

# Hunshelf Chat

Issue 107 - March 2022

[www.hunshelfparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.hunshelfparishcouncil.org.uk)

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Stories throughout this newsletter are written by residents of the parish of Hunshelf. Anyone who would like to contribute articles, information, events or photographs, please contact the Editor, Claire Derrick, on 07753523909 or email [claire.derrick288@gmail.com](mailto:claire.derrick288@gmail.com)

**Deadline for stories for the next Hunshelf Chat is 15 May 2022**



## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Hunshelf

**The parish council will soon be holding an initial meeting to begin the planning of the parish's events to mark The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.**

In the past, we have excelled in our community events to mark the other national moments in the Queen's reign, leaving lasting memories for our children and families.

With so many new, young families now living across the whole parish, we hope that this might be an opportunity for you to come forward and help to plan and produce events in different parts of the parish.

The Jubilee Weekend will take place from Thursday, 2nd. to Sunday, 5th. June, 2022, with fine weather on order!

Some of our councillors have agreed to prepare the beacon which has to be lit at 9.45pm on the 2nd. June, marking the beginning of the celebrations.

Team Green Moor are already doing their bit planning their planting schemes for us to enjoy at their best. Green Moor Cricket Club and Green Moor Church will also have their thinking caps on.

There are some aspects which the national organisers are hoping communities will be able to fulfil: do we have a town crier; buglers or pipers among us?

But it is for others to see this as an opportunity to share their ideas; join in the planning, organising, lifting and shifting which will make this a memorable weekend.

If you want to be part of the Jubilee Team, please contact: **Kathryn Battye**, Chair of the PC, on [battye623@btinternet.com](mailto:battye623@btinternet.com) or **Kathryn Austin** on [kathryn@rockhousefarm.co.uk](mailto:kathryn@rockhousefarm.co.uk) so that we can arrange a first meeting to suit everyone.

## Hunshelf Parish Council

### Members:

Kathryn Battye (Chair)  
Louise Godley (Vice Chair)  
Peter Garrity  
Philip Watts  
Kathryn Austin  
Elizabeth Wright (Clerk)

Contact via the Clerk on 07918128233, email [providence.house65@gmail.com](mailto:providence.house65@gmail.com) or via the website [www.hunshelfparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.hunshelfparishcouncil.org.uk)



# Nature Table



## Grey Squirrel - Dispelling the Myths?

**Love them or hate them, Grey Squirrels are here to stay in the UK. They look so cute, with a thick fluffy coat of silver/grey**

**fur, rusty brown head and snowy white chest and belly, hopping and jumping around the garden or woodland, often sat upright on their hind legs nibbling at some tit bit - maybe an acorn from a nearby Oak or perhaps a sunflower seed dropped from a bird feeder.**

But where did they come from, how did they get here and why do they have such a bad reputation with a significant proportion of the British public?

### Arrival

It is thought that these North American imports were originally released from pet collections into the UK in around 1828 although the first documented release was in 1876 when a pair were released at Henbury Park near Macclesfield. Many more introductions took place in the early 1900s when greys were released into a number of counties including Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Staffordshire, Devon, Suffolk and Nottinghamshire. It's easy to understand how they became established when records show that less than 10 animals could provide a successful introduction. In fact large releases were noted at Richmond Park, Surrey (100 in 1902) and Regent's Park, London (91 released between 1905 - 1907). It wasn't until the 1950s that Greys were established throughout Yorkshire and then not until the 1980s before they made it into the north of Lancashire and Cumbria. I remember as a boy in the late 1960s and early 1970s that Red Squirrels still held territories in the Peak District and the Greys weren't really of concern at that time.

I was surprised to find out that Greys were also released into Scotland as early as 1892 and within 25 years had established huge territories particularly in the South around Glasgow, Edinburgh and Perth. It's strange to think that some areas of Scotland are currently the stronghold for our native Red Squirrels after this apparent blunder. It is now an offence to release Grey Squirrels into the wild in the UK without a license.

