

The **HEX-PRESS**

YOUR FREE HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER No. 72 Jul - Aug 2003

Sponsored by HEXQOL, the Hexthorpe Quality of Life Initiative.

NEW CLINIC AND COMPUTER CENTRE

Two new long awaited facilities have been made available to Hexthorpe residents. A Community Clinic is now open and a computer centre is now available.

The Community Clinic is held in St Jude's Parish Hall. It is held on every Thursday afternoon from 1.30 – 3.00p.m. Local health visitors will be in attendance. They ask that you call in and make suggestions as to what you would like them to provide.

It is for everybody. So, if there is anything that you are concerned about, then pay the clinic a visit and seek advice. The more people use it, the better prospects there will be for the facility to be extended. The Clinic has been made available through the work of Hexqol in partnership with the Primary Health Care Trust.

A UK Online Centre has opened at the Junction on Hexthorpe Road. Again this is for everybody to use. If you call in you will be able to use a computer, have Internet Access and send and receive Emails. All this is free of charge! If you have never used a computer before, then don't worry because there is help available at no cost to you. The centre is open from 10.00a.m. – 4.00p.m. on Mondays to Fridays.

UK Online Centre

At

The Junction

Please see back page for full details

New Community Clinic

Your local Health Service Visitors will be available at

St Judes Parish Hall
Shadyside, Hexthorpe

Every Thursday

1.30 - 3.00pm

From 5th June 2003

Come along and let us know what you want!



What's it for?

- This is for you to decide
- This is not just a baby clinic

Possible suggestions:

- Keeping healthy
- Family Advice
- Meeting others and sharing information

For more information contact Health Visitors on:

01302 556167 or 01302 850521

Everyone welcome

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, 2 Riverside Close, Hexthorpe
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

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 £40.00 according to size.

Recipe

Lemon Cake Top Pudding



Cream together one and a half oz. of flour, 3 tbs. of margarine, six oz. sugar.

Add three beaten egg yolks, three tbs. lemon of juice and grated rind (optional), eight fluid oz. milk.

Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites.

Bake in an ungreased dish standing in a roasting tin half full of warm water. Bake for about thirty five minutes in a moderate oven.

Serve hot or cold.

This pudding separates into cake and custard layers.

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)

Laughton Road, Hexthorpe

Monday	1.45-3.15 pm	Yoga
	7.00-10.00 pm	Line Dancing
Tuesday	5.30-9.30 pm	Tae Kwon Do
Wednesday	7.00-8.30 pm	Yoga
Thursday	5.30-8.30 pm	Tae Kwon Do
Friday 2nd & 4th in the month	7.00-9.00 pm	Prize Bingo

Other events as advertised

Hire of hall - phone 321569

Up to 5.30 pm £12.50 per hour

After 5.30 pm £15.00 per hour

Sunday Services

10.00 am Parish Mass and Sunday School

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

John Hoare writes :

I was interested to read in the last edition of Matthew Schofield's investigations into the land behind Ramsden Road and opposite the bungalows in Eden Grove. I first made enquiries about this in April last year, because of the frequent accumulations of rubbish. It is shown on the Unitary Development Plan within the built-up limits, but without any development designation. The Housing Department told me that the part nearest Ramsden Road belonged to Yorkshire Electricity, reserved as a site for a substation if one was needed; the rear part of the site belongs to Housing. Last August YE agreed to remove damaged concrete posts, faulty wire and rubbish and to check their part of the site regularly. However, when I later asked again for rubbish to be removed, the Council's Environmental Services checked the ownership and found the land was not recorded at the Nottingham Land Registry! As we move to prepare a new Unitary Development Plan for the borough, I hope that residents will make it clear how they would like the land to be used - currently it does no-one any good!

Incidentally, with the FLAG service, wheely-bins and "DUMPIT" sites, there really is NO excuse for the anti-social depositing of rubbish on open ground! Please help to make Doncaster the clean and pleasant place we all want to live in by using the facilities provided. The Council is extending recycling provision (like blue bags for waste paper) as quickly as resources permit.

I am pleased that getting alterations to the approach to Cleveland Street roundabout at Christmas has helped the route out of Hexthorpe. Life will not be easy once major redevelopment starts on the Interchange and the Waterfront - there are bound to be problems on the way to the great future benefits for the borough from this regeneration. Constructive suggestions are always welcome. Hopefully the revised 71 bus service, providing access to the medical practice at Greenfield Lane and on to Tesco Extra, will be useful to many.

