

# EDGE

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSLETTER [www.netheredge.org.uk](http://www.netheredge.org.uk)  
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March 2018  
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## Editorial

As many are aware, it is 100 years since (some) women got the vote. Also, as International Women's Day falls on the 8<sup>th</sup> March, we felt that this month's Edge should be a celebration of local women. In the 1920s & 30s, three of the shops in Nether Edge were owned by women. Miss Kitchin ran a small sweet shop, Mrs Calvin owned a bakers (now Turners) and Mrs Amies ran a haberdashers. Now, over half the businesses in Nether Edge are owned or managed by women. We interviewed these women to find out what they enjoy about being self-employed, what are the pitfalls and if being female affects their business. We also interviewed Sarah Hague, our P.C.S.O.

There are articles about Edith Whitworth, our very own suffragette who lived in Wath Road, and about a female 'quack' from the 1880s who should, perhaps, be less celebrated. There is also a report about activities at Nether Edge School around International Women's Day.

If anyone interested in taking part in activities around IWD, please see What's On on page 15 and [shefest.org.uk](http://shefest.org.uk). Information packs are available from <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/EventPacks>

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

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

Ruth Bernard and Kevin Hickey compiled this month's EDGE. Pat Rodgers and Howard Trot will be compiling the April EDGE, so please send any comments or contributions to them by 15th March.

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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:

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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](http://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.*

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**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 [nengtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:nengtreasurer@gmail.com)





## Suffragette in Wath Road

A hundred years ago (6<sup>th</sup> February 1918) women who were householders over the age of 30 (6 million women) were given the vote. This was the result of a long campaign by the Women's Social & Political Union (WSPU), the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) and others. Sheffield had a very active suffragette movement. Sheffield was the first place to form a women's suffrage society run by women for women, the Sheffield Women's Political Association, which held its inaugural meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> February 1851

In 1897 the NUWSS, whose members were known as suffragists, was founded. The Sheffield branch was run by Dr Helen Wilson, a doctor of medicine. The WSPU was founded in 1903 by Emmeline Pankhurst, as a breakaway society who wished to become more militant. The members of the WSPU were known as suffragettes.

There had been several suffrage bills presented in parliament in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, but had all failed. The WSPU changed tactics and their campaign became more violent. Members were arrested and many went on hunger strike. In 1906 Emily Davison was killed at the Derby. Sheffield women continued to be very active in the campaign, and one of the women involved was Edith Whitworth. Edith was born in 1870 in Aston. She married a postal telegraphist in 1893 and came to live at 70 Wath Road, where they had two children.

In 1903 Christabel Pankhurst, of the WSPU and Isabella Fox of the NUWSS, spoke at the Cemetery Road Vestry Hall (just outside Waitrose, now the Somali Community Association) urging women to join the cause. Edith Whitworth was on the platform and was the mover of a resolution demanding immediate legislation extending the franchise to women. In 1906 the Sheffield branch of the WSPU was founded with Edith Whitworth as secretary, and the inaugural meeting was held at her house in Wath Road. On 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 1907 Edith, along with 3 other suffragettes, was arrested outside the House of Commons, and spent 14 days in Holloway prison. She was described as one of the most enthusiastic disciples of the WSPU. In court she said she had a mission "I want the vote to help the poor and starving children. I believe that will be the lever by which sweated women will be able to help themselves". (Sheffield Evening Telegraph 14.2.1907)

She was friends with Adela Pankhurst, daughter of Emmeline Pankhurst. Adela lived in Broomhill for 2 years working for the WSPU. In 1908 Reginald McKenna, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord of the Admiralty, was due to speak at the Cutler's Hall. Adela, Edith and other suffragettes, disguised themselves as kitchen maids to gain entrance to the Cutlers Hall and disrupt the meeting. A demonstration of unemployed hunger marchers had also gathered outside the Cutlers Hall. The women were unable to get past the police and into the hall, but Adela managed to speak to the crowd from the hall steps. A scuffle ensued involving the police and the hunger strikers, and Adela and Edith were also caught up in the fracas.

The WSPU were becoming more militant and violent and Edith began to feel doubtful about these tactics. Much to Adela's dismay, she joined the smaller, breakaway Women's Freedom League, which had a small branch in Sheffield and favoured non-violent forms of protest. The WFL was founded in 1908, and continued with non-violent forms of protest such as non-payment of taxes and organising demonstrations.

All women over 21 were finally given the vote in 1928, 10 years later than men (previously, only male householders had the vote). In 1919 Eleanor Barton became the first woman to be elected to Sheffield Council, and the first female mayor (Ann Longden), was appointed in 1936. In 1974 Joan Maynard became the first female MP for Sheffield. Julie Dore is currently the leader of Sheffield City Council, which is made up of 84 councillors, 29 of which are women. 3 of the 6 MPs representing Sheffield are women.

We would like to find out more about Edith. Did she continue to live at Wath Road? How active did she remain? Was her husband involved in the campaigns? I also wondered if having children was a factor in her leaving the increasingly violent WSPU. It would be very interesting to find out more, especially if any of her descendants are still living in the area. If you have any information, please let me know.

(Ruth Bernard contact details on page 2).

Ref:

Thanks to John Baxendale

Rebel Girls Jill Liddington Virago 2006 London

Sheffield Evening Telegraph 14 Feb 1907

Sheffield History Forum

**'Sources for the Study of Women's Suffrage' by Sheffield Archives and Local Studies Library**

### THE SHEFFIELD SUFFRAGETTE.

Mrs. Edith Whitworth, who was one of the suffragettes arrested in the disturbance outside the House of Commons last night, is one of the most enthusiastic disciples of the Women's Social and Political Union in Sheffield. She was one of the



Mrs. Whitworth.

ladies on the platform at the Cemetery Road Vestry Hall on Sunday, February 3rd, when Mrs. Pankhurst delivered a lecture on Women's Suffrage, and on that occasion she was the mover of a resolution demanding immediate legislation extending the franchise to women.

### Sheffield Defendant's Plea.

Mrs. Edith Whitworth said she had a mission. "I want the vote to help the aged poor and starving children. I believe that will be the lever by which sweated women will be able to help themselves."

