

The **HEX-PRESS**

YOUR FREE HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER • No. 53 April/May 1998

Arizona comes to Hexthorpe

What connects Arizona, USA to Hexthorpe? The answer is a tree.

An important event took place recently in the Dell. An Arizonian Ash was planted. It is the only one in the Doncaster area. It is a symbol of the new interest being taken in the environment in Hexthorpe.

The event was organised by HEAF, the Environmental Action Forum. The mayor of Doncaster, Mrs Mitchinson, attended along with Mike Cooper and other members of the Leisure Services, Sue Daynes of the Environment Service, PC Hartshorne the local community policeman, two Hexthorpe councillors, Charles Harrison and Gordon Jones, members of HEAF and interested local people.



Children at Hexthorpe School support HEAF

However, the most important people there were the children from Hexthorpe School. They all put a spadeful of soil into the roots of the tree as it was being planted. During the morning PC Hartshorn and members of HEAF talked to the children in the school. The object was to make the children aware of and proud of their environment.

One of the aims of HEAF is to "maintain, repair, restore, preserve, and improve, beautify and reconstruct the environment of Hexthorpe for the benefit of the inhabitants of the community". It is hoped that through the formation of this group, funds will be made available to achieve such an objective. Members of HEAF emphasise that if the work is to be successful all members of the community will need to have an awareness of their environment.

The chairperson of the group is Mrs A Nightingale and the secretary is Mr R Baker. Meetings are held in the Youth Centre on Shadyside at 7 pm on the first Thursday of the month.



The Mayor at the tree-planting

WEEKLY EVENTS

Methodist Church Hall

S.A.R.A Group

(Stay and Rest Awhile)

Mums and Tots Group

Thursday 9.45 – 11.45 am

N.B. There are still some places available at this group.

Mini-cruz

5 – 7 year olds

5.30 – 7.00 pm Tuesday

Mega-cruz

7 – 11 year olds

5.45 – 7.15pm Wednesday

Rock Solid Club

11 – 14 year olds

7.45 – 9.01 pm Wednesday

You are invited on any Sunday to the Worship Services

at Hexthorpe Methodist Church
10.30 am and 6.00 pm

At St Jude's Church Hall

Tai Kwando

Tuesday 5.45 – 8.30 pm Juniors

Thursday 5.45 – 8.15 pm

Sunday Services

Mass and Junior Church 10.00 am

Evening Service 6.30 pm

WHO'S WHO

Local Councillors

Gordon Jones

7 South Street

Tel: 367396

Charles Harrison

81 Florence Avenue

Tel: 858542

Paul Farley

18 Balby Road

Tel: 818379

Methodist Minister

John Wiltshire

1 Cedar Road, Balby

Tel: 852024

Methodist Lay Workers

Andy Ross

61 Hexthorpe Road

Tel: 349341

Peter Gilson

21 Bentley Avenue

Tel: 768417

Parish Priest

The Rev. J. Gilbert

The Vicarage, 132 Shadyside

Tel: 852057

Hexthorpe Community Constable

contact P.C. Peter Hartshorne

Tel: 366744

MOBILE LIBRARY

April	6	Week 1
	13	Week 2
	20	Week 1
	27	Week 2
May	4	Week 1
	11	Week 2
	18	Week 1
	25	Week 2

Homework Club

for year 6 upwards

Hexthorpe Methodist Church

Thursdays in termtime

4–6 pm

Any letters, articles contact:

Donald, 31 Old Hexthorpe, Tel: 852521

Adverts, contact:

Julie, 165 Urban Road, Tel: 854898

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Marshmallow Roll

A quick and easy tea-time treat requiring no cooking.
You need:

- 15 Marshmallows, chopped, or 4oz mini-ones
- 15 digestive biscuits, crushed
- 6 glace cherries, chopped small
- ¼ cup walnuts, (or any other soft nuts) chopped finely
- 1 small tin (6.91 fl.oz/196 grms) condensed milk
- ¼ cup desiccated coconut.

Method

Mix the first 4 ingredients together then stir in the condensed milk.

Make into a roll and coat with coconut. Wrap the roll in greaseproof paper and place in fridge or cool place till firm. Cut into slices and serve.

Handy Hint

Roll the mixture into small ball and dip into a variety of coatings; nibbed nuts, cocoa powder, biscuit crumbs etc. and pop into mini muffin cases to make delicious sweets.



Pete's patch

First, can I thank the residents of Hexthorpe for such a warm reception as your new community policeman. I hope to have your close support as I go about my duties. I also hope to have a regular slot in the Hexpress, which will keep you all informed as to crime patterns, crime prevention and other associated matters happening in the area.

If you have any problems or points you wish to discuss with me please ring or leave a message on 01302 385217, or stop me in the street. I would appreciate a chat over a cup of tea.

