



# EDGE

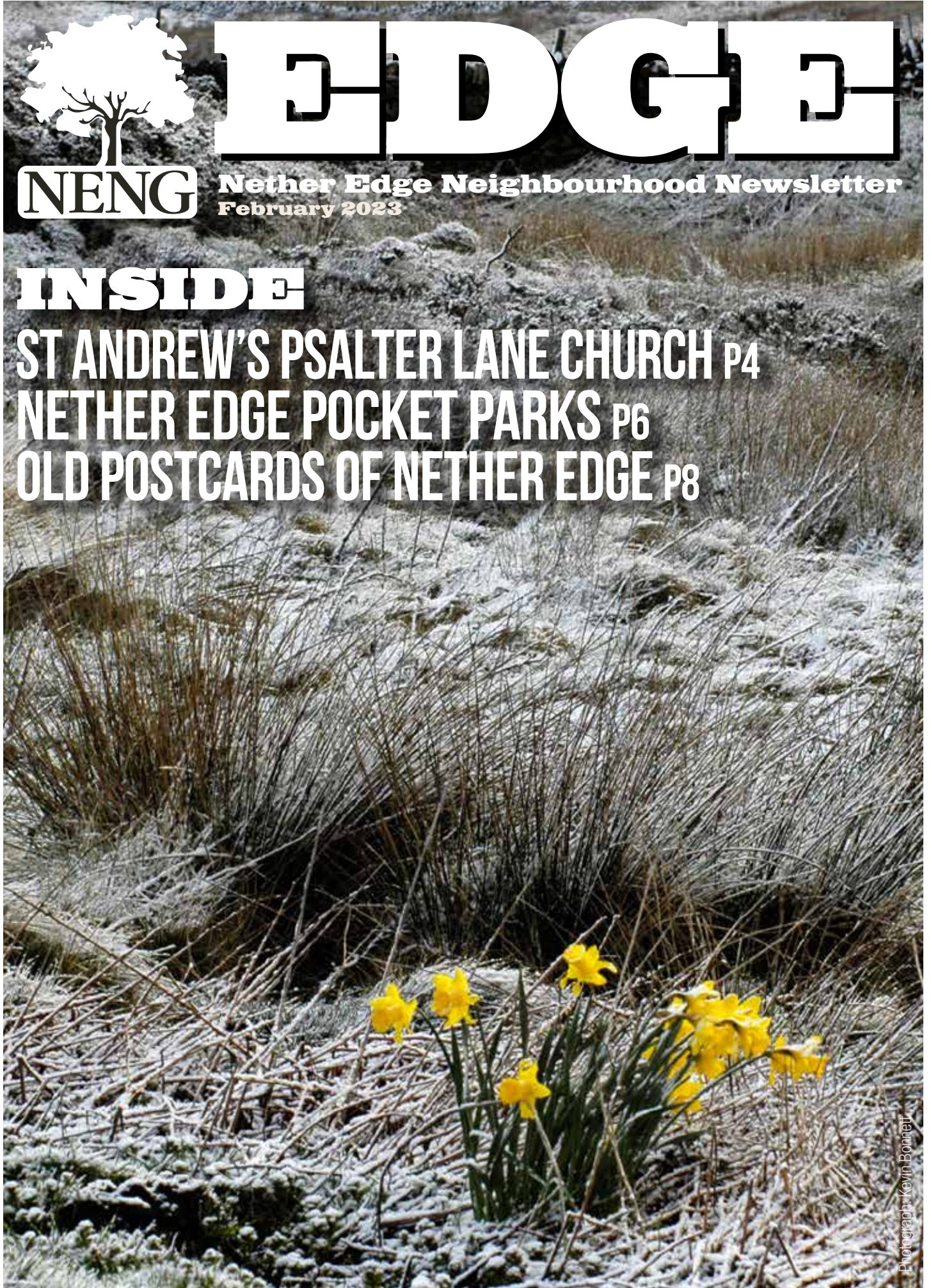
**Nether Edge Neighbourhood Newsletter**  
February 2023

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*Photo: Kevin Bonnett*

Photograph: Kevin Bonnett

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



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.

Company limited by guarantee No. 07414080.  
Registered charity no 1139239

**Individual views expressed are not necessarily those of the group**

## NENG Committee Members

\* indicates Trustee / Director

- \* **Ken Lambert** (Chair, Company Secretary & Membership Secretary) 32 Thornsett Rd S7 1NB.  
07518 118789 ken.lambert227@gmail.com
- Ruth Bernard** (Vice Chair & EDGE Editorial Board)
- \* **Howard Fry** (Secretary & Market) 20 Chelsea Road  
S11 8BR. howard.fry@icloud.com
- Pat Rogers** (Minutes Secretary & EDGE Editorial Board)
- \* **Richard Taylor** (Treasurer)
- \* **David Pierce** (Market)
- \* **Marion Gerson** (Market)
- Vicky Phillips** (Festival, netheredgefestival@gmail.com)
- Nicky Erlen** (EDGE Editorial Board)
- Helen Willows** (Planning)
- John Austin** (History Group)
- Kevin Hickey** (EDGE Editorial Board)
- Stephen Houfe** (EDGE Editorial Board)
- Rosalind Watchorn**
- Kate West** (Family Voice)
- Kevin Bonnett**
- Terry Scully** (Finance Officer  
nengtreasurer@gmail.com)

To contact individual members of the committee or for contact details of the various sub-groups, please go to the NENG website :  
[www.netheredge.org.uk/](http://www.netheredge.org.uk/)

# EDGE FEBRUARY 2023

This issue of EDGE was edited by Howard Fry

Design & artwork: Stephen Houfe (stephenhoufe@gmail.com)

If you want to contribute to the March edition, please contact the EDGE Editorial Board – [nengeditorialboard@gmail.com](mailto:nengeditorialboard@gmail.com)

## EDITORIAL

### Howard Fry

**Annual General Meeting - advance notice** The NENG AGM will be held at Nether Edge Bowling Club on Tuesday 21st March at 7pm. It will be a riveting and star-studded event, as we must be quorate to make it legit. Watch this space for further details of guest speakers and death-defying feats by local celebrities, so mark in your calendars to avoid disappointment.

**NENG 50** This June we celebrate our 50th birthday, so we are planning lots of jubilee events that will knock the socks off anything the royal family might be planning. Watch this space! We also wish everyone a very happy New Year, looking forward to peaceful but culturally delightful events (think festival, markets, art, music and entertainment) throughout 2023.

## OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Committee has been advised that there are still many overdue subscriptions for 2022-23 and indeed quite a number of EDGE readers have not also paid their subscription for 2021-22.

It is appreciated that times are hard financially for many people, but it does not seem fair that most subscribers do pay on time. Also, the cost of printing has risen, though the Committee has taken steps to keep the costs as low as possible so that the subscription can remain at £10 for 10 copies a year. It is also not really reasonable to expect the local distributor to collect subscriptions in cash, which was the 'traditional' means of payment pre-Covid.

The Committee will be asked to consider stopping delivery of EDGE to readers with two year's subscriptions outstanding. So please help us to help you if you have not already paid (with thanks to those that have) by paying promptly and before the end of March

You can:

- make a bank transfer into the NENG bank account (Sort code 30-97-51 A/C 36208368 NENG and your address as the reference);
- set up a standing order, using the above bank account details and your address as the reference; or
- send a cheque to Ken Lambert, 32 Thornsett Road, Sheffield S7 1NB making sure your address is enclosed, or even drop off cash with a note of your address.

For bank payments, please let me know by email ([ken.lambert227@gmail.com](mailto:ken.lambert227@gmail.com)), and using your address as the reference is important to help identify which record to update

If you are are not sure whether you have already paid or not, contact me at the above email address or phone 07518 118789

Ken Lambert, NENG Chair and Membership Secretary

**We always welcome new members, whether you want to catch up with local news, get involved in any of our groups, or just support our work. Membership costs £10 per year and you will receive ten editions of The Edge - the NENG newsletter.**

For further details email [ken.lambert227@gmail.com](mailto:ken.lambert227@gmail.com), visit our website [www.netheredge.org.uk](http://www.netheredge.org.uk) or scan this QR code





## VILLAGE HISTORY BOARD

Fortunately Rishi Sunak and the massed bands of the Grenadier guards failed to turn up, so the new 'Heart of Nether Edge' History Information Board was unveiled by Kay Phillips and Kath Fry on 6th January 2023

## AIR QUALITY MONITORING

Richard Taylor has been monitoring Local Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) Air Quality at various locations in Nether Edge for the last 8 years, but would now like someone else to take over the job. The job is not especially onerous (training is available), but needs someone to replace diffraction tubes (a bit like test tubes) at 4 different locations around Hunters Bar and Nether Edge, then send the tubes back to the Sheffield Council for analysis. The process takes perhaps 45 minutes each month and could be carried out by anyone able to climb a small step stool to retrieve and then refix the tubes, which are attached above head height to lamp posts or the like. The only difficult bit is transporting your step stool around (in your car?), but your work is vital as it helps to build up a picture of air pollution in the city and inform the Council where further measures are needed.

Existing data can be accessed on the Sheffield City Council website under Air Quality (Diffusion Tubes). The graphs are not quite up to date but the results can be seen from 2003 up to 2021. There are fairly normal readings for Nether Edge but the Hunters Bar School level is consistently elevated.

For NENG the area of concern is the Abbeydale Road corridor reading outside Nether Edge School which is consistently high. It will be interesting to see the 2022 data especially along that corridor (where unfortunately there are only 2 monitors) to assess the effect of the road changes that have recently been in place in Nether Edge.

For more information or to volunteer please contact Richard on richardtaylor635@hotmail.com

## NEW TREASURER AND A NEW FINANCE OFFICER FOR NENG

You will have read that NENG has been desperate for a new Treasurer and Bookkeeper for some time, but we couldn't find anyone willing to take on the job. David O'Connell is really an architect, but he's been our 'Acting Treasurer' for the last 3 years. He only really meant to do the job temporarily for 6 months until we found a 'proper' Treasurer, but he's been doing such an excellent job, we couldn't possibly let him go. Meanwhile, Tayab Fayaz our bookkeeper provided us with more technical accountancy services, but he has now moved away from Nether Edge and taken on an even more demanding role as a senior accountant at the Home Office. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to both David and Tayab.

Fortunately the multi-talented Richard Taylor, has stepped into the role of Treasurer. Richard was of course our local dentist, but he spread his wings after retirement. Up till last year he was chair of Nether Edge Festival and remains very actively involved. He also founded and is a leading light of Nether Edge Art Group, but as the saying goes: "if you really want to get a job done, go find a busy man".

Richard is supported by Terry Scully, our new Finance Officer, who will be providing bookkeeping and accountancy services. Terry lives in Meersbrook and provides professional services to a number of similar charities and voluntary organisations, so he brings the breadth of expertise we have been seeking for many years. The main communication channel for NENG's finance issues will still be called [nengtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:nengtreasurer@gmail.com) but Terry will be the person managing the system and advising the committee.

## FARMERS' MARKET UPDATE

Since Covid, you'll have noticed that we've had fewer stalls, so the market is less crowded, but we hope it's more pleasant as a result. The down-side is that we earn less money to give to charities. We are therefore raising our stall prices from March to match those that have been charged for some time by nearby markets such as Sharrow Vale. The basic stall price will go up from £40 to £45, but we will now charge £60 for food stalls and £80 for hot food stalls because their profits are usually higher. Our regular stallholders have been forewarned, but we think they are fairly relaxed about it.

David Pierce has stepped down from chairing the Farmers Market, having been instrumental in setting it up all those years ago with Tildy Lowe and Chris Venables, but fortunately Gina Pierce, who has been equally involved for many years, has agreed (reluctantly) to be our new Chair

Our beneficiaries for 2023 will be: Young Carers and Ben's Centre; City of Sanctuary and Space to Breathe; St Wilfred's and Amey's House; Joy Bank and Sparkles. If anyone has any suggestions for local beneficiaries for next year, or indeed on any other matter, please write to us at [nengfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:nengfarmersmarket@gmail.com)

***Farmers' Market dates for 2023 are: 26th March, 18th June, 17th September, 3rd December***

# St Andrews Psalter Lane Church Spire Restoration Appeal

John Cripps



St Andrews Psalter Lane Church is a prominent building on the corner of Psalter Lane and Cherry Tree Road. Originally Psalter Lane Methodist church, built in 1930, it became St Andrews Psalter Lane Church (SAPLC), a joint Anglican-Methodist partnership in 1998. The building has excellent acoustics and is especially valued by Sheffield Music Academy, the Delphi Trust, Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus and others including Nether Edge Festival and other cultural events. Many local organisations, businesses and charities also use facilities provided by the church.

