

The **HEX-PRESS**

YOUR FREE HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER No. 70 Oct - Nov 2002

Sponsored by HEXQOL, the Hexthorpe Quality of Life Initiative.

HEXTHORPE MAN STARS AT THE MANCHESTER GAMES

English Hockey selected Steve Brooks, ('Brooksie' to his friends), as one of England's umpires at the Commonwealth Games 2002 in Manchester. Steve, an international hockey umpire, lives in Hexthorpe Road and writes –

'I had to prepare for months before the Games both physically and mentally. Today's increased technology exposes any mistake made by an umpire – (there is no hiding) and a number of people are poised to vent their anger at your performance, so you need to be calm, careful and confident. The preparatory days before the Games, the morning before, the changing rooms, the entry into the stadium, the toss of the coin, then the 70 minute cauldron of the game – all go to make up a real 'lion's den' where you are constantly under the microscope, being observed and assessed on and off the pitch.

I arrived in Manchester feeling fit and mentally prepared. The eleven hundred officials for the Games were housed in student accommodation in the city centre. It was good to meet officials from other sports and swap stories about the main incidents of the day.

I was privileged to umpire four games in the tournament, all significant in some way. In my first game I fell over at a crucial time – this earned me a large fine from the umpires committee – but from then on I never looked back. The second game (a record score – Australia 20: Barbados 1) was played in torrential rain and we had to go off the pitch for twenty minutes until the thunder and lightning had stopped – another fine, this time for not completing the game within regulation time! I was honoured to umpire a tense semi-final – Australia closely beating South Africa – a visit to the video screening area confirmed a disputed decision – to my relief and satisfaction.

I was stunned to be told I had been chosen to umpire the Final between Australia and New



Zealand. I can't tell you too much about the match as it is a blur. I remember leading the teams out and being aware of the crowds – and cameras – but this is where all the mental preparation kicks in and I was able to focus and just umpire the game. The game went well for me personally and the Australians gave a master class beating the New Zealanders comfortably to become the deserved Commonwealth champions.

The Manchester Commonwealth Games was a well organised, cosmopolitan, memorable event. I made many new friends from all over the world. It was a major shock to the system to go home and return to work. I really enjoyed the whole experience and look forward to the next time!

Congratulations, Steve. As many of your friends said at the time, 'Nice one, Brooksie!'

WHO'S WHO

Local Councillors

Stuart Exelby 70 Carr View Avenue, Tel 329521
John Hoare Tel. 751787
Glyn Jones, 20 Lister Avenue, Balby DN4 8AR
Tel. 816881

Methodist Minister

John Wiltshire, 1 Cedar Road, Balby Tel: 852024

The Junction Manager

John Crawford, 61 Hexthorpe Road Tel: 349341

Parish Priest

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

Hexthorpe Community Constable

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

MOBILE LIBRARY

On Fridays:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Patrick Stirling Court | 9.30-10.00pm |
| Shadyside: (opp. Windle Rd) | 10.05-10.35am |
| Eden Grove | 10.40-11.10am |
| Shadyside (St Jude's Church) | 11.15-11.45am |

Recipe

Savoury Pin Wheels

Quick to make and easy to eat round the bonfire. You will need a packet of fresh puff pastry, 1lb (500 g) of sausage meat and chopped onions or herbs if you like them.

Method: Roll out the pastry thinly on a floured surface-unless you have a large work-top it is easier to handle if you cut the pastry block in half. Spread the sausage meat over the pastry and add onion if you wish. Then roll it up and using a sharp knife cut the roll into finger thick slices- the thicker the slice, the larger the pin wheel. Lay each slice cut side down and with a floured rolling pin, roll into thin circles. Place on a dampened baking tray and cook near the top of a pre-heated oven (gas mark 8, 450 deg. F, 230 deg. C) for about 10 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on a wire tray.

Vegetarians - replace sausage meat with thinly spread yeast extract and grated cheese.

