headed sapiens pretending to be a grizzly. He was unimpressed! So I growled louder and added arm-flapping to my performance. This did cause him some alarm as he then took station behind the lawn mower, squatting on his haunches and continuing to stare without so much as a blink of the eye. Foolish humans pretending to be grizzly bears, in Nether Edge, was something Reynard was easily able to live with.

After about 5 minutes of stand-off, during which he remained impassive and seemingly without fear, my throat started to object to my high volume bear impersonation and my flapping arms started to ache. I decided that pretending to be a bear was not likely to be very fulfilling in the long term.

So I went back to my kitchen and finished my breakfast. I feel sure that Reynard went off to tell his mates about just how foolish humans can be!

### ANOTHER FOXY TALE

It was a Sunday afternoon. I was taking the black bin down the drive to be emptied the following day when I noticed a fox, a large, handsome red one, apparently asleep just below our bay window. I approached it and it didn't move. It was within touching distance and I realised it was more than asleep but likely to be unconscious or dying. It was breathing, I could see it was, and occasionally a leg twitched. There was no obvious sign of injury. What to do? To ignore it would mean it would die there and need to be removed by the Council. Then I thought, that's what the RSPCA is for. I looked online for a telephone number without success at first. Then I tried searching for its emergency number and got through. The operator asked me to perform 'a broom test'. Did she mean me to pull its tail I wondered, but no, I should prod it with a broom handle to see how it reacted. So, with a mop handle, I lifted its tail/broom and pushed its body gently. It didn't move and within half an hour an RSPCA official arrived in her van. With a net and a cage she quickly gathered it up and took it away. She agreed that there was no obvious injury but speculated that it might have been poisoned. Whether she meant accidentally poisoned or maliciously she didn't say. For me this short incident confirms that Nether Edge is full of wildlife and it's all around us, just a few feet away.

### **BEGIN YOUR CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH ESCAFELD CHORALE'S 'A CHRISTMAS FANTASIA'**

**Conductor Nigel Russell**

**... in association with SOUTH YORKSHIRE MOTOR  
NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION**

Every year Escafeld Chorale gives a Christmas concert in association with a local charity. The charity sells tickets, provides wine and mince pies afterwards and rattles buckets for donations. The choir and its 2019/20 Associate soloist Sarah Leffler will provide music and readings, but we also need YOU to come along and sing several traditional communal carols with us.

**ST ANDREWS PSALTER LANE CHURCH  
TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 7.30PM**

Tickets £10 (£8 concessions, £4 Students,  
accompanied Under 16s Free)

On the door, in advance from choir members, or  
phone 0114 236 9548/07383 007429  
or online [www.escafeldchorale.org.uk](http://www.escafeldchorale.org.uk)

We will also be singing carols at Orchard Square on  
Saturday 21st December,  
From about 11.30, collecting for St Luke's Hospice



## A LETTER FROM SANTA

Our Nether Edge Market will be held on December 1<sup>st</sup> this year. It's always a particularly special occasion and the presence of Father Christmas at every December market since we began in 2008 has ensured it has a real festive feel. Children have queued, sometimes for quite a long time, to meet Santa in his grotto and depart with smiles on their faces and chocolates in their hands. Almost 1000 children have enjoyed their early encounter with Santa and been captivated by the magic of the season earlier than many. Thanks are due mainly to the Pierce's who first invited Santa to pay a visit to the market and then prepared a beautiful grotto to accommodate him. This year however we have received some sad though understandable news. The letter below arrived just a few days ago from the far north.

### Dear Children,

*I hope you are looking forward to Christmas. I am, because I really enjoy bringing you presents and helping to make you happy. I have already received letters from some of you and so everybody is very busy up here at the North Pole. I'll do my best to bring you some of the things you have asked for. Rudolf is busy doing his exercises to make sure that he will be fit enough for the long journeys we have on Christmas Eve. He tells me that Nether Edge is one of his favourite places. He likes it because so many children remember to leave out a carrot or two for him to eat on our way. Last year he was so hungry for carrots that we had to stop when he saw a field full of them as we were flying over. The farmer was very friendly and allowed Rudolph and some of the other reindeer to fill up their tummies before setting off again. But this year I have some sad news for you as well as the good news. As lots of you know I always try to spend some time before Christmas at the farmers' market in Nether Edge. Some nice people build a grotto for me and I've met many of you in there and enjoyed talking to you all. Rudolf has brought me to the market every year since it started eleven years ago. But this year will be the last time I can visit you there. We would really like to continue because we enjoy listening to you all and telling me what you'd like for Christmas. I like to see you best when it's a very cold day and you are wrapped up in thick coats, scarves, woolly gloves and hats. Some of you have given me letters and some of you have given me presents which is very kind. You've all been very friendly and lovely (although once or twice a little one has been a bit frightened). Your mummies and daddies have been friendly as well. But we can no longer find time to make so many visits before Christmas Eve and so the Nether Edge Market will have to be missed next year. I think Rudolf will be happy about this as he doesn't have to make the trip but he is a bit of a lazybones.*

*So children, remember to be good, help to prepare for Christmas and be in bed early on Christmas Eve. Hang up your stocking and enjoy your presents. Don't forget to leave a carrot (or two) for Rudolf*

**and have A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS.  
Father Christmas xxx**



### What an achievement!

**£80,000**

The grand total of donations given to charity from the Nether Edge Farmers' Market is now over £80,000.

