

# *The* **HEX-PRESS**

YOUR FREE HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER • No. 63 • Feb/Apr 2000

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## **COMMUNITY** **is the Key Word**

**There are new and exciting challenges and opportunities for Hexthorpe people. Various groups and individuals are working extremely hard to bring benefits to the Hexthorpe community. Community is the key word.**

Recent initiatives include: The New Deal for Communities, a Community Development Worker, a possible Community Enterprise and a Community Resource Centre. Most of these are in the planning stage and will not appear over night. If funds are successfully applied for then they could become realities.

**The New Deal for Community:** This is a Government initiative designed to get local people working together with key agencies to tackle problems arising from a lack of job opportunities, poor health, high crime and fear of crime, and low educational attainment. £50M over 10 years could be made available for an area of 4,000 households.

A public meeting was held at Stirling School, at which only a few Hexthorpe people were present out of an attendance of around 200. However, we understand that part of Hexthorpe has been included in the target area. Abid Hussain, The New Deal for Communities Mentor, says that people should get involved, 'We can't pretend that this will be easy—there will be a lot of hard work to be done by everyone over the coming months. But please don't be put off, for this really is a once in a lifetime opportunity to make a difference for your community.'

**Community House:** The Council are renovating a house on Hexthorpe Road and making it available for use by the community policeman, TARA and other local workers.

**Community Development Worker:** A bid is being prepared by the Hexthorpe Quality of Life Group, together with the Balby Network, for a community

development worker. Such a worker's task would be to advance initiatives on behalf of the local people. There will be meetings of the Quality of Life Forum announced in the coming months. Everybody is urged to attend and to let their voice be heard.

**Community Enterprise:** This is in its early stages, but it is hoped to set up an enterprise that will provide jobs and training for local unemployed people.

**Community Resource Centre:** The Quality of Life Group is busy preparing plans for such a centre. It is hoped that permission and funds will be made available so that it could be built on the old school site, alongside the proposed bowling club centre.

**Remember that most of these are in the planning stage. Local people are urged to get involved, so that hopes can become realities.**

### ***Hexpress Comment***

*We are extremely grateful to those who have recently supported the Hexpress financially. The Hexthorpe Gala Group have donated £250 from their funds. We are very pleased to acknowledge this. This edition is produced with that donation. Also the Police have made a generous gift of £100 towards the cost of the Hexpress. It is good to know that the Hexthorpe community have their support in this way. If any of our readers have any ideas about future sources of funding then we would be pleased to hear from you.*

## 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 – 7.15pm 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

Glyn Jones,  
20 Lister Avenue, Balby  
DN4 8AR Tel. 816881

### Methodist Minister

John Wiltshire,  
1 Cedar Road, Balby Tel: 852024

### Methodist Lay Workers

John Crawford,  
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

### New Timetable

Weekly from Friday 10th December 1999

Hexthorpe: Patrick Stirling Court  
(Fortnightly from Friday 17th Dec. 1999)  
9.30-10.00pm

Hexthorpe Shadyside: (opp. Windle Rd)  
10.05-10.35am

Hexthorpe Eden Grove 10.40-11.10am

Hexthorpe Shadyside (St Jude's Church)  
11.15-11.45am

### Any letters, articles, adverts contact:

Donald, 31 Old Hexthorpe, Tel: 852521

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

## Recipe

### Potato and Celeriac Galette

*This delicious vegetable 'cake' serves 6.*

- Turn oven to 190 C (Gas mark 5), 375 F. Grease and base line 8ins oven-proof dish.
- Peel and thinly slice 1lb 6oz (625g) potatoes and 1lb (450g) celeriac (a celery flavoured root vegetable)
- Finely chop 3 cloves garlic and 3tbs fresh parsley.
- Layer potatoes, celeriac, parsley and garlic in dish and season each layer lightly.
- Melt 2 oz (50g) butter into quarter pint chicken stock and pour this over the layers. Cover tightly with foil and bake on the shelf of oven for one and half hours.
- Leave to stand 5-10 minutes, then turn out onto flame-proof dish.
- Just before serving, remove lining paper and brown under the grill.

