

EDGE

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSLETTER www.netheredge.org.uk

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The Voxettes singing at the Summer Market Pages 8-9

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NETHER EDGE IN FORTY OBJECTS - see page 6



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 month's EDGE has been compiled by David Pierce .

Any comments about this EDGE to be addressed to davidpierce@blueyonder.co.uk before 10th August

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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: 07930 417455 nengtreasurer@gmail.com

**I wish to JOIN the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group & receive the magazine EDGE
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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.co.uk) or a cheque to the value of £_____made out to "NENG".

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.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

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).

The committee has decided that in future only one EDGE will be delivered to each household and only one subscription is required per household.

Please send signed forms to our Treasurer, Victoria Imeson.



EDITORIAL

There have been many battles in and around Sheffield. Most of them occurred hundreds of years ago, from Bunanburh and Stamford Bridge to Wakefield and Towton. Each of them was fierce and left its mark on the development of our history. More recently most of us can recall the so-called Battle of Orgreave. To that list future writers and historians may add their descriptions of our current battle here in Nether Edge. It's not a battle between armies but it is a conflict the outcome of which will have significant effects upon our environment for decades to come. Like all such conflicts it would be best to bring it to an end through negotiation and conciliation, instead, all too often we see a battle continue until one side suffers such defeat that the impact affects not only the adversaries involved but also the generations that follow. Will that be the outcome of the continuing dispute about our trees? Will the character of our environment be severely damaged for a generation or more with residents left to suffer the results. It is little consolation that a future Council might wonder how such a thing could have happened and perhaps even apologise (currently a popular thing to do) a generation or two hence.

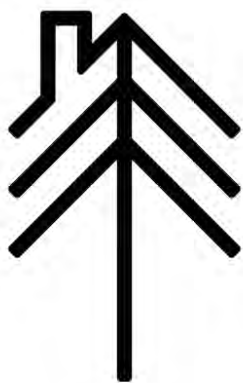
As EDGE goes to print a hearing will be taking place in Leeds High Court of a few people accused by the Council of trying to prevent what the Council argues is legal tree felling here and across the City. This follows the court cases earlier this year which did not go to trial as the prosecution case was dropped. Also, the Police have decided not to intervene in these disputes because they do not believe it is in the public interest to do so. So the Council is now asking for an injunction which would prevent any tree protestors from trying to prevent the felling. By the time you read this we will know the outcome. If the Council wins the case then it will have freedom to continue their felling of the 950 threatened trees in our area (by the autumn of this year). If their case is rejected and the tree protectors activities are ruled to be legal then it seems their dispute with the Council will continue unresolved. Since the beginning of this year, as a result of the Save the Trees campaign, only 17 trees have been felled in our area and no doubt their protests would continue. Of those 17 trees the majority were deemed to be dead, dying or dangerous which (contrary to rumour) would not have been defended in any case.

Sadly, this is one of those battles that appears to be so unnecessary. The costs, time and energy dissipated on these differences could surely have been avoided. And surely, if the judgement goes against the Council, a sensible solution will then have to be found. Even though the dispute has created some hurtful differences in the neighbourhood the strength of the tree protectors case is indicated by their determination and, from some of them, great courage. The growing concern amongst residents is becoming more visible and widespread as they realise the extent of the threat. It is evidenced by the large sums of money being donated towards legal costs. Need the 'battle' continue? It has always been right to seek an amicable solution to the problem. NENG, EDGE and others have urged this. Will commonsensical discussion driven by goodwill to develop a workable tree strategy for the area at last be possible by the time you read this?

David Pierce



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local neighbourhood charity in the process.

For more information contact Victoria Imeson
nengtreasurer@gmail.com



POETRY OR NOT POETRY, IS THAT THE QUESTION ?

A little gem of an event in the last two Nether Edge festivals has been John Turner's workshop about creative writing. John teaches the subject at Sheffield Hallam University and so it was with some trepidation that I joined him last year on a 'suck it and see' basis. I'd never had any special interest in poetry, which turned out to be the subject of his session, and I'd never attempted to write any. That appeared to be true also of the rest of the small group who met in Homemade before going for a short walk around Nether Edge, we set off to look for inspiration as we had discussed with John. 'Open your eyes' he had said, 'look at things more closely and use your imagination'.

So we did, or tried to, before returning to the café to have a go at writing some poetry based upon what we had seen and thought. With little direction we were left to our own devices and surprisingly each and every one of us was able to produce an example or two of poetry. We each read our creations to the group and talked about them. Some wondered whether or not what they had written was any good, indeed they asked, what makes good poetry as opposed to mere doggerel. John, to give him credit, was in no way tempted to enter into such muddy waters in the short time available to us and heaped praise upon us all.

For what it's worth, here's one I wrote at the workshop. I may attend it again this year.

