

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSLETTER www.netheredge.org.uk Company Limited by Guarantee No. 07414080

MARCH 2017



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 assisted by Mazhar Hussein. The April Edge will be produced by David Pierce assisted by Ian Wilshaw. Any comments about this EDGE, or submission of letters or articles should be addressed to David Pierce (contact details below) before the 10th March deadline.

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Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group - Application for Membership

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

Victoria Imeson, 81 Nether Edge Road, S7 1RW, Tel: 07930 417455, nengtreasurer@gmail.com I wish to join the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group & receive the magazine EDGE by Email*/Hand Delivered*

	(*Delete as appropriate)
Name:	
Address	Postcode:
Tel:	
Annual Subscriptions due from 1st April are £8 per household or Standing Order form (downloadable from www.netheredge.co.uk	
As a local resident/supporter of NENG, I also wish to become a entitles me to have full voting rights at the AGM, receive reguunlikely event that the Company be wound up, I promise to pay this liability will continue for 1 year after I cease to be a member	lar copies of EDGE and fully particpate in its activities. In the he sum of £1 towards its debts if asked to do so, and understand
Signature:	Date:

PLEASE NOTE: Should you prefer not to become a 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.

SUBURBAN DESTRUCTION

By David Pierce, Chairman, Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group

We never imagined it would come to this in Nether Edge. We never imagined that large stretches of roads would be cordoned off and protected by police. We never imagined that fourteen people would be arrested and detained for hours in police cells. We never imagined that people would be threatened with arrest on private property or that house owners would be scared inside their homes. We did not expect the Council to be so stubbornly and arrogantly determined when faced with such a storm of reasonable opposition to its trees policy.

If it were not for the peaceful and intelligent opposition by the Save the Trees campaigners the Council would be even further down their road towards an environmental disaster. Thankfully, as we go to press, Amey's tree fellers have been forced to halt their operations in the face of a legal challenge by the protesters. We shall see if the force of law added to the peaceful protests (and in spite of some claims, they are peaceful) will encourage them to change their direction. After all, contrary to continuing misunderstanding by some and deliberate misleading by others, all that the campaigners are asking for is a sincere discussion between all parties to identify which trees need to be felled. Nobody is denying that some need to be. Social media, on the other hand, is packed with photographs of endangered trees and some which have been felled, showing that the only reason for their removal is very slight disruption to the alignment of kerbstones. The more people have begun to realise what is going on the more they are adding their voices to call for a stop to the destruction of their trees. This was demonstrated in Chipping House Road recently when the flawed consultation by the Council was exposed as valueless. When felling began in their road the objections of residents became clear, especially through the results of a door to door survey conducted by campaigners.

Nether Edge enjoys some of the finest thoroughfares in the country. Its tree-lined avenues would be envied and treasured in other cities. Other cities all over the world apply simple measures to avoid felling big, beautiful, healthy trees. Here the Council and Amey have embarked upon a campaign of destruction which will be regretted by generations to come. 'How could they have done that?' people will ask. It is no too late to save them. After all, the Council's State of Sheffield report published in February states: 'People in Sheffield feel that they are not listened to and that their views are not acted upon and that more should be done to engage and inform people about how to contribute'. It's not too late to listen.

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COMMON GROUND – A PROGRESS REPORT

Common Ground was established in 2004. It aims to improve the lives of local people by providing premises and ground facilities for use by local people and organisations and promoting community cohesion by organising a range of multicultural events. We took over the lease of the building and garden from the Church in November 2011 for a period of 25 years. At present there are 6 active committee members who manage Common Ground's affairs under the leadership of our cochairs, Ali Qadar and Gary Simon Black.

In recent years Common Ground has been under financial pressures, mainly due to the under-usage of, the premises and consequent loss of income. However, the financial position has improved during the last few months as the hall and rooms have been used more often. Increasingly, local groups and individuals have hired the premises for weddings, birthdays, Christmas and New Year parties. They are also being used regularly by groups who hire the hall and rooms for dancing, drumming, prayer and sewing classes. Outside the hall there is a large open space which has great potential to be used for many purposes. Already a group of local residents meet to grow delicious vegetables in our large raised

beds. Our own success in increasing our income has been recognised by the help we have received from our landlord and the City Council. Our aim now is to build upon our improving financial position by bringing the premises up to a more decent standard. We estimate it will cost about £9000 to make initial improvements and decoration.

In spite of our recent progress there is a long way to go before Common Ground can be the valuable community resource it envisages. Any help you can offer will be welcomed and valued. We are also looking for more committee members and volunteers. We hold regular monthly committee meetings at 7pm on second Tuesday of each month.

The rents for the hall and rooms are very reasonable. For the hall it costs £15 per hour for one off users and £12 for regular users. The rent for the rooms is £8 per hour for one off users and £6 for regular ones.

For booking enquiries please phone: Ali Qadar on 07958629881

Knit and Natter Group

The Knit and Natter Group meets on a Monday morning between 10:00 and 12:00 in Shirley House, Psalter Lane. The group is very relaxed and welcoming and was originally started as a fellowship and friendship group for mostly newly retired women. Up to 25 people aged between 30-90 now attend to enjoy the friendship and the 'knitting'. It is not exclusively a knitting group as people are encouraged to be creative in any way that suits them. People also work on crochet, embroidery, tapestry, quilting and card making. We are all happy to share our skills and a number of people have learnt to knit for the first time. We are happy to welcome men as well as women but so far I have only taught one man to knit. We hope he won't be the last. We are also happy for carers to bring children with them. Some weeks we consume less tea and cakes than we normally do!

