

EDGE

NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020



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www.netheredge.org.uk

Individual views expressed are not necessarily those of the group.

The Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group was set up in 1973 with the following aims:

To improve the conditions of life especially of those living or working in the areas of Brincliffe, Nether Edge and Sharrow in Sheffield, without distinction of sex or race, or of political, religious or other opinions, by associating with local authorities, voluntary organisations and residents in a common effort to advance our education, to improve the environment and to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation and leisure time activities.

This issue of EDGE was edited by Peter Machan and Nicole Erlen. If you want to contribute to the July/August edition, please contact the EDGE Editorial Board – nengeditorialboard@gmail.com

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NETHER EDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP – Application for Membership / renewal

I wish to join / continue to support* the Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group (NENG) and receive the “EDGE” magazine by hand delivery / by email* and enclose / have sent* my annual subscription of £_____

*Please delete as appropriate

Name _____

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Your contact details will only be used in connection with your EDGE subscriptions or NENG membership. The annual subscription for EDGE is £8 per household (£5 unwaged / concessions), commencing on 1st April each year. Any additional donation to the work of NENG is welcomed. Subscribers living outside our distribution area will only receive electronic copies of EDGE, or you can choose to receive EDGE by email by selecting this method above.

Cheques should be made payable to NENG, but please bear in mind that everyone in NENG is a volunteer, so we would far prefer to receive payment by Standing Order or by bank transfer (Sort code 30-97-51 A/C 36208368 NENG), as this greatly reduces the administration burden on both your local EDGE distributor and on NENG itself. Copies of a Standing order form (you can alternatively set one up online) to send to your Bank are available from ken.lambert227@gmail.com whom you should advise when you have set up a standing order or made a bank transfer so that records can be updated.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

As a local resident/ supporter of NENG, I also wish to become a full Member of NENG, a company limited by guarantee, which entitles me to full voting rights at the AGM, receive regular copies of EDGE and fully participate in its activities. In the unlikely event that the Company has to be wound up, I agree to pay the sum of £1 towards its debts if asked to do so. I understand this liability will continue for one year after I cease to be a member of the company.

PLEASE NOTE: Should you prefer not to become a full member of NENG you still can be just an EDGE subscriber by deleting the section in italics above. This entitles you to receive copies of EDGE but no entitlement to vote. The annual subscription is the same.

Applauding the NHS

Peter Machan

I was born in the same week as the National Health Service, (I'll leave it to you to work it out). It's cared for me and my family for all those years but I admit to being as guilty as anyone of taking it for granted. We shouldn't. I've never come across anyone working for the NHS who hasn't upheld the highest standards of commitment and care and when we hear of the difficulties that people in other countries have in accessing health care we realise how very fortunate we are. Which is why I'm so appalled to hear of the avoidable death of health workers during the current crisis. I think that this is the greatest national scandal of my lifetime and should never have happened. Maybe when this is all over we will all reassess our national priorities. Meanwhile let's continue to applaud the NHS, and all the people who commit themselves to the care of others, every Thursday.



There are things I will actually miss when lockdown is over! I'm fortunate, like so many of us in Nether Edge, in having a lovely garden and I love the quiet at this time when the constant background buzz of traffic and drone of aircraft has been replaced by birdsong and the humming of insects. A substantial section of this month's Edge features our local gardens and a tree trail around Nether Edge to discover some of the beautiful trees that can be observed on our daily walks.

I'll miss the clear blue sky and breathing cleaner, fresher air. Richard Taylor tells us about the efforts to monitor this. I'll miss everyone you pass in the street (at a safe distance of 2 metres) saying hello. I definitely won't miss having to talk to the family over a dodgy internet link! I'm particularly looking forward to a return to some sort of normality when I can resume choir practice with Escafeld Chorale and go for a pint at the Union, and, surprisingly for me, doing shopping for myself!

Most of this bumper digital Edge month is taken up with ideas for activities that can be pursued safely during the lockdown as well as some fascinating features about the unique history of our area. We hope that you enjoy it.

Monitoring Air Quality in Nether Edge and the Effects of Coronavirus

Richard Taylor

Every month a group of local volunteers remove Air Quality monitoring diffusion tubes and replace them with clean ones. These are sent to a local laboratory for analysis thus allowing Sheffield City Council to highlight the areas for concern.

In our particular area these are placed outside schools at Hunters Bar, Clifford and Nether Edge Primary. They are also placed on Montgomery Road and outside Nether Edge shops.

As a general rule most of the pollution levels are static and fall within EU guidelines [a reading of around 18-32] which apparently is acceptable. There is slight cause for concern about traffic in the Abbeydale Road corridor adjacent to Nether Edge Primary School where levels aren't illegal but are much raised. Childhood asthma can be caused by road traffic fumes but because these levels are only moderate they are not a priority for the council. It's not surprising that during the pandemic doctors are reporting huge drops in visits by children.

Since the Covid lockdown people have been asking me about the effects on the levels of pollution. Obviously with the roads being free of traffic for long periods there has to be changes. It is predicted Nitrous oxide levels could be down by 8-10% and Carbon dioxide around 5%. Unfortunately the system has a time lag so the main results won't be available until July.

My thoughts are that during the last 2 months people's attitudes to the world have changed and we must be careful not to fall back into our comfort zone.

For instance those people who are able have been walking or cycling to their destinations. Since Mid - March I have walked many miles around Nether Edge and have made it a pledge not to jump into the car for short distances such as shops, cafes, pubs and restaurants.

There have been so many positives in our time of lockdown and let's not forget them. We have learned to have regular chats with long lost friends by WhatsApp or Face Time. Emails and texts are answered within seconds because everybody is in and can give you immediate

attention! Street 'WhatsApp' groups have blossomed and it's amazing how much we use them- for instance setting up a low key VE Day celebration was easy!

So what are you personally going to change?

Will you shop only once a week?

What is your attitude to flying again?

What about your cooking skills – have you all tried a new recipe?

How many of you are growing your own vegetables for the first time?

Will you continue to work from home and will schools change their ways of working?

If anybody wants further information about the Air Quality tests please contact me on 07801 828068 or visit the Sheffield Council website under Air Quality and tick the Diffusion tube Annual results box.

At least the end is in sight!

NENG is asking you, in these quite extraordinary times, to submit any stories of people or organisations that have gone out of their way to be helpful, or to recount what (unusual) activities have helped your family cope with social isolation. You may also want to say thank you to people who have shown exceptional kindness. Please send your contributions to **nengeditorialboard@gmail.com**. Publication will be entirely at the discretion of the Editor.

Nether Edge Festival or Not?

Richard Taylor

In early January it was with great enthusiasm that the first Planning Group meeting of Nether Edge Festival 2020 was arranged. We have at least 6 new members to assist in putting the programme together.

Leanne Mallender, who has helped on the group from its start 6 years ago decided to stand down and concentrate on her work commitments as well as raising her new baby. Over the years Leanne has given so much to the Festival and we will all be grateful to her for producing excellent programmes as well as being the Media Representative. Last year she was involved in setting up a new Website. This gave the festival an incredible boost, swelling the numbers at each individual event.

We have already put together the framework for lots of the original popular events as well as some great ideas for some new family orientated adventures. Some of the events are to help the newly formed "Friends of Chelsea Park" raise some much needed funds so it now seems such a shame that all that energy may have to put on "dry ice" until next year.

Mark Doel and I met last week [by Face Time] and we are looking at the possibility of having some basic events around a much smaller festival although at the present time this is purely speculation.

No major decisions have been made and probably won't be until July.

We have, however decided to shelve the plans for a Nether Edge Fringe and another casualty will be the children's art exhibition.

However on the brighter side we envisage carrying on with some of the outside activities. The Party in the Park in Chelsea Park could go ahead as some form of self-distancing may be achievable.

The proposed Fun run and 7K may be a possibility [with staggered starts] as could the Nether Edge History walks.

We still intend to produce a Paper Programme (albeit shrunken) and this will be delivered to all the houses in Nether Edge.

In Festival week it was our plan to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the ending of the Second World War. It was originally envisaged to have an Indoor event at one of the larger venues in Nether Edge. However this would now be in the form of a large outside gathering allowing people to dress up and sing some of the Songs that were popular around 1945. To coincide with this event Nether Edge History Group are hoping to launch a book about Wartime Nether Edge – the people and the places. A small group of local historians have been interviewing people who lived in Nether Edge in those sad and terrifying times. The information is now being collated and the book is on track to be launched around the middle of September.

Whatever we decide we will keep you well informed. Mark and I are still scheduled to produce the September version of Edge and this will allow you to plan what events to attend.

For the meantime -Watch this Space!

For the avoidance of doubt
**the Farmers' Market,
planned to take place on
14th June 2020,
has been cancelled.**

Musing From A Nether Edge Window

Nicky Erlen

On 13th March 2020 we went to visit my 89 year old mother. Friday the 13th could have been an inauspicious day, but we needed to help organize her 90th birthday party. The Corona Virus was already well established in this country and we agreed that we would have no physical contact with my mother, just in case. She had arranged for us to eat out at two restaurants which were potential candidates to host her 90th. That evening we listened to the news and what we heard made me concerned that visiting my mother was the most irresponsible thing I had ever done. Information seemed to be pouring out to demonstrate the ease with which the virus could be transmitted. We were told that the distance at which people sit apart from each other in restaurants was one at which the infection could readily pass from one person to another and furthermore, the elderly were particularly vulnerable and once ill, unlikely to recover. We discussed going home early but my mother pointed out that she could pick up the virus anywhere.

