

# The HEX-PRESS

YOUR FREE HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER No 32/ October/November 94

## *Neighbourhood Watch is Launched*



Several streets in Hexthorpe are to have a neighbourhood watch scheme. A well attended meeting sponsored by the Hexthorpe Environment Group was held recently. Volunteers came forward to act as co-ordinators in their streets.

P.C. Rimmer, the local Community Constable, explained what is involved in a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. "Together with the police, everyone can play a part in improving the security of their neighbourhood. Protecting your own homes is fine, but you will enjoy greater security if everyone around you is working at it."

Neighbourhood Watch is not a vigilante group which patrols the streets. "The way to do it is to be good neighbours by keeping a watchful eye on neighbours' homes. Report anything suspicious. At local level, a flow of information between public and police is vital if criminal activity is to be foiled. A tried and tested way to achieve this is by setting up a Neighbourhood Watch.

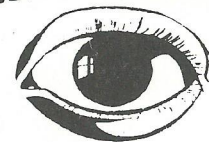
Colleen Atkins of Bedford, where a scheme is in operation, says "Through it residents know each other better - not as busybodies, but as real neighbours - thus creating a real community atmosphere." Basi Bucknell of Bristol believes that "we have begun to build up a great sense of community and identity. All residents seem to take more notice of their neighbours and surroundings. I think that one of our most important achievements is that residents feel safer. When someone goes on

holiday, they inform their Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, and so an eye is kept on their property. We even averted a major flood in someone's house while they were away on holiday!"

There are several successful schemes already in Doncaster. The nearest one is in Florence Avenue, Balby. For a Neighbourhood Watch to be successful people in the area must be willing to cooperate.

Co-ordinators are needed for each street. Some have already volunteered and you will be hearing from them. If you are concerned about your neighbours and would like the scheme to operate in your street please contact the Hexpress to find out more.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD  
WATCH SCHEME**



**Interested in forming one?  
and in lower insurance premiums?  
and in protecting your property?  
and in our community?**

**Write or ring the Hexpress for details  
- see the back page.**

# WEEKLY EVENTS

## 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

**You are invited on any Sunday**  
to the Worship Services  
at Hexthorpe Methodist Church  
10.30am & 6.00pm

## Hexthorpe Environmental Group

Last Thursday of the month  
at 7 pm

## At St Jude's Church Hall

### Playgroup

Mondays 9.15 - 11.15am  
Wednesday 1.15 pm

### Tai Kwando

Monday 7.30 - 8.30  
Tuesday 7.00 - 9.15  
Thursday 7.00 - 9.15

### Fitness 2,000

Wednesday 8 - 9

# WHO'S WHO

### Local Councillors

**GORDON JONES**  
7 South Street  
Tel: 367396

**CHARLES HARRISON**  
81 Florence Avenue  
Tel: 858542

**TONY PRATT**  
21 Mansfield Road  
Tel: 360685

### METHODIST MINISTER

Ian Bell  
1 Cedar Road, Balby  
Tel: 852024

### METHODIST LAY WORKER

Mr. Andy Ross  
61 Hexthorpe Road  
Tel: 349341

### PARISH PRIEST

Not yet appointed

### HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY CONSTABLE

contact P. C. RIMMER  
Tel: 366744

## New Books in Balby Library

### **BELL Joyce - The Girl from the Back Streets**

*Set in World War 2, a tragic and heart-warming tale.*

### **BEST Short Stories 1994**

*Collection of humorous, tragic and illuminating stories.*

### **GOLDSMITH Olivia - Fashionably Late**

*Set against the colour, thrust and dazzle of New York a bittersweet novel of loves, riches and revenge.*