**72** separate donations have been made since our first market in March 2008.

The beneficiaries of our December market will be The Salvation Army, Samaritans and SALT

Handsworth Traditional Sword Dancers Present

## SOLSTICE

Start your family Christmas with this joyous celebration of traditional dance, song and music for the season with this magical line up-



Dungworth Village Choir, Sheffield Carols. Scoil Rince Nua, Irish Dance School, Steel Rapper, After Dinner Clog, Folk Factory young musicians and dancers, Sciorr, Son De America, Traditional Latin American dancers.

**7 pm Monday December 16th,**

**MERLIN THEATRE**

All tickets £7 in aid of the



<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/solstice-at-the-merlin-tickets-72231543491>

Or ring 2754137 to reserve tickets.

**Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing?  
They always drop their needles!**



## A lovely hedge By Mark and Barbara Rogers

For quite a long time there has been an almost hysterical concentration on the 'evils' of replacing large street trees with trees of a more appropriate size; we urge those who love nature, beauty and biodiversity to look also at the riches we have at or near ground level, which contribute just as much if not more to carbon sequestration than the leaves which grow at high levels for about 6 or 7 months of the year and shade out what could be thriving underneath.

We often walk past a lovely hedge. It probably used to be a privet hedge but a long length has been filled with native species, holly and hawthorn. Although this hedge is on a road with lots of street trees, it grows well because it is in a 'clearing' and gets plenty of sun.

The closest trees are a couple of sycamores, both with meagre tops; their combined leaf volume is less than that of the hedge, while the latter has the added advantages that much of it is green all year round and it's at human eye level. It also supports far more biodiversity than the non-native and species-poor sycamore<sup>1</sup>.

In the spring there was blossom on the hedge and a small dunnock – usually a very shy bird – shouting at passers-by in obvious defence of a nest. The caretaker of the hedge has managed to trim it in such a way that holly and

hawthorn berries are now ripening in abundance, as you can see from the photos; these will be valuable for birds in the winter as well as adding greatly to our enjoyment as we walk past. Long may such treasures be created and maintained.

<sup>1</sup>Controlling the Invader by Pierre Binggeli Published in Tree News, Autumn 1994 14-15



## Nether Edge Panorama. A New View of Nether Edge... By John Austin

Some months ago, NENG decided to commission an experienced practitioner to produce a panoramic view of Nether Edge. After much discussion, research, drafting and refinement the finished product is now out and can be seen in this edition of Edge. What will NENG use it for? Well the answer is 'lots of things': NENG publicity documents, the website, Notice boards etc. However individuals might also be interested in purchasing copies for their own or others enjoyment. What a great Christmas present, for example, for the kids who have grown up and left home or for those friends who used to live in the area.

Copies are available in A4 or A3 size at £10 and £15 respectively. There is even an option for you to superimpose your own images on the master, your own house for example, for £25. For commercial organisations out there, you might be interested in using the image as part of your branding. Or how about a picture of Nether Edge in your lobby with an image of your organisation prominently displayed.

There is also talk of producing a 'Visitors Guide' brochure using the image as a backdrop. There are apparently around 70 Airbnb's in Nether Edge. Are you one of them? Could you use it? The possibilities are endless...well perhaps almost so.

If you are interested as an individual or a business and would like to know the Terms and Conditions of purchasing, or using the image please contact John Austin...john.austin1@btinternet.com. Please note the image is copyrighted and licensed to NENG. Any unauthorised use of the image is not allowed





## SHE LIVED AT EAST LODGE

In April's EDGE we featured the Kenwood Hall gatehouse and its renovation. Our report was seen by an earlier resident of the gatehouse and subsequently we talked to Maureen Joy about her memories of living there for ten years from 1953 to 1963. At that time it was known by everyone as East Lodge.

Maureen was born in 1943 and spent her early life in Crookes before moving to East Lodge in 1954. What a change it must have been for her. After her father had been demobbed from the Forces he got the job of head gardener at the Kenwood Hotel. This was a quite different environment for Maureen. The leafy suburb of Nether Edge was a delight for her and the gardens of the Hall became her playground. The downside was the walk to and from Greystones School every day, but such journeys were not uncommon then. She was however a little different from other children because each day she had a paper round and delivered to houses in Brocco Bank and Endcliffe Park every morning before returning home for breakfast and then setting off to school again.

