

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSLETTER www.netheredge.org.uk

October 2016

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IT'S YOUR EDGE – YOUR PHOTOS!

As part of this month's theme NENG invites Edge readers to share their photos of the area – quirky, interesting, whatever catches your eye. It could be a building, an architectural detail, a community activity, autumn colours – surprise us! The photo(s) must be taken in Nether Edge, Sharrow or Brincliffe - apart from that, it's up to you.



We hope to make this a regular feature and to publish the editor's favourite photo or photos each month. Photos submitted by October 31st will be considered for inclusion in the December edition. The deadline for submission will continue to be the last day of the month, for possible inclusion in the next but one's Edge!

Please send your photos to fran@speakingeye.co.uk including your name and details of where and when taken. Please state if you do NOT want your name included with your photo, if it is selected for publication.

These photos were taken in The General Cemetery on 24th August.

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

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

This month's EDGE has been compiled by a small group consisting of Victoria Imeson, Fran Kime, Marion Rout, John Austin and led by Kevin Hickey and David Pierce. Next month's EDGE will be compiled by the History Group led by John Austin. Any comments about this EDGE or if you wish to submit an article or letter to the November EDGE should be addressed to John Austin (details below).

NENG Committee Members and Other Helpers (*means Trustee/Director)

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NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP - APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

Victoria Imeson, 81 Nether Edge Road, S7 1RW Tel: 07930 417455 nengtreasurer@gmail.com

I wish to JOIN the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group & receive the magazine EDGE by EMAIL*/HAND DELIVERED* (*Delete as appropriate)

Name _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Tel. _____ Email _____

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

Annual Subscriptions due **from 1st April** are £8 per household or organisation (£5 unwaged/concessions).

I enclose a completed Standing Order form (downloadable from www.netheredge.co.uk) or a cheque to the value of £_____ made out to "NENG".

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

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

PLEASE NOTE: Should you prefer not to become a full member of NENG you have the option of becoming a subscriber only by deleting the section in italics above. This entitles you to receive copies of EDGE but no entitlement to vote. The annual subscription is still £8 per person (£5 unwaged/concessions).

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

Please send signed forms to our Treasurer, Victoria Imeson.



Your Nether Edge

by Victoria Imeson

This month Edge is being put together by a bunch of newbies, people like me who are either new to NENG or new to the area, so please forgive us for being a little rough around the edges as we work out what it is we would like OUR copy of the EDGE to be like. When we were having our editorial meetings the one thing that came out most clearly was how we all love living here, be it only for a few months or considerably longer. We felt that EDGE should contain more content about why we love Nether Edge and we would like our readership to be more involved in providing that content and show why they love the area too. In the meantime here is my story of why I love it here.

As this goes to press I will have lived here for exactly 6 years, moving into my little house at the top of a hill on a very wet and windy cold day in October. I remember sitting in the car outside my new house waiting for the estate agent to sort out the keys and watching my new kitchen electricals get ruined by the rain, not a great start, this was followed by the removal men walking mud up the beige hall carpet and at some point dropping a crate on my ceramic hob and cracking the corner! At the end of all this I had to take myself out for an hour and just collect my thoughts, so I went for a walk around my new home and couldn't help but notice how pretty it was and how friendly everyone seemed to be.

The next day there was a knock at the door and there with a large plate of freshly made scones was one of my new neighbours, introductions were made and scones devoured and the business of unpacking continued. A little while later another knock at the door and another new neighbour, please come over for G&T's at about 5! Over the next few months this routine continued being invited to Christmas Eve parties, Christmas Day open house, followed by New Year's Eve, nibble and games and watching the year change and Birthday pot painting evenings. None of these events were extravagant but they were all congenial and made 2 people who had lived in a flat in the centre of Sheffield, where we knew 1 other person in the whole block feel most welcome.

I know there are lots of adages about what Sheffield people are like but in Nether Edge I can honestly say, everyone is friendly, you can go in Café #9 on your own and people will chat to you if you are so inclined, people smile and nod and say hello as you pass them in the street. Neighbours, put your bin out if you forget or haven't had chance and then bring them back in again. If one of the neighbours hears of an event going on, then the text messages and emails will go flying around all the locals to see who is up for a neighbour event and what events they have been, ranging from Devo tributes, marvellous productions at the Lantern, Silent Cinema at the Abbeydale, foody evenings with Percy and Lily, music evenings at #9, meeting up at the Farmers Market or poetry readings at the bowling club. There is so much going on in this little area of Sheffield that we call home that it is no wonder it is the only place I have ever lived, and there have been a lot over the years, that has made me feel welcome and always glad to come back to when I have been away, even if it is only to have a slice of cake, a cuppa and a chat with one of my fabulous neighbours. These days I can't imagine living anywhere else!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Councillor Lodge's comment at the end of his statement (EDGE September 2016) about Mr Dillner's legal attempt to stop SCC/Amey unnecessarily destroying any more mature trees is deliberately disingenuous.