She then sat down in the dock. Twenty shillings or 14 days.

Mary Nailor, to her great surprise, was discharged.

After the constable had given his evidence, she told him that a mounted man arrested her when she was walking in the direction in which he told her to go. The constable said that was true, but she had previously obstructed him at a time when he could not very well arrest her.

### WOMEN BATTLE.

Fights at Westminster.

POLICE COURT SEQUEL.

Scenes in the Crowd.

A SHEFFIELD DEFENDANT.

HER MISSION.

(BY OUR SPECIAL WRITER.)  
Considerable public interest was shown in the proceedings at the Westminster Police Court last night in connection with the arrest of the women suffragettes outside the House of Commons last evening.  
When the crowd was waiting for the same to appear, one lady commenced to address the crowd, but a police sergeant cut short her address by pointing himself between her and the audience. Much amusement was caused by the efforts of a number of photographers to obtain snapshots of the scene. (The corresponding individual climbed a lamp-post, while another stood on a box in the centre of the court, and so obstructed vision.)  
Several officers from the crowd gathered each fresh arrival on the scene, two ladies who drove up in a motor with a gentleman sitting upon their knees being inside the list of considerable numbers from the crowd.

Sheffield Evening Telegraph 14 Feb 1907

## Ibbotson's Dam

On the afternoon of New Year's Eve, Kay and I went for a walk up the Porter Valley and were lucky enough to see a kingfisher on Ibbotson's dam. It's been quite a common sight this year, but always one to gladden the heart. (Ibbotson's is the first one down from Shepherd Wheel, next to the gas sub-station).



Ibbotson's dam has always been rather fortunate when it comes to wildlife. Some years ago, a pair of swans nested there. There are always a few mallards, although Harlequin ducks sometimes joins them, and the other week I saw a pair of teal for the first time ever. There used to be lots of Canada geese, but these seem to have vanished. Moorhens and coots are a familiar sight.

Black-headed gulls are another ever-present bird. Paradoxically, they don't have black heads. (A bit like two-toed sloths, which don't have two toes, but two fingers). Their heads are chocolate brown in summer, but at this time of year, it's shrunk to a dirty mark behind their eye. They are the 'Kee-Haar' of Watership Down, and that's not a bad imitation of their cry. Another distinguishing feature is the white leading edge of their wing. The upper part of the dam has muddy shallows, which seem to suit grey wagtails. They quite often nest in the eaves of Shepherd Wheel, just upstream. In summer, you can tell the male by his smart black bib, which his partner lacks. We regularly see dippers, which fly up and down the stream, skimming the surface, and jinxing under bridges.



The valley is home to several herons, which have grown up in close company with people, and consequently, show little fear. This makes them an ideal subject for budding wildlife photographers. Even if the birds aren't about, you can often see tell tale signs. Their bony diet is rich in calcium, so their droppings are quite distinctive. Their nickname in Spanish is 'Caga blanco', which roughly translates as 'Poo's white'. On summer evenings, the whole of the Porter Valley is rich in bats. These are mainly pipistrelles, but you also get whiskered bats, and



over the dams you may see the Daubenton's or water bat, skimming the surface for emerging insects. I started with kingfishers, so I'll end with them. How can you tell the male from the female? Well, one of them has an all black bill, whereas the other has a red lower mandible, and as usual, it's the lady who wears the lipstick. I hope you'll go out there and see for yourselves.

*Jack Massey*



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Vicky will have owned Wickwire for six years in April this year. It used to be owned by Dorothy Wickwire, hence the name and admits that she wanted to retain the 'essence' of the shop as it was when she bought it; an Aladdin's cave of gifts and cards to suit all tastes and keep the quirky name.

Vicky had been a civil servant for twenty years and was made redundant from a Government agency; the School Fund Trust. She had always wanted to have her own business and had thought about a second-hand bookshop but book buying seemed to be in decline where as the greeting card and gift trade seemed more buoyant and profitable and was certain she didn't want go back to being employed in the public sector.

Vicky used to live on Violet Bank Road in Nether Edge six years ago and had seen the For Sale sign for Wickwire and thought that as it had been running successfully for a number of years, it can't be too much of a risk and it is a very short commute and she enjoys buying and shopping so seemed like the perfect opportunity to become self employed and run a business; perfect!

The biggest hurdle to starting your own business is trying to understand the types of business you can have, dealing with accounts, VAT etc. Vicky had no knowledge of these things but was determined to learn everything required and just 'do it'.

One of the most challenging aspects of running your own business is motivating yourself every day. No Saturdays to yourself anymore, not many holidays and no sickness pay. Vicky admits that she is fortunate as she has very supportive parents who run the shop on a Monday and cover the holidays she does manage to take.

Some of the most positive aspects of owning your own business are being able to make your own decisions, no one to answer to but yourself, setting your own goals that mean something to you and being accountable to yourself and nobody else. Also Vicky really enjoys the social aspect of owning Wickwire as she meets such a wide range of people from the multicultural local community and from further afield who shop and browse in her shop.

Vicky goes to trade shows at the NEC in Birmingham, Harrogate gift fair and Top Drawer in London which helps to keep her up to date with national trends and new merchandise for the gift trade. Also her customers are very vocal and will request new items which they would like to buy. In response to this Wickwire are going to be selling helium balloons for gifts to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries and events. The Farmers Market days are some of the busiest days of the year for Vicky. November to December is the

busiest period with the run up to Christmas. Women are the main customers who are happy to browse as well as shop. The male customer is very

focussed when they are shopping and do less browsing. Wickwire don't get that many student customers but quite a number of potential house buyers in Nether Edge who visit the shop to get a feel for the area. Vicky has told them that the local shops provide a 'one stop shop' which is unique to the area. You can have your washing done while you at the hairdressers/barbers, do your shopping, buy beautiful flowers, special tea, health foods and drop in for a coffee or have a full lunch and pick up a bargain in either of the charity shops.