Foremost in her memories are of the gardens; playing hide and seek in the rhododendron bushes, watching her father trim the topiary and growing flowers in the greenhouse. She recalls the greenhouse with fondness. 'The scent of over-wintering geraniums, and the smell of tomatoes in summer'. There she learnt 'the correct way of eating tomatoes, direct from the vine and polished to rich ruby on slightly grubby overalls'

Life for her was as a curious child observing the comings and goings of visitors to the Hall, the expensive cars that drove literally through her house and the guests who came from a kind of society that was foreign to her. And yet, she recalls, they were all very kind and sometimes gave her gifts. 'I have a photograph of myself in the rose garden when I was about five with a very smart middle-aged woman who is smiling at me with affection. I do not know her name but have always thought that it was she who gave me a gold necklace with a pendant of semi-precious stone. My eldest daughter now has that necklace.'

Some of the people were famous and she remembers Harry Secombe. Many were permanent residents of the hotel and her father made sure she was introduced to them all. Weddings were frequent and her family were often able to sample the expensive foods left over after the high society guests had departed. In a way she was 'rubbing shoulders' with a more fortunate set of people but she soon grew to take it for granted.

As she grew older she found that life in and around the gatehouse could sometimes be lonely and it was not easy to make friends with her school being some distance away. She returned to Crookes regularly to go to church, participate in Guide activities and a youth club and Looking back on her life at Kenwood Maureen recognises that she had a very fortunate childhood.



In 1963 Maureen married and moved away. She soon became a mother of three children and they often returned to the gatehouse to see their grandparents. When they visited they were able to relive some of the pleasures that Maureen had enjoyed there and 'especially the smell of the tomatoes in grandad's greenhouse'. Her parents remained there until her father's retirement in 1979. Maureen has not returned to the Gatehouse except to sometimes walk past with her grandchildren to show them where she used to live and to tell them about an unusual childhood there.



### IS THIS IT? *Nick Moulson writes:*

In the November edition of Edge, Alun Pugh of Leeds writes regarding a picture of a house he is trying to locate and asking for any ideas where it may be (page 5). I believe it to be the property currently occupied by Twelvetimes Residential Care Home on the corner of Priority Road and Priory Place. Much altered now but still recognisable from the angle presented in the corner picture, and which Alun will be able to see either from the Twelvetimes website or on Google maps for Priority Road. Feel free to pass this information on should the location not already have been identified, Thanks **Nick**

Every world religion has its major festivals. To mention just a few examples, there are Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adha in Islam; the Jewish High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur; and Diwali, celebrated in different ways by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains.

For people who belong to the faith communities concerned, these great festivals punctuate the year, and give special meaning to the “ordinary” passages of time in between. They provide emotional uplift and an opportunity to reflect deeply on some of the important meanings of that faith. At the time of some of these festivals, members of the wider community, who may not share the faith of those who are celebrating, can nonetheless sometimes feel themselves caught up in the excitement and the sense of togetherness that are generated.

Christmas, which will be celebrated by many people later this month, has a specific meaning in that it celebrates the birth of Jesus – in traditional Christian language, the “incarnation” of God in human form. But there is an underlying meaning, perhaps with a wider connotation, expressed in this idea of “incarnation”: the idea that the eternal can be found in the things of time, that the infinite can be perceived amid the limitations of our humanity. Or to put it slightly differently, that there is mystery at the heart of the mundane.

We don't have to escape from our daily lives to find the deepest realities of the universe; they are here in our midst. As the great seventeenth-century Japanese *haiku* poet, Matsuo Bashō, wrote:

How much I desire!  
Inside my little satchel,  
the moon, and flowers

## WOODEN LEGS GOING ROTTEN IN CHELSEA PARK PLAYGROUND

We were worried earlier this year. We thought Chelsea Park playground might have to close. The timber frames to the swings are rotting and the ground around is very boggy during the winter months.

Members of NENG met officers from SCC Parks and Countryside team, who confirmed that the swings must be replaced urgently and that better drainage is needed. The cost of this work, including new play surfaces, would be about £10,000. On top of that, the climbing frame will also need to be replaced soon, at an additional cost of around £30,000. Parks and Countryside were sympathetic, but said at first that Chelsea Park was not considered a Council spending priority, so the local community would need to raise the money themselves.

Friends of Chelsea Park (FoCP) has been re-formed under the NENG umbrella to coordinate fundraising and liaise with the community to decide what we want in the play area. FoCP now has nearly 30 active members and a small steering group. If you would like to join, to help fundraising, or just to have your say, please contact Howard Fry at [nengsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:nengsecretary@gmail.com).

Fortunately SCC's Parks and Countryside team have now discovered an endowment fund devoted to Chelsea Park, which will be able to contribute £24,000 to our target of about £40,000 to refurbish the playground. This means that the council will be able to replace the swings (using steel supports), improve drainage and surfaces in the lower area ready for next spring. We will still need to raise £16,000 to finish the adventure play area on the top area, but that investment won't be needed for a couple of years. We are now planning a campaign to achieve this goal and NENG has offered a further £2,000 as match funding.

General opinion is that this playground should focus on facilities for toddlers and smaller children, rather than sports for older kids (there is already a football pitch in the park), but we are open to suggestion. Treetop zip-wires sound fun, but possibly a bit impractical. Please let us have your views or ask your children to send us a drawing of what they would like to see.