### Impact on our native Red Squirrel



A number of environmental groups and individuals (including me) believe that Grey Squirrels have caused the demise of the Reds. This is no doubt true but not necessarily the full picture. Red Squirrels predominantly occupy woodlands, whereas Greys can be found in gardens, parks and woodland. Deforestation of the UK since the early 19th century, increase in the incidence of parapoxvirus (squirrel



pox), expansion of our highway networks and the subsequent increase in traffic volumes have had a major impact on Red Squirrel populations. These facts plus the expansion of the Greys in parallel has threatened the existence of our native Reds.

The main arguments for the ongoing control measures to reduce the Grey population in certain areas includes:

- The Greys outcompete the Reds for food and habitat.
- They carry the parapoxvirus which doesn't affect them but kills the Reds.
- Their presence causes stress to the Reds which prevents them from breeding successfully.

These stark facts are emphasised when studying the changes in populations of both species - Since their introduction the Grey Squirrel population has risen to in excess of 2.7 Million whereas since the late 1800s Red Squirrel numbers have fallen from circa 3.5 Million to a mere 140,000 of which it is estimated only around 15,000 survive in England.

### Status

I think it's fairly obvious that our native Red Squirrel and their dreys receive full protection under Schedules 5 and 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Grey squirrels don't receive any formal protection (other than through animal welfare legislation). But the Wildlife and Countryside Act also covers their release into the wild. This is because of the grey squirrel's alien status and its impact on our red squirrel populations.

Grey Squirrels are classed as vermin in the Act and control measures can include shooting and trapping all year round. Once trapped the squirrel must be humanely dispatched. We have a fair population in our parish and I'm aware of a number of parishioners, including myself, who have at some point tried to reduce numbers. It's a sad process but I doubt whether in my lifetime that I will ever see a Red Squirrel in Green Moor. Fingers crossed that reintroduction schemes including the nearest Red Squirrel stronghold at Snaizeholme in the Yorkshire Dales are successful and their expansion reaches us in the next few years.

### References:

WoodlandTrust.org.uk, Wildlifeonline.me.uk, nature.scot

**Peter Garrity - Images © Peter Garrity**

## LOCAL HISTORY

### WELL HILL COTTAGES (The Shepherd's Cot)

This very old dwelling is considered by local folk to be the oldest in the parish. Writing of it in the early years of the twentieth century Joseph Kenworthy, the local historian, said:

"There is an old house at Green Moor which, to the casual observer, has the appearance of a house build in the ordinary manner, although he or she might find themselves pondering why the chimney on the west should stand behind the coping of the gable-wall instead of on the gable in the usual way.

It is a very old dwelling and stands a little below the north-side of the road at Well Hill Top, opposite to a modern dwelling known as Holly House\*. It is now let off as two tenements and when advertised for sale on March 6, 1919, they were referred to as 'Well Hill Cottages'. Zephaniah Crossland, of Green Moor, says that in his youth the old folks called it 'The Shepherd's Cot'. In 1919 the net annual rental value was £10-8s and the property was sold for £130 to Mr Solomon Crossland of Thurgoland.

A careful inspection of the interior reveals that, in its original condition, it was a timber house of post and truss construction, whether of boards, as in the case of an external wall at Raynor House in the Ewden Valley, or of stud and clay with

plaster finish, was stripped and replaced by walls of rubble-stone with ashlar quoins, and windows with stone mullions. The first roof was probably thatched with rye-straw which gave place to grey-slates, now partially replaced with Welsh slates.

The position of the gable-walls in relation to the chimneys and the strongly made partition which divides the house afford ample proof of the fact that the massive oak framework now hidden in the walls was a wooden house until its renovation towards the end of the seventeenth century. Indeed, it is not improbable that this old dwelling, with other wooden houses in the same locality, were referred to in some of the charters of the thirteenth century, as quoted by Hunter in his 'South Yorkshire', where we read that:

"Thomas, son of William of Hunshelf, gives to Elias of Waldershelf, smith, a piece of land which Matthew of Hunshelf, junior, formerly held within the limits of Hunshelf, at the Wood Houses and also Rowrode?

