

# EDGE

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSLETTER [www.netheredge.org.uk](http://www.netheredge.org.uk)  
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*Deserted Streets  
of Nether Edge*



**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 Sharlow 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 issue of EDGE was edited by the Edge Editorial Board. If you want to contribute to the June edition, please contact the EDGE Editorial Board – [nengeditorialboard@gmail.com](mailto:nengeditorialboard@gmail.com)

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**NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP – Application for Membership / renewal**

**I wish to join / continue to support\* the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group (NENG) and receive the “EDGE” magazine by hand delivery / by email\* and enclose / have sent\* my annual subscription of £\_\_\_\_\_**

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

The annual subscription for EDGE is £8 per household (£5 unwaged / concessions), commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> April each year. Any additional donation to the work of NENG is welcomed.

Subscribers living outside our distribution area will only receive electronic copies of EDGE, or you can choose to receive EDGE by email by selecting this method above.

Cheques should be made payable to NENG, but please bear in mind that everyone in NENG is a volunteer, so we would far prefer to receive payment by Standing Order or by bank transfer (Sort code 30-97-51 A/C 36208368 NENG), as this greatly reduces the administration burden on both your local EDGE distributor and on NENG itself. Copies of a Standing order form (you can alternatively set one up online) to send to your Bank are available from [ken.lambert227@gmail.com](mailto:ken.lambert227@gmail.com) whom you should advise when you have set up a standing order or made a bank transfer so that records can be updated.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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

PLEASE NOTE: Should you prefer not to become a full member of NENG you still can be just an EDGE subscriber by deleting the section in italics above. This entitles you to receive copies of EDGE but no entitlement to vote. The annual subscription is the same.



I remember growing up in Liverpool through the war (i.e. WW2). I remember being carried out to spend the night sleeping in the Anderson air-raid shelter in our back garden, the blackout curtains, the sticky tape criss-crossing the window panes, my father in the Home Guard and his rifle leaning against the fireplace. I remember looking out for shrapnel to collect on our way to school, the searchlights sweeping the sky, the sirens and the bonfire and celebrations in the street on VE Night. That was 75 years ago and now the NENG history group is researching what happened in Nether Edge at that time. It has uncovered lots of stories and memories but not nearly as much as they expected. There are only a few people with personal memories to recall and little material to be found in formal archives. 'If only there was more to find and write about', one member said.

The war was the most significant event in the last hundred years. The current pandemic might well be the most important episode in the next hundred. What then might local historians in 2095 be able to find about our experiences as we cope with the problems, dangers and changes brought about by COVID-19? Could you help to create a community archive for others to access in the future?

We are inviting EDGE readers of all ages to write about their personal experience of the Coronavirus pandemic. For example: How has it affected you, your family and friends? What have been the most challenging aspects? In what ways has the community changed and responded? These are just a few ideas to get you started.

EDGE will print some of your contributions in forthcoming issues and the History Group will provide further information about the development of the archive.



**Bannerdale Osteopaths**

### We are still open!

Our physical clinic may be closed until we think it is safe to re-open, but that does not mean we have abandoned you. We are still treating patients and are now booking everyone in for Virtual Appointments.

Our specialist software allows us to see each other face to face, discuss your symptoms, carry out any movement tests and create you a bespoke treatment plan. Our ongoing care also means that we can communicate and track your progress daily to make sure your recovery is going as planned and solve any issues or concerns you may have.

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### Open Gardens/Lockdown Stories

You may be aware that the Nether Edge Open Gardens event has been cancelled for this year. In stead NENG is inviting gardeners to submit photographs of their gardens for publication in Edge, which we are aiming to continue to publish in an online version. You are invited to send one or two pictures of the most stunning part of your garden and to name the charity that you would like readers to support in the same way as you would if you were opening your garden to the public. What we would really like is for people who have lovely spring gardens to let us have your photographs by 12<sup>th</sup> May at the very latest so that they can appear in the June edition of Edge. It also means that more people will get to show their gardens as others can submit pictures for the July/August and September editions.

NENG is also asking you, in these quite extraordinary times, to submit any stories of people or organisations that have gone out of their way to be helpful, or to recount what (unusual) activities have helped your family cope with social isolation. You may also want to say thank you to people who have shown exceptional kindness.

Please send your contributions to [nengeditorialboard@gmail.com](mailto:nengeditorialboard@gmail.com)

Publication will be entirely at the discretion of the Editor.



# A Sustainable Approach To Business

By Mathew Reynolds

The Bare Alternative is a zero waste refill shop bringing affordable, plastic-free shopping to Abbeydale Road and the surrounding community. We offer a wide selection of whole foods and cooking ingredients, all available without packaging, so we highly encourage bringing your own containers to take your refills home in. We also sell a range of cleaning products for the home and yourself, everyday sustainable alternatives and much more that will help live a more sustainable lifestyle.

I started the business in November 2018 with the aim to provide this method of shopping and provide the choice to shop this way. Buying only what you need keeps costs down so refill shopping is often cheaper



than at the large supermarkets and also reduces food waste.

The range of sustainable alternative products mentioned previously include items such as bamboo toothbrushes which are much more eco-friendly when it comes to disposal compared to traditional products.

At the end of the first year of trading, I produced statistics that through all produce sold we generated a reduction of approximately 4 tonnes of plastic waste compared to buying the same products in typical packaging. I identified that around 40% of this waste was the containers that cleaning liquids are sold from and only sent for recycling when empty. This led to the decision to move supplier that works within the circular economy by guaranteeing that they will collect the containers to be cleaned and refilled to send back to us.

On the back of this, I created the Support Circular Economy initiative which highlights products available in the shop that means we are reusing and refilling containers for products to be delivered to us in and purchased from. The next

step is to work with our tea and coffee supplier to purchase products in a similar fashion. This is made easier by working with a local supplier which also supports our ethics of reducing carbon footprint where ever possible.

The issues of plastic pollution and the climate crisis have become a hot topic in the media and has led to the shop being featured in coverage on BBC Radio Sheffield and ITV regional news. I have also been invited back to the Festival of Debate this year where I will be giving a retrospective look back at the last year. All of this is part of the business plan to help educate others how to live more sustainably.

*Mathew Reynolds is the owner of Bare Alternative*



## A cycle ride to work before the lockdown.

One upside of the lockdown is that there would not be any black cabs on her heels.

