



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Development
Alumni
Relations &
Events.

Rag Parades, Halls & David Bowie.

Experiences of University life 1965–84



The winning Stephenson Hall float,
Rag 1969.

Photo from **John Bitton**
(BEng Civil and Structural Engineering 1970)

Twikker, 1969.
Photo Archive, University of Sheffield

Thank you

This magazine is the result of a request for memories of student life from alumni of The University of Sheffield who graduated in the years 1965 to 1984.

The publication provides a glimpse into an interesting period in the University's history with the rapid expansion of the campus and halls of residence. The eyewitness accounts of the range and quality of bands promoted by the Students' Union are wonderful testimony to the importance of Sheffield as a city of music. And the activities of students during the Rag Parade and Boat Race would create panic in the Health and Safety Executive if repeated today.

I wish to thank everyone who responded so generously with their time and sent us their recollections and photos. Just a fraction of the material appears here; all of the responses will become part of the University Archives.

Miles Stevenson

Director of Alumni and Donor Relations

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A party in the Junior Common Room, Sorby Hall in 1964.

Steve Betney
(BSc Physics 1965)



The residents of Crewe Hall (popularly known as Kroo'All in those days) were a notorious bunch of students whose cruel initiations of their new members were very original. In my case, during that initiation night three senior members brought me up by lift to the top floor of the nearby Halifax Hall. There they stripped me to my underpants and then forced me to walk down the staircase to go back to Crewe Hall half naked. All the way down the stairs, some of the female residents were giggling, which I managed to ignore by counting in Madurese (the language of one of the larger tribes in Indonesia which I belong to) every step I made.

Having passed that and other ordeals properly, with the Warden watching, the chairman of the Crewe Hall Junior Common Room duly 'knighted' me by touching my shoulders with a beer bottle, the contents of which I had to drink afterwards in one gulp, signifying that I was accepted as one of them.

Dr Mien Rifai

(MSc Botany 1964, PhD Botany 1966)



Crewe Hall

Photo Archive,
University of
Sheffield

Accommodation



The Halifax Hall Rag float of 1965 – *Halifax Harem* – in which Sue took part. The theme would not pass muster these days!

Professor Paul Whiteley
(BA Economics 1968) and **Sue Whiteley**
(née Everest) (BA Sociology 1968)



[I lodged at] 394 Ecclesall Road, in the home of Jack and Margaret Richardson for the full five years. I was in luck, allocated one of the family double rooms, large enough to accommodate a pre-digital age architectural student's apparel including a 'double elephant' drawing board, stand and T-square. For bed, breakfast, evening meals and laundry I was charged the princely sum of £5 a week all in. Each time my fiancée phoned, Jack would tell her "He's gone down pub wi' a blonde," referring to the local Pomona.

Robert Derricott OBE (BA Architecture 1967)



A highlight of the year - Ranmoor Ball.

Lindsay St Claire (BA English Literature and Language 1973)



My time at Sorby Hall was really carefree. The maid came every day to clean the room, empty the wastepaper basket, dust and make the bed. Breakfast was self-service and at the weekends lunch was served followed by 'high tea' in the evening. During the week there was no midday service and one went to the Students' Union. Every weekday evening there were two sittings for dinner. The first sitting being relatively early and it was self-service. The second sitting was formal and one had to wear a gown. Before the meal all stood when one of the guests on the 'top table' said grace in Latin. Many students did not like the organised life of a hall of residence with its fixed meal times, but for me it was perfect and made the three years at Sheffield the best time of my life. The photo is a view from my room, E20, at Sorby.

Christopher Wallis (BJur Law 1972)

Crewe Hall had a bar of its own. There were numerous events held there, the most enjoyable being the dances involving girls from local teaching colleges. Each Friday, I think, we gathered in the bar after dinner for the *Tom and Jerry* cartoon hour and *Monty Python and the Flying Circus*. We had a number of competitions involving the singing of rugby songs, requiring the quaffing of a pint if the designated singer failed to come up with a song or failed to appropriately finish it. I quickly became a professional.

Hugh Fuller
(American Year Abroad student 1969-70)

Got into Stephenson Hall in my first year and stayed there until graduation. First year in a shared room in Carisbrooke on Oakholme Road, cleaning ladies came every day during the week, would even tidy our clothes if left lying about, sometimes we brewed up for them and made them toast. Second and third years in a room in E block, cleaned only twice a week if I remember rightly. Cosy with a gas fire in the room. Another factor was the cost; being in hall was relatively cheap and included all meals except lunch Mon to Fri. Something like £6 or 7 a week in 1967.

John Bitton
(BEng Civil and Structural Engineering 1970)

1965 Pyjama Jump – the combined pub crawl and night-club pyjama party – started (last Pyjama Jump in 1996; last Rag Parade in 1997)

1965 Department of Building Science established; incorporated into Department of Architecture in 1989

Accommodation



I had a very nice and close friendship group which I was invited into on my first day at Ranmoor.

Robert Gray (BEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1974) and **Sylvia Gray (née Kitney)** (BSc Natural Environmental Science and Landscape Studies 1976)

Nobody had mobile phones so you had to phone up from the phone booths near the porter's lodge [at Ranmoor]; the calls were expensive and you had to feed in 10ps at regular intervals. If someone wanted to talk to you then you had to hang around near the phone booth waiting for it to ring, or someone would answer the phone and then come to your room to let you know. In town there was a long line of booths where people queued to phone.