People work on their own individual projects and items are also made for charitable groups. We have supported a charity that sends baby goods to Africa by making blankets, cardigans, hats and teddies. We also knitted a set of Nativity characters for St. Andrew's Psalter Lane Church Christmas festivities. Some of these characters visited local schools and went home for a night with children during Advent. We have a voluntary collection to cover costs and we have been able to support various local charities such as ASSIST, HARC and Molly's Dollies.

If you have a spare hour or two on a Monday morning please come along and join us. We are always pleased to welcome and make new friends. It is a great start to the new week.

Contact Alison Gregg 2665638 alisongregg25@hotmail.com



MUSINGS OF A LITTER-PICKER

I start my usual monthly round encouraged as the streets seem pretty clear. Have the street cleaners recently been or has the population of Nether Edge finally resolved to be tidy?

Machon Bank Road sustains my hopes. The odd plastic bottle, a car wing mirror and the ubiquitous odd bits of paper that are too plastered to the pavement to scrape up.

The first big test of my optimism: the corner patch at the bottom of Bank Close. Always a problem and clearly seen as a dumping ground. Maybe the location is the exact distance it takes to consume food and drink from Sainsbury's before the emptied container can be thrown away. Surprisingly it is clean but only, I suspect because workmen are repairing the wall and have cut down the vegetation.

Up and down Ryle Road, and the usual story with odd bits of rubbish and, most significantly, a pile of cigarette packets and cigarette ends. Strange, these are usually densest around the garages. Today they are across the road on an unremarkable piece of pavement. I mentally divide the 3 sq. meter patch into grids and count the butt ends. I make it around 200. Has someone emptied their car ashtray? Is there a smokers coven in the area?

Montgomery again is predictable. As I pick up the umpteenth sweet packet, most of which are discarded in sight of a litter bin, I muse what the parents of children tell them these days about litter. Predictably, the access lane off Montgomery Road to the Nether Edge Club has again acted as a magnet for the indolent or defiant. This time a load of what looks like building rubble has been dumped. Would like to clear it but I only have my bare hands and a plastic bag.

Retrace my steps on the other side of Montgomery and on to Moncrieffe. Feel my usual sympathy for the residents of Moncrieffe, especially on the eastern side. The low stone walls and set back houses seem somehow to induce a feeling that the grounds are especially made for people to discard whatever they feel. Peer over and yes, the rubbish is piled up as it usually is. How does this work? Why do people assume this is a litter collection spot.

Turn back up Machon Bank Road at the lights and scout the corner of Sainsbury's car park. The overgrown shrubbery always seems far more tempting than the adjacent bin. Clear up the obvious stuff but not dressed or equipped to scrum into the undergrowth.

The ends of Violet Bank Road and Raven Road unusually clear. Again a mystery to me why open space should be seen as a legitimate place to throw rubbish. Or when yellow barriers are put up around roadworks and become virtual rubbish bins. All of which is left when the barriers are finally recovered.

Back at my starting point I reflect on the 30 minute exercise and my tally:

Around 7 drinks cans, 20 cellophane packets, 7 bottles (two with an indeterminate liquid still in them), 8 cigarette packets, along with around 30 sizeable items of indeterminate and sometimes suspicious looking paper. Best not think about this as I am using my bare hands. Gloves and grabbers far too clumsy. Sundry items collected and spotted: a newspaper, a 'C&K' manual, a framed scene of a camel train, an odd trainer.

A good day in the end, I think as I ram the half-filled black bag of items into the bin. Usually runs to 2 bags. Was it worth it? It makes me feel a bit better. I get the odd complimentary comment, though usually outweighed by the bemused looks. Maybe, just maybe, I think, the clean-up will encourage better behaviour. Though the speed at which my 'round' fills up again each month suggests not.

Will anything work? Shame notices at black spots? A regular EDGE competition for the worst instances? Bins that say thank you when litter is dropped in them? I am becoming feverish. Time to call it a day. And wash my hands.

John Austin



A MOVING MUSICAL FAREWELL BY TIM SMEDLEY

I would be surprised if there are many people who would disagree with the obvious need to resurface the roads and pavements across our city - a short drive around will be enough to convince anyone with doubts that Sheffield's roads have been neglected for many years and are in a desperate state. So, for the Council, the chance to team up with Amey under the Streets Ahead programme was almost too good to be true.

In reality, it is too good to be true. The situation we find ourselves in is that the many trees that make our streets so colourful and beautiful are mere pawns in the negotiations between Amey and Sheffield City Council. Unwanted by Amey and seemingly an afterthought in their negotiations with the Council, they literally get in the way of their resurfacing programme and threaten the profit that is the prime motivator for Amey's multibillion pound contract. There are many other and better ways of carrying out the work that needs to be done across our city, ways in which far fewer trees could be felled and our beautiful streets could retain the charm that made me want to move to the city six years ago. However, many of these options will create higher costs for Amey, and that is the reason Amey want to lose so many of our trees. Whether you are personally for or against the fellings, I would be very surprised to find anyone who is in favour of the vast profit that Amey stand to make from the Streets Ahead programme. But we have to ask whose money is it that is funding Amey's profits? It is of course largely funded by us, the residents of the city. Yet our repeated cries to consider viable alternatives have been continuously ignored by an increasingly stubborn and ignorant council and a multinational contractor that seemingly has no interest in anything other than lining its pocket.

My family and I moved onto Dunkeld Road in the autumn and therefore missed the survey that was so dubiously distributed to residents by the Council in the summer in the notorious unmarked brown envelopes. So we were incredibly disappointed to see six trees on our street marked for felling shortly before Christmas. In mid-January, as I was driving to work I noticed that work had begun on one of the larger trees near the bottom of the street. I called my wife who notified STAG and within minutes, several protestors were on hand to step into the enclosed area. I was also there that day and we managed to prevent any further work being carried out. However, the workers returned the next day and although we made our voices well and truly heard, in the end, the tree was felled. On this second day, the police came and threatened us with arrest. At which point I suddenly realised that there might be something that I could do that had not yet been done. I ran home, printed out a short piece of music and played a poignant and beautiful Catalan folk song called The Song of the Birds under the tree. This marked the end of the protest and the tree was felled shortly afterwards.