There is a very positive and supportive network amongst the women who run their business in Nether Edge and they are in and out of their establishments to enjoy what is available and buy the produce. The area is very family friendly and is a close community. Vicky was once a volunteer in St Luke's charity shop and still has a strong friendship with the staff where she started her retail experience and developed her window dressing skills.

She enjoys Nether Edge and is pleased that she decided to run her own business here. It is an open community and she is not sure whether it is because the owners and managers are mainly women whom she would say are more open by nature. She believes it must be very hard for women in business when they have children; she doesn't have children and wonders how women manage having a family and run a business at the same time?



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## Sue Creaghan : The Studio



Sue has lived in and around Nether Edge since she was a two year old and is very positive on how the area has made such positive progress to becoming the unified and smart community it is now.

This year she will be celebrating her fiftieth year in hairdressing and will tell you that she 'still loves her trade and always has done'. Sue trained as a manicurist in London when she first left school but was not able to find employment and trained as a hairdresser to increase her skill base and provide more flexibility to the employer. A manicurist all those years ago was a very different skill; there were no false nails and the range of colours were much more limited and a far cry from the nail bars which exist today.

Sue bought the business 25 years ago and has owned the building for eighteen years and has witnessed so many changes to the area over the years. Businesses have come and gone and yet the Studio has gone from strength to strength. Now there are two self employed hairdressers who are part of the team, Cassie, Lorna and Natalie who has been employed by Sue for two years. Lorna has worked with Sue for 20 years and Cassie for 10 years. The key to their success is working together as a team and providing support and cooperation. Although Sue owns the business she doesn't see herself as the boss but as a

colleague and there is no hierarchy as such in the Studio.

When Sue decided to run her own business and become self employed she had grown disenchanted with being employed in various salons where the service to the clients left a lot to be desired. She wanted to select her own quality products and give her clients 'time' to enjoy the whole experience of having their hair done. She wanted to be accountable only to herself and had worked out that if the loyal clients she had for years came to the Studio it would be enough to cover the rent, so she bought the business.

Her husband has always been very supportive and looks after all the bookkeeping and sorts out the wages; again Sue will tell you they are a team working together and supporting each other. Her parents had always taught her to be tolerant and this has proved to be as very useful attribute when dealing with staff and clients.

Sue has some clients who she has had for over thirty years some of whom have become friends and a number of clients who are second generation and long may it continue! Her youngest client was a few weeks old and from the Asian community. At the twentieth day from birth it is the tradition for *Maliku* babies' heads to be shaven and the hair is weighed against gold or *silver*, which is given to the poor and the ceremony is called *boabeylun*. Sue was very moved and impressed with this generous gesture.

Sue's oldest regular client was Alice who was 103 and was quite a character. She would call into the salon and say 'can I have my hair done please?' and Sue would tell her to come next week to which Alice would reply, 'I haven't got time to wait until then I need it doing today please' so Sue and the team would fit her in. That's what you have to do sometimes when you are running your own business!

### NETHER EDGE'S GOT TALENT

There are lots of people with talent living in and around Nether Edge. Many different kinds of talent! We are looking for those who have some of the talents needed to keep the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group and its many successful activities going through this year and beyond. You may not know how you can help, but if you want to contribute in some way, please get in touch. You can contact either the chair or secretary (see page 2 for contact details), or come along to the AGM on 26<sup>th</sup> April.

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## Homemade by Thelmas



Emily has owned Homemade for almost 5 years, first with her sister May and now, since 2015, with her friend Becky. Previously Emily and May ran a café, called Thelmas, on Sharrow Vale Road. Before opening the original café, Emily was studying for a degree in graphic design at Hallam, and Becky managed a cafe in Manchester.

Emily and her sister have always been very passionate about food (eating it and cooking it). They often visited the independent cafes in Sharrow Vale Road, liked the area and thought it would be a great place to start a business. Emily was studying, and May was in events management but both loved the idea of running a cafe so they jumped in without much thought or idea of how insanely hard it was going to be! They had to learn everything on the job and it was extremely tiring but also very rewarding.

Becky was hired as a member of staff a year after the Nether Edge café opened. She had always been very interested in food, and had worked in a busy cafe\deli for 6 years. Becky had worked closely with Emily and May, and after a year May approached her to ask if she would like to buy into the business.

“One of the biggest hurdles to setting up your own business is fear! It's such a huge responsibility, especially when other people or staff are relying on the success of your business to earn a living”. Financial management, particularly, is daunting, as money might have to be raised from the bank, friends or family. Then of course, there is the matter of paying back the debt. Emily and Becky both feel it is getting harder and harder for small businesses to stay afloat, with increased taxes, rates, wages and rents.

Being self-employed means there is no sick, holiday or maternity pay. If you don't go to work you don't get paid, and if there is a quiet day, overheads still have to be met. That is a scary thought, according to Emily, but there are huge plus sides too: The independence you have in making decisions about the business, the sense of pride and achievement when things go well and that feeling you have when you look around and think ....“I made this and other people love it!”. It is very special when other people go out of their way to tell you how much they appreciate your efforts.” Emily & Becky are best friends and love working together and feel extremely close to their staff. “Getting to work with your best mates every day is pretty cool”!

Emily says she had no role models, but Becky's sister ran her own business and was always full of admiration for their hard work. Both think that anyone who has the courage to start their own venture is amazing! Their advice to others about starting a business is never underestimate just how hard it's going to be. If people offer help, accept it. Don't be too proud to ask your friends and family for support, even if it's just a hug at the end of a long day :-)

When Emily and Becky tell people they run their own cafe they tend to be pretty impressed, especially as they were both only in their early 20s when they started. “It makes me feel very proud to tell people what I do, especially when they say “oh I love that place” or “hey I've heard about your cafe!”







## SHEFFIELD WOODCRAFT FOLK



Woodcraft Folk is a movement for children and young people that is open to all. If you like cooking over a fire, outdoor games, night walks, singing, creative crafts and care about peace and cooperation, you might want to get involved.

Woodcraft Folk groups are a fantastic place for young people to gain confidence, meet friends, learn about the world around them and have fun. All our Sheffield groups take part in a wide range of activities with a focus on being outdoors as much as possible throughout the year.