By the time we returned to Nether Edge I was verging on hysteria. I sat and stared out the window. Why was there a solitary magpie on my lawn? "One for sorrow" – it was too much to bear. There must be another one nearby – which there was. Phew. The next day I looked out and there was a sparrow hawk on the garden fence. Now, sparrow hawks are not uncommon in suburban gardens, but one had not been seen in mine before. Birds of prey are viewed in some tribal cultures as representing the link between the mundane and spiritual life. Not what I wanted to see at this time. The following day I saw a bat, the first of the year – but in broad daylight! Bats are associated with darkness and the underground world and I understand that the Mayan people believed that the bat was a symbol of something dark and violent. I had no doubt that the following day would herald the arrival of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.

We are very fortunate to have nuthatches visiting the feeders in our garden.



Their visits are fleeting and we are more likely to glimpse them surreptitiously moving

up and down the underside of nearby tree trunks. Imagine my surprise when I saw one pecking on the lawn. Soon after a coal tit, a notoriously shy and quick bird, was also feeding on the lawn. What on earth was going on? A sunny afternoon brought out two peacock butterflies and then other butterflies appeared. Finally it dawned on me that what was happening was not Armageddon, but in fact spring!

With the current restrictions on leaving the house, I have been able to devote much time to looking out of my Nether Edge



window and have been able to notice things that in other years have passed me by. The usually non-descript goat willow has had a profusion of grey and yellow silky catkins. The snakeskin fritillaries have been particularly lovely. The magnolia has had the greatest number of blooms ever. But there are mysteries I have not been able to solve. Why, despite providing Niger seed all year round, do only two goldfinches come to feed at fortnightly intervals? Why do the long tail tits come to the bird feeder three days running and then disappear for a week? Perhaps I just look at the wrong time or maybe not. Then there is the question of the bees- initially very large solitary bees. I have been told that they are queen bees looking for new homes. But I know very little about bees or indeed any of the insects in my garden. This confinement provides an opportunity to try and expand my knowledge.

Hopefully you too have been able to spend more time just gazing out of the window and enjoying and being curious about what you see. If anyone wishes to provide information about the insect life in Nether Edge then I and, I am sure, a number of other Edge readers would be extremely grateful.

I am glad to report that we did not pass the virus on to my mother. The apocalypse has not yet happened. However, I fully appreciate that others have not been so fortunate and my thoughts go out to them whilst I gaze out of the window.



Journal of the Plague Year by Daniel Defoe

Felicity Skelton

The last time there was an outbreak of bubonic plague in Britain was in 1665, when thousands of Londoners died. Samuel Pepys famously talks about it in his diaries, and Defoe wrote a whole book on the subject, which was published in 1722. Academics argue about whether his Journal is a novel or non-fiction, as the story has a first person narrator who apparently is the author and witness to events; Defoe was only 5 in 1665, so it cannot be his factual description. However, the text is signed by H.F. and Defoe had an uncle, Henry Foe, who was a saddler in London, whose journal may provide the basis for the book, so it could be a transcription.

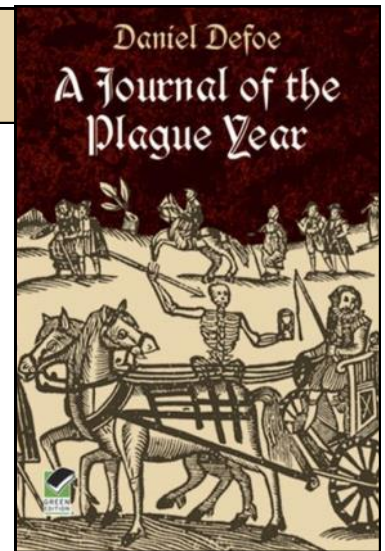
However it is the events which are interesting to us today. As with Camus' *The Plague*, there are many similarities in the reaction of the authorities to the outbreak, reactions which we recognise today. Isolation of infected people, along with their families, was mandatory. They were locked into their homes, and watchmen posted at the door. Defoe describes them climbing out of windows, leaving by back doors and climbing into neighbours' gardens, sending the watchman on shopping trips for food and then breaking out, so isolation was not as complied with as it is today. On the other hand, the mortality rate was somewhere between 70% and 90%, so perhaps it is no wonder that no-one wanted to be shut up with anyone who had it, particularly if it was a servant, for example, but even in the case of one's own blood relations. It was a sentence of almost certain death.

Later, the narrator describes the growing suspicion that some people were asymptomatic but still infectious which made locking up those with symptoms less than efficacious. He discusses the possibility of testing people by better methods than

searching them for 'buboes', or smelling their breath. In one paragraph he suggests 'by the party's breathing upon a piece of glass, where, the breath condensing, there might living creatures be seen by a microscope...' which sounds perfectly sensible to our 21st century ears. The sentence goes on, however, '...of strange, monstrous, and frightful shapes, such as dragons, snakes, serpents, and devils, horrible to behold.'

The narrator is sceptical about the process, and other suspicions grow. He begins to wonder whether early cases may have been hushed up, and whether some of the poor may have been 'foolhardy and obstinate', desperate for work of any kind, and feckless. He praises the Lord Mayor and aldermen who collected and distributed money and food to those who were in need. The rich had mostly left the city as soon as the outbreak was confirmed, and retired to their country houses. Others also ran away later, but villages outside the city often blocked the roads and refused to allow Londoners to pass through.

As the numbers of weekly deaths began to come down, survivors began to mix freely, and there was a second wave of cases, but not on the same scale. A kind of herd immunity had possibly been reached. The narrator says that afterwards 'anyone that had seen [the people] then would have thought they would have come together with another spirit at last', but no. It was not long before class, wealth, religion, and general competitiveness returned and society went on as before.



Nether Edge Virtual Gardens

Whilst the Nether Edge Open Gardens event is not taking place this year, we can all nonetheless experience the pleasure that they give and appreciate the hard work and dedication that has gone into them. We will be publishing more photographs in future Edges, so do let us have one or two pictures of what you consider the best bits of your garden with a brief (100 words or so) description. Also feel free to name the charity that you would like readers to support in the same way as you would if you were opening your garden to the public.

Please let us have your photographs by 12th June 2020 at the very latest so that they can appear in the July/August edition of Edge.

Chris Venables, Chelsea Road.

This picture, taken in May this year, shows how useful a collection of carefully selected flowering shrubs can be at this time of the year to give structure and colour. Evergreen shrubs will extend the season throughout the winter months.



(Left) Brian Palmer, Wostenholm Rd, showing carefully tended lawns and borders giving colour in summer into autumn.

Norman Blaby, Cherrytree Road

We inherited the basic structure of our garden on Cherry Tree Road and have been working over the last 15 plus years to adapt and improve it with greater success some years than others!





Lynne Potter, Chelsea Road

Our garden is at its best in spring. It comprises a lawn with shrubs, trees, bulbs, perennials, and two ponds. The soil is acid and therefore Witch Hazels, Acers, Camellias, Magnolias, Azaleas, Rhododendrons, Kalmia and Cornus grow well. We grow some fruit and vegetables, and have added fruit trees this year. Following removal of two large conifers we have created a new seating area, giving us views up and down the garden. We have regular visits from foxes, badgers and a wide variety of birds. Maintaining our garden is hard work, but keeps us fit, and provides us with much pleasure.



Please note that the plant sale organised by Sue Bolger at 37 Montgomery Road has been postponed until further notice. The Open Garden event usually raises funds for various charities. If you wish to donate please do so to St Luke's.

Peter Machan, Kingfield Road.

As previous year's visitors recall, mine is a long, steep garden on many levels that I have built and planted over the last 30 years. It's a bit quirky, with a greenhouse on the flat garage roof, a couple of ponds and some interesting decorative features. Being south facing, frost is not so much of an issue, so I can grow marginally hardy plants like corallines. I've planted many trees and shrubs, some rare like the New Zealand wire netting bush, and the cinnamon-barked variegated myrtle. Trees like the katsura tree and various maples have grown so well that it's now like gardening in a woodland glade so I have to plant shade tolerant plants like hardy geraniums. My great love, however, is hostas of which I have a collection in 130 pots. They come in all shapes, sizes and colours and are easy to grow as long as they are kept in the shade and away from slugs and snails. I find that putting a few pellets in the pot just as the shoots are appearing keeps them safe for a couple of months. Give them a feed with tomato feed and they will be more than happy.

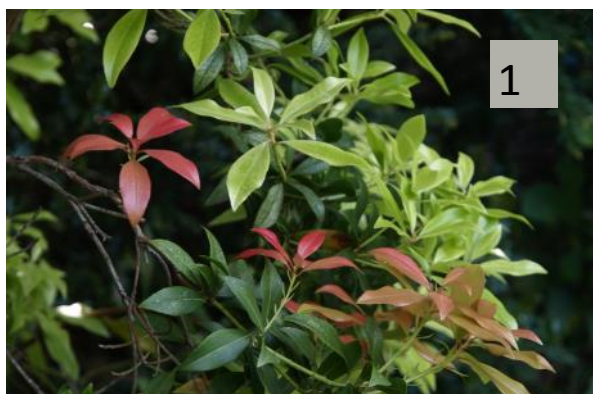


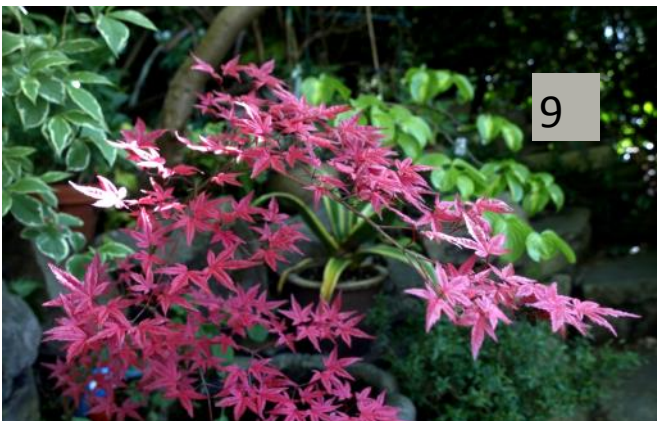
Some small trees and shrubs suitable for smaller Nether Edge gardens.