There has been a major problem with motor cycles (of the off-road variety) damaging pitches and grass in Hexthorpe Park. A major fencing project will hopefully keep them out. The project for a BMX track is still going ahead, but security of the park for everyone must not be compromised.

Enquiries about the proposed 20mph zone have followed the publication of notices for some roads at the western end of Hexthorpe. Policy is not to put a 20mph limit on the main road through a community, i.e. Urban Road, but to cover the whole of the rest of the community. Plans will come forward through the next few months. I pointed out that the sharp bend from Greenfield Lane into Urban Road, past the school, is a source of worry and a scheme is being drawn up to improve signing and slow traffic at this point.

Please contact any of us (details in Who's Who) with any problems, questions or suggestions.

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News from Hexthorpe Primary School

As reported by pupils of the school

The School Council

Lately the School Council has been working extra hard. We have contributed towards assemblies and have been organising different events. We have now ordered posters with effective morals on them. They are brightly coloured to catch your eye. The messages are catchy and are sure to stick in your head. They have been put up around the school, so keep your eye out for them.

Key Stage One Adventure Playground/ Performance area

Thursday 1st May saw the first steps in our school grounds improvement plan, with the erection of the adventure playground for K.S. 1 children during playtimes and lunchtimes.

The following week saw the building of the stage for K.S. 2 children. The children will now be able to produce and develop their artistic and 'Wannabe' talents.

Unfortunately, our attempt to improve the front of the school with a raised garden bed has been delayed because of pointless vandalism by a small group of children; but we will be renewing our efforts.

Reporters: Alicia and Abigail (Year 6)

The Easter School 2003

The school accessed funding for an Easter School that was run by four members of staff and aimed at Year 6 pupils.

Twenty three pupils attended on four consecutive mornings. The aim was to consolidate aspects of the curriculum in a fun and practical manner. The overall conclusion by the staff was as follows: 'The children learned a great deal in an informal atmosphere. We enjoyed it too - it was an

opportunity to get to know the children better. We could joke and relax and generally not feel too pressurised. We will certainly be making another Easter School funding bid again next year.'

Here are some comments from children who took part:

Emily Large reports:

This year at Hexthorpe Primary School we had an Easter School. This was to help Year 6 with their SATS. We started on Monday 14th April until Thursday 16th April.

The activity I found most useful was when we made a miniature garden because it helped me on how to write instructions.

The other activities we did were maths using a trundle wheel, literacy composing instructional



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LOCAL DELIVERIES

texts and science when we investigated friction.

I think it could be improved by making the time longer; but other than that it was fine and I learned a lot. I think that the Year 6 pupils next year will enjoy it.

On the last day we had a party at 12.00 until 12.30 and that was our Easter School finished.

Hayley Brett reports:

I am in Year 6 and my name is Hayley Brett. I have been to Easter School at Hexthorpe Primary. The Easter School is for helping us with our SATS, but in a fun way. We started on Monday the 14th of April. The beginning of the day we read a very popular book called the Midnight Fox with Mrs Smith.

My favourite lesson was when we made our miniature garden, because it helped us with the maths - the area and the perimeter, English in writing the instructions up and science with the parts of flowers and plants.

On Monday we did reading, then Maths with a trundle wheel and English, taking pictures for postcards.

On Tuesday we made a miniature garden.

Then on Wednesday we cooked buns for a party on Thursday.

On Thursday some people finished the postcards, then went to do an experiment with friction.

At the end of all the days, we all got gifts - one was a folder, one was a pencil case and one was gel pens.

I don't think that anything needs changing, except the time. I think that it needs to be a little bit longer.

Stephen Trafford reports:

On day one we all split into three groups for guided reading after register. Our group, group one, read Bill's New Frock. After that we split for maths with Mr Geddes and English with

Mrs Smith. In maths we all were excited because we were making a flower garden.

First we poured 2cm of compost in our tray, second we pushed a foil pond into the compost. Then we made a path out of small pebbles and after that we put some plants in the compost. Next we sprinkled grass seeds over the garden and lastly we watered the garden and took them home. We were given a pencil case.

On our final day we did about water resistance and four maths sheets as well. We had a small party. I think we should do it again some time. We learned lots of new things.

Terry Fields reports:

My name is Terry and I am going to tell you about the Easter School.

First I will tell you that my best day was on Tuesday, when I made a garden. It was planned on a sheet of paper of squared paper and then we created it in a tray. Afterwards we wrote instructions on how we made the garden.