This was a totally unplanned spur of the moment decision. The YouTube video has received a great deal of publicity on social media, including a re-tweet from a French politician to her 340k followers. A lot of people have commented on how moving an experience it was for them. It was for me too: it was an intense moment as I knew there was potential for this to travel far. In going beyond words it represents the power that music can have. I hoped in that moment that we might be able to use it as a way to gain further support and provide further proof to Amey and the Council that there is huge opposition to their actions. The campaign to save our trees has snowballed since the outrageous events that took place on Rustlings Road in November, and I hope that my short contribution on that Tuesday morning might help to keep that ball rolling and perhaps help develop further support. More and more people feel passionately that the combined behaviour of Sheffield City Council and Amey is totally unacceptable. If together they would take the time to listen and seriously consider some of the justified alternatives that the STAG campaign has sought to develop we might all be able to get on with resurfacing those streets before irreparable damage is done to our city.



EDGE March 2017

NETHER EDGE BOOK CLUB By Richard Taylor



'I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book'.- Groucho Marx

Being part of a book club is definitely a national trend. Is that because you want to be in the know on the latest novels, an excuse for a nice social chat once a month accompanied by a glass of wine and a few nibbles or is it an opportunity to express your opinion about a particular book or topic? Remarkably for me it's all of these!

Our group at the Nether Edge Bowling Club has 9 members (5 ladies and 4 men) and has been in existence for five years. We are very enthusiastic. We meet once a month and take it in turn to choose a book (except at Christmas when we have a party). The" book chooser" leads the discussion. At first we all found this quite daunting but we've got better. We have had some great books and some real stinkers—not surprisingly they are the ones that create the best discussions - we meet at 7 o'clock and by 8.30 we are "booked out" and head to the bar. So let me tell you about our last meeting. One of our bowling club members is called Conor

O'Callaghan. All we knew about Conor was that he worked in the English department at Hallam University. He always appeared to be a gentle, humorous Irishman who drank Guinness in the bar after matches. What we didn't know until the last Off the Shelf festival was that he had written a strange spooky novel entitled Nowhere on Earth. Set in recent times it explores the story of two missing persons in an eerie and macabre manner. Maybe a ghost story?

We decided to read the book and as one of the rules of the group is not to discuss our book choices with each other we arrived at our meeting with our usual with trepidation. On this occasion, to make the evening more interesting, we asked Conor if he would join the group for the evening to give us his take on the book.

It turned out that most of us weren't too sure about parts of the novel but Conor gave us two hours of total insight into the book. He then proceeded to talk about his life and times as a child growing up on the Irish border. It turned out to be an absolute triumph of an evening, totally unexpected. What this goes to show is that even when books appear slightly beyond our capabilities it is possible in a group to see where the novelist is coming from and make some sense of the words they have delivered.

So we have planned our books for the coming months and believe it or not we are having a gentle February - we all have to bring our favourite children's story and say why we loved it so much! For me, it has to be Five go to Billycock Hill or maybe The Railway Children.

Happy Reading.

SHEFFIELD GENERAL CEMETERY

It is one of the most important examples of a garden cemetery in the country. The City Council, in partnership with the General Cemetery Trust, are currently developing a Parks for People Heritage Lottery project. The project will seek to restore features and monuments on the site, help to maintain its biodiversity and unique heritage and engage the local community so that it becomes a regular part of Sheffield people's lives, a special place where people can:

Feel safe and comfortwable • Retreat from city life • Enjoy history and nature • Explore, learn and be inspired

We want to explore with you how we can make this vision possible. We recognise that the success of our project will depend on the support and input of the local community. Whether you currently use the site or not your views are important to us. We'd like to know what you think about the site - How do you use it? For its history, to exercise, to relax, to experience its wildlife? How do you think it could be improved? We want to create a space for visitors to be inspired by and to enjoy the distinctive atmosphere of this special place. We'd welcome your ideas about how we can maximise the potential of the cemetery park.

Please get in touch with Nicola, for more information and to have your say. nicola.thorpe@sheffield.gov.uk
Tel: 0114 2752809 Mobile: 07918 371993



OS GRAFFITA LATAGRE

When road signs, street lights, benches in public places, children's swings and slides in parks, letterbox pillars, telephone junction boxes, bus shelters and shop-front shutters are covered in horrible lettering, logos, stickers and scribbles mainly to represent local or regional gang territories, it becomes obvious that it is another form of modern day litter. In-fact it is even worse as you cannot pick it up and put it in the bin as you do with typical litter items.

It not only pollutes our beautiful environment

but also leaves a long lasting negative impact in young children's minds. It is heart breaking for local residents who try their best to keep the Nether Edge clean and welcoming. It gives such a negative first impression of the area to outsiders, family visitors, friends or the general public who come with an interest to explore our beautiful surroundings.

One might argue that the youngsters are bored, there is nothing for them to do. There are no local facilities or provisions for them, hence they get involved in gang culture which

is often supported and controlled by the drug mafia. This unfortunately results in far bigger social problems, imprisonments, killings and the list carries on. My question is, does this justify or is it a good enough reason to let the local environment, the local residents and decent law abiding people suffer?

In this electronic, time flying, life style era it is a treasure and blessing for those people who manage to find time for their children and families, who make quality family time their top priority. Imagine how upsetting it must be for them when they take their little ones or their elders out on local walks or to local parks and find themselves bombarded with 'graffiti litter'. The explanation and reasoning they have to give to their children's inquisitive questions, why, who, what for and what does it mean?