*We all hope that Amey workers can carry out their lawful business without abuse, **just as they have always done**. Despite Cllr Lodge's implication, those of us who have actively intervened to prevent council-sanctioned vandalism and frequently come into contact with the Amey arborists, with whom we have developed a cordial relationship, have always done so **peacefully and politely** and have never put anyone in danger. To imply otherwise is deceitful in the extreme. If Cllr Lodge has any evidence to the contrary we would be very interested to see it.*

I might also add that on two occasions Police Officers called by Amey to move on concerned residents decided that as there was no disturbance or breach of the peace on our part, Amey were the ones who were advised to go away. Which they did, very peacefully.

*Yours sincerely
Helen McIlroy*

BURNING BENCH

Jude Samuels has written to us to report unhappily that a bench at the top of Bannerdale playing fields has been burnt down to the ground. It was situated in an ideal position to enjoy views across the city and to offer rest to dog-walkers and others. Jude says, 'Some of us have litter-picked around that bench for years. It's a terrible shame and pure vandalism at its worst.' The bench had been dedicated to a gentleman named Bill. Jude knows nothing more about him but apparently he had campaigned to retain the fields as a public space. EDGE would like to know who Bill was and who was responsible for this wanton act of arson.

Ed: We shall report in November's EDGE about the controversial plans for a new school on this site.



STOP PRESS

It is hard to believe but on the Sunday before the Nether Edge Festival members of the committee put out the bunting along the shops and fixed a large banner on the railing by the bus stop. A few days later the banner was removed. We have confirmed that the Council was not responsible and so sadly, it appears to have been stolen.

Nether Edge Festival is about celebrating our community and improving it. This makes the theft a particularly mean-spirited act. If you know where the banner is or who removed it then please get in touch with EDGE.

RUTH ELLIS AND THE SHEFFIELD CONNECTION

On Wednesday, 13th July 1955, at nine o'clock prompt, Ruth Ellis met Albert Pierrepoint for the first time. Ten seconds later, she was dead, for Albert Pierrepoint was the public hangman, and Ruth Ellis was the last woman to be executed in this country.

Ruth Ellis was a hostess in one of the many drinking clubs which flourished in London after the war. The Steering Wheel Club in Brick Street, just off Park Lane, was a favourite with the motor racing crowd. When the Wheel closed in the afternoon, they spilled over into the Court Club in Duke Street, where Ruth worked. Notables amongst them included Peter Collins, Stirling Moss, and of course, Mike Hawthorn. Tall, blond and dashing, with his trademark bowtie, Mike Hawthorn was Britain's first ever World Motor Racing Champion. He was also a Yorkshireman. Mike was born in Alexandre Road in Mexborough in 1929 and there is a plaque nearby to commemorate the fact. His father worked at one of the power stations on the Trent, but his real passion was for cars and motor cycles. In 1931, he gave up his day job and the family relocated to Surrey where he opened a garage near the old Brooklands racetrack.

Another regular from the Steering Wheel was David Blakely. He was another local boy, born in 1929 at Oakvale Nursing Home on Collegiate Crescent. His father, Dr John Blakely, was a GP in Crookes. His surgery still stands on the corner of School and Conduit Roads. David was the youngest of four children and when David was still a toddler his father started a relationship with Phyllis Staton, an unemployed waitress from Cresswell Road in Darnall. When Phyllis became pregnant her parents threw her out and Dr Blakely found her lodgings on Holme Lane in Hillsborough, where coincidentally, my wife and I lived when we were first married. Phyllis had a miscarriage, strongly suspected of being an abortion, developed septicaemia and died. Dr Blakely found himself in court, accused of murder. The case collapsed, but it led to the breakup of Dr Blakely's marriage.

Ruth Ellis met David Blakely in 1953. From the start, the relationship was anything but smooth. Words like 'rocky', 'fiery', 'tempestuous' all spring to mind. Too often, the words escalated to blows. On one occasion, he beat her so badly, she had a



Amanda Whittington as Ruth Ellis

miscarriage. He was always pathetically sorry afterwards but she always forgave him. Until the next time. On that fateful Easter weekend, he left on Friday morning, promising to take her out in the evening. She got ready, but he never came home. On Saturday, she tried to contact him, but in vain. Sunday, she suspected that he was staying with some friends in Hampstead and went looking for him. Just as she arrived, she saw him going into a pub and waited for him to come out. When he did, she called out to him, "David". He turned and looked at her, and then made what proved to be his fatal mistake. He blanked her. Turning his back, he walked off towards his car. That for Ruth was the last straw. She took a revolver from her handbag, fired at him and kept on firing until the gun was empty. David Blakely died at the scene. Ruth Ellis was hanged just over two months later.