A purple ladies Raleigh mountain bike has been found in Laneside Close. Please contact me if you are able to identify it as belonging to you.

P.C. Pete Hartshorne

Friends of Hexthorpe School

Classroom 3 in Hexthorpe School on a Wednesday afternoon is a hive of activity, not involving children as you might expect. It is where a new group meets - the Friends of Hexthorpe School.

The purpose of the group is to provide financial and educational resources for the benefit of the school, and to create a more pleasant and secure environment within the school bounds.

This is to be achieved by holding fund raising events in a social setting, e.g. holding school fayres, table top sales, bingo nights, coffee evenings and also by forming work groups to produce resources for the teachers. The latter will help to reduce the work load on teachers and ensure a more cost effective use of school funds.

The friends meet in classroom 3 from 1.30 pm on a Wednesday afternoon. Any member of the Hexthorpe community is most welcome. The group is busy at the moment producing project-story sacks for classroom use. Various skills and ideas are needed; but you are invited if you are interested in the school and just want to support by your presence.

Some also help in listening to children read. This is extremely beneficial for the children. Volunteers are looked for to assist in this.

The members of the Friends are extremely enthusiastic. They are supported by the head teacher, Mrs Catherine Lawson.

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Letters to the Editor

Hexthorpe Primary School

Dear Readers,

Asda and Tesco are operating their Computers for Schools scheme again this year. For each £5 or £10 that you spend at their stores you will receive a voucher that goes towards a computer for a school. Sainsbury's are introducing a School Rewards Scheme. If you register with them you earn points for the school and for every £10 you spend on a Sainsbury's Reward Card you will earn 1 point for the school. This does not affect your own reward points. The points go towards equipment for the school. If you would like to help the school in this way please ask your child to collect a registration card from the school. Please send any Asda or Tesco vouchers, from this year or last year, to your child's class teacher or to the school office. I hope we can count on your support. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

R.Geddes

Freedom of speech

Dear Editor

With regards to freedom of speech, as an avid reader of most papers in Doncaster it has become quite plain at the lack of it. In our area it is very difficult to have a say with the amount of wasted space for advertising. Thank goodness for the Hexpress of Hexthorpe.

On many occasions I have written to the Courier and Advertiser, Free Press and Star. I have waited months just to reply to some news that is months out of date when the letter is printed. Issues which would be fitting to comment about are, why isn't the Grand Theatre a public-owned monument, unemployment in Doncaster, or what has happened to the North Bridge relief road.

These are issues I would like to write about but I am unable to. The Doncaster papers seem complacent. We have many problems and so let minority groups have their say. Remember, we don't even have a regular radio talk show. Most other communities do.

J Otis

Hexthorpe

The Plant Fire

Dear Hexpress

The 20th December, 1940, was my 30th birthday. I was married with two children, Jean 7, and Barbara 5. My husband, Cliff, worked at the Plant, as a Trimmer, and when the fire broke out he went to see if he could do anything, but there were already enough people helping.

We lived in Dennison Road and the back-yard was so brightly lit up by the fire that you could see to pick a pin up, and sparks were flying everywhere. Although we had a shelter in the garden, we daren't stay there so, even though Jean had measles, we wrapped her in a blanket and set off to a relative's house at the top of Urban Road. On the way up we could hear bombs falling. Some fell on Shadyside, and one blew a manhole cover out, near the old beer-off, but most failed to explode and were dismantled later.

When we reached the top of Urban Road, we decided it wasn't safe enough to stay in a house, so we made for the community shelter on the Flatts. It was built where the swings used to be (and maybe still are). Underground it was made of tunnels, like passages, and everyone sat facing each other, on wooden seats made out of planks. It was cold and damp, and of course, we had nothing to eat or drink. After nine hours Mr Battersby, who was in charge of the shelter, told us that it was safe to go back home.

Madge Allan (aged 87),

Denison Road, Hexthorpe

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Healthy Living at Hexthorpe School

For two weeks in March our children in Hexthorpe replaced chocolate, crisps and biscuits with fruit and vegetables. A healthy tuck shop was open each day. Children were able to purchase healthy food to be eaten during the morning break.

They were also able to sample other healthy food cooked in school by the children themselves.

This was part of health promotion activities which the school organised. There was a full range of activities and meetings which children and parents attended. Talks on head lice, asthma, disability awareness and sun protection were arranged especially for parents.

For the children the events included talks on drugs, keep-fit groups, Irish dancing, story telling, and activities arranged by the Doncaster Association for Sport and Health. The keep-fit sessions and talks on drugs were

given by P C Bill McCormack, (Schools Liaison Officer) and P C Peter Hartshorne (Community Police Officer).

