



EDGE

Nether Edge Neighbourhood Newsletter
June 2023



**OPEN
GARDENS
2023**

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.

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

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NENG website :
www.netheredge.org.uk/

EDGE JUNE 2023

This issue of EDGE was edited by the Edge Editorial Board

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

If you want to contribute to the July/Aug edition, please contact the EDGE Editorial Board – nengeditorialboard@gmail.com by 12th June at the latest

EDITORIAL

Nicky Erlen

This month the Editorial Board has been blown away by the enthusiasm and hard work of our contributors, whether that is their detailed research into events and experiences of the past or their commitment to setting up campaigns and strategies across the generations for improving and future-proofing our environment. Should the residents of Nether Edge be tackling issues of climate change, biodiversity loss and heritage loss in Chelsea Park as they are doing in Graves Park? Is the feasibility of this something that you (with others) would be interested in looking into? If so, please let us know. Excellent progress has been made with the plan to create two additional pocket parks to mark the NENG fiftieth anniversary, but muscle power will soon be needed, so do contact Howard Fry at nengpocketparks@gmail.com if you need fresh air and exercise. Whilst on the subject of muscle power, please do help the aged by turning out to set up and/or dismantle the excellent Nether Edge Farmers' Market on Sunday 18th June 2023. Get in touch (with Howard, again) at howard.fry@icloud.com if you can help, however small your contribution. We would urge you to visit the Open Gardens on Sunday 25th June 2023. The gardeners will have put in so much work to ensure that you experience their gardens at their best, however modest. You will be delighted by what you see and perhaps inspired to make changes to your own garden. You might even decide to open your own garden next year (and yes, it's Howard that you need to contact if you do). There is a fair chance that you will bump into friends old and new and you will be helping the home owners collect funds for causes close to their hearts. So, you can see that there is so much to get involved with in Nether Edge, so what's stopping you?

As set out in the NENG Chair's article in this edition, it was suggested at this year's AGM that we have a 'Grumpy Corner' in EDGE in which you can let us have your gripes. As always, we welcome your views on any matters that concern you and Nether Edge, but let's not just focus on the negative - we would also love to hear about the things that interest you and things that have made you smile so do get in touch with nengeditorialboard@gmail.com

Finally, we are very sad to report that David Pierce who has been involved with NENG for over thirty years, has himself been Chair of NENG and has worked tirelessly with the Markets Committee, the EDGE Editorial Board and the main NENG Committee has resigned his posts due to ill health. He will be sorely missed and we send him our very best wishes.

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, visit our website www.netheredge.org.uk or scan this QR code





THE FATE OF BANNER CROSS HALL

Readers may be aware that Henry Boot is leaving Banner Cross Hall on Ecclesall Road and moving to city centre premises and the grade II listed building is being sold. Local residents are concerned about the future of the hall and the 10 acres of land in which it is set, and the possible loss of mature woodland and wildlife. Ecclesall Green Party Council candidate, Peter Gilbert, has launched an online petition asking Henry Boot to preserve the site for nature and the community. <https://www.change.org/p/preserve-banner-cross-hall-and-woodland-for-nature-and-community>

The Millhouses, Ecclesall and Carterknowle Community Group is also concerned, and a new Friends of Banner Cross Hall group has been formed.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Ibby Ullah (Labour) was elected as local councillor for Nether Edge and Sharrow Ward in the recent council elections. He defeated Beverley Bennet (Green) by 1789 votes. The previous incumbent, Peter Garbutt (Green Party) did not stand. Labour lost a seat in Hillsborough ward to the Greens, so Sheffield Council remains the same as before the elections, with no party having overall control.

The other two councillors for Nether Edge and Sharrow are: Nighat Basharat (Labour) at nighat.basharat@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk and Maroof Raouf (Green Party) at maroof.raouf@councillor.sheffield.gov.uk

SHEAF AND PORTER RIVERS TRUST

Little London Road: A new riverside housing development is being squeezed onto the Sheaf riverbank at Little London Road and now includes some riverside environmental improvements, though public access is not as extensive as hoped. Initial site preparation works have started and the bank is currently not a pretty sight with all trees removed. The Sheaf and Porter Rivers Trust are keeping a close eye on any depositing of materials in the river.

The adjacent Lavers site has now closed and will probably be redeveloped. We will be encouraging whoever does this to complete the dead-end cycle path from Broadfield Park through to Little London Road.

UNION HOTEL QUIZZER WINS BBC MASTERMIND

Stuart Field, a regular at the Union Hotel's Monday pub quiz, was crowned the BBC 2023 Mastermind Champion in April.



Stuart won the final with a great score of 28 points. His specialist subject was the BBC sitcom Extras. Ricky Gervais the show's co-creator and star sent Stuart a video message: "I just wanted to wish you luck on Mastermind, answering questions on Extras. Have fun. And remember, it is not the winning, it is the taking part that counts. Although, if you don't win you are technically a loser..."

Stuart said about his win: "Mastermind is the only thing that I actually ever wanted to win, and when I was told that I'd won the feeling was utterly astonishing."

His success in the Grand Final was the result of two decades of preparation at home and in local pub quizzes. For the past 6 years he and his partner Elaine have been regulars at the Monday night Quiz at Nether Edge's Union Hotel. Here he is pictured with quiz teams at the pub the week after winning the trophy.



John Barthram who has hosted the Union quiz for 15 years was one of the first to congratulate Stuart. "In quizland, becoming Mastermind Champion is the ultimate accolade. Though he doesn't win every week in the Union, his record is very impressive indeed and everyone here is so proud of what he's achieved on the national stage"

So if you want to measure your general knowledge against the best in the land, why not get a team together and pop into the Union Hotel on Union Road, Nether Edge at 9pm any Monday evening? Oh, and if pop music is your bag, John also hosts a monthly pop quiz in the Union - on the first Wednesday of every month from 9pm. But get there early if you want a seat.