Iain Hill (BA Psychology 1979)



Tapton was really the main centre of my social and study life during my time at Sheffield. There were the continually convivial shared meals in the large dining room twice a day (three times at the weekend), combined with the dressy formal meals (the men wore ties) once a term. Evenings were often spent huddling many to a room over coffee and biscuits, or in one of the two TV rooms (the Falklands War caught our attention in my final year).

Sue Jane Bird (BA French 1982)



I was one of the first residents of the self-catering Crewe Flats the year they were converted from the most conventional, and male only, Crewe Hall in 1973. Unlike some of the other mass University accommodation Crewe Flats were experimental as there were no 'grown-ups' on site, only students who, among other things, ran the bar. This bar rapidly became legendary in that the licensing hours were only very loosely adhered to, often staying open until the early hours.

David Wilson
(BEng Automatic and Control Systems Engineering 1975)

I never lived in Hall – my first year was spent in extremely cold digs in Hillsborough. Despite the snow and ice there was a heater on the landing which was only switched on once a week – I went to bed in my coat! The food was cooked in a side oven by the fire in the kitchen and always came out covered in sooty spots. Hence I spent a lot of time in the Students' Union and had most of my meals there. I couldn't complain because my landlady was a good friend of the person who organised digs for all first-year students.

Sue Gladden (née Elliott)
(BSc Geography 1967, PgDip Social Studies 1968, PgDip Applied Social Studies 1969)

Halifax Hall was an all-girls hall of residence in those days, but of course many of us had boyfriends who would try to sneak in (and then out again the next morning!). My then boyfriend gave up trying to slip out of the fire escape and decided that the best option was simply to brazen it out and leave down the main corridor and out of the front door. For several weeks this worked fine and he would happily pass the time of day with anyone he passed, including, on several occasions, the warden [Mary Sharrock] on her way to breakfast. She was a wonderful woman and quite a character. She eventually stopped him and asked if he'd be so kind as to join her in her study for a little word... he was of course expecting a good telling off, but it was apparently by no means an unpleasant exchange. And she ended by giving him the benefit of some wonderful advice, which consisted of the unforgettable words, "Sex is also good in the daytime you know dear"!

Mary Wallace (née Trelfa)
(BA Geography 1981, MEd Training and Development 1999)



 **Tapton Hall of Residence, 1970.**

Jonathan Nettefield
(BA Geography and Economics 1972, PgDip Business Studies 1973)

1965 The Robert Hadfield Building opened

1966 The Arts Tower officially opened by HM The Queen Mother on 23 June

1966 Sir Hugh Robson appointed as Vice-Chancellor



The photo shows building work outside the Union building.

John Bitton
(BEng Civil and Structural Engineering 1970)

Within a few weeks of moving to Sheffield, in October 1962, the Cuban Missile Crisis had the world on the brink of nuclear war. I remember spending a few hours each side of Kennedy's 3pm deadline to Khrushchev on the moors with fellow students in John Guy's Ford 8, with French sticks, cheese and red wine, listening to the events unfold on a radio. In 1963, tension again built in pre-partition Cyprus, Greeks wanting integration and Turks wanting partition. I recall at the time emotions boiling between two opposing nationals in our Sherwood Road [Architecture] studio.

Robert Derricott OBE (BA Architecture 1967)

Student Reception (SR) was the first student-led initiative in the UK to acknowledge the need for support during the transition from school to university life. It had a flourishing membership of about 200 students by the time I joined. We were 'on call' to conduct prospective students on tours around the campus. I like to think we made some contribution to ensuring the University was presented in its best light to its future 'clientele'.

Marie Kemp (née Woulfe) (BA English 1967)



The Refectory at Portobello, 1969.

Nicholas Athanassoglou (MEng Mechanical Engineering 1970)



Programme for the Drama Studio autumn season, 1978.

Isabel Novi
(BA Spanish Language and Literature 1982)



I was 25-years-old when I entered Sheffield and I had never been so well off, having a grant of £360 a year. In addition I received my train fare at the end of each term from Sheffield to Penzance, and my bus fare from Sorby Hall to the University was also paid for. I also received a book allowance and a laundry allowance.

Christopher Wallis (BJur Law 1972)

When the Hicks Building was being erected, there was an enormous ditch between the Students' Union and Western Bank, which was spanned by a military-style 'Bailey Bridge'. I had the misfortune to slip on this during icy weather and break my wrist! The Arts Tower, the University Library and the Hallamshire Hospital Out-patients Department were also all being built; the Library was completed in time for us to use it when we were studying for our Finals.

Dr Wendy Ahmad (née Knowles)
(MBChB Medicine 1966)

I am very aware of belonging to a fortunate generation which was encouraged to widen horizons in the pursuit of knowledge, so the City Gallery, Sheffield Cathedral, student tickets to the Crucible, films in the Graves Building, a changing theatre programme at the University Drama Studio to see plays in foreign languages and generally treat culture as a part of my life and not just a luxury.

Dr Juliusz Jan Buras (MBChB Medicine 1983)



The Chemistry Building, September 1969.