Though at first this seems a very cut and dried case, there are still questions which remain unanswered. Where did she get the gun? Who taught her to shoot? How did she get to Hampstead? Why did she plead 'Not guilty' but offer no defence?

If you are interested enough to want to see *The Thrill Of Love*, by Amanda Whittington then go to www.53theatregroup.co.uk. Also, may I recommend an excellent book by Carol Ann Lee, called *A Fine Day For A Hanging*. The issues are as green today as they were then.

Jack Massey

KEEP FIT AND HELP



We don't mind what your motive might be – to keep fit or to help your community. You can achieve both by becoming an EDGE distributor. We are short of volunteers to adopt a short list of local EDGE subscribers by delivering their EDGE each month. For more information contact John Clifford on 07807 660560 johnclifford@me.com

HISTORY IS COMING

November's Edge will be produced by our History Group. While not solely dedicated to historical items there will be an obvious history slant to it. This will include an article on our experience of how local history research works for those who would like to have a go but who are unsure how to go about it.

Also, there will be the usual favourites and non-historical items for those less taken with the past.

Any suggestions or ideas for items to include in the November EDGE please contact John Austin john.austin@btinternet.com or any of the History Group Committee.



Your photos of Sheffield street trees, for inclusion in forthcoming city centre exhibition, entitled 'In Celebration of Trees'!

Particularly welcome would be pictures of people interacting with trees, historic/heritage pictures of trees, and before/after felling shots.

City-wide photos needed!

Please E-mail to

incelebrationoftrees@gmail.com

or send direct to Flickr account In Celebration of Trees

Any queries to Anne Barr at

greenannebarr@gmail.com

(On behalf of Save Nether Edge Trees Action Group)

OUR LOVELY TREES

Suddenly, at the beginning of Festival Week, our trees became festooned with eye-catching hearts and a cornucopia of leaves, flowers, animals and abstract shapes knitted and crocheted by artistically-minded local residents. The hearts have been fixed to those scores of trees in our area in danger of felling by the Council and Amey. The more decorative and complex creations were designed and displayed on the trees as a part of the Festival's yarn-storming event. They will be taken down when the festival is over, let us hope that the trees will remain.



17

That's the number of trees scheduled for felling on just one of Nether Edge's roads, Rundle Road. It is 33% of the total and in the majority of cases the only problem caused by these healthy trees is minor damage to the pavement or kerbstone.

Other roads will be similarly affected.

Here are some examples:

KENWOOD PARK ROAD	15 trees
THORNSETT ROAD	15 trees
WOODSTOCK ROAD	14 trees
KENWOOD ROAD	9 trees
KENBOURNE ROAD	6 trees

The Council has asked residents on all the affected roads for their opinions and if a majority object to the proposed felling then the plans will be referred to an independent tree panel. The conclusions of the tree panel appear to have been ignored by the Council in other parts of the City.

Preparatory work on street lights and other roadworks has commenced whilst residents in Nether Edge are aghast that the Council should even think about felling so many beautiful trees.

On The Edge

By John Turner

*The houses lie
Behind trees
And wide hedges
In leafy streetscapes.
In Nether Edge
The people sit happily
by their windows
Behind lace curtains,
Sharing stories of the day.
The neighbourhood group
drink green tea together
In Café No. 9 -
Across the road from the Bowling Green..*

*Every once in a while,
There is a noise from the streets -
Residents draw back the curtains
And peer outside.*

*Today, the noise is from
The Farmers' Market -
Nether Edge is alive, the streets sing,
The pavements throb.....*

*Go to Nether Edge -
Take the number 3 bus
And arrive at the crossroads.....*

Advertise in EDGE

**Reach over 900 households in
Nether Edge and Sharrow
by advertising your business in
EDGE**

Rates start from £20 for a 1/8th of a page and you will be helping your local neighbourhood charity in the process.

For more information contact
Victoria Imeson

Volunteer

Share your skills, time and community spirit!

We have lots of volunteering opportunities in Nether Edge & Sharrow including:

Befriend an elderly resident at a Nether Edge care home and brighten someone's day.

Make and mend; we need handy DIYers to supervise our communal workshop.