We encourage our young people to be co-operative while enjoying themselves and to learn about the world they're growing up in. We encourage children to think for themselves in the hope



that they will help build a peaceful and fairer world.

All groups join together throughout the year for district events such as bonfires and pea fayres where the young people run stalls and activities. We have an annual Merry Moot which involves the children sharing a skit or song or other activities with everyone.

There are also opportunities for district walks, bivvying under the stars, trips to Lockerbrook, Woodcraft Folk's outdoor centre near Lady Bower Reservoir and a week-long summer camp. The summer camp gives us all the chance to experience building and living as a community and we can take part in activities we don't have time for in our weekly sessions. Favourites include wild swimming, (see photos) orienteering, craft tent, spit tournaments, fire building, singing, trekking, afternoon-long outdoor games.

We have groups for Elfin (6-9 yrs) and Pioneers (10-12 yrs) on Mondays in Meersbrook, Tuesdays in Bingham Park, Wednesdays (Elfin) in Nether Edge/Sharrow and Thursdays in Crookes/Walkley and for Venturers (13-15) on Tuesdays in Nether Edge/Sharrow and Thursdays in Crookes/Walkley.

Young people and adults are involved in planning activities and parents and other adult volunteers support the running of groups on a rota. We usually suggest that people come along for 2-3 sessions to try out a range of activities and find out how we work.

To find out more email [sheffieldporter@woodcraft.org.uk](mailto:sheffieldporter@woodcraft.org.uk) for the groups on Mon/Tues/Weds or email [del.yates@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:del.yates@yahoo.co.uk) for the Thursday groups. Also see [www.woodcraft.org.uk](http://www.woodcraft.org.uk)

*Isobel Thomas*

### Millhouses Park

The Council are being pressed to lease a part of Millhouses Park to the Wagon & Horses Pub to build an outdoor drinking/eating area. Both Friends of Millhouses Park and the Keep Millhouse Park Public Group are opposed in principle to the loss of public open space for commercial purposes, and have made this clear to the Council.

A Petition has been set up on 38Degrees - see below. We hope everyone who uses and treasures the Park will sign the petition and make it clear to the Council that local opinion is widely opposed to this move.

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/keep-millhouses-park-public>



## Stepping Forward

Howard Fry's eloquent editorial (EDGE, February 2018) speaks of "communal resolve" and champions volunteering against a background of "unsettled times". In Merseyside, Knowsley Council's controversial decision to sell off 10% of its green spaces to fund the maintenance of other parks 'forever' is certainly unsettling. When these spaces are built on then they are gone forever. The Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood, formed five years ago on the foundations of a previous NENG woods group, works at the twin aims of improving access and protecting and enhancing this Sheffield City Council green space with the benefits of health and well-being that surely follow.

To achieve these aims a good, active volunteer group is needed making the workload much lighter and the activity more sociable. The Wood group is fortunate in having over a hundred supporters, with growing interest via the new Facebook page. Find us on 'Friends of Brincliffe Edge Wood'. The enthusiasm and commitment of the volunteers feeds back into the organising group and so we are discussing ideas for the coming year that would result in better access for wheelchair users and others with mobility problems, ways of attracting families and young people, and how we can be more effective in reaching out to Nether Edge's diverse community.

As members of Sheffield Green Spaces Forum we exchange vital information with other "Friends of" groups - there are over 50 across the City - learning much about management of the woods and parks that make this such a great place to live. Currently, two women researchers are undertaking a survey of green spaces in Sheffield, combining this with fundraising for the charity 'MIND', and they have so far visited 181 sites thus doubling their projected target. The Wood group gets input and ideas from our supporters and volunteers but would love to hear more widely from 'EDGE' readers about what Brincliffe Edge Wood means to you and how we could improve your experience. We won an award in 2017 for our effort in Nether Edge and Sharrow so let's build on that and work to cherish our woods and green spaces.

Your ideas and questions please to Ken Phillip at [phillipk@vip.solis.co.uk](mailto:phillipk@vip.solis.co.uk).



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## OPEN GARDENS



### Wake up, gardeners

It seems to have been a chilly and cough spluttered winter, but the buds are beginning to appear and we are fast emerging from the long winter nights and looking forward to a wonderful gardening year ahead.

So it's time to think about whether you might join us in opening your garden for our very popular annual Open Gardens event. It really is worth it for the pleasure of sharing your garden with friends and neighbours and an opportunity to collect for a favourite charity. There are always plenty of helpful hints and advice.

The date this year will be **Sunday 24th June**.

If you are interested, please contact

**Marion Rout** ([marion.rout@btinternet.com](mailto:marion.rout@btinternet.com); tel 0114 258 4999

or **Peter Machan** ([petermachan@hotmail.com](mailto:petermachan@hotmail.com); tel 0114 255 4137



## 'Quackery On Stilts' at the Union Hotel

By John Baxendale

Madame Enault, curer of incurable diseases, purveyor of miracle medicines, and expert extractor of teeth, arrived on Cherrytree Hill in July 1880, resplendent in scarlet, velvet and gold, her gilt caravan drawn by three magnificent horses with nodding plumes, and accompanied by an execrably tuneless brass band. She took up residence at the Union Hotel, where she held court every morning to a huge crowd of the afflicted – or rather, to those of the afflicted who had managed to get hold of one of the tickets which she threw among them as they surged around the pub and its environs. 'Women screamed,' reported the *Sheffield Independent*. 'cripples besought strong ruffians for mercy, or at least fair play, and in a few moments the fifteen tickets were in the possession of the hale and hearty, who trafficked with them amongst the lame and decrepit' for as much as 2s 6d each.