Hennage Wileman (BSc Chemistry 1972)

I have fabulous memories of being snowed in, the Pyjama Jump, the Paternoster lift, dropping a few coins into the box on the bus and travelling miles for ten pence, meeting my husband-to-be in the library, practically living at the Students' Union, going to see a film and dropping our laundry in at the laundromat and changing it over to the dryer in the intervals.

Nicky Griffin-Appadoo (PGCE Education 1984)

Departments

In July 1967 the venue for the Graduation Ceremonies was the City Hall. Arts students graduated in the morning session whilst Science and Engineering students graduated in the afternoon. After the ceremony the graduates and their entourage flowed out of the City Hall down the steps and on to the wide pavement area for informal photos. For many of us this was also a last chance to chat and say goodbye to the many friends we had made in our undergraduate days at Sheffield.

Dr Cliff Bray (*BSc Biochemistry 1967*)



1970 was a good year for the Law Faculty football team, highlighted by close-fought victories over such formidable opponents as Sheffield Fish Market and the senior citizens of Norton All-Stars Reserves.

Bill Brabban (*LLB Law 1971*)



In 1965, the Architecture Department vacated Sherwood Road and moved to the top of the newly opened Arts Tower on Western Bank. The Paternoster lift system became an instant source of distraction as students tested the flexibility of the trip wires, and there was frequent cleansing of the entrance pool with soap suds. The photo was taken in the fifth-year studio (I'm the one in the hat!).

Robert Derricott OBE (*BA Architecture 1967*)

One of the English lecturers was the poet Sir William Empson. He had a very strange beard that was all over his neck while the front of his chin was clean shaven! When it was cold he would wear a scarf over his beard. There were about 30 of us in the Honours French group. Our classes all took place in the little Georgian houses that used to stand on Western Bank opposite the Union. The lecturers were all looking forward to the forthcoming move (in autumn 1965) to the smart new Arts Tower.

Karen Mary Bradford (née Smith)
(*BA French 1965*)

In my academic year there were only 60 students, of which 15 of us were women. This means that the whole Medical School would only have had the same number of students that is presently in one year! Sheffield was among the first to introduce Elective Periods for medical students. Along with a friend, I did a month's attachment in the Cardio-thoracic Surgical Polyclinic in Helsinki, followed by joining a Medical Travelling Summer School in which, along with medical students from all over the world, we attended courses in Denmark, Sweden and Norway; it was a wonderful experience.

Dr Wendy Ahmad (née Knowles)
(*MBChB Medicine 1966*)

We were never short of patients as there was so much poverty and hardship due to the recession in the steel and cutlery industries. The City of Sheffield was recovering from World War II and we even saw unfortunate examples of do-it-yourself dentistry! We attended ward rounds and lectures at the Royal Hospital on West Street (no longer there) and the Royal Infirmary as well as the Charles Clifford Hospital and Dental School on Wellesley Road.

John Maguire
(*BDS Dentistry 1966*)



I needed a large, dark, quiet and vibration-free lab [for my PhD project]. It happened that the Psychology Department in Mushroom Lane had just taken over an additional, adjacent, Victorian building. It seemed to have a cellar beneath, with a massive, padlocked door which looked as if it had not been opened for generations. It never occurred to me to ask permission. I borrowed a power drill, and with a friend drilled off the locks, to reveal a large dank, subterranean room with a stone slab on a pedestal (a Victorian meat 'preserver'); perfect for a makeshift optical bench. I ran extension cords for power down from the ventilator of the General Office above, and in through the ventilator of the cellar. In those days, graduate students made their own apparatus, and from Army Surplus stores I bought a wealth of old optical and electrical equipment, which together with Meccano, enabled me to construct requisite recording and projection systems. The photo shows me (left) with carpenter Eric Eagle.

Emeritus Professor John Bradshaw
(PhD Experimental Psychology 1967)

As clinical medical students at the Royal Infirmary, we spent our on-call weeks at a residence up the road – aptly known as 'Charcot's' – an abbreviation of Charcot's Joint, which is a manifestation of syphilis. If we were called out at night, the phone would ring at Charcot's and the eight of us would run down the road in our white coats (girls in miniskirts) and climb up a Victorian stone wall to a short cut – a plank across the hospital coal heap – laughing and chatting all the way. I don't remember washing our hands before examining the patient!

Dr Geraldine Cummings (née Gillespie)
(MBChB Medicine 1966)

I attended Professor Bernard Crick's lectures for two years and he was my personal tutor for Parliament and Political Philosophy, along with Dr Preston King. Prof Crick would wax very lyrical about the Greek polis. He also memorably announced the birth of Preston King's daughter Oona [now Baroness King of Bow] during one lecture. Everyone applauded as I remember. I still have Prof Crick's pamphlet on the Reform of Parliament with my name 'Miss Utting' handwritten on the front. No first names then!

Joyce Chamberlain (née Utting)
(BA Politics 1968)



My pleasure was seeing the compass in the floor of the Geography Building every time I walked in – daily! It was both appropriate for the building's use and stylish in metal – and I walked over it feeling a certain sense of space and of knowing where I was in relation to the world.

Juliet Green (BSc Geography 1974)



Sheffield Medical School, 1976.