The present dimensions of this dwelling-house are 42 feet long by 22 feet wide externally, and the walls average 24 inches thick. This, after allowing for pulling about, when the walls of boards, or of stooth and plaster, were replaced with stone, and the ends extended to give a chimney in each gable; would

approach that of a house whose original measurements were equal to 2 and a half bays of 240 square feet each bay, which would constitute a messuage, whose measure of two and a half bays implied that the tenant held a bovate of land or fifteen acres."

Since Mr Solomon Crossland bought the property in 1919 it has been occupied by other members of the Crossland family. Three brothers - Grayson, Leonard and Willis lived in one cottage while their sister Blanche and her husband, Mir Shaw, inhabited the other. After Blanche died ownership passed to Mr Arnold Watts.

Now in 1992, after having been extensively modernised, Well Hill Cottages are inhabited by Mir and Mrs Philip Watts and Mis Janet Watts.

\*Renamed Plashwood by Mr B Booth

*This text was taken from a handwritten document written by the late Neville Roebuck. Many of his documents and photographs are in Penistone Archives.*

### LOCAL CRIME UPDATE

Many you will know that there has been an increase in crime in Green Moor and the surrounding area; stolen vehicles, house burglaries, damage to property to name a few. The police and Barnsley's Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) have been contacted and are undertaking surveillance in the area. Some are marked vehicles with cctv, others are unmarked, and both police and SNT are liaising with one another.

If you have any crimes to report please contact the local police and/or the SNT, and let Hunshelf Parish Council Clerk, Elizabeth Wright know on 07918128233, email [providence.house65@gmail.com](mailto:providence.house65@gmail.com)

#### Your Area Officers:

**PCSO 8320 Holmes and PCSO 8317 Womersley**  
**Penistone Police Station, Bridge Street, Penistone**



# Parish Matters

## Telephone Box

The Parish Council would like to ask people not to leave boxes or bags of books, toys or other goods in the telephone box. Many of the items left recently became damp and had to be recycled. Please take unwanted items to a charity shop or the Barnsley Hospice donation centre at Dodworth.

## Commemorative Stone

The recent bad weather has delayed the specially engraved stone, commemorating Green Moor winning RHS Best of Britain Gold Award in the village category in 2019, being placed in the wall by the Ivy Millennium Green. It is hoped that this will be completed by April.

## New Mower

The new ride on mower has been ordered and hopefully it will be delivered just in time for the grass cutting season to start!

## Goal Posts

After being contacted by some of the younger residents, the Parish Council submitted a grant request to the National Lottery Community Fund to enable it to purchase a goal post with a grass matting wear pad. The Council's bid was successful and when it finally stops raining the goal post will be installed on the Delf field. The Parish Council hopes the young people of the area will enjoy this new facility. The Parish Council is also considering upgrading some of the smaller items in the playground.

## HUNSHELF CHAT COPY OPTION

If you would prefer an electronic copy of the Hunshelf Chat you can get one by either visiting <https://www.hunshelfparishcouncil.org.uk> or by sending your email address to the Editor [claire.derrick288@gmail.com](mailto:claire.derrick288@gmail.com) who will send you an e-copy.



## Team Green Moor update

### What's going on and what's planned

**The team started back in January after a wintery break and started plans for the Platinum Jubilee. If all goes to plan, this will include a wild flower area in a corner of the Delf field and a cottage garden in the Millennium Green. This will be a great project for the aesthetics of the village; to encourage wildlife, both animal and insect, as well as celebrating the Jubilee.**

In addition to this project, activities continue in other areas:

- Some of the old birdboxes have been replaced with new and more purpose-built nesting boxes. There are plans to encourage willow tits in to the Delf and our resident ornithologist leads on this. Willow tits prefer to build their own nests, excavating holes in standing, decaying birch and willow, using the resulting woodchippings as the base of their nest.
- Compost bays are being constructed, this being for several reasons: it saves water by helping the soil retain moisture and reduce runoff. It also allows us to recycle organic material - a constant side-effect of gardening, and improves the fertility of the soil. Much less compost to buy in the long-run.
- Planters/containers will be planted up seasonally to add colour and texture.