*The bunting's out in Nether Edge
But what's to celebrate?
The resting leaves upon the ground
Herald the coming of autumn
And summer's at its end.
Roadmen have invaded the area
Impeding pedestrians
On their semi-rural walks.
The trams have long since gone
And the bus route's changed its
number
Whilst the flags and banners look
forward.
To what?
ANON*

NENG NOTE

At NENG's annual general meeting in June we saw some changes in the membership of our committee. We said farewell to Leanne Mallinder and Viv Lockwood with thanks for their contributions and welcomed Howard Fry as a new member. John Austin retired from his post as vice-chairman although he continues as a member of the committee. Our new vice-chairman will be Mazhar Hussain. Our long-serving minutes secretary Maggie Ellis also announced her decision to leave the post and we welcome Pat Rogers as her replacement. Our chairman, David Pierce gave notice that this would be his last year in office.

Consequently, our committee for the coming year is as follows

David Pierce, Chairman	John Austin	Marion Rout,	Ian Wilshaw
Mazhar Hussain, Vice Chairman	Laura Fitzgerald	Deni Ennals	Howard Fry
Ruth Bernard, Secretary	John Clifford	Marion Tylecote,	Pat Rogers
Victoria Imeson, Treasurer	Hellen Willows	Kevin Hickey,	

READ ALL ABOUT IT !

Local residents accustomed to collecting their newspapers from Steve's newsagents were surprised to find that it had suddenly closed. EDGE understands that although Steve had been contemplating his retirement for some time a deterioration in his health and a mix up with the newspaper wholesaler prompted him to close a little earlier than he had intended.

Steve has run his business for as long as most of us can recall. He has been a feature of Nether Edge life and continuously served his customers every day of the year through fair weather and the foulest. He will be missed by them all. Sainsbury's will no doubt benefit from the closure by offering an alternative service but already residents are suggesting that Steve has made such a mark on our neighbourhood for so long that his retirement should be marked in some way. They want to thank him personally and express their appreciation. EDGE can do that on their behalf and we hope to report further in the next issue. For the moment we send our best wishes and thanks to Steve and wish him a happy retirement.



NETHER EDGE IN 40 OBJECTS

By Mark Doel

I'm guessing that many of you who are reading this item still have a teddy bear, even if it is several decades old. My bear sits side by side with my wife's in a cubby off our bedroom, a kind of symbolic reminder of our much younger selves and the times before we met, as well as the years together. The teddy bear is a good example of an inanimate object to which we attach especial significance. Teddy bears might be specific to a western cultural tradition, and a relatively recent one, but the idea of an evocative object, one that attracts a particular significance, is timeless and cross-cultural. The child psychologist D.W. Winnicott developed the insight of a 'transitional object', one that helps infants begin to understand the world that is 'not-me'.

As well as helping us to make the transition from our inner world to the one out there, objects figure strongly in the timeless tales that humans tell each other: the bean in Jack and the Beanstalk; the golden slipper in Cinderella; the conch in Lord of the Flies. More recently, a range of objects has been marshalled to tell the History of the World (Neil McGregor) and the Story of Ireland (Fintan O'Toole). With this in mind I decided to explore the possibility of eliciting objects to tell the story of my own profession, social work. I had long marvelled at the diversity of opinion within social work about who and what we are and, also, at the level of unknowingness in the general public about what social work is. (See the panels for more details).

I wonder, then, if it is possible to tell the story of a community in objects? One of the successful aspects of the Social Work in 40 Objects project was the decision to open it up to the widest possible audience so that the final collection was able to reflect an inclusive,

global view of social work: stretching from one-to-one clinical practice to a broad-ranging community activism; and between utopian and dystopian perspectives on social work.

Can a neighbourhood be portrayed through Objects? How might the spirit and character of 'Nether Edge' be illustrated via a collection of Objects? What might an Exhibition of Nether Edge, told through Objects, include?

No single object can be expected to 'stand for' Nether Edge in the way a flag is used to represent a whole nation, so I think it would be important to gather a broad collection of objects that provides a composite picture, an inclusive set of stories

This historic *token* from the Foundling Hospital in London was chosen to represent enduring themes of loss and rescue in social work. It is an example of the fabric tokens that mothers left along with their babies (usually because of economic circumstance), in the hope of recovering their child in the future. The token would identify the child. Very few did.



The *road sign* was chosen by a social worker to represent ageism – a stereotyping of older people as incapacitated – and her view that social work must fight discriminatory social attitudes.



that, entertainingly and creatively, capture Nether Edge. Can it be done?

Perhaps an example will help. It's an obvious one, but has the advantage of being very current: the **Elm** on Chelsea Road. As you read 'the elm' you are probably already developing your own ideas about what the elm might symbolise. At one level, it speaks merely to the extraordinary leafiness of our neighbourhood. Is all of Nether Edge leafy? The elm also speaks to survival: it is one of the tiny percentage that were resistant to Dutch Elm disease that wiped out almost the whole elm population in the 1970s. And it

speaks to destruction: as I write it still stands, but not for long. What might this tell us more broadly about Nether Edge? The elm has become a political Object: some might point to the consequences of abdicating local power and responsibilities to global corporate power; others to the class implications of the tree controversy and the accusation that ‘tree huggers’ should be worrying about more important things. The elm is an object but it becomes something else when we start to tell its story and what it means to us.

