

The HEX-PRESS

YOUR FREE HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

No.22/ Feb-Mar 1993

Mixed Reception for Plan

A new library and youth centre are again promised for Hexthorpe. People who visited the exhibition bus on Doncaster into the 21st Century (the Doncaster Unitary Development Plan) or who have seen the exhibition in the Frenchgate Centre, were told that there are still plans for the clock area to be developed.



It is designated as a Community Development Area, along with other areas in Thorne, Edenthorpe and Armthorpe. This is good news. However, many Hexthorpe people have expressed disbelief; they say that such promises have been made many times before and that nothing has appeared. "When money is available, then things will happen we are told", said one exhibition visitor, "I've heard that one before."

These doubts seem to be justified as the Development Plan, which is dated October 1992, states "The Existing Library and Youth Centre in Hexthorpe are inadequate to meet present needs and need replacing. It is envisaged that the two facilities will be linked and will front onto the central area of Hexthorpe." There is no existing library and there was not one in October 1992 - remember it was closed earlier last year. To add insult to injury we are told that the non-existent library is inadequate to meet present needs; yet one of the arguments advanced for its closure was that it was not used enough. It appears that our Council Departments are not aware of what each is thinking or doing.

The pedestrianisation of Hexthorpe Road through the shopping area is still included in the plans. One of the planners did point out that a scheme for a one-way system, with widened pavements, was still an option. However, things are likely to stay the same for some time as again money has to be available.

Heard recently by a reader

'Effective people do not moan about the darkness, they light a candle; ... they do not talk about how good they are, they demonstrate it over and over again.'

Quoted by Richard Wells, Chief Constable of South Yorkshire at the Doncaster Racial Equality Meeting on Friday January 22nd



WEEKLY EVENTS

Methodist Church Hall

S.A.R.A. Group
(Stay and Rest Awhile)
Mum 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 6.00 pm
11 to 16 years, meet at 7.45 pm

Ladies Keep Fit
Thursdays at 7 pm

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

At St. Judes Church Hall
Playgroup
Mondays 1.15 pm
Wednesdays 1.15 pm

Tai Kwando
Tuesday 6.30 - 9.30 pm
Thursday 6.30 - 9.30 pm

Aerobics
Wed. 2 sessions
5.45 - 7.00 pm

Local Councillors

GEORGE BRUMWELL
16 Laneham Close
Tel: 535725

GORDON JONES
7 South Street
Tel: 367396

CHARLES HARRISON
9 Evanston Gardens
Tel: 858542

WHO'S WHO

METHODIST MINISTER
Ian Bell
1 Cedar Road, Balby
Tel: 852024

METHODIST LAY WORKER
Mr. Darren Stott
113 Old Hexthorpe
Hexthorpe
Tel: 857128

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. N.D. SENNITT
132 Shadyside
Hexthorpe
Tel: 852057

HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY
CONSTABLE
contact P.C. RIMMER
Tel: 366744

Listening Post

Hexthorpe Methodist Church



Coffee

A
N
D

open

every
Thursday

Listening

Ear

1:30 pm - 3.30

*Please come along for a cup of tea
or coffee. Anyone is welcome -
either to meet your friends or have
a chat with someone who has time
to listen and care*

Hexthorpe First School

Friday March 19th 7.30 pm

BARN DANCE with PEA & PIE SUPPER

Swing your partner at what promises
to be a fun-packed evening.

Everybody is welcome

Tickets - £3.00

Thursday April 1st 7.30 pm

In aid of CYSTIC FIBROSIS Charity

An evening of 'Keep Fit' -
you can watch or join in.

*Please support this event and this charity which
helps children suffering from Cystic Fibrosis*

Hexthorpe's First Pancake Race

In some places it is traditional to hold a Pancake Race on Shrove Tuesday. We want to start this tradition in Hexthorpe, as a result of a suggestion made by a reader of the Hexpress.

On Wednesday - February 24th - Pancake Races have been organised. These are to be held on the paved area between Crawshaw Road and Bentley Avenue - with the kind permission of the residents there. There will be races for different age-groups from the youngest to the oldest. Afterwards pancakes will be served in the Methodist Church Hall, when prizes will be also awarded to the winners.