*P.S. Liquidise or mash any left over galette with the rest of the stock (most cubes make up to three quarters of a pint) to make a tasty soup. The galette isn't suitable for freezing, but the soup won't mind at all.*

## Martin and Anne-Marie's CORNER CHIPPY

The little chippy with the BIG reputation

Children's Menu  
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### OPENING TIMES

	11.30 - 1.30	-----
MONDAY	11.30 - 1.30	-----
TUESDAY	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 8.00
WEDNESDAY	11.30 - 1.30	-----
THURSDAY	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 8.00
FRIDAY	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 8.00
SATURDAY	11.30 - 1.15	-----
SUNDAY	-----	-----

## Watch out for Anne-Marie's DAILY SPECIALS

44 Hexthorpe Road (Kirk Street), Hexthorpe  
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Offers subject to availability

# Pete's Patch

## Out with the old in with the new

The New Millennium and two years on for me as your community constable.

What have we achieved in Hexthorpe in the past two years? I have to say that the quality of life for Hexthorpe residents has been improved tremendously and there is a lot of public spirit returning.

I have seen the formation of many multi-agency working groups whose members have worked very hard and have been fundamental in projects to improve the area.

These individuals need a round of applause and your backup at future meetings by your attendance.

In December a Drugs Awareness evening was held at Hexthorpe Primary School. This meeting was arranged due to concerns from worried parents about drug abuse in the area. The meeting was attended by persons from various agencies there to answer your concerns. Only FIVE parents attended. That tells me that people are prepared to moan and criticise that nothing is being done about the problems but when it comes to the stick and lift they are not prepared to give an hour of their time to attend. The meeting although poorly attended went very well and was very informative. Many thanks to the school and guest speaker Bob Adams.

In November 1999 a private landlords meeting was held at Doncaster Police Station. This was the second such meeting in two years. Several issues were discussed at length including criminal activities by certain tenants, anti social behaviour, rubbish tipping and many more matters. The main thing that came out of the meeting was that the Landlords are prepared to work with other agencies and to tackle these problems. They are also willing to go through civil court proceedings against tenants who contravene tenancy agreements. The system will also apply to council tenants.

### What Does the Future Hold?

I myself aim to be in the area as much as I possibly can. I intend to visit the school working with the children on subjects such as road safety, Road Safety Cycling Proficiency and many more issues which affect them.

If you are a member of a group or association and wish me to attend for some reason, please get in touch.

Marilyn Green from D.M.B.C. community safety is working very hard at the moment trying to put forward a package for funding for two uniformed neighbourhood watch wardens for the area. If she is successful you will be the first area in Doncaster to benefit. Please give her all the backing you can.

I was bike stamping free of charge between 10.a.m.-1p.m.on Saturday 26th February at Hexthorpe Primary School and Saturday 4th March at Balby Central School. Leaflets were handed to each pupil beforehand.

### Crime News

House Burglary and theft from motor vehicles is the main crime trend at the moment. Please make sure that you take simple crime prevention measures as I have discussed in previous editions of the Hexpress.

The clampers from D.L.V.C. have been out in force recently targeting vehicles without current Excise Licences. This can prove to be very costly to the owner of the vehicle.

A very sincere new year to you all. I can be contacted at Doncaster Police Station 01320 385217. Bye.

### First Aid Tips

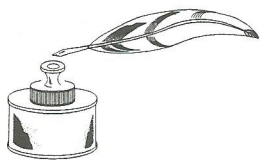
#### Heart Attack

- 1 Persistent vice-like pain in the centre of the chest, often spreading to the jaw and left arm.
- 2 Unlike angina, the pain does not ease once the person is resting. (It may come on while the person is resting/sleeping)
- 3 Breathlessness and discomfort in the abdomen-like severe indigestion.
- 4 Grey tinge to the skin, blue tinge to the lips, sweating.
- 5 Rapid weak pulse (May be irregular)
- 6 Can collapse without warning.

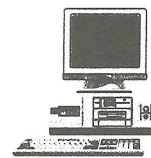
#### What To Do

- 1 Place him/her in a half sitting position against something firm e.g. a wall.
- 2 Support their back with pillows.
- 3 Bend their knees and support by placing a pillow or folded blanket underneath them.
- 4 Send for an ambulance.
- 5 If he/she has any medication help them to take it.
- 6 If the pain persists, give them an aspirin to chew slowly.
- 7 If they become unconscious put them into the recovery position.