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 Tuesday 5.30 - 7.00 pm

Mega-cruz
7 — 11 year olds Wednesday 5.45 - 7.15pm

Rock Solid Club
11 — 14 year olds Wednesday 7.45 - 9.01 pm

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

* * * *

At Hexthorpe Parish Hall (St Jude's)

Mums and Tots Monday 10.00 am - 12 noon
Yoga Monday 1.30 - 3.15pm
Wednesday 7.00 - 8.30pm

Other events as advertised

Sunday Services

Mass and Sunday School 10.00 am

Any letters, articles, adverts contact:

Donald, 31 Old Hexthorpe, Tel: 852521

Published by: Hexqol Hexthorpe Quality of Life

Advertisements: Contact Joan Reasbeck,
31 Old Hexthorpe, Tel. 852521

Advertisements in each issue cost from £5.00 per issue to £15.00 according to size.

Regular meetings for you to attend and hear the latest news concerning Hexthorpe and also for you to ask questions.

TARA

Hexthorpe Tenants and Residents Meeting
Every third Tuesday of the month at 7.00 pm. in Hexthorpe School hall
It costs £1 a household per year to join.

HEXQOL

Regular Forum Meetings are held along with the New Deal for Communities.
See notices around Hexthorpe for the time and place.

Councillors' Column

Review

Looking at the last edition, progress on some items seems to have been disappointingly slow. The telephone kiosk will be moved (hopefully by the time you receive this) as all the formalities are now complete. The seat in Denison Road has also been removed, a pity but it was misused. The section of the land immediately behind Ramsden Road belongs to Yorkshire Electricity, who apparently hold it in case they want to build some form of booster station there, while the major part behind belongs to the Council. Pressure has been put on for the removal derelict fencing and proper cleaning up, while your councillors are urging the Housing Department either to use the land or to sell it to someone who will.

Grass

What a mistake to refer to this last time! Global warming certainly seems to be behind the longer growing season and erratic weather, which led to numerous justified complaints about the state of the grass and seeds in late August. All we can say is that we are urging the Council to put more into the cutting budget again.

Mayors

We are beginning to get used to having a Civic Mayor, the figurehead Doncaster has enjoyed since 1194, and an Elected Mayor, who is really the Council Leader. It does cause confusion, especially when members of the public expect the Elected Mayor to be all-powerful and forget that the Council is still there! Additionally, we now have

Community Forums and Community Link Workers, trying to involve more people in what happens. However, it is all beginning to settle down and will hopefully deliver results for you. Don't forget that your three Ward Councillors are still there ready to help!

Alley Gates

Bob Baker has put in a sketch of proposed gates to protect the streets in the New Deal area and these will go through the public consultation phase towards a Traffic Regulation Order. Any comments or suggestions should be admitted as requested in the advertisement, when it appears.

Old Cold Store

Environmental Services have issued orders for the site to be cleared but rubbish soon comes back. There are new owners who we have written to in the hope of finding out that they have plans to use the site and end the mess problem.

Neighbourhood Wardens

The Elected Mayor has made these wardens a priority and we are keeping up the pressure for the replacement of Charlie and Ruth. An advertisement for new wardens should be in place now.

One or more of us are always present at the Hexthorpe TARA and we about, but please contact us whenever we can be of help - Stuart Exelby (tel. 329521), John Hoare (tel. 751787) and Glyn Jones (tel. 816881).



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Pete's Patch

Firstly let me apologise for missing Pete's Patch out of the last issue of the Hex-Press. I have to admit I was on a Sandy Beach in Spain soaking up the Sun and the Sangria; never mind that for those of you that wait impatiently at your letter box for the next edition of the Hex-Press to drop through here is my report.

Ongoing Projects

The community Allotment project continues and is regularly attended by children from Hexthorpe Primary. Would you believe we have had visitors as far afield as the Shetland Isles and Scotland who have similar interests and projects in mind. We had the chance this year to start earlier and the children produced a mass of bedding plants in June which were on display at their Summer Fayre. We have been busy pickling beetroot and onions which I hope will have matured before the Harvest Festival. We also hope to try drying herbs this year and possibly making some pot pourri. We also managed a coach tour to Clumber Park in Nottinghamshire. The staff were very kind and gave us a grand tour of the magnificent gardens and greenhouses. The weather was very kind to us and we found time for a picnic and ball games.

I am aware that in the last edition of the Hex-Press the allotment committee advertised for persons who may be interested in renting their own allotment. It costs £20 per year, why not give it a go? If you are interested please contact either myself or take a walk down to the site and speak with the committee members there. I assure you it is great fun but be prepared for some hard work but surprising results.