*Kate Carruthers Thomas*

### Two wheels, early

Puncturing stillness with speed in a city behind closed doors  
below a backlit September sky, clouds unwilling to commit.  
Inhaling spiced air from Eid kitchens on Glen and Glover,  
past Door Deals, First in Finishing, New and Re-usable Steels  
on Saxon, low-slung beside the turquoise high rise of the mosque.  
Swerving potholes and roadworks as yet unrelated, luxuriate  
on Shoreham's silken stretch, freewheeling, exhaling ...  
wide curve on Clough, nippy at the lights, black cab grumbling  
at my back wheel, catch the stink and the molten glow  
of the tool press through open doors. Agile, navigating cabbies  
deep in conversation, the man who rocks, beseeching,  
at the station door ...  
guilt, sweat, lock,

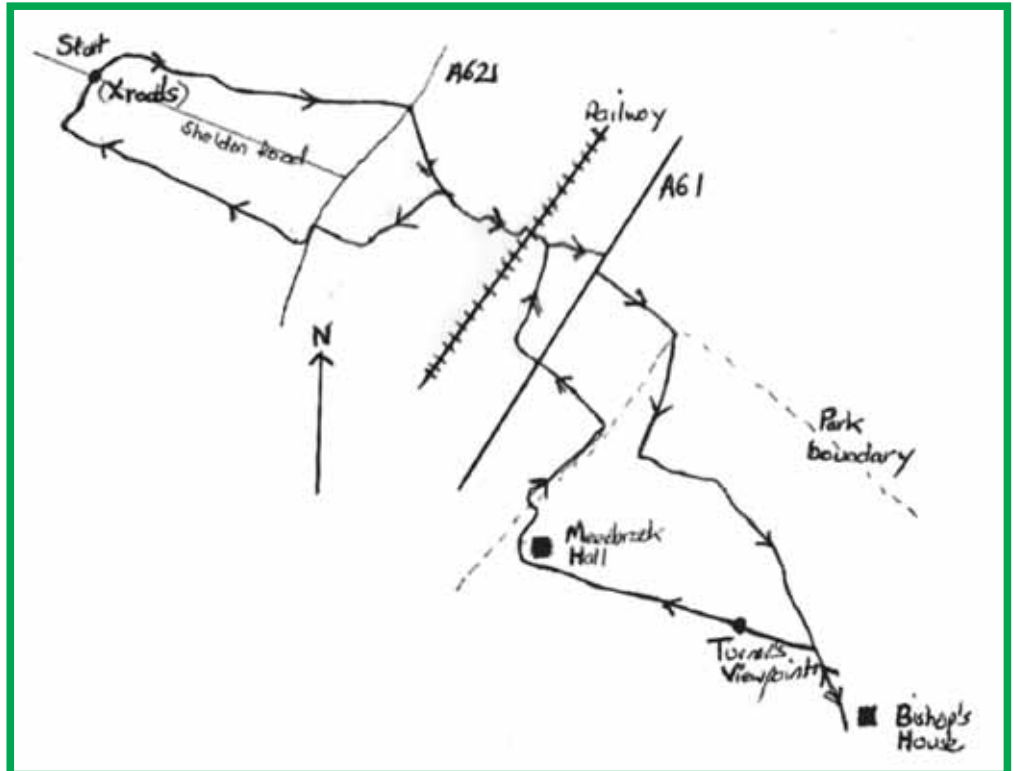


From *Navigation* published by  
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Copies available direct from  
[kate.thomas@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:kate.thomas@bcu.ac.uk)

## An Ascent of Turner's Viewpoint by David Levine

This walk is the first one of two walks, to be described in Edge Magazine, that can be done within one hour starting from the Nether Edge Crossroads (following the Government instructions for exercising during the Coronavirus crisis). The walk of 4km takes you from the heart of Nether Edge to one of the best viewpoints in Sheffield.

Head towards town and take the first right down Machon Bank crossing the A621 towards Heeley Baths. Cross Broadfield Road and walk over the footbridge over the River Sheaf making your way under the railway bridge to the A61.



Cross the A61 (pedestrian lights) and take Meersbrook Park Road to the entrance of Meersbrook Park on the corner with Brook Road.

Meersbrook Park is one of Sheffield's oldest and most historic parks and is located on one of Sheffield's seven hills. It was originally the grounds of Meersbrook Hall and acquired by Sheffield Council in 1886 and opened a year later on September 17<sup>th</sup> 1887.

Once in the park, fork left and then take the next left walking between the football pitches and the playground. At the end of the playground fork right to begin your ascent (40 metres) up to Turner's Viewpoint. The view is the same as one in the watercolour by JMW Turner "View of Sheffield from Derbyshire Lane which is displayed in the Millennium Gallery. The watercolour was engraved

for the "The Copper-Plate Magazine" of August 1798 and Turner had made the sketch on a Yorkshire tour the year before. In the early part of his career, before he earned his reputation as a great artist, Turner mainly painted landscape views for mass-producing in magazines and print books.

The Bishops' House is 200 metres further up the hill. It was built around 1500 and is one of three surviving timber-framed houses in Sheffield. It was built around the time that two members of the Blythe family became Bishops but their historical connection with the house is unconfirmed. In 1886 ownership passed to Sheffield City Council and various recreation department employees lived in the house until 1974. It is a Grade II listed building and has been opened as a museum since 1976.



Retrace your steps back to the viewpoint and turn left heading towards Meersbrook Hall. At the 5 way junction follow the sign to the walled garden, which was the kitchen garden for Meersbrook Hall. The Hall was built in about 1760 for Benjamin Roebuck a merchant who later became a partner in the first bank in Sheffield "Parker, Roebuck & Shore (1770)". It was later bought by Samuel Shore, one of the partners, who was a grandfather of Florence Nightingale. Samuel Shore extended the building employing the architect William Fairbank Fairbanks of the famous Fairbanks family.



## An Ascent of Turner's Viewpoint

Leave the park at the Meersbrook Hall exit, (see optional extension) turning right along Brook Road and then the next left along Beeton Road crossing the A61 at the retail park. Walk past Costa Coffee down the ginnel to meet the road going back under the railway bridge.

*You can extend the walk by about 800m to see the location of the shop that featured in the recent television series 'Back in Time for the Corner Shop' that was on the BBC in February. On leaving the park turn left instead of right and go through the ginnel on the corner of Brook Street and Binfield Road to join Derbyshire Lane. Turn left and walk up hill for 200 metres to the location on the corner with Norton Lees Road. Retrace your route back to the Meersbrook Hall exit and follow the original directions.*



Retrace your steps to Broadfield Road but do not cross it. Instead cross Broadfield Way and walk in between the river and the playground to meet the end of Leyburn Road and the Leyburn Road mosque and walk to the A621 and AE Butterworth on the corner.

AE Butterworth, the bike repair shop and a Sheffield institution is run by Matthew Butterworth, the grandson of the founder Albert Edward Butterworth who started the business on Abbeydale Road in 1930.

Cross the A621 using the pedestrian lights to Glen Road. and continue back to the shops at the heart of Nether Edge.

## The Plague by Albert Camus *Felicity Skelton*

Albert Camus began to write *La Peste*, which is usually translated as *The Plague*, during the Second World War, and it was published in 1947. On the surface, it is a novel about a town in Algeria during an outbreak of bubonic plague. However, the novel is usually read as an allegory of the Nazi occupation of France during the war, although it is also possible to see it as referring to the French occupation of Algeria, the country where Camus was born.

Read as a story about a community's ways of dealing with the sickness, there are interesting parallels with where we find ourselves now.