Peter Machan

Whilst it is the herbaceous perennials, bulbs and summer bedding plants that give our gardens the colour and excitement during the summer months it is the woody plants, shrubs and small trees that provide the structure and much of the interest during the winter. Many of them, such as the acers or maples, are deciduous but many have coloured bark and shoots that can provide interest even when the leaves are gone. Much of the soil in our area is suitable for ericaceous plants and shrubs which means that Magnolias, Rhododendrons, Pieris and Maples all do well. These are ten photographs of some of the shrubs in my garden that I have taken during the first week in May this year. They may help to give you some ideas of plants for your garden.

1. **Pieris.** Evergreen shrubs growing to 1–6 metres tall and 3–10 ft wide, native to mountain regions of eastern and southern Asia. They have pale flowers in spring but are grown for their red or pink new foliage. There are many varieties.
2. **Rhododendron.** There are many varieties of Rhododendron, evergreen, and Azaleas, deciduous, in all colours and sizes that flower in the spring and into summer.
3. **Griselinia** is an evergreen with thick, waxy variegated leaves that grows to a small dense tree. It comes from New Zealand and needs a little shelter.
4. **Choisia or Mexican orange blossom.** This one, with gold foliage, is called 'Sundance'. It flowers reliably and has a good scent.
5. **Hebe.** I love hebes because they grow into such neat domes. This one has white flower spikes but there are dozens with different coloured flowers and foliage.
6. **Weigelia** is grown for its pink, trumpet shaped flowers in May. It's a very easy and reliable plant and to see them the Botanical Gardens has the national collection.
7. **Chrinodendron** or the Chinese Lantern Tree is a little less hardy but looks stunning with its unusual flowers. It comes from Chile.
8. **Viburnum.** There are many species, originating in the USA. Fragrant flowers range from white and cream to pink-flushed or wholly pink.
9. **Acer or Maples.** Dozens of types with different coloured foliage and size. Make sure that you buy a small one because they can grow very large. Keep well watered.
10. **Philadelphus or Mock Orange.** This variety with gold foliage is excellent and has white flowers with a wonderful scent.

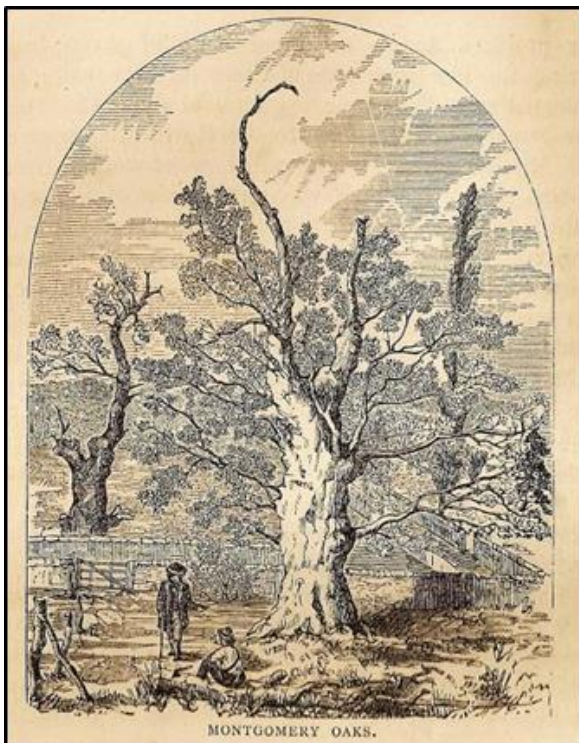




A Nether Edge Tree Trail to follow for your daily walk.

Peter Machan

We all love our local trees and over the last couple of years the threat to the street trees of Nether Edge has rightly received national attention. Even before George Wolstenholme directed the planting of the tree-lined avenues around Kenwood in the mid nineteenth century, however, there were a couple of monumental trees in Nether Edge that were locally famous; the so called 'Montgomery Oaks' that stood on the corner plot of land between Oakdale and Oakhill Roads, opposite Nether Edge Farm. They appear to have been named after the Montgomery Building Society which, in the 1870s, was busy dividing the area into building plots. By the late 1870s, when this engraving of the trees was made, these colossal trees would have been over a thousand years old, reduced to stag-headed veterans and destroyed shortly after. Their memory was, until recently, perpetuated by the name of the 'The Brincliffe Oaks Hotel' which incorporated the old farm buildings



that stood opposite them.

During the last century or so our originally rural area has been transformed by the building of homes and gardens, and several generations of gardeners have made their

own mark on the local landscape by planting trees of all kinds which have now matured into magnificent specimens that can be enjoyed by everyone and our area has become a sort of arboretum in which specimens of trees, of all shapes and sizes, coniferous and broad-leaved, from all over the world can be viewed from the streets. This short walk around our area highlights some of my favourites and I hope that it may add interest to your daily exercise.

1. Start at the tree that is planted by the benches **opposite the Oxfam bookshop**. This is a **JAPANESE MAPLE** that has beautiful lime green leaves bordered with orange in spring. They have the five fingered shape typical of all the Acer family which includes the huge **LONDON PLANES** that you can see down Sheldon Road.

2. In Sainsbury's car park is a lovely type of Ash tree called the **NARROWLEAF ASH**. Notice that each leaf has 7-13 very thin leaflets. This tree grows very quickly. It has very beautiful purplish foliage during autumn.

3. Look across the road to the lower corner of Montgomery Road. The huge rounded tree that hangs over the pavement is a **HORSE CHESTNUT**. Its huge leaves are like fingers. In May it is covered with white candle-like flowers and later it has conkers. Horse Chestnuts come from the Balkan areas and the 'horse' part of the name implies that the nuts are not edible.

4. Walk up Machon Bank, carefully cross and go up Edge Bank footpath to Meadowbank Avenue. At the right hand corner as you come onto the avenue stand two particularly attractive **SILVER BIRCH TREES**. These are very graceful native trees with thin branches that sweep downwards. The silvery bark is very distinctive. They grow very quickly and live for only 40 or 50 years. At this end of the green stands a large **COPPER BEECH**. In spring the leaves are a lovely colour like a shiny copper kettle but they go rather dark and dull before turning bright orange in autumn.

Walk along **Meadowbank Avenue**. The street trees here are shaped like lollipops because they are pollarded (the tops cut off) every two or three years. They are **LIME TREES** like most of the Kenwood street trees. Do you like them?

At the far end of the green stand two of the tallest **ASH TREES** in the area. How tall do you think they are? Next to them is a young **OAK TREE**. These two are native British trees and are the last of our trees to get their leaves in the spring. Ash wood is hard and light and used to have many uses for things like tool handles. Ashes are in danger from a disease at present called ash dieback.



7. Walk up towards Cherrytree Road. (I wonder if there were cherry trees here in the past?) Looking to your right, on the left of the road, stands an unusually tall narrow **HOLLY**. It was covered in berries last winter. It is worth walking up to it to look at the strange patterns on its grey bark.



8. Look across the road to the bottom of Kingfield Road. The small tree with white bark is a **HIMALAYAN BIRCH** grown for its snowy white papery bark that peels in bands revealing new skin in shades of cream. On dull winter days it really stands out. In early spring it produces yellow-brown catkins that look like caterpillars. The very tall tree is an **OAK**, of which there are surprisingly few in our area. This one is not a very good shape and we will see a better one later. Beside the 5 barred gate is a **LARCH**. Look at the small round cones. The larch is the only deciduous type of conifer.

9. Walk up Kingfield Road. The street trees have been planted on the wide grass verges. Reaching over the pavement on the left side stands a magnificent **JAPANESE MAPLE** that colours to a flaming red in autumn. On the right hand side of the road towards the top, the very dark rounded trees are **YEWS**, the first evergreen trees that we've seen on the trail. They keep their thin, needle-like leaves, in the winter. It has bright red poisonous berries in autumn.



At the top of the road, beside the bench, stands the best **SYCAMORE** in the area. It has a wonderful rounded shape. Look at the distinctive bark which is scaly, like a dragon's

skin. The large leaves have five points and in autumn the tree has winged seeds called 'helicopters'. Sycamores were introduced into this country in Tudor times when they were known as 'The Great Maple'.

10. Turn left down St Andrew's Road and then right up Osborne Road. Notice that there are no street trees but the road is completely shaded by the large trees in the gardens. **Turn left onto Cavendish Road.** There are many well grown old trees in the rather grand gardens here. Look for the tall **SCOTS PINES** on the left.

Stop at the corner of Lyndhurst Road. On the left behind the wall is the best **OAK TREE** in the area. Trees like these are very important for the



many insects and creatures that feed on the leaves and provide food for many birds. Next to it is a large **Blue Spruce**. On the other side of the road there is a very elegant and stately **LARCH** tree.

11. Walk up to Chelsea Road and turn left. Go into Chelsea Park on the right. Follow the path to the front of the house. Stand and wonder at the most impressive tree in our area, the massive **BEECH** tree. This tree has huge spreading boughs that cast a heavy shade and prevent anything growing beneath it.