Although the building is relatively young, it has noteworthy architectural features that give a grade II listing. The spire that rises about 9m above the centre of the main roof is particularly mentioned in the listing statement, but unfortunately, this is now in urgent need of repair. Even from the ground deterioration is apparent, but close up studies in April 2022 from a huge cherry picker revealed that, although the underlying structure is sound, the lower copper cladding, octagonal louvred section, castellated crown and copper clad tapered upper section all need to be replaced.



The specialist conservation architect engaged to assist with this work, has warned that the repairs must be carried out in 2023, before another winter causes more damage. This is made more urgent because the spire is now leaking which will accelerate deterioration of the structure and cause internal damage. Unfortunately, the leak cannot be stopped without accessing the spire from the outside. Moreover, if large pieces of timber or metal become detached, they could damage the roof or pose a hazard to users. Ultimately this would lead to closure of the building on safety grounds.

The Church Council has considered the available options, including complete removal of the spire. However, because the building is listed it must be repaired in a like-for-like manner using traditional materials. Competitive quotes from reputable conservation contractors indicate that the cost will be of the order of £135,000. Although we are in the fortunate position of having some reserves, we need help to pay for these repairs. Normal Church income is funded by members' giving and collections and income from letting church property. It does not receive grants or other income in support of normal operations.

We are applying for funds from various bodies and Trusts, and we plan to launch a formal appeal for funds from our congregation and the wider community very soon. The best way of conserving this piece of architectural heritage is for the spire to be repaired. This will also ensure the Church survives and actions that support the local community and the facilities it provides will continue to be available. We would welcome suggestions for fund raising events and pledges of contributions to the appeal fund. We hope to offer the opportunity ascend the scaffolding to view the repair work and enjoy the view of the neighbourhood.

For further information and offers to help or donate, please contact [Cripps@uwclub.net](mailto:Cripps@uwclub.net); 01142 588932 or the Church Office in Shirley House.



# NEW MINISTER AT ST ANDREWS PSALTER LANE CHURCH

## Ruth Bernard

*Reverend Naomi Cooke was appointed as the minister of St Andrews Psalter Lane Church in September 2022, following the departure of Gareth Jones. St Andrews is a joint Church of England and Methodist church. Naomi's ministry covers Nether Edge, Highfield and Walkley.*

*Naomi came to Sheffield from Cheltenham, where she worked for 8 years. Previously to that, she spent 25 years in the theatre, having studied drama at Exeter University. When she left Exeter, she formed the Foursight Theatre Company, which toured nationally and internationally. She also spent 6 years in Canada as a lecturer, director, actor and producer. It was in Canada that she met her partner, Lisa, who was also from the UK. They returned in 1998, where Naomi continued to work with Foursight Theatre.*

*Naomi was brought up as Methodist and, while she loved her life in the theatre, had always been drawn towards ministry. Finally, in 2007, she had what she calls a 'divine nudge' and went to work on a community farm with disadvantaged children. She then went to the Queen's Foundation in Birmingham for 3 years, where she read Theology and trained for the ministry. Her first posting was to Cheltenham in Gloucestershire.*

*After 8 years Naomi felt that it was time to move on. As Gareth was leaving, the members of St Andrews congregation were also looking for a new minister. Naomi had lived in Chesterfield from the ages of 10 – 18, so knew Sheffield fairly well. Naomi chose Sheffield as she was drawn to the multi-cultural vibrancy of the city and Nether*



*Edge, a contrast to Cheltenham. She was also interested in working within the local ecumenical partnership between the Anglican and Methodist churches, a partnership she thinks works well.*

*Naomi is very keen to spend time getting to know the local community, seeking to understand its needs and characteristics which will help to shape her work moving forward. She emphasised the importance of building relationships both between her and the community, and between people within the community. She does see the church as a community asset, to be used by local people. For instance, the Tuesday dementia café, which had to stop meeting during the pandemic, is to resume soon. One of Naomi's concerns is the social isolation of those living with dementia and their carers, and she supports the church as they continue to create space for people to meet and share their stories. Not only carers, but also other groups within the community, creating space for people to come together and form relationships.*

*In her spare time, Naomi is a very keen gardener, and loves to grow her own vegetables. She also loves to cook and entertain. Naomi still loves the theatre and can't believe her luck that she has the Crucible and Lyceum just a bus ride away. She already has tickets for 'Standing at Sky's Edge'. She also spends time walking her charming dog, Nell.*

*Naomi is very excited to be in Nether Edge. There are many challenges, but she really appreciates the richness and variety of the people and the culture in the local area.*



# TWO NEW POCKET PARKS

We want to commemorate NENG's 50th birthday this summer with two new 'Pocket Parks' in Nether Edge to add to the lovely Frog Walk Pocket Park up by the the Psalter Lane / Cemetery Road roundabout. Our ideas are in very preliminary stages so we haven't yet got formal consent from the council (which is necessary as both 'parks' will be on patches of unused and unmaintained pavement, which we presume to be Council-owned). Still less do we have a clear idea how much the work would cost or how it could be funded, but first we'd like your views.

Pocket Parks are by definition, very small. They are not intended as play spaces, but to brighten up unloved left-over land for the benefit of the community. The final designs will be professionally prepared, taking on specialist horticultural advice to ensure they are sustainable and ecologically sound. Some materials will need to be paid for and help will undoubtedly be required for elements of the work, but we hope that a lot can be achieved through voluntary effort (and hard work) by NENG with local residents. The parks will be designed for low maintenance, as it is unlikely that we will have enough volunteers to weed and water them on a weekly basis, but they will still need looking after. Would you be prepared to help, either to design and build them or to maintain more pocket parks?

It is hoped that the bulk of the money can be raised through grants, but however much cash we raise, the vital component will be our own labour to build then maintain the pocket parks. We are opening a list of volunteers and ideas, so please drop us a line at [nengpocketparks@gmail.com](mailto:nengpocketparks@gmail.com) if you might be able to help. A WhatsApp group may actually be better, but we'll need your contact details to put you on it.