I am also aware that as many as 20 – 25 young people have visited the Indoor Bowling Centre and at least eight of them are playing in the County League. Again this is a sport you either take to or dislike but I am sure with support from the school and parents alike some young people will benefit. Please don't forget if you prefer playing outdoor bowls walk up to Hexthorpe Park and make enquiries there.

The first aid initiative is still ongoing and Mrs Baker has recently acquired two baby sized practice dummies to give people the experience of dealing with someone so small. This training is a must for parents with young children and allows you confidence to deal with unexpected situations.

Summer Cohesion Projects

This project is promoted by the New Deal staff who are based at Netherall Road in Doncaster Town Centre. PC Mark Ward and myself applied for funding to take a group from Hexthorpe to Eden Camp in North Yorkshire. The children had a great time exploring and learning about aspects of the second world war. Then onto Pickering where we visited the railway station, where some of the scenes from the TV serial Heartbeat were filmed.

On our second coach tour we visited the Deep in Hull which is a centre where children can interact and learn about sea life. En route back we visited the viewing area of the

suspension bridge over the Hull estuary. The day would not have ended without a nice stick of rock. I thank all parents and friends of the school for their support not forgetting the children who behaved remarkably. Special thanks to Phillipa Bonham who works in the New Deal for her help and support.

We had a fun day in August where dozens of young children from Hexthorpe took on the look of tour de France sharpening up their skills on cycle safety and awareness. The youngsters were put through their paces in cycling tests and tips on how to ride their bikes safely. Each participant was provided with a cycling helmet, a fluorescent 'Sam Brown' and had lights fitted to their bikes. The day finished up with a treasure hunt in Hexthorpe Park focusing on personal safety and danger awareness.

We have applied for funding for several initiatives from the South Yorkshire Police Authority who provide funding through the ABC Award Scheme. News of any successful applications will appear in the next edition of the Hex-Press.

Community Problems.

Some of you have asked me to comment and provide advice on the following subjects.

Malicious Telephone Calls

If you are unfortunate enough to receive malicious or nuisance calls which are offensive or annoying these can be

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dealt with under the Telecommunications Act 1984. If you receive a call of this nature you may wish to either discuss or report it to British Telecom or the Police. Either way I am sure we can between us stop the nuisance. Nowadays with technology, almost all calls received can be traced whether they come from private, public or even mobile phones anywhere in the country. You may have been plagued by these calls for quite some time before reporting them. All I ask you to do is to simply record the calls and note the content, times, dates etc. Things to note may be the type of voice or any background noises heard and so on. These notes will form part of the evidence given at any subsequent court trial. If you wish to ask advice at BT call Freephone 0800 666 700.

- Never give your number to callers unless you know their identity.
- When answering the phone do not say your number – a simple ‘Hello’ will do.
- Advise your children and make them aware not to let the caller know if you are out
- Most malicious callers thrive on the response from the person they call. Stay calm and try not to show any emotion.
- You can have your details left out of the phone book at no charge. Only close family and friends will be aware of your number.
- Answering machines should never say you are out or on holiday.
- BT will give you a new number if you are receiving nuisance calls but will recommend you make it ex-directory so only people you wish to have your number can telephone you. Call them free on 150.
- Do not suffer in silence tell someone.

Does your child Gamble?

An unusual subject for me to comment on, but I suppose the majority of us gamble some time in our lives, some more than others. Would you class the national lottery, the token pound on the Grand National or a family game of cards for money as gambling? I would suggest that the average family do take part in this sort of thing within reason. In some situations young children can become addicted to gambling for various reasons. They may feel depressed or lonely, have a low opinion of themselves. They may have emotional upheavals and a need to escape from their problems.

You may suspect that your child is gambling, the only problem is that the signs can often relate or be similar to other anti-social problems e.g.. drugs, alcoholism etc. Although individually or in a

combination some signs may alert you to your son or daughters involvement or act as a warning of their involvement in gambling.

- Lying or unusual behaviour
- Cheating/stealing from family or friends
- A downward spiral in other activities which may be schoolwork, employment or relationships.
- Always borrowing money and not paying it back.