Wendy Baker



# Letters



## Children put at risk

Dear Editor

We are writing this letter to inform the people of Hexthorpe of the way certain individuals are putting the lives and well being of younger children at risk. We are the leaders of the Mini-Cruz, which is a club for children 5 to 8 years old. We meet every Tuesday in the Methodist Church Hall

Over the past year we have had several windows broken in the hall while the children have been having their club. After the last incident (only the other week) several of the children and some of the leaders were very upset and disturbed by it. We are appealing to anyone who knows or sees anyone who is responsible for this to take appropriate action and inform the police. Are we going to allow this to continue and spoil the future for our young ones? Or will you help to stop it?

*The leaders of the Mini-Cruise*

**Ed.** We understand that an application for a grant to protect the windows has been made. In the meantime a rota is being drawn up to patrol the building when the club meets.

## A Satisfied Customer

Dear Editor

My wrist watch stopped some time ago, after giving years of reliable service. I took it to a jewellers who sent it off to be repaired. Many weeks later I collected it and paid what I thought was an exorbitant amount. After a few weeks it began to lose time and eventually it stopped again, by which time the repair guarantee had run out.

After being 'timeless' for a while, I decided to try the watch repairer in the Odeon Arcade in town. He looked at it, told me what cleaning the others had done and not done, gave me a reasonable quote and said 'Come back next week.'

I collected it 7 days later and it has been perfect ever since.

So, if any of your readers have any watches or clocks needing repair, I recommend 'Clockwise', the Odeon Arcade.

Yours Faithfully

*Satisfied*

**Editor's Note:** This is a genuine letter from a local resident—not a way of getting a free advert by the jeweller!

## The Mystery of the Yellow Lines

Dear Editor

With regard to cars double parking and to the traffic congestion in Hexthorpe I wish to refer to the recent unnecessary double parking along by the Plant pub to Hexthorpe Bridge. This is unacceptable because of the sharp bends at both ends of the road. I have noticed the older population having to walk out halfway before seeing traffic because of blind spots. This is all due to various agencies ripping up the roads in Hexthorpe and failing to put back yellow lines that have been demolished. My complaint is for the agencies and the council to get their act together—if you have to demolish public footpaths, at least ensure that you put the yellow lines back. The same danger applies to the women with children and push- chairs. Hexthorpe has its own traffic problems without this headache being so close to town.

Yours a concerned citizen and pedestrian

*J. Harrison*

**Ed.** We publish this letter because a number of people have expressed a similar concern and misunderstanding. There have not been yellow lines on that side of the road for many years and so they haven't recently been removed. However, it is true that there is a real danger. There have been notices on the lamp posts to say that yellow lines are to be placed there. At the time of going to press the lines are being put in place. The problem has arisen apparently when the car park over the bridge raised its charges. People have been parking their cars on the approach to the bridge while they are at work.

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# Protect Your Pets in Winter

**At this time of year we should be taking extra care of our pets – with particular attention to those that live outside.**

Most rabbits, guinea pigs and birds and so on, can survive the British climate – especially as we don't have the really biting, cold winters that we used to have.

Despite this we can help a lot in many ways to make the winter lot of our pets a better one.

The contents of water bottles can freeze and should be checked regularly. It is worth remembering that glass can easily crack whereas plastic bottles won't! If you know someone who can knit, a woollen cover can be made for your outside water bottle.

Hutches should be protected throughout the winter. The best way to do this is to fit a 'hook on' piece of wooden boarding over the mesh sections. This can be fixed in position each night and when required during the day. Do not use the old fashioned method of using old pieces of carpet. They will get wet and soggy and could be responsible for dampness in the hutch which will almost certainly result in harm to the occupant. It is not a bad idea to move hutches inside a shed or garage if this possible. If in the garage however, make sure that there is no danger from exhaust fumes from the car.

External aviary flights should be protected. Specially made panels using any of the clear plastic materials that are available today will protect whilst at the same time let in the necessary light. Make sure that chipmunk nest boxes have plenty of fresh, new, clean bedding inside. They can easily survive our winters and won't actually hibernate- but you won't see them on cold days.