Follow the path across the park. There



are some superbly shaped trees here. On your left is one of the finest **LIME** trees in the area. Look how tall it is. Limes are our tallest native trees. Beside the top gate is an **ELM** tree. There are a number of elms across in Brincliffe Edge Wood. All these have grown since Dutch Elm disease wiped out most of the large elms. It may be that these are resistant. Nearby is a large **HAWTHORN**, no doubt grown out from an old hedge.

12. Turn left and then left again down

Brincliffe Edge Close. At the end you will see a very well-shaped **MONKEY PUZZLE TREE**. Why do you think they got this common name? Their official name is **Araucaria**. They are ancient trees that come from Chile in South America.



13. Go down the ally next to this garden into **Brentwood Road**. On your right is a beautiful



CEDAR OF LEBANON. These come from the Middle East and are mentioned in the bible.

On the left at the end of the



road stand two tall **SCOTS PINES**. Look down and you may find some cones on the ground. Can you tell which ones have been nibbled by squirrels?

14. Turn left down **Union Road**. Notice that this tree shadowed street actually has no street trees. On the right stands a row of beautifully trimmed and shaped **HOLLY TREES** but on the corner of Chelsea Road stands the most famous street tree in the area, the **HUNTINGDON**



ELM, a hybrid cultivar raised near Huntingdon in 1746 which is more resistant to Dutch Elm Disease than the English Elm. This tree came second in the national Tree of the Year competition but is still under threat of being felled.

Continue down Union Road. In front of the King's Centre chapel is a multi-stemmed tree with brown bark. This is a **ROWAN or MOUNTAIN ASH TREE**. It has red berries in autumn and in the past was associated with witchcraft.

15. Turn right down **Oakdale Road** (another tree-lined road) and when you get to Fountside on the left go through to **Byron Road**. On your left, behind the dark yews, is a colossal, billowing tree, an Australian **EUCALIPTUS**. These evergreen trees grow extremely quickly and are a big mistake for small gardens!

16. Carry on down to **Nether Edge Road** and turn left. Overshadowing the opposite corner top of Glen Road, beside the copper beech, stands our last tree, and one of the most unusual. It's an **EVERGREEN or HOLM OAK**. Look at the scaly bark and the small thick waxy leaves.



Bannerdale Osteopaths

We are still open!

Our physical clinic may be closed until we think it is safe to re-open, but that does not mean we have abandoned you. We are still treating patients and are now booking everyone in for Virtual Appointments.

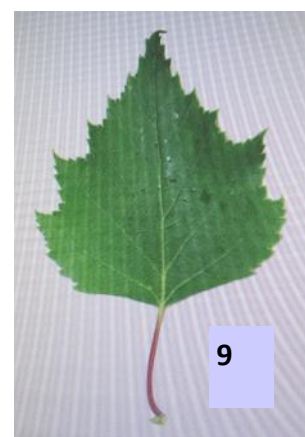
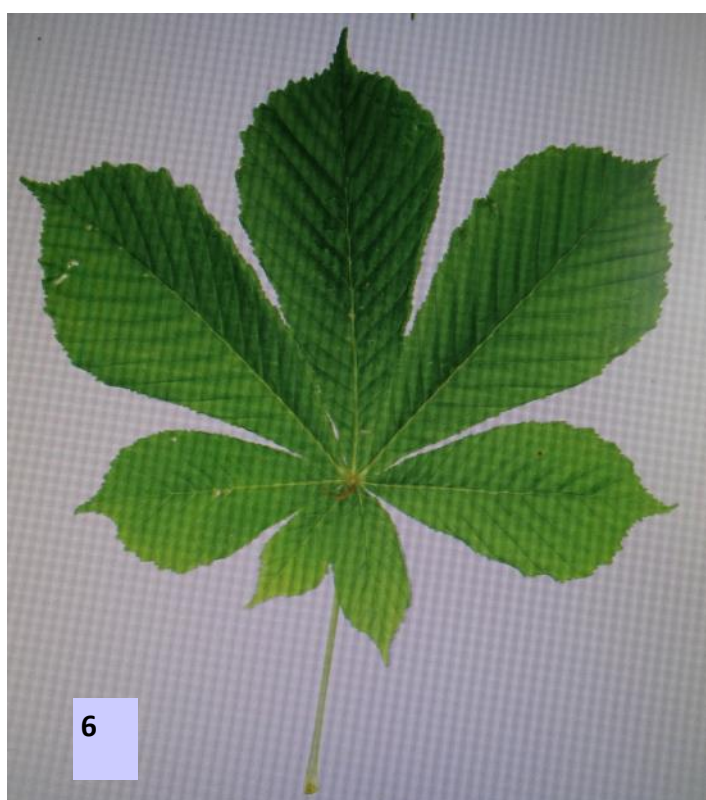
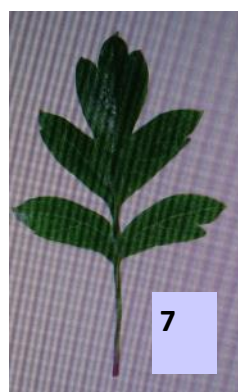
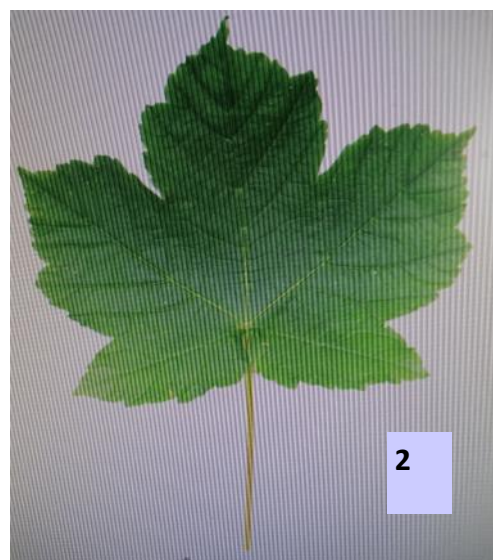
Our specialist software allows us to see each other face to face, discuss your symptoms, carry out any movement tests and create you a bespoke treatment plan. Our ongoing care also means that we can communicate and track your progress daily to make sure your recovery is going as planned and solve any issues or concerns you may have.

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I hope that you have enjoyed following the trail and discovering some of the remarkable trees in Nether Edge.

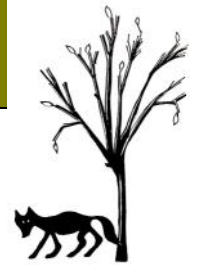
The photographs of the trees were taken in March before the leaves were on the trees. Here are some pictures of their leaves. Which ones can you name?

The answers are on page 31



Future Visions for Abbeydale Road

Joel, Joe and Luke



We have had so many good ideas for how we could improve Abbeydale Road.

Guess what? None of them said, 'more cars'. Instead suggestions have included pocket parks, food and wildflower planters, hanging baskets, more recycling points, infrastructure to make cycling easier and safer, even floor murals to slow traffic down!

It'd be great to see how some of these ideas might actually look, so we've decided to set up a little lockdown activity for children and adults to have a go at.

We have attached two drawings of places on Abbeydale Road (Can you work out where?) for you to 'green' in your own imaginative style.

You could try 'photoshopping' the pictures or, if you have a printer, colour, collage or paint over the top of them. If you prefer you could even take a photo of a part of the street nearby for you to re-draw and re-create it in your own way. Feel free to let your creative self loose.

Email us your efforts back at **abbeydaleroadtrees@gmail.com** and we will put a selection up on our Facebook page;-

Abbeydale Street Trees

Happy Creating,





Found under a Pear Tree; Do you know what these are?

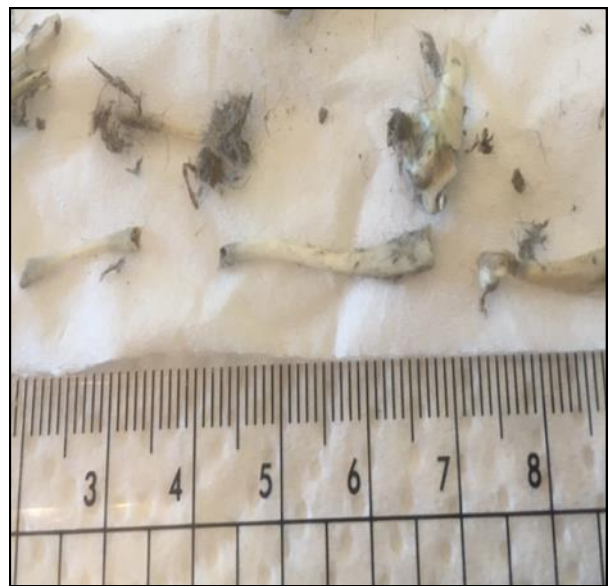
Nicky Erlen



I found them under the pear tree in our garden. The pear tree had been long neglected by the time we moved to Nether Edge. It was almost completely smothered in ivy and produced only the most meagre blossom and very few tiny, hard pears.

We set out to remove the ivy, but stopped in our tracks when we heard a distinctive hooting sound. We then had several sightings of tawny owls flying out of the tree. We decided to leave the tree as it was and leave the owls in peace.

I had not appreciated that tawny owls swallow their prey whole and spit out what



they cannot digest in the form of owl pellets. I found these two underneath the pear tree and decided to pick them apart to see what was inside. You can see the bones and fur but trying to identify what animals they belong to is rather difficult even using a scale.