Mrs Catherine Lawson the head teacher said "the aims of the activities include raising awareness about aspects of health and fitness through participation in physical activity and exercise; involving children in the cooking and tasting of healthy foods; giving children information about drugs and solvent abuse; discussing aspects of personal safety; working on strategies for developing confidence, self-esteem and relationships and raising awareness about disability issues.

These activities were also part of the European Education Project which focused on aspects of health. We were delighted to be able to welcome some members of staff from our European partner schools in Italy and Ireland".

Just Looking

Have you ever wondered if God really exists or whether what you read in the Bible makes sense, or you have questions about the Christian faith and no one has given you a satisfactory answer to them, then you might be interested in a 'Just Looking' group,

Each 'Just Looking' group consists of five sessions, if you try the first one and don't like it then don't bother turning up to the rest!

Each session looks at a different aspect from 'Who is Jesus?' to 'How can I be sure about what I believe?' Alongside the set programme there is the opportunity to present your views and questions.

If you are interested in joining a Just Looking group or would like to do the course but on a one to one basis or would like to know more then phone Peter Gilson on (01302) 768417.

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Sunday 5th April

10.30am Palm Sunday Service – Led by Rev John Wiltshire

6.00pm Palm Sunday Evening Service – Led by Rod Potter

Monday 6th April

7.30pm A Powerful View of Easter – a picture can speak a thousand words – clips from the classical films about Jesus' life, death and resurrection – who cannot help being moved by His life story?

Thursday 9th April

7.00pm What are the benefits of being a Christian and why do Christians celebrate the achievements of Jesus' death by eating bread and drinking wine, in what is called 'communion'? The evening will include a light supper and life changing stories.

Friday 10th April

11.00am Good Friday Service 'Jesus death - His finest hour'.
Led by Rev John Wiltshire

Sunday 12th April

10.30am Easter Day Service - 'He is Risen!'
Led by Gordon & Jenny Barlow

6.00pm Easter Day Evening Service
Led by Andy Ross & Judy Wiltshire

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Did you know?

Many people will remember the famous Nuttall Mintoos. How many know that the firm of William Nuttall was first established in Hexthorpe? The 1891 census returns state that at "19 Bridge Street, Hexthorpe, lived William Nuttall, head confectioner and grocer, his wife Sarah Ann, son Henry Thomas and daughter Anne Elizabeth".

It was in 1884 that William Nuttall opened a little shop in Bridge Street. His home made sweets, boiled in the family copper, made him a living. They were sold in his small shop and on market stalls. In 1903 he bought a derelict business in Chapel Street and took on a staff of six.

He was later assisted by his son. They experimented with mint-flavoured sweets and eventually produced the Minto. Hard work and a good quality product had their reward and in 1909 the firm built a model factory in Athron Street and the staff topped the one hundred mark. The rest is history. Do you know where Bridge Street and Chapel Street were? Do you know of what permanent reminder of the Nuttall family there still is in Doncaster?

Help is desperately needed!

The Artis Pet Sanctuary in Balby, Doncaster, is looking for fundraising projects to help with its animal welfare work.

The award winning sanctuary currently undergoing renovation at its new premises - is dedicated to the care, welfare, rescue and rehabilitation of small pet and wild animals.

Experts from the Weston Road rescue centre regularly visit schools, voluntary organisations and so on, giving talks highlighting their work and their other main concern of responsible pet ownership. These visits, mainly to groups of children and illustrated with some of the resident Artis animals, are undertaken free. Adult and specialist groups are also visited. It is also hoped that groups will be able to visit the sanctuary itself once the new Education Centre there is completed this year.

Gerald Coley, speaking on behalf of Artis says, "As a charity, we rely entirely on donations to keep the many aspects of our animal care work going. We are urging all animal lovers to get their thinking caps on to dream up ways to raise money, which the sanctuary desperately needs. Last year we did extremely well with fundraising by lots of people, from youngsters to senior citizens, but this year we need to do even better!"

Hexthorpe Tenants and Residents Association

THE JUNCTION Report

Being a representative for Hexthorpe in general as well as for the Junction I get into quite a few meetings with the Council, businesses, and other agencies. They are mainly to do with regeneration, and Hexthorpe is more in these agendas due to a lot of hard work by those that are really active within Hexthorpe. Two of our three local councillors are doing their bit, but the invisible man is still nowhere to be seen or heard there. We need to get more involved in the things that affect us here in Hexthorpe and the town in general.

Things are changing; I know that attitudes are changing within the local council as well as its workers. They have seen the light as far as having to work more closely with communities is concerned. Now we have a more level playing field how many of us are going to be brave enough to get involved?

I'm doing my bit by shouting out for Hexthorpe interests at these meetings, and so are one or two others; so support us where you can by coming to one of the existing meetings like the Tenants and Residents Association on the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm. They are held at Hexthorpe Primary School.

The speaker for the April meeting is Pam Horner from South Yorkshire Passenger Transport; so if you have any problems or questions about public transport this is the meeting to attend.