Report on 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Ken Lambert



For the first time since 2019, the AGM was face to face, held on Tuesday 21st March at the Nether Edge Bowling Club. 32 members attended, which exceeds the 25 required for a quorum. The meeting followed the pattern established for the last couple of meetings (which were held via Zoom), with short interventions by the officers, followed by reports of all the sub group activities given by the lead person for each sub group.

Minutes of the meeting can be found on the website at <http://www.netheredge.org.uk/neighbourhood-group/agm/>

After the formal business, those attending were invited to break into small table groups and discuss:-

- *Is there anything that NENG should stop doing or do better?*
- *What should NENG be doing that it is not doing at present?*
- *Suggestion of events/activities etc. to mark the 50th anniversary of NENG.*
- *Anything else relevant to the objectives of NENG*

There were quite a number of suggestions and these were discussed by the Committee with the following outcomes:-

- A regular “grumpy corner” in EDGE
Contributions to EDGE from readers are always very welcome (deadline date is the 12th of the month), but we felt a focus on issues that made people cross might raise the negative vibes seen on social media. So yes, letters and article about the bad AND the good things in Nether Edge are encouraged. Give us your suggestions for a title instead of “grumpy corner”.
- Publish a list of charities receiving funds from the Farmers Market
Agreed – see article in this month’s edition. It was also felt that not everybody realised that the Market is run by volunteers and that all profits are distributed to local charities.
- Tackle graffiti and litter, using a dedicated phone so that people can leave a message with a co-ordinator.
Agreed in principle, but before starting anything, NENG should

liaise with other groups, such as Love our Streets, that operate in the area.

- Market to do more to encourage new stalls / start-ups from local Asian community
The market committee has looked at this and is considering having a dedicated Asian section based on Common Ground.
- For a possible 50th anniversary dinner for volunteers, consideration should be given to using Common Ground
Agreed in principle subject to costs and numbers, which are being looked into. It was agreed that if possible Ammi’s Kitchen should do the catering (see May edition of EDGE).
- The area would be enhanced by the provision of more pocket libraries
- There were issues about siting, but it was agreed in principle to seek to have a dedicated pocket library for children’s books, perhaps sited at Common Ground.
- NENG should be more vocal about the poor or non existent bus services
Agreed that this was a significant issue that was well aired during the local elections, though responsibility lies with the South Yorkshire Mayoral Authority. As an example, tenders had been issued for the No 10 service, but with no response.
- For the 50th Anniversary there should be a walk round the sites of lost buildings
Passed to the History Group for them to look into the possibility.

WANTED NEW NENG COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ken Lambert

For a variety of reasons, we have lost several members of the Committee recently, including some long standing stalwarts. There are still enough of us to have lively discussions and keep the show on the road, but the introduction of new faces, views and ideas would really be of benefit to NENG. We meet about every six weeks (currently at Shirley House, Psalter Lane) from 7.30 to 9.30 in an informal gathering (though there are of course an agenda and minutes); whilst we often have differing views, we all respect each other’s position.

So do think seriously about joining us, you would be very welcome. If you would like to discuss it, do contact myself or Howard Fry (our contact details are on page 2), or if you know one of the current Committee members, speak to them.

'Garrotting' on Lovers' Lane

John Baxendale

Barker's Road, laid out in the late 1870s, was a boon to Nether Edgers, improving the route to Osborne Road and the new Brincliffe Park estate and bypassing the irksome climb up Cherrytree Hill. But until Henry Brumby put up houses along it and the Ecclesall Union built the new Workhouse offices, Barker's Road was, as the Sheffield Telegraph observed, 'one of the loneliest and darkest parts of Nether Edge', ill-lit with just a single gas-lamp and much overhung with trees. It was here at about ten o'clock on Saturday September 22nd 1888 that 19-year-old librarian Albert Marr, on his way home from the Central Library on Surrey Street, was set upon by three ruffians who climbed over the wall, beat him with sticks, chloroformed him, and stole his watch, his hat, and a small amount of money. Luckily, Albert was carrying a stout walking stick of Fijian coconut wood surmounted with a whale's tooth so he was able to fight back, but his assailants proved too much for him. Constable Jephson found him unconscious on the ground and took him to Highfield Police Station, but his injuries were not serious. No arrests were made.

Then the press weighed in. 'Garrotting', preferably involving chloroform, was a newspaper obsession of the time (even if they couldn't spell it). Few victims of street robbery were actually garrotted, but it made a good panicky headline, like 'mugging' in the 1970s. 'Hooligans' were another subject of moral panic, but hooligans were youths, and the press were sure it was 'tramps', sturdy beggars of no fixed abode, who had attacked Albert. No need to mention the proximity of the workhouse and its casual ward for itinerants.