Pancakes are eaten on Shrove Tuesday because it is the last day before the season of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday. Traditionally this was a period of fasting - there are still people who give up something for Lent. The Lenten season lasts for forty days, reminding us of the time when Jesus was in the wilderness, praying and fasting before he began his ministry. Shrove comes from the word 'shrive' - this was to confess sin in preparation for Lent. In some parts of Europe Shrove Tuesday has become a carnival day before the self-denial during Lent. In our country we make pancakes; this began when eggs and fat were forbidden during the forty days and so they were all used up in the pancakes.

PANCAKE RACES

WHEN ?

Wednesday February 24th. 5.00 pm

WHERE ?

Paved area between Crawshaw Road and Bentley Avenue

WHO ?

Under 7s race
8 - 12s race
13 - 90s race

Children who take part to be accompanied by an adult

I would like to enter the pancake race on February 24th

Name (s)

Age, if under 18

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WHAT IS NEEDED ?

Pan and pakecake

AFTERWARDS ?

Pancakes and Prizes in the Methodist Hall

HOW TO ENTER ?

Please return the slip through the Methodist Church Door by Feb. 19th or phone Joan Cragg 852840

Letters

The Mobile Library

Dear Sir,

With regards to the Mobile Library serving Hexthorpe - there seems to be an element of uncertainty, as to which week the van will operate at a given point.

I regularly visit an elderly relative who lives alone in Old Hexthorpe. On more than one occasion since the service has been in operation, she has stood in the cold and rain at the Shadyside/Windle Road point - but no Mobile Library has appeared - possibly because she has gone to the right place - on the wrong week.

Would it be possible for you - through the medium of your excellent "Hexpress", to publish more definite information, as to the stopping points in any given week?

If this sort of information could be printed in your "Weekly Events" section regularly, I am sure it would be of real help - especially to the elderly.

Yours faithfully
*R. Elvidge
Bessacarr*

We are pleased to supply this information; in the future it will be in our Weekly Events.

Week Commencing

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| Feb 1st | Week 2 |
| Feb 8th | Week 1 |
| Feb 15th | Week 2 |
| Feb. 22nd | Week 1 |

| | |
|------------|--------|
| March 1st | Week 2 |
| March 8th | Week 1 |
| March 15th | Week 2 |
| March 22nd | Week 1 |
| March 29th | Week 2 |

OUR ONLY HOME

Dear Editor

What is the opposite of LOVE?, you might say HATRED. Well, the opposite of LOVE is APATHY. Apathy is the indifference we have for our only home, this planet which we call Earth, (odd when seventy percent of it is water)! A laziness which allows us, in our present ecological condition, to encourage us not to change things and our ways. An insistence that things will NEVER change so why should we.

Apathy is taking our children to school in the car when we should be walking; it is putting newspapers, pet food cans, plastic Cola bottles and jam jars in the dustbin instead of recycling them; it is allowing our food and water to be contaminated by poisons.

Apathy is buying Third World products, e.g. coffee, that exploit its producers who could use their land to produce food for themselves and above all it is the belief that government and industry will come up with a "quick fix" to solve our present ecological crisis.

You might ask why I continually write of impending ecological doom. Well, planetary death and especially death of a species like man is a personal issue. The issue is survival. We must all speak and write for the whole planet, it is our only home. We must speak and write for all life.

Remember the dinosaurs?, we all know what happened to them!!

*Martin Towers,
Old Hexthorpe.*

Readers Requests

One reader has asked us to point out that the Leon Bus Company provide an early Sunday morning service in Hexthorpe. She is keen to see it used so that it will not be withdrawn.

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|------|-------|
| Hexthorpe | Urban Road/Old Hexthorpe | 9.35 | 10.35 |
| Town | St Sepulchre Gate | 9.45 | 9.48 |

The same bus then proceeds to the Northern Bus Station and on to Sprotborough.

Another reader is pleased to see that the Community Centre was so speedily demolished once the decision to close it was made (see our last issue). He is concerned that the land should now be put to good use, so that it does not become a dumping ground or weed covered. Let us know if you have any ideas.

We are indebted to Geoff Warner for the use of this photograph. Mr Warner is a Rail-Road Photographer and has a number of superb photographs of Hexthorpe over the years. He has some for sale, especially a postcard of the clock area before the alterations. This latter one costs 40p. They are available from 12 Shadyside.