Dr Paul Boston
(MBChB Medicine 1976)

Departments



I took part in the Environmental Sciences Expedition to Arctic Norway in 1976. This photo was taken in Koppangen (I think) at the start of a four-to-five-day hike into the fairly inaccessible ranges of the Lyngen Alps.

Neil Mosley (*BSc Geology 1976*)

The photo below shows our Geography Department Hockey Team on 16 March 1977; we had just won the Inter-Faculty Championships for that season. The enjoyment of the social and sporting facilities of the time were fundamental to my development into a more rounded and accomplished person, for which I'm very grateful.

Malcolm (Mick) Garton
(*BA Geography 1977*)



Staff and students on a Botany field trip to Norfolk, 16 July 1980.

Alison Cox (née Staples) (*BSc Botany 1981*)

I remember one of my colleagues arriving late at a geology finals practical exam in 1973, dragging one leg and breathing heavily as he sat across the bench from me, examining ammonite fossils. When the three-hour exam finished, he admitted he had been knocked off his motorbike on the way to the exam, but just insisted that the woman who had driven the car involved deliver him to Mappin Street. It turned out he had a broken leg ... he went on to get a First, doing the rest of his finals in the hospital wing of Ranmoor House. What a hero!

Ann Branson (*BA Geology and Geography 1973*)

I graduated, aged 44, after three years of part-time study at evening lectures, all held in the Arts Tower. The overwhelming memory is of the dedication of Professor Roach who taught us the significance of the History of Education and Dr Peter Hannon, who lectured in Developmental Psychology. Their lectures were first class and they showed total dedication to our achieving success.

Anne Harding (*BEd Education 1981*)

I would like to add my appreciation of the Arts Tower's Paternoster installation. When I arrived as a student in 1975, the then Department of Prehistory and Archaeology was based in the Arts Tower. Sadly, I had a phobia of using a lift at that time and as the floor level of the department was not foot-friendly, I had no option but to jump on and off that veritable 'dumb waiter' of a transportation system. I recall the Paternoster being the stuff of urban legend: don't go to the very top or you'll never be seen again – I didn't and I'm still here to tell the tale!

Chris Fernie (*BA Prehistory and Archaeology 1978*)

1968 The Who and Joe Cocker played at the Union Ball

1968 Department of Biblical History & Literature renamed Biblical Studies

1968 Postgraduate School of Mining closed

Boat Race



Boat Race, 1969.

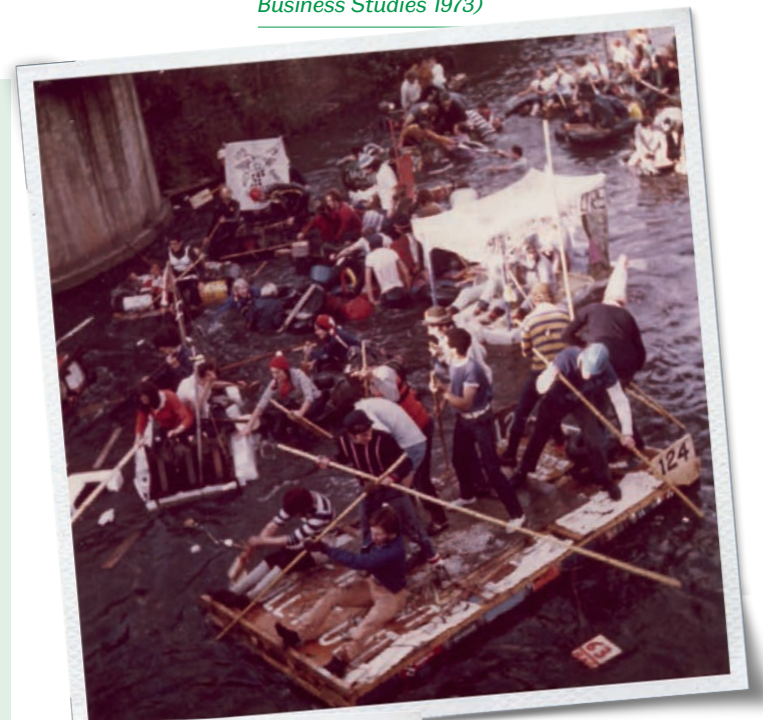
Jonathan Nettelfield

(BA Geography and Economics 1972, PgDip Business Studies 1973)



For Rag Week, we explored the sewers of Sheffield and participated in the Annual Boat Race down the River Don. This was presided over by the Rag Fairy waving his wand from one of the bridges as the locals dumped flour on the passing boaters. We made our own boats – the lawyers all contributed for a barn door and then, of course, they all wanted to be on board, sinking it and them in the toxic stream. Mine was a coracle from a lorry inner tube and a gunny sack – I won the novelty class. The only problem, as you can see from the picture, is that the end of the race was at the main sewer outfall into the Don and I had to work very hard to stop circling in the current of sewage. Never mind, as we climbed out a battle-hardened nurse had us “Drop-‘em” and receive our tetanus shots!

Bryan Douglas Cook (BA Geography 1968)



Boats are propelled down the River Don, 1965–66.

Professor

Colin Dennis CBE

(BSc Botany 1967, PhD Botany 1970)



This is Sorby Hall's entry for the Boat Race of November 1967. The local populace had the habit of throwing a mixture of flour and sump oil at the competitors! Rafts were constructed of materials costing no more than £1 – ours consisted of bamboo poles cadged from carpet shops and tractor inner tubes cadged from tyre depots all tied together with string.

