

# *The* **HEX-PRESS**

YOUR FREE HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER • No. 58 • Feb/Mar 1999

## **Survey Results Published**

**Action to tackle vandalism, the need for a chemist and road safety measures were top of the list in a Quality of Life Survey recently made in Hexthorpe.** 82.7% of those who replied considered action to tackle vandalism was very important, next with 77.4% came the need for a chemist and thirdly 71.8% mentioned road safety measures.

The summary of the results of the survey can be found on page 4. A variety of methods were used to capture the views of a wide range of people. There was the traditional questionnaire, a video recording of primary school children and outreach work with young people.

The survey was undertaken by a multi-disciplinary group of development workers, along with people from the Hexthorpe Community. The aim was 'to undertake a community survey to ascertain the needs, concerns and aspirations of people who live, work and study in the area.'

A development worker says 'The people of Hexthorpe who have been active in gaining this information are now keen to ensure that the people who have contributed feel that it was a worthwhile exercise . . . There was a degree of scepticism that 'anyone would listen' and the group is keen to ensure that it is seen that there is an attentive audience in the statutory sector.'

**A Seminar has been arranged for Friday February 19th at Eden Grove Cricket Club, Hexthorpe at 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. All residents of Hexthorpe are invited to attend. It is hoped that representatives from various departments of the Council will be present.**

### **Eden Grove Developments**

A grant has been made from S.R.B. funds and the Council for a feasibility study to be made concerning developments on the Eden Grove site, including the area which has been contaminated with asbestos. If the findings are positive then it is anticipated that major developments will take place there that would be of benefit to the community.



***New Business Opens – see page 8***

*Photo: A Rumney*

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Methodist Church Hall

**S.A.R.A Group**  
(Stay and Rest Awhile)  
Mums and Tots Group  
Thursday 9.45 – 11.45 am

**Mini-cruz**  
5 – 7 year olds  
5.30 – 7.00 pm Tuesday

**Mega-cruz**  
7 – 11 year olds  
5.45 – 7.15 pm 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

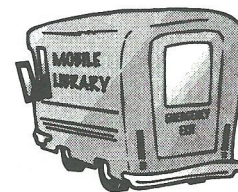
### Parish Priest

The Rev. J. Gilbert, The Vicarage,  
132 Shadyside Tel: 852057

### Hexthorpe Community Constable

contact P.C. Peter Hartshorne  
Tel: 0114 220 2020

## MOBILE LIBRARY



### Week beginning

February	March
1 Week 2	1 Week 2
8 Week 1	8 Week 1
15 Week 2	15 Week 2
22 Week 1	22 Week 1
	29 Week 2

**Any letters, articles contact:**  
Donald, 31 Old Hexthorpe, Tel: 852521

**Adverts, contact:**  
Julie, 165 Urban Road, Tel: 854898

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from £5.00 per issue to £15.00  
according to the size.

# Access an Opportunity to be a Mentor

*and help others in your community*

**Are you a good listener, have you got time to spare, do you want to improve your skills?**

- Access to Opportunity needs volunteers who will be trained to support our local clients in accessing employment, education and training.
- Volunteers with our project will gain experience in working with people in the community as they prepare and plan for their future. This could involve going with a client on an interview or helping complete application forms for example.
- Our volunteers can themselves access opportunities to develop their skills through further training which means you will enhance your employability if you are looking for a job.

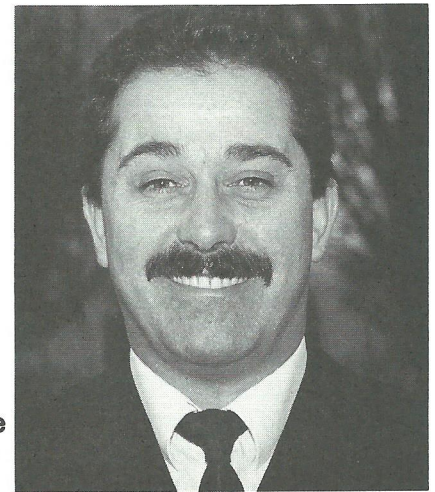
**You don't need qualifications for this role but you do need time and patience in order to befriend and support others.**

*For more information contact:*

Access to Opportunity Oswin House, Oswin Road, Balby, DN4 0NR Tel: 01302 855153

# Pete's Patch

## Policing the Community Part 2



The Justice of the Peace Act 1361 was one of the most significant to be introduced in the Middle Ages. It decreed that in every County of England three or four of the most worthy citizens be appointed to restrain and arrest offenders. These men became known as Justices of the Peace who could on well founded suspicion issue a warrant for someone's arrest. The Warrant was usually given to a constable who arrested the suspect and put him before the Justices' Court. Justices still work today and are unpaid just as they were in the Fourteenth Century.