### **HARRY Eric - Arc Light**

*Towering epic novel of a Third World War.*

### **KING Stephen - Insomnia**

*A relentless nightmare of horror and suspense.*

### **LUARD Elisabeth - Emerald**

*A novel of determination against all odds.*

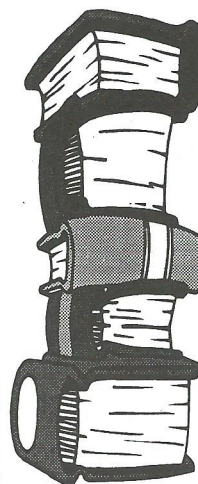
## Impossible Pie

4 eggs	1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 cup margarine	2 cups milk
1 cup white sugar	1 cup coconut
1/4 teaspoon salt	1 teaspoon vanilla

Place all ingredients in a blender or bowl and mix altogether until blended. Pour into a buttered 10" pie dish. Bake for 1 hour at 350 F, gas mark 4. When done, crust will be on the bottom, custard in the middle, and coconut on top. Magic!



## MOBILE LIBRARY



October	3rd	week 1
October	10th	week 2
October	17th	week 1
October	24th	week 2
October	31st	week 1
November	7th	week 2
November	14th	week 1
November	21st	week 2
November	28th	week 1

# LOCAL NEWS AND PEOPLE

## Success at York University

Sandra Moss, the daughter of Mrs. Crooke of Bentley Avenue, has recently received an honours degree in Health and Science. Sandra has followed a three year course in Occupational Therapy at York University and has successfully completed it. She is now a Bachelor of Health and Science - BHSc(Honours). This was awarded at a ceremony at York Minster on September 13th. She lives with her husband and family at Moss, where they run a Fish Farm, and so life has been very full. Sandra now takes up a post of Occupational Therapist at the Doncaster Royal Infirmary.

Her sister, Janet Reeves, also works at the Infirmary, where she is a staff nurse in the Orthopaedic Department. She now lives with her family at Hatfield Woodhouse. Both Sandra and Janet were brought up and lived in Hexthorpe before their marriages.

## A successful reunion

A successful school reunion was recently held at the Maltings Sports Club. Ex-pupils of Hexthorpe Junior School from the late 1940's were delighted to meet a former teacher Mr. Edgar Ambrose, who now lives in Preston. Some of the pupils had not met each other since their school days. Old photographs and many stories were exchanged. The evening was so successful that it was suggested that another one should be held, perhaps at the time when reorganisation comes to the present Hexthorpe Schools, when the old Junior School building is to be closed. The Hexpress will bring you details nearer the time.

## Money well spent.

A full-day seminar was held on Saturday September 24th on the theme of Creation and New Creation.

This took place at the Hexthorpe Methodist Church. The main speaker was the Rev. Dr. David Wilkinson, who is a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and chaplain to Liverpool University. He also writes articles and books. Visitors came from a wide area, as far as Birmingham. Dr. Wilkinson spoke in a 'down-to-earth' way about God and the origins of the universe, the harmony between Christianity and Science, and what the Bible teaches about the new creation which can take place in the lives of people. One visitor said "It is the best two pounds worth I've ever had."

## Exhibition by Local Artist

An exhibition has recently been held at Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery of the work of Ralph Lillford. Ralph was born in Eden Grove in 1932 and the family then moved to Beaconsfield Road. He was the youngest of five children. Ralph inherited his aptitude for painting from his father Walter Lillford, who worked at Woodhouses Brass Foundry. He attended Hexthorpe Junior School, Doncaster Central School and then the Doncaster School of Art. Ralph has had exhibitions of his work all over the world and has built for himself an international reputation as a painter and draughtsman. The writer of the exhibition booklet says that perhaps the concerns expressed in Ralph's paintings "were implanted in his intelligence during his early days in Hexthorpe, the home of heavy industry and its workers such as the Plant's railway workers and the Peglers and Arthur Woodhouse brass foundry."