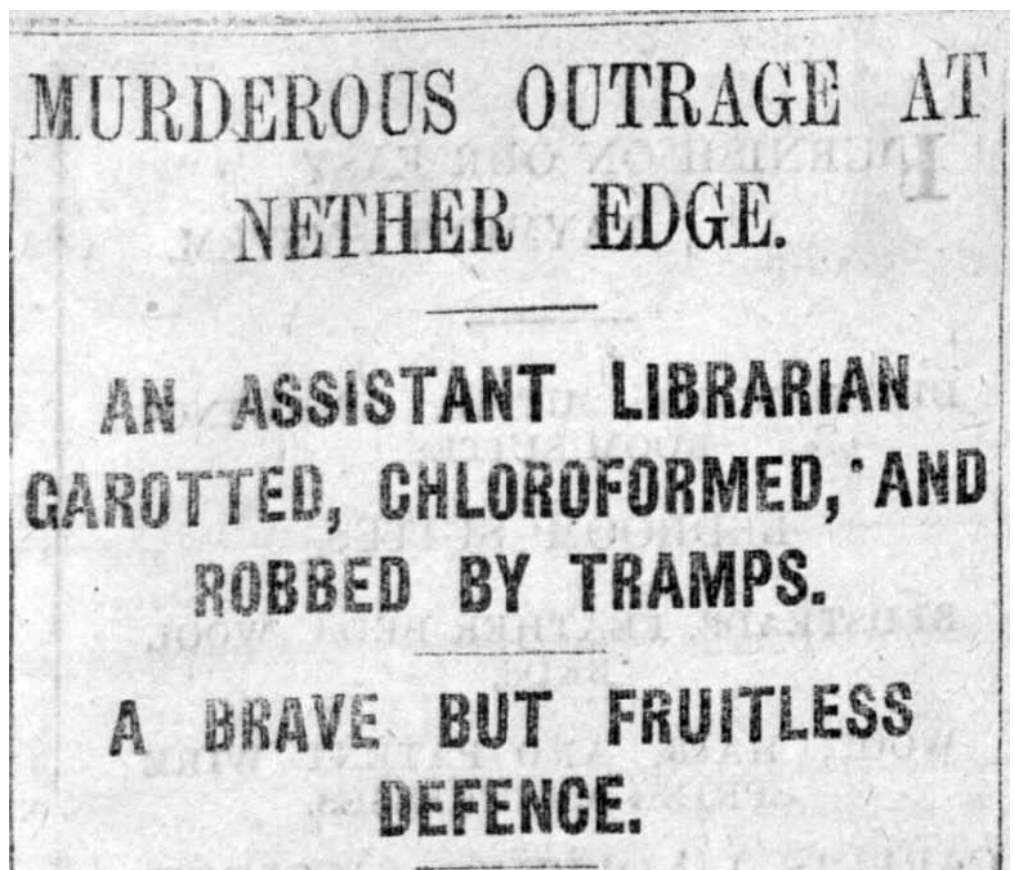
As for Barker's Road, dark, maybe, but not lonely, declared the Telegraph's 'Rambler'. He was assured by those who knew that Barker's Road was a well-known 'lovers' walk', veritably swarming with young couples on a Saturday night. But of course, being respectable Nether Edgers they would all be home

by ten o'clock, leaving the ruffians to do their work uninterrupted.

The miscreants were never caught. In due course Mr Brumby's houses were built, as were the new Workhouse offices, though not until the new householders had been reassured that paupers would not be flocking round the building. Trees were felled and street lights improved, no doubt to the dismay of ruffians and lovers alike. The road was adopted by the Council and paved, though not without a prolonged controversy over whether it should be with setts (cobblestones) or asphalt. But trees, street lights and road surfaces are always with us – ask Amey. Garrotting, though, is no longer part of Nether Edge life, if it ever was.

<http://www.netheredgehistory.org.uk/>

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





The Little Mesters

Peter Machan

I have always been aware that my family has long roots in this area, but it was only very recently, whilst researching on a new book on the Sheffield Trades, that I discovered that my great, great, grandfather had played a part in events that shook Victorian England. Joseph Machan, it turned out, worked as a scythe grinder at the Abbeydale Works (now Abbeydale Hamlet Museum) and from 1859 to the mid 1860s was Secretary to the Scythe Grinders' Union. In this capacity he was called upon to give evidence to the Commissioners at the Enquiry into the Trade Union Outrages in 1867. It was a time when the dozens of small trade unions in Sheffield

held sway, controlling the admission of apprentices into the trades and enforcing their demands by threats, intimidation, violence and, occasionally, by murder.

The proprietor of Abbeydale Works, Joshua Tyzack, had suffered intimidation in the form of being 'rattened' meaning that the leather bands that tuned the grindstones had been stolen on a number of occasions, as a warning from the unions for him to stop employing non-union grinders. Joseph Machan was called to the stand and admitted that this was so. However he was most closely questioned regarding his knowledge of an incident that occurred

in November 1862. As Joshua Tyzack was travelling home in his carriage along Abbeydale Road towards his house at Millhouses, when he reached the Broadfield Bar which stood at the bottom of Sheldon Road, he was shot at five times. One shot grazed his head and passed through his hat. Joseph denied having any knowledge of the incident but was very closely questioned regarding a page for the same period that appeared to have been torn from his accounts book that may well have indicated that the Union paid for the suspected perpetrator, called Needham, to escape to America.

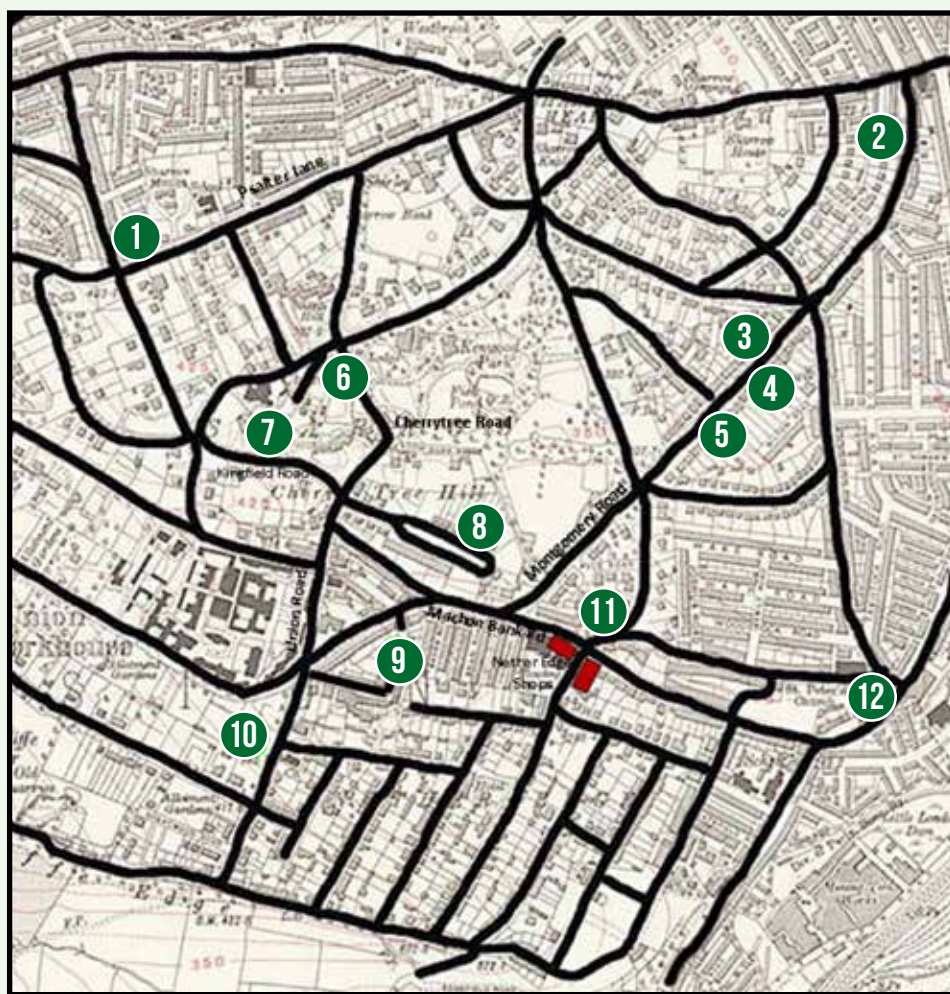
I can't help but sympathise with Joseph since he was involved in such an appalling, back-breaking trade. Scythe grinding involved leaning over a huge revolving stone six feet in diameter to shape the forged blades, constantly breathing in the lethal dust that was thrown off and in fear of the stone bursting at any moment resulting in instant death. In the mid 1980s I visited Little London Works, another of the Tyzack's works, just off Broadfield Road, and was amazed to watch Wilf Coates still grinding scythe blades by hand. Here was a remarkable link with my own ancestor. Wilf, whose family had worked at both Abbeydale and Little London for generations, had been apprenticed to his father, who had been apprenticed to a grinder called Fred Cocker at Abbeydale before the First World War. In March 1912 Fred's grindstone burst, sending stone fragments flying across the workshop, instantly killing Fred. "My dad worked on the sandstones all his life" said Wilf, "that's what killed him at 51, and my grandfather died of silicosis at 48. There were 13 grinders in this shop at one time and one by one they all died of silicosis. The youngest was Stan Needham who was about 27." My thoughts go back to Joseph, my great, great grandfather who died at 55.