Some of the bones look too large to belong to a small mammal and may belong to a bird,



perhaps. Some of the bones are so fine it is difficult to imagine what they might have come from. Do you have any ideas? There is some help on the Barn Owl Trust website, <https://barnowltrust.org.uk/barn-owl-facts/>

Lock Down Activity for Younger Readers.

Watch out for the Birds In Your Garden

Nicky Erlen

We all know the common birds that we see every day in our Nether Edge gardens and parks, but have you spotted how many species commonly visit? These are some that I have photographed in my garden. In your garden you may be able to identify blue tits, great tits, coal tits and long-tailed tits but have you seen a jay?

Jays are members of the corvid

family. They have strong, stout bills to help them break the shells of their favourite food, acorns, although they are omnivorous so will eat a wide variety of foods. They, like other corvids, are very intelligent with their brain to body ratio only being slightly smaller than in humans. Did you know that they have a really loud call – almost like a parrot squawking?



Look out for greater spotted woodpeckers. You can usually hear them drumming from February onwards. They have a very powerful bill to chip away at dead wood to gain access to its

diet of insects. It has a mechanism for shock absorption in the way the beak joins the skull to protect the brain. Did you know that it has a really long tongue to reach the insects in the crevices in the wood? When fully stretched out its tongue protrudes 40 mm beyond the tip of the bill.

How many types of finch can you see in your garden? These include chaffinches, green finches, bullfinches and goldfinches. They all tend to have round heads with triangular shaped bills.

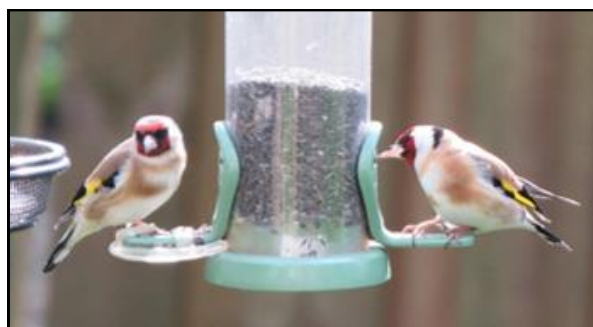
The male bullfinch is a handsome bird with a short stubby beak especially adapted for feeding on buds.



Goldfinches can often be heard high up in the trees before they can be seen. They have longer, finer beaks designed to enable them to extract seeds from thistles.

The British Trust for Ornithology conducts a year-round birdwatch and you can help out by recording all the birds that visit your garden every week. This helps the BTO to learn about how wildlife uses the food, shelter and other resources in our gardens. To participate go to <https://www.bto.org>

You could try to photograph your birds and then send us your pictures to go into the next edition of Edge.











Bench marks

Bert Evans

Can you identify these markings found round and about Nether Edge?

Which two are the odd ones out? Answers on page 31.

			
A	B	C	D
			
E	F	G	H

Some say that the strange marks we can find in our streets and in the countryside are to coordinate the landing sites for an alien invasion. They are called Bench Marks and those of us of a certain age, or with a knowledge of mapping and surveying, will know that they were made by the Ordnance Survey – 4 of the above anyway. Surveyors made these marks, initially known as Cut Bench Marks to record height above Ordnance Datum Newlyn (ODN – mean sea level determined at Newlyn in Cornwall). If the exact height of the horizontal line on one bench mark was known, the exact height of the next could be found by measuring the difference in heights, through a process of spirit levelling.

The first systematic network of levelling lines and associated benchmarks was initiated in 1840. They can be found cut into houses, churches, bridges and many other structures. There are hundreds of thousands of them dotted across Great Britain. Some benchmarks date back to 1831. There were over 500,000 benchmarks created, but this number is reducing as roads change and buildings are demolished.

I first became aware and interested in these bench marks about 30 years ago, when I used to trundle around Nether Edge, with my very young daughter in a buggy, every Sunday morning. I used old OS maps to locate them as the OS stopped marking them on their new maps around about that time. There was no internet in those days – so no easily available database to download at the press of a return. Slowly, I found quite a number of bench marks around Nether Edge.

Fast forward 30 years – retirement and now Corona lockdown. A rekindling of my interest and the realization that thousands of people around the country have become obsessed with finding and recording their sightings of these fascinating etchings. I go to parts of Sheffield that I would ordinarily not visit in my quest and when going to different parts of the country I do sneak a peek at the database and maps to bag some more trophies.

It is 27 years since the last traditionally cut arrow style benchmark was carved on a milestone located outside The Fountain pub in Loughton. They are no longer maintained due to cost and being superseded by GPS technology.

The Nether Edge “Vauxhall Gardens” for Sheffield

Andy Beezer

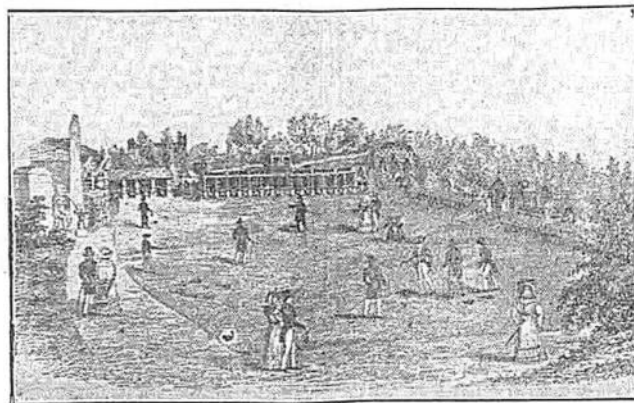
Many people are aware that there used to be a pub called the Bowling Green Tavern on Cherry Tree Road (now called Cherry Tree House), but few may realise that during the early 19th century it was also an entertainment venue for the people of Sheffield with evenings of fireworks, dancing and tight rope walking.

Thomas Jenkinson, a hammer maker by trade, took the lease on Cherry Tree Cottage around 1818 and levelled a site above and to the rear of the pub to form a bowling green, which he opened in 1822. Tea gardens, pleasure grounds and new activities such as archery were added and regular adverts placed in the Sheffield newspapers. At this time Cherry Tree Hill was a small hamlet some 2 miles out of Sheffield and the burgeoning middle classes must have formed a ready market that he was eager to exploit.

People in Sheffield would have been aware of the Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens and other attractions in London, and Jenkinson was keen to offer something similar. He started with displays of panorama paintings in 1827 (panoramas were huge circular paintings with the viewer placed in the centre) and held his first “Grand Gala” in 1829. It featured fireworks which “would have appeared to far greater advantage had the weather been more favourable”, as one paper reported. Other entertainments included dancing with military, brass and quadrille bands.

The galas continued through the early 1830s, often on a weekly basis, but came to a halt in 1836. This was the same year the Sheffield Botanical Gardens opened and it's probable that Jenkinson's trade suffered as a result. In 1839 he was declared bankrupt and probably spent some time in the debtors' gaol. The brewery of Hinde, Marrion and Bolsover became involved in running the pub and a Grand Fete was announced for 1840 using

Jenkinson's name in the advertising with a promise “to spare no expense in bringing forward such pieces of Pyrotechnism [sic] as he trusts will give general satisfaction”.



“Thomas Jenkinson, Cherry Tree Hill Cottage Bowling Green and Tea Gardens, near Sheffield,” is the inscription on this print. We have no date for it, but judging from the costumes it was a pleasure resort of many years ago. Can any of our readers give us further information regarding it.

By 1841 a new tenant called Mr Lewin was running the venue and laying on even more lavish entertainments, including Mons. Gygell from Vauxhall, London with *“his daring performance of ascending and descending the tight fiery cord, forty feet in height”*, with a promise of Italian and Chinese fireworks, including an ascending balloon shooting fireworks from the basket below. Gygell's act involved wheeling a barrow back and forth along a tight rope whilst fireworks were shot from below.

Thomas Jenkinson died in October 1841 and the freehold for the pub and surrounding land was bought by George Wostenholm in 1842 as part of his land acquisitions in the area. The particulars for the sale described it as “ornamented Bowling Green and Pleasure Grounds, numerous Boxes and Alcoves, together with a large variety of of valuable Plants and Shrubs, small Paddock, Garden, Stable and Outbuildings together with 12 substantially built Cottages”. The pub, bowling green and tea gardens continued into the 1870's under the Green family but there were no more grand galas.

Here's a teaser from the History Group

John Austin

John asks "What connects these three images?" (answer page 31)



What you are looking at are :

1. A house that does not fit with its neighbours...often an indication of the site of a bomb
2. The stubs of metal railings cut off to provide metal in support of the War effort...a psychological exercise rather than a practical one.
3. The remains of an Air Raid shelter

As you walk around Nether Edge, keep your eyes peeled. You will see lots of examples of the first two. The shelters are less visible but remnants are still to be found in people's gardens and cellars.

Know of any? The WW2 Project Group would love to hear from you. Alternatively if you have family stories of World War 2, relatives who served, photographs or mementoes, please get in touch. andy.beezer@softekssoftware.co.uk or john.austin1@btinternet.com

Activities for the Lock Down

Graham Nield

This card game called Crazy Eights, is easy to learn and fun to play, good for children.

For between two and five players use a single pack of playing cards. Deal five cards each, or seven if only two play, and stack the rest face down. Turn the top card face up and place it next to the stock to start the waste pile. If an eight appears as the first card in the discard pile, simply put it back around halfway into the main stock and turn over the next card.

The aim is to get rid of all your cards by discarding them one by one to a waste pile. The catch is that you may only discard by matching the previous player's discard by number or suit. If you can't, you have to draw more cards enlarging your hand and taking longer to go out.