The first sign that anything is amiss is the appearance of rats in the buildings. At first, people dismiss them as an aberration, but then 'the evening papers picked up the matter, asking if the civic authorities intended to do something, or not, and what emergency measures had they planned to protect the public... The authorities had not considered or planned anything at all, but started by holding a council meeting to discuss it.' This short extract rings bells today, of course, but the novel does more than echo our current problems and successes. It also highlights the ethical decisions which are having to be made by medical staff and by politicians as well as by members of the community on a daily basis. How much truth about the epidemic should be revealed? If the authorities know that, for example, half the population will probably die, should they make it public? What is served by that knowledge? Would the possibility of panic resulting from this revelation be worse than not saying

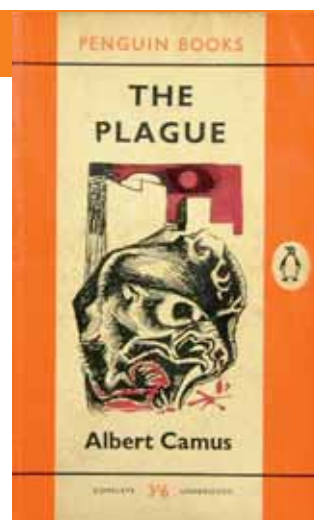
anything, or even denying it? Is it ethical to try a new treatment on a child who is almost certainly going to die, for the sake of an adult who might benefit if it turns out to be safe?

It becomes apparent to the inhabitants of the town that 'they were all in the same boat...and that they had to adjust to the fact...being separated from a loved one suddenly became...the feeling of a whole people and, together with fear, the greatest agony of that long period of exile.' Gradually the people recognise their common humanity.

Letters are banned, in case they carry the disease. Camus describes the effect of the only means of communication being the telegram, which reduces 'whole lives together or painful passions...to a periodic exchange of stock phrases such as 'Am well', 'Thinking of you,' and so on. Not unlike the texts and tweets many of us will be getting now, and even our phone calls are sometimes reduced to 'I'm fine. How are you?'

This novel is not a cheery read but it is thought-provoking. Eventually, as Covid-19 will also do, the plague does fade away, and there are fewer and fewer cases, although in the novel, one of the main characters dies from plague just as the town is beginning to relax and breathe sighs of relief. Roll on that day!

*(Quotations are from the Penguin version of The Plague, translated by Robin Buss, pub.2002)*



## A recipe for May supplied by Jane Oliver, a local chef.

*I suspect a lot of us have a lot of chick peas in our lockdown store cupboard*

### HUMMUS

250g cooked chickpeas  
3 Tblsp tahini paste  
1 clove garlic, mashed  
1 Tblsp coriander powder  
1 tsp cumin powder  
1/4 tsp sea salt  
1/4 tsp pepper, freshly ground  
1 Tblsp flat leaf parsley, chopped  
1 Thai red chilli, finely sliced  
1/2-1 lemon, juiced (to taste)  
50-100 ml extra virgin olive oil (to taste/texture)



In a food processor, blend all ingredients, except the oil, until mixed and finely chopped. Then add the first 50 ml of oil. Blend again briefly until oil is mixed in and the mixture is smooth. Add more oil to suit your own taste and texture. Refrigerate and consume within 1 week. The flavours blend and improve after 1 day. It also can be frozen. (If a less hot taste is desired, eliminate the chilli!)

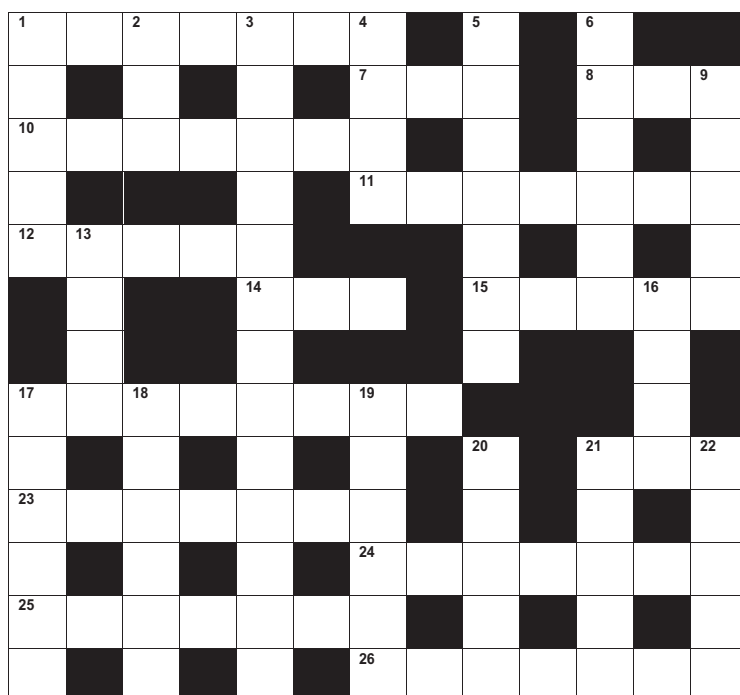
## SPRAT'S ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH CROSSWORD

### Across

1. Golden syrup (7)
7. Egg or deer (3)
8. If it comes before the oak, we're in with a soak! (3)
10. Kingfisher (7)
11. Forever (7)
12. Wet snow (5)
14. If it comes before the ash, we're in for a splash! (3)
15. Way in (5)
17. They're usually upstairs (8)
21. Cleopatra's nemesis (3)
23. Jokingly called 'alcoholic custard'! (3,4)
24. Greek mythical pastoral paradise (7)
25. Pistol or revolver (7)
26. There's a marvellous one on Chelsea Road (3,4)

### Down

1. Himalayan goat-antelopes (5)
2. Slippery fish (3)
3. Search for and study of animals which may not exist (Yeti or Loch Ness monster) (13)
4. Old name for Sea Eagle (4)
5. Wife of Ahab (7)
6. Precious red stone (6)
9. Evergreen shrub with prickly dark green leaves (5)
13. Citrus fruit or common Nether Edge street tree (4)
16. The Pied Piper got rid of them from Hamelin (4)
17. Common tree, with a copper variety (5)
18. Cigarette butt (3,3)
19. Southern African tree (The caterpillars that live on it are Mma Ramotswa's favorite snack!) (6)
20. Stand-in doctor (5)
21. Riverside tree, bearing both catkins and cones (5)
22. There used to be a beautiful one outside the Bridge Club – sadly no more (5)



## Lighting candles as a symbol of hope by Michael Bayley

On Sunday, 22 March Christians and anyone else who wished to join in were invited to put a candle in their window at 7 pm as a sign of hope and solidarity in this time of uncertainty and fear. It was ironic that 22 March was Mothering Sunday, a time when we remember mothers and families especially, and so it is often a time for families to gather. It was also the first Sunday on which all church services were cancelled for the duration, and families were explicitly asked not to visit their grandparents because of the dangers of infecting them with the virus. The idea of lighting candles was to reaffirm hope and our concern and care for one another. The saying, "It is better to light a candle than to curse the dark" sums up the thinking behind it.