## MACHON BANK ROAD / VIOLET BANK

There is an unmaintained rectangular patch of former pavement set back from the main footpath next door to Sainsbury's and against the gable end of Violet Bank. It is in a prominent location near the centre of the village and we presume it came about when Machon Bank Road was widened.. As there is unlikely to be much in the way of decent soil beneath the old tarmac, specialist advice will be needed to suggest both an appropriate growing medium (not necessarily soil, as just sand and broken-up rubble may work OK) and plants that will thrive in that location. Prairie planting and wildflowers tend to thrive in low nutrient environments Perhaps the space could include some features, such as old tree trunks (to sit on?) or stones to give it a visual structure. It will also need some sort of edging (timber sleepers?) to contain the growing area and separate it from the footway.

The overall area of the space is approximately 18m x 3.5m and it is hoped that we also can grow climbers up the face of the gable wall, possibly with other taller plants set into

planting pockets towards the rear. There will also need to be access to the adjoining back garden. Above is a preliminary visual to give a general idea which will developed over coming weeks, but would welcome your views.



# Road Closures

NENG Officers met local councillors, Nighat Basharat and Maroof Raouf, on 7th December to express concern at the worryingly divisive impact of the Archer Lane Road closure. The scheme is considered successful by some in our community as it reduces local traffic, particularly on roads down from Brincliffe Edge, but a complete failure for others, who are suffering congestion and pollution from displaced traffic over a wider area. The scheme was supposed to have been experimental for a 6 month period, but it would appear that the Council still hasn't yet made up it's mind what to do.

.....

This letter (abridged) was received from Viv Lockwood, Secretary, Banner Cross Neighbourhood Group

*The Active Neighbourhood scheme was meant to be about creating safer, quieter neighbourhoods and who would disagree with that? But with the council's initial consultation being undertaken before any details were announced and when Archer Lane was closed to vehicles with no prior notice to residents the consequences were immediate and predictable.*

*Our Group started hearing from residents who told us of the difference it had made to their lives. We are collecting their stories for our own eventual report but already we know the opposition is large and widespread. Evidence from the area confirms most people are against. But beyond residents' own personal accounts there are deep concerns for us all, whatever our views.*

*Pollution is a major issue. Traffic has migrated to other routes around the area which are now congested. One resident on Sheldon Road counted 800 vehicles passing her house during one short period. The emissions from vehicles caught in long queues at traffic lights is serious but the Highways Department, in response to a Freedom of Information request we made, said that the scheme "was not driven by accident or air quality data." We were told that no data on emissions was being collected, yet vehicles now taking necessarily longer journeys, often caught in queues with engines running, should have been predicted from the start. And this from a council with a net-zero carbon emissions target by 2030!*

*People living and working just outside the scheme area, like the children and teachers at Nether Edge Primary School or on Sheldon Road, are already subjected to poor air quality. Now it's worse. They feel dumped on. Of course, this wasn't intended; it's a consequence of there being no proper consultation or analysis beforehand. For many people living on a steep hill the travel alternatives to the car are limited or unrealistic.*

*Before any recommendation is made by officers to councillors there must be an opportunity for a full public inspection of the trial data, not just the "appropriate sample of residents" the council wants. Community cohesion and public health are being undermined by the unintended consequences of this ill-considered initiative.*

## KENBOURNE ROAD / RUNDLE ROAD JUNCTION

This site is even smaller (a 5m equilateral triangle) and more intimate. Again the existing surface is old macadam but it may not be necessary to remove this entirely before building up a deep layer of top soil. The residents from Kenbourne Road suggested the location and have offered to look after it, but they will need help to get it started. Again, your opinions would be most welcome, as would any offers to help.





## The History Group's Recent Acquisition of Photographs of Nether Edge

Kay Phillips

The History Group has recently acquired a number of old photographs of Nether Edge, many in the form of postcards, prompting us to adopt a more systematic approach towards the collection and use of these images.

Postcards offer a number of insights into local history. They present scenes familiar to us but in the garb of past times, including a number of scenes of Nether Edge trams at the crossroads, with intriguing details of tram types, destination boards, dress codes and shop fronts.

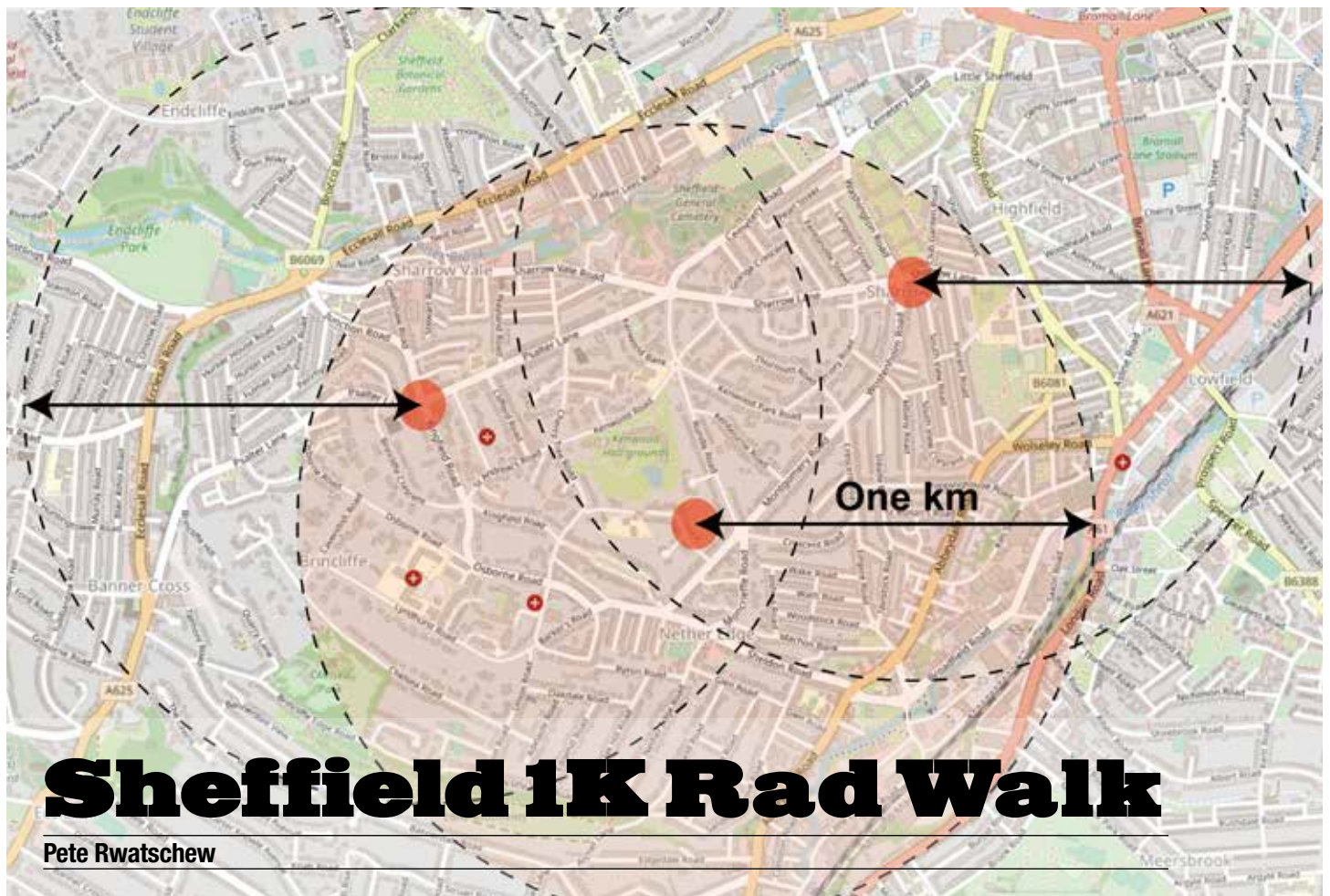
Other images are of buildings long gone. We have, for example, one of a somewhat derelict Cherry Tree Farm which stood at the top of Machon Bank Road opposite the Union Hotel. Another shows an evocative scene of Victorian men (yes, men only) on the bowling green at the rear of the Brincliffe Oaks Hotel, between Oakhill Rd and Nether Edge Rd. (now built over with modern flats).