In the afternoons, Madame proceeded in her caravan, past cheering crowds along Cemetery Road and the Moor, to the parade ground on Matilda Street, where before a crowd of ten to fifteen thousand people (and accompanied by her band) she pulled teeth, sold her patent medicines, railed against her critics in the local press and, supposedly, cured the incurable. Teeth-pulling, as the *Independent* observed, is no great accomplishment to those possessed of a strong wrist; her 'China Caustic' and 'Indian Balm', which she said derived extraordinary curative powers from over 200 exotic herbs, were found by a local analytical chemist to contain no significant active ingredients; and as for miracle cures, the truly afflicted seemed to get overlooked when she left the parade ground and drove off back to the Union. Despite hints that she would stay longer, lease a house in Kenwood Park perhaps, no convincing miracles had been reported before she abruptly left Sheffield at the crack of dawn in the direction of Huddersfield – or perhaps Halifax - after a stay of only a week.

Enault was Italian – or was she French, or Belgian? She had medical degrees from several great European universities - or, more likely, none. She had travelled in America, where she was (or was not) hailed as a miracle worker, and arrived in Sheffield via Liverpool, Warrington, St Helens and Birmingham, leaving disappointed clients in those places who had paid for, but not received, their miracle cures. The press estimated that she must have raked in fifty to a hundred pounds a day on the parade ground. This 'quackery on stilts' as the *Independent* put it, had revealed that 'many of the Sheffield people are less sharp than they should be' and made her several hundred pounds richer for the discovery. She offered cruelly false hope to the afflicted, in an age when medical cures were less dependable than they are today. But to the rest of Sheffield she offered something to gawk at and cheer, quackery or no quackery. She was a spectacle, albeit a transient one, and for a short week she made Cherrytree Hill and the Union the centre of Sheffield's attention.

## Nicola, of Zed's Wholefoods



Zeds has been owned by two women. Carol Wallace set up Zeds in 1983 and ran it until eventually selling it to Nicola in October 2015. Nicola has spent most of her working life as self-employed. . In 2000, Nicola set up Zooby's fairtrade coffee shop in the Winter Gardens. She sold that business in 2009, and spent a period of time bringing up her children. Nicola enjoys the freedom and variety that being self-employed brings. Being your own boss allows her to be creative and enables her to steer her business in the way she wants. She loves cultivating a warm, welcoming and positive environment for her staff and customers.

The biggest problem to starting your own business are finance and time. She rarely gets the satisfying feeling of getting everything done. "It's easy to run yourself ragged". She does find the responsibility challenging

"sometimes you get decision paralysis". The only problem she has encountered as a woman is the occasional person who would prefer to speak to a man. It is rare, but does happen.

Her role models are her parents, who she describes as 'wonderful'. Her dad is a retired businessman who enjoys getting involved with the bookkeeping at Zeds. She finds that a lot of people she meets have got ideas about running their own business, but most never take the plunge. She advises them to just go for it. "There is not a set of rules that make you capable of running your own business, but.....be prepared to let it dominate a lot of your life."





## Alison Bolsover - Edge Cutters

Alison has been working at the men's barbers Edge Cutters for over 17 years. She took over the management of the salon 2 years ago and bought the business at Christmas. A big decision but with limited risk as she knows the business so well and the success of the business is down to her skills as a barber and how she deals with her customers. She is very comfortable with that pressure.

As a girl Alison was a tomboy and thought she might go into mechanical engineering but the oil and dirt and the sexist comments and male dominated environment were too much and she had a rethink, much to her mother's relief; a daughter at last! Alison studied hairdressing and hair and beauty therapy at college but never saw herself as a women's hairdressers she didn't want to work in a salon with lots of women doing women's hair' and she didn't think that a predominantly female environment would suit her. So what to do?

She decided to go back to night school and become a qualified men's barber. She has never regretted that decision and believes that it is important to do what you really want to do and don't just fall into things. Be in charge of your life.

Alison takes a pride in how successful she is with her younger client group; children need reassurance when they come to have their hair cut. The salon is full of children's toys which are used for the younger children as a distraction and to give support and comfort.

The men who come to the barbers do not like having to wait too long and want to be done and dusted in fifteen minutes. Women go to the hairdressers for perhaps a very different experience and are often in the salon for an hour and a half if not longer.

Alison makes a point of only cutting men's and boy's hair and will not cut women's or girl's as it would change the dynamic of the salon and she doesn't want to do that. 'Be clear about what you are about and stick to it'.

She has had to manage difficult male customers who were behaving inappropriately and Alison has just closed down the conversation and got them to leave. "You have just got to be strong and direct". Mostly her customers are charming and well mannered and she says that the people of Nether Edge are lovely.

On a busy day she can have over 50 customers through the salon and they are mostly on Tuesdays and Saturdays. The weather has a significant impact on trade and when the sun shines, or there is snow and ice there are far fewer customers.

Alison enjoys being self employed and finds it less stressful than working for other people. The charity shops and the other new businesses have had a very positive impact on increasing the foot fall passing trade in the last couple of years.



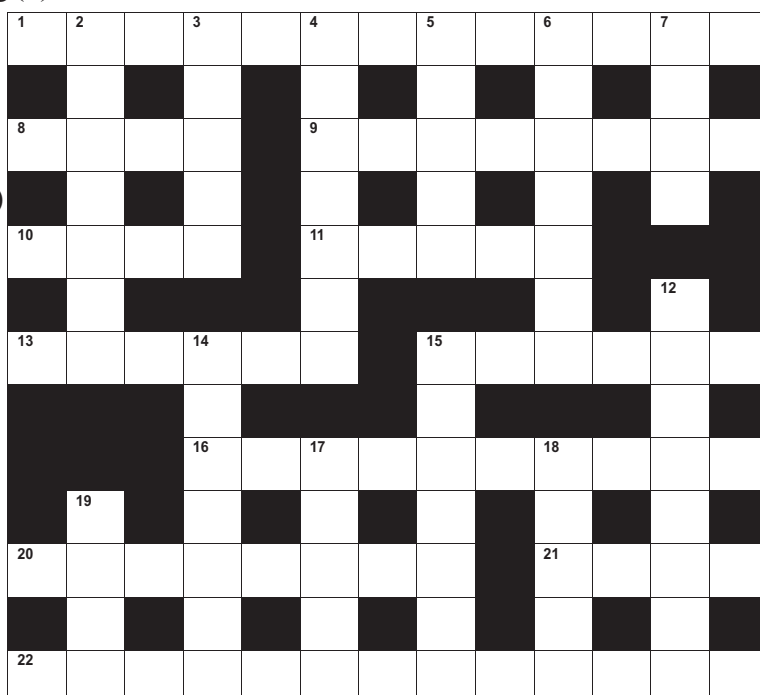
## SPRAT'S NINETY NINTH CROSSWORD.