- Planted areas and the green areas will continue to be maintained throughout the year.

The team meet (weather allowing) on Thursday mornings at 9.30am, meeting at the playground or telephone green area before starting work. TWIGGS community engagement team continue to support the work, which is particularly helpful with the heavier, labour-intensive work, as the average age of our group at present is in the late 60's!

If you would like to join us either regularly or on an ad-hoc basis please come along on Thursday morning.

For more details contact:

**Claire** on 07753523909 or [claire.derrick288@gmail.com](mailto:claire.derrick288@gmail.com)

**Betty** on 07960812362 or [bettyallott52@gmail.com](mailto:bettyallott52@gmail.com)

## Green Moor Carol Singers 2021

A big thankyou to all the residents of Green Moor who came out from their homes to stand and listen to the Carol Singers this year. The tradition of singing round the parish is an old one in Hunshelf dating from a time when only isolated properties formed the parish. In 2021 we were unable to visit homes, but sang in the streets.



Photograph by Tony Sanger

Christmas 2021 with COVID-19, was different to previous years and the tour of the parish had to change also. Singing in the streets and roads allowed more residents to enjoy the words and tunes of our local carols. The popularity of newer carols was recognised as on three occasions the singers were asked for "Jingle Bells". A supply of small bells was supplied to allow children to ring in time with the singing.

The singers started at Office Fold, progressed through Delph Mews and Stoneway Mews to Delph Edge before meeting in the middle of the road outside Castle View. The occasional vehicle had to pass slowly as the singers parted before it in a wave. The final sing was at Undernabnk Hall.

Also, the singers wish to thank Claire Derrick for designing the flier that informed the village of the route and

timing of the tour, and the volunteers of Team Green Moor who delivered them round the village.

The Carol Singers also performed two sessions at Wortley Top Forge and bolstered the congregation at the Green Moor Methodist Church carol service.

**David Horsfall**

### Green Moor Baby and Toddler Group

Thursdays 9.30am to 11.30am. Is there anyone in the Village or nearby who is willing to help Brenda and Kate to run this Group. If a few were willing it could be on a monthly or two weekly basis. Please ring Brenda on 0114 2882346 or call in on the Group if you can help. Thank you.

**Brenda Mangham**

### Green Moor Sunday School Nativity

Our grateful thanks to the Parents and Grandparents who bring their children to Sunday School at Green Moor Church 9-45am to 10-45am every Sunday. In spite of Rehearsals being cancelled for weather and important Services, the children were absolutely wonderful and the Nativity was enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who took part or helped with the clothes and equipment needed.

**Brenda Mangham**



## Another Local Walk Langsett and Hordron Road



This walk encompasses a start which will be familiar, but then takes you somewhere different. We commence from Langsett Barn, but instead of circling the reservoir, we ascend through woods to two ancient tracks: Swinden Lane and Hordron Road: then either take a moderate route back, or cross moorland, before following the Porter (or Little Don) River towards the reservoir before returning to Langsett Barn through woodland.

Full details of this 5/6 mile walk are available on the Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome website: <https://stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk/medium-2/langsett-hordron-road/>



## Green Moor Sports Club

**As I am preparing to write these notes rain is lashing down our window with gale force winds whirling around. Cricket seems a long way away but in reality the opening game of the season is just 8 weeks away - mid April.**

Indoor nets at PGS are on-going - Thursday nights 7.30pm - 8.30pm for adults and older juniors. U9's have their training sessions on Saturday mornings 9am - 10am.

Anyone wishing to join just turn up on the appropriate day and you will be made welcome. We have nothing else going on at this stage of the season but all the fixtures are out which gives everybody something to look forward to - surely the weather will have picked up by then!

Take Care  
**Ann Matthewman**

### THANKS

Just wanted to say what an especially cracking Christmas edition of the Chat you have produced. It is really interesting and much appreciated. I love the Local History parts too. A lot of hard work goes into its production and it is beautifully presented. Thank you to you and the rest of Team Green Moor too for all you do to make and keep our village attractive. Thank you also and to Pete Garrity for the lovely regular Nature Table contributions. We are all so lucky to live in this lovely environment.