This photograph was taken from the top of Foundry Road. This was the road which led to Woodhouse's Brass Foundry. The Woodhouse family lived in the Manor House at Old Hexthorpe. The house on the left fronted Walker's Bus Depot. Previously it was well-known as the home of the Hancock family - the local undertakers. Next door is a butcher's shop; in the picture it belonged to Wallers, before that readers can remember when it was owned by Tomblins. At the other end of the row there was a small grocer's shop. Between the shop and Hexthorpe House was an alley-way which went winding through to Shadyside. Immediately on the right is a row of houses which had small front gardens, once surrounded by iron railings. These were removed during the second world war to make armaments. At the end of the row was Brooke's Cobbler's Shop. Beyond that, at the other corner of Chapel Street, can be seen where the old



OPENING HOURS

| | |
|-------|---|
| Mon | 11.45 am to 1.45 pm |
| Tues | 11.45 to 1.45 & 4.30 to 6 pm |
| Wed | 11.45 to 1.45 |
| Thurs | 11.45 to 1.45 & 8.30 to 11.30 pm |
| Fri | 11.45 to 1.45 & 4.30 to 6 pm & 8.30 to 11.30 pm |
| Sat | 11.45 to 1.45 |
| Sun | 9.00 to 11.30 pm |

phone for orders

*Brian & Margaret
on 856843*



Primitive Methodist Chapel had been for a hundred years. The members there joined with the members of the Trinity Methodist Chapel at the end of Beaconsfield Road, and together they built the new church which is now on Urban Road. Further down the row can be seen the sign for the Prior Well Inn. Then comes Littlewood Street and the shop seen at the corner was well known for many years as Wagstaff's Pot Shop.

GARDENING

Digging is hard work and time consuming. Just think about the area of dug soil in your garden that is used for plants. Part of it ends up as paths or wasted space, also it seems silly to create a good top soil then bury it.

Experts say dug soil is more susceptible to compaction. Compacted soils have poor aeration and drainage. Plant roots cannot get enough oxygen for food growth and soil fertility decreases as microorganisms fail. So why dig? In the far east the 'no dig - deep bed' method of cultivation has been used for hundreds of years and there are some Chinese carrying on the tradition in the Doncaster area. The advantages are numerous, the soil warms up quicker, fertiliser is concentrated in smaller areas, the drainage is better and clever planting smothers weeds and protects the soil from heavy rain. If you want to give it a try divide your garden or part of it into beds 4 or 5 feet wide with paths about 1 foot wide. Adjust measurements to your own needs. The paths can be soil or better still cover with old carpets, paper, straw, concrete or brick.

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Hoe and rake rubbish from the beds working from the path. Mulch the beds after cropping with compost or manure and let the worms take it underground. Soon you will be reaping the benefits of a perfect soil structure and working from the paths in your slippers.

NBR



Hexthorpe Infant School. 1927. Supplied by Vera Winder (nee Calder)

Teacher: Miss Dixon

Back Row: Harry Nicholson, Ken Jackson, Stanley Bestall

Third Row: Gwen Garrett, Betty Wheatley, Margaret Caldwell, Ivy Jewell, Win Pashley, Joyce Warner, Mary Brough, Elsie Shrimplin.

Second Row: Marjory Milner, Marjory Lodge, Gwen Lavenby, Doreen Durrans, Vera Calder, Dorothy Carley, Hetty Claricoates, Marjory Maissey, Doris Terry.

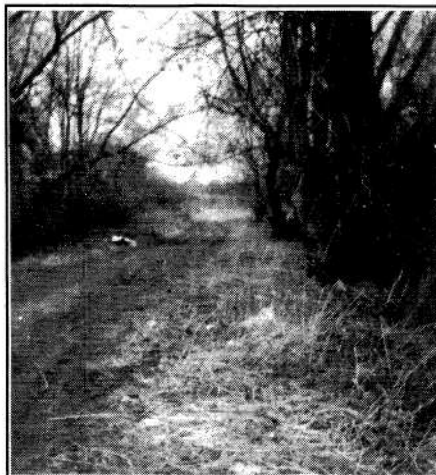
Front Row: Ray England. Recognise any others ?

We have a number of old school photographs waiting publication and therefore we have enough for the time being

THE CRIMPSALL - A Site of Scientific Importance

Did you know that the Crimpsall is described in the Doncaster Unitary Development Report as being a site of Scientific Interest? There are 300 sites in the Doncaster Area which are listed as such - that is, they are sites of local nature conservation importance. Doncaster has 15 sites of Special Scientific Interest - included are the National Nature Reserve at Thorne Moors, the National Reserve at Sandal Beat and a number of reserves managed by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, for example Potteric Carr. The Crimpsall is of scientific interest because over the years it has been the home of the great-crested newt. The Report says that sites such as the Crimpsall are of local importance and a very significant element of the Boroughs natural heritage and particularly important for their accessibility, their educational and recreational value. The Local Council has the power to establish Local Nature Reserves in consultation with the English Nature. It has only one at the moment - at Sandel Beat - but is looking at sites at Conisbrough and Bessacarr with a view to establishing more.