Opportunities today to gamble have become more widespread particularly with interactive TV and the Internet at our disposal. My advice to worried parents is to confront the issue and talk it through with your children if you suspect involvement. Help and advice is available. Parentline Plus 0808 800 2222 for parents who are worried about any aspect of their child's welfare.

GamCare Helpline 0845 6000 133 provides advice information and counselling to individuals who have concerns.

Crime News

A warning particularly to the elderly to be aware of both bogus callers and door to door sales persons who offer a product which may seem a bargain at the time but can often turn out to be inferior or provided at an inflated price.

- Remember the STOP/CHAIN/CHECK rule when answering the door at all times.
- Never buy any products or enter into any agreements to buy unless you have first sought the advice of family, friends or the daily warden. Some of these agreements are legally binding.

We have had a rise of nuisance calls and incidents involving youth nuisance and motorcycles being rode in a dangerous manner. If you are plagued or know where these nuisance scrambler bikes are housed please contact me in confidence and I will take appropriate action.

Until next time, bye.



Pegler on fire - see page 7

What's on at St Jude's Parish Hall

Monday afternoon starts the week with a relaxing, calming session of Yoga and if you enjoy the experience then you can repeat it on the following **Wednesday evening**. On **Monday evenings** it is time for the fit - get your feet moving with line dancing. Whether fast or slow, you don't just move the feet, but the weight as well!

Tuesday and Thursday evenings are for the martial arts in the form of Tae Kwon Do. Participants train to pass their 'belts' right up to a Black Dan. On Saturdays you can also learn self defence and kick-boxing.

Every **Wednesday morning** after the 9.30 service in St Jude's Church there is a cup of coffee or hot chocolate available in the hall from 10.15 a.m.- why not drop in for a drink and a chat? At the same time (10.15 a.m.) on the second Wednesday of each month in addition to a cuppa, there is a bring and buy stall, home-made cakes on sale and bric a brac as well. There is always something interesting on sale.

Twice a month, on the second and the fourth Friday of the month, there is a prize bingo at 7.00p.m. This a community event, intended for all the family, young and old - so we play for prizes rather than money and have a lot of fun together. It's good to do something other than just staying at home, staring at the box in the corner!

Every week is a busy and varied week at the Parish Hall and there is something for everyone, of all ages. New events and bookings come in all the time, in addition to the occasional events like the annual Winter Fair, which this year takes place on Saturday 16th November at 2.p.m.

The Parish Hall is geared to the whole community, not just the Church; so keep an eye on the notices and posters displayed at the entrance in Laughton Roadwho knows, there may be just something for you.

St Jude's Parish Hall Management Committee

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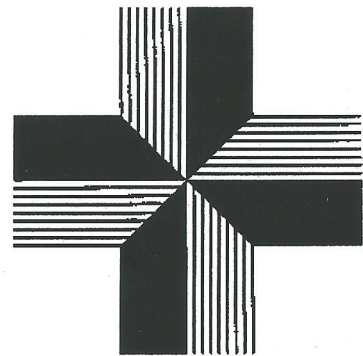
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Local People and News in Brief

An Institution comes to an end - Brian and Jean say thank you.

Brian and Jean would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all our customers, who have given us such wonderful support over the twenty years we have been in the news-trade. We have appreciated your custom very much over the years and have come to know many of you not only as customers but also as friends. We both once again want to say a big thank you to you all for your support.

Brian and Jean

Aspdens Newsagent

Hexthorpe Bridge

Many people have been asking about the new fencing on Hexthorpe Bridge. Why is it suddenly necessary after all these years? Councillor John Hoare explained the reason for it at the recently held Tara meeting. As a result of the Selby rail crash, when a vehicle landed up on the line, bridges throughout the country have been tested to see if they can withstand a vehicle crashing into them. He informed the meeting that there were three bridges in Doncaster that needed attention. Two of them were on Bawtry Road and the other one was Hexthorpe Bridge. Work has been completed on them.

Good Track Record

Clive Elliot of Railtrack spoke to the October Tara meeting concerning his role as Off-Track Supervisor in this area. He is the only such officer in the country. He explained the set-up of Railtrack and the Railway Police and spoke of his work in deterring trespass and vandalism. The worst offenders for trespass are adults and the worst for vandalism are young people. Hexthorpe now has a good record for lack of vandalism on the railways, although some incidents still do occur. Hexthorpe School works closely with the track officers and new educational plays concerning rail safety are always tried out at our school, before being used throughout the country.