What I discovered during the Social Work in 40 Objects project, and what I suspect would be true of a Nether Edge collection, is the need for a narrative. It’s an overused word, I know, but the meaning that we attach to an Object is what makes it evocative, what appeals to our feelings as well as to our reasoning. The beauty of ‘story through object’ is the ambiguity. You and I go to a museum and see the same object in its case, read the same plaque, but we attach our own significance and meaning to it. You feel an attachment to this object whilst my attachment is won by that one.

Social Work in 42 Objects (and more) is an attempt to tell the story of social work via Objects. The project started as a blog, to which anybody could contribute an Object (or rather the image of an object), a few lines about why they chose the object, a head photo of the person proposing the object, and a some more lines about the person’s relationship to social work.



It proved a fruitful approach, with people from 24 countries proposing over 125 objects. The blog has become a book. If you would like a copy please contact the publishers: enquiries@kirwinmaclean.com (£10 plus postage). All profits and royalties are gifted to TARA, an organisation that rescues, supports and educates street children in Delhi, India.

If you feel minded to nominate an Object for the Nether Edge collection, please contact me at doel@waitrose.com and we’ll take it from there.

I’d like to propose just one rule: that the object can be found in Nether Edge, or was found in Nether Edge, as might apply to our elm tree by the time you read this.



This ***traditional bead*** (‘ileke ibile’) was chosen by Enakele Seun David, a Nigerian social worker. The beads are worn by his village elders. David uses the beads to tell us that social work is not just a western idea; much of what he feels social work represents is characterised by the village elders: they provide social protection, mediate in disputes, care for older people, provide social leadership and guidance.

It is a utopian vision of social work, but David has always wanted to wear the tribal beads and he feels that “social work is the ileke ibile”.

Our Market in

Our Farmers' Market has developed a reputation for attracting good weather but the March market surpassed most previous ones. It was so hot and sunny that there was a scramble for the shade, not just to keep food items in tip-top condition but to avoid excess fatigue amongst stall-holders and organisers who spent the whole day there. But it's far preferable to wind and rain. What a day! And there's more good news. The total amount raised by the markets to raise funds for local charities has now surpassed £60,000.



Happy times



Yummy bread



Just the weather for belly-dancers



A dummy –or what?

n the Sunshine



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A busy Nether Edge Road



2017© Ian Wilshaw Photography

These bikes were not for sale



2017© Ian Wilshaw Photog

One of the floral displays



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Making use of our new roving mic.

Life at the Market – A Stallholder's Perspective

Nether Edge Farmers' Market is the friendly market. Not only are the organisers incredibly pleasant and accommodating, but it's a rare market when we don't see lots of old friends enjoying the atmosphere.

We've attended the market as stallholders since December 2009. We look back at that event with horror and incredulity at how little we knew and how much we had to learn. We had a place in Jackson's carpark on a freezing cold but sunny December day, and we were fortunate that it was sunny as we had no gazebo, so if it had rained we would have had some very wet cakes. Luckily the organiser at that time, Thildy, had a reputation for conjuring up a fine day for the market. It is rare that the market has been rained on. But like all stallholders we have had to contend with it too wet, too cold, too windy, too hot or too sunny; in fact we're never 100% happy with the weather.

When you start as a stallholder you really don't know what you don't know, but other stallholders are a great source of advice and help and we gradually sorted ourselves out and started to look forward to the Nether Edge market. The market is always well run and we soon had a regular place on Nether Edge Road (usually No. 19 unless parked cars, skips or piles of snow got in the way). This meant that regular customers could find us easily. Having a regular place is incredibly important and something that not every

market organiser understands.

We loved our place by the junction of Nether Edge Road and Glen Road as we were ideally placed to see and hear the great mix of entertainment. We've heard some wonderful bands and singers over the years and seen a variety of dance styles, we particularly appreciated the belly dancers who would give a passionate performance regardless of the weather. The varied entertainment certainly adds to the happy ambience of the market.

The variety of other stallholders is also a highlight. You can buy the food of the Caribbean, Russia, Italy, Poland, all made locally. Not only that but fabulous local producers of meat, mushrooms, honey, coffee, vegetables, etc. are all incredibly tempting and you can soon spend your profits.

We won't be at the June market as stallholders because we have stopped our little business, but we are certainly looking forward to a leisurely Sunday morning stroll down to the market (we won't miss the early starts!) and experiencing the wonderful atmosphere and stalls as customers. However, we will miss doing the market, chatting with the customers, meeting friends and catching up with other stallholders. So we hope the market runs and runs and everyone continues to enjoy it as much as we did.