## *Hark the Loud and Lusty Sing!* Sheffield Traditional Carols at the **UNION HOTEL** - 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December

For the past few years, the Union Hotel has hosted an evening of 'pub carols', giving local people the chance to sing their heads off in the living folk tradition known as Sheffield Carols.

The evenings have been so successful that this Christmas Gareth and Sarah are hosting two events – on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm.

Musicians and song sheets will be on hand so come and experience the joys of these wonderful old songs in the heart of Nether Edge. Homemade food from our pub menu is also on offer if you fancy a bite to eat.

And don't forget the other traditional event at the Union – the **12 Days of Christmas Quiz** hosted by John Barthram on Monday 23 December from 9pm.

**What do English teachers call Santa's little helpers?**  
**Subordinate Clauses.**





# Fireside Film Festivals

## *Movies on Television at Christmas*

By Sheldon Hall

*Sheldon Hall teaches film and television history in the Department of Humanities at Sheffield Hallam University. He is currently writing *Armchair Cinema: Feature Films on British Television* for Sheffield-based publisher Tomahawk Press.*

In this era of Netflix 'box sets', streaming and catch-up services, the notion of the whole family sitting around the television at an appointed hour may sound a little archaic. Except on rare occasions – the *Strictly* final, perhaps, or live football coverage – the big TV 'event' is now a thing of the past. But when we had only two, three or four channels to choose from, no video recorder and no internet, virtually anything on television could be an event. A movie, for instance.

Even if you had already seen it at the cinema, the TV premiere of a big film could be a must-see attraction, a major talking point, an occasion not to be missed. More often than not, blockbusters had their first small-screen outing over the Christmas season, and in the 1970s and 1980s a Bond film became almost as much of a festive fixture as mince pies and Morecambe and Wise.

Feature films had been shown sporadically on British television at Christmastime since 1947, but the tradition of presenting big movie premieres in peak time began a decade later. The archetypal Christmas film, *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946), made its small-screen debut on the BBC on Christmas Eve 1957. (There was only one BBC channel then, called simply BBC Television.) The following night, the ITV network – which at that time included only four regional stations and would not cover the whole country for several more years – offered Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth in the musical *You Were Never Lovelier* (1942). Granted, these were each already more than a decade old, but the idea of being able to enjoy polished Hollywood entertainments in your own home, safe from the wind, rain or snow, with the kids tucked up in bed and logs on the fire, was still sufficiently novel for them to seem like rare seasonal treats.

In fact, it was remarkable that any feature films made it onto British television at all at that time. The film industry had long been implacably opposed to the very idea, as it meant competition with new films in cinemas. Cinema attendance, which had boomed during World War II, peaked in 1946, the year that TV broadcasting resumed after a wartime break. Thereafter there was a steady decline in ticket sales matched by a steady increase in the purchase of TV sets, which only accelerated after the advent of ITV in 1955. Cinema owners blamed the box for their troubles, and showing movies on television was to them like selling arms to Hitler. In every way it could, the industry tried to block the sale of films to TV, before in 1964 accepting the inevitable and agreeing to a five-year embargo before movies could be televised.



Over the next three decades, most of the old classics were shrunk to living-room size. The British comedies *Genevieve* (1953) and *Doctor in the House* (1954), which had for many years circulated as a cinema double bill, found themselves on opposing channels on Christmas Eve 1969. Everyone's favourite motorcycling-PoW adventure, *The Great Escape* (1963), drew an audience estimated as 21 million viewers when it premiered on BBC One on 28 December 1971. The late Kenneth Williams even thought it worth recording in his published diary that he had stayed home to watch it.



# Where is Nether Edge?

That's a question that has bothered local residents for years. Its boundaries are not clearly defined and they change with the times. Even the boundaries of nations change over the years. But it's not a question to be addressed here, rather we wonder, how do we know when we are in Nether Edge. Even that is difficult to answer so here I want to consider, where is the entrance to Nether Edge? Is there one? As we drive through the traffic lights at the top of Sheldon Road are we entering Nether Edge? Not quite, but I suggest that there is one location that is impressive and could be admired by everyone as 'the gateway to Nether Edge'. Nobody would quibble about which side of the 'boundary' it is on. That place is at the top of Rundle Road. What better place could you think of? It's a striking site dominated by the imposing Kenwood gatehouse. It's important as a junction with six (?) roads converging there. It's a large open space that could benefit from just one addition that would make it into an even worthier gateway into our area. What it needs is a larger roundabout and an eye-catching sculpture upon it. Or perhaps a tree would be more suitable.

I propose therefore that we set about requesting that a suitable tree be planted in the middle of the junction and the necessary roadworks be undertaken. It would substantially enhance the junction and maybe it could formally be planted there as a memorial to the trees campaign. After all, the roads radiating out from this point saw some of the most important and alarming confrontations that resulted in the withdrawal of Amey from Nether Edge and the subsequent pause in felling. That was particularly the case on Kenwood Road, where felling crews returned day after day for a full week in October 2018, and were fought off without felling a branch every time. And again on the same road in January and February 2018, where the largest clashes of the tree campaign in Nether Edge were fought. Here over 30+ Police, and more than 30 private security personnel confronted 40 or more tree campaigners, sadly losing four of the street trees on this road, but in



the process saving six others.