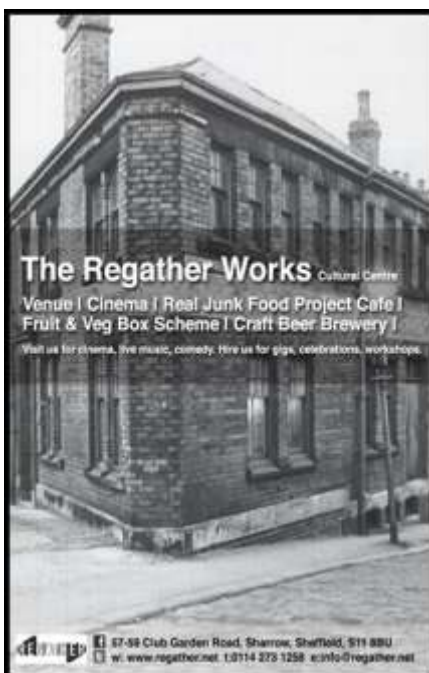
Nourish your neighbours; help cook meals with surplus food and serve to the community.

Help people learn improve their English by facilitating our informal conversation groups.

Green fingers? We need help in our vegetable garden growing food for our café.

TimeBuilders is a volunteer scheme based at St Mary's on Bramall Lane.

Please call: 0114 223 0240, or email:
james.starky@timebuilders.org.uk
or visit: www.timebuilders.org.uk



WANTED: BROWNIE HELPER.

Do you remember your days as a Brownie? St Andrew's Brownies are looking for an adult helper.

The girls, are a super group, aged 7-10 years who meet early Monday evenings. Interested?

Please contact Chris Venables
tel. 07950 432487.



With anxious glances at the sky, Nether Edge Open Gardeners prepared to open their gates for visiting neighbours and friends on 19th June. How wet it had been in early June! Flowers drooped – probably gardeners, too. But luck was with us, the day was dry and the gardens revived. At least it was dry until very nearly 5 o'clock when the last cup of tea was being drained and the crumbs of the last slice of cake demolished. Until then there had been a great variety of things to behold – from ponds and pools to shrubs and alpines to gazebos and greenhouses.

As ever, Nether Edgers were extremely generous donating OVER £3000 to the various charities adopted for the occasion.



THE GARDENERS:

Sue Bolger
Anne and Marc Brew
Paul Carnell and Lucy Kitto
Natalie Glass
Alison and John Lapisch
Margaret and John Littlr
Peter Machan
Brian and Helen Palmer
Marion Rout
Alan Sanderson
Barbara and John Shuker





THE CHARITIES:

St Wilfrid's Drop-in Centre
South Yorkshire Eating Disorders
Association
RSPCA Sheffield
Village Aid
Roundabout
Tools for Self-reliance
Sheffield Children's Hospital
Pancreatic Cancer Charity
Smile
Weston Park Hospital
Motor Neurone Disease Association



TREES – THE CONTINUING CONTROVERSY

NENG's position on the future of our trees has been reported in EDGE a number of times and EDGE has always been open to contributions about the controversy. This month, as the Council's/Amey's tree crews move into our area we asked two local residents with strong feelings on each side of the debate to respond to the question: What does the recent High Court ruling mean for Nether Edge's trees? The first response follows and an alternative argument will be published in November's EDGE.

Viv Lockwood writes: I live on the edge of Chelsea Park in the shadow of a group of trees within the park boundary. In December 2013, during a day of high winds, a huge bough of one of the beech trees broke from its trunk and demolished a single storey front extension where I had been sitting just two minutes earlier. Over ensuing days, visitors to the park stopped to commiserate offering the view that because this was a council tree in a council park I should be compensated. They were wrong. Councils across the country regard such incidents as 'Acts of God', even where death has occurred, and they successfully denied legal responsibility. This tree – like all others – had been regularly inspected and passed as safe. The records were there as proof. It still failed. But the episode brought back to mind a conversation I had had with an officer from the former Parks Department around thirty years ago, before the swingeing cuts to council budgets of later years. He told me of the “ticking time bomb” in Sheffield whereby in years past “we planted too many trees of the wrong kind in the wrong place” and said that it would cost us a fortune to maintain them into the future as they grew bigger and older. His words were prophetic. With budgets now cut to the bone, inspection schedules redrawn and regular maintenance work severely curtailed we are left with a tree population that in many areas is causing damage and distress to property and people. Inevitably, some residents are concerned about the potential loss of any of our existing trees (despite even more new trees being planted in their place) but the ill-considered move to legal action against the council's tree programme, dismissed by the judge in no uncertain terms, has sadly served only to polarise positions and create divisions that could otherwise have been avoided.

However, we are where we are. Our environment is special to us but it comes at a cost and occasionally its management is not what pleases everyone. Recent events have created an unfortunate discord but we do now have a way forward with an independent tree panel to resolve disagreements and we must let it work. And if one particular elm tree on Chelsea Road is giving rise to concerns about its viability at least we know that it is only one of 256 elms in the city that appear to be resistant to Dutch Elm Disease, at least 4 of which are over 100 years old. It is by no means unique.

