

The *HEX-PRESS*

Your free Hexthorpe Community Newspaper

Many people know that Father John Humphreys, his wife Alison, and children Clare, Rosemary and Edward will be leaving Hexthorpe at the end of March. Easter Day will be their last Sunday at St. Judes. They then move to Portsmouth where on Sunday, April 21st, Father Humphreys will be inducted as vicar of St. James, Milton, Portsmouth.



Nine years ago, the Humphreys family came to Hexthorpe from the small mill town of Elland near Halifax. Father Humphreys remembers his first impression of Hexthorpe, "It was a community in itself. The people knew one another and made us feel welcome."

In the first two years he recalls getting alongside "Families and individuals for whom the miners strike, the plant reorganisation, unemployment etc. was taking its toll".

Alison was quickly involved with Hexthorpe children, being the instigator of the Junior Church and the now annual Christingle Service. She comments, "I have valued the support and friendship of people who have been committed to help me, who have given generously of themselves, their time and their talents."

Although being nearer elderly grandparents in Portsmouth, the children will greatly miss the loving care of their extended family of aunts and uncles in Hexthorpe.

Father Humphreys confessed that he would also miss the 'special atmosphere' of the church building. "It is a prayed-in church, and being open during the day, one senses it is used, as people come in to pray and leave a lighted candle."

Asked what would be their most lasting Hexthorpe memory, they both agreed that it had to be the love and commitment of the people of St. Judes to them, and their church. "It will be a real wrench to leave you all after nine very happy years" they concluded.

We wish the Humphreys family God's richest blessing in their new home and church in Portsmouth.

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

Local Councillors

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

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

OTHER EVENTS

"First Wednesday"
LUNCHEON CLUB
February 6th
March 6th
Methodist
Church Hall
£1.50

Doors open 12.25 for 12.45

Central Ward
Councillor's
Advice Meeting
February 16th
10 to 12 noon
Youth Centre
Shadyside

CELEBRATE EASTER
at Urban Road
METHODIST CHURCH
All welcome 10.30am
6.00pm

SCHOOLS
BREAK UP RETURN
Half term Feb 15th Feb 25th
Easter March 22nd April 8th

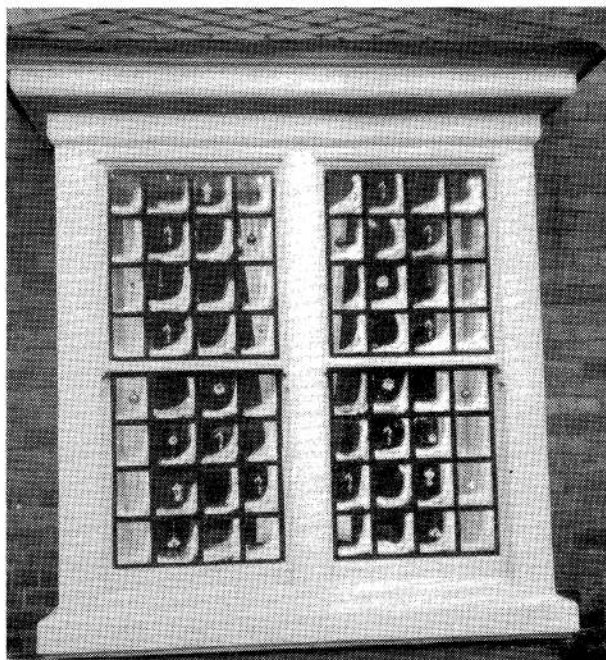
COMPETITION

It was a real treat looking at every house in Hexthorpe to find the winner, for the "Most attractive decorated window" competition.

There were dozens of houses with windows framed by coloured lights, or showing a Christmas tree, but we decided that 8 Laughton Road was the winner.

A close runner up was 26 Old Hexthorpe, followed by 62 Stoneclose and 23 Salisbury and one in Scarll Road and Gladstone and.....and....

All delightful and a credit to the creative occupants.



Hex-Press distributor dies

We are sad to report the death after a year's battle with illness of Margaret Wearmouth, distributor of the Hex-Press.

A native of the Keighley area in West Yorkshire, Margeret came to live in Hexthorpe about twenty years ago when she was appointed chief programmer for the council computer (in the days when it filled half a room). She later switched professions and taught at Mexborough Comprehensive School for about fifteen years.