Alison Foster

(The Heavenly Cheesecake Company)

Heritage Open Days 2017

Last year the range of events for Heritage Open Days was even more diverse: opportunities to see our industrial heritage up close, walks, many places of interest, talks, bike rides and churches. Once again the Nether Edge History Group had a successful walk attracting a large group of people for their walk around the historic buildings of Nether Edge including a tour of the Merlin Theatre.

Bell ringing was something put on throughout the city with eight places participating. The millennium bells were rung in the Millennium Gallery and we had a go at ringing the bells in the bell tower of St John's Church Ranmoor.

Two industrial venues opened last year which allowed us to get up close to the way things are manufactured. At the Wentworth Pewter works we saw how a sheet of pewter could be turned into a beautiful tankard. At Gripple [based on the site of the Old West Gun Works] we saw their wire/gripping products being made using robots and workforce. Aizlewood Mill, a converted Victorian flour mill, is now used for start-up companies. The renovation has retained many of the original features, including the scary Paternoster lift in which users hung on to a belt via a metal handle.

A walk from Walkley to Broomhill provided an exciting opportunity to do drainspotting! We looked down rather than up to identify drains from the 19th Century, including one with the Duke of Norfolk's symbol.

A tour of the Abbeydale Picture House gave us a chance to go behind the scenes and to learn about its history.

We saw the beautiful stained glass Creation Window in St Andrew's Church on Psalter Lane and learned about the coming together of two faiths in one church.

The Broomhill Library was the former home of Sheffield industrialist Arthur Lee who employed Percy Cane to design his garden [who also designed the garden of Haile Selassie's Palace in Ethiopia]. The volunteers are working to restore the garden to its former glory.

We have learnt so much about Sheffield, its people and its past by getting involved with this annual event. So make a note in your diary for this year: 7th to 10th September Heritage Open Days 2017. Leaflets giving the details of this year's events will be available at the Tourist Information Office in August or visit the website: www.heritageopendays.org.uk

Margaret Blenkinsopp



IT'S FESTIVAL TIME AGAIN !

Nether Edge Festival 15 to 24th September 2017



Planning for Nether Edge Festival has moved up a gear! There are a lot of events in the final planning stage, too many to mention by name here. Brochures with full details will be distributed to local households from the end of August onwards. Most events are free but a few require booking in advance and tickets will be available from Wickwire.. Information about what, where and how to book will be on our website as soon as we have completed the programming. Go to: netheredgefestival.co.uk, [Facebook@netheredgefestival](https://www.facebook.com/netheredgefestival), and [Twitter@NEedgefestival](https://twitter.com/NEedgefestival).

We have already told EDGE readers about our event at Common Ground where the Lord Mayor will open festivities. We have also talked about the ceilidh, the concert at Kenwood, dinner at Baldwins Omega, the Community Art and Craft Fair, Sounds of the Spirit, History talks and the Young Artists exhibition. We can now promise you a concert by Sheffield Folk Chorale, a community curry, a Pea and Pie Supper with quiz, a programme of concerts at Café #9, and a range of other events covering food and drink, children, lunch clubs, music and more.

For readers among you there will be another book group meeting. This time we will meet local author Lynfa Moses who will be talking about her debut novel Demented Love. Look out for the yarnstorming! Before the festival we need to start knitting leaves and decorating our gardens and public spaces. Find out more about how to take part at Facebook - Nether Edge Yarnstormers, and Twitter [NEyarnstorming@NEyarnstormers](https://twitter.com/NEyarnstorming) or look up <http://tinyurl.com/NEFyarnstorm>

We value the help and support of local businesses and community organisations to put on many free and low cost events. Of course some events cost money. So there will be another festival raffle this year to support our programme. Tickets will be on sale at the Farmers' Markets and from individuals. If you can offer a raffle prize please contact Howard at howard.fry@icloud.com. We are always keen to accept offers of help! There is a lot to do and local friends and neighbours can help in many ways. For example we always need help at Party in the Park on the last Sunday, we would be grateful for anyone who is a qualified first-aider to join a rota to give us cover throughout the three hours.