'The Little Mesters' is available now from ALD Print Shop, Sharrowvale Road, £11.95

NETHER EDGE OPEN GARDENS

The owners of the gardens that are listed below will be pleased to welcome visitors between 2pm and 5pm on Sunday 25th June. To help you plan your route the numbers refer to the position marked on the location map. Each will be marked by balloons on the day. Each gardener will be collecting donations and money from plant sales for different charities but there are no admission charges.

As always, the event is as much social as horticultural. Perhaps they will give you ideas for your own gardens, but equally may will sate curiosity about what's over the garden fence. None of the gardeners are particularly precious about their gardening skills (or lack of) and will always welcome questions. How have you made that plant grow? Why on earth did you do that?



GARDENS

- 1 Natalie Glass, 134 Psalter Lane S118LU.** Urban garden with roses, peonies, fruit trees, ponds etc Refreshments. Access via Sandbeck Place. Open 2pm -6pm
- 2 Brian and Helen Palmer, 30 Wolstenholm Rd.** Cottage garden with pond. Donations to St Wilfred's. Plants for sale and refreshments
- 3 Richard Knowles, 24a Montgomery Rd.** Allotment style garden by keen gardener to rear of house.
- 4 Rebecca Koch, 27 Montgomery Rd.** The Potting Shed, micro-plant nursery. Plant sales.
- 5 Sue Bolger, 37 Montgomery Rd.** Plant sales and refreshments.
- 6 Maggie & John Little, 1 Gainsborough Rd.** Reasonable disability access. Home made bunting for sale. Donations for St Luke's.
- 7 Peter Machan, 55 Kingfield Road,** Steep terraced garden with water features , greenhouse and hosta collection. Donations to The Children's Society.
- 8 Kevin Bonnet, 31 Meadow Bank Avenue.** A long garden with fruit trees, veg etc. Light refreshments + photography.
- 9 Karen Shapley, 23 Ladysmith Rd.** Small walled garden.
- 10 Sarah Ross, Union Rd.** A very large victorian garden. Plants, Pimms and jazz. CAH support.
- 11 Marc & Ann Brew, 18 Moncrieffe Rd.** Access to rear via Bank Close for those with mobility issues. Vegetables, fruit and composting. Teas. Donations to Motor neurone disease.
- 12 Maria Thorpe, Common Ground, Machon Bank.** A community garden with raised beds at the Abbeydale Rd. end of Machon Bank on the former site of St Peter's Church.



Bears and Tigers

Andrew Milman

The Archer Lane allotments have recently welcomed Bears and Tigers to the site, not the wild animals, but classes of children including Y3's and Y5's from both Holt House and Carter Knowle schools. The schools follow the National Curriculum and try to enliven the subject themes around food, health and nature with real examples and to gather inspiration from the local area.

The children visit individual plots on the site at different times of the year, usually in groups of approximately 10 and always escorted by a teacher. Everyone is encouraged to listen and ask lots of questions.

Getting kids outdoors and learning is all part of the curriculum. It fosters an appreciation for nature. Children can learn about different plants, how they grow, when they are harvested, and what they look like. The plot holders talk about how they grow them, the seasons, weather, crop rotation, even nitrogen fixing bacteria, what grows well and what doesn't work so well in our local soils. This first-hand experience, and knowledge of growing seasons can be seen in the time and attention the plot holders shower on their gardens. But there are wider benefits from spending time outside; it brings a sense of place, calms and improves mental as well as physical health. Growing your own is a guaranteed way of ensuring that you are what you eat!

The children have loads of questions, about worms, weeds and wildlife. It is also an opportunity for the plot holders who are happy to host, to share their passion and enthusiasm for the outdoors. The kids also learn that not everything they see growing is a pea or a carrot! We also hope that the opportunity to visit is enough to plant a seed that will develop and that the children will become supporters of nature and future enthusiastic gardeners.

The Archer Lane Allotment and Home Garden Society are advocates of greater engagement with the area and are trying to foster closer relations with local schools as part of a plan to support the community. The Archer Lane team have submitted a small National Lottery grant application to improve the area around the entrance to the site, especially the safety of the steps and the hard standing below the pavilion to improve the general appearance and use the newly created space for community events including an outdoor classroom.