A pause for thought for us as individuals, parents, families and as a community: What has led this

sort of behaviour to creep into our youngsters? Who has not fulfilled their responsibility along the line? Is it the individuals themselves, is it the parents, the education system, the media, peer pressure, community organisations, local authorities, or the government and our leaders? Let us all reflect on this in whatever role or category we fall into!

There is no doubt that the first and the most fundamental step in a person's learning starts at home. So it is vital to embed in our family

> moral and ethical values from the start (and the religious values and moral teaching for those who belong to a religion). Do we prepare ourselves to take up the responsibility of a becoming a parent? Once we as individuals reflect on this first point the rest falls in place and becomes easier to deal with. We must remember that a family, a community or a society is made up of individuals. If each individual and family takes up and fulfils their responsibility it automatically generates a happy, caring and loving community.



I strongly believe in the saying that an individual's behaviour, character and actions not only reflects the person as an individual but also his/ her upbringing, family values and ethics, the community, the religion and to some extent the society one lives in. Therefore, we are all ambassadors with a huge sense of responsibility. My message to those who take the effort and time to go around polluting the environment in the hope that they are leaving their mark and image in the locality to impress their counterparts is for them to rethink and reflect on their actions. Their energy and effort could instead be utilised into something good for the society. Let's use this effort to clean up the eyesore mess. Let's promise to keep Nether Edge clean. Let's earn respect and give respect to each other regardless of our differences. Let's think as a community which unites and works for the betterment of the society and you will see the difference.

By Mazhar Hussain



TANI Drivers' views on Litter

In a small survey 20 taxi drivers were interviewed to share their views on casual litter dropping. The



survey was conducted informally and based on evidence showing that litter is dropped regularly in certain hotspots in the Nether Edge area. Coincidently these places are sometimes also used as waiting bays by private hire taxis and unfortunately, some drivers had been seen dropping litter by local residents.

Almost all the drivers interviewed said that such practice is unethical and immoral. 'It brings the whole area down' said one, 'People should be fined and punished if they are caught'. I was impressed to

see small rubbish bags in at least 12 taxis. The drivers said that they keep their rubbish in these bags and then dispose of it in bins either at home or in designated bins in public places. It was reassuring to find that most taxi drivers are aware of the litter problem and have demonstrated their sense of responsibility by taking practical steps to alleviate it. The survey suggests that most taxi drivers are responsible and law abiding citizens who provide an invaluable service to the public. It also proves the point that an indecent & unethical action by even a tiny fraction of a society can leave a negative and bad image. The majority of people are decent, good hearted and sound minded citizens but there are some who do not maintain the same standards in every sector of the society.

TAMI Firms Desponse

Seven different private hire taxi firms were contacted to find out if they have any policy, code of

conduct or procedures regarding their drivers' attitudes to litter. Of those who responded four said they had no written policy but that if a customer complains then they will call the driver concerned and issue a verbal warning. One of the biggest firms pointed out that drivers are self-employed and responsible for their own actions. They suggested that complaints could be directed to the city council and if as a result the firm 'was given a bad name' they would take action to issue a verbal warning. Enquiries with the Licencing Department regarding its policy about litter issues were referred to its public relations department. No response has yet been received.



A few months ago, as I regularly noticed small amounts of litter round the city (and in often predictable bits of Nether Edge, little pockets of street where there always seems to be food wrappings and cans), I decided that I would try to pick up a piece or two of clean litter as often as I could. Clean litter? By that, I mean a can or packet which hasn't been litter for very long, so it's not muddy and dirty. If I'm going past a bin (or my own black bin), I can then deposit this piece of clean litter before it becomes "dirty" and much less easy to pick up and dispose of. Picking up a piece of this type of litter is actually quite easy to do, I've discovered. And litter does make a place look scruffy, especially when it's been lying round for ages. I also firmly believe that people are more likely to drop litter if there is already litter around. Nether Edge is an area to be proud of - I want to keep it that way!

(And, if we're honest, we all know of times when a wrapper or packet has blown out of our own hands, and we have caused litter - even if that's not happened very often!)

Chris



WHAT I THINK ABOUT LITTER

In our beautiful Community, Nether Edge, there is only one problem- Litter. When we litter we let pollution spread wildly around our area. As a part of this Community, we should come together to stop this crisis and add more places with new clean bins- for every type of rubbish. This makes me angry, just to 'think' about our community being polluted by...us! We have the choice, to save Nether Edge or watch it crumble. To stop Pollution from spreading, we should volunteer as a community to pick the litter from the ground and makes sure it stays inside our bigger and better bins.







WHAT I THINK SHOULD BE DONE TO PREVENT LITTERING

•There should be a £5.00 fine for anyone caught littering

Children should be taught about the effects of littering

•More bins should be put on the streets.

More litter pickups.

Reuse your plastic bottles, cups...

By Amara



Talbot is an outstanding specialist teaching school for children with severe and profound multiple learning needs. The school runs the Duke of Edinburgh Award for students in Key stage 4. They enter for its Bronze and Silver Awards. This has provided an opportunity for students to take the Litter Picking initiative to its next level. The students were asked to choose an activity as part of their volunteering module which will continue over three months. They unanimously decided to do the litter picking and when they were asked why they chose to do it, the answers were thought provoking.

The reasons they gave were:-

- "We cannot bear to see so much litter in our school grounds" mainly thrown by the neighbouring mainstream students and general public, dog walkers and other users of the playing fields.
- "It is disgusting and irresponsible behaviour".
- "It is dangerous for children and animals"
- This was used as an example in a co-located main stream school for students to think about dropping litter in school grounds and for them to realise its impact on the environment.