## Tae Kwon-Do

### IAN ANGUS

JUNIORS      Tuesday 7.00pm - 8.00pm  
                    Thursday 7.00pm - 8.00pm

ADULTS        Monday 7.30pm - 8.30pm  
                    Thursday 8.15pm - 9.15pm

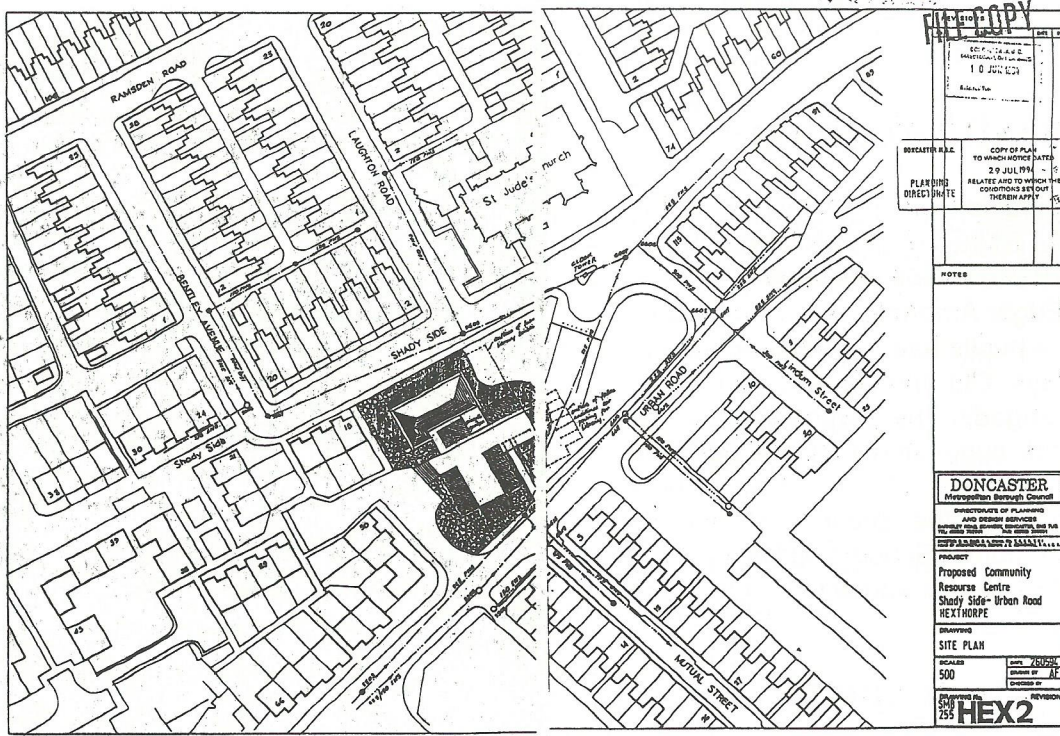
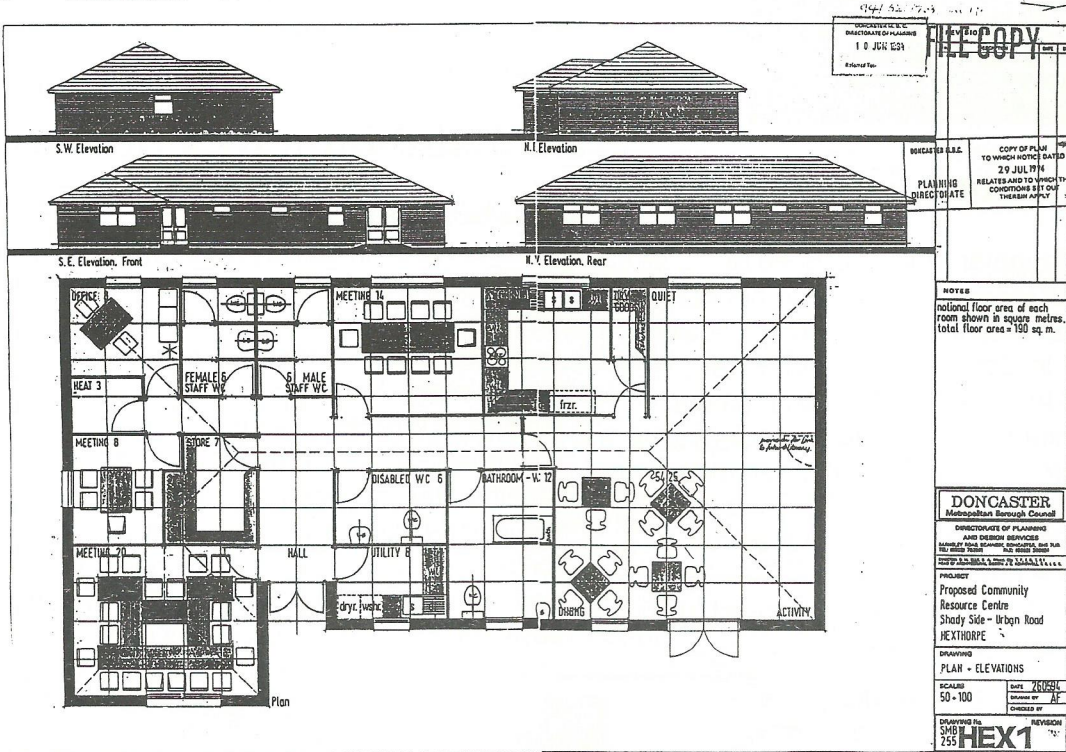
Adult Beginners Lesson  
TUESDAY 8.15 pm - 9.15 pm  
Give Ian a ring ..... Tel 761775