It would seem there could be a potential treasure trove of images of Nether Edge out there, more than might be imagined given the size and relative obscurity of the suburb. We need to remember however the role which postcards played in Britain in the 'golden age' from c1902-1920. With up to 12 postal collections a day they offered a cheap, easy way to communicate; almost the equivalent of social media today. And what better way to send kind regards, birthday greetings and share family news than on the back of an image showing your location? Local scenes were just one of many themes but they were very popular.



Messages on the reverse of the postcards can also provide insights into past lives. Although there are no outstanding ones on the most recent acquisitions we were fortunate in receiving a donation of over 50 family postcards a few years ago. Dating from c1904-19, they had been sent to Florry Harding, a domestic maid/cook working in Nether Edge and Grindleford. All Florry's family members and her boyfriend (later husband) William Shaw made full use of the tiny space on the cards, writing up to 150 words in minute script.

Why have we not addressed this resource before in any systematic way? Our main concern has been the lack of a safe and secure archiving process given we have no dedicated premises or facilities. However we have decided to bite the bullet and not only collect but also explore opportunities for display, exhibitions or illustrated talks. With this in mind we are inviting you to join us in this venture. If you have any postcards or other images that relate to Nether Edge please contact us so we can talk to you about copying them to add to our collection, on whatever terms or conditions you feel necessary.



## Do you know what's on your doorstep? Lockdown taught us a lot about where we live.

On a crisp Saturday morning, not too long ago, my sister and I completed what I've come to call a 1k rad walk. A textbook 1k rad walk route would keep you one kilometre from your home at all times. Unfortunately, city streets are not so well organised. The end result of this is a jagged path that takes you down the whole range of public right of ways; roads, alleyways, parks, side streets...

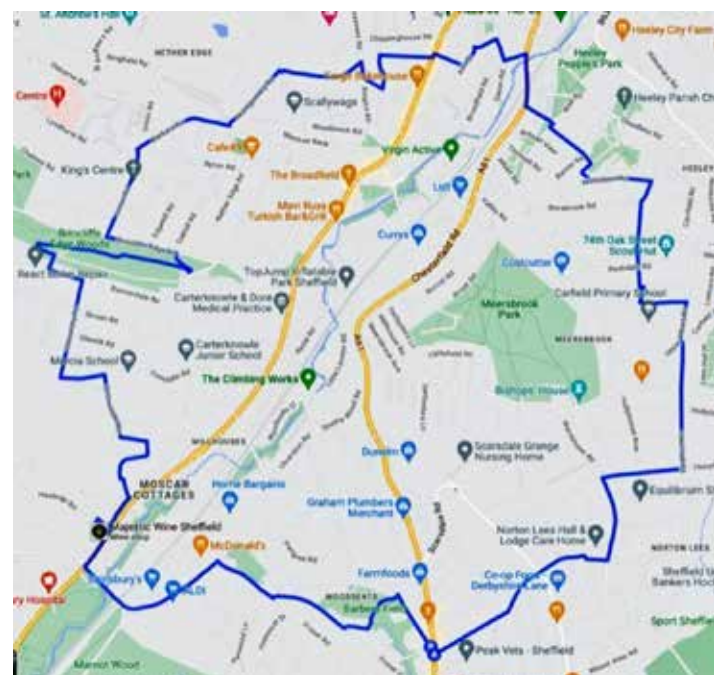
The idea originally came to me after a friend, who was living in Paris at the time, told me about the French lockdown policy of citizens traveling no further than one kilometre from their houses. Was everything I needed to live within that distance? Mix that with a sense of exploration and the slower pace of life under lockdown and the idea took hold. My first 1k rad walks were in Manchester, my home for the last 11 years, but having recently moved to this side of The Peaks I opened Google maps and plotted my first Sheffield route.

As I live just to the west of Meersbrook park, the route took in a large chunk of Nether Edge, clipped Millhouses Park, Woodseats, Norton Lees, looped around to Meersbrook and crossed over Abbydale Road, just north of Forge Bakehouse. As there is no particular destination, I find you observe more. It's surprising how quickly your surroundings change when walking in an urban environment. A busy high street can turn into a hidden alleyway that leads to quiet suburbia. You aren't trying to get from A to B, you are simply moving through your neighbourhood. The familiar becomes new and the new becomes familiar.

The crowning feature of this walk was the synchronicity of my sister and I passing by two schools that both had disused entrances. The

first one we passed was Woodseats Primary School and had BOYS carved into the stone work next to its gate. An assortment of sports balls lay behind the locked gate. The second was Carfield Primary School, which had GIRLS carved into the stone above its gate. Bright toys, figurines and a hula hoop were the items lost to a small space between the two locked gates this time.