Through Tudor and Stuart times the Constable was appointed annually. He was unpaid and had no uniform. As a result well-to-do citizens who were appointed to the post of Constable began to pay others to deputise as Constable. These Deputies might pay a smaller sum to another deputy so that over the years the standard of constable and the job he did declined.

In the 1660s, during the reign of King Charles II, the City of London began to pay watchmen to guard the streets of London. Due to the tiny sum paid only men who were old and often too frail to do any other work would take the job. These watchmen later became known as 'Charlies'. They carried a bell a lantern and a rattle and were armed with a staff but they were so feeble and half starved they could do little to stop any thieves or robbers. But in spite of this they were probably the most effective night Police Force at that time anywhere in the Country and this continued until the end of the 18th Century.

### The Crime and Disorder Act

You may wonder what this new Act is that everyone is talking about and how it is going to effect you. The Crime and Disorder Bill received Royal Assent in the Summer of 1998 and many of the proposals are being piloted in stages in advance of full implementation.

The Bill was brought about to reduce Crime and Disorder and to tackle persistent youth offending and to place restraints on children under 10 years who are at the moment are below the age of Criminal Responsibility.

The Government have realised that more should be done to help protect young children from being drawn into Crime and the need to help change their bad behaviour just as much as older children.

### The Child Safety Order

This is designed to prevent specific children slipping into crime and being involved in anti-social behaviour. It will be for children under 10 who are at risk of becoming involved in crime. For example, if they are wandering the streets late at night unsupervised or failing to attend school. This is via information laid to Magistrates.

### Local Child Curfews

Unsupervised young children gathering in public places can sometimes cause distress and misery to local communities and the children themselves can encourage each other to be anti-social and commit crime. The Local Authority after consultation with the community and Local Police have powers to impose curfews on children under 10.

### Parenting Order

This provides the courts power to require a parent or Guardian of a child who is subject to a child Safety Order or anti-social behaviour Order to attend Counselling or guidance sessions and to comply with the specified requirements which may be for example to secure their child's regular attendance at school. Where parents fail to comply they will be liable to conviction or fine.

### Reparation Order

This provides the Courts to sentence Young offenders over 10 to make reparation to the Victim or the community at large.

There are many more parts to the Act and I think that it will be welcomed by most people in the community.

### Crime News

There have been a number of sneak-in thefts in the area targeting the elderly so please keep all windows and doors locked and door chains on at all times and report any suspicious incidents.

Till next time, *Bye*

Could YOU be a listening ear? Please read below.

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# Letters to the Editor

## A Warning to the Elderly

Dear Elderly People of Hexthorpe

Let me tell you of my experience over the Christmas holidays. To start with I had my money stolen out of my handbag four times, then I had money taken from out my bungalow. I was not well over the Christmas holidays and decided to stay in bed. Around 11.50 a.m. I heard the back door click. I got out of bed sharply and caught him behind the living door. When I challenged him he said that he was hiding from his mate. I turned him out and rang for the warden. She informed the police who came round straightaway, but it is the upset that it brings. It is an awful feeling having to be locked in your own home, your freedom taken away. So please, please use all chains etc. or whatever you have got. If we are all aware we can beat them. Please use all chains and appliances you have.

Mary Brundish

## Space for cyclists

Dear Sir,

It is all very well for P.C.Pete to list "simple tips for children to keep them safe on the road" as he did in the last Hex-Press, the reality is quite different. What he forgot to mention was to re mind drivers to give cyclists space on the road.

From personal experience, it doesn't matter how safely you ride, the unknown factor is the unpredictability of the driver of the vehicle.

In the short distance that I travel to work each day through Balby, EVERY DAY and I repeat, EVERY DAY, some four-wheeled vehicle (i.e. bus, car, heavy goods, private hire taxis are the worse) abuses my travelling space on the road. Even on the Council designated cycleways, drivers are oblivious and even on the Greenfield Lane/Oswin Ave./ St.Peter's Rd. footpath/ cycleway, I am harassed by mopeds in the early morning.

Of course nothing will be done about this, if I am killed, I will just be another statistic, the driver might lose their licence for a time or be fined. If I am murdered then no expense will be spared to bring my assailant to justice and we all know the consequences.

The solution might be a heavier fine or a loss of liberty or both as a deterrent or better still losing your licence FOREVER. Something must be done, expecting cyclists to follow a list of simple tips is not the only answer. Any offers?