All small animals should be given extra bedding for both warmth and security. Just as we like our homes to be cosy and warm ..... so do they! Do not use the commercial stuff that looks like cotton wool as it could seriously harm your pet and even kill him! I still maintain that the best bedding is torn up, good quality, soft toilet paper! Far better than anything you can buy in a pet shop.

As a special treat give your outside animals a warm meal now and again- especially on extra cold, frosty mornings.

The winter of our pet's discontent may not actually be transformed into glorious summer but we can all do our bit to make those cold, wintry days more pleasant for our pets.

*If you have a pet problem and would like to talk to someone, call the Arts Pet Sanctuary (Registered Charity No. 1069533) Weston Road, Balby, Doncaster on (01302) 857104*

## **J.M. McGill, M.R. Pharm S.**

**THE PHARMACY, 106 Warmsworth Road, Balby**

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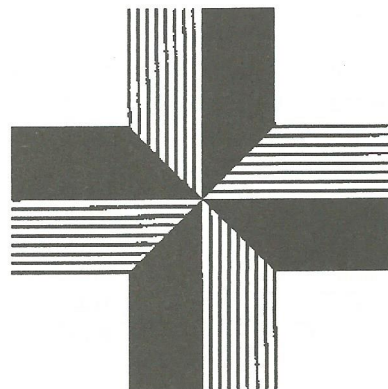
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**We would like to help, Please do ask**



# When Hexthorpe had a Doctor

*The following was given by Miss Hancock in an interview. Miss Hancock will be remembered by some of readers as a teacher at Hexthorpe Junior School. We are sad to announce that Miss Hancock died recently. We hope that this article will remind people of her and also of earlier days in Hexthorpe.*

I moved into Hexthorpe in 1921 when I was 16 years old. Nearly all the men worked in the Plant. There was no crime that I can remember; three policemen lived in the village. You could go to bed with the door unlocked. I remember that many times the policeman would knock us up to say that the door was not locked.

In 1929 I went to America by boat. The fare was £36 and 4 shillings return. I went for 5 weeks. I was teaching at Oswin Avenue at the time. I had to have a week off school. People in Hexthorpe thought I was mad to go so far alone. If people went to Scarborough or Bridlington they thought they were doing well. That is where the Sunday Schools had trips to in July or August.

Hexthorpe was a nice place to live in. It was really separate from Doncaster. There was no need to go to town because everything you needed was here. There was a clothes shop, two chemists, milk was delivered, butchers shops galore and of course there was a big Coop.

There were two public houses near us – the Prior Well Inn and Hexthorpe House. There never seemed to be much trouble. However there was one family I remember that was famous for being drunk. One Sunday night the father got drunk and was making a nuisance of himself in the street. Someone sent for the policeman and when he arrived he could not find the man anywhere. It was the anniversary at the Primitive Methodist Chapel over the road and he had gone in there, singing with the rest of them. Mr. Holdsworth told me that ‘We’d got hold of him and we are going to make a good lad out of him.’ I don’t think they were successful.

A doctor had a room that he used as a surgery at certain times. It was in Angus’s house on the row between Langer Street and Barnstone Street. It was in their front room. We had to pay for the doctor. It was 5 shillings to call him out. Mother used to say that we must have it ready, because he didn’t always have change. He always sat on the same chair. Mr. Glover (Senior) came in a pony and trap. This was in the 1920s. He came in and said ‘Where’s my chair?’ People had to go to fetch the doctor, because nobody had a phone.

If people died the bodies were kept in the home; my brother was an undertaker. It was awful in the summer months; it wasn’t right. He was once called out in the middle of the night and he was walking down the road with a laying-out board. He met a policeman, who asked him what he was doing with it. He told him that he was going to lay someone out. The constable wondered, but when my brother asked him if he wanted to go with him, he soon disappeared.

One woman died in Sutton Street and she was so big that

they couldn’t get her out of the door for the funeral. They had to slide her down from the upstairs window. One family fetched my brother when their father died. He put him in the coffin and the coffin was to stay in the house until the funeral. When he went back to the house the coffin was reared up in a corner of the room. Father was in full view. If they had moved it at all, he would have fallen out. Now if someone dies, you can pay at least £1000 pounds. If it was more than £20 it was a lot. People used to provide for it by having a two pence a week insurance.