In St. Judes Church Hall  
Hexthorpe.

Ian Angus is Recognised by the SPORTS  
COUNCIL and fully qualified as a MARTIAL  
ARTS INSTRUCTOR.

# A New Community Resource Centre

People have been wondering what is being built on the area next to the clock. A supermarket seemed to be the favourite choice. However, it is to be a 15 place new Day-Care Centre and will be run by the Voluntary Sector. The Hexpress has obtained copies of the plans and map for the site. We publish them here as we are sure people will be interested in what is going on.



## MAKE YOUR DAY SPECIAL

WITH

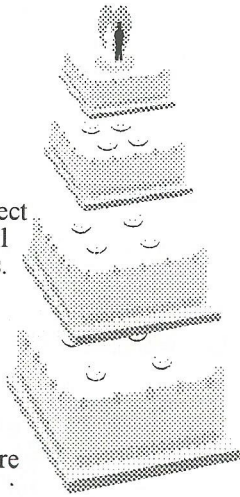
# *a-la-Carte Cakes*

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*Rich Fruit from £28.00*

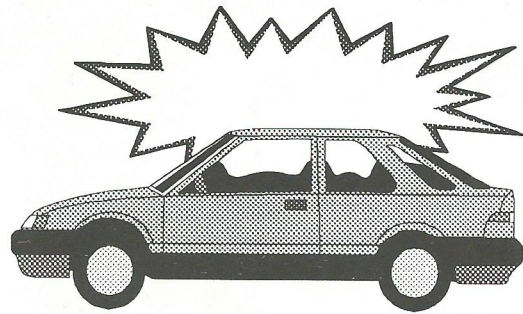
*Wedding from £85.00 (2 tier)*



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**OPENING HOURS**

	LUNCH	TEA	SUPPER
Tues	11.45 to 1.30	4.30 to 6.00	
Wed	11.45 to 1.30		
Thurs	11.45 to 1.30	4.30 to 6.00	8.30 to 11.30
Fri	11.45 to 1.30	4.30 to 6.00	8.30 to 11.15
Sat	11.45 to 1.30		
Sun			8.30 to 11.15

## L A T E N E W S

### Wheelie Bins Arrive

Wheelie Bins are to be introduced into Hexthorpe. The first collection week will be the one commencing 31st October 1994. Your bin will be collected on the same day, each week. A wheeled bin will be delivered to your home free of charge from 24th October onwards.

Help and advice can be given if you ring 734990. For people who are physically unable to wheel the bin, special arrangements can be made.