Yours sincerely,

Martin Towers

P.S. By the time you read this I might be on the mortuary slab?



*The refurbished Rising Sun (above) and the now closed Plant Hotel (below). Both photos courtesy of Alan Rumney.*

## A Phoenix from the Ashes

As one door closes another opens, so the saying goes. As most people are aware the public house, The Plant, has now closed and is boarded up. Its future is uncertain.

After serving the residents of Hexthorpe for numerous years, and no doubt quenching the thirst of many workmen leaving the Locomotive Plant Works, it is alas no more.

But as stated, as one door closes another opens and just down the road.

The Rising Sun refurbished and with a lick of paint is like a phoenix rising from the ashes (almost). After falling derelict and suffering constant vandalism, including being set on fire, the pub has now reopened and is a picture of its former self and will serve the community as it has done for many years to come.

Report by Alan Rumney



# Hexthorpe Quality of Life Group Issues

All of the following issues were deemed as 'very important' by over 50% of the questionnaire respondents.

Issues	% of respondents who consider the issue 'very important'
Action to tackle vandalism	82.7
Chemist	77.4
Road safety measures	71.8
Redevelopment of derelict areas	65.1
Pavement improvement	60.4
A permanent bus terminus in Doncaster	59.9
Park Wardens	56.3
Action to tackle graffiti	55.8
G.P.	55.6
Drugs	53.3
Refurbishment of empty properties	52.8
Outside areas for teenagers and children	51.5
Dog warden to stop dogs fouling	51.0

Almost half of the questionnaire respondents made additional comments about how they thought the quality of life could be improved for Hexthorpe residents. Some of the detail is listed below.

## Road safety/traffic

- speeding traffic
- road crossing near Junction
- parking problems
- congested parking inhibiting emergency access
- articulated lorries
- volume of traffic
- air pollution

## Park Wardens

- restoration of the Flatts
- re-introduce 'no-riding' rule
- broken glass hazard

## Community Centre

- somewhere for locals to meet day & night

## Anti social behaviour

- menacing kids
- burning rubbish on allotments
- gangs, vandalism & intimidation
- drug dealers
- filthy graffiti
- more police presence as a deterrent
- parents to control children curfew for kids

## Youth facilities

- clubs with personnel to teach and lead
- keep children away from GAP residential areas
- waste ground could be turned into play area for young children
- Saturday school for late developers
- Plant Hotel used as a club for 10-21
- play areas at the town end of Hexthorpe
- summer holiday activities

## Chemist

- why don't we have one?
- is most important
- why was it not replaced?

There is a strong feeling that the land of the old school site on Urban Road should be redeveloped. Also that 'community spirit' needs developing through all generations. Generally it is felt that Hexthorpe needs 'tidying' and 'brightening up'.

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**Best wishes: Gordon and Sandra**

# Junction Report

Things are happening around the village and it is where people that care a bit more for their environment and do something about it we see things getting done. There are areas where you can get involved a bit more that will hopefully put some things to right in the village. The Hexthorpe Quality of Life Action Group that has been responsible for the questionnaire are now about to tackle the agencies that can provide the help and resources, but we need your presence.

People are asking for more say in their community, (here is a chance to have your say) turn up on the 19th Feb at 2pm at Eden Grove for the community event where several of the statutory agencies and those responsible for services will be asked to speak on the findings of our questionnaire and there will be time for questions. Please come along and support this event, there will be a leaflet coming through your door soon as well as posters and press releases. There may even be a Community Enterprise Project starting up in Hexthorpe to do with Recycling unwanted Furniture and electrical goods that needs repaired or made into something new and sold to employ hopefully local people, keep your eyes open for further information.

Some of our elderly complained about the missing hand rail that used to be at the steps at Travis gardens and has now been put back, some people also spoke of fear of crime and being burgled, that is also being addressed by having new locks and chains put on for the most vulnerable with money from SRB community safety project and involving the police more in community matters. Our local bobby P.C. Pete Hartshorne is seriously looking to set up a local office in Hexthorpe if he can find premises. Edengrove has been granted money to do a feasibility study on the site to make it

more safe and accessible to the public; hopefully the study will prove positive and they will be able to find the funds to upgrade the site. Thank you everyone that baked those lovely mince Pies for our Christmas Open day. We managed to make over £70 for our tea and coffee fund, thanks also to those of you that donated things either to sell or to give away. We are having the Mayor coming to open our next Open day on Sat 20th Feb from 11am till 1pm, usual tea/coffee and chat and cake and bric-a-brac stalls. And hopefully we will have had our building painted by then both inside and outside by a team from British Telecom; there maybe some T.V. cameras around as well as the local press.