So don't be surprised when you see Bears and Tigers prowling the streets, they are just going to learn about where their food comes from.

Tackling issues of climate change, biodiversity loss, & hidden heritage in Graves Park and beyond

Professor Ian Rotherham



Top: Eroding soils in Cobnar Wood. Bottom: Magnificent meadows (Photos: Ian Rotherham)

Thanks to generous support from the Graves Trust, we have just begun a two-year project with local people addressing positive actions to help tackle the issues of climate change and biodiversity loss. Furthermore, we have eighteen-months of activities funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund 'digging' deeper to understand the remarkable heritage of the ancient parkland. This is a unique opportunity to raise awareness, grow and develop skills and confidence, and to empower local communities to actively address some of the frightening issues we currently face. We are using Graves Park as a 'green hub' connecting urban countryside and other greenspaces in south Sheffield, the work reaching out like a spider's web into surrounding areas and communities. With demonstrations in and around the park we are helping show how to identify and survey biodiversity and ecology to gather necessary baseline data. This helps us monitor future change, will inform future park management, and take ideas beyond into Greenhill, Bradway, Beauchief, Gleadless, and Nether Edge. The catchment of the River Sheaf, with its woods and other greenspaces, acts as a network connecting all these areas into a greater whole.

These two exciting, linked projects for Graves Park, plus surrounding areas and their communities, were formally launched in April when 'Finding Lost Norton Park: Digging Deeper for All' (the heritage-themed project supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund) was presented to an excited audience. The Friends of Graves Park, with South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group, are leading a programme of historical,

archaeological, and ecologically themed public activities. These aim to enhance understanding of this much-loved landscape, and to engage a wide section of local communities in becoming champions for heritage and ecology. To discover more and find out how you can be involved then join the Friends of Graves Park mailing list at: friends@gravespark.org or find them on Facebook.

The climate and biodiversity project (supported by the Graves Trust) is separate but connected and will be fully launched in early summer. This is called 'Graves Park & Local People Adapting to Climate Change' and aims to engage communities in addressing issues of climate change and biodiversity extinction on their doorstep. Activities focused on the park will gather baseline data to better inform park management and help production of a park management plan. Surveys, monitoring, and actions will help conserve and enhance wildlife and wildflowers, and changes or improvements to management will make the park more



Mandarin drakes & The park's parakeets (Photos: Ian Rotherham)

resilient in the face of future climate change.

We will highlight actions to help capture carbon in the landscape, and to 'slow the flow' of floodwater down Cobnar Ravine and into the Sheaf. Field events and workshops will provide training for community groups, schools, and individuals and grow skills and confidence in recording nature and monitoring future progress. We will record bird species, bumblebees, butterflies and moths, freshwater beasts, bats, other mammals, and much more. The project will survey wildflowers, fungi, and lichens too. We aim to develop 'eco-champions' for the park and beyond to influence schools, community areas, church groups, and individual gardens. Please watch our website www.ukeconet.org for more details and contact Karon Mayor (karon.syeconet@gmail.com) to get involved. This will make a big difference to the area and be great fun too. No prior knowledge or skills are required.



A NEW HOME FOR THOSE WHO... **Creep, Crawl, Buzz and Flutter?**

Lynne Chapman

The many dog walkers who cut through Ryle Road might be wondering about the soil which has suddenly replaced the pavement down one side. It's a stretch where trees have for some time been lording it over the tarmac, which was in a shocking state, especially at the Moncrieffe Road end. Apart from the guest house at the top, we have no houses on that side, so I was idly wondering if we really needed all the pavement and if it might be nice to have grass under the trees instead. I never got around to saying anything, so imagine my delight when a Sheffield Council letter arrived, saying they planned to do exactly that!

Before the work began, I went to one of the excellent NESST lectures at the Psalter Tavern, this time about insects. I learned how planting native wildflowers helps restore a vast range of insects, from butterflies and bees down to tiny bugs, which are all so important, both for pollination and to sustain the birds. I also learned that, as far as most insects are concerned, grass is a green desert! The talk told how a teacher in Brighton, starting with a school planting project on some waste ground in their field, initiated an extraordinary chain of wildflower pocket-parks right across Brighton and Hove, where rare butterflies now abound.

I went home and thought about our imminent turf and about green deserts. Amey were due in a few days. It felt a bit late, but I used our road's WhatsApp group to float the idea of planting wildflowers instead. Feelings were mixed. People worried about maintenance, that it might look untidy, that cars would park on it, but there was a positive groundswell, so we held a rapid street meeting. I invited Paul Selby of NESST to come and chat to us. Paul is so knowledgeable that, by the time he had finished, we had almost 100% agreement.

Paul knew just the right man at SCC for me to contact. As I wrote the email, Amey's pneumatic drills were already digging up the tarmac outside. As a veteran tree-

campaigner, my expectations weren't high, but I was pleasantly surprised. David Wain, officer from Sheffield City Council, couldn't have been more helpful. We established that I had public liability insurance (a necessary formality) and that residents were happy to take over stewardship of the verge. By the end of that day, Amey had been informed and it was a done deal.

The rest was easy. Amey laid low-nutrient soil (which prevents grass from smothering the flowers) and NESST provided the seed (we donated towards it). We measured the 80 sqm area into sections and I divided up the seed, for even sowing. Everyone mucked in with the seeding and raking, then we placed white rocks along the verge to alert cars to the new situation. We have planted a mix of annuals and perennials, but the perennials are vital, as there is no maintenance once they are sown, just an annual cut by Amey. It will probably take a couple of seasons to become established, but self-seeding means it should get better each year.