We believe it is time that the Crimpsall was seriously considered as a site for development as a managed reserve. It has potential, but at the moment it gives an appearance of dereliction. The issue has been aired before, but if anyone is interested in forming a local group to look into this and other local environment issues, then please come along to - **A MEETING FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN THE CRIMPSALL AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. HEXTHORPE METHODIST HALL. THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY. 7.30 p.m.**



Hasty Pudding

This is a strange recipe; it turns out like a steamed syrup pudding but only takes a fraction of the time to make and cook.

INGREDIENTS

1 pint milk
8oz self raising flour
3oz butter or good quality margarine
6oz soft brown sugar
a pinch of salt

METHOD

Put milk & salt in saucepan and bring to boil. Stir in S.R. flour, very gradually, and boil gently till mixture thickens - Stir continuously to avoid lumps. Looks like an eggless batter. Pour into a buttered oven proof dish. Cut margarine into slivers and spread evenly over top. Cover with brown sugar. Bake in medium hot oven for 30 minutes.

Good with custard

Handy Hint

If you need to weigh sticky liquids, honey, syrup etc, flour the scales lightly

MOTHER TEALE'S HUMBUGS

MY EARLIEST MEMORY

I was little more than two years old. The settee (couch, in those days) was in its Winter position, under the living room window, so Spring was not yet with us. The front door opened and footsteps were heard in the hall.

Possibly it was my mother, who opened the living room door and said, "It's Grandad".

He was locally known, I heard much later, as "Captain" (Merchant Navy). Hearing who it was, I rushed to meet him. He sat on a chair near the sideboard (dresser). I remember it well.

"Where are your humbugs Grandad?" I exclaimed and without further ado plunged into one of his pockets.

"Here they are," he retorted-probably bringing them out of another pocket. As he put them into my all too greedy hands, I recall that he looked across at my mother and said, "Annie, you should teach this boy better manners".

On hearing this my enthusiasm received a check, although I did not really understand what he meant. My mother laughed indulgently. I know now that I was her golden boy and secretly she enjoyed Grandad's chagrin.

Having placed a humbug in my mouth, I paused uncertainly. "Pass them round boy", called Grandad.

I cannot remember clearly who was there. It could well be that mother said a few moments later, when all had taken a humbug, "Glad you came in Grandad. A humbug helps the morning along". It was like her to try and sweeten the old man, in such a way.

By this time, I was handing back the bag to Grandad. But he looked down on me and said "Keep the rest, boy".

I am not sure about this, but feel that it was in character for him to do so.

My later recollection is that my mother said it was his last visit to our house. He was taken ill and spent six months in the local infirmary. There is now an operation for his complaint which takes a ten days stay. He died on Christmas Day of that year, almost a year ahead of World War 1.

Those humbugs were good though, bitter sweet, as a humbug should be. They were made, locally, by Mother Teale. It is more than likely that they were prepared in her none too clean kitchen, and boiled over the kitchen fire. They were smooth on the tongue. Possibly the butter content was high. I have had none which tasted so good as hers.

Humbugs were sold in the neighbourhood for nearly twenty years after this - Mother Teale's of course. One of her family would stand near the railway bridge, over which the railway clerks passed to their offices. After an hour's stand, his large basket would be empty. Quick sales after lunch (dinner) from the passers by, who thus tried to relieve the tedium of the afternoon's toil.



WHAT'S ON at the MALTINGS !

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contact DAVE CLARK on 859550 at Maltings Squash
Club

(near Hexthorpe Flatts)

FOOTBALL RESULTS

Hexthorpe Methodists 2, Hexthorpe XI 3

Next Time !

The fourth match between Hexthorpe Methodists and a Hexthorpe Eleven took place on the school-field, last Saturday. It was a good day for football and there were a fair number of specators. The Methodists were hoping that this would be the day when victory was achieved. The match was closely contested; the woodwork was hit several times. Despite having most of the play for the first 60 minutes, the Methodists found themselves still only drawing 2-2. More steadiness was needed in front of goal. Then the superior fitness of the younger Hexthorpe Eleven took over and the winning goal was scored in the last minute. Wait until next time