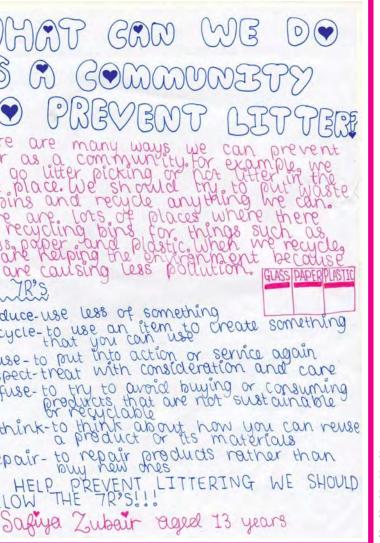
Talbot Specialis



The students go litter once a week over three

LITTE

Christian also gave worse. It environs There is a Gospel speople hand put to also their



, A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

believe that God created the universe and all that is in it. He reople the choice and the ability to influence it, for better or in response to this generosity that Christians try to treat the nt responsibly.

e well-known story that demonstrates what this means. In the ry about Jesus' feeding of the five thousand, after all the been fed, they were asked to collect all the leftover scraps em into baskets. This does not just demonstrate their faith but espect for the environment that their God created.

Graffiti





SAY IT ANOTHER WAY

Litter is a bitter reality, in every locality Lack of education or a deficit in morality?

Whether it is a can, a bottle, a wrapper or a tissue Why don't you see littering as a societal issue?

Is it us? Is it them? Is it the government? Let us all respect the environment.

Yes I know it's bad, but why should I get the blame! Why can't the culprits, be openly named and shamed?

If you care, you go ahead, you clean it! I know what to say, but I don't mean it!

What law? Why care? Who knows? What's respect? Im selfish, mean, and ignorant, what do you expect?

I don't care if my actions bring the whole area down

It doesn't bother me, Im a littering clown

Let's all come together to keep Nether Edge litter free Let's all pick up the rubbish, let's all save every tree

By Mazhar

School



cking nonths

ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE ON THE ENVIRONMENT WE LIVE IN

- ✓ Muslims can pray anywhere on the planet earth with the condition that it has to be clean. This shows the importance for Muslims to play their part in keeping the environment clean and tidy
- ✓ The Holy book Quran has many verses where it invites readers to ponder and reflect upon nature and creation. It strictly forbids causing harm to the environment and its creatures.

 Here is a summary of some of the Prophet's sayings in this regard;

 Cleanliness is half of Muslim's faith
- ✓ If you remove a twig or even a tiny obstacle from people's path, it is equal to at least 10 good deeds
- ✓ If you cause hurt or difficulties to your neighbours, you will be questioned and punished on the day of judgement
- ✓ There are many sayings where Muslims are strongly instructed/obliged to participate in what is the common good for the society and the environment.

These are only a few examples to show the importance of keeping the environment clean and harm free.

Nether Edge and Photography as a Fine Art - Part II



At Psalter Lane photography was offered as a subsidiary study to painters, sculptors, designers and other media area students. Nick Park, who later went on to produce the Wallace & Gromit films, was an early user and, like many UK art colleges at that time, music groups formed with The Human League having its first concert in the tudent bar in June of 1978. A blue plague marked that historic event until the site was sold and redeveloped. Before I retired in 1997, I ran cross-discipline seminars together with another member of staff, Tom Ryall, who also lives in Nether Edge. A challenging student at that time as the painter George Shaw who went on to be shortlisted for the Turner Prize and who is now the Artist in Residence at the National Gallery, London. ventually Roger Taylor and I successfully pushed for a course which led to a BA (Hons) Fine Art/Photography attracting students from across the UK. At the end of the '70's a particularly bright and committed bunch decided that they wanted to remain in Sheffield after graduation to form a support group with the rather grand title South

Yorkshire Photography Projects. A small shop with accommodation above was rented on Howard Road in Walkley and the "Untitled Gallery" was born. I was asked to join the team and together we successfully applied for Yorkshire Arts Association hen Arts Council of Great Britain funding. The Walkley gallery was enlarged and introduced exhibition viewers to many photographic firsts. An

expanded and modernised "Untitled"

relocated to Brown Street in the City centre in the 1980's and is now known as the Site Gallery.

One of my exhibitions shown while the gallery was in Walkley was "Cold Steel"; a meditation on the diminishing presence of the steel industry, especially in the Lower Don Valley. The picture that accompanies this article was taken at George Turton & Platts in 1984. We could hear, from Nether Edge, the 15,000 kg drop forge hammer and I eventually tracked down the impressive racket and asked to take photographs: the factory closed the next day and was subsequently demolished. The 1980's proved a particularly fertile period for my photography with exhibitions being shown at the Mappin Art Gallery, the Graves and the Untitled Gallery. I haunted the Lower Don Valley which was going through a process of "Regeneration" - the title given to four exhibitions produced by Sheffield photographers during the 1980's and '90's.

One of my exhibitions shown while the gallery was in Walkley was "Cold Steel"; a meditation on the diminishing presence of the steel industry, especially in the Lower Don Valley. We could hear, from Nether Edge, a drop forge hammer and I eventually racked this down to George Turton & Platts where railway wagon wheels were being forged under 15,000 kg pressure. I asked to take photographs: just in time as the factory closed the next day and was subsequently demolished. The 1980's proved a particularly fertile period for my photography with exhibitions being shown at the Mappin Art Gallery, the Graves and the Untitled Gallery. I haunted the Lower Don Valley which was going through a process of "Regeneration" - the title given to four exhibitions produced by Sheffield photographers during the 1980's an '90's.