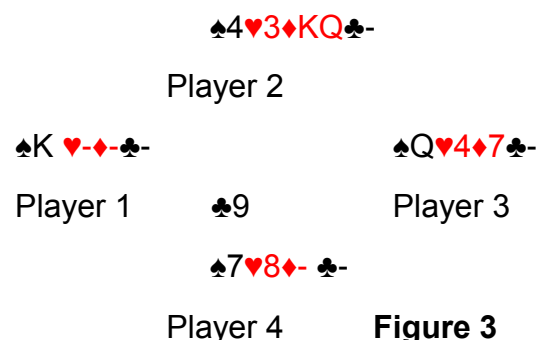
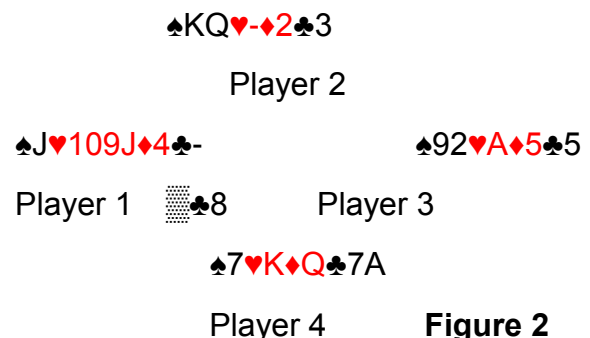
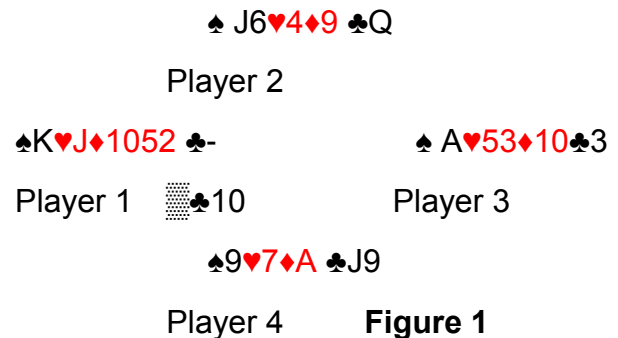
Objective: to be the first to play off all your cards.

Play: (**Figure 1**) ♠10 is turned up from the main to the discard pile. Player 1 plays ♦10 and play continues clockwise. On your turn to play you can discard one card to the waste pile provided it matches on number or suit. Play continues until one player has got rid of all their cards.

Eights are wild and in (**Figure 2**) Player 2 plays ♣8 and chooses a new suit (♠) for player 3. Eights can be played whenever you like. If you are unable or unwilling to match you must draw cards from the stock pile and add them to your hand until you do make a discard up to a maximum of three. If stock has run out, pass.

Play ends when one player plays their last card or (**Figure 3**) when no one can match the ♣9 on the waste pile in which case all players have to add up their face value of cards, court cards (JQK) count 10, Eights 50 and Ace 1 point. If the game blocks the player with the lowest score wins.

Player 1	Player 2	Player 3	Player 4
10 (wins)	27	21	57



Print Making

Sally Brooks (brooksally@gmail.com)

I belong to Sheffield Printmakers which was formed in 2013 to support artists and promote fine art printmaking.

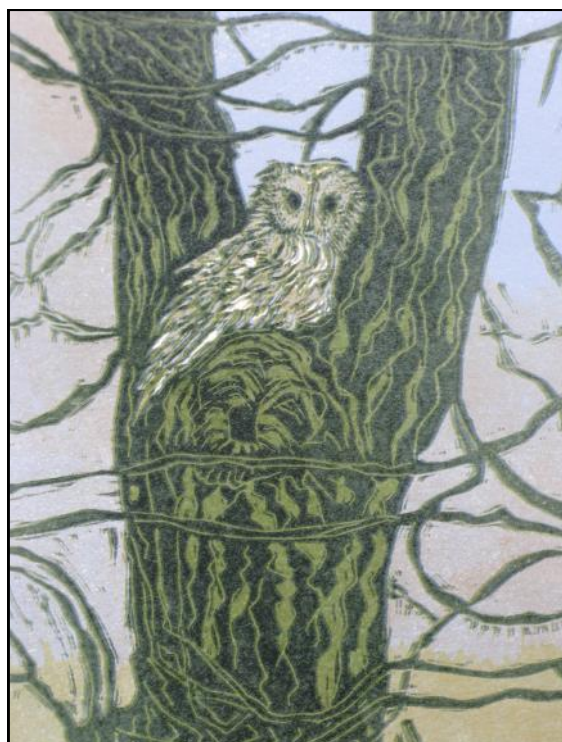
There are lots of different methods used for printing, including etching, collagraph and relief printing. I principally use lino to produce relief prints. I usually start a print with a drawing, either from the object I want to reproduce or from photos I've taken of it. I then transpose the image, using duplicating paper, on to the lino plate.

Most of my prints are what are called reduction prints. This means that the cutting of

the lino is done in stages. The first job is to decide how many colours I'm going to use, generally about three or four. A small amount of lino is cut away from the plate and the first colour ink is applied to the plate with a roller. The plate and paper are fed through a roller press in order to transfer the inked image onto the paper. Then more lino is removed and the next colour is applied to the plate, after the previous colour has dried. This continues until the final cut is made and the final colour applied. By then there is often not much lino left.

Children could do **potato prints**; cut a large potato in half and, using a pointed implement (a wooden skewer, a pencil etc) gouge out a pattern, removing some of the potato. Paint the potato and press it down on paper. If you use acrylic paint you can print on fabric and it won't wash out.

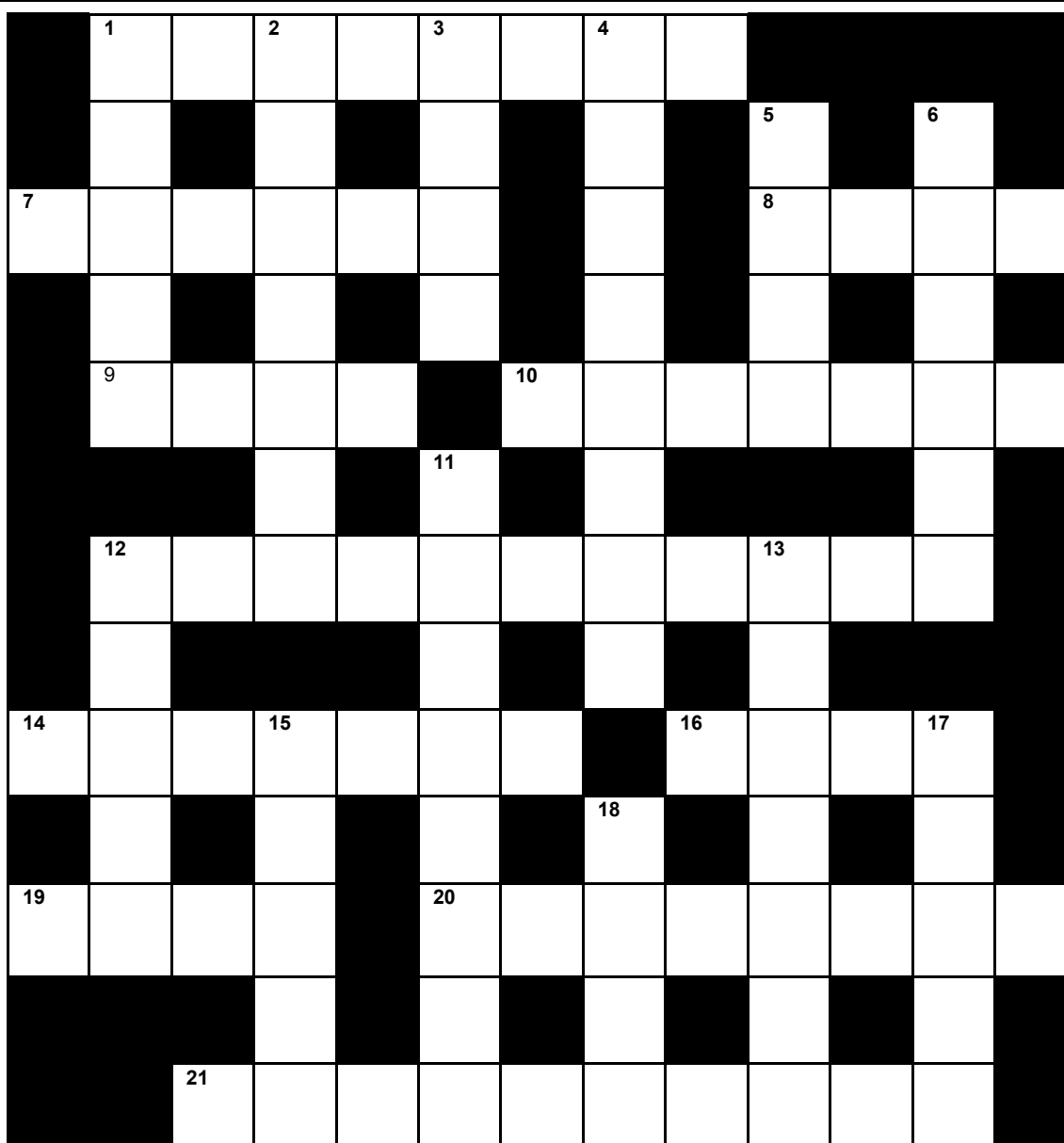
String prints can also be made; stick string onto thick card, allow to dry and then paint it and press down on paper or fabric.



Here are some reduction lino prints I have made.