Health Focus

Did you know that there is a local Health Focus that offers free and confidential service, open to everyone to use? It is located in

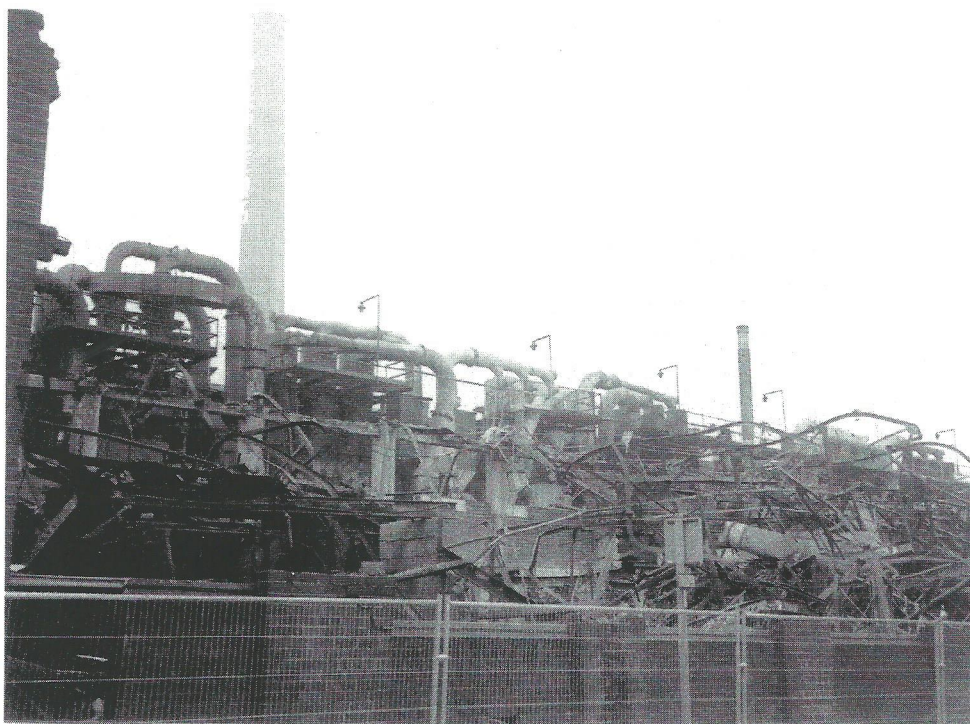
the Colonnades shopping precinct (Tel 768550). Free and confidential information is given on local health services; diseases, conditions and treatments; help with NHS costs; local hospital waiting times; self help and support groups; how to complain about health services. The centre is not able to diagnose illnesses, give medical advice or counselling, but it can advise who you can speak to and suggest contacts who may be able to give help.

The Big Butterfly Bake

Butterflies were in Hexthorpe School by the hundreds some weeks ago. It didn't take long to clear them, as the children ate them all. They were not the winged variety, but butterfly cakes. The school baked cakes all week in support of the National Children's Hospice. It was the week when children's hospices across the country joined forces to raise awareness and funds for life limited children and their families. It is good to be able to report that our children have a concern for others who are not as healthy as themselves.

Pegler on Fire

Hexthorpe was affected by the fire at Pegler Ltd on Tuesday 30th July. Traffic was redirected through Hexthorpe as Balby Road was closed for most of the day. The photograph shows the famous landmark of the Pegler chimney above the wreckage of the workshop hit by lightning at around 5 o'clock in the morning. Nearby houses were evacuated and residents allowed home only at 9 p.m.



Some Colourful Displays



This splendid show of flowers belongs to Kath and Ernie Smith; they organise the distribution of the Hexpress. The display has lasted well into October. Thanks are given to all who have taken the time and trouble with their hanging baskets and window boxes. They certainly have made Hexthorpe a pleasanter place to be in.



Pauline Smith is pictured here with her Passion-flower covered with buds. The bush, which has been grown from a cutting, has had at least twenty flowers each day during September and early October.



Pauline's two Yucca plants have both flowered in the last two years. The one that flowered earlier this year was bought for 75p and planted outside her bungalow seven years ago. This is the first time it has flowered.