Ken Phillip





SPRAT'S EIGHTY EIGHTH **CROSSWORD**

Across

- Dawn (5,2,3) 1.
- 7. Fictitious (8)
- 8. Central Asian title (4)
- 9. Indic language, similar to Hindi
- 10. Unbeliever (7)
- 12. Vulcan was their God (11)
- 14. Type of whale (7)
- 15. Often lumped with 'kin' (4)
- 19. Symbol (4)
- 20. Piece of music, preceding an opera (8)
- 21. Inside the eighteen yard area (7,3)

Down

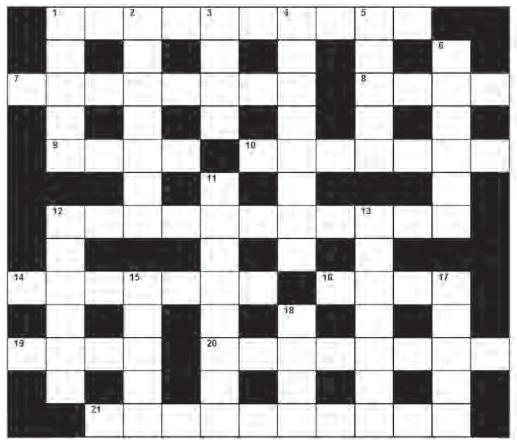
- Swampy area in Southern US (5)
- 2. Spiny anteater (4)
- 3. Strike with the foot (4)
- 4. The final whistle (4,4)
- 5. Caribbean fruit, traditionally served with saltfish (5)
- Blackcurrant liqueur (6)
- 11. US state (where the corn is as high as an elephant's eye) (8)
- 12. Half-wild horse (6)
- 13. Old-fashioned washing machine (4,4)
- 15. Prehistoric monument

(5)

- 17. Dassie (5)
- 18. Salmon, after spawning (4)



18 February 8pm £15 Motown Night 24 February 8pm 'til late £6 Comedy Club 25 February £15 8pm (doors 7.15) The King Lear 2 March 7.30pm £10 / £8 Opera Boys 4 March 7.30pm £19.50 / £18.50 The Lion in Winter 10 March 7.30pm £12.50 / £10 Comedy Club 25 March 8pm. £15 Chamber Music Series 31 March 7.30pm £12 / £10 Pink Floydian 1 April 8pm £12 Simon Munnery 8 April 8pm £14.50 Chamber Music Series Court Room Gallery £5 28 April 7.30pm £12 / £10



Answers to crossword on page 18



EDGE March 2017

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FRIENDS OF BRINCLIFFE EDGE WOOD



Still smiling – Diane, Marie and Julie from YBS.

We started the new season of woodland management on February 8th with an exceptional turnout and lots achieved in the morning. Twelve hazels were planted plus primroses, red campion, sanicle, euonymus, germander speedwell and yew for a mixed holly and yew hedge.

Over the winter period the group brought the Action Plan up to date and, together with the Rangers, agreed a timetable of work events for the year. This includes some weekend working events for those who cannot make the Wednesday mornings. The full 2017 timetable is available on the NENG website and further details will be sent out to supporters and volunteers just prior to each event.

One of our group, Ian Prior, recently made contact with the Yorkshire Building Society who have a Community Action Policy. This allows YBS staff to assist with local projects and three staff members joined us on February 8th with the assurance that YBS will be back with us for future work mornings.

Ken Phillip

NEW IN NEXT MONTH'S EDGE

A REGULAR FEATURE FOR YOU TO ENJOY AND KEEP YOU FIT

We all know about the coffee bars in Nether Edge. Two years ago EDGE published a double page spread about the variety of places locally where you can enjoy a cup or two of that popular drink. The choice has increased considerably since then. We also know that drinking too much of the stuff is supposed to be bad for us. Also, increasingly we are being told that we don't exercise enough and that we should walk 10,000 steps every day.

How can you enjoy coffee and keep healthy at the same time? EDGE now has the answer.

Find out how by reading Ben Flaneur's new column in April's EDGE

DONT MISS IT!



PLANNING NEWS

Planning permission was granted on 14 December for the demolition of a bungalow on Lyndhurst Road and redevelopment with a block of five flats. This is a disappointing decision, made following a site visit by the Planning Committee, in the face of objections from local residents, two ward Councillors and NENG.

There is a new planning application (ref. no.16/04750/RG3) of some interest to residents of Nether Edge - a new secondary school on part of the site of the Bannerdale Centre off Carterknowle Road. Although the consultation period will have ended by the time the EDGE is published, residents who wish to comment should write in. All comments must be taken into account if they are received before the application is determined, which we are led to understand will not be before 28th March. The application includes a statement that it is assumed that 50% of pupils will live within 1 mile of the school - if your child is 10 or younger, that means the Council is assuming that they will go to this new school, planned to open in September 2018 - this is approximately the distance to Nether Edge cross roads.

Helen Willows

TRAFFIC ON PSALTER LANE - AN UPDATE

In the November EDGE I wrote of the concern amongst Psalter Lane residents about the increased volume, speed and size (particularly of 44 tonne bulk carriers) of vehicles and the consequent range of problems which arise for those that live on or use this stretch of road. We tested the level of concern by petitioning along a part of the road. Within an hour we had collected over 100 signatures and had engaged in some valuable discussions. They were not all residents of Psalter Lane but parents of children at Clifford Road School and people walking to work.

The next step was to explore views in greater detail and to engage interested locals. We were kindly given the use of St Andrew's Church for a meeting and nearly 60 people attended. They expressed a variety of concerns beyond those of the original core group. These were condensed into a few action points and incorporated into a briefing paper which was sent to the Council before Christmas. We received a response but we feel that some of the issues were only superficially considered and we are now in the process of compiling a reply and collecting more data. For example, we are conducting counts of different types of vehicle, patterns of use particularly of bulk carriers, photographic evidence showing a range of unacceptable situations and nitrogen dioxide (NO2) levels. We are measuring the NO2 by using a newly placed diffusion tube at the Psalter Lane /Cowlishaw Rd. crossroads.