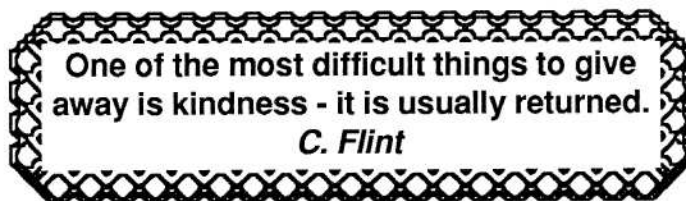
She has been closely associated with the Methodist Church in Hexthorpe and was well known to a whole generation of Hexthorpe children and young people. For ten years she helped to run the weekly One Way Club, apart from her regular teaching on Sunday and her membership of the Youth Club committee.

She is probably the only person who can claim to have played a guitar in every street in Hexthorpe, (either when carol singing or the Sunday evening open air-meetings).



At the Thanksgiving Service for her life held on January 3rd, tributes were paid by colleagues from her school and church. Appreciation was expressed for her cheerful service in the life of this community.

She faced the illness, pain, treatment and discomfort of the past year with dignity and courage. At the end she faced death with the confidence of a woman of faith.



Foot problems? Consult:

Kenneth A. Firbank

M.S.S.Ch.

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Telephone: 327195

Evenings: 531898

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of your own home?

HOME VISITS BY APPOINTMENT

SHOE ReNew

Proprietor Bob 'Tex' O'Brien
NOW OPEN AT
25 Hexthorpe Rd, Doncaster

High Class Shoe Repairs, Key Cutting &
Dry Cleaning Service

Also - AGENT at 'THE GROVE' on
Shadyside. 24 hour service

APOLOGIES **from Boys Brigade**

We are very sorry that we missed papers on December 8th. This was due to the severe weather conditions. Also, the firm has decided not to do winter collections anymore.

1991 DATES

MARCH 9th JUNE 8th SEPT. 14th

Please put out tied bundles by 9.30am, on Saturday, March 9th.

Our grateful thanks to you, and to the hard working lads and lasses and adults who 'person-handle' all the bundles!!

GROWING TIPS

Before sowing early seeds, or transferring such plants as broadbeans to the open garden, it pays to cover the ground with glass or polythene for a few weeks to dry it out and warm it up. Leave protection in place until plants become acclimatised.

Pick over overwintering plants regularly to remove dead flowers and foliage. It's hygienic and the plants definitely look better.

Start Gladioli off in shallow trays of compost ready for planting out in April. This way you can see which are going to grow. Don't set them off too early or the roots will become too long and entangled with others.

Dahlia tubers required to supply cuttings will have to be set up in shallow boxes of compost. Any that have shrivelled whilst in store can be plumped up by soaking overnight in tepid water. As soon as shoots appear, give plenty of water.

N.B.R.

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- FLAIR - ELLE -
PRETTY POLLY - CHRISTIAN DIOR

"Scholl Support" - CINDY

TIGHTS - STOCKINGS

OPEN TUESDAY - FRIDAY-
SATURDAY

Is there any reason given for Hexthorpe not having a Christmas tree for the second year running? As far as I know the tree suffered no vandalism in the years when it was situated opposite the Rising Sun.

THE STIRLING MEMORIAL

I wonder how many readers could say where this memorial can be seen, or what it is?

It is, of course, at the entrance to Hexthorpe, at the end of Hexthorpe Bridge.

Most of us, indeed, pass it every day.

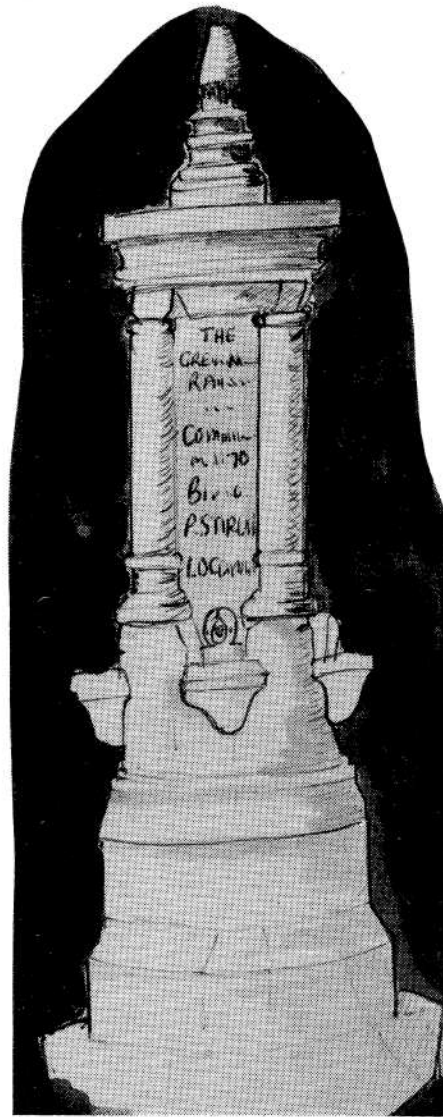
It was originally a fountain complete with brassware, and is a memorial to PATRICK STIRLING.