If you are interested in the environmental group they meet at the Youth Centre on Shadyside, the first Thursday of each month 7 pm. If you are interested in the Hexthorpe Gala group, they meet at Eden Grove every three to four weeks; just ask me if you want to know about the next one.

Andy

The last couple of months have been extremely busy at the Junction with the variety of things we are being asked to do.

I must apologise for cancelling the last open day. It was due to so many other things happening that day and me needing a day off! We will be having one on Saturday 9th May and there will be a mega bric-a-brac sale along with the usual cuppa and cake stall. The aim for these open days is two fold:

- 1 To allow people to come and see what we do at the Junction.
- 2 To raise funds for our tea and coffee fund.

If we can help you in any way please do not hesitate to call in to the office (it is less frightening than you think!) or call me on 349341. As I've said in previous issues, if I can't help I will most likely know someone who can.

If you are unfortunate enough to get the answer machine just leave your name and phone number and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Have you seen a new community policeman yet? He has certainly put himself about and is keen to get things sorted out in Hexthorpe, but he needs our help.

Andy

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Fri	11.45 to 1.30pm	4.30 to 6.00pm	8.00 to 11.30pm
Sat	11.45 to 1.45pm		

Phone for orders: Brian & Margaret 856843

Local People & News in Brief

Bowling Green Shock

Mr Shipley, the chairman of the Hexthorpe Flatts Bowling Club, informs us that the bowling greens in the Flatts are in a shocking condition - the worst that they have ever been. The reasons are two fold. The contractors for their part do not give them the attention they need. However, the biggest problem is that they are being used by footballers, motorbike and bike riders and even people taking dogs for a walk. Mr Shipley says that the bowling club has had success in the local leagues, but if things don't improve he can see the club having to close down. Good players, quite rightly, want to play on good greens.

Hexthorpe Boxer's Success

Luke Grice, 13, a Hexthorpe boy, has recently had success in the boxing world. He has been boxing for two years but won the Junior Boys under 14s in the Yorkshire Electricity Sports Awards. This was staged at Elland Road, the home of Leeds United. He has won 16 of his 18 bouts in his career and won the National Schoolboys' ABA title.

Councillor's Advice Surgery

Your councillors will be available to meet any resident to deal with any complaints or suggestions, or to discuss any matter at the following times - Saturdays 10-12 on May 2nd, June 27th, August 22nd at the Hexthorpe Youth Centre, Shadyside.

The Jasperian Theatre Company

This company is coming back to Hexthorpe on Friday April 24th. The production this time is "Get up out of your seats - Billy Graham in Britain 1954/66". There have been full houses on previous visits, so get your tickets early. Information from Donald 852521. The production is to be held in the Methodist Church.

Visit of Government Minister

Mr Paul Boetang, a Minister of Health in the Government, recently visited the complex in Travis Gardens. He was in Doncaster looking at facilities for those with learning difficulties. The photograph (right) shows Mr Boetang with Mrs Nightingale at the Travis Gardens centre.

Phillip Yates

We are sad to report the death of Philip Yates. He was highlighted in one of our previous editions. He was one of eight men who won the Edward Medal (later the George Cross) in the disaster at Bentley colliery. He was the last survivor of a group who, regardless of their own safety, displayed great gallantry in rescuing injured men. There has been an obituary and photograph in the Times newspaper. Mr Yates, who lived in Old Hexthorpe, is survived by his wife Mary and a son and daughter.

Mainline Spokesman at Tenants Meeting

At the March Tenants and Residents Association Mr Ashworth from Mainline answered questions concerning the bus services. Here are some of them with the response of Mr Ashworth. Why not a bus to link Hexthorpe with the Greenfield Lane surgery? A service has to be commercially viable. There may be a social need but in the end the priority of the bus company is to make a profit. It is highly unlikely that such a service would be provided.

Questions were asked conserving the bus stops in Duke Street and St Sepulchre Gate. Mainline is aware of the problem. The moving of the Hexthorpe terminus to Duke Street could be a possibility, but no promise was made.

Why is the Hexthorpe fare so expensive? Mainline fixes the prices. The Hexthorpe route is on Normal Fare Scales, some routes are on a cheaper rate: no real explanation was given.

Mr Ashworth was thanked for being prepared to answer questions. He said that if any one had any questions or complaints then please let Mainline know.

The Bridge on the Flatts

A question was asked at the Tenants and Residents meeting concerning the condition of the railway bridge in Oswin Avenue. Mr Charles Harrison said it was the responsibility of the Railway Company and the council was putting pressure on the company to put it in good order.

Band Concerts in the Dell

Three concerts have been arranged. 21st June and 23rd August - Armthorpe Band; 13 September - Markham Main Band. It is hoped that other concerts will be arranged.