### Across

1. Traditionally, the sun never set on it (7,6)
8. Something worthy of veneration (4)
9. Brown sticky paste, used in Asian Cooking (8)
10. Flow rapidly (4)
12. Guest house (5)
13. Capable of causing death (6)
15. Grave-digger (6)
16. North East coast of American (3,7)
20. Punishment by Spanish Inquisition (4,2,2)
21. Compassion (4)
22. Butterfly (6,7)

### Down

2. Hermit (7)
3. Doctor fish (5)
4. Shoulder bag (7)
5. Dialect word for ant (5)
6. Puzzle (7)
7. SA unit of currency (4)
12. Old woodwind instrument (8)
14. Chicken house (3,4)
15. Ray of light (7)
17. Cetacean (5)
18. Brief loss of concentration (5)
19. Spiritual leader (4)



## DRINK WISE, LIVE WISE!

I'm John and I volunteer for Drink Wise, Age Well. Why give up my spare time to volunteer? I have been through some difficult times arising from a sudden and unexpected death of my wife. Though the loss of my wife will always be felt, I'm fine now. Many organisations and individuals have helped me along the way and I want to give something back by helping people in similar circumstances. There are growing concerns about alcohol consumption in the over 50's, with increased hospital admissions due to alcohol related illness and accidents.

There are many reasons why some people over 50 may be drinking too much. People over 50 often face particular challenges such as bereavement, redundancy, divorce or separation and children leaving home. These life changing events can lead to isolation and sometimes this may lead to individuals drinking harmfully.

It's now much more common to drink at home rather than the local pub. When people drink at home it's easy to be much more generous with measures when pouring your drink, making it easy to lose track of how much you're drinking.

It's often the case that someone has been drinking too much for years, but as they age older this starts to have a more serious effect on many aspects of their lives.

Drink Wise Age Well is a Big Lottery funded initiative which aims to help and support people over 50 years old who may be feeling isolated because they are facing or going through the challenging circumstances mentioned above. We run and/or support a range of free activities within Sheffield, with the emphasis on healthier living and making new friends/social connections within the community. Drink Wise Age Well has managed and/or provides health walks around the City, Art Classes, Model Making, Antiques Club (we went to the BBC Antiques Roadshow!), Dancing, an Allotment, Walking Football and many more activities.

Drink Wise Age Well also runs free Resilience courses which help people to manage and cope with life changing situations. This is where I come in as I help deliver these courses which cover aspects of life such as relaxation, managing anxiety and worry, getting a good night's sleep, maintaining your health, healthy relationships and setting goals and keeping active. And for those concerned about their drinking, we can provide further advice and support. For example, as well as the activities mentioned above, we offer:

- free confidential support and advice for you, your family or anyone concerned about how alcohol is affecting them;
- advice and support in your community, including visits in your home;
- free training on starting the conversation about alcohol, recognising and responding and alcohol's impact as we age; and
- free alcohol awareness sessions for local organisations and employers.

If you want to find out more about Drink Wise Age Well or would like to volunteer, please contact us on Freephone 0800 032 3723 or go to our Website: [www.drinkwiseagewell.org.uk](http://www.drinkwiseagewell.org.uk)

**John Nelson**

## Anti-Social Behaviour

On Thursday 1 February, there will be important changes to the way Sheffield residents report antisocial behaviour issues. From this date, you will need to report certain antisocial behaviour issues, such as noise nuisance, non-hate crime related graffiti and lost, stray or barking dogs, to Sheffield City Council, not to South Yorkshire Police. You can do this by calling 0114 2734567 or visiting [sheffield.gov.uk/asb](http://sheffield.gov.uk/asb)

A full breakdown of antisocial behaviour issues and whose responsibility these are can be found below:

### South Yorkshire PoliceSheffield City Council

BeggingAbandoned vehicles / parking issues

Dealing/taking drugs and drinking alcohol in the streetDead animals

Gangs and youths drinking in parksDog fouling

Harassment or intimidationFly posting

Fly-tipping (happening now)Dumped, fly-tipped waste (nobody present)

Hate Crime related graffiti (motivated by prejudice or intolerance towards an individual's nationality, ethnicity, religion, gender, identity, sexual orientation or disability)Graffiti (Non Hate Crime related)

Misuse of fireworksSyringes or needles

Dangerous, out of control dogsLost, stray or barking dogs

Threatening / violent neighbour disputesNoise disputes, nuisance or DIY related noise

Prostitution and indecent behaviourSyringes or needles

VandalismLittering

Suspicious vehicles

Hoax calls to emergency services

For more information on reporting antisocial behaviour issues, and the responsibility of Sheffield City Council and South Yorkshire Police from 1 February, please visit [sheffield.gov.uk/asb](http://sheffield.gov.uk/asb) or [southyorks.police.uk/101](http://southyorks.police.uk/101)

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





## Reflections by Sarah Hague: Police Community Support Worker

This year I will have worked for South Yorkshire Police 21 years as a Traffic warden and now as a Police Community Support Officer

From School I went to work for Atkinson's Department Store, starting on the YTS (Youth Training Scheme) for 2 years and then being employed as a sales assistant and finally making my way up to Department Manager of both the DIY and Handbag Departments.

I always wanted to join the Police, ideally as a Police Officer, however being a Police Community Support Officer is the perfect role for me. I like meeting the community and talking to local residents, dealing with long term issues rather than responding to crimes and then perhaps never meeting that person again. I like that I can walk along Abbeydale and most people know who I am and will shout or come and say hello to "PC Sarah"

Being a Police Community Support Officer does have its limitations. I only have certain powers, not the full powers of a Police Officer. Sometimes I come across a situation that I can't deal with and have to call for an Officer. However this also has its advantage. As a Police Community Support Officer I am more embedded into the community. I have worked in the Abbeydale/Nether Edge area for about 12 years. I enjoy the community side of the role and am quite happy going into Nether Edge Primary School to engage with the children and staff, on sitting with an elderly person who has been a victim of crime. Being out in the community means I see a lot of what is happening, enabling me to submit intelligence reports regarding people, suspicious vehicles which the officers can then act upon.