Lockdown may be over, but 1k rad walks have taught me that everything I need to live is within one kilometre of my front door (I'm lucky) and if you look closely there's always something new to see.



# PUBLIC ART TREASURES



(top left) River Don sculptures by Daniel Bustamante; (top right) Grandad Fox by Pete McKee;  
(bottom left) Rivelin Valley steel chair by Jason Thomson; (bottom right) Spider's Web by Johnny White

There are possibly hundreds of artworks, many by celebrated artists, hidden but in plain sight in and around Sheffield. Volunteers from Sheffield Visual Arts Group are working with Wessex Archaeology to create a free, open access interactive digital map featuring over 180 public artworks across Sheffield, which brings together famous as well as hidden 3D artworks found in and around the city. Now the team behind the **Sheffield Public Artworks Map** want the eagle-eyed people of Nether Edge to come forward with suggestions for more 3D artworks to add to the map.

This is essentially an on-line initiative, so a printed magazine format like EDGE doesn't do it justice, but we thought you might be interested anyway. The map can be downloaded for free at <https://www.wessexarch.co.uk/sheffieldpublicart>. where you can

search through this amazing record and possibly add to it if you know of other unsung works.

Natasha Bramall, Community Engagement Coordinator, Wessex Archaeology, said: *"Sheffield has a rich tradition of producing public artworks. Our great team of volunteers has already amassed over 180 artworks on our digital map, but we're keen to discover what else is out there, drawing on the knowledge of the people of Sheffield. We can't wait to see what gems they can add to this great resource."*

A chair sitting in the middle of the River Rivelin, a giant spider's web on the Gripple building, a series of ever-changing sculptures rising from the banks of the River Don and the portly Grandad Fox standing proudly in the middle of Fox Valley Way Shopping Park roundabout in Stocksbridge, are just a few

of the artworks recorded so far. Now, local people are being asked to spot artworks in their communities as they travel around the city using the public artwork map. If it isn't already listed, they are invited to submit an online form and upload a photograph so a team of volunteers can head out to fully record the artwork and add them to the map. New on-line submissions are requested by 10th February, but can be submitted by email to [n.bramall@wessexarch.co.uk](mailto:n.bramall@wessexarch.co.uk)

Sheffield Visual Arts Group campaigns to publicise Sheffield's great art collections and have more of them on show. We want to make Art part of all the lives of Sheffielders and to champion the existence and conservation of all public Art. Interested – why not become a member? [sheffieldvisualartsgroup.co.uk](http://sheffieldvisualartsgroup.co.uk)

# Eat Nether Edge

Howard Fry



It is really sad that **Homemade by Thelma's** has closed its doors for the last time, but we understand there is a good chance that a new cafe venue will be starting later in the year. We wish Emily and her colleagues good luck and every success for the future.

Thinking about it, we don't do too badly

for eating out in Nether Edge. The pies and burgers that Gareth cooks at the **Union Hotel** most days are very tasty, with great chips that go down well with a well-kept pint of beer. 'Friday night is Pie Night' at **The Byron** is another institution for those with hearty appetites and discerning tastes for a variety of different pies, chips and peas (fresh or mushy). You've got to get there early though, or you'll find someone else has beaten you to it and eaten them all.

Food offers at **Café No.9** are in a slightly different league, being vegan or at least vegetarian. Paul's dahl dishes and cakes are super-good (my grand-children would like to live there), as is their coffee. Its a bit like hanging about in the coffee bars of one's youth with all the excitement and

anticipation you felt as a teenager, but infinitely more cool than anything I can remember.

**Bench** bistro, next door is a relatively 'new kid on the block', They opened during the lowest point of the Covid lockdown, which was brave, but they are now winning plaudits for their carefully crafted cuisine and excellent service in the national press. Not to be out-done your intrepid team of seven crack restaurant critics selflessly set out to Bench this January to try it out. On offer were lots of tapas dishes for sharing, but we couldn't make up our minds and asked them to choose for us. As a result, we ate through most of their menu and it was absolutely terrific. Each small dish was carefully prepared and well presented by attentive staff but spread throughout the evening. The bill, including wine and a tip came to £35 a head, which we thought very reasonable for a great evening out with good food.

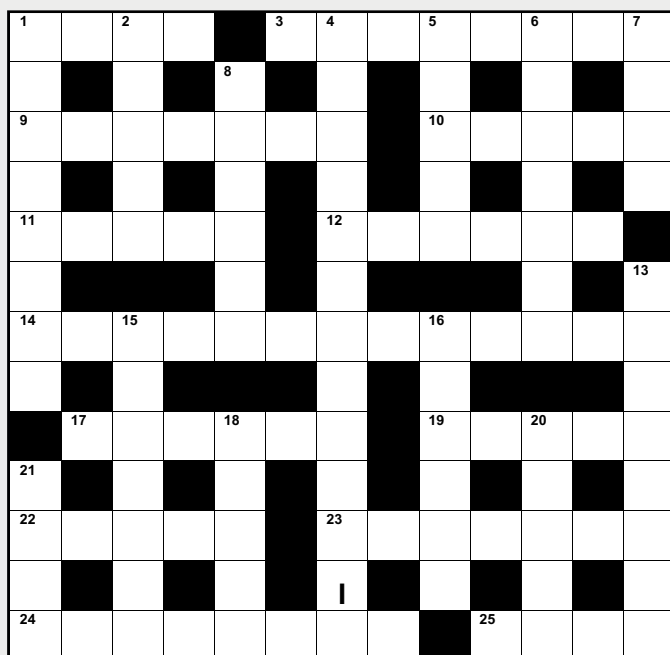
Perhaps other readers would like to submit their own reviews and share their eating experiences for future editions of **EDGE**.



Image by timolina on Freepik

# SPRAT'S 131st CROSSWORD

One for the animal lovers amongst you!