Sandy Higgins

(BSc Fuel Technology and Chemical Engineering 1971)



The end of the Boat Race in 1968. The state of the Don may account for so many contestants missing a week's lectures!

Peter Minett

(BMet Metallurgy 1972)



1968

Department of Control Engineering established; renamed Automatic Control & Systems Engineering in 1991

1968

Another Rag stunt – students broke into the Concorde hangar in Bristol aiming to hang a huge Rag banner on the new plane before her maiden flight

Rag Parade



The Physics Society Rag Float, 1963 or 1964.

Steve Betney
(BSc Physics and Statistics 1965)

Many students participated enthusiastically in Rag and not just the procession (which in our time included a Students' Union officer as a bearded Rag Fairy) but also in stunts such as mountaineering on The Moor and attempting to paint the Rag Spider mascot on the domes at Fylingdales Early Warning Centre. Groups of students would prowl the Sheffield streets and steelworks long into the night with collecting tins, gathering for breakfast afterwards. You could dance the night away at the Rag Ball.

Professor Paul Whiteley (BA Economics 1968)
and **Sue Whiteley (née Everest)** (BA Sociology 1968)



The Rag Parade, 1980.

Andrew Gray
(BEng Electronic and Electrical Engineering 1982)



Earnshaw Hall's Rag Day participants, 1966.

Richard Storey (BA Economics 1967)

We traipsed miles up to Tinsley and back selling *Twikker* and there was no difficulty getting rid of them. Everybody wanted them as they were 'risqué' and that was not so common in the mid-60s though everybody now thinks the 60s were wild.

David Broughton
(BEng Mechanical Engineering 1968)



Crowds lined the streets to watch the Rag Parade of 1968 and the 'Olympics' were held in the Hole in the Ground in the centre of Sheffield.

Peter Minett
(BMet Metallurgy 1972)

1969 Tpton Hall of Residence opened

1970 Department of Business Studies included in Division of Economic Studies

1970 The Geography Building opened



Posters from Rag advertising the Rag Queen contest and 1972 Pyjama Jump.

Dr Mike Hayes
(BA History 1975, MA Japanese Studies 1978, PhD Japanese Studies 1981)



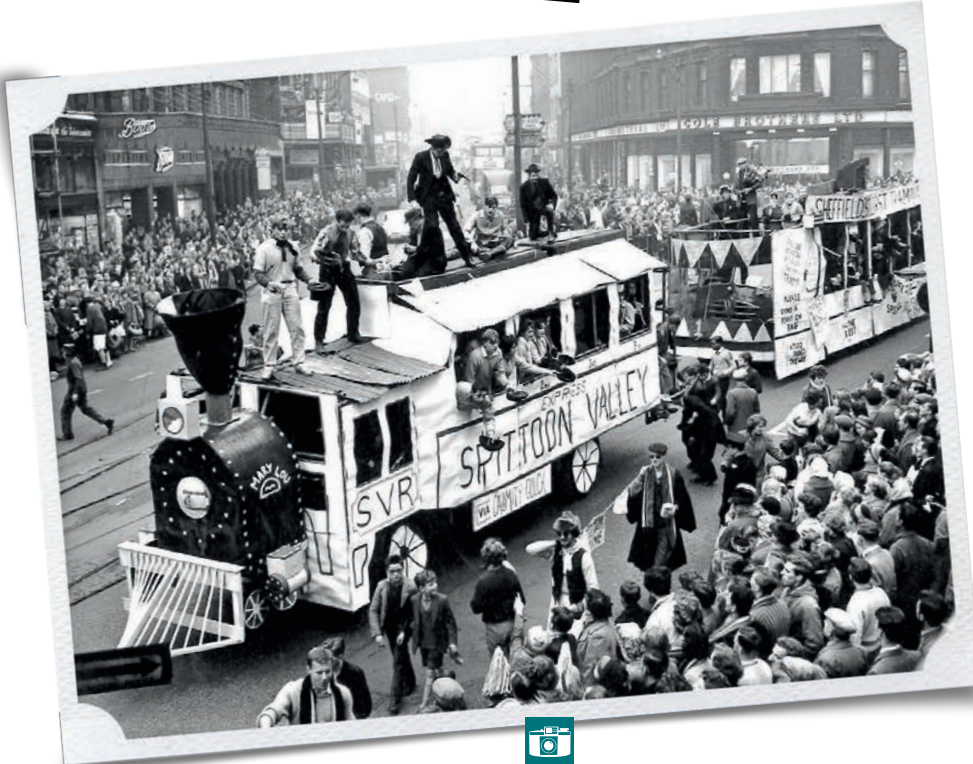
My husband [Steve Humphrey (BSc Mathematics 1975, PGCE Education 1976)] did the 50-mile Spider Walk two years in succession – we have the ashtray (unused!) that he received for the first one. We don't have the cheap mug he got for the second one!

Val Humphrey (née Holmans)
(BSc Mathematics 1975)



Twikker, 1967.