# It's a Pets Life

By Gerald Coley



Number 8 - October/November 1994

People who choose not to have a pet in their life are missing so much. The ones that I really feel sorry for however, are those who, for various reasons, cannot have a pet as a companion. For many folk the best they can do is to welcome extra visitors to their gardens, back yards or even window-boxes. Attracting and feeding wild birds is now regarded as a national pastime and for some it is the nearest they can get to sharing in the joy of animals. For the rest of us it is an added pleasure and a bonus in sharing our time with God's creatures great and small!

It is now accepted by all the experts (including this one!) that birds can be fed all year round without doing them any harm. Despite this, now is the time when most people traditionally start to put out the various wild bird foods that are readily available. (Don't forget to give them a drink too!) Not only will you be doing the birds a great favour but you may also help them survive the winter period and ensure that they are in good breeding condition by next spring.

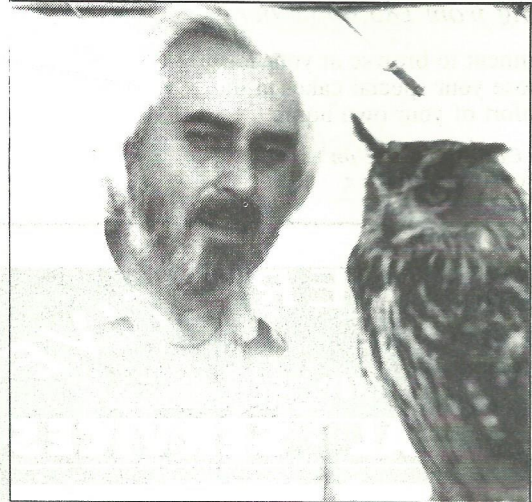
I think it is very important however, to utter a word of warning about one of the most commonly-used food forms . . . peanuts!

Unscrupulous suppliers off-load poor quality produce. With these greatly inferior peanuts comes the risk of harming wild birds. Such nuts can be contaminated with aflatoxin which, if ingested in sufficient quantities, can kill! It can also cause, when taken in smaller doses, cancer of the liver, haemorrhaging and a total

breakdown of the immune system, among other things. So make sure when you buy your peanuts they are 'Safe Nuts' and bear the easily recognisable seal of approval sign issued by the BSA and the RSPB. That way you will avoid the very dangerous substitutes that are still finding their way onto the market despite the fact that this problem was first highlighted in 1989. If your usual shop doesn't know what 'Safe Nuts' are, or haven't got any - go somewhere else. The wild bird population of Hexthorpe will be all the better for it!

So if your 'pets' tend to be the wild winged variety - here's wishing you well with your enjoyment of their familiarity and variety. All of us can expect to see the more common starling, sparrow, blackbird, blue tit, collared dove and greenfinch. The luckier ones may also spot the dunnock, thrush, wren, great tit, blackcap and redwing. And Christmas would not be complete of course, without the robin!

\* If you have a specific non-medical query about your pet (or would just like to tell us about him) Gerald would be interested to hear from you. Just phone our Pet Helpline on 857104 for his expert advice.



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# Letters

## *Fines are not the answer*

Dear Editor

Regarding the letter in your last issue, by P. Burns, we would like to stress as two dog owners who walk their dogs three times a day, that we understand your point of view as stray dogs are a complete nuisance running around the streets, which spoils it for other dog lovers.

As dog lovers ourselves we would like to make our point of view.

Firstly there is no place to walk our dogs because all the grounds are for recreational purposes only. You cannot stop dogs urinating as they are not human beings, it is a dogs nature to lift his leg, as for dogs fouling we agree this causes upset but every dog owner cannot carry a shovel and plastic bag on hot days as most owners do not wear coats and jackets (and sometimes have no pockets) and also in bad weather some dog owners who are elderly have problems walking so they do not need extra loads to weigh them down.

The ideal answer to this problem would be for the council to select a piece of fenced land which would be suitable for dogs and their owners (as they have done on the Town Fields).