From the roundabout you can just see Thornsett Road (via Sharrow View), which was another flashpoint of the campaign, particularly in "Beast from the East week." Then of course there are both Kenwood Park Road and Rundle Road. Both of their magnificent avenues of Lime Trees have thankfully been untouched, thanks to the efforts of campaigners. 33% of their trees were due to be felled.

A tree at the centre point of this roundabout will further add to the environment and beauty of Nether Edge. The support of NENG, residents, councillors and others will be needed but of course before we can recognise the end of the campaign in this way we have to await the outcome of ongoing talks with SCC.

The campaign to Save Nether Edge's trees will undoubtedly find a place in the social history of Sheffield and another prominent tree will be a fitting memorial to those events and act as a reminder to local residents and others as they enter our unique neighbourhood.

David Pierce

***Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?  
A mince spy!***



## JOURNEYS FROM THE EDGE

I came across a CD the other day that I'd almost forgotten about. Most of my CDs (I don't do streaming) feature artists from the 60's or 50's and typically include Sinatra, Brubeck, Kenton, Nat King Cole, Dick Haymes, Ella Fitzgerald etc. There are even ones from the 40's or even pre-war-time entertainers. But this CD is quite different. Its tracks include Forge Dam Groove, Millhouses Mooch, Goodbye Mr Kites and Stanage Edge. It was published in 2001. The title of the collection is Journeys from Nether Edge and all the tracks were composed and arranged by Henrik Linneman. It may be that he and his fellow musicians are well-known to some of our readers, indeed they may be readers themselves.

EDGE would like to know whether in the last twenty years they have journeyed beyond Nether Edge and to what end. My, sadly unmusical, ears can appreciate the recorded journeys but would love to hear about the journeys which followed that jazzy CD from 2001.

Those who know the answers should contact any member of the editorial committee.



## SPRAT'S CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

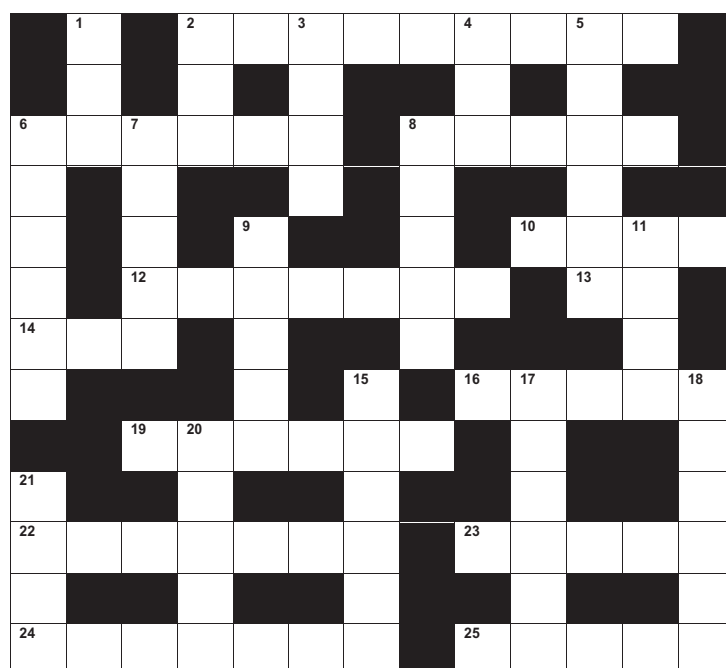
I have deliberately left eight of the clues blank. I'm sure that once the penny drops, and you remember that this is a Christmas crossword, you'll be able to solve them without these clues.

### Across

2. Botanical garden, devoted to trees (9)
6. (6)
8. (5)
10. Two masted square-rigged ship (4)
12. (7)
13. Opposite of 'Yes' (2)
14. Period of history (3)
16. Map book (5)
19. (6)
22. (7)
23. Very light wood (5)
24. Fast cat (7)
25. Instruct or improve morally or intellectually (5)


### Down

1. Health-giving mineral spring (3)
2. Tree or remains of tree (3)
3. Yeast (4)
4. Flightless bird (3)
5. Mythical beast (7)
6. (6)
7. Aqualung (5)
8. (5)
9. (5)
11. Greek letter – a small amount (4)
15. Fireplace (6)
17. Sleeveless jerkin (6)
18. Regular payment
20. Small weight (5)
21. Long poem (4)



**How does an Eskimo fix his house?  
Igloos it together.**






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Jude, Happy Patient, 2019



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## A CLOSE SHAVE by Jack Massey

If there's one thing you can say about me, I'm not short of eyebrows. Back in the day, they used to meet in the middle, and a friend once said that when I raised them, it looked like a crow, winging its way across the Derbyshire moorlands. My barber keeps them in check for me, and I recently acquired a trimmer, so that I can do the job myself.