A number of us in Meadow Bank Avenue did light candles, were glad that we did so, and wondered if others would like to join in. There is a rich symbolism in candles in virtually all religions and throughout human society. In Hinduism there is Diwali, the Festival of Lights; in Judaism candles are used on the Sabbath and also at the feast of Hanukkah; in Christianity Jesus is seen as the light and hope of the world; in Taoism candles can symbolize Yin and

Yang, representing differences but also the harmony in the light and dark in life; in Islam the feast of Eid-al-Fitr celebrates the end of Ramadan, and lights and candles are part of the celebration.

Many people use candles as a focus to calm themselves and meditate. Candles are often used to celebrate, for example on birthday cakes, and often to make a wish when we blow the candles out. There is a fascinating link between candles and prayer. Many people who have no formal religious belief will light a candle to express their love and sympathy for a person or situation about which they are concerned.

Ruth Bernard and I wondered if friends and neighbours in Nether Edge would like to continue the practice of lighting a candle and putting it in our window on Sunday evenings. Because the clocks have just gone forward, it is still quite light at 7 pm, we suggest we should do it at 8 pm instead. All we need to do is just to do it and continue to hope and be kind to ourselves and one another.



## Sally's Hats by Sally Baxendale

I started work in the wardrobe at the Crucible theatre when it opened in 1971.

I knew little about theatre and the world of costume but, as a junior, I soon came to realise how lucky I was to be in such a great learning situation. The thrust stage (a stage that extends into the auditorium so that the audience is seated on three sides) and the proximity of the audience to the actors meant that the costumes, especially, needed to be top class. Everything about the theatre, especially technically, was cutting edge. I loved the collaborative work, long hours handling beautiful and unusual materials, learning expert construction methods and sharing the excitement of theatre life.

I was drawn to millinery and was fascinated by the techniques and specialist materials used by the freelance milliner. As an art student I'd had an interest in the mini- sculpture aspect of much headwear so I was lucky that the wardrobe manager, David Havey-Jones, was a generous, if exacting boss who encouraged me to make the hats. He shared information about materials and suppliers and took us shopping in London to the theatre suppliers.

After a few years of working in theatres it's common to tire of the long hours and poor pay. I taught for a few years, had children and then took up millinery again as a freelancer.

Through contacts made earlier and the tight network of theatre craftspeople, I was able to access materials and employment.

People may be surprised to learn that the costumes in many films and TV dramas have been made by craftspeople all over the UK, in my case, our attic in Nether Edge. For instance, the armour in the film *Gladiator* was made by a colleague in his workshop in a small Pennine town. The usual freelance practice is to work at home from the stage designer's drawings and then converge at the theatre, TV studio, or film set for final fittings and the busy rehearsal period. The designer, with the director, has an overview of the whole visual concept and is more or less focused on the costume rather than say, the scenery. So, the milliner often has design autonomy, especially on films. I was instructed to produce 12 random 1940's womens' straw hats for *Empire of the Sun* for instance.

I have been lucky to have worked on a wide variety of productions including opera, ballet, TV and film and theme parks as well as theatres, and to have been involved in some exciting projects like the *Star Wars* film *Phantom Menace* and the West End show, *Les Misérables*.





## A letter written to a friend by F. Scott Fitzgerald

when he was quarantined in France during the 'Spanish 'flu' pandemic in 1920. Kevin Hickey

Dear Rosemary,

*It was a limpid dreary day, hung as in a basket from a single dull star. I thank you for your letter. Outside, I perceive what may be a collection of fallen leaves tussling against a trash can. It rings like jazz to my ears.*

*The streets are that empty. It seems as though the bulk of the city has retreated to their quarters, rightfully so. At this time, it seems very poignant to avoid all public spaces. Even the bars, as I told Hemingway, but to that he punched me in the stomach, to which I asked if he had washed his hands. He hadn't. He is much the denier, that one. Why, he considers the virus to be just influenza. I'm curious of his sources.*

*The officials have alerted us to ensure we have a month's worth of necessities. Zelda and I have stocked up on red wine, whiskey, rum, vermouth, absinthe, white wine, sherry, gin, and lord, if we need it, brandy.*

*Please pray for us.*

*You should see the square, oh, it is terrible. I weep for the damned eventualities this future brings. The long afternoons rolling forward slowly on the ever-slick bottomless highball. Z. says it's no excuse to drink, but I just can't seem to steady my hand. In the distance, from my brooding perch, the shoreline is cloaked in a dull haze where I can discern an unrelenting penance that has been heading this way for a long, long while. And yet, amongst the cracked cloudline of an evening's cast, I focus on a single strain of light, calling me forth to believe in a better morrow.*

*Faithfully yours,*

*F. Scott Fitzgerald.*



That particular pandemic actually started in the USA but, just like President Trump today calling it the 'Chinese virus', foreigners got the blame.

Covid-19 in humans certainly started in China but it originated from animals, possibly bats, snakes or pangolins, in a food market.

Therefore, it is no more 'Chinese' than anything else in nature.

At this time, it is cheering to know that all the persons mentioned in the letter survived the pandemic: F. Scott Fitzgerald living another 20 years, Zelda another 28 and Ernest Hemingway another 41 years.

However, based on their booze stocks, it is unsure if it did their livers much good and all suffered health and mental problems: F. Scott Fitzgerald dying of a heart attack aged 44; Zelda being hospitalized and dying in a fire; Hemingway eventually committing suicide.

This piece came from some very dear friends in Hemel Hempstead. Helping and supporting each other through storytelling, letter writing and emailing reflections. It is so important for us all to keep in touch with friends, family and the wider community.



*In the EDGE of April 2015, Sue Pethen talked to ecologist Marian Tylecote, who has recently died after a long illness. Marian worked tirelessly for many years to make real her belief that an environment which values green spaces and fills them with beauty really does make people feel better. We reprint this interview as a tribute to her life and work.*

**1)SP: How long have you lived in Nether Edge?**

**MT:** Since 1978.

**2)SP: I've got to know you through the Brincliffe Edge Wood project, but you've been active in the green spaces of Nether Edge - such as the Chelsea Park "meadow" and the Frog Walk Pocket Park - for a long time. Can you tell us more about this?**

**MT:** I started the original Nether Edge Wildlife Group in 1986, after becoming aware of the serious losses to biodiversity which had occurred in England after WW2, due mainly to the industrialisation of farming. Surprisingly, it was known that many urban areas provided refuges for species which had declined or disappeared in rural areas. I thought (as did many other people at that time) that it would be good to enhance the opportunities for habitat in Nether Edge whilst alerting people to these losses (for example 97% of wildflower meadows) and simultaneously creating aesthetically beautiful "wild spaces" in Nether Edge. The culmination of our endeavours (1987) was the Chelsea Park 'meadow' (not an exact copy of a rural meadow as most of the species in these would never survive the rigours of changed urban conditions). Our original "meadow" was replaced by the new children's playground and a new one started in 2007. We selected plant species, native and non-native, which would be good for wildlife, beautiful and able to survive the difficult conditions there. The 'meadow' is gradually becoming a self-sustaining habitat with once a year mowing and some occasional 'editing'.