Over the week we made buns for the party on the last day. We took photographs and made a postcard to write to a friend or family. In science we made paper aeroplanes and took them outside to see if they could fly, to test air resistance and gravity.

The Easter School has made learning fun and I have enjoyed it. I think school could be like the Easter School.

The Allotment (photos on next page)

Pupils from Year 1 have recently paid two visits to the school's allotment. They went to see the vegetables and strawberries that have been produced there. The allotment is a joint venture between the school, the allotment holders and P.C. Pete. It looks a picture and is a great credit to all concerned. The photographs (overleaf) show the children on one of their visits.



Mr Green points out some of the vegetables



Some of the children with P.C.Pete

Pete's Patch

Do you know as I sat pondering in the office the other day about what to include in this edition of Pete's Patch, I looked through previous issues and I was amazed on how many different subjects that I had written about.

Not every subject I get asked about are what I would call police related but nevertheless these are all issues that effect you in your daily lives. I usually do some research and usually end up with pertinent points which you may need to know.

Any way I will get on, just to say if there is anything concerning the law you want explaining please contact the editor and I will try my best to answer your query.

Bogus Callers at the door.

Most people who call at your home will be genuine, but sometimes people turn up purporting to be from some organisation like the police, health, gas, water or electric company, the list is endless.

These people are known as 'bogus callers' and commit a crime called 'distraction burglary'. They could work on their own but most of them work in pairs so that whilst one is distracting you or keeping you busy with some fictitious story the other one sneaks into other rooms searching for money or valuables easily carried away. These loathsome people can be very convincing and persuasive and usually prey on the old infirm and vulnerable.

They would probably be better suited in an amateur dramatic society as their charm and believable patter backed up by their use of 'props' i.e. Overalls, hats, suits, identity cards and company logos usually gains them entrance to your homes where they then do their dastardly work, and leave you discovering that you have been robbed some hours or even days later. Genuine callers will always be happy to make an appointment and will always carry some form of identity card with a photograph. Again don't be put out by asking them for their identity, closing the door on them and ringing the appropriate company to see if they are genuine. I am sure the caller would not mind waiting for you to do this.

Use the STOP CHAIN CHECK principle and you will not go far wrong.

- **STOP** Before you answer think, Are you expecting anyone? Check the back door is locked, take out the key.

- **CHAIN** Put the door chain or bar on. Look through the spyhole or the window to see who it is. Always keep the door bar or chain on whilst talking to the caller.
- **CHECK** Ask for identity. Do they look like the person on the card? Is it the same name on your appointment letter. Do not let them in until you are doubly sure who they are. Most callers in any case do not need access to your home. Tell them to call later when someone can be with you.

Using a Pawnbroker.

When you pawn an item, you leave it as security with the pawnbroker who will give you a loan and ask you to sign a credit agreement. **DO NOT** sign unless you fully understand all the terms and conditions. If you're unsure ask. The pawnbroker will give you a pawn receipt in most cases it will be a credit agreement. Keep this safe, this is the only proof you own the item pawned. To redeem your goods you have to produce the pawn receipt and pay what you owe under the terms of the agreement. A pawn receipt is more important than a receipt from goods bought from a shop. Without the receipt the pawnbroker can refuse to redeem your pawned item. The normal period to redeem an item is 6 months but the pawnbroker may agree to a longer term. If you cannot redeem your item for one reason or another the pawnbroker may agree to renew the loan but will generally require you to pay the interest that has built up. Make sure you renew your agreement if this occurs.

The items on display are usually items which have not been redeemed by the owner and have become the property of the pawnbroker. They can offer these goods for sale quite lawfully.

From time to time I receive calls that someone has seen property on display in the pawnbrokers which was stolen from them by some means. The goods if they are yours and were stolen still remain 'stolen goods'. What usually happens is the pawnbroker removes the item from sale, retains them until such time that a court makes a decision on who is the legal owner. If you challenge the pawnbroker in court use the small claims procedure which is designed for claims of up to £5,000. The pawnbroker will have to prove that the price they paid was fair and the deal made was legitimate. If you lose, costs can be awarded against you which are usually very limited in this

type of court. If you are uncertain about anything to do with your pawn agreement your best advice is from Citizens advice or Trading Standards of the council.

Buying a used car?