## Across

1. Yogi, Rupert or Paddington (4)
3. Insect pest – does it attack weighing machines? (5,3)
9. Californian marine mammal (7)
10. Buffalo Bill shot them (5)
11. Muscle or meat loaf (5)
12. Not present (6)
14. The perfect addition to a dry martini (8,5)
17. Flat-tailed dam builder (6)
19. Over 14:2 hands (5)
22. Sounds like it wasn't colder (5)
23. It chatted up Eve (7)
24. Walking stick (8)
25. Red, Roe or Fallow (4)

## Down

1. Antelope that combines a small tree and a male deer (8)
2. Large lizard (5)
4. What the police sometimes describe as 'an illegal substance.' (8,5)
5. Wolves (5)
6. African dog with no bark (7)
7. Unit of heredity (4)
8. Finch with red breast and forehead (6)
13. Sounds like it consumes your dad's sister (8)
15. Sounds dishonest – perhaps that's why it moves so fast (7)
16. Man who looks after cows (6)
18. Medical term or marketing by word of mouth (5)
20. Chaucerian tale-teller or female ruff (5)
21. Goes very well with whisky (4)

*Solution on page 14*



**Pets at Rest**  
home euthanasia vet

I'm Rob, a local vet and resident of Nether Edge. You might see me out and about in my electric car, visiting pet owners in our community. I run an independent business that comes to your home to support with end of life care. Saying goodbye at home, ensures your companion feels safe and calm, surrounded by loved ones. You can find out more on my website or by using the QR code to visit my Facebook page.



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James, Happy Patient, 2021



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0114 419 0173 | [www.bannerdaleosteopaths.com](http://www.bannerdaleosteopaths.com)

# David Pierce



A stalwart of the Edge Editorial Board from its beginnings, David Pierce has now resigned. David has been editing and writing for Edge for many years, long before the formation of the Editorial Board, and there were many Edges that David edited on his own. It is not too much to say that Edge would

have folded without his hard work. Our favourite article from David has to be from Dec 2020, when he described his experiences as a pantomime dame, accompanied by a wonderful photo of David in full pantomime dame regalia. He will be greatly missed, but he isn't putting his feet up just yet. He could

still out-run someone half his age and remains a very active member of the NENG committee. The pantomime jokes he often used to fill gaps in EDGE when he ran out of more serious content were perhaps an acquired taste, but we love him all the more for his zest for life.

*Kevin, Nicky, Pat, Stephen & Ruth*

## Turn-Ups Night club

**Ruth Bernard**

Following an article I wrote for November Edge, which included a reference to Turn-Ups Nightclub, Mr Ron Chapman got in touch. Ron was a founder member of the Nether Edge Anti-Nuisance Committee, whose aim was to stop the noise generated by Turn-Ups (the site is now Birchcroft).

The Nether Edge Dance Hall, run by a Mr Snook, became Turn-Ups around the early 70s, by which time it was owned by a Mr Vickers. The problems began, according to Mr Chapman, when the style of music changed to disco, which was louder and with a heavy beat. At one point, the club had a licence allowing them to open until 2am on Friday and Saturday. The noise level was at 66 decibels in Mr Chapman's back garden. An appeal to the members of the Nether Edge community raised enough money to hire a solicitor. It took 6 court cases over 7 years, each reducing the time the club was allowed to open, and eventually the club lost its licence. Mr Vickers then tried to establish Turn-ups in the city centre, but it is not known if he was successful.

The Anti-Nuisance Committee continued to monitor other venues with the potential to cause a nuisance. The committee was probably one of the factors that led to the strong community that is Nether Edge, and continues with the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group.

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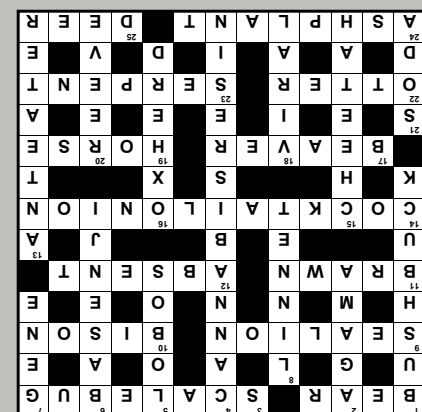
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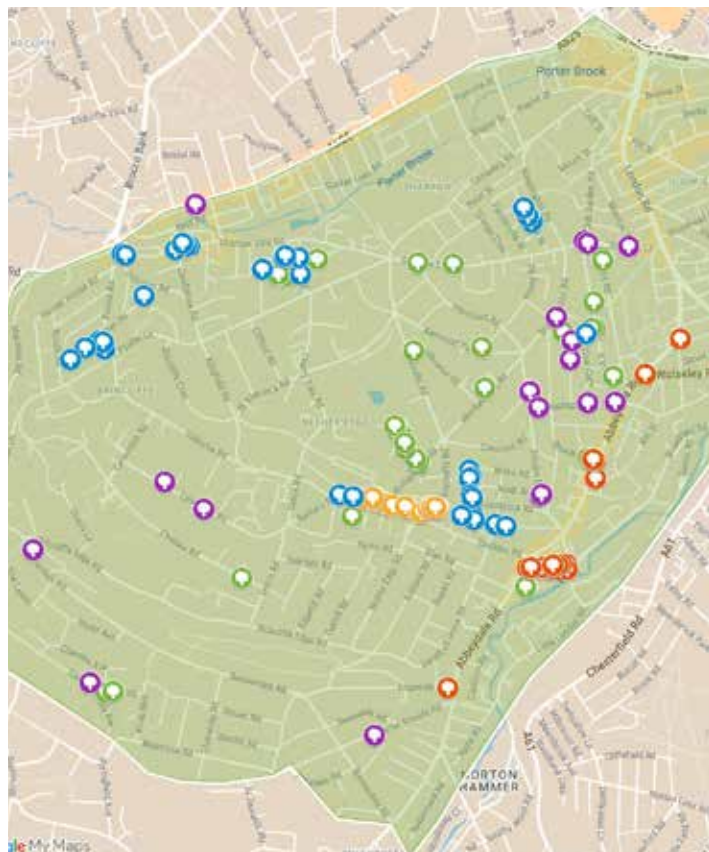
## CROSSWORD SOLUTION



# COMMUNITY FUNDED STREET TREES

## DO YOU WANT NEW STREET TREES ON YOUR STREET?

Paul Selby



In the dark days of the Sheffield street tree crisis, between 2015 and 2018, I never imagined that we'd have the chance to increase the number of street trees in Sheffield. Indeed, the lead Council Officer at the time told me that, even if the campaigners won, the Council would never allow us to plant extra street trees.