P.S. I have had several requests to highlight that there are tokens offered for school books on crisp packets as well as in the some news paper, if you get these or see other people with them that just throw them away please collect them for the Hexthorpe Primary School.

*Andy*

## H.E.A.F.

The group now meets on the first Tuesday every two months at 7pm, the next meeting is on the 6th April 1999 at Travis Gardens Community Hall. Some of the group have been quite busy and quietly cleaning up areas around the village as well as chasing up others to clean up their patch, as well as things that need putting right. If you are in interested in joining the group and get some practical work done around the village then either come along to the meetings or give the secretary Mr Bob Baker a call on 811718. We are also having a big push on Junior members this year again, if your kids are interested give us shout.

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# Hexthorpe Tenants and Residents Association

Everyone had a good time at the Panto, I think we took 75 adults and kids to see Cinderella at the Civic Theatre, and the Christmas dinner at the Maltings was just great as well.

In the December meeting Sue Daynes came and spoke about the importance of recycling more of our waste we put in our bins. We have already been warned that if we don't use the bottle banks more we will lose them, as we did the paper bank, although that was due to some idiots continuously setting it alight. We also mentioned to Sue that we would like to go on the Blue Bag scheme where we are issued a Blue bag to put our papers, magazines etc. and put them out for collection every 2 weeks. So we wait with baited breath to see if it is feasible or not.

Our next meetings are as follows:

Tues 16th February, the speaker is Mrs. Wendy Baker, as requested, on First Aid.

Tuesday 16th March (no speaker as yet) If you have any suggestions about the type of speaker you would like to hear from then please let me know.

Andy

# B.T. & J. ASPDEN

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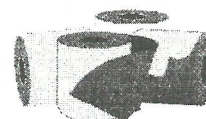
36 Toilet Rolls £8.50

Organics shampoo £1.69

12 economy Toilet Rolls £1.99 – white only

Hairspray from 49p

Toilet Cleaner from 49p (Harpic)



**31-33 Hexthorpe Road – 730313**

# Local People & News in Brief

## Welcome To Hexthorpe

After last month's report in The Hexpress about the retirement of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson from the family business after 30 years, we would now like to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Dhaliwal, who have taken over the business.

The family hail from the North East of England, having lived in South Shields until on buying a business in Doncaster. I am sure that they will try to the people of Hexthorpe in way that they are accustomed to— hopefully for as many years as the previous owners.  
(News item submitted by Alan Rumney.)

## Christmas at Patrick Stirling Court

Christmas was celebrated in style at Patrick Stirling Court. A successful Christmas dinner for the residents of the complex was held in the lovely common room. A Carol Service was well attended and on Christmas Eve there was a visit from the carol singers from the Methodist Church.

## A Competition

You will have noticed an advert for the shop at 31-33 Hexthorpe Road, which sells all sorts of cleaning materials. The owners are seeking a new name (as well as Killpest) because they sell so many other items. The shop would welcome suggestions. So please give your ideas to the shop on Hexthorpe Road.

## Community Enterprise

There is a strong possibility of a Community Enterprise Project being established in Hexthorpe. It is hoped that premises can be found so that furniture can be restored.

Such a scheme would provide a number of jobs and training in skills for the unemployed. Funding could be made available from the Single Regeneration Budget. If any Hexthorpe resident is interested in joining a working party to look at the feasibility of such an enterprise then please let Donald know (Tel. 852521).

## Auntie Dot Retires

Auntie Dot (Mrs. Ardron) has been a lollipop lady for twenty years. She is retiring this month and will be greatly missed by many Hexthorpe children. In 1993 Auntie Dot was chosen from hundreds of entries in a nationwide competition as No 1 Lollipop Lady in the country. The staff and pupils of the Hexthorpe School submitted a project extolling the virtues of their favourite Lollipop Lady. Press and Television reporters descended on the school and Auntie Dot became a T.V. celebrity. Adults as children will miss her—she has become a familiar figure on Shadyside, always ready for a friendly chat. She took a keen interest in the welfare of the children. Her retirement has been richly deserved.

## Late News

The Hexpress has just been awarded a grant of 1,500 pounds from the Community Chest of S.R.B.2. This is for new developments e.g. extra pages or regular colour photographs. This grant is much appreciated and we will give more details in our next issue. However we are still on the look out for more funding as it is a struggle to find the costs for each basic edition.

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Fri	11.45 to 1.30pm	4.30 to 6.00pm	8.00 to 10.30pm
Sat	11.45 to 1.45pm		

Phone for orders: Brian & Margaret 856843