Maggie Little maggielit@sky.com

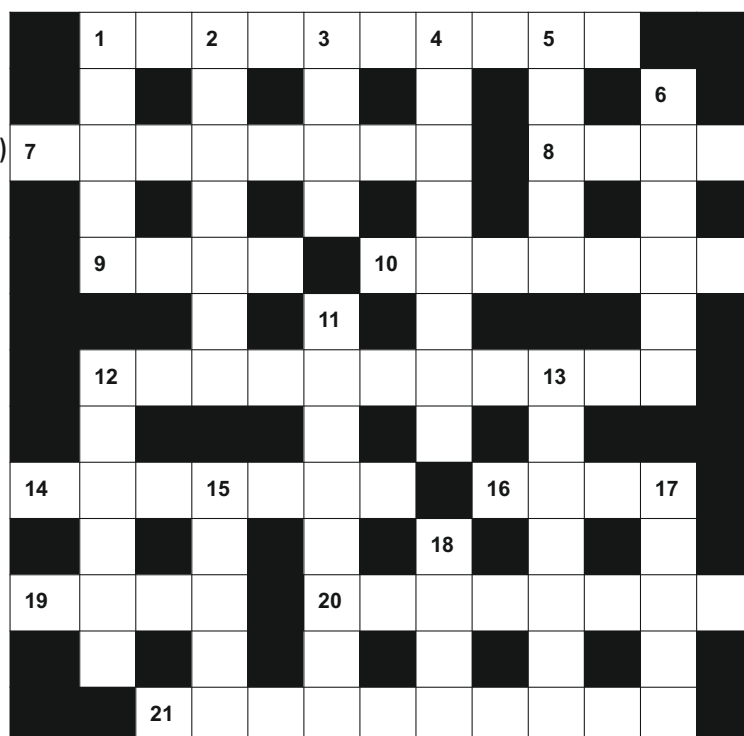
SPRAT'S NINETY THIRD CROSSWORD

Across

1. Complementary medicine, using minute doses (10)
7. Entrance to a grain store or hinged flap on a spotlight (4,4)
8. Drink made from honey (4)
9. A Muslim who has been on pilgrimage to Mecca (4)
10. Mountain, named after a British surveyor general in India (7)
12. Basilisks (11)
14. Oxters (7)
16. The North Wind (4)
19. Arab market (4)
20. Knee length trousers, cut to resemble a skirt (8)
21. Deadly nightshade (10)

Down

1. He had a yacht called the Morning Cloud (5)
2. Barking deer (7).
3. Woodwind instrument (4)
4. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was ... (8)
5. He wrote the Iliad and the Odyssey (5)
6. Blackcurrant liqueur (6)
11. To do with the sea and sailing (8)
12. Large globular glass bottle with a narrow neck (6)
13. Small piece of fried bread (7)
15. High quality black tea (5)
17. Cub Scout Leader (5)
18. Clump of earth or clay (4)



Have you ever been to a meeting where the first thing said by the chairman is 'Right who's going to take the minutes?' This usually results in much shuffling of feet and downcast eyes to avoid those of the chairman. Volunteers to do the job are not easy to find. The post of minutes secretary is one of the hardest to fill. And yet for most meetings we don't need a Hansard where every word spoken in Parliament is recorded but nor is it merely a few scribbled notes on the back of an envelope. Depending on their purpose the minutes of a meeting can be highly detailed (and yet still open to misinterpretation) or at another extreme so unclear (or wrong) that they are not useful at all. In NENG, our minutes lie somewhere between these extremes and it's recognised that the job of a minutes secretary is an important and difficult one.

We've been lucky in NENG that for the last eight or nine years we have had the services of Maggie Ellis. She has recorded the events of scores of meetings with accuracy and clarity, using just the right number of words to communicate the meaning intended. Quietly, she has performed this essential role with patience and diligence in occasionally confusing circumstances. We are sorry that she has decided to retire from the post and NENG records its appreciation and thanks for all her work. Thank you Maggie.

Community Star Awards

On 3rd July the Nether Edge & Sharrow Ward Councillors held a Community Star Awards event in the Town Hall to recognise individuals who work in the local community. Over 50 certificates were presented at the awards ceremony, which included local litter pickers; Jake Hurst, who volunteers at Common Ground; workers at Nether Edge Primary School and several nominated by Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group.

These include Marion Rout and Marion Tylecote, for their work helping Nether Edge to look beautiful. Marion Rout has run the annual Open Gardens Scheme in Nether Edge for many years. Households volunteer to open their gardens on one day a year, usually in June, and raise money for charities of their choosing. Marion Tylecote is mainly responsible for the wild meadow in Chelsea Park and also the wonderful pocket garden on the roundabout at the top of Sharrow Lane

Two nominees who serve on the Farmer's Market committee also received awards. Huw Evans, a founder member of the Nether Edge Farmers Market and Gina Pierce, who runs a tombola stall in aid of local care homes at the Market and also helps Father Christmas there at Christmas. There have now been 38 markets and they have been hugely successful, raising over £60,000 for charity

David Pierce received an award for his work as chair of the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group. He is also involved in the Festival and the Farmers' Market and is a rather fabulous Father Christmas every year. The Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood, also received an award, (See page 16).

There are many people in Nether Edge who work voluntarily to make it a better place to live. The Star awards is one way of thanking them. However, more volunteers are needed to share the work. Please consider getting involved in the work of the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group. It could be serving on the committee (more fun than it sounds), helping at the Farmers' Market, contributing to the work of the Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood or the History Group, or volunteering for the Festival. Please contact Ruth Bernard at nengsec16@gmail.com if you interested in becoming involved with any of the groups mentioned.

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DID YOU NOTICE ANYTHING?