There is increasing evidence of the damaging effect of NO2 on respiratory diseases. The

Sheffield Air Quality Action Plan states 'Poor air quality has been estimated to account for up to 500 premature deaths per year in Sheffield with health costs of around £160 million. The National figures are in excess of 21,000 deaths as estimated in research carried out by Reading University.'

There is said to be a voluntary agreement with the Road Haulage Association which defines Psalter Lane as not suitable for HGV's but it has little impact and large vehicles routinely are travelling along it. Short term solutions to these very local problems are difficult to find. There is no point in diverting Bulk Carriers from Psalter Lane onto similar roads or introducing unenforceable restrictions. There is for example, evidence that some weight restrictions that have been implemented on similar routes in Sheffield are being ignored.

Cost is always a major factor when improvements are suggested although we feel that some changes such as the timing of traffic lights, white filter lines to prevent blocking following vehicles and simple pedestrian crossings which in some cases may help are relatively cheap although there are considerable backlogs for construction of crossings and traffic speed monitoring.

We would welcome any expertise in this field that would help us.

Anyone wishing to receive relevant copies of documents please contact me. In the meantime we will continue the campaign and hope to keep local residents up to date with developments.

Colin Martin.

colmar.martin@tiscali.co.uk

NENG

METHER EDGE FESTIVAL 2017

To be held from Saturday 16th September to Sunday 24th September

Plans are well-advanced for another exciting and enjoyable festival with events to attract and engage all the family. By popular demand some of last year's most popular events will return with the Farmers' Market and all its attractions opening the events and the fun-filled Party in the Park bringing it to a very happy ending. In between there will be events of all kinds and we are hoping to expand with many new ideas.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE PART? CAN YOU ORGANISE A MUSICAL EVENT, AN ART EXHIBITION OR EVEN A SPORTING EVENT?

ALL IDEAS ARE WELCOME. LAST YEAR'S EVENTS RANGED FROM HISTORY TALKS TO A CELIDH, FROM WINE –TASTING TO A TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC, FROM POETRY TO JAZZ AND MUCH MORE.

WE WANT YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS TO MAKE OUR THIRD FESTIVAL BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER TO ENTERTAIN, INTEREST AND CELEBRATE PEOPLE THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY.

CONTACT MAGGIE LITTLE Tel: 255 31146 Email maggielit@sky.com

NENG NOTES

FAKE SPRING?

Spring appears to be here. Or is it, like some of our news, fake? It certainly feels like spring and it looks like it on the railing at Nether Edge crossroads where the recently planted flowers in the boxes funded by NENG and maintained by Moss and Clover are thriving and heralding our summer. Now, thanks to Roger Lyons, there are new plaques on the boxes acknowledging those responsible.

CEMETERY TIME

NENG has donated £200 to Sheffield General Cemetery Trust to fund its annual publicity programme. Coincidentally there is news elsewhere in this EDGE about the ambitious plans to encourage more and different use to be made of this valuable space on the edge of the city centre.

EDGE EDITORS

NENG is working hard to spread the work of editing EDGE amongst members of its committee. Editing EDGE is not an easy task but it is mostly a very rewarding one. For those who haven't edited before it can be a very daunting possibility and so NENG has embarked upon a modest training programme and an 'apprenticeship scheme'. As a result, expect to see new names appearing as EDGE editors which will bring new ideas and fresh approaches into your monthly magazine.



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Osteopathy

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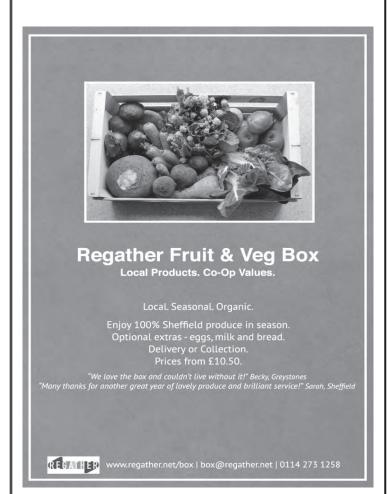
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Bannerdale Osteopaths

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South Yorkshire County





Family Day

Fun Day Open Day Taster Sessions

NETHER EDGE Bowling Club

Sunday April 2nd 2017 10.30am to 3.30pm

Refreshments Available



FREE BOWLING Boys & Girls

PLEASE WEAR FLAT SOLED SHOES

British Crown Green Bowling Coaches on hand to help and advise

FREE BOWLING - Anyone wishing to come along and have a go at the fun course set by the coaches - it looks very easy but trying to get your bowls in to set areas is a challenge, are you up for the challenge if you are come along and bring all the family or some friends (The young must have an adult with them). British Crown Green Coaches on hand to show new visitors around the course explaining the rules of the game, which bowl to use, about the bias, which hand to use, which foot to put on footer, stepping forward with the correct delivery and Judging distance. Find out how to become a member of the club.

Location: - Nether Edge Road, Sheffield, S7 1RU.



EDGE March 2017

Remember The Blitz

The Sheffield Blitz 75th project is commemorating the devastating impact of the December 1940 bombing of the city.

DOYOU HAVE MEMORIES YOU'D BE WILLING TO SHARE?

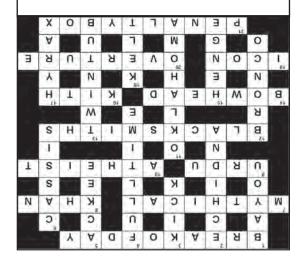
If so please email them to: sheffieldblitz75@gmail. com or

post them to: Neil Anderson, Sheffield Blitz 75th, Results House, 656 Chesterfield Road, Sheffield S8 0JT.