Leonard Binley
(BA Mathematics and Statistics 1970)



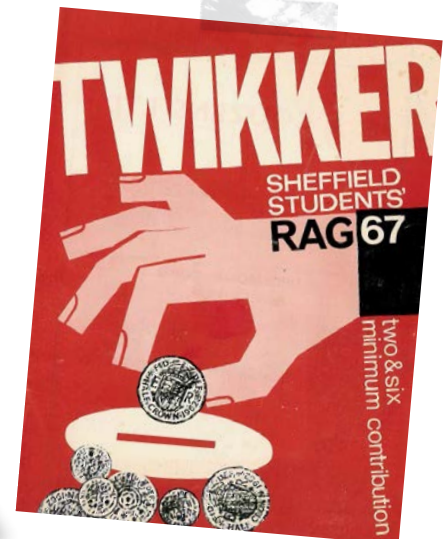
The Glass Technology float, 1960.

Dr Fiona Steele
(BSc Glass Technology 1963, PhD Glass Technology 1966)



To attract the attention of the would-be donors and to make my appearance noted, I walked beside our float wearing the characteristic Indonesian velvety black cap called peci and the exceptionally long Crewe Hall purple scarf, while my hand continuously shook the tin container.

Dr Mien Rifai
(MSc Botany 1964, PhD Botany 1966)



The Rag Parade in 1969, with the Rag Queen perched on a land rover driven by members of the Officers' Training Corps.

Andrew Eadie
(BEng Electronic and Electrical Engineering 1982)

Music

The Moody Blues were at the 1968 Sorby Summer Ball just a few weeks after they released *Knights in White Satin*. In 1970 I believe that we launched the career of the folk singer Mike Harding. You will see his name on one of the posters. He appeared at the Sorby Xmas 1970 Ball on the recommendation of a fellow student in Sorby who knew him from singing in a pub in Middleton on Saturday nights. We were so impressed with his performance that we doubled what we had agreed to pay him. I recall that he then started playing at other halls of residence. The posters for the discos and hall balls were designed by Rick Towers.

Andrew Eadie

(BSc Fuel Technology and Chemical Engineering 1971)



Posters for Sorby discos and balls.

Designed by
Rick Towers
(BMet Metallurgy 1971,
PhD Metallurgy 1979)

Saturday night was music night – thanks largely to Charlie Gillat, Chairman of ENTS. Many cracking bands appeared including Family and blues legend Freddie King.

Peter Minett
(BMet Metallurgy 1972)



One [performer I remember] was the as yet relatively unknown David Bowie. He came into the Lower Refectory, long before the concert, to test out the sound system. As the evening folded over the refectory and darkness came through from the tall glass wall, someone from our lights' team targeted a spotlight on him and from the moment that he sat down on one of those laminated chairs in the middle of the stage all the hubbub of people going to take showers, passing through the refectory to the Union building, ceased. David Bowie commanded attention and it was obvious that he was unique and important to listen to. He came to the University on 18 February 1972.

Dr Jurij Paraszczak (BSc Chemistry 1973, PhD Chemistry 1977)

No doubt today's students would find the amateurish nature of these tickets and posters amusing. The supporting group on these posters, Superslug, was a University band in which I was the pianist. One of the free all-day concerts was certainly in 1970, because I remember we were paid in unlimited beer, and I have a vague recollection of somehow making my way to the Arts Tower to get my BSc degree result at the end of day!

Dr Trevor Sweeting

(BA Pure Maths and Statistics 1970, MSc Probability and Statistics 1972, PhD Probability and Statistics 1975)



Wednesday nights were students' nights at Shades club on Ecclesall Road, proud of its reputation as one of the country's first multi-racial dance venues. It was mainly records, sometimes a band, and on one special occasion an emerging local singer who would one day be very famous ... yes, none other than Joe Cocker and his band, live at a cost of about 5/6 (less than 30p)! An altogether more sophisticated venue was the Penny Farthing in The Moor. Here you could mingle with 'real' people from the city and soak up your beer with portions of chicken in a basket... well, it was described as chicken but it was difficult to work out where the basket ended and the chicken began!

Richard Posner (BA Economics 1969)



Stage backdrops



A lot of new groups were forming, and playing the college circuit, so [as members of the ENTS Committee] we had to decide whether we could attract a big enough audience, at higher ticket prices, to cover the extra cost of these bands, and still make a profit. We decided to go for broke, and for our first big event we booked The Animals and The Hollies (both huge at the time) on the same bill. Tickets were priced at 10 shillings (50p), a big increase from the usual, and we were concerned whether people could afford this. We need not have worried. Tickets went on sale at noon on a weekday, and by the time we opened our ticket counter in the Link Building the queue was stretching past the Porters' Lodge and down the stairs – we sold out in two hours.

The evening was a great success, and after that there was no turning back. We devised a programme for each Saturday of term booking a 'name band' in the £100-£300 range, supported by a local band for around £25. Each band usually played 2x45 minute spots, which filled the evening nicely, and tickets were generally in the 5 to 10 shilling range. Trad jazz was still popular at the time, and we presented Chris Barber, Acker Bilk, Terry Lightfoot and Kenny Ball (along with our own Addy Street Five). Blues music was coming into vogue and John Mayall, Eric Clapton and Zoot Money all played for us. The backbone of our programme however was provided by booking big name chart acts. It was a bit of a gamble getting the right band at the right price, but we generally succeeded, and among those gracing the lower refectory stage were The Who, The Searchers, Spencer Davis, Dave Clark, Georgie Fame, Alan Price, Manfred Mann, The Fortunes, Lulu, Marianne Faithfull and many others.