Meanwhile, Sheffield continues to plant more trees with 17 new woodlands created in the last few years and an increase in the total tree population. Our green environment is not under threat; sometimes change is simply unavoidable.

THE BIRD HAS FLOWN.....BACK!

It has been reported to EDGE by one of our more observant readers that the green parakeet which has challenged our local twitchers over the last couple of years has returned to Nether Edge. That is, if he ever went away. Now he has been seen on Bannerdale playing fields. Watch out for him and enjoy the sight of a rare but in other places, a troublesome visitor.



Another generation in Nether Edge

Two young men from Nether Edge had differing fortunes in World War Two. One was Brian Teather who lived in Chelsea Road, and the other was Eric Allsop, who lived in a house at the top of Machon Bank Road, close by the Union pub.

Brian left school in 1941 and soon after joined the RAF. He trained to be a pilot in South Africa before going on operations with Bomber Command in 1943, when the Battle of the Ruhr and later the massive winter offensive against Berlin were the RAF's priority targets. Promoted to Flight Sergeant he flew for a year as the pilot of a heavy bomber before being shot down and killed over Belgium in October 1944. He had been married for a year and had just become a father when he met his death on a raid over enemy territory. He was 22 years old.

Eric Allsop was luckier than Brian and survived the war but endured some very hazardous experiences. The first was during the Sheffield Blitz in 1940 when he was still at school. He ran messages on his bicycle for the ARP and for three hours helped to put out fires and rescue people from bombed houses while the bombs were still falling. Then, when he finally got home to Nether Edge he found his own home had been seriously damaged by a German bomb. For his fortitude that night he was presented with a special commendation by King George VI himself.



Fast forward three and a half years and Sapper E. Allsop of the Royal Engineers was one of the first men ashore on Juno Beach on 6th June 1944, as the Canadians assaulted the Normandy coast. His task was to defuse mines attached to the tank traps and make the beach safe for the following infantry and armoured units. Later in the day he met a man he knew at school calmly sketching the scene on the invasion beach, whilst working as an official war artist.



Eric Allsop served throughout the 1944-45 campaign in North West Europe, came home to Sheffield, became well known in local cricket circles and still lives within a mile of King Edward VII School, the school that both he and Brian Teather attended.

*Brian and Eric's stories are both included in a new book, **"Another Generation"** about King Edward VII School during the Second World War. The book, written by John Cornwell, will be launched at the School on Glossop Road on 13th October as part of the "Off the Shelf" Literary Festival. Entrance is free, and the event starts at 7pm.*
JCC

Crossword

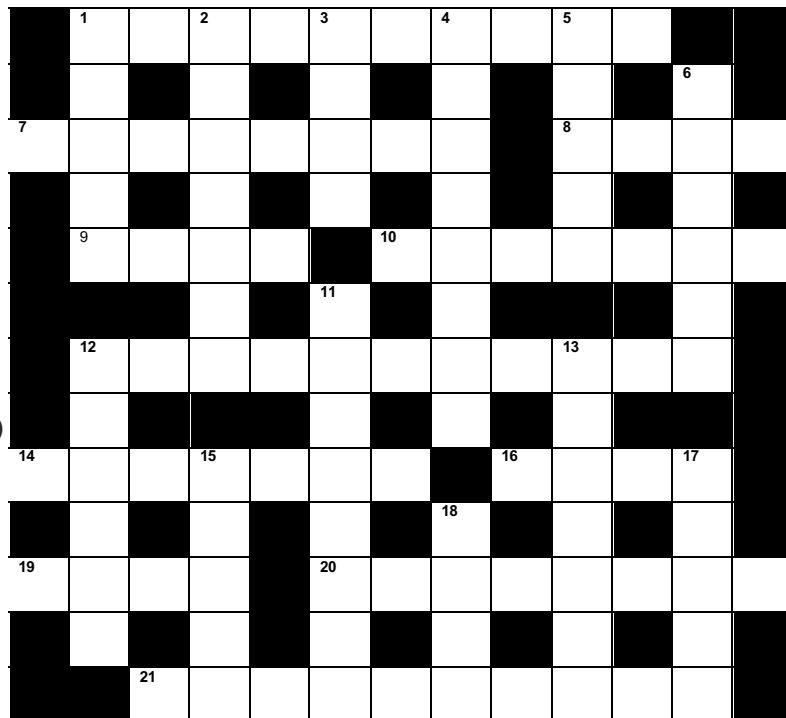
SPRAT'S EIGHTY FOURTH CROSSWORD

Across

1. Children's game, involving string and fingers (4,6)
7. Strong glove, with wrist protection (8)
8. Unit of currency (4)
9. Sword (4)
10. One of arguably the most formidable quiz team in the country (7)
12. Disaster (11)
14. Our largest wild land animal (3,4)
16. Part of leg or baby cow (4)
19. Australian slang for afternoon (4)
20. Unmarried man (8)
21. Open space at a school (10)