**3)SP: What led you to change your career direction towards ecology?**

**MT:** Before I finally settled in Sheffield, I had been living in Lincolnshire (1973-76) where farmers indiscriminately sprayed fields containing wonderful species like snake's head fritillary, ripped out hedgerows and were able (before the law changed) to destroy ancient badger setts. I had originally studied Fine Art and worked as an art teacher and designer in textile and graphics. I later volunteered in the city council's Ecology Department where I learnt a lot about Sheffield's ancient woodlands etc. This led to my changing direction and doing a BSc. in ecology (Dept. of Plant & Animal Sciences) and landscape design (Dept. of Landscape Architecture) at the University of Sheffield.

**4)SP: I know you've been active in teaching in the University of Sheffield's Landscape Department and that you're doing a PhD there. Tell us more about your PhD.**

**MT:** Unlike the many (but decreasing) vast areas of wilderness in Africa, Britain's landscapes are largely 'man-made' i.e. cultural. The beautiful flowering grassland meadows, for example, because of the opening up of the forest by early farmers for pasture and crops, allowing light-loving plants to flourish and adapt to human management. Later urban areas encapsulated some of these 'semi-natural' habitats (in Sheffield these are mostly in the form of ancient woodland with their wild bluebells) but the rarer habitats could not cope with the urban environment and died out. We have about 50% of native plants left in the older urban areas in Europe including Britain (which has a relatively species-poor flora). The exciting thing is that there are now 'communities' of plants that have arisen spontaneously in cities and have adapted to urban conditions. These communities contain a mixture of native and non-native plants which have come from gardens, allotments, industrial waste sites and other sources. I am researching these 'cultural' communities, their biology and ecological requirements, in order to investigate whether we could incorporate them into urban parks and schemes such as sustainable drainage systems (SUDS), green roofs, green walls etc. The aim is to be able to grow these well-adapted plants together with other additional species sustainably (low carbon), i.e. by using no fertilisers or herbicides and little machinery. Low maintenance is the other consideration because local authorities are now only able to afford the minimum for maintaining public green spaces or to pay for training skilled people to look after them.

**5)SP: In the last (March 2015) edition of EDGE you appealed for people interested in enhancing the grass verges outside their houses to contact you – yet another area that you'd like to see given over to plants. Where does your huge motivation come from? What's the history of it?**





**MT:** The history has to do with my upbringing in southern Africa, and my dismay when I came here and saw the damage (that is still ongoing) to the incredible landscapes of Britain. Some of my early childhood was spent in a place in Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia) where our community was the first white one to live there. It was a formatively rich time. I was enchanted (and sometimes scared!) by the wilderness there. My parents loved the 'bush' and were conservation-minded which they passed on to me.



- 6) **SP:** When I helped you a bit with the Frog Walk Pocket Park earlier this year I was struck by the number of passers-by who stopped to say how much the little park meant to them – your belief in the power of beautiful green spaces coming true! Would you value more volunteers to help you with your/our projects in Nether Edge like the Frog Walk Pocket Park and the Chelsea Park 'Meadow'?

**MT:** Yes! There is so much people can do (many are already, in their gardens and allotments). And that does not mean letting weeds take over. All that's required is a little knowledge and sensitivity. England is world famous for its gardens – let those out a little beyond the private and into the public! May our projects flourish!

**SP:** Thank you Marian. Indeed!

*This interview clearly highlights the broad, international sweep of Marian's vision. Her work will live on.*

## NENG and the coronavirus

The Trustees and Committee have considered how NENG can best lend some support to the residents of Nether Edge in these very trying times. As NENG does not have any premises, it was not really feasible to set up a food bank or soup kitchen as some had suggested, so in line with guidance from the Charities Commission, we decided that it would be best to allocate some of our reserves for a small emergency fund to give grants to other organisations working in Nether Edge that are best placed to help people who are finding it difficult to manage.

We have therefore set aside a sum of £5000 for donating to organisations that are meeting urgent needs. We have established a small group (Chair, Secretary, Vice-chair and two others) to act on behalf of the Committee to approve any donations. The criteria that this group will use to provide financial support are:-

- I The activity will be local and support people from Nether Edge
- I The activity will be based on identified need. The groups needing support may change over time.
- I The organisation receiving funds must have a proven track record in delivery.

This "emergency group" has been given a remit to last for three months and will report every donation to the Committee.

NENG has already made donations of £500 each to Family Voice and to Shipshape (which is one of the "Community Hubs" that have been set up and now runs an emergency food bank)

The now cancelled June Farmers Market was due to give two donations from the proceeds - to St Wilfred's & the Archer project and it has also been agreed to make donations of £500 each. Whilst these donations will deplete the NENG reserves, it is the view of the Trustees that NENG will still have sufficient reserves to remain a "going concern" once life returns to something like normal.

Finally, some of the NENG Committee and members are closely involved with the "Nether EDGE Help Network (Covid-19 Mutual Aid)", which has established volunteer co-ordinators on most of the streets in Nether Edge to try to make sure that there is ready help from a friendly neighbour when needed.





# The Move To An Electric Car

*Alistair Lofthouse.*

I've always been a petrolhead, anything on TV, Top Gear, Motor Racing, and my trip to the Le Mans 24hr race is something I'll never forget. Over the years I have had various cars and vans including Alfa Romeo, BMW, Jaguars & Landrovers. They weren't very green or environmentally friendly but that wasn't my first consideration at the time. I recall my views started to change in 2014 when I saw a Tesla S in a carpark in Leamington Spa. It blew me away, and my son wouldn't stop talking about it. It looked so good, futuristic and high tech and I wondered if this was the start of something new.

A couple of years ago I was lent a Nissan Leaf for a couple of days and loved it. A few months later Tesla announced they were launching a smaller Tesla 3, and I thought I should consider it. The cars are still not cheap, coming in at almost £38,000 after the government grant of £3000. However, I have my own business and when my accountant explained that Electric cars (not hybrids) are fully tax deductible and the benefit in kind tax was low, (0% for this year and will be 1% year after), that sealed it and I quickly booked a test drive.

Buying a Tesla is a completely different experience, they don't have 'normal' showrooms or suited salesmen, hungry for commissions. They have a small showroom you can walk in and look around, they have one of each model, paint samples and examples of the different interior finishes. You can ask the staff questions and they are very knowledgeable, but that's it.

I arranged a test drive from our nearest centre in Leeds. The woman whom came with us in the car was very helpful and we spent an hour going round Leeds and on the M1. She showed us how to use the auto driver – a very surreal experience the first time, and we found a car park to practice reverse parking. At the end there was no pressure to buy - you just go home and order it online.

I picked the car up in December. I must admit I was a bit nervous as they drive a bit different than a normal car. They are very similar to automatics, no gears, you tend to use just one pedal, the accelerator.

**The car has a clever system where it generates power from braking and going down hill. This they say adds 30% to the range of the vehicle. This results in the car slowing quicker than a normal car would when you release the accelerator pedal. The brake pedal is only used for emergencies and at traffic lights.**

Generally, the car drives like a sports car, it has fast acceleration and top speed probably similar to a sports car, but sports cars cost around three times the price !