If you have an area where you'd like to plant wildflowers instead of grass, contact nesstsparrows@btinternet.com





Pocket Parks Update

Howard Fry

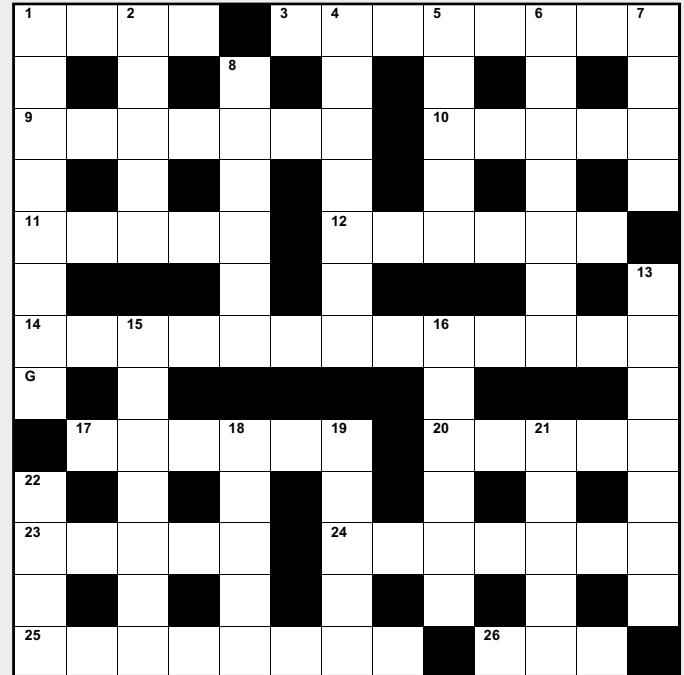
NENG's 50th anniversary target of creating two new Pocket Parks in Nether Edge is getting closer, but first we must raise a bit more money to build them. The idea is simple and we should soon have the necessary consents from the council, but the practicality of digging up sections of old pavement, creating dwarf walls to contain the park and stop any tigers getting out (or in), then back-filling it with an appropriate soil or growing medium is relatively costly. Fortunately we have a growing list of local residents who have volunteered to help plant and maintain the areas, but most are not muscle-men nor experienced in the use of big pneumatic drills. Construction close to the public highway creates many more challenges than building a raised bed in the back garden!

The good news is that the Coop Community Fund, who donated £6.5K to Kenwood Community Growers a couple of years ago, have confirmed that remaining funds from their donation can be used for the Pocket Parks. The Community Growers (who were part of NENG) were evicted from Kenwood Hall Hotel when it made a planning application for new housing. Since that date, the Growers have been unable to find an appropriate site to continue their charitable veg growing enterprise, which is very sad.

NENG are hoping to top up the Pocket Parks by applying for a grant from the council's Economic Regeneration Fund (ERF). It was this fund that provided the new 'Village' banners; new planters opposite Oxfam and outside Wickwire; the new Information Board outside the Bowling Club and Local History board by the bus stop. It also paid for the planting of new street trees in the village. This was all masterminded last year by Steve Ojari of Bannerdale Osteopaths, to whom many thanks are due. As ERF expenditure must be (vaguely) business-related (ie close to the retail area), we cannot use it for the new park at the junction of Kenbourne and Rundle Roads, as that is in a wholly residential area and we will fund-raise separately for that. Nevertheless, we are hopeful that ERF money will secure the pocket park next to Sainsbury's, on the junction of Machon Bank and Violet Bank. We are also in the process of setting up a crowdfunding page - there will be more information in the July issue.

Once we have the pocket park structures in place, hopefully by later this autumn, we can begin gardening, which is the fun part. Our local consultant, Fran Halsall, is finalising landscape and planting plans, which will be published for comment next month, then we can let loose our gardening volunteers. If you want to join us, please contact nengpocketparks@gmail.com, leaving your name and phone number. We will then form a WhatsApp group so we can communicate with each other and arrange volunteer gardening sessions.

SPRAT'S 134th CROSSWORD



Not too challenging, so it might be suitable for a youngster who doesn't usually do crosswords!

Across

1. Victim of a trick (4)
3. Soaked up or very interested (8)
9. Boldness (7)
10. Body (5)
11. Strip of leather (5)
12. Marine reptile (6)
14. Big Moor, Potteric Carr or Minsmere (6,7)
17. Goldfinger's bodyguard (3,3)
20. Shaun (5)
23. A Big Oak may grow from it (5)
24. Russian tea urn (7)
25. Pachyderm (8)
26. It bit Cleopatra (3)

Down

1. Man making first public appearance (8)
2. Keyboard instrument (5)
4. Lightly smoked herring (7)
5. Fish-eating mammal (5)
6. House breaker (7)
7. Let fall (4)
8. Striped-faced animal (6)
13. Big spotted cat (7)
15. Baby frog (7)
16. Ali Baba's password "Open _____" (6)
18. He was swallowed by a whale (5)
19. North American wild ox (5)
21. Mr Presley (5)
22. Female horse (4)

Solution on page 13

Nether Edge Fishmonger's Centenary

Lainy Chambers



Horse and cart with Don at the reigns

Number 436 Abbeydale Road is situated just above the crossroads with Broadfield and Sheldon Roads. It is in the middle of a curve of Victorian buildings from an ex-bank building on the corner of Sheldon Road to Swifties architectural salvage yard. Having been occupied by a vegan cake shop, a women's gym, and Elaine Georgina's hairdresser, No.436 currently houses a modern bar, the Two Thirds Beer company. However, for the first 30 years of the 20th century it was a fishmonger's shop and family home.

It was there that my father, Ernest Donald



Chambers, Don, was born a century ago on the 2nd June 1923.

The picture above was taken in the yard at the back of 436 Abbeydale Road a few years later. The building provided housing, stabling for the horse, space for the cart, storage and preparation space and the shop itself facing the road. No. 436 had been a fishmongers' since at least 1902 when it was owned by Alfred Markall.

Don was the third and last generation of his family to work in this industry. His grandfather, Edward Ernest Chambers, entered the trade as a young man and by 1906 he was trading under his own name with two shops, at 485 London Road and 61 Chesterfield Road. By 1919, the White's Trade Directory shows that he had added No. 436 to the business. Possibly the additional shop was in anticipation of the return of his elder son, Ernest, my grandfather, from the first world war. Ernest had served in the navy, perhaps drawn in by his knowledge through the fish trade of the North Sea battles. Ernest survived the sinking of two ships on which he served, one the ironically named HMS Magic. This was fortunate, not least for the



*Top: Ernest in Navy uniform
Bottom: Don circa 1946*

business, as the following year his father died.