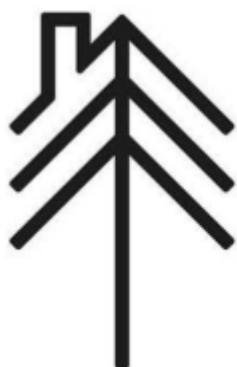
Down

1. Yearn for (5)
2. Straight line, touching a curve (7)
3. Young horse (4)
4. Fore-runner of the helicopter (8)
5. Not very flattering old name for a doctor (5)
6. Elaborately decorative (6)
11. Gathering (8)
12. Fruit (6)
13. High flat area (7)
15. Witty (5)
17. Northern inlet of the sea (5)
18. Disfigurement (4)



Answers to crossword on page 13

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HOMELESS ORGANISATION SEEKS BASE

For as long as we can remember NENG has lived a peripatetic, rootless existence. Committee meetings held in willing members' houses, larger meetings in rented rooms, bits and pieces, banners and tables stashed in spare garages, the History Group's collection of maps, deeds, books and pamphlets held in the grace and favour garden house of a considerate sympathiser.

All very bohemian and testament to the noble nature of our supporters. But increasingly challenging as committee membership grows, the archive expands and our bank of equipment develops. We look with envy at other neighbourhood groups with dedicated spaces which can house meetings and materials and which provide a physical focus that declares the presence of the organisation to their constituents. How pleasing it must be.

Is it naïve to hope that out there, somewhere in NENG land and preferably close to the nominal centre at the traffic lights, there is a place for us? A space surplus to a good Samaritan, or to a renter willing to take a modest rent?
Does anyone have any ideas?

ONE OF THE BEST

By all accounts the September Farmers' Market was one of the best ever. On a gloriously warm and sunny Sunday Nether Edge was once again transformed and hundreds of people made the most of the fine weather to stroll along the streets, snack, shop and enjoy the entertainment. Here are the Sheffield City Morris Men performing on the bowling green after already having done their thing on the road below.



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

	1	C	A	2	S	3	C	R	4	A	D	5	L	E	
		R		A			O		U			E		6	O
7	G	A	U	N	T	L	E	T			8	E	U	R	O
		V		G		T		O			C		N		
	9	E	P	E	E			10	E	G	G	H	E	A	D
					N		11	A		I					T
	12	C	A	T	A	S	T	R	O	13	P	H	E		
		H				S		O			L				
14	R	E	D	D	E	E	R		16	C	A	L	F		
		R		R			M		18	S		T		J	
19	A	R	V	O			20	B	A	C	H	E	L	O	R
		Y		L			L		A		A			R	
		21	P	L	A	Y	G	R	O	U	N	D			



Monthly Lunchtime Socials Nosh & Natter

Friendly group open to all

Monday 10th October

At the Union Hotel

1 Union Rd, S11 9EF

Join us any time 12noon – 2.30pm

Enjoy chatting? Like meeting new people?

Bring a friend. Everyone welcome

Contact: Chris Venables tel. 255 0805



What's On events in and around Nether Edge in October

Sat 1st Oct 10.15-12.noon LINK togsnap at St Augustine's Church Hall, Rocco Bank. Nearly new sale of children's toys, clothes and books. www.linkmagsheff.wordpress.com/togswap.

Sat 1st Oct doors open at 7pm Beer and Bangers Comedy Nights, Whirlow Hall Farm Trust, Whirlow Lane, Sheffield S11 9QF. The city's best real ales and the famous Whirlow BBQ.tel 235 2678.www.whirlowhallfarm.org

Sat 1st Oct Finnish folk group Vellamo will be performing at the Nether Edge Bowling Club. Tickets £6 phone Michelle for details. 0114 2819563. www.netheredgefolk.club

Sun 2nd Oct 2.00pm Historical Tour of the General Cemetery. Learn about some of the residents on this guided walk. Meet at the Gatehouse at the end of Cemetery Avenue, off Eccelsall Rd. Free but minimum £3 donation suggested. www.gencem.org

Mon 3rd Oct Scottish Country Dancing. RSCDS weekly classes (beginners and intermediate) start 7.30 – 9.45pm at Silverdale School .Join us on any Monday – the first session is free. Ring Norma Hutchinson on 236 6723 or just turn up with soft shoes. No need to bring partner. Just come and enjoy.