In the Hexthorpe Flatts they have dog bins, but wouldn't it be better to have a shovel attached to the bin to make it easier to discard the dog dirt in the correct way.

This would make life a lot easier and make people a lot happier.

We are also writing to the Council and would appreciate all other dog owners to write and express their views too as this could end all our problems.

**From two annoyed dog lovers.**

*Ed. We have received many letters on this topic over the months. We must draw it to a close. Let us hope that progress can be made, so that a satisfactory way forward can be found for all.*

## *Balby Playgroup*

Dear Editor,

I am writing to let your readers know that St. John's Playgroup at Balby is also open to Hexthorpe families.

As members of the Pre-school Playgroups Association (PPA) and a registered charity group we aim to provide a safe, caring and stimulating environment for children over two years.

We are open three sessions a week and children over 3 years can be left in the care of our staff, who are PPA trained and approved by Social Services.

We also have a Parent and Toddler session on Monday afternoons.

For further details please ring Sheila on 852730 or Ann on 852807.

Yours sincerely

**S. Savage (Playleader)**

Florence Avenue

Balby

## *A visit to the Dell*

Dear Editor,

We would like to bring your attention to a visit we made to the Dell on Hexthorpe Flatts. It was a lovely summer's afternoon. We would have liked to have sat down in the sun, but there were no seats at the top, there were one or two at the bottom. We were almost knocked down by youngsters riding their bikes at speed around the paths. Not content with that they rode over flowerbeds and lawns. Others were climbing up the banks. It seems they have taken over.

It is still a lovely place but it is nowhere near to the high standards of years ago. Couldn't chairs be put out during the day and collected in for the night? Wouldn't it cost less to employ a guard - we called them park-keepers - than to meet the cost of the damage done? Whatever happened to the Sunday afternoon band concerts?

Yours faithfully,

**Two pensioners.**

## *A Request to older readers*

Dear Readers,

I am hoping to be able to interview older residents of Hexthorpe about life here earlier this century. If anyone has any memories they would like to share, please contact me - see the back page for details. If enough information is obtained, then perhaps a small book or pamphlet can be produced.

Yours

Donald

## *Gardening*

**It's always difficult choosing the best hanging basket but the judges decided the one at 148 Shadyside was the best out of the 118 on show in August.**

The hot dry weather has caused many problems. My fuschias have not performed as they usually do, runner beans are not setting as well as normal and some shrubs have struggled to survive. On the other hand geraniums have done exceptionally well with bigger blooms and more of them. Also it's years since I've seen as many red poppies in the corn fields.

If things haven't turned out as you hoped for in the garden remember other people have had problems too and there is always next year to look forward to.

**N.B.R.**



This photograph is one of the junction of Urban Road and Mutual Street. It was taken around 1965. This block, of course, has been demolished. The road can now be seen crossing the grassed area by the clock. The new re-aligned Urban Road now goes where this block once was.

The nearest boarded up shop was in its later days a cobbler's. All the boarded up shops once belonged to the Cooperative Society. The archway to the left of the shops led to the Coop Coal Depot. Beyond that can be seen a barber's pole - this was Slater's Barber's Shop.

*The photograph has been sent to us by Mr. Geoff Elvin*

## The Junction News

As reported in our last issue The Junction is now in operation. An open-day was held on Saturday October 1st. Many people dropped in for a coffee and a chat. Andy Ross, the centre's manager, was pleased that people had suggestions about what the centre could provide. One idea is that an outbuilding could be used as launderette. Andy would like to assess the demand. "I would like to hear from anyone who could make use of such a facility. If the demand is there, I will investigate to see if it is possible."

The Junction is now open from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday. It is open to all. Drop in for a coffee and a chat. If you want any help or advice on any matter Andy will be pleased to assist you.

Any letters, articles contact :

**DONALD**

(31 Old Hexthorpe, Tel : 852521)

Adverts, contact :

**JULIE**

(165 Urban Road, Tel : 854898)

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