SPRAT'S ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH CROSSWORD

In an effort to expand your vocabularies, I have included some words (marked with an *) which you may not have heard before, or at least, not until recently. Answers page 31



Across

1. Confining prisoners to their cells* (8)
7. Protected or exempt* (6)
8. Curved piece of metal (4)
9. Indian bread (4)
10. Junior guide or rich chocolate cake (7)
12. Substance used to provide immunity* (7)
13. Not well (3)
14. Molasses (7)
16. Statue in Piccadilly Circus (4)
19. Capital of Norway (4)
20. World-wide disease* (8)
21. Keeping far apart* (linked to 6D) (10)

Down

1. Primate from Madagascar (5)
2. Able to burn (7)
3. Squirrel's nest (4)
4. Alternative name for moorhen (5,3)
5. Arab boat (5)
6. Relating to society* (linked to 21A) (6)
11. Gulliver's land of 6 inch people (8)
12. Infective agent* (5)
13. Relating to country, formed in 1948 (7)
15. Garlic mayonnaise (5)
17. Children's playground apparatus (5)
18. (Archaic or informal) Soon or shortly (4)



Activities for the Lockdown; Cook a New Recipe

Jane Wheatley

As a keen home cook, I was asked to produce a couple of simple and cheap home recipes for lockdown which can be made from ingredients which are easy to find and from what you may already have in your fridge or freezer. I have plumped for a main course and a couple easy-peasy puddings which actually taste a bit special.

Norwegian flan

Now I want to make it clear that there is nothing remotely Norwegian in my mind about this recipe. But that is what my 90 year old mother (soon to be 91) insists it is called after her dear friend Cath and she went to Paris in 1947 or 1948, saw the Folies Bergeres and decided they wanted to be more worldly and signed up subsequently for a Cordon Bleu cookery course where they were taught to make this recipe. It is however definitely more Italian in flavour and in fact the Venetian husband of one of my friends loves it and refers to it as “Jane’s pizza tart”. The good thing about it is that the filling for the flan also doubles up as a pasta sauce recipe. So, any extra filling can be stored in the fridge and used later with pasta or frozen for a day when you don’t have time or the inclination to cook. Or just make the filling and use it with any pasta and forget the flan bit if you like (my mum called it Norwegian spaghetti in the 1970s!). The flan itself freezes really well whole or in slices and is great picnic food for days out whenever we can have those again. I have also served it in small slices as a party canape after cooking it into a large rectangular flan which has gone down very well. Buy the pastry flan if you like too if you just cannot face making pastry (but give it a go if you can as it is every easy, quick and cheap to make and no one is marking you on appearances).

I have set the instructions out in some considerable detail for those who are perhaps

less confident or experienced in the kitchen but I assure you that it is very easy to make and extremely tasty, so don’t be put off by the length of the instructions. This recipe can be adapted into a vegetarian option simply by leaving out the bacon and substituting it with something else. I would suggest that thinly sliced mushrooms, finely diced courgette, peppers or similar could be added to the onions to bulk the vegetable filling out. Quorn or soya mince could also be used. For vegans, the same can be followed but the top of the flan does have eggs and cheese on it, so blended silken tofu or similar egg substitute and vegan cheese would need to be used. I have never made it as a vegan flan so I shall leave it to more experienced cooks of vegan food to adapt the topping as necessary. Personally, I would make the flan filling the day before I was making the flan so the flavours intensify as most things taste better the day after being made (in my view).

INGREDIENTS:

One portion of shortcrust pastry sufficient to make a flan in a 8-9” flan dish or sandwich cake tin.

This is easy even for inexperienced cooks and can be used for any type of flan, pie or quiche when you have mastered it. The recipe is simply half the amount of fat to plain flour, a pinch of salt plus 2- 3 tbsp of cold water and that is it. The following amounts are enough to cover the base and sides of a 8 – 9 inch 2” deep flan dish or similar tin. Scale up or down depending on how much filling you are making. Any extra pastry can be used to make some jam tarts or lemon tarts with lemon curd which are popular with children and adults alike (see below).

Non- vegetarians

300 gm/10 oz of plain flour



75 gm/2.5 oz of butter
75 gm/2.5 oz of lard
Pinch of salt
2- 3 tbsp of cold water

Vegetarians/Vegans:

300 gm/10 oz of plain flour
150 gm/5 oz mix of butter (if vegetarian)/
margarine/Trex or similar
Pinch of salt
2- 3 tbsp of cold water

Or you can use any other combination of fats from the list above depending on what you have available but make sure that the flour to fat ratio is 2:1.

Flan topping:

3 large eggs (or vegan substitute)
50 – 100 gm of grated cheese. I like a mix of cheddar and parmesan
Ground black pepper

Flan filling:

Smoked/unsmoked bacon. Work on 1- 2 rashers per person.
2 -3 medium onions chopped finely.
2 cans of chopped tomatoes
A can or ½ a tube of tomato puree/paste (about 2-3 big dollops or more according to taste).
1-2 tbsp of Italian seasoning (a mix of fresh or dried basil, oregano, thyme).
2 cloves of garlic crushed/chopped (and more if you like garlic but if you hate garlic or it doesn't agree with you, then leave it out).
1 tbsp of vegetable oil – olive, sunflower, rapeseed, other veg oil (whatever you have).
Beef or vegetable stock cube.

If you have an open bottle of red wine a small glass really adds to the flavour but that is optional

METHOD:

1. Make your pastry by rubbing in the fats,

(whichever you are using) with your finger tips in a bowl with the flour and a pinch of salt. If you have a bladed food processor I would suggest using that because it is quick and takes seconds. You don't want to over rub or over process the mix so stop when it has the appearance of chunky bread crumbs whatever method you use. Add a little cold water sufficient to bind the pastry, mix in with a knife and then briefly knead it or just mix in the processor for a few seconds. Handle the pastry as little as possible and when mixed to a soft and pliable dough wrap in cling film, greaseproof wrap or plastic bag and pop it into the fridge for 30 + minutes to chill and then start on the flan filling.

2. Chop your bacon into little pieces with a sharp knife or kitchen scissors. Leave the fat on but remove any rind. Chop/slice the onions and crush/chop the garlic (if using).

3. Warm the oil and add the chopped bacon in a heavy based large pan, or deep frying pan (big enough to take all the ingredients for the filling). Keep the heat on medium/high and stir the bacon around until the bacon becomes slightly crispy. This will take about 2 -3 minutes depending on whether you are using streaky or back bacon and how big the pieces are. Pre-cut lardons can also be used but are an expensive option for the amount of meat you get.

4. Add the chopped/sliced onions and garlic if using (plus other chopped vegetables, Quorn/soya mince if following a vegetarian/vegan option). Stir it all around and then put a lid on the pan and turn the heat down to low and leave the onion/garlic/bacon/vegetables to cook for about 5 minutes. The lid being put on is important at this stage so that the mix doesn't fry and burn but instead sautés and softens in the pan.

5. Turn on your oven to 190C/170C (fan). Grease a 8- 9" flan dish/sandwich cake tin or other similar sized metal/silicon tray which will need to be a minimum of 2" deep. Set to one side.

6. After 5 minutes remove the lid of your pan and

your onions should appear soft and almost translucent. Be careful removing the lid because there will be a lot of steam.

7. At this stage stir in the chopped tomatoes, tomato paste/puree, stock cube, Italian seasoning, (and wine if using) into the onion/garlic and bacon mix. I would not add salt because the bacon is salty and there is going to be cheese added to the topping which is also high in salt. Bring the mix to a boil stirring all the time. If the sauce looks a bit thick at this stage add some hot water, stir again then turn down to a simmer. Let the mix simmer for about 30 minutes stirring from time to time before turning off and allowing to cool. Because the mix is going into a flan it needs to be thicker than pasta sauce so if making as a sauce for pasta then add more water and/or another can of tomatoes to the sauce to thin it out. Taste and add more seasoning at that stage if desired.

8. Take your pastry out of the fridge. Roll it out on floured worktop or board, moving the pastry a quarter turn as you roll until you get it to about a 5 mm or 1/4 inch thickness in a circular shape which is about 3 inches bigger all the way round than the base of the dish/tin you are using. Either carefully fold the pastry in half to make a moon shape and then lift from underneath or carefully roll the pastry disc around your rolling pin and lower it onto to the dish/tin. Gently nudge the pastry into the tin/dish and into the edges at the bottom of the tin/dish allowing the edges to just flop over the sides. Smooth the pastry and try not to pull it or tear it. You should have about an inch or so more than you need after the pastry has been pushed into the side of the tin which you can trim off with scissors or a knife. But don't trim too much off because pastry shrinks when it cooks particularly if margarine is used so I always leave about a 1 cm or a third of an inch above the edge of whatever the pastry has been put in. At this stage any excess pastry can be put back into the wrap you took it out of

and used for jam tarts or similar.

9. Whisk one of your eggs in a cup with a fork and set aside.

10. With baking parchment or greaseproof paper, cut a piece bigger than the dish/tin and put it in the pastry case and let it come up the sides. Weigh the paper down with baking beans (little clay beads) if you have them but dried chickpeas/pulses or even scrunched up foil is okay as well. Put in the centre of the oven (preferably on a baking tray which is already hot in the oven which crisps the bottom of the flan case).

(Whilst the flan case is in the oven you could use any excess pastry to make some jam/lemon curd tarts. Re-roll the pastry out to about 3-5 mm or 1/4 inch thick. Cut pastry circles with a cutter and place into a bun tray. Dollop jam/lemon curd into the middle of the pastry. Place in oven and cook until the jam/lemon curd is just bubbling and pastry golden – should be about 10 – 15 minutes.)