The worst thing about being a woman in the police force is the uniform; it's not very female friendly although it is a lot better than when I started 21 years ago. In those days we were given a skirt and a handbag as part of our uniform as a traffic warden. The uniform we wear now is far more fit for purpose and does a specific job in protecting us in the community.

The best thing about being a woman in the police is breaking down the barriers about the Police being a male orientated role. There are many women in senior command roles in SYP doing an excellent job

I suppose my mum was my biggest influence and still is my role model. She instilled in me the importance of good manners and to treat everyone with respect. I speak with people how I would like to be spoken to myself. She is hardworking, caring, funny and someone I genuinely like spending time with.

When people find out that I am a Police Community Support Officer initially they don't believe me as I am such a friendly person. This is great for the Community Engagement side of the role, however I have a more serious side and I am very professional when dealing with members of the public. I can be very firm with members of the public who do not like being told what to do.

In terms of giving advice to someone wanting to join the force I would say it is a brilliant career, although there are a lot of daily challenges due to cuts in numbers. It is a career for life and the more you put into it the more you will benefit from it.



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## International Women's Day at Nether Edge Primary School.

At Nether Edge Primary School NEPS are looking forward to International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

In fact it's like international women's day every day here at NEPS when the mums gather to collect their children at the end of the day. Between them they speak over thirty languages! Only English is spoken within school of course, even by children playing out. The toddler group that meets in school on Wednesday mornings has mothers from many different countries including India, Pakistan, USA, Italy, Libya, Denmark, Indonesia and of course different parts of the UK.

Our Assistant Head, Homeira Ibrahim, will be leading on International Women's Day in school. She will introduce the topic at the school assembly at the beginning of that week in the form of a stimulation piece that will tell the children a little bit about women's issues and set them thinking. Subsequently, over the course of the week, each class will be discussing and debating issues raised more fully in their philosophy lessons.

Philosophy for children you may ask? This is an important part of what children learn at NEPS. It covers topics such as whether it's ever justifiable to tell a lie, why bullying is wrong, the importance of listening to others, whether we should ever use violence or go to war. It also stimulates debate, emphasises the importance of listening to other people's views, and promotes the etiquette of discussion such as waiting your turn and putting your hand up to speak. We expect some interesting discussions in class on the topic of women's rights and women's issues.

There will be a special emphasis on women in that week in March but we are keen at all times to raise the self confidence of our girls and to broaden their minds and raise their expectations. We have a new PE teacher, Mr Morris, who is encouraging the girls, who are not so keen on PE, to try something different. They enjoyed archery and boxing, it gave them a bit of confidence in their abilities and it challenged the idea that some sports are a 'boy' thing.

*Rhona Dodds with Maggie Little*

### Emma Venn : Moss & Clover

Emma Venn was born in Sheffield; her mother was one of eight children and lived on Ashland Road for many years. Emma's Gran, Lillian, used to work in the premises when was a sweet shop. She worked with Margaret, who now lives in the flat above Moss & Clover. It seems inevitable that Emma would end up running a business from the same place that her Gran used to work. She has many fond memories of her gran, and has a framed black and white photograph of Lillian displayed in the shop.

Emma studied English Literature at Leeds University. She met her husband, who studied Zoology at Sheffield University, and after an intense two week romance moved to London with him and lived there for seven years.

Emma worked as a junior school teacher in Whitechapel. The school presented many challenges and Emma felt that the social problems were immense. It good quality of life was not good and Emma decided focus on family life and motherhood. They moved to the New Forest with their first child Eva, thinking that they would live the 'rural life'. They realised quickly that this was not for them and, when her husband was offered a job at ELR in Hathersage, they moved back to Sheffield bought a house in Nether Edge.

Emma worked as a nanny for a while and learnt her floristry skills at Plantology, the florist on Division Street which was originally based in Nether Edge. She had been taken on for a two week trial and it was a great success. Emma had done wedding flowers for family and friends and her time in Plantology further developed her skills and knowledge of floristry.

Emma had her second child, Livvy, in October 2013 and, while she was out walking, saw the 'To Let' sign at the corner shop. She contacted the owner, Sally Payne, who remembered her Gran and Emma was successful with her bid. She opened Moss & Clover over three years ago. Emma had wanted to start a business from the very start, and sought advice from her father who also ran his own business.

Moss & Clover has a very clear identity and Emma wanted her florist shop to be seasonal with an English country garden feel. She would offer loose, natural bouquets of flowers, often using wild flowers, beautiful plant terrariums and a range of interesting plants and flowers. Emma's favourites are garden roses, ranunculus and a range of eucalyptus plants. She is aware of the need to be responsive to trends nationally and where possible, lead the way.

The business has grown significantly in the last three years, partly due to the increasing demand for wedding flowers.. In her first year she did eighteen weddings, year two she did thirty nine and last year she did sixty one. It is the weddings which keeps the business running and buoyant. Emma has developed Moss & Clover by fully utilising new technology, including instagram and facebook, to promote her products and she is constantly updating and checking her website. She has an on-line shop and click and collect, as well as readymade floral arrangements.

Being self employed woman and running your own business when you have a young family can be very challenging. The flexibility it provides can also be a negative and there can be a conflict. A mother is often under more pressure to 'pick up the slack' in the family. Women may aspire to becoming a 'domestic goddess' but this isn't always achievable.

Emma has a number of regular loyal customers who are very supportive and accept that she closes during the school holidays to be with her children. She describes Nether Edge as a lovely community who try to shop locally and are 'ethical shoppers' in her opinion.





## What's on in and around Nether Edge in March 2018

**Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> March.6-8pm.** Nether Edge History Group Open Meeting at the Union pub, Union Road.pop in for a chat or listen and share details of your historical interests. All welcome. Bar food available.