You may be aware that the notice board in Sainsbury's car park that NENG used to advertise various events is missing. I came home from holiday at the end of May to find the notice board mangled and listing to one side. Apparently, an elderly male driver had lost control of his car and crashed into the post. I was told that he walked away unscathed, although I don't know about the extent of damage to his car. What he didn't do was leave any contact details to enable NENG to get in touch. NENG is now having to bear the cost of replacing the notice board. If anyone knows anything about the incident, please get in touch at nengsec16@gmail.com

I would also like to thank two people who helped with clearing away the remains of the notice board. Ollie, from Sainsbury's (with permission from the manager) and Tim, from the Nether Edge garage.

Ruth Bernard - NENG Secretary

DEMENTED LOVE A date for your diary!

What an exciting opportunity to hear about a quirky /racy tale of a wife who seeks revenge on her philandering husband. He now has dementia and the dynamics of the relationship change – with unexpected and often hilarious consequences. It could be described as S&M for the M&S brigade. Amazon describes Lynfa Moses' new book as 'a laugh out loud book for the broad-minded reader'.

'Demented Love' is Lynfa's debut novel and she has kindly agreed to talk at the **Nether Edge Bowling Club on Tuesday 19th September 2017 at 7.30pm** as part of the Nether Edge Festival.



She will tell us about her research for the book, including joining dating websites to find younger men, enabling her to create one of her characters, Hot Rod. Lynfa has lived in Sheffield for over 30 years. She has taught social work at Sheffield Hallam University and social care at Sheffield College. She developed her writing skills through an MA in Creative Writing and on courses led by Susan Elliot Wright (who was our guest author at last year's Festival). The book is available now through bookshops or online. So you could get the book and come armed with questions Looking forward to seeing you there.

Richard Taylor

NENG NOTE

AT THE AGM

It has become normal practice at NENG to present printed reports from officers and groups and to take questions arising from them at the AGM. The exception to this has been the chairman's report. This slot in the agenda is to allow aspects of the report to be emphasised or embellished if the chairman deems it appropriate. (EDGE has been assured that its real purpose is not simply to extend the meeting). At this year's AGM he chose to compare the high profile activities in which NENG engages with those that are not so noticeable but just as, if not more, important. Amongst the high profile events he mentioned the farmers' market and the June market was held a week after the AGM. It raised another £2000 for local charities and again transformed Nether Edge, this time on a very hot day. The preceding weekend had seen another of NENG's Open Garden Days and David talked about how his garden had participated for the first time and given him the opportunity to see the event 'from the other side'. The £165 they raised for St Luke's was minor compared to the market's success but the conversations and meetings between the local residents that came to view the garden were a real boost to community life. Similarly, volunteers maintain and improve Brincliffe Woods, the pocket park and Chelsea Park whilst others, too many of them to name, regularly pick up litter. Such low profile activities are the authentic face of a thriving community whilst the higher profile EDGE mainly reflects them.



Sprat's Crossword answers



Graham Berry is a founder member of Dark Peak Fell Runners. He has been an enthusiastic member of the club since it was founded in 1976. Here he writes not about his achievements in that time but about the Dark Peak environment which he loves and which provides the stage for this challenging and highly demanding sport.

The April edition of EDGE fits well with Sheffield’s claim to be a great centre for outdoor activities, with an account of the Eastern Moors, the life of a Peak District National Park Ranger, the varied Sheffield wildlife and walks through Nether Edge. There are outdoor activities in which to engage close to Sheffield which are rarely mentioned. Fell-running is one which has occupied me for about 40 years.

Nether Edge lies about 5 miles from the Peak National Park which includes both the White and the Dark Peak areas. Both have their special and separate attractions with their particular landscapes determined by their local geology, limestone and gritstone, respectively. My interest has been in the Dark Peak and its fells which can reach over 2,000 feet on Kinder Scout and Bleaklow. The Dark Peak extends from the “edges” in the south (Derwent, Bamford, Stanage, White, Froggatt and Curbar) and the Holmfirth moors in the north. The eastern edge is near Langsett with the western edge being at about Hayfield. This is an approximate definition but it indicates the wide extent of the Dark Peak.

Within this region, there is a variety of gritstone landscape including weather-worn rock which has been sculpted into many amazing shapes over the centuries. Most of them have been given names and my favourite is Madwoman’s Stones. They lie close to Druid’s Stone and Coffin Rock, within a half mile of each other at the extreme south east of Kinder Scout near to Crookstone Knoll. My imagination is set running by thoughts of what might have happened there, perhaps some ancient ceremony?? Almost directly across the Woodlands and Derwent valleys are a few interestingly named outcrops, the Coach and Horses (i.e. Wheel Stones), Salt Cellar and Cakes of Bread are all on the southern end of Derwent Edge. Moving further up the valley and away from rock formations



about sustenance we find other geographical features continue the theme. There is the valley with the delightful name of Cranberry Clough. The theme changes to an aristocratic one by the two springs named after the Lords Surrey and Edward Howard. This “posh” part of the Dark Peak at the end of the Derwent valley road is topped off, of course, by the King’s Tree, planted to mark the completion of the dams.