11. Take the flan case out of oven after 15 minutes. The edges of the pastry should have turned a golden colour. Remove the baking beans and the foil/parchment etc. the bottom of the flan will be pale and perhaps slightly bubbled. That is fine. Don't pop the bubbles.

12. Get a pastry brush or any clean brush, and brush the bottom of the flan case gently with the whisked egg to make a thin wash. Set the remainder of the egg aside as you will need it later. Put the flan case then back in the oven onto the baking tray for another 5-7 minutes.

13. Grate the cheeses whilst the flan is in the oven.

14. Remove the flan case from the oven which should be a golden colour and the bottom should be shiny as the egg wash will have formed a yellowy glaze. If the egg wash still looks wet and sticky then put the flan back in the oven for another minute or so. The egg

glaze stops the filling from soaking into the pastry and producing the dreaded soggy bottom.

15. When the egg has formed a shiny glaze at the bottom of the flan case then you are ready to fill the case with the flan filling. Fill the case to about 1 cm or ½ inch from the top of the flan. Turn down the oven to 170C/150C (fan).

16. Whisk together the 2 remaining eggs with whatever is left of the first egg. Pour the egg mix over the top of the flan then sprinkle the egg topping (or vegan equivalent) with the grated cheese, a grind of black pepper (optional) and put the flan carefully back into the oven for another 20 minutes or so or until the egg is cooked and the cheese melted. The flan should be golden in colour. Can be eaten hot or cold, on its own, with salad or with baked beans and chips if there are hungry people to feed or whatever else you fancy.

Jane has also prepared some recipes for delicious lockdown puddings and we hope to publish these in a future edition of Edge.

Shootings in Nether Edge – a NENG response

Ken Lambert

As you may be aware, there were shootings around Common Ground, Machon Bank and Union Road over the VE Bank Holiday weekend. There were also incidents in other parts of Sheffield, including Heeley. They are believed to be part of a “turf war” between drug gangs. The Covid-19 lockdown seems to have emboldened the dealers since there are fewer people on the streets.

Whilst the areas around Common Ground and Mount Pleasant Park seem to be the centre of drug dealing and anti social

behaviour, related incidents have been reported in Chelsea Park and Brincliffe Edge woods, so it is something that potentially affects all of us in the community. The use of firearms is a dangerous new development, with the constant worry that innocent bystanders will be hurt.

On Tuesday 12 May there was an “Abbeydale Stakeholders” video meeting of local organisations, including NENG, with the Police to find out what they are doing and to work out a joint response to the incidents.

The Police have increased their presence and patrols in the area as a direct response. A Serious Organised Crime team have come into Sheffield to investigate. An additional Criminal Investigation Department (CID) team has been set up and is also working on collecting intelligence and tackling drug related issues. The CCTV on Machon Bank has now been re-established, but it will be needed elsewhere in the city at some point.

Whilst this is clearly a matter primarily for the police, their presence on the streets will have to be scaled back over time, so more reports need to be made by us as local residents who see drug dealing activity and other antisocial behaviour. Residents are therefore encouraged to report quickly and consistently. 3-4 reports within the space of a few weeks, from multiple people, can make effective evidence for obtaining a search warrant, for example. Even though many residents will say “we know who they are”, and the belief is that most of the criminals are from the local area, without sound evidence they cannot be prosecuted.

Calls can be made anonymously on 0800 555 111 or anonymously online at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information>.

The police say it is better to make multiple reports rather than none.

If there is anything specific that you feel NENG should be doing to help remove the scourge of crime, then please contact the Chair, Ken Lambert (contact details on page 2).

Corona Virus - some useful contact information

Nether Edge Help Network (Covid-19 Mutual Aid) Facebook Group

This provides local information as well as details of street level groups already set up in Nether Edge.

You can volunteer to be a street coordinator.

www.facebook.com/groups/2257972117638744/

Voluntary Action Sheffield (VAS) COVID Support Map

Shows the various support groups in Sheffield and what support can and cannot provide.

www.vas.org.uk/sheffield-covid-support-map/

NHS Coronavirus site

The official information – beware of dubious information on social media sites

www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

Official UK Government site

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Sheffield City Council

Changes to council services

www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/coronavirus

Phone (0114) 273 4567.

Age UK in Sheffield

Regularly updated page of information

www.ageuk.org.uk/sheffield/about-us/helpful-resources/

Phone (0114) 250 2850

Sheffield Rethink Mental Health Support

www.rethink.org/help-in-your-area/services/advice-and-helplines/sheffield-helpline/

Phone 0808 801 0440

Sheffield MIND

www.sheffieldmind.co.uk/news/covid-19-and-sheffield-mind

The Silver Line helpline for older people

www.thesilverline.org.uk/telephone-friendship/

Phone 0800 4 70 80 90

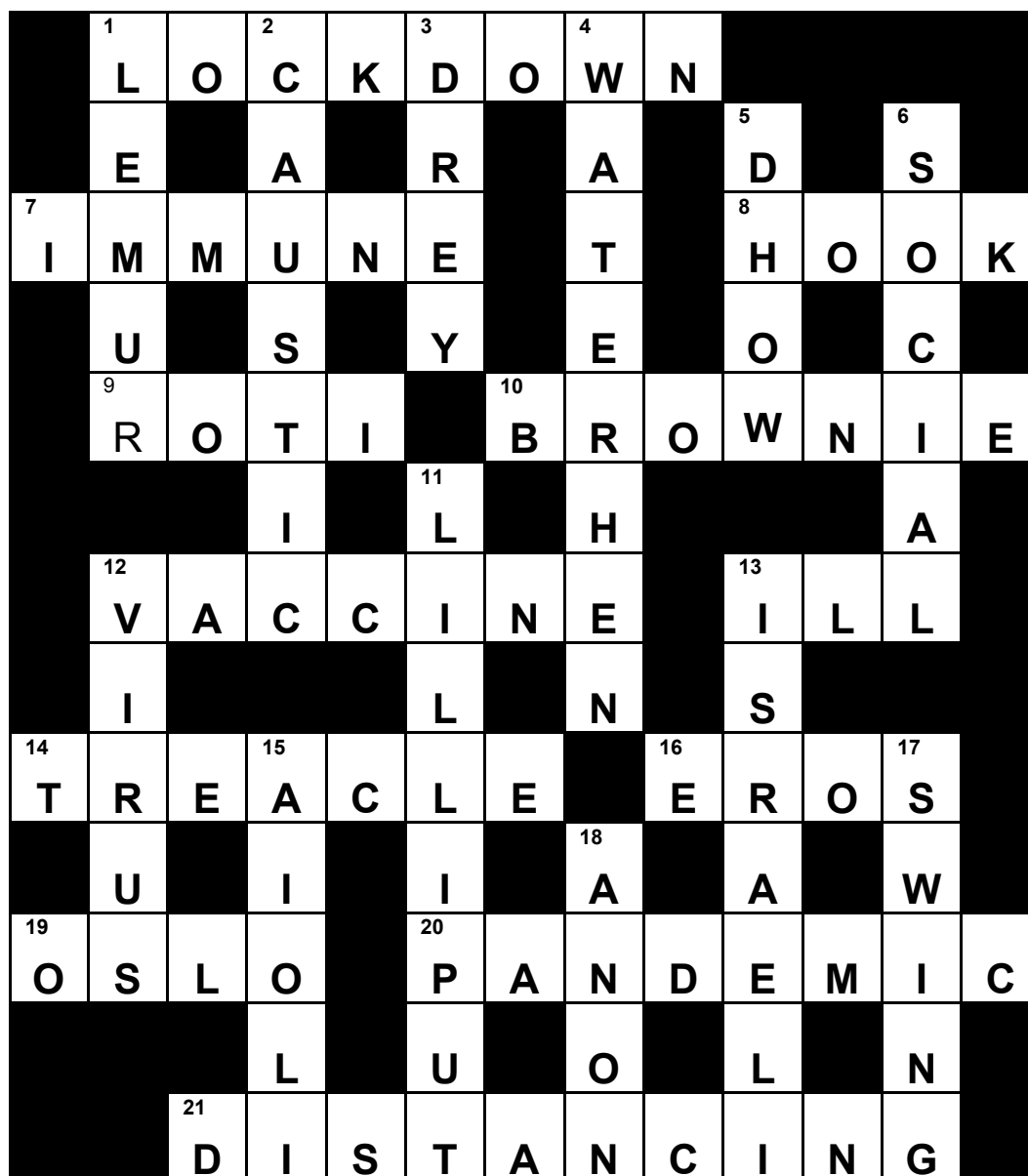
Domestic abuse helpline

Sheffield 0808 808 2241 National helpline 24/7 0808 2000 247

This is a link to a list of shops and other services in the local area remaining open, many providing deliveries. It was compiled by Judith Rossiter, of the Whirlow Mutual Aid what's app group, and is updated regularly.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/10XxJ3LFYG_MTdWks01lxXI922MQhuQU9wjaOucgvzE/edit?usp

Answers



Bench Mark Quiz Answers

Six of the pictures represent Ordnance Survey bench marks:

A and H are bench marks which you will already know if you have not skipped reading the article.

B, C, D and E are all bench marks on Brincliffe Edge Road

F is one odd one out. It is not a bench mark. It is a General Post Office telephone cable marker

G is an odd one out. It is not a bench mark – it looks like one, but it is not on the Ordnance Survey database. It was probably put there by Sheffield council – tricky one.

Tree Leaves Quiz Answers

1. Elm 2. Sycamore 3. Lime 4. Beech
5. Oak 6. Horse Chestnut 7. Hawthorn
8. Ash 9. Silver Birch

The answer to **John Austin's history question** is that all these features have something to do with World War 2.