**Fri 2nd and 3rd March.7.30pm.**We are the Lions Mr Manager. Film about Jayaben Desai the remarkable women who lead the Grunwick Film Processing Factory Strike 1976-78. Lantern Theatre.

**Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> March 9.30-4.00pm.**Charcoal and biochar making. £8.50 Ecclesall Woods Sawmil.tel 235 6348.

**Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1-5pm.** Lantern workshop at Old Junior School, South View Rd,S7 1DB and every Sat & Sun until Sharrow Lantern Carnival on Sun 1<sup>st</sup> April.

**Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> March.6.30pm.** Sheffield Bach Society will perform J S Bach's St Matthew Passion. Sheffield Cathedral.Tickets [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com).

**Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> March. 7.00pm.**Sun and the Rain Man,Buswell ,touching melodies sprinkled with lyrical genius,performing at Cafe#9.tickets £11.

**Sat March 3<sup>rd</sup>.7.30-10.30pm.**Regather Comedy Club with Sarah Bennetto & Bec Hill.£10.tel 273 1258

**Thur 8<sup>th</sup> March 12.00-1.30pm.** Women leading Social change is part of the SheFest hosted at Sheffield Hallam University.SHU City campus. Free.S1 2LX.

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup> March. 7.30-10.30pm.**The Lamplight Club presents Samuel Taylor-Album release show.£8 tel 273 1258

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup> March 1.00pm.** Multi-Lingual book day. Children's library Surrey Street.S1 1XZ. Free.

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup> March. 11.30-4.30pm.** One-day Indie Beer Festival in the Abbeydale Picture House,Abbeydale rd,part of Sheffield Beer Week. See [www.sheffieldbeerweek.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldbeerweek.co.uk) for details.

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup> March 1.00pm.**SheFest-Creative writing workshop for 8-11 year olds. A celebration of International Women's day based on the theme Equality. Children's library, Surrey Street.S1 1XZ.

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup> March 12.00-5.00pm.**SheFest 2018; Workshop to celebrate International Women's day. Millennium Gallery. Book ahead. @shefestsheff or visit [www.shefest.org.uk](http://www.shefest.org.uk).

**Sun 11<sup>th</sup> March 2.00pm.**Wives and Relicts. A one hour tour focusing on the lives of some of the cemetery's women residents. Our book 'She Lived Unknown', will be available to purchase on the day at £2.95.Gatehouse Cemetery Avenue.S11 8NT.

**Sun 11<sup>th</sup> March .7.00pm.** The Goat Roper Rodeo Band. £11. Cafe#9.

**Thur 15<sup>th</sup> March 3.30-6.30.**International Women's Day-Health and well-being.Virgin Money,66 Fargate.S1 2HE.#bobs#internationalwomensday.Free.

**Fri 16th through to 17th March 7.pm-8.am.**'Sleep Out 2018'.Get sponsorship to sleep on the floor of the Abbeydale Picture House and raise money for St Wilfrid's Centre. <https://www.stwilfridcentre.org/events/sleepout2018>. Tickets £16.50.

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup> March 7.00-1030pm.**Sleep Out live entertainment event. £10.Abbeydale Picture House.

**Sat 17<sup>th</sup> March 8.00-10.00pm.**Tom Williams, one of BBC 6 Music's top ten albums of 2017. Regather Works.tel 273 1258.

**Sun 18<sup>th</sup> March. 1-4.00pm.** Nether Edge Farmers Market. Over 80 fruit, bread, veg, meat, cake and craft stalls plus Easter Bonnet parade and Easter Egg Hunt. Raising money for St Luke's and Fable.

**Wed 21<sup>st</sup> March.10.00-4.00pm.** Cohesion Sheffield Annual Conference. Free. Hear about organisations on making cohesion work in our communities in Sheffield. Booking-lcarter@cohesionssheffield.co.uk. Sheffield Town Hall.S1 2HH.

**Sat 24<sup>th</sup> March.7.30pm.** David Bainbridge and Sally Minnear perform Ionian music. A four courses menu showcasing Yorkshire rhubarb as a savoury and sweet ingredient. Tel 273 1258.

**Thur 29<sup>th</sup> March 4-6pm.**Nether Edge Village walk led by the History Group including its shops, transport, early architecture and many other reminders of the past. Starting from Sainsbury's car park.

**Thur 29<sup>th</sup> March.7.30pm.** Jack Harris a Welsh singer-songwriter performing at Cafe#9. Tickets £11.

### NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM will be held on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> April at the Nether Edge Bowling Club, 7pm for 7.30. Please come along to share your views on the future of NENG.

If you can't get to the AGM, but would still like to have your say, contact the chair or secretary (see details on page 2) or write to us at Edge.



Answers to Sprat's 99th Crossword

### OPEN GARDENS DAY Sunday, 24th June



# Nether Edge Festival 2018

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September

This festival helps to bring the residents of Nether Edge together to show Sheffield what a vibrant multi-cultural community we are lucky to live in.

Food, Music, Arts and Crafts, History, Performance, Literature, Socials, Sports and Walks will be on your doorsteps.



## Helpers required

It only seems a few weeks since the 2017 festival but time has moved on and we are now planning this year's event. The dates have been set, 15-24 Sep, so put those action-packed ten days in your diary and invite your friends over for one of the weekends.

**Volunteers** are needed to help out at many of the Festival events; for example, at the Carnival [15 Sep] at Common Ground and the Party in Chelsea Park [23 Sep]. Also, collecting and putting up display boards, stewarding at the larger events and activities such as First aiders, Traffic controllers, Games organisers, staffing the Information desk at the Farmer's Market [16 Sep] and help with the Wishing and Hoping Tree.

If you would like to take part or help in any way please email Richard Taylor at [richardtaylor635@hotmail.com](mailto:richardtaylor635@hotmail.com) or Mark Doel at [doel@waitrose.com](mailto:doel@waitrose.com).

Or alternatively, if you bump into any of us in the street please say hello. We welcome feedback from previous events.

*Here's to a great festival!*

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[www.netheredge.org.uk](http://www.netheredge.org.uk)