By 1932 with the Sheffield population spreading further to the south-west in Dore and Totley, Ernest was running a fish shop at 41 Baslow Road on Totley Rise as well as the shop at No.436. There is no mention of a fish shop at No. 436 in the 1940 trade directory or indeed a No. 436 at all although Mrs Doris Ayre was running a hairdresser at No.438.

Post World War 2 'E. Chambers and Son' applied to Ernest and Don, the latter having joined the business after service in the RAF. A second shop was running under their names in Heeley Green until the 1970s. The business continued in Totley until 1990 when Don retired.

Postscript: Don could be said to have passed his fishmonger's baton to his former apprentice, Peter Murfin, who worked in the Baslow Road shop in the 1970s before moving on to 754 Chesterfield Road, Woodseats, home of his own family fishmonger business, H. Boldock, which he continues to run.

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 ½ page. Discounts are given for multiple bookings. You would also be supporting Edge, and the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group.

THE BRIARY B&B

We have part time vacancies available in housekeeping, maintenance, and gardening.

Flexible days and hours. Experience preferred.

Contact Sal on 07886 000093

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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



Bannerdale Osteopaths

Happy Patient!



Google Review

I presented myself with painful feet after long walks. Not content to accept that it was a natural part of getting older, I am delighted to report that Pooja Guria set me on a path to a pretty speedy improvement within 5 sessions and one of those was taken up with a pulled back muscle (oh the relief!)

I like the app they use and did the homework Pooja set me (still do though not as often, and after 2 months was back to walking 15 miles across the Peaks without pain.

★★★★★





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.



07866 243673

www.petsatrestvet.com



WHAT'S ON

in and around Nether Edge in June 2023



Nadine Khouri

Union Hotel

Union Road, Nether Edge

The popular **Monday Night Pub Quiz** starts at 9pm. All are welcome.

Wednesday 7th June 9 00 pm. **Monthly Pop Quiz.** Union, Nether Edge.

Café #9

9 Nether Edge Road S7 1RU

Thur 8th June 7.00. **Nadine Khouri**, expressive and sensitive British-Lebanese musician and songwriter.

Fri 9th June 7.00. **Kyshona Armstrong.** 'One of the most compassionate and uplifting young voices in Nashville today', a blend of folk, rock and R&B influences. Tickets £16.50.

Sat 10th June 7.00. **Ash Gray**, a troubadour in the truest sense and Tom Townsend a talented multi-instrumentalist and friends provide a lively evening of music.

Sun 11th June 7.00. **The Shackleton Trio.** Captivating songwriting and fiery tunes that combine mandolin, fiddle, guitar and banjo with powerful three part harmonies. Tickets £16.50.

Wed 14th June 7.00. **Aaron Jonah Lewis**, old time Appalachian music. tickets £16.50.

Thur 15th June 7.00. An evening with **Gabriel Moreno** (right) a singer-songwriter, poet, performer and lyricist.



Fri 16th June 7.00. An evening with **Jimmy and friends**, a mini variety show.

Wed 28th June 7.00. An evening with **Mick Thomas and Jen Anderson**

All performances start at 7.00pm and tickets from WeGotTickets are £13.80 (unless specified separately) which includes booking fee and byo/corkage fee should you want to bring alcohol.

Byron House

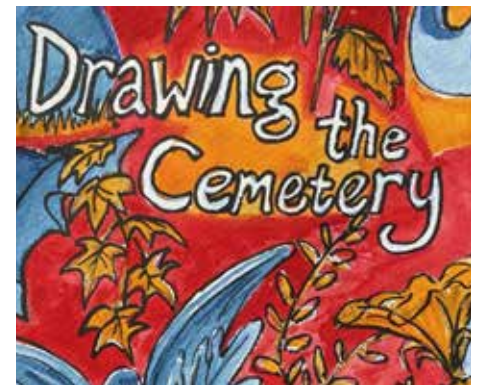
Nether Edge Road, S7 1RU

Quiz night every Sunday at 9. 30pm. Cash prizes to be won.

Sheffield General Cemetery

Sat 3rd June and Sat 10th June 10am-4pm. An immersive **exhibition of photographs and memories** of Sheffield General Cemetery. Cafe will be open for hot drinks and sweet treats.

Sun 4th June 11.00am-12.45pm. **Plants and Grasses ID Tour**, starts at the Gatehouse. Join Gerry Firkins to explore and discover more about the Cemetery's mixture of diverse habitats in a gentle wonder around the Cemetery. Tickets: £5.00 adult, £2.50 child (under 16) Suitable for adults and children 12+.



Tue 6th June 11.00am-1pm. **Drawing the Cemetery Workshop** with Jane Horton. Join artist, illustrator and founder of friends of The General Cemetery for an observational drawing and photo session. Meet at the Samuel Worth Chapel.

Sun 11th June 1pm-4pm. **Meet the Authors.** Discover some of Sheffield General Cemetery's newest publications at the Samuel Worth Chapel. Meet the authors of Made in Sheffield and A Woman's Place, Shirley Baxter and Jean Lees, and find out more about the research into these fascinating subjects. Meet the author of Sweet Remembrance, Andrew Littlewood and uncover the extensive research behind Sheffield's confectionary past. No need to book, just turn up.

Tickets from eventbrite for all events. For further information about events contact sgct@gencem.org

Abbeydale Picture House

387 Abbeydale Road S7 1FS.

Sat 3rd and Sun 4th June. A weekend of silent and classic films and live music by the Yorkshire Silent film musicians. Each film can be booked separately, great value weekend tickets are available from eventbrite

St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

31 Psalter Lane S11 8YL

Sat 3rd June 9.30 - 12.30 but drop in any time. All are very welcome to join the working party to help tidy the garden around the church. We break for coffee and a chat around 11.00.

The Tuesday Café A café for those living at home with memory loss or dementia and their carers. Shirley House, (St. Andrew's Psalter Lane Church) 31, Psalter Lane, S11 8YL. Next door to MHA Southcroft Parking in the church car park. Access by ramp. Tuesdays 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Hot drinks, cakes, biscuits, music, singing, and more. Please note new time, new venue from 30th May. For further information please contact the Church Office Telephone 0114 2678289

Lantern Theatre S7 1NF

Wed 14th June - Sat 24th June.

Grimm Tales In a new adaptation by Nick Tait, the original Grimm stories are shared by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm. Classic favourites, and a few lesser-known stories, are presented once more by the brothers, whose only wish is to tell us the truth of the world.

Nether Edge Bowling Club

Fri. 30th June 7.30 - 11.00pm. **The Natterjacks** is an indie folk trio hailing from Chesterfield. Armed with a banjo, kick drum, harmonious melodies and ambient guitars they create an energetic live atmosphere with sing-along choruses and foot stomping, banjo filled breakdowns. The trio comprises Freddie Bingham, Mark Evans and Nick Evans.



Nether Edge Folk Club

**at Nether Edge Bowling Club,
8 Nether Edge Road, Sheffield, S7 1RU**

Every Wednesday 8.00 - 10.30 pm.

The Nether Edge Folk Club is a friendly community with beginners, experienced players, unaccompanied singers, instrumentalists, singer/players and listeners all equally welcome. There is no admission charge except on evenings when there are guest musicians (see 14th June) but people are asked to contribute £2 towards the guest booking fund.

Wed. 14th June. Shoon - Hearne, Griffiths and Booth. Tickets £8 from: folkclubnetheredge@gmail.com

Common Ground

St Peter's Hall, Woodstock Road S7 1GR

Friday Take-away - 16th & 30th June.

Collect from 3.00 - 6.00 pm Pre-orders only www.ammiskitchensheffield.org

Community Lunch - 9th & 23rd June

12 - 2pm at Common Ground, free if on benefits otherwise, pay as you feel. All welcome, men, women and children -

Sheffield Botanical Gardens

Sheffield Branch of the British Cactus and Succulent Society

Sat 3rd June. 12.00 - 5.00 pm. **Sun 4th June** 10.00 am - 4.00 pm. Free entry.

Annual Show and plant sale at the Dorothy Fox Centre in the Botanical Gardens. The Sheffield Branch of the British Cactus and Succulent Society meets at 7.30 on the 2nd Friday of each month at Shirley House, 31 Psalter Lane S11 8YL Free entry. Full details: <https://sheffield.bcscs.org.uk>

Graves Park

Local people Adapting to Climate Change - an on-going project which aims to develop a long-term management plan for Graves Park to address issues of climate change and to enhance and improve biodiversity in the park and in the wider areas beyond.

The workshops below are designed to give people a chance to see if they would like to be involved. The project will provide education, training, and other support in carrying out the audits, surveys, and monitoring activities. Book at www.ukeconet.org/graves-park-climate-resilience-2023.html

Friday 2nd June, 8-10pm Bat Watch

Friday 16th June 5-7pm Introduction to Birdsong

Thursday 29th June, 11am-1pm Meadow Flora

37 Montgomery Rd S7 1LN

Sunday 4th June 1pm-4pm. **Annual Plant Sale** in aid of Emmaus the Charity to end homelessness

Shirley House

Psalter Lane, Sheffield S11 8YL

Sat 4th June. 11.00am-3.30pm.

Celebration - 2023 is the bicentenary year of the best-selling Victorian novelist, Charlotte Mary Yonge. Contact Janet Clarke 0114 258 5651. Details of other Bicentenary events can be found at [https // charlottomeyonge.org.uk/](https://charlottomeyonge.org.uk/).

Nether Edge Farmers' Market

Howard Fry

Our next market is on Sunday 18th June from noon till 4pm, when our stallholders will be presenting their usual spectacle of mouth-watering food from all parts of the world, stuff to wear and occasionally whimsical, but always beautifully crafted gifts by local artisans.

OUR BENEFICIARIES

It was suggested at the last AGM that we should publish a regular list of recent beneficiaries from the market. Each autumn we select 10 or so local charities to whom we give the money raised through stall fees. These tend to be social or perhaps environmental in nature and are NENG's chance to support more needy parts of our community. If you have any suggestions, please tell nengfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Last year we made the following donations:

March 2022:	Sharrow and Nether Edge Foodbank	£1800
June 2022:	Mum's United and Cruse	£1000 each
September 2022:	St Luke's and Project 6	£1000 each
November 2022:	Roundabout and SRSB	£800 each
	& Easy Street Theatre Group	£500
March 2023:	Young Carers and Ben's Centre	£1000 each
18th June 2023:	City of Sanctuary and Space to Breathe	£TBA
17th September 2023:	St Wilfred's Centre and Epilepsy Action	£TBA
3rd December 2023:	Joy Bank and Sparkle	£TBA

Our other outgoings are limited to the cost of a refuse skip for each market, printing and publicity, Sheffield City Council market licences, and the occasional replacement of worn out equipment.

As always, we are grateful for the forbearance of our neighbours who tolerate the crowds who suddenly appear outside their gardens, but it is only for a day each quarter and we always clean up afterwards.

HELP!

The market is thriving, but can we put out a plea for more able-bodied helpers and people prepared to lend a hand in organising the event? Directing traffic and making sure there are no snarl-ups needs people-power (just like the coronation did), from 9am in the morning and then at closing time at 4pm. At the same time, we could do with a hand setting up gazebos and kit for the entertainment tent and the NENG stall, as well as for our beneficiaries. This only takes an hour or so in the morning and again when we close, but some of the market team are beginning to accept that they are not as fit as they used to be! If you think you might be able to help, please contact nengfarmersmarket@gmail.com, or send me a text on 07798801670. I find that helping with the market is hugely rewarding, as you get to know all the stallholders and become part of special event, also a bit like the coronation, but without any kings or queens.