David Allen Robson (BA Sociology 1967)



ENTS was probably where I spent most of my spare time (too much time according to my PhD supervisor some years later!), partly I because my technical interests were directly relevant to ENTS at a time when technology was undergoing the massive change from vacuum tube (valve) technology to solid state. I was treasurer, then in charge of lighting and then responsible for the power connections to visiting bands' equipment. I also used to photograph the backdrops that were used behind the stage. Special decoration efforts were made for events like the Union Ball and Graduation Ball. A new one was produced about every two weeks by the very devoted Decorations sub-committee; they produced hundreds of them during the years. A number of people were involved in creating and realising the backdrops but probably the three most prolific were John Ferguson, Nige Dye and Malc Douglas.

Dr Richard 'Toz' Tozer

(BEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1970, MEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1972, PhD Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1975)

1974 Professor Geoffrey Sims appointed as Vice-Chancellor

1975 The Psychology Building was opened on 18 December by HRH The Prince of Wales

1975 Athletics Secretary became a sabbatical post in the Students' Union

Venturing into the unknown

In 1976 I came over the Pennines from distant Manchester to a new world. And Sheffield didn't disappoint. Thinking back I had no real preconceptions about University life. I arrived ready to learn all I could about Marlowe and Milton and Webster and Shakespeare. I was also quick to learn about the Wapentake, The Raven, The Beehive and countless other bars languishing in and around West Street. There was the dizzying sophistication of Mr Kites wine bar itself. A radical and mind-blowing departure from regular pub culture with wine in carafes.

Division Street also boasted one of Sheffield's greatest pleasures in Rare and Racy. A store that specialised in second-hand books and records. Still does. What a wonderful place that was for me. This was the quaint age of music on vinyl. I'd spend hours in there undisturbed, gazing and grazing the album artwork. Daydreaming. Channelling a career in music for myself out of Groundhogs, Can, Faust, and Emerson, Lake and Palmer record sleeves.

After a term or two in the halls of residence at Earnshaw Hall, I decided to move out into the outside world for more space and adventure. More independence. More parties. Or so I thought.



ClockDVA



Vice Versa, with Martin Fry (top right).



At the time the University was embarking on an experiment in expanding student accommodation that involved shipping a small number of students to the council estate at Hyde Park flats. That's the ominous backdrop of concrete you see on your left as you drive into Sheffield from the M1. A vision of Alcatraz in council planning. I was one of that plucky group. In our minds it was a bit like an Apollo moon mission. Definitely venturing into the unknown. 99 Roland Row to be exact. A two-bed haven, high in the sky on the other side of the city. Miles and miles from the pillow fights in Earnshaw and Ranmoor and Sorby Halls. It was from this unique vantage point that I not only got to see Sheffield, but more importantly to see how Sheffield viewed its student population.

As students we'd sometimes go drinking in the Crow's Nest. A remarkably uncharismatic pub on the estate. The locals were genuinely mystified as to why we'd been shipped in. Initially resentful but gradually they got used to the idea and maybe even got to like us. The biggest bone of contention was always that as students we didn't pay tax. We weren't exactly getting rich by this wonderful arrangement with the taxman. I think our diet of pork scratchings and our habit of sharing a cigarette made that pretty obvious. One guy in there was always accompanied by his pet goat. Nobody ever asked why. The goat had its own pint and took preference at the bar. That never felt right.

Climb on a bus and for 10p you could head over to the Students' Union. Maybe go and see Kraftwerk or Blondie or The Boomtown Rats. NowSoc in the Union bar on Monday nights showcased local talent. To be in Sheffield in the ensuing years and stand in the audience to see Vice Versa (me included), The Human League, Cabaret Voltaire, Artery, ClockDVA, I'm So Hollow or countless other incredible local bands was something that influenced me for the rest of my life.

Dr Martin Fry
(BA English Literature 1979, Hon DMus 2012)
Lead singer of ABC



Human League



View from
Hyde Park Flats





Union Ball poster, 1973 or 1974.

Dr Mike Hayes

(BA History 1975, MA Japanese Studies 1978, PhD Japanese Studies 1981)

Union Ball 1968 – the lady is my wife Kate – they said it would never last! The Who headlined and there was an up-and-coming Sheffield band led by a new guy called Joe Cocker.

John Lawlor

(BSc Mathematics and Physics 1968)



In early 1964, I stood for the Vice-Presidency of the Students' Union. In my campaign I was ably assisted by a six-feet-high, stuffed Russian bear, which was stolen from the Students' Union of Hull College of Technology. Unfortunately the bear's imposing presence at the site of voting was short-lived as it was very quickly declared an 'illegal election poster' by the Union Secretary. We were allowed six election posters and I already had six, spread around the Union. The bear's placard constituted an illegal seventh. So the bear was spirited away to one of the men's halls of residence to become the mascot there. But I won the election on the first count!