Thank you.

**Doris**

## Weather you like it or not: This is climate change



Images © John Kerr



*Images of The Trunce valley where the river banks broke during the floods early in February*

# What's on

**Due to Covid19, information on events at our local venues are continually being updated. Please contact them or visit the websites/social media sites directly for information.**

## Green Moor Church

**Chapel Lane, Green Moor, Sheffield S35 7DW**

The 10:00 services on the third Sunday of the month are Family Services

## Penistone Paramount

**For details contact 01226 767532 [www.penistoneparamount.co.uk](http://www.penistoneparamount.co.uk)**

### FILMS

The Duke, 4 - 10 March

Casablanca, 6 March

The Beatles: Get Back - The Rooftop Concert, 14 March

John Gregson, 15 March

Petit Maman, 17 March

Sonic the Hedgehog 2, 1 April

Dementia Friendly Screening: Easter Parade, 5 April

Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore, 8 April

Easter Parade, 10 April

### EVENT CINEMA

NT Live: The Book of Dust (Live & Encore), 13 March

NT Live: Leopoldstadt, 24 March

NT Live: Henry V, 21 April

NT Live: Straight and Crazy, 26 May

### LIVE EVENTS

Last Laugh Comedy Club, 4 March

Made in Motor-City, 11 March

That's the Spirit, 12 March

Hiding from Wobbly Bob and other Stories, 16 March

The Black Snow Roadshow, 18 March

Millhouse Green MVC Annual Celebrity Concert, 19 March

Long Way Home: An Afternoon with Dan Jarvis, 20 March

Greatest Songs from the Movies From Pinewood to Hollywood!, 20 March

Oklahoma, 2-3 April

Penistone Ladies Choir in concert with Hade Edge Brass Band, 23 April

An Evening with John Illsley ~ The Life and Times of Dire Straits, 25 April

All our Yesterdays, 29 April

Daphne's Flight, 15 May

Matilda The Musical JR, 22 May

### ORGAN EVENT

Buster Keaton's 'The General', 19 March

Compton Cavalcade, 9 April

Phil Kelsall MBE, 14 May

**Visit the above website for information and updates.**

## The Venue

**For more information or to book please call 0114 2838692 or email us/facebook [The Venue Stocksbridge](https://www.thevenuestocksbridge.co.uk).**

**Messy Play**, 18 March

**Dance Wear Table Top**, 27 March

## Wortley Hall

**For event details contact and fees 0114 288 2100 [www.wortleyhall.org.uk](http://www.wortleyhall.org.uk)**

International Women's Day Afternoon Tea and Guest Speaker Milly Johnson, 9 March

Casino Royale Charity Gala, 25 - 26 March

Family Easter Hunt, 13 April

Italian Wine Tasting, 30 April

Mamma Mia! Evening, 20 May

## Penistone Community Centre

**Penistone S36 6AR. Visit [www.penistonetowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.penistonetowncouncil.gov.uk) for updates**

## Wortley Top Forge

**For more details, contact Ted Young on 01226 763896. [www.topforge.co.uk](http://www.topforge.co.uk)**

New season begins Sunday 20 March 11.00am to 5.00pm.

## Civic

**Visit [www.barnsleycivic.co.uk](http://www.barnsleycivic.co.uk) or check out the facebook site @barnsleycivic**

## Parish Council meeting

Second Monday of the month at 7.00pm in the Providence Room. The next meeting will be on xx March 2022. All are welcome to attend.

## Fox Valley

**For more information on events visit [www.foxvalleysheffield.co.uk/events](http://www.foxvalleysheffield.co.uk/events)**

- **Weekly Friday Market**
- **Monthly Farmers Market** First Saturday of each month.
- **Artisan Market** from 27 February. Last Sunday of each month

George Michael Tribute at Ponti's, 25 March

MG Car Club - The Daffodil Run, 10 April

**Check the event websites for further information and updates**