In this north eastern corner of the Dark Peak, the many streams and cloughs which drain into the Derwent valley must have a set a challenge for the locals to give all of them their individual names. Some have delightfully, even romantic names like Candlerush but others are more prosaically named as Spring Gutter and Rhian Gutter. It almost feels as if the local folk were losing patience with the naming process with Near, Middle and Far Small Cloughs and, nearby, again on the northern edge of Bleaklow, are the Near, Middle and Far Black Cloughs! It is imagined that at the nearby Shepherds Meeting Stones, the names of all these cloughs and gutters were decided upon quickly so that they could get on with their shepherding.

NENG NOTE

THE CHAIRMAN NOTED

At our AGM the NENG Chairman, David Pierce, took a moment to warn again that Nether Edge was facing 'the most severe threat to our environment that we have ever faced'. He was referring of course to the Council's programme of tree felling across the City and especially in our area where the felling crews may attempt to destroy our avenues of limes any day soon. The Save the Trees campaign has enjoyed much success and considerable support in the last two years despite the determined and desperate tactics employed by Amey and the Council. The campaign will continue but 'if it fails our environment will be changed and not recover, if at all, for the rest of our lifetimes'.

What's On in and around Nether Edge August 2017

Every Wednesday 12noon-1.45pm: *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, Nether Edge Bowling Club. www.netheredgefolk.club.

Wed 2nd -30th Aug 10-12.30pm *Fun Family Craft Activities*. These are drop-in sessions, adults £4, concessions £3, children free. Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet. (Every Wed in August)

Thur 3rd, 17th, 31st 6-9pm *Knitting and Craft Group* every fortnight on a Thursday. Community Room Heeley City Farm .free.

Sat 5th Aug 10am. *Porter Valley's woodland heritage*. A walk led by Ruth Morgan for the Friends of Porter Valley. Meet at Endcliffe Park, Hunter's Bar entrance.

Sun 6th Aug 1.-5pm. *Teddy Bear's Picnic* special train rides. Ticket proceeds to Sheffield Children's Hospital charity Abbeydale Road Miniature Railway opp.283 Abbeydale Rd South,S17 3LB, trains run from 1-5pm fares £1.50 per person.

Sun 6th Aug starts 2pm *History tour of the General Cemetery*, 1st Sunday of each month. A guided walk introducing you to the history of the cemetery and residents.

Mon 7th-12th Aug. *Sheffield will be hosting The Special Olympics Great Britain National Games*. 2,600 athletes with learning difficulties will be taking part supported by 800 coaches, 750 volunteers, 150 officials and over 5,000 family and friends. For more information <https://www.sufc.co.uk/specialolympics>.

Mon 7th Aug 2.30-5.30pm *Imagination Gaming* will be at the Highfield library. Come and join us for board games, puzzles and mind boggling fun. Suitable for 5yr olds and over. Free drop in family fun. Part of Children's University Festival of Fun. tel 0114 293 0018 or 203 7204 email highfield@sheffield.gov.uk

Tue 8th Aug 6.30-8.30pm. *Frontotemporal Dementia Carers group*, carers supporting carers. Community room Heeley City Farm.

Wed 9th Aug 10am-12.00. *Mini Olympics* Endcliffe Park S11 7AB. Mini Olympics sports and activities.

Fri 11th Aug 7.30pm. *The British Cacti and Succulent Society*. A talk on *Cold tolerant succulents* by David Quail providing tips on which of our plants will grow outside in the UK. Held in the Scout shop upstairs at 60-68 Trippet Lane. S1 4EL. Free entry. tel 01709584393 for more information.

Fri 11th, 18th Aug and 1st Sept *Summer Sensory Sessions*. 10am-11.am babies/nonmovers, 12pm-1pm and 2pm-3pm toddlers/mini movers. Highfield Library and Children's Centre. Places need to be booked all free. tel 0114 293 0018 or 203 7204 email highfield@sheffield.gov.uk

Fri 11th Aug *A Different Thread*, an American Duo performing at the Nether Edge Bowling Club. Tickets £6-phone Michelle 07742627839 or email nedgebc@yahoo.co.uk.

Mon 14th Aug 12.00-2.30pm *Nosh and Natter* at the Union Hotel, Union road. Enjoy chatting? Like meeting new people? Everyone welcome. Contact Chris Venables tel 255 0805.

Wed 16th Aug 10.00am-12.00. *Animal Farmyard Theme* at Graves Park, Derbyshire Lane, S8 8SB. Activities include making ladybirds, What the Ladybird Heard Story and animal songs.