## Now to the important stuff

I had a charger fitted at home, that cost £750 but you can get a government grant of £500 towards it. A big concern is the range. Officially my car will do 252 miles on a full charge, but in Sheffield in the winter months I am getting around a third less. I expect that to improve as the weather gets warmer. I normally charge the car twice a week and it takes around 5 hours. A full charge from home is around £4 but I need to investigate further, as I have been told there are deals where you can charge at night for a lot less.

I estimate the Tesla costs about 5p per mile to run whereas our other family car, a diesel, costs around 30p per mile to run. Until 2025 there is no road tax on electric cars and there is no servicing, although you will need an MOT.

Tesla advise that the car is checked once every 2 years and, hopefully, all you will need to buy are tyres. They claim that the brakes should last the lifetime of the car. Also with a Tesla you have a 5 year warranty on the car, and 8 years on the battery which they say should last 300,000 miles.

We still have the issue of lack of chargers. My first test run was to The Deep in Hull. The car can do the 170 mile round trip on a full charge but I knew The Deep had two chargers so my plan was to charge the car up for free! Many places offer chargers for free including Meadowhall. When we arrived however we had been ICED! This means people had parked normal Internal Combustion Engine cars in the charging bays. Luckily we had a clear run home and arrived back with 30 miles left! Our contingency plan - it always pays to have one, was to stop at Meadowhall if we were in any doubt. The only charger in Nether Edge is at the Kenwood Hotel.

Conclusion, what is it like have an EV? Fab! It's like when I moved from a Nokia phone to a smart phone, all normal cars seem so last century...

## Nether Edge History's Family Trail.

Children, you need a pencil, and a grown-up to stay with you.

We begin in Nether Edge Village at the **seating opposite Oxfam** at the crossroads of Nether Edge Road and Sheldon Road. Look all around, high and low, as you follow the route. Turn right up Machon Bank, carefully cross Montgomery Road and go up Edge Bank on your right into Meadow Bank Avenue. Turn left out of the Avenue along Union Road and walk all the way up the hill to the top to meet Brincliffe Edge Road. Turn right and walk along to the entrance to Chelsea Park on your right. Go through the park down to the swings for the end of the walk. Look at the clues, put your answers in the spaces or tick when you've found the feature.



Where is this?



This fancy metal spike is a finial. Where is it?



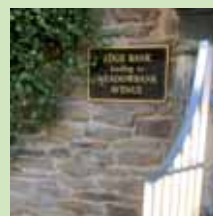
Who is this? This is hard, as one can see him from the start of the walk, but you may need a grown up's help to read his name.



Where can you find Billy Bones?



The house at the top of Violet Bank Road looks different to the other houses. Can you think why?



Follow this little road up to the top and keep your eyes peeled !



These are cobbles. Can you imagine the noise when horses pulled metal rimmed wheels up Edge Bank?



Can you find this modern house? Once on Edge Bank you are very close.



Now where is this goose? What is his job up here on the roof?



This is a very unusual private avenue. Famous people have lived here. Well, famous to the grown-ups! Can you see the new dragon?





Can you find this 'Arts and Crafts' house? What number is it? This simple style was used at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>C. in response to the very elaborate Victorian and Edwardian fashion of building.



Mark where you think Mr. Axe's decorating shop used to be many years ago?



This is one of the oldest houses in Nether Edge. When was it built? Take care crossing the road to see!



Some say this pub was built for the labourers working on the new 'Union' workhouse further up the road. What does the sign stand for now?



This was the Victorian workhouse built in 1841-4. What was a 'workhouse'?



This pinnacle looks as if it is on a royal palace. What is the building called now? What is it used for?



This street light is very special. It was once powered by sewer gas. This stopped the gas exploding in the sewer below.



This is a 'squeeze gate'. Why do you think it was designed like this?



What number Brincliffe Edge Road is this very fancy window?



Where can you find this doorknocker?



Where do you need to go to find this wonderful wildlife?



There's a strange animal on this bench. What is it, and what else can you see?



That's it! Well done. Could you find everything? Now you can relax on the swings.

[www.facebook.com/groups/netheredgehistory](https://www.facebook.com/groups/netheredgehistory)





Look for the first four items from the Nether Edge crossroads seating area.

### 1. The Nether Edge Market sign

We think there has been a market here since the 1880's. We still have a thriving Farmers' Market here every quarter.

### 2. The finial is above Wickwire.

Such fancy additions were popular in Victorian times.

**3. This is the Byron pub sign** on the corner of Byron Road. William Sanders first got the license in 1869 and was described as a grocer in the 1871 census. So was it more of a beer house with shop attached? Lord Byron was a famous Victorian poet.

**4. Billy Bones is outside the osteopath's practice.** He may be in social isolation though.

**5. Violet Bank House stands at the end of Violet Bank.** The gardens of older big houses were often sold off to build smaller new ones.

**6,7 Look out for the Edge Bank sign** and follow it up. Cobbles like these were the normal method of road surfacing before tarmac. Have you seen cobbles anywhere else in Sheffield?

**8. The modern house** is at the top of Edge Bank over the fence. It is tricky to see!

Houses of different ages and styles have always been together over the centuries. It's a new thing to have a fixation about uniformity.

**9. The flying goose** on Edge Bank is a weathervane.

### 10. Meadow Bank Avenue

Elizabeth Newbould had owned the land and began to plan the Avenue in 1896. It later linked to the village shops via Edge Bank. There is a chapter about it in 'Aspects of Nether Edge'. Famous people such as the Drabbles, Margaret and her sister A.S. Byatt, lived at 38 then 36. There is a chapter about them in 'People and Places'.

### 11. Arts and Crafts style house

This style of building was a turn of the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>C reaction against the very decorative Victorian and Edwardian styles of architecture.

### 12. Machon Bank Road corner house

This was once Mr Axe's decorator's shop in the 1920's, then a sweet shop till the 1980's, and finally a junk 'antiques' shop until it was sold and converted into a private house.

**13. Wisteria House** is back on Union Road and there is a plaque giving the date 1765.

### 14. The Union Hotel

Tradition is that the pub got its name from being built to serve the workers building the 'Union' workhouse in 1842-44. This sign shows a different origin of the name -the thistle, rose, shamrock and leek of the United Kingdom.

### 15. These are the original gates and frontage to the old workhouse.

As a result of the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 the town's poor had to be housed inside the new huge workhouse, with its strict conditions, if they wanted help. Previously they could get help in their own homes. The old smaller workhouses, as the one on Psalter Lane, were very small.

### 16. The pinnacle on the Kings Centre

This is now a church again, and also has a mums and toddler group.

**17. The gas lamp at the top of Union Road** was erected in 1914. Its purpose was to run off the sewer gas collecting below to avoid a build up and an explosion. It is one of just a very few left in the city. There is a chapter about it in 'People and Places.'

**18. This is the 'squeeze gate'** stile into Brincliffe Edge Woods.

The odd shape was designed to keep animals out.