The project aims to tell as many personal stories of the blitz and to ensure they are permanently preserved and communicated to today's generations.

You can find out more about the project here: www.sheffieldblitz.wordpress.com

SPRAT'S EIGHTY EIGHTH CROSSWORD SOLUTION



NEW IN NEXT MONTH'S EDGE

A REGULAR FEATURE FOR YOU TO ENJOY AND KEEP YOU FIT

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EDGE March 2017

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WHAT'S ON EVENTS IN AND AROUND NETHER EDGE IN MARCH

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.

Every fortnight on a Thursday 6pm-9pm, 2nd **16**th **& 30**th **March**. Knitting and Craft Groups for adults in the Community room. Free entry all welcome. Heeley City Farm, Richards Road, Sheffield, S2 3DT.

Wed 1st March 4pm-8pm. Fun with Filmmaking Course. A free new course for 13-18 year olds held after school at the Farm. For more information about these free courses contact Rob rob@syfn.org or phone 0114 2762400. Heeley City Farm, Richards Road, Sheffield, S2 3DT

Wed 1st **March 1.00-4.00pm.** Free Family Dementia Workshop, Interfaith room, Shirley House organised by Home instead Senior Care. St Andrews Psalter Lane. To book contact Joe Desmond tel: <u>0114 446 9055 /joe.desmond@homeinstead.co.uk.</u>

Wed 1st **March 6.00-8.00pm**.REeconomy an event of short presentations looking at the potential of urban agriculture in Sheffield. Presented by Doina Petrescu and Gareth Roberts at the Regather Works,57-59 Club Garden Road,Sharrow,Sheffield,S11 8BU.(free reservation) www.regather.net Tel 0114 273 1258.

Fri 3rd **March 8.30pm**. Nether Edge Folk Club presents Julian Jones and Lindsay Dracass. Tickets £6 phone Michelle 07742627839. Nether Edge Bowling Club. www.netheredgefolk.club.

Fri 3rd March 7.30pm. The Lamplight Club presents *The Gentle Good+Nat Johnson* and evening of music at the ever intimate Lamplight Club. Tickets £8. Regather Works,57-59 Club Garden Road, Sharrow, Sheffield,S11 8BU. www.regather.net Tel 0114 273 1258.

Sun 5th March. 150th Big Green doubles competition-£10 entry per couple. Nether Edge Bowling Club.

Sun 5th March 2.00pm. Historical tour of Sheffield General Cemetery. Discover the history of the cemetery and learn about some of the residents on a guided walk. Starts at the Gatehouse, Cemetery Avenue, Sheffield S11 8NT.Free but £3 donation appreciated.

Wed 8th March 8.30pm. Nether Edge Folk Club proudly present Pete Coe who has celebrated more than 50 years of music making on the folk scene. Nether Edge Bowling Club. www.netheredgefolk.club.

Thur 9th March, 10.am. Endcliffe Park Cafe. Conservation volunteers day. Clearance at Hunter's Bar entrance and upstream. Contact Ann le Sage on 07790250087 or ann@lesage.org.uk

Fri 10th **March 7.00pm**. Regather Supper Club – Taste of Cuba. Our resident chef will be preparing authentic dishes from her travels to Cuba. Expect some top Latin food and rum cocktails. £25 Regather Works, 57-59 Club Garden Road, Sharrow, Sheffield, S11 8BU www. regather.net Tel 0114 273 1258.

Sun 12th March 2.00pm. Wives and Relicts. A one-hour tour focussing on the lives of the cemetery's women residents. Our book, *She Lived Unknown* will be available to purchase. £2.95. Starts at the Gatehouse, Cemetery Avenue, Sheffield S11 8NT.

Monday 13th **March 12noon – 2.30pm** Nosh & Natter at the Union Hotel, Union Rd. Everyone welcome. Contact Chris Venables for further information.

Fri 17th March 7.30pm. Regather Comedy Club-feat. Bethany Black+Supports."Honest, to the point, and very very funny" Arts Award Voice.£6.50/£7/£30 for table of 5. Regather Works,57-59 Club Garden Road,Sharrow,Sheffield,S11 8BU. www.regather.net Tel 0114 273 1258

Sat 18th **March 2.00pm**. *Rock* Around *the Cemetery*. Discover the various geological features of the cemetery with geologist Peter Kennett. (Children must be accompanied) Starts at the Gatehouse, Cemetery Avenue, Sheffield S11 8NT.

Sun 19th March 12noon-4pm. Nether Edge Farmers Market and Spring Fair.Free entertainment, live music, hot and cold food, stalls, shops and cafes. Nether Edge road and Glen road.S7 1RU

Fri 24th March 7.30pm. John Bartram Charity Quiz, no need to book just come along and test your general knowledge. Nether Edge Bowling Club

Fri 24th March 7.30pm. The Lamplight Club-Thomas Truax+support. One of the most imaginative characters on the pop music fringe. Time Out magazine has dubbed him "The King of home-made instruments" £8 . Regather Works,57-59 Club Garden Road,Sharrow,Sheffield,S11 8BU.www.regather.net Tel 0114 273 1258

Mon 27th March, 7.30pm 'It Could Be Verse': Comic Verses and Sketches. Shirley House, 31 Psalter Lane. A fundraising event for the Interfaith Centre and St Luke's Hospice. Tickets £8,(Conc.£5) available from (cripps@awclub.net/01142588932), or office@standrewspsalterlane.org.uk

Fri 31st March 7.30pm. Cafe#9 presents Ruth Theodore a talented acoustic singer song writer from Southampton appearing with Rhianna Scott.

Fri 31st **March**. The Fates a cappella, singing roots, folk and gospel music. advance ticket£6 or £8 on the door. For more information phone Michelle 077427839 or email: nedge@yahoo.co.uk. Nether Edge Bowling Club.