Arthur Daley springs to mind. Buying a used car can be a difficult subject particularly if you lack experience and knowledge. Many people who purchase vehicles rely on the sales patter of the owner whether buying from a dealer or privately. A good tip is decide how much you can afford to pay. Include the cost of insurance, MOT, road tax, petrol, repairs and servicing. It is difficult when you see a shiny new car but don't rush into a decision. Shop around, look through price guides to see how much you would expect to pay for a car of that type, condition and mileage. As a back - up take someone with you who has some knowledge about cars. You could pay for an independent inspection by a professional mechanic or one of the motoring organisations such as the AA, RAC, Green Flag etc. They usually charge between £100 - £300, this could save you money in the long run. Buying from a Dealer is probably the safest way of buying a used car as you get the maximum protection of the law. Bear in mind there are some dodgy dealers so look for an established firm with a good reputation.

Buying Privately can be cheaper than buying from a dealer. It is also riskier, the car or parts on the car may be stolen. It may have been used for a loan or hire agreement and would therefore belong to the finance company. Dealers can also pretend to be private sellers to avoid their legal obligations and get rid of faulty or over priced cars.

If the car you buy is stolen the police can take it from you and return it to the original owner or insurance company if a claim has been paid. You can sue the seller for your loss if you can find the person again. A car bought on hire purchase belongs to the credit company until payments have been completed. Reputable car dealers usually make this check prior to selling you the car, ask them. The area of buying a used vehicle is a minefield and there are so many points that that you could check. Here are a few to help with the vehicles authenticity.

- I would not personally buy a car unless it was accompanied by a valid registration document (V5)
- Has the V5 been altered in any way? Check the registration number aligns with the V5.
- The vehicle identification number or VIN plate is usually in the engine compartment and has the VIN number stamped on, this number is also stamped under the drivers seat. Any signs

of alterations or over stamping, leave well alone. The VIN should be the same one shown on the V5. On newer vehicles the VIN is displayed in the front windscreen close to the dashboard.

- The engine number stamped on the engine block should be the same as on the V5. There may be reasons why this number varies e.g. new engine.
- Does the registration number etched on each window match the vehicle registration mark (VRM). There may be reasons why this does not e.g. a replacement window at some stage.
- Does the mileage tie in with the mileage shown on the MOT certificate (Vehicles over 3 years old apply only).
- Does the general condition of the car match the year including the mileage. A general guide for mileage is 12,000 per year. Low mileage can be a selling point but clocks can be turned back to reduce the number of miles shown. Do the mileometer readings line up correctly? If not this could be a sign it has been tampered with in some way.
- Never look or examine a prospective car purchase in the evening do it in full daylight.
- Ask the seller for a form of identification or address such as a driving licence, passport, recent utility bill.

There are many more points which I could identify to you, the list is endless. All I can add is take your time when buying a car and make sure you are conversant with the vehicle controls before driving it away.

Spot News

Doncaster Central police welcomes the arrival of Superintendent Kevin Lincoln who is in charge of operational policing in Doncaster. He accompanied me on foot the other day in Hexthorpe with a view to seeing for himself what community officers face and deal with. We visited several places including the school, indoor bowling centre, the community allotments and met some members from ethnic minority groups. I think he was surprised and amazed of the good work and projects that people in Hexthorpe are undertaking and the willingness and warm welcome from everyone gave him. Well done Hexthorpe.

Morris Jackson from the New Deal for communities office in Highfield Road informs me that he has secured funding for summer cohesion projects. If anyone has any ideas or wishes to take a lead role

in the school holidays please contact either myself or Steve Barratt (NDC).

I have been asked several times about the 'Alleygating' scheme in Hexthorpe and what stage Hexthorpe is at. As you are aware the pilot area has been in place in Spansyke Street/Ellerker Avenue for some time. Several surveys have been completed and the results are very good crime is well down and quality of life for residents is up. If anyone has any queries regarding the scheme can you please contact MaryIn Green's office at Doncaster Council switchboard number 01302 734444.

I have to congratulate the Editor, HEXQOL and other people associated with the Hex-Press, not forgetting the people who deliver it to your door who are all volunteers. I have seen many similar forms of this type of community information circular and nothing quite meets the Hex-Press in quality, content and presentation. You are very lucky to have this facility and I welcome and encourage you the community to be involved in the paper's content by writing to the editor with good news stories or items which you may feel would be of interest to other people.