We have a cleaning lady called Eileen, who 'does' for us, once a week. Eileen, like the Elephant's Child, is full of 'Satiabile Curiosity'. We think she must have spotted the trimmer and wondered what it was. She picked it up and examined it. She found the slidey bit, but that didn't tell her much, and so she put it back, leaving the slidey bit, not on its usual '5', but on '1'.

The first I knew of this was when I next came to use it, and found my entire right eyebrow sitting in the bottom of the wash basin. I was in a dilemma. One half of me looked like Denis Healey. The other half looked like Boy George! Not a good look. My wife thought it was hilarious and offered to lend me an eyebrow pencil. I declined. Half of me would have looked even more like Boy George!

In the event, I didn't really have a choice. In the interests of symmetry, I knew what I had to do. Soon, my left eyebrow had joined its companion in the bottom of the wash basin.

Actually, it wasn't as bad as I feared. If people noticed, they were too polite to say anything, and they soon grew back again. Yes, I've never been short of eyebrows. Well . . . Except once.

### TEST YOUR CHRISTMAS KNOWLEDGE

*Here's a quiz that's bound to occupy the whole family through the festive season.*

*Thanks are due to John Barthram for compiling it.*



- 1) The song *The 12 days of Christmas* continually mentions all the presents given to my true love. How many gifts would they receive if given all the gifts every time they are mentioned in the song?
- 2) Using the chemical symbols what is likely to snap at Christmas time: Chromium, Actinium, Potassium, and Erbium?
- 3) Which TV family has a pet dog called 'Santa's Little Helper'?
- 4) Which writer created Mr Christmas?
- 5) Which Christmas hit has the lines "*Top to toe in tailbacks, oh, I got red lights on the run.*"
- 6) On the third day of Christmas, what did my true love give to me?
- 7) On December 25th 2003, scientists lost contact with a British-built space probe which was due to land on Mars that day. What was its name?
- 8) What is the more common name for the Ilex plant?
- 9) Bethlehem is a tiny village in which UK country?
- 10) What is the name given to the symbolic Christmas object consisting of an orange, representing the world, and a candle representing Jesus as the Light of the World?



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*What did Father Christmas say  
to his wife when he looked out  
of the window?  
Looks like reindeer.*



*Knock Knock  
Who's there?  
Snow  
Snow who?  
Snow business  
like show business!*



# Alternative Christmas Pudding

*Judith O'Connell has sent EDGE this alternative to normal Christmas fare. It's delicious, and a substitute for the traditional pudding which some people find too rich and heavy.*

300g panettone  
175g mixed dried fruit  
50g almonds (whole or flaked)  
50g candied peel  
zest of 1 orange  
zest of 1 lemon  
50g brown sugar  
275ml milk  
150ml double cream  
3 large eggs

## Hot Punch Sauce

1 large orange  
1 large lemon  
110g caster sugar  
275ml water  
25g plain flour  
50g unsalted butter  
2 tablespoons rum  
2 tablespoons brandy  
175ml sherry

1.2 litre pudding basin



Soak the dried fruit in 3 tablespoons rum overnight.

Toast the almonds in a 170 oven until golden brown-5 minutes or so.

Cut the panettone into 2.5 cm chunks. Place in large bowl with candied peel, orange and lemon zests and the soaked dried fruit. If using whole almonds chop them a bit and add to the bowl. Flaked almonds can be left as they are. Stir well.

In another bowl whisk together sugar, milk, cream and eggs. Pour over the panettone mixture and stir well.

Pour mixture into pudding basin and press down well. Cover with the lid of the basin or a double sheet of foil tied with string. Place in saucepan of boiling water to come about half way up the basin. Steam for two hours. Check water and top up regularly.

## Hot Punch Sauce

Pare the outer zest from the lemon and orange avoiding the white pith. Cut the zests into very thin shreds. Place in saucepan with sugar and water bring everything to a simmer and simmer for 15 minutes.

Squeeze the juice from the orange and lemon.

In a separate bowl mix flour and butter together to form a paste.

When the 15 minutes is up add the juice along with the rum, brandy and sherry and bring to a gentle heat. Add the paste to the liquid in small pieces whisking as you do until they have dissolved and the sauce has thickened.


Both the pudding and the sauce can be made in advance and re-heated and they can be frozen too.

**What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?**

**It's Christmas, Eve.**



**What is the best Xmas present in the world?**  
**A broken drum, you just can't beat it!**





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# SCON OR SCONE?

The question never arose as we enjoyed afternoon tea in the Laura Ashley Tea Room Birdhouse Tea has vacated its premises in Nether Edge Road, although it continues to operate a successful tea bar in Sidney Street. It was never a café in Nether Edge of course but there are many tea rooms nearby to join the more numerous coffee bars in the area. Coffee has overtaken tea as the nation's favourite drink. Outside the home, Britons



are now drinking almost two and a half cups of coffee for every one of tea – 2.1billion versus 874million annually. Even so, we are not in the top 20 nations of coffee-drinkers. But we are 12<sup>th</sup> in the top tea-drinking countries. And there are signs that the tastes of people are moving away from the concoctions prepared by highly trained baristas in favour of the simpler and more traditional tea for which the British were once famous all over the world.