As children we played at shuttlecock and battle-dore, usually with wooden rackets, sometimes if you were lucky with a stringed one. They don’t know what they are today. The top was crayoned to look pretty as it turned round. We also had a flat board with two wheels and a handle, which we pushed along with our feet. The boys played marbles. There was a hole in the corner of the playground. The marbles were coloured and each colour had a certain score. The glassy ones were worth 10. They tried to throw the marbles into the hole. We didn’t have expensive, mechanical toys. Parents sit their children in front of the television to keep them quiet, while they cook quick meals in one of those microwaves. The children see things that they shouldn’t see.

## **B.T. & J. ASPDEN**

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# *Local People & News in Brief*

## **News of Hexthorpe Manor House**

The Manor has sent us the following news. 'The Doncaster Canaan Trust, a charity based at the Manor House, was recently delighted to be awarded a local government grant of £4,954 from the SRB scheme, authorised by the Community Forum, a body of local representatives.

The Manor has been open for many years now to offer retreats, hospitality, a listening ear, seminars and conferences, but has yet to fulfil its aim of offering short-term respite stays to those who need to get away from it all.

You may have already met Susie Howarth from Coventry, who recently joined the Trust as Development Officer, and is spending most of her time fund-raising for staffing, without which the Trust cannot take overnight guests. The SRB grant was awarded for equipment costs in anticipation of future needs.

The local community will be fully informed when short-term stay facilities become available. The Trust would like to thank its local supporters.

## **A New Housing Development**

A few months ago notices for planning permission regarding the old Environment Agency appeared on the lamp posts in Bramworth Road. They were informing residents of an application made by the Doncaster Health Trust to develop the site for use as a centre for patients with learning difficulties. The building is now empty and is on a prime site by the river.

However, in recent weeks new notices have appeared applying for permission to develop the site for new housing. The plans have been on display in Balby Library. It is proposed to build 10 detached houses. The site was originally part of the grounds of Hexthorpe Hall. Some of the original stone wall is still the boundary wall of the area.

## **Christmas at the Junction**

John and Sue Crawford provided a Christmas Day dinner for those who would otherwise have been on their own. Dinner was served to 10 people. Appreciation was shown by the comments made, such as, 'It was the best Christmas I've had for years' and 'It was like one big happy family.'

## **Christmas in the Dell**

A Carol Service was held in the Dell on the Sunday before Christmas. It took the form of a Christingle

Service. Despite it being a bitterly cold day, several hundred people braved the weather. Carols were sung and lessons were read by local people. A choir from the Hexthorpe Primary School sang several carols. This was the highlight of the afternoon. People appreciated the presence of the Acting Headteacher, Mrs. Foster and Mrs. Milner who played for the children. The whole event was organised by St. Jude's Church and the Methodist Church. It was arranged to celebrate the 2,000th birthday of Jesus Christ.

## **Christmas in the Streets**

As usual carols were sung around Hexthorpe on the night of Christmas Eve by a group of singers from the Methodist Church. Houses were visited and money donated was given to the Christian relief organisation, Tear Fund. The weather was atrocious. There were strong winds, torrential rain and even thunder and lightning. Carols have been sung in the streets in Hexthorpe on every Christmas since the 19th century! It was the worst weather that anyone could remember.

## **Safety Measures on Urban Road**

At the time of going to press work has started on a stretch of Urban Road. These are traffic calming measures. It is hoped that the action taken will reduce the speed of vehicles. Also it is intended to discourage traffic using Hexthorpe at busy times as an alternative to Balby Road. The Hexpress would be interested in hearing what you think about the measures that have been taken.

## **Glass Recycling**

John Parkinson, the Head of Environmental Services, says that regretfully the glass banks that were outside the Junction have been withdrawn. This is because of repeated vandalism. The nearest recycling facilities are at the Civic Amenity Site, Springwell Lane, Balby. This means that the action of a few have deprived the community of both paper and glass recycling facilities.

## **Crime Prevention**

Residents of certain streets were recently given an opportunity to obtain free advice and help in making their homes safe. A Police Unit was parked next to the clock on three days and 400 homes were leafleted. A number of people took up the offer. £20,000 had been made available from S.R.B. Community Safety to provide free advice, locks and bolts worth up to £100 per household. This was a positive move to help people and families feel safer in their homes.