**19/20 The window decoration** is on 178 and the knocker of number 200 on Brincliffe Edge Road.

**21. The wildlife chart** is to be found on Brincliffe Edge opposite the entrance to Chelsea park. The wood's background is of a plantation for wood harvesting not a natural woodland as such.

**22. The carved bench** is in Chelsea Park. Is the beast an alligator?

**23. Chelsea Park** was laid out as the private gardens of Brincliffe Towers in 1852. It was built for James Wilson, solicitor and clerk to the Cutlers' Company. It was later given to Sheffield Council who kept up the park and leased out the house.

The Chelsea park swings are the end of the trail. We hope you have enjoyed it.

# Whooper Swans

Edwyn Anderton



The mute swan is a common sight in this country. Much rarer is the whooper swan. The ones we see in this country spend the summer in Iceland where they breed then migrate here to avoid the harsh arctic winter. The best chance of seeing them here is in Scotland, Northern England and parts of East Anglia. They arrive in late Autumn and leave around April making the journey from and to Iceland in a single flight. Last winter about 11,000 individuals overwintered here but only 23 pairs

remained in the very north of Scotland to breed over the summer.

Whooper swans are easy to distinguish from our native mute swan as the whoopers have a yellow and black bill whereas the bill of the mute swan is orange with a black base. About six weeks ago I went to Scotland and saw these fine specimens (along with thousands of barnacle geese).

Photographs and commentary  
by Edwyn Anderton



## Virus Transmission and animals *Rob Haselgrove*

There has been a lot of news in the media recently around keeping yourself and your pets safe during the Coronavirus-19 pandemic and I wanted to pick out a few important areas to highlight.

Firstly, it is very unlikely you will catch Coronavirus from your pet. There have been a tiny number of cases reported in animals and it was likely the transmission was human to animal; there is no evidence that pets can pass the virus on to people. Dogs do not seem to show any clinical signs while cats are showing mild signs of disease. Animals could theoretically carry the virus in their fur in the same way as the virus can be found on surfaces like tables and door handles, so good hand hygiene is all that is required. Cats do not need to be kept indoors, although it may be a good idea to keep them in if your household is self-isolating as a precaution.

If you are walking a dog for someone else who is social distancing or self-isolating, the biggest risk would be passing the virus on through surfaces such as leads or the pet's fur. As such, where possible keep the dog on a leash to avoid other people and dogs and ideally use your own leash. Be careful to minimize touching the dog or other objects while on the walk. Wipe the dog down with a wipe/cloth before returning to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus.

If you are unable to walk your dog at this time, here are some hints and tips to keep your dog stimulated in the next few months:

- Swap your food bowl for a food puzzle toy. Also hiding food outside, in boxes or towels can keep your dog busy for longer.
- Long lasting chews or frozen kongs can help your dog stay relaxed and occupied
- Use the time to teach your dog some new tricks. Now is the perfect time to start to desensitize them to loud noises like fireworks and free resources can be found on the dogs trust website [www.dogstrust.org.uk/help-advice/dog-behaviour-health/sound-therapy-for-pets](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk/help-advice/dog-behaviour-health/sound-therapy-for-pets)

Throughout restricted movement, your vets are still open. Although we are only seeing emergency cases within our clinics we are providing a lot of telephone and video advice to support the public as much as we can, so please do pick up the phone to ask for any advice and support you need. There is also great support via the PDSA pet health hub. [www.pdsa.org.uk/taking-care-of-your-pet/pet-health-hub](http://www.pdsa.org.uk/taking-care-of-your-pet/pet-health-hub)

*About Rob: Rob is the senior veterinary surgeon at Sheffield's PDSA charity hospital. He also provides an independent evening and weekend service through his business, 'Pets at Rest', supporting families at home when the difficult time comes to say goodbye to their companion.*

# Wash your hands of coronavirus scams!

**Friends Against Scams aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams.**

## Be aware of people offering or selling:

- Virus testing kits - these are only offered by NHS.
- Vaccines or miracle cures - there is currently no vaccine or cure.
- Overpriced or fake goods to protect yourself from coronavirus such as anti-bacterial products.
- Shopping or medication collection services.
- Home decontamination services.

## Protect yourself and others:

- Don't be rushed into making a decision. If it sounds too good to be true it probably is.
- Only purchase goods and services from legitimate retailers and take a moment to think before parting with money or personal information.
- Don't assume everyone is genuine. It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- If someone claims to represent a charity, ask them for ID. Be suspicious of requests for money up front. If someone attempts to pressurise you into accepting a service they are unlikely to be genuine. Check with family and friends before accepting offers of help if you are unsure.

**Be a good friend,  
help to protect  
your family, friends  
and neighbours  
from scams.**

**Read It.  
Share It.  
Prevent It.**

**#Coronavirus  
#ScamAware**



## Contact

For advice on scams call the  
Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on **0800 223 11 33**  
To report a scam call Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040**  
Contact your bank if you think you have been scammed.

**NATIONAL  
TRADING  
STANDARDS**

Scams Team

To learn more about the different types of scams visit [www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk](http://www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk)

## RAMBLINGS ABOUT REYNARD

*by Adam Pemberton*

Regular readers of Edge will know that Reynard and I have had a difficult relationship over the years. We have not always seen eye to eye. This is because I have generally been anxious to protect the interests of my hens, - especially when it comes to the moral issue of life or death.

A recent result of argument between us was: Foxes 2 Hens nil - which meant that Reynard and his family dined well for several days, whilst I was left to mourn my loss.

As a result I have been bereft of my feathered friends for several months.

Imagine my surprise yesterday when sitting in my greenhouse having breakfast, I noticed that a very healthy looking Reynard appeared to be taking a nap in the warm sun, outside, --- between my gooseberry bushes. What cheek! Does this animal have no shame? "Oi, wayward fox", I shouted, thinking of course that he would scamper off embarrassed to have been caught out. Not at all. He did not stir.

Approaching gingerly (for he was big and strong) I noticed that he had his eyes open. Odd, thought I. Slowly I realized that he was, in fact a deceased fox, no more for this world.

I then had to decide what to do next. Phoning the pest controller of Sheffield Council seemed unlikely to be rewarding, so, helped by my neighbour, Roger, we dug as neat a grave as anyone could wish for in these troubled times. With a solemnity that Reynard never offered my hens in death, we then laid him to rest---..... and erected a small headboard saying,

Foxes nil--Hens 1!





PTA Developments are now progressing construction on the old Baldwins Omega site: excavation and pile-driving are underway.  
There will be 6 blocks of apartments, mostly 4 or 5 storeys high, totalling 52 apartments.  
Construction is likely to take 24 months.

### **Houses to apartments**

When outline planning permission was applied for in 2014, it was for up to 38 dwellings – a mix of family homes with gardens, some apartments and some affordable housing. There were few objections: residential development of the site seemed reasonable, and the mix of dwellings felt appropriate for the location - similar in complexion to existing local housing, only 100m from the Conservation Area. However, without giving any publicity, the Council asked the applicant to change the proposal to take out any reference to the number of dwellings, and this was granted in early 2015. This meant that there was no limit (in principle) on the number of dwellings that was allowed by the outline planning permission.