Quick Quiz

- 1 What phobia is the fear of writing?
- 2 What is the visual sign associated with a pawnbrokers premises?
- 3 What is the type/name of the calendar in current use throughout the western world today?
- 4 How often are the Winter Olympic games held?
- 5 The state of Florida in America. What is it's nickname?

If you wish to enter the quiz put your answers on paper bearing your name address and telephone number and post it in the RED letterbox in the foyer at Hexthorpe Primary School during opening hours. The winner will receive a £5 voucher for W H Smith's

Last issues quiz answers:

- 1 Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, Catherine Parr
- 2 Year of the Goat
- 3 Athens, Greece
- 4 Flowers
- 5 Russell Crowe

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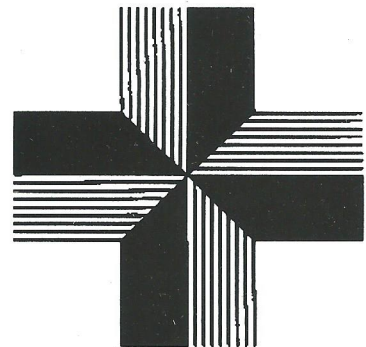
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POOL AND SNOOKER

Local People and News in Brief

A chance to play bowls

Eden Grove Bowls Club have been awarded a grant from the Impact Fund of the New Deal for Communities. This is to enable the club to buy visual aids to be used to assist their coach and instructor in coaching. The coaching is not only for experienced bowlers but also for any person who wants to learn the game. If you are interested then please contact John Aveyard on 01302 570260.

Opportunity for New Gardeners

There is a thriving allotment society in Hexthorpe - the Crimpsall Allotment Society. There are vacant allotments. If there are any budding gardeners out there who would like to take over a plot, then please contact the society by calling at their shop. This can be found at the entrance to the allotments off Old Hexthorpe.

The Plant's Century and a Half

The 150th Anniversary of the Doncaster Plant Works is being celebrated on the 26th and 27th of July from 10 a.m.-5.00 p.m. Included in the displays will be the following - Mallard, Green Arrow, Atlantic No. 251, Stirling Single, Flying Scotsman, Union of South Africa, Atlantic Henry Oakley, Class 55 Deltics. It should be an important day for Hexthorpe, reminding us all of our place in Railway History.

Hexqol

Bob Baker, the chairman of Hexqol, would like to thank, on behalf of Hexqol, the Community Forum and TARA for providing the skips that have been made available recently for the free disposal of items of rubbish. The skips have been well used.

New Consultants for Hexqol

E.C Harris of Leeds have been appointed as consultants for Hexqol, to assist in fund raising and site management of the proposed new Mallard Centre. They will be consulting with local organisations in the near future. The funding for the consultancy came from the Doncaster New Deal for Communities.

Derelict Land off Eden Grove

The article in the last issue of the Hexpress concerning the wasteland off Eden Grove aroused much interest. A reader writes, 'It has become an

eyesore to all the residents in the immediate area. I have been told, from a reliable source, that it can never be built on, as there is a railway engine buried under this particular piece of wasteland. How true this, I do not know. However, that would not stop the area from being made into some kind of park. I do hope that young Matthew Schofield gets all the support he deserves in his effort to make the area a much nicer place for everyone.'

The following letter has been received:

Dear Sir

I was very impressed with the interest shown by Matthew Schofield. He has not only helped to clear the litter in his spare time, he showed great maturity in showing interest in his environment.

Time and time again we hear people like teachers and others who don't live in our village refer to Hexthorpe as being very deprived. Well, that may be true in some parts of Hexthorpe, as in all areas you find this in some form or other; but Hexthorpe has a great community spirit and is a lovely caring place to live in. We have our problems like any other area, but does that make deprived? Not in the people it doesn't. Teachers, parents and others are doing a great job in trying to make Hexthorpe a better place to live in. We only have to look at the brilliant reports of the school to know that the hard work of the school, parents and children proves Hexthorpe's potential.

Coming back to Matthew's point, I live right in front of the piece of land in question. My neighbour and I have worked hard in phoning around to find out who this land is owned by and after much detective work we know that the council owns most of the field. The corner where the fly tippers dump all their rubbish, Yorkshire Electricity (now part of Npower) own that very small bit. To date that is all we have found out.

To all the fly tippers who dump on our back view - how would you like us to dump on your backs so that every time you look out of your windows you see other people's rubbish.

Yours sincerely

Mrs P. Ingram

Ramsden Road

Councillor John Hoare refers to this matter in his Councillor's Column.

Dcall

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