Tues 22nd Aug 10.30-11.30am *Animal sing and Dance* at the Highfield Library. suitable for children 5yr and under. Please book free place. tel 0114 293 0018 or 203 7204 email highfield@sheffield.gov.uk

Wed 23rd Aug 6.00-8.00pm. *Sheffield Interfaith Food and Friendship* at Shirley House, Interfaith Centre, Psalter Lane.

Wed 23rd Aug 10-12.00noon *Teddy Bear's Picnic* Mount Pleasant Park Abbeydale Rd S7 1BV. Activities to include picnic, bear hunt story and play dough. Bring your own picnic blanket and Teddy Bear.

Fri 25th Aug 2.30-4.30pm. *Join the Road Safety Team* at Highfield Library. This is a free activity for children aged 5+ yrs. tel 0114 293 0018 or 203 7204 email highfield@sheffield.gov.uk

Sun 27th & Mon 28th Aug 1-5pm. *Abbeydale Miniature Railway* train rides. opp 283 Abbeydale Rd South, S17 3LB. Free parking. Tickets £1.50 per person per ride.

Wed 30th & Wed 31st Aug. *Summer Play Scheme, Pony Care Day* at Whirlow Farm. Join us for a day of fun for children aged 6-11. Full supervision by trained staff. £38 per child. Pre booking only call 01142350096 or email educationquiries@whirlowfarm.org.uk.

Sat 2nd Sept *The Archer Lane Allotment & Home Grown Garden Society Annual Flower and Vegetable Show*. Staging from 8.30-11.00am, judging 11.15-1.30pm open to the public from 2.30pm. trophies presented 3.30pm followed by the raffle. Any members can exhibit their produce for a small fee. Held at The Pavillion (hut) Archer Rd.

Mon 4th Sept 6-8pm. *Nether Edge History Group Open Meeting* at the Union Hotel. Lively and informal discussion and exploration of various aspects of local history. All welcome. Email john.austin1@blueyonder.co.uk for further information.

Thur 7th Sept 2.30-4pm. *Heritage Open Day walk led by the Nether Edge History Group*. Starting and finishing at Baldwin's Omega car park, off Brincliffe Hill/Chelsea Court. To include pre-history and quarrying and a walk through Brincliffe Edge Wood hosted by the Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood.

Fri 8th Sept 7.30pm. *The British Cacti and Succulent Society* present an exhibition of photographs taken by John Betteley of cactus shows from the last 35 years, stunning wining plants. Held in the Scout shop upstairs at 60-68 Trippet Lane. S1 4EL. Free entry. tel 01709584393 for more information.



RECOGNITION OF THE FRIENDS OF BRINCLIFFE EDGE WOODS

"It beats going to the gym" said an exhausted volunteer from the Yorkshire Building Society at the end of the June work morning. YBS fielded five volunteers out of a total turnout that day of 15; a much needed response given the rate of plant growth due to a combination of warmth and summer rain.

The main task was assembling brash piles to keep paths and clearings tidy and to form habitat locations for small mammals. The beech hedge along by the footpath at the top end of the Wood was pruned and the central section of the Round Walk steps, installed in 2016, was improved. The Ranger, Chris, put in two new posts where the fence adjacent to Brincliffe Edge Road had rotted. A satisfied group of volunteers wound up the morning by continuing to clear the steps down from the top entrance and...er.....oh yes, litter was picked.

After an emergency appeal to weed and clear Frog Walk Pocket Park and the meadow area in Chelsea Park a number of FoBEW volunteers stepped up to help improve these two Nether Edge gems.

The big news this month, both for FoBEW and one of its founder members Marian Tylecote is that we were honoured at the Nether Edge & Sharrow Community Star Awards 2017 ceremony at the Town Hall on July 3rd. The citation "In recognition of their outstanding contribution to the Nether Edge and Sharrow community" says it all and is a fitting tribute to our group of supporters and to the volunteers who turn out regularly to make sure that Brincliffe Edge Wood remains a safe, healthy and attractive green space.

Marian Tylecote received an individual award and a Star Award trophy in recognition of the extraordinary work that she has carried out tirelessly for over thirty years. The research project that Marian carried out with Nigel Dunnett & the University of Sheffield is now complete and the results have been excellent. Marian has been trialling plants to ensure that they are suitable for park meadows and she grows many of these plants that enhance our local green spaces in her own garden. In the Autumn of 2008 the Council granted Marian and friends a licence to develop a planting scheme beside the Psalter Lane roundabout which she subsequently named Frog Walk Pocket Park. Marian's firm control over the meadow area in Chelsea Park and her transformation of the Frog Walk Pocket Park garden have now been recognised by the wider community.

Ken Phillip



Marian Tylecote



1 Howard Trott accepts the Award on behalf of FoBEW from Coun. A. Teal. Also present are Councillors J. Stienke and M. Maroof.



2 Marian's friend Sarah Ross receives her awards from Nasima Akther. Also present are the Deputy Lord Mayor Magid Magid and Councillors Maroof and Stienke.



3 The Meadow in Chelsea Park.