### **PTA Developments then applied for permission to build 52 apartments.**

Sadly, despite a long and hard-fought campaign involving many local residents, planning permission, with conditions, was granted in 2018, for this 40% increase in the number of dwellings. Of course, the type of dwelling needed to change in order to cram that many into the space, so didn't include the family houses with gardens, or the affordable housing. An Affordable Housing Levy of £1.25 million was the value concluded by an independent assessor employed by the Council. This has been covered by an agreement with PTA to build 4 affordable homes off site, in Norton Hammer (Planning decision Feb '20).

### **Public Footpath**

Local residents' official application to the Council, for maintaining a Footpath of over 30 years use through the site was successful, though again, we have yet to see a legal agreement in writing. After all our efforts we hope that this footpath will not be lost through neglect to follow through with a legally binding agreement for a public footpath.

We will continue to pursue this with the Public Rights of Way team.

It is likely that bollards will be erected across the Brincliffe Hill gateway, to prevent vehicle access, but that the Fire Service will have a master key for emergency use.

### **Objections and concerns**

The planning application had a number of factual errors and inaccuracies, including exaggerated gateway and road widths, and a resident's gatepost beside the Baldwins gateway was mysteriously demolished, without their permission, at the time of outline planning permission.

The campaign against such an excessive development started with a public meeting of over 80 local residents in January 2018, who then formed the Brincliffe, Chelsea and Bluecoats Residents Group. We received support from our local Councillors, NENG, and Banner Cross Neighbourhood Group.

The Baldwins Omega site is an elevated, sloping platform in an old quarry, with cliffs above and below.

Our group includes local people from the communities surrounding the site : those immediately above it on Brincliffe Hill and Quarry Lane, below it in the Bluecoats development on Psalter Lane, and, surrounding the southerly aspect, the residents of Chelsea Court, Rise, and Road, and beyond, into Nether Edge.

We will all be affected by the size of this development and the consequent significant increase in traffic and overspill parking.

Many well-researched and evidenced objections were submitted, including the following, about which residents were, and still are, greatly concerned:

- 52 apartments each with 2 or 3 bedrooms, are likely to engender upwards of 100 private cars, particularly if rented for multiple occupancy. Add to this the extra service and delivery vehicles to the site, and likely overspill parking on nearby streets

- The only vehicular access for the whole development, is via a 5m wide gateway at the end of Chelsea Court cul-de-sac - a narrow, winding road built for the 14 dwellings there. This gateway must include a 1m footpath, so will only permit one vehicle in one direction at a time, thus increasing stopping and waiting times, and idling engines – more pollution. This gateway also issues directly into the reversing and turning area for the cul-de-sac. Will this be an accident waiting to happen?

## Building at Baldwins

- The junction of Chelsea Court, Rise and Road with its insufficient width for cornering by large vehicles (refuse lorries etc), will suffer a likely 60% increase in vehicle traffic. (It will be used by 130 dwellings, rather than the existing 78)
- The old Brincliffe Hill gate will be for emergency vehicles, and pedestrians, only. The “easy pedestrian access” up and down Brincliffe Hill (a narrow 1 in 10 slope with no separate footpath or handrail) to Psalter Lane, Banner Cross shops and regular buses, was the main factor which planning officers cited when they allowed the increase in population density on the Omega site. Actually, the slope is too steep to meet the British Standard for Disability Access, and is very challenging in winter weather – hardly “easy pedestrian access”. This of course means the new residents are more likely to use their cars.
- The tall, modern, flat-roofed blocks on this elevated site will stand out like a sore thumb, and many of the mature shrubs and trees have been removed with attendant loss of screening and established wildlife habitat – removing a wildlife corridor towards Chelsea Park.

(This is necessarily a much-abbreviated list, and since the planning decision, the no.3 bus service along Psalter Lane has been cut – making increased car use even more likely.

All the above information is publicly available in the planning applications and objections submitted.)

It's hard to believe how this ill-conceived and excessive development achieved planning permission. We can now only hope that the Council will at least monitor the conditions they have set, and follow up on the legally binding agreements that ensure PTA Developments meets its obligations regarding the Affordable Housing Levy, and the Public Footpath.

### In response to this article we sought advice from Helen Willows, who is the NENG Committee member with responsibility for planning issues. This is what she said:

“The original outline planning application was for 35 dwellings and included a plan showing how the site might be developed for 35 houses. However, the Council planners did not like the plan and preferred to leave the question of the number of dwellings to the later 'reserved matters' stage. The outline and reserved matters applications are like two pieces of a jigsaw that make up the full planning permission that the developer needs in order to start building. Consequently, the planning permission that was granted did not specify the number of dwellings.

Without the specific reference to 35 dwellings in the outline permission, the developer was free to propose more or less

than that number in the reserved matters application. As long as the reserved matters application met the Councils various standards then permission ought to be granted. And the Baldwins site is close enough to what the Council consider a good public transport corridor and a local shopping centre that, in principle, a high density of homes would meet one of those standards. So, the planners might well have envisaged a reserved matters application for 35 dwellings or fewer, but probably felt that they had little option but to allow the scheme for flats if it met all their standards. With hindsight it is easy so see how, in an area where lots of flats/apartments have been built over recent years, it was predictable that this site would lend itself to a development of flats.”

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Crossword answers

## Corona Virus - some useful contact information

### **Nether Edge Help Network** (Covid-19 Mutual Aid) Facebook Group

This provides local information as well as details of street level groups already set up in Nether Edge. You can volunteer to be a street coordinator.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2257972117638744/>

### **Voluntary Action Sheffield** (VAS) COVID Support Map

Shows the various support groups in Sheffield and what support can and cannot provide.

<https://www.vas.org.uk/sheffield-covid-support-map/>

### **NHS Coronavirus site**

The official information – beware of dubious information on social media sites

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

### **Official UK Government site**

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

### **Sheffield City Council**

Changes to council services

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/coronavirus>

Phone (0114) 273 4567.

### **Age UK in Sheffield**

Regularly updated page of information

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/sheffield/about-us/helpful-resources/>

Phone (0114) 250 2850

### **Sheffield Rethink Mental Health Support**

<https://www.rethink.org/help-in-your-area/services/advice-and-helplines/sheffield-helpline/>

Phone 0808 801 0440

### **Sheffield MIND**

<https://www.sheffieldmind.co.uk/news/covid-19-and-sheffield-mind>

### **The Silver Line helpline for older people**

<https://www.thesilverline.org.uk/telephone-friendship/>

Phone 0800 4 70 80 90

### **Domestic abuse helpline**

Sheffield 0808 808 2241 National helpline 24/7 0808 2000 247

This is a link to a list of shops and other services in the local area remaining open, many providing deliveries. It was compiled by Judith Rossiter, of the Whirlow Mutual Aid what's app group, and is updated regularly.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/10XxJ3LFYG\\_MTdwKs01lxXI9tf2MQhuQU9wjaOucgvzE/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/10XxJ3LFYG_MTdwKs01lxXI9tf2MQhuQU9wjaOucgvzE/edit?usp=sharing)