Tue 4th Oct 11.15-12.00. Under 5s Story time (term time only) Song and story session for children under 5 years of age. Highfield Children's Library. Tel 2930018. [Email highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk)

Wed 5th Oct. Nether Edge Folk Club, Singers Night, Nether Edge Bowling Club. www.netheredgefolk.club

Wed 5th Oct 1pm-3pm Crafternoons is a craft group for adults where you can make lovely things and meet lovely people. Held in the Community Room Heeley City Farm Richards Road Sheffield S2 3DT. info@heeleyfarm.org.uk

Thur 6th Oct 6pm-9pm Wild and Wooley Knitting and Craft Group for Adults held every fortnight on a Thursday. The community room Heeley City Farm Richards Rd Sheffield S2 3DT. info@heeleyfarm.org.uk

Fri 7th 11.15-12.15 Babytimes .A weekly singing session for children under 18 months, with new and traditional rhymes. Highfield Library & Children's Centre London Road.tel 2930018/2037204. (Please note no sessions during school holidays) email highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk

Sat 8th Oct 7.30pm St Luke's Night Strider. Sheffield's only walking half marathon and 10K event 'Night Strider' to support care for the terminally ill and their families and loved ones. Please arrive from 6pm onwards to join in the entertainment and buy your glow in the dark merchandise. To register for the 'Night Strider' simply visit www.nightrider.co.uk

Sat 8th-29th Oct Sheffield's Off the Shelf Literary Festival for adults and children.www.offtheshelf.org.uk

Sat 8th Oct 7.30-11.00pm An Audience with The Bar-Steward Sons of Val Doonican. Lantern Theatre, Kenwood Park Road. Barnsley's comedic favourites return to the lantern for an intimate evening of silliness and 'Songs in the Key of Tarn'. kevinjlantern@gmail.com

Sun 9th Oct 1pm-5pm Abbeydale Miniature Railway, Abbeydale Rd South, S17 3LB. £1.50 a ride

Tue 11th Oct 11.15-12.00. Under 5s Storytime (term time only) Song and story session for children under 5 years of age. Highfield Children's Library. Tel 2930018. [Email highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk)

Wed 12 October, 9.30am – 12.30pm Friends of Brincliffe Wood Volunteer Day. Meet at entrance adjacent to 245 Brincliffe Edge Road (beyond Chelsea Park top gate). Contact Ken Phillip on Mob.7756891802 or email phillipk@vip.solis.co.uk highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk

Wed 12th Oct Nether Edge Folk Club, Singers Night, Nether Edge Bowling Club. www.netheredgefolk.club

Fri 14th 11.15-12.15 Babytimes .A weekly singing session for children under 18 months.Highfield Library & Children's Centre London Road.tel 2930018/2037204. (Please note no sessions during school holidays) email highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk



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Fri 14th Oct doors open 8.30pm starts 9pm. Bad Breeding performing at the Picture House Social Club Abbeydale Rd **for over 18s** <http://picturehouse-social.com/>

Sat 15th Oct 11.00am-3.00pm Roald Dahl Mask Making Workshop in the Moor, make your own Roald Dahl inspired mask as part of Off the Shelf.

Sun 16th Oct 11.am Mushrooms and Toadstools at the General Cemetery. Ecologist Ziggy will lead you on a fungal foray amongst the gravestones.

www.gencem.org

Tue 18th Oct 11.15-12.00. Under 5s Storytime (term time only) Song and story session for children under 5 years of age. Highfield Children's Library. Tel 2930018. Email highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk.

Wed 19th Oct Nether Edge Folk Club, Singers Night, Nether Edge Bowling Club.

www.netheredgefolk.club

Wed 19th 1.30-3.15 approx Nether Edge Neighbourhood History Group representative will lead a walk around the North West area of Nether Edge, including the Cherry Tree, Psalter Lane, Kingfield parts of Kenwood, exploring various sites of interest. Meet at the Bus terminus on Union Road. All welcome.

Thur 20th Oct 20.30pm doors open at 8.30pm. Tall Ships + special guests performing at the Picture House Social Club Abbeydale Rd **for over 18s** <http://picturehouse-social.com/>

Thur 20th Oct 11.00-12.00noon. Meet Kathryn Littlewood author of *Cultivating Mad Cow* at the Highfield library. This hilarious and heart-breaking read is a tale of our time. Places are **free** but must be booked. highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk

Thur 20th Oct 2.pm-3.30pm Ecclesall Library. An illustrated talk by Christine Gregory about the water vole Britain's fastest disappearing mammal and their fortunes in Derbyshire. Places are **free** but must be booked. Tel 203 7222.