He was described as "the uncrowned king of the town" in the 1890's, and held the post of Locomotive Superintendent of the Great Northern Railway in Doncaster.

From the Doncaster Review...."worthy of public esteem....few persons so highly respected by the bulk of the inhabitants".

He is remembered by railway enthusiasts for his 8 ft. wheel outside cylinder engine. He also introduced gas lighting in carriages, and he replaced the old foot warmers by circulating steam through the engine.

Over 8,000 men worked under Mr Stirling's direction. The Review talked about "the very



warm feeling of admiration and respect that every man and boy employed at the G.N. works entertain for Mr. Stirling."

On his 70th birthday the Great Northern drivers and firemen set up the fountain as a memorial to Mr Stirling as they had so much enjoyed working with his engines.

READERS WRITE

Dear Editor,

I have seen people deliberately take their dogs on the MIDDLE SCHOOL FIELD to use it as a dog toilet.

Do we have to wait until one of our children catch the disease that is caught from the mess dogs leave behind?

I am a dinner supervisor and see the state of a child when he or she falls in the dirt on the SCHOOL FIELDS! We have to continually clean up children fouled by other peoples dogs!

I have 2 dogs and I would not dream of taking them on a playing field. Our dogs do their dirt in our own yard, and we clean it up and swill the yard.

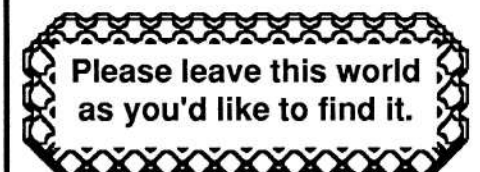
**Concerned
Mrs K. Shaw.**

Dear Ed.

I want to give grateful thanks to our minister Ian Bell and all 'the chapel family' who have prayed for my recovery this past year.

I am amazed at my present state of good health.

**God bless you all
Mrs Gladys Cousins.**



NUTTY CRUNCH by D.F.

4oz Margarine 1oz Chopped
Walnuts
4oz Sugar 1oz Cryst.
Ginger
4oz Sultanas 1 egg
1 and a half level tablespoons
cocoa.
Crunch half lb Marie or Rich Tea
biscuits.
Melt margarine and sugar in pan.
Add cocoa and beaten egg.

Bring to boil ONLY and remove from heat.

Add sultanas, biscuits, nuts and ginger and press into lightly greased tin (swiss roll).

Put in fridge.

When cold cover in chocolate, (about 2oz).

Place in fridge again to set. Cut into pieces and store in a tin, in the fridge. SCRUMMY.

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Disinfectant.....1.26
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HEX-PRESS

reaches WALES!

A pleasure indeed, to receive a letter from Marcus Outwin, Hexthorpe born ex Mayor of Doncaster, living in happy retirement in Wales with his wife, and now both in their '80's'.

"My Grandfather came to Hexthorpe after being in service with the late Sir William Cooke at Wheatley Hall. He then came to Captain Ramsden, at Hexthorpe Hall, as a young man, marrying Hannah Ashmore of Warmsworth in 1879.

They were put in a house on Hexthorpe Flatts behind the cafe (where the first child Norman was born) for the house which was to be the coachmans house was not finished (Groome's house now).

Soon after moving in, my father was born, in 1882.

Next door lived the butler, and below, in another cottage, lived the cook.

It was beautiful in my day, with long gardens in front of the cottages, and we enjoyed a lovely Sunday evening walk, ending on the Crimpsall.

My Grandfather ended his 40 years service with Captain Ramsden, and then his son, retiring to live on Shadyside.

The Ramsdens are buried in a vault in the old Warmsmouth churchyard, just beyond the tunnel!

When I was 12 years old I became Tom Williams errand lad and often took a sack of potatoes up to the Hall along with other things."

More later.....Ed.