I never accept "never" as an answer, and I'm glad to say that peace was declared nearly three years ago now. Sheffield

now has an exemplary Street Tree Strategy, governed by the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership Group. Consequently, at some point in the next 18 months, the Council will launch a website that will allow anyone in the whole city to donate and fund additional street trees in Sheffield.

The prelude to this city-wide process is a pilot that Nether Edge and Sharrow Sustainable Transformation (NESST) has been leading in Nether Edge, Sharrow, Sharrow Vale, Carter

Knowle and nearby areas over the last two years. In early 2022 a grand total of 75 additional trees were planted in these areas as a result of the first year of the pilot. By the time you read this article, a further 58 additional trees should have been planted in the same areas.

That's 133 additional street trees planted in just 12 months, an increase of 6% in the number of street trees in the same area, the first increase since the 1970s. Importantly, around 60% of the additional trees are on roads with no previous street trees, beginning to equalise the current street tree canopy cover inequality.

The funds to pay for these 133 trees has come from a variety of sources, including:

- NESST
- Abbeydale Road Trees
- Sheffield Street Tree Arts
- Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group (NENG)
- "Nether Edge Village" Covid Recovery Funding
- Therapy Room Sheffield
- Groups of residents on 8 roads in the area, collectively fundraising
- Individual residents paying for trees outside of their house

You can see the locations of these trees on the map included with this article.

It has been a tremendous effort from all involved, and there has been huge generosity from many, despite the challenging times we live in.

But we aren't stopping here. I've walked every one of the 340 roads in the 4.6 square mile area which NESST covers, and my estimate is that there are still 3498 possible locations for further street trees. So, we've only just begun!

The question to EDGE readers is do you want to help out in our efforts to plant more street trees? Do you want one outside your house? Are you able to work with neighbours to collectively fund trees on your street? Do you own or know a business willing to contribute funding to our efforts?

If you live on a street with no (or very few) existing street trees, NESST will subsidise 50% of the cost, reducing it to roughly £390 per tree.

*If you are interested, please contact us at [info@nesstsheffield.org](mailto:info@nesstsheffield.org)*

## ADVERTISING IN EDGE

Have you considered advertising your business in Edge? The magazine is delivered 10 times a year to over 900 households in Nether Edge. It is also distributed to local cafes, hairdressers, shops and other local businesses with many more potential customers.

Our rates start from £20 for an 1/8 page ad, to £80 for a 1/2 page. Discounts are given for multiple bookings. You would also be supporting Edge, and the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group.

# WHAT'S ON

in and around Nether Edge in February 2023

## Nether Edge Bowling Club

Nether Edge Road



**Fri. 9th Feb. 7.30pm - 11.00pm**  
**Hazjak**

Acoustic folk, roots, Americana. Their album is packed with gritty tongue-in-cheek humour harmonies and haunting lyrical arrangements.

*Tickets £10*

**Fri. 24th Feb. 7.30pm - 11pm**  
**Hayes Sisters**

## St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

**Sat. 4th Feb.** Any time between 9.30 am - 12.30 pm.

Everyone is very welcome to join the working party helping to maintain the church grounds. There is a chance to chat over coffee around 11.00 am.

## Nether Edge Folk Club

@Nether Edge Bowling Club

**Every Wednesday**  
from 8.00 pm - 10.30 pm.

The club enjoys acoustic music in a wide variety of genres. All players and singers whether experienced or beginners are warmly welcomed.

*No admission charge, except on 8th Feb when we have specially invited guests (See below). Usually £2 is requested as a contribution to the guest booking fund.*

**Wed. 8th Feb. 8.00 pm**

**Guest singers: George Sansome & Matt Quinn**

Folk songs from the British Isles, sometimes accompanied and sometimes with mandolin and guitar. Very tuneful duo with some Granny's Attic action.

*Tickets available online £8 from <https://netheredgefolk.club>*

## Common Ground Community Centre

**Ammi's Kitchen Community Lunches. Fridays 3rd & 24th Feb.** From 12.30pm. Eat in only.

**Ammi's Kitchen Friday Takeaway. Fri. 10th Feb**

Authentic vegan curries and dishes from around the world made by local women.

Collect 3.00pm - 6.00pm. Pre-orders only. Delivery option available. Check the website for more information: <https://ammiskitchensheffield.org>

## Abbeydale Picture House

387 Abbeydale Road. S7 1FS

**12th Feb. 7.30pm - 11.00pm**  
Live in the Fly Tower

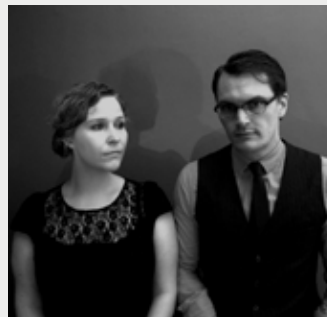
**Shovel Dance Collective**

Nine musicians brought together by a communal passion for the folk musics of the British Isles, Ireland and beyond.

*£10*

## Cafe #9

9 Nether Edge Road S7 1 RU



**10th Feb. Ma Polaine**

Beth's effortlessly distinctive vocals are coupled with Clinton's understated guitar style.

**12th Feb. Hyuk Namkoong**

An evening with this extremely talented local classical pianist.

**17th Feb. Me For Queen, Samantha Whates**

Me For Queen aka Mary Erskine is inspired by people and their stories.

Samantha Whates is a gifted songsmith with haunting melodies.

*All tickets £13.80 from [WeGotTickets](https://www.wegotickets.com)*

## General Cemetery

**Tues. 14th Feb.** Doors open 7.00pm. Film 7.30pm.

**Cemetery Cinema presents "Brief Encounter"** in the atmospheric Samuel Worth Chapel. *£8.00*



**Wed. 15th Feb.** Doors open 7.00pm. Film 7.30pm.

**Cemetery Cinema presents "Casablanca"** also in the Samuel Worth Chapel. *£8.00*

*Tickets from Ticket Source.*

**Sat. 25th Feb. 8.00pm. - 12.00am.**

**Cemetery Sessions with Tom Pickles**

Award-winning cellist Tom Pickles is carving out a reputation as a unique musical voice. This special event will feature popular classics, modern cello gems and never-before-heard original songs for voice and cello.

*Tickets sold online via [Ticket Source](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) £15 plus booking fee. No tickets on the door.*

*Proceeds from all these fundraising events go to SGCT to help to look after the General Cemetery.*