email ecclesall.library@sheffield.gov.uk

Fri 21st 11.15-12.15 Babytimes .A weekly singing session for children under 18 months. Highfield Library & Children's Centre London Road.tel 2930018/2037204. (Please note no sessions during school holidays) email highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk

Sat 22nd-30th Oct 10.30-3.30pm Halloween Family Trail at Longshaw .tel 01433 637904. Email jody.vallance@nationaltrust.org.uk

Mon 24th Oct 20.00pm London trio Yak performing at the Picture House Social Club Abbeydale Rd. They mix spacious swirling psyche guitars with a backbone rhythm section **for over 18s**

Mon 24th-29th Oct 7.30 Gaslight by Patrick Hamilton a classic Victorian thriller presented by the Dilys Guite Players. Lantern Theatre, Kenwood Park Road **Wed 26th Oct** Nether Edge Folk Club, Singers Night, Nether Edge Bowling Club. www.netheredgefolk.club

Fri 28th Oct 4pm-6pm. Freaky Fun for Hallow'd Eve at the General Cemetery. Join in the making of Halloween lanterns, wands and masks at the Gatehouse. Fun event for children and families.www.gencem.org

Fri 28th Oct 10.30-1130am. Isadora Moon –half vampire, half fairy, totally unique. Meet author/illustrator, Harriet Muncaster, creator of 'I am a Witch's Cat', Princess Glitterbelle, the sparkliest princess ever, and Isadora Moon at the Highfield Library. Places are **Free** but must be booked. Suitable for children aged 4-8yrs highfield.library@sheffield.gov.uk

Fri 28th Oct 10.00-1pm and 2pm-5pm Halloween Spooktacular at Whirlow farm.Creepy crafts, crafting pumpkins,Barney Baloney magic and spooky disco.Whirlow burgers and pumpkin soup. Tickets £3.50 to book see www.whirlowhallfarm.org.

Tue 1st Nov 6.00pm Nether Edge History Group .Open Meeting at the Union Pub. The usual lively and informal exploration of various topics of interest. All welcome.

Sat 5th Nov Advance notice Chelsea Park Bonfire and Firework display.



THAT WAS THE FESTIVAL OR WAS IT?

There are tales of theatre reviewers publishing a review of a show they never saw. Did all those people that review books on Amazon actually read them? Have politicians always delivered the speeches that they released to the press in advance of the day they were due to give it? By the time you read this it is very likely that the second Nether Edge festival will have taken place and regarded as a huge and enjoyable success by all those involved.

The Party in the Park was not interrupted by rain, on the contrary warm (not too hot) sunshine bathed Chelsea Park all day. Children will have sled on the grass, others will have been just a little bit wet from the water games and the rat will have avoided being splat because not one child had a quick enough reaction time. Further afield trees will have been decorated with woollen creations, kids with their teddy bears will have picnicked below them and those who were interested would have learned a lot about two local woodlands. All the music and dancing would have been enjoyed, the level of learning amongst residents would have risen even higher as they listened to talks about Ruth Ellis and wood carving or discussed a book with other bookworms. The success of the festival would have been obvious by its breadth and scale (over fifty events) and the numbers who participated. On the other hand it might not have been at all like that, it might have been a washout, a flop, a disaster.

Writing now, I am sure it will not be a failure but I don't know. At their best, events are like icebergs with only the top visible but with a huge invisible mass beneath. When we go to the theatre we see the end result of

months of preparation and rehearsals, the stress, hard work and mistakes that precede a successful performance. Sometimes things on stage are not really the smooth running entertainment that the audience believes it to be. Most actors are adept at maintaining a calm exterior whilst behind that facade



Michael Ball and Rebecca LaChance in the title roles of Mack and Mabel at the Chichester Festival Theatre

there is often fear and panic as they forget their lines. It may be that this is only a problem for amateurs but I doubt it. I recall with dread an occasion when I was playing the lead role in Mack and Mabel. It was a key scene when Mack had returned to Mabel to renew their love affair and he had brought along with him a ring that she had given him some years before. It was in his pocket and following some romantic exchanges he was meant to take it out and give it to her. All was going well until the critical moment when I totally forgot what was to come next. 'Corpsed' as they say in showbiz. Fortunately, after a moment or two's silence Mabel had the nous to say 'What have you got in your pocket?' That got me off the hook and the audience were none the wiser but I suffered that night and still do whenever I think of it.

TEA PARTY



The annual tea party organised by NENG as a way of saying thank you to all those who distribute EDGE or are involved in other ways with NENG's activities will be held on Sunday 10th November from 2.30 pm in the Nether Edge Bowling Club. All NENG distributors and helpers are welcome. Please confirm your intention to attend with Gina Pierce Tel: 281 9414 Email: ginapierce@virginmedia.com