It's not only the taste of tea that made it so popular, it's the social environment in which it was enjoyed. The ceremony of afternoon tea was introduced in England by Anna, the seventh Duchess of Bedford, in the year 1840. The Duchess would become hungry around four o'clock in the afternoon. The evening meal in her household was served fashionably late at eight o'clock, thus leaving a long period of time between lunch and dinner. The Duchess asked that a tray of tea, bread and butter and cake be brought to her room during the late afternoon. This became a habit of hers and she began inviting friends to join her. As a consequence tea rooms developed offering an alternative to the long-established coffee houses and a more relaxed and quieter experience which appealed to a different clientele and have become a famous British tradition. And now in the heart of Nether Edge we are able to enjoy the delights of a quintessential tea room brought to us by Laura Ashley and situated in the Kenwood Hall, the former home of George Wolstenholme and built in 1845.

We paid it a visit and we were very impressed. Kenwood Hall is well-known to us and NENG has enjoyed its hospitality for festival events in the past. Its surroundings are spectacular. Inside the Hall, its former splendour immediately strikes us but it's the luxurious transformation of one area into the Tea Room that surprises and stuns us. The expensive refurbishment by Laura Ashley is a colourful and very welcoming one. Many of the original features have been retained, including images of George Wostenholme whose house it was, and a beautiful, comfortable and relaxing environment cannot fail to tempt us inside.

Laura Ashley has established itself as a popular and much-loved fashion house and home furnishing company since the 1950's. More recently though it has diversified into the hospitality business and now runs three high-class hotels around the country. The Tea Room is another exciting development for them as they establish partnerships with hotels and other venues around the country, create individual designs for each venture and train staff to create an ideal place to enjoy afternoon tea. It was a splendid affair and the discreet background music was also to our taste. It's a wonderful new place to go to in Nether Edge especially for those special occasions but also more regularly if you like comfort, luxury, peace and quiet to meet your friends. Then you can discuss: Which goes on first, the jam or the clotted cream?



## HOW DID YOU DO?

Here are the answers to John Barthram's Christmas quiz.

Question 1	364
Question 2	Cracker (Cr – Ac – K – Er)
Question 3	The Simpsons
Question 4	Roger Hargreaves
Question 5	Driving Home for Christmas by Chris Rea
Question 6	Three French hens
Question 7	Beagle 2
Question 8	Holly
Question 9	Wales
Question 10	Christingle

## Picture quiz answers

Jingle Bells	10
Frankincense	9
Stocking	8
Gingerbread	7
Polinsettia	6
Decorate	5
Advent	4
Chestnut	3
Sugar Plum	2
Tinsel	1

## Crossword Answers

1	S	2	A	3	R	4	B	5	O	6	R	7	E	8	T	9	U	10	M
11	P	12	S	13	A	14		15	M	16		17	N	18					
19	D	20	A	21	S	22	H	23	E	24	R	25	C	26	U	27	P	28	I
29	A	30	C	31		32	M	33	O	34		35	C	36					
37	N	38	U	39	V	40		41	M	42		43	B	44	R	45	I	46	G
47	C	48	B	49	L	50	I	51	T	52	Z	53	E	54	N	55		56	N
57	E	58	R	59	A	60	X	61	T	62		63		64		65	T	66	
67	R	68		69	E	70	H	71		72	A	73	17	74	T	75	L	76	A
77		78	19	20	21	22	O	23	N	24	N	25	E	26	R	27		28	A
29	E	30		31	U	32		33	A	34		35	B	36		37		38	L
39	P	40	R	41	A	42	N	43	C	44	E	45	R	46		47	B	48	A
49	I	50		51	C	52		53	T	54		55	R	56		57		58	R
59	C	60	H	61	E	62	E	63	T	64	A	65	H	66		67	E	68	D
69		70		71		72		73		74		75		76		77	I	78	F
79		80		81		82		83		84		85		86		87	Y	88	



## What's on in and around Nether Edge in December 2019/January 2020

Every Monday from 9.00pm onwards. General Knowledge Quiz Night at the Union Hotel, Nether Edge S11 9EF. Also pop quiz once a month on the first Wednesday of the month. Popular so get there early.

Every Wednesday 12.00-1.45. Psalter Lane Lunch Club and Cameo activities at the Salvation Army, 12 Psalter Lane.S11 8YN. Tel 266 8127. £3.50.

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

[www.netheredgefolk.club](http://www.netheredgefolk.club).

Every second Tuesday of the month, 6.30-8.30pm.FTD Carers' Group. Contact Lee for info: 0114 250 5107.Heeley City Farm.

Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 11.00-3.00pm. Nether Edge Farmers Market and Christmas Craft Fair.

Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 10.30am. Advent Carol Service with Holy Communion in St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church. Please bring gifts for Baby Basics suitable for mothers and their babies; stay behind after the service for our popular Soup and Puddings lunch and a chance to stock up on hand-made and up-cycled Christmas cards.

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 6.00pm-8.00pm. Festive Wreath making workshop at The Broadfield, Abbeydale Rd. All materials provided and some festive refreshments. Tickets £35 per person, booking required as places are limited. Email on [booking@thebroadfield.co.uk](mailto:booking@thebroadfield.co.uk) or call 0114 255 0200 to book.

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 7pm. Sheffield Bach Choir's annual performance of Handel's Messiah at Sheffield Cathedral. Doors open 6.00pm. Tickets £16, concessions £13, students £5 on the door only. WeGotTickets or on the door.

Wed 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Dec Taizé Prayer for Advent in St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church. [www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk](http://www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk)

Thur 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm. Rachael Jean Harris performing at Café#9. Tickets £11. Tel 0114 258 1383.

[www.cafe9sheffield.co.uk](http://www.cafe9sheffield.co.uk)

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm. Loxley Silver Band playing traditional and local carols. A fundraising evening for 8 Lives Cat Rescue including raffle and Christmas quiz. Tickets £5 payable on the door. Contact Jenny 07743675747. Nether Edge Bowling Club

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm. Kyle Falconer a Scottish musician, best known as the lead vocalist for The View, performing at the Picture House Social, Abbeydale Picture House, S7 1FS. Tel 0114 258 1690.

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm. The 39 Steps (Adapted by Patrick Barlow). Undoubtedly one of the funniest scripts written – The 39 Steps is a rethink of the film from the 50s performed at The Lantern Theatre. Box office Wed & Fri 12.00-6.00pm. Tel 01142 255 1776. Ticketsource.

Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm. Begin your Christmas season with Escafeld Chorale's, a Christmas Fantasia. Conductor Nigel Russell in association with South Yorkshire Motor Neurone Disease Association. Tickets £10 (£8 concessions, £4 students, under 16s free) on the door, in advance from choir members, or phone 0114 236 9548/07383 007429 or online [www.escafeldchorale.org.uk](http://www.escafeldchorale.org.uk).

Thur 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 6.30pm. Carol Service with hot drinks and mince pies afterwards. St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church.[www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk](http://www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk).

Thur 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm. The Gregory Davies Band performing at Café#9. Tickets £11 supplied by WeGotTickets

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 1.00pm-4.00pm.Special event and exhibition to celebrate the launch of the new book Sharrow Vale and the Antiques Quarter by Darren O'Brien, a Sheffield based photographer. Taking place in the Fly Tower at the Abbeydale Picture House. The Exhibition will be open from 10am-4pm on Sat 14<sup>th</sup> and Sun 15<sup>th</sup>.Eventbrite.co.uk.

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30 The Abbeydale Singers perform their Christmas concert at St Mark's Church Broomhill. Ticket bookings or enquiries ring 0114 268 5493.

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 4.30pm. Children's Carol Service. The Citadel, Salvation Army, Psalter Lane. For more information view [www.sheffieldcitadel.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldcitadel.co.uk)

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm. Isla Watt a 15-year-old jazz singer performing at Café#9. Tickets £13.75. Tel 0114 258 1383. [www.cafe9sheffield.co.uk](http://www.cafe9sheffield.co.uk)

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm-10.00pm. Merlin Theatre Solstice. Traditional celebration of Christmas with local singers, dancers, musicians. Enjoy and join in with the Dungworth singers. Irish, clog and sword dancers. Rising young talent. Proceeds to Cathedral Archer Project. All tickets £7. e-mail [petermachan@hotmail.com](mailto:petermachan@hotmail.com) Phone 0114 252 5940. Merlin Theatre, 2 Meadow Bank Road. S11 9AH.

Tue 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm. Team Theo's Glow Run 5K Christmas Special is back for its third year of lighting up Endcliffe Park raising money for Sheffield Children's Hospital. To register go to The Children's Hospital Charity [Website.support@tchc.org.uk](mailto:Website.support@tchc.org.uk).

Thur 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm. Sheffield Traditional Carol Singing event returns to the Union Hotel, Union Road, Nether Edge.

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 6.30pm. Carol Service at St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church, drinks and mince pies afterwards.[www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk](http://www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk).

Christmas Eve 5.00pm Christingle Service. A re-telling of the Nativity story for all the family, St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church. [www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk](http://www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk).





# Festive picture quiz.

Compiled by John Bartram

Whether you choose to have a go at this quiz before, during or at the end of the festive season it's bound to challenge and amuse any family gathering.

1 

2 

3 

4 

5 

6 

7 

8 

9 

10 



Photo by John Scholey

**Why did the turkey join the band?**  
Because it had the drumsticks!



**Why does Santa have three gardens?**  
So he can 'ho ho ho'.



**What did the sea say to Santa?**  
Nothing! It just waved!