Interview with Mr Norman Britten

Can you tell us about your life before you came to Hexthorpe?

Yes. I grew up in the mining village of Rythorpe in the North East. After teacher training in Sheffield in 1970 I began teaching in Thorne, then Wheatley and came to Hexthorpe in 1985 to take up the Headship of the Middle School.

Have you any plans for your own future or that of the school?

Well I have been very happy in Hexthorpe, and have felt at home here. I am very committed to the school and community but as to the future it is very difficult to forecast. There is so much rumour and speculation about the future of schools in the Doncaster area, that nobody is able to make any concrete plans.

What do you think would be the effect of re-structuring on Hexthorpe schools?

At the moment I know nothing specific about this, but hear many contradictory rumours. If any changes are to be made I would expect the whole community to be consulted and people given the chance to air their views. Whatever happens I would expect my staff would continue to be 100% for the good of the children.

Are there many ways in which the school



is involved in the community?

Indeed yes, following our harvest festival some of our children take gifts of produce to people who have been nominated by families of the school. Every week 4th year children help, in turns, at the nursery and S.A.R.A group, which is a mutually beneficial experience.

How can the community best help the school?

- 1) By parents continuing to support parents evenings. Last time we had 95% support.
- 2) By continuing to support fund raising.
- 3) Most of all, by giving their continued trust in the Head and staff, to give the best deal for the children.

MARMALADE

Seville oranges are only available for a short period, end of Jan, beginning of Feb., so why not make some marmalade for yourself this year and get the real taste.

2lb Seville Oranges

1 lemon

4 pints Water

4lb Sugar

Scald the fruit, cut and squeeze out the juice. Remove the pips and tie them in a piece of muslin. Slice the peel, either coarsely with some pith left on or, if

preferred, thinly with all pith removed. Place rind, juice and flesh of the fruit and bag of pips in water - simmer approx 2 hours (rind will be tender - water reduced by half). Squeeze out bag of pips and remove. Add warmed sugar - cook, gently stirring until it has dissolved. Bring to boil - rapidly until setting point * is reached (approx 10 mins). Leave to stand for a short time then pour into warm clean jars, cover with wax paper and tie down. *Setting point - Put small amount on a cool saucer, if it wrinkles when pushed by a clean spoon, it is ready.

HEXTHORPE RESIDENTS COULD HELP PROTECT HEXTHORPE FLATTS!

As one of the Councillors of Central Ward I have received a number of complaints over the last year from Hexthorpe residents, a frequent one being about the state of the FLATTS!

I have agreed to deal with these complaints, although the area is in fact in Balby Ward.

There were two pieces of Government Legislation last year that will affect the Park.

These being:-

1. The Local Authority must supply adequate SAFETY SURFACES for all PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.

Doncaster is the largest Metropolitan Council in Britain, with an area stretching from Mexborough to Thorne and Bawtry to Askern.

So - A priority list has been drawn up and Hexthorpe's turn for A MAJOR REFURBISHMENT OF EQUIPMENT and SAFETY SURFACES will be in 1992, subject to the appropriate finance being available.

As an interim measure the swings that have been VANDALISED will be replaced.

2. The Compulsory Tendering of the Ground Maintenance Contract within Amenities and Leisure.

This contract was lost by Doncaster Council and was won by a Dutch firm called "CRINCLES".

This means Hexthorpe people will not be seeing Council workmen attending flower beds or grass cutting within the FLATTS.

In the last few years we have had a VANDALISM PROBLEM in the park

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is
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89 Hexthorpe Road

HOT and COLD SNACKS

ALL DAY BREAKFAST

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Contact me for your Child's Party etc.

from young people of the HEXTHORPE and BALBY areas.

I have been in touch with Mr Dykes, Director of Amenities and Leisure. He asked me if I could find out if there are any interested Hexthorpe residents, who could set up a VOLUNTARY WARDENING SYSTEM for this park, similar to a neighbourhood watch scheme, to help prevent any further vandalism.

THOSE PEOPLE INTERESTED ENOUGH and CONCERNED ENOUGH TO SET UP THIS PARK WATCH please contact me through Hex-Press Julie, and I will pass on their names etc. to Mr Dykes.

Yours faithfully

Cllr. G.Jones
Central Ward

IMPORTANT

The above information, and all MATERIAL for Issue II, please take or send to 165 URBAN ROAD, Tel. 854898 by end of FEBRUARY PLEASE. Julie

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