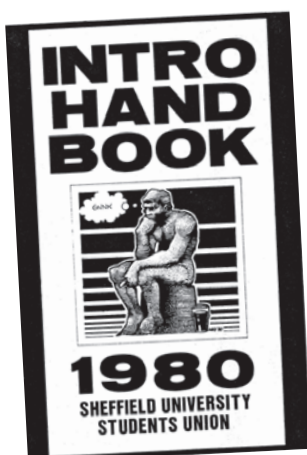
Dr Lorraine Margaret Harding (née Gill)

(BA Psychology 1965)

This was the beginning of the period of major student unrest throughout the world, so what did we discuss in our daily conversations over coffee in Graves coffee bar? Who was top of the charts, why were the Beach Boys so passé now, and who on earth were the Love Affair who had a major hit with *Everlasting Love*? This was the real student life ... endless hours in Graves just talking (no TVs in the Union other than a small, somewhat neglected room somewhere), evenings in the bar drinking Mansfield Bitter at 1/11 a pint, maybe a game of darts if you could get on the board, or bar-billiards, or putting sixpence in the juke-box to hear your favourite record. In those days before commercial radio, records were hardly ever played on the BBC so a juke-box offered a rare opportunity to hear the hits of the day.

Richard Posner

(BA Economics 1969)



The Students' Union's *Intro Handbook*, 1980.

Richard Mayson

(BA Geography 1983)

An essential pre-tea ritual in the mid-60s was for students to cram into the small TV room in the Link Building of the Union at 5.50pm to watch five minutes or so of *Magic Roundabout*. A cult following and once it finished the room emptied before the BBC news came on!

Dr Cliff Bray

(BSc Biochemistry 1967)



A view of the Graves Building, Link Building and bridge, summer 1971.

Jonathan Nettelfield

(BA Geography and Economics 1972, PgDip Business Studies 1973)

Societies

The Theatre Group production of Max Frisch's *The Fire Raisers* was the first show in the Drama Studio after the currency went decimal in February 1971. We charged 15p (3 shillings) a ticket; an outrageously inflationary jump from the 2/6 charged for previous productions!

Chris Barnes

(BA Town and Regional Planning 1971, MA Town and Regional Planning 1974) and **Hilary Barnes (née Smethurst)** (BMus Music 1974)



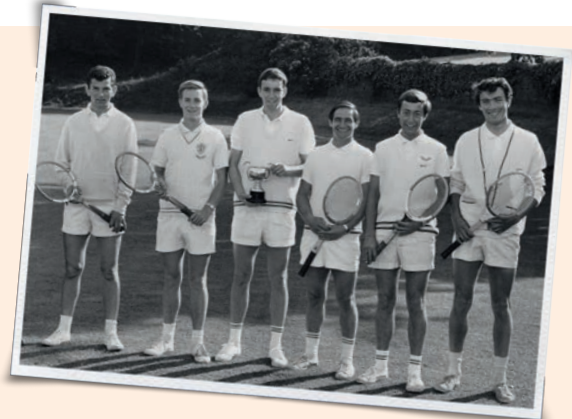
This photo of the Yorkshire Universities Air Squadron was taken at the summer camp at RAF Abingdon in 1970.

Jonathan Nettelfield

(BA Geography and Economics 1972, PgDip Business Studies 1973)

We both helped to organise the first High Peak Marathon in March 1972. It has taken place every year since then and is now run by the University of Sheffield Mountaineering Club. Peter helped to negotiate with the land owners for permission to hold the event. On the night, he was a check-point co-ordinator, with radio communications provided by the Sheffield University Officer Training Corps. Mary was doling out fruitcake and cups of coffee to participants from a tent pitched 541m up on Outer Edge.

Peter Frew (BEng Civil and Structural Engineering 1972) and **Mary Frew (née Goldthorp)** (BSc Geography 1974)



The University tennis team that won the national competition in 1967. Sheffield was the most successful university at tennis during the 1960s.

Dr David Orchard

(BSc Chemistry 1967, PhD Chemistry 1972)

The event that had the most profound effect on me in freshers' week, and has been the foundation of most of my social life in University and to this present day, was the Folk Dance Society barn dance held in the coffee lounge of the upper refectory. I was already interested in traditional music and dance and played accordion and a bit of fiddle so I automatically went to the barn dance. It was very friendly and girls got up to dance with you straightaway, not like at the beat dances.

David Broughton

(BEng Mechanical Engineering 1968)



The Folk Dance Society held a ceilidh each year, to which local clubs were invited. In 1963 the ceilidh was held on the night that President Kennedy was assassinated [22 November]. I was stopped on the way out of the house by my landlady who felt I should know what had happened. Many other members did not know the news and took a lot of convincing that we were telling the truth. The photo shows the Inter Varsity Folk Dance Festival which was held at the University in 1964, attracting between 30 and 40 teams from all over the UK.

Karen Mary Bradford (née Smith) (BA French 1965) and **Ian 'Tim' Bradford** (BSc Glass Technology 1965)



I was involved in the very active Jewish Society of the time. The hall of residence for the Jewish students was Hillel House, 16 Collegiate Crescent. The photo shows a meeting between the society and the Mayor of Sheffield, Alderman Isidore Lewis, in 1963.

Roma Brooks (née Bharier)

(LDS Dentistry 1966)

1977

Department of Prehistory & Archaeology established; renamed Archaeology & Prehistory in 1984, and Archaeology in 2003

1978

Rt Hon The Lord Dainton of Hallam Moors appointed as Chancellor

It all started in 1967. Fuzz Jordan, our founder, said, