

# The *HEX-PRESS*

Your free Hexthorpe Community Newspaper

## HEXTHORPE YOUTH MISS OUT ON THEIR GOAL IN FOOTBALL SPECTACULAR



**Back Row: Alan Murrel, Deran Fern, Gareth Jackson, Mark Weise, Carl Rockliffe, Philip Woods, Steve Woods.**  
**Front Row: David Cork (Former Rovers player), Christopher Shinn, Lee Oxley, Tony Weise and Paul.**

It was being bandied about that 20 goals were being looked for by the Hexthorpe Youth side in this Match of Matches against the Hexthorpe Methodists (Dad's Army and Sons).

But the real grit, determination and sheer experience of the Methodists side proved just too much for the lively youth of Hexthorpe in their quest for those 20 goals.

The match was played in a great spirit, not even a whisper of a protest as to the eligibility of the Hexthorpe Youth goalie (Man of the Match). It was real "end to end" stuff, (maybe, on reflection, more one end than the other) and the

entertainment value for the record crowd of 40+ was of the highest standard. This was backed up by one supporter at half-time. "This is just too much for us to stand". I think that's what he meant!

The second half went very much the same way as the first and there was great relief on hearing the final whistle after 90 gruelling minutes of Top Class Football.

Just a minute!!

There appears to be something missing... Ah yes! The FINAL SCORE - wait for it! Hexthorpe Youth 18 Hexthorpe Methodist (cough, cough) 0

R.K.P.

## WEEKLY EVENTS

**At Methodist Church Hall**  
**S.A.R.A. Group**  
(Stay and Rest Awhile)  
Mums and Tots group  
Thursday 10.15 - 12 noon

**Girls Brigade**  
Tuesdays 6-8.30 pm  
5 to 8 years, meet at 6 pm  
8 to 11 years, meet at 6 pm  
11+ years, meet at 7.15 pm

**Boys Brigade**  
Wednesdays 5.15 - 9.15 pm  
5 to 8 years, meet at 5.15 pm  
8 to 11 years, meet at 6 pm  
11 to 16 years, meet at 7.45 pm

**Ladies Keep Fit**  
Thursdays at 7 pm

**Middlers Club**  
Friday from 6 to 7 pm  
Ages 9 to 13  
Middle School children  
welcome

**At St Jude's Church Hall**  
**Playgroup**  
Mondays 9.45 am

**Tai Kwando**  
Tuesday 7.30 - 9 pm  
Thursday 7.30 - 9 pm

**Aerobics**  
Wed. 6.30 - 8.30 pm

**Community Centre**  
Mon, Wed, Sat 7 pm WHIST  
Tues. and Fri. 7.15 pm  
BINGO

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### Local Councillors

TONY HEMSLEY  
39 Crimpsall Road  
Tel. 342592  
GEORGE BRUMWELL  
16 Laneham Close  
Tel. 535725  
GORDON JONES  
7 South Street, Tel. 367396

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### WHO'S WHO

**Parish Priest**  
FR. J. R. HUMPHRIES  
The Vicarage  
132 Shadyside  
Tel. 852057

**Methodist Minister**  
IAN BELL  
1 Cedar Road, Balby  
Tel. 852024

**Methodist Pastoral  
Assistant**  
COLIN REASBECK  
25 Nicholson Road  
Tel. 857044

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### OTHER EVENTS

**"First Wednesday"**  
LUNCHEON CLUB  
December 7th  
February 6th  
Methodist  
Church Hall  
£1.50  
Doors open 12.25 for 12.45

**Central Ward**  
Councillor's  
Advice Meeting  
8th December  
10 to 12 noon  
Youth Centre  
Shadyside

CHRISTMAS at the  
Methodist Church. SUNDAY  
DEC 23rd  
10.30 and 6.00 services.  
On Tuesday December 25th,  
Ian Bell  
The Minister, takes the  
10.30  
Christmas Morning  
CELEBRATION SERVICE

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### EDITORIAL POLICY

The publisher of the Hex-Press is the Hexthorpe Methodist Church. This does not mean the Hex-Press is "the mouthpiece of the Methodist Church", as one correspondent assumes. It does mean two things:

1. The editorial committee consists of members of the church.

This committee agrees what subjects should be covered in each issue. This does not mean that members of the church agree with the opinions expressed, or even all the committee members.

Simply, the committee considers the matters of interest to the community. Articles written by members of the committee normally appear unsigned, as is normal journalistic practice, while special features and letters usually include the author's name.

2. The H.M.C. takes financial responsibility for providing this free newspaper to every home in Hexthorpe. This means, in practice, subsidising the income from advertisements to cover total costs.

## AUDREY DARLOW

was Cook at Hexthorpe First School for 20 years and retired in July.



Four months into retirement and Audrey can't keep out of the kitchen!

Along with husband Eric, she uses her talents to cook for various groups, at St James Church, which she attends.

Every Tuesday sees Audrey busily preparing the Luncheon for 50 of the older people in the area. Recently she spent two days at Hesley Hall preparing meals for 100 hungry "Pathfinder" children, who are members of the Junior Church. They were taking part in an activity weekend led by Audrey's son Graham, who is Verger at St James.

Audrey and Eric enjoy visiting the Scarborough area and are hoping to tour the South of England next year.

Colin's Cafe - Hexthorpe Road could cater for your child's Christmas Party!

## J.Parry's Recipe

for seasonal Mincemeat Ingredients.

2 lbs mixed dried fruit  
2 oz candied peel  
1 lb soft brown sugar  
6 oz suet  
Threequarters lb sour cooking apples  
Onequarter teaspoon mixed spice (optional).  
Juice and grated rind 1 orange

OR  
1 tablespoon marmalade.  
Good pinch of salt.  
Onequarter pint (6 tablespoons) wine or spirits.  
(the author of recipe uses half rum and half sweet sherry)

### Method

Prepare fruit (stone and mince raisins). Chop peel finely. Coarse grate the peeled, cored apples and grate orange rinds, then squeeze and strain the juice.

Mix ingredients in large bowl - add juice and wine and blend well together.

Pack in clean, dry jars. Cover and store in a dry cool place. Leave to mature for at least three weeks.

## MANNA WHOLE FOODS

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### NUTS & RAISINS SHOP

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Making Mincemeat?  
Cakes? Try us first

### Dear Editor,

A public thank you please, to children and staff of Hexthorpe First School for their thoughtful gift of fruit following their Harvest Festival. The children's visit and gift was a pleasurable surprise. I understand I had been "sponsored" by a boy who had lived next to me before I moved into my bungalow.

I hope other recipients were as pleased as I was, especially for the thoughts behind the gifts.

Pensioner (name and address supplied)

## READERS WRITE

Dear Editor,

I was told that during the re-organisation of Hexthorpe the main drains were damaged.

I asked around and was told that the gullies running into the main drains were fixed at the time but no work was done on the main drains, and we are not getting proper drainage.

Some houses in Ellerker Avenue especially, are a foot deep in the cellars.

Why wont the Council act? Because of prohibitive costs.

But the foundations of our property are being undermined and the fabric of our houses and shops is being damaged.

I personally have complained about this matter but nothing was done except to clean out the gully pots, but the trouble lies with the main drains.

All my life savings are invested in my property and I fear the future.

Do we really have to wait until my property suffers such damage as to make me sue the Council for re-building costs?

N.S.H.

(name and address supplied)

## Dear Editor,

Why can't we have a Chemist in Hexthorpe? It is a crying shame that the poorly and the elderly have to go right over the bridge and on to Balby Road to a chemist, or right into Doncaster.

We have spare land, haven't we? Don't we deserve a Surgery with a dispensing Chemist next door, or at least a Chemist?

And the young mothers too, with toddlers and babies should not have to travel so far in all weathers.

(Name and address supplied).

If you see someone without a smile,  
give them one of yours.

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## Claire with her collection of medals and trophies



Claire Large, 16, of Shadyside, is an enthusiastic member of Doncaster Belles Football Club, England's top women's team. She enjoys playing football, having played for her school team at Hexthorpe Middle School. On leaving, at 13 years, she was invited by Belles coach Paul Edmonds, P.E. teacher at Hexthorpe, to come along to training sessions and join the club. Training is weekly at Armthorpe Welfare Ground under floodlights, with the other 16 members of the squad, 6 of whom play for England.

As the youngest member, Claire is not yet a regular first team player, but plays when the internationals are on duty and is a substitute at regular intervals.

Claire has represented the Yorkshire and Humberside region at the Under 21 level.

The Belles have been in existence for 21 years and play in the N.E. league with fixtures as far away as Whitley Bay. Highlight of 1990 was the Belles victory in the Challenge Cup at Wembley when they beat Fulham 6-0.

At present Claire is attending a 2 year course on "Uniform Services" at Barnsley College, her ambition being to join the Army at 18 years and become a P.T.I. or join the Military Police. We wish you success Claire.

## GROWING TIPS

Before the winter storms, check ties on trees and shrubs, making sure they are not damaging the tree. If left neglected, you could find the tree is supporting the stake! After about 3 years trees should support themselves. Heard it before? Well, it is sound advice.

Don't damage lawns by walking on them when they are covered in frost, but keep them free of fallen leaves and litter.

Planning to sow a lawn later on? Dig the site now and allow the ground to settle. It is also time to prepare a sweet pea trench.

Giving fruit trees a tar oil wash is a suitable job for a sunny day. Spray after all the leaves have fallen. Protect tender plants nearby with newspaper. Spray thoroughly - remember you cannot see the pests you are trying to kill.

Feed fruit trees with Growmore or something similar - it takes a while for the fertiliser to reach the roots.

Harvesting parsnips, carrots and leeks when frozen in the ground is impossible, so cover the rows with straw.

N.B.R.

### EVERYONE SHOULD REGISTER WITH A DENTIST AFTER 1ST OCTOBER

On the 1st October the Dental Health Service changed.

The new system shows a greater emphasis on prevention than the previous system, and makes sure that the patient is totally involved in decisions about their dental care. Dentists will provide 'continuing care' and preventative treatment to help everyone enjoy their teeth for life.

We are really sorry to say farewell to Graham at Dell Fisheries, but his regular customers will be pleased to welcome his successor. We do wish you well Graham.

## THE SARA GROUP



"It's good for Kylie to mix with other children". "He really enjoys the singing". "I'm glad to just come and talk with other mums who have the same problems as me". These are comments from some of the mums who benefit from the local Mums and Toddlers Groups. There are two in Hexthorpe.

On Monday morning at 9.45 in St Jude's Church Hall and on Thursday morning at 10.15 till noon, the S.A.R.A. group meet in the Methodist Church Hall (next to the First School on Urban Road). Both groups aim to help toddlers learn to play with and accept other children and adults.

Children find it difficult at first to share and take turns, especially if they are not used to other children. So, a Mums and Toddlers group is an ideal place for children to experience these basic social skills, and learn to enjoy different toys and activities.

Being a mum is a very important and demanding job and can be difficult. Sharing anxieties and problems can be a great help - just knowing someone else has the same difficulties can ease the stress.

Sharing the joys and laughter is also important.

So, Mums and Toddlers groups provide a place where mums can make friends and relax too.

Please come and join us.



## IN SUPPORT OF BALBY CARR

There has been a big response to the article "Which school for our children?"

Letters received from J.R.Oxley of Shadyside, K.Wake, L.Cooper and J.Monks, C.Williams (Balby Carr) and one, (name and address supplied) and one anonymous. All were critical of the article. The letters are too long to print in full, but as they tend to make the same points, we have attempted to summarise them under the various headings.

### TRANSPORT

"My children walk 100 metres to a school bus in Hexthorpe which takes them directly to Balby Carr. The few children who go to Hall Cross...walk across town centre in all weathers".

"Children from Bessacarr and Cantley have just as far to travel to Hall Cross as do children from Hexthorpe to Balby Carr".

"You say parents can only reach B.C. on two buses. Rubbish! Anyone can reach B.C. by one bus. If you walk to any point on Balby Road you can catch a bus to Balby Carr. You would be walking no further than if you walked across town to Hall Cross".

### ONE SITE

"Hall Cross consists of two sites. Do you feel the welfare of our children better served by a split-site school? They have to cross over a very busy main road inbetween lessons. Balby Carr is all on one site".

"At Balby Carr you don't have to sit in wet clothes".

### THE NAME

"The name of Balby Carr is exclusive. So what! at least it's not the name of a pub".

"One wonders how Hexthorpe pupils identify with the name Hall Cross".

### LOCAL RIVALRY

"To my knowledge there have been no

clashes of this nature".

"Few people will believe in a rivalry which exists only in the imagination of the authors".

"Hexthorpe is a lovely village with a strong sense of community. Don't let us turn it into a ghetto with a small-minded mentality..".

### CHOICE

"Why should Hexthorpe children be dragooned into one school?".

"It does children good for them to have to mix with others who they have not known since they were little.

### EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

"You say "the reasons are not to do with education". This is sheer lunacy".

Mud thrown is ground lost

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"The choice of a child's school should be based on the school's educational standards".

"I suspect the real reason the writer wants children to go to Hall Cross is it was once a Grammar School and some people may think a better education can be achieved there. Balby Carr is a first class school that has recently achieved national acclaim on television in its music and drama departments. Indeed, one student this year has achieved a place at Oxford, with I believe, 4 or 5 Grade "A" passes".

"Exam results speak louder than Geography and communications. Let Hexthorpe unite and not divide".

### **GOVERNORS**

"Any parent who wishes to apply for the Board of Governors can do so, and will be treated in the same way as any Balby parent".

### **GENERAL**

"It seems that only the disadvantages at Balby Carr have been pointed out, but the advantages of Hall Cross have been highlighted".

"I feel sure the parents at Hexthorpe will not trivialise their children's opportunities in terms of bus rides and school names".

"What is meant by a "community school" anyway? Surely it should be one that serves the community and creates within itself a sense of community. I would venture to say that Balby Carr has few equals in that respect".

"Your article seemed biased towards Hall Cross".

"In the end the only thing that matters is that Hexthorpe children receive the best education".

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## **OUR RESPONSE TO YOUR CRITICISM**

As we expected, your letters revealed great loyalty and commitment to Balby Carr. As we feared, the article was interpreted as being a criticism of one school, in support of the other. But, you will search the article in vain for any comparison between the schools. As we said "Both have their strengths and their weaknesses".

The only implied criticism of Balby Carr was that there has been little effort over the years to promote itself in Hexthorpe. We still believe that is true. Hence our comments about "waking up to the situation". Your comments above will help in this.

On reflection we want to apologise for mentioning local rivalry. While we believe it was a true comment, we realise it was not helpful.

But for us - and I think for our readers - the main question remains: Why have nearly half Hexthorpe's parents opted this year for Hall Cross? It cannot be because Hall Cross is a "better" school or nearly half Balby's parents would have gone to the same trouble to opt for a school out of their catchment area!

It is this puzzle that is not addressed in the above readers' comments.

We still think it must be along the lines the article suggested and that...despite the loud, eloquent, even emotional, protest letters, the reasons are not to do with education!

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## BELL POND

If one walks in Hexthorpe Flatts overlooking the river, you can see on the opposite side, lying about 250 metres from the river bank, a stretch of water 200 metres long by an average of 20 metres wide, and reputed to be quite deep.

The water, surrounded by a wet meadow and a few trees, lies quite motionless.

In a book about the district, written 140 years ago by a former Rector of Sprotborough - John G. Fardell - the place, known as Bell Pond is described as "mysterious, deathlike and fearful, and possessing the same reputation as a haunted house". His research of the origin of the name Bell Pond revealed the following interesting history.

In the year 1685, over 80,000 Protestants sought refuge in this country after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes.

Among the refugees was Madam Dumas and her only daughter Isabelle, but the mother soon died and beautiful Isabelle, forming an attachment to the youngest son of a Roman Catholic family, lost all her old friends. Then he, being in the Royal Navy, lost his life at sea and she, griefstricken, took refuge with residents in Sprotborough, a distant branch, it was surmised, of the De Maulys of Hexthorpe.

But Isabelle was lost to grief. Her days were days of gloom - her nights the nights of sadness. She wandered alone through what was then called Conisborough Forest, climbed the barren heights of Cadeby, or lingered in the valley below.

Then she was missing and an instant search was made in every direction, but all in vain. Soon her secret was laid open. She had drowned herself in what is now called Bell Pond.

Her corpse was taken from its hiding place and immediately interred without inscription or headstone, in

the Churchyard of Sprotborough. From that mournful period these waters bore the name of Isabelle Pond, which has since been corrupted to Bell Pond.

Decorated Windows Competition. In late December, we will walk round Hexthorpe looking for the most attractive decorated Christmas window.

We will call to ask if you would like to be in the next issue as a "winner" or "runner-up" in this seasonal competition. Winner gets a photograph in the next issue!



The Hex-Press wins a Local Award of £20.00 and a Certificate, in recognition of our efforts within this community.

To put our readers "in the picture", we submitted past copies of the Hex-Press to the "Co-operatives in the Community" Award Scheme.

Anyone who plans to have letters, photos, articles, adverts in the February/March '91 Issue No.10, please send them in by January 2nd at the latest - to Julie. 165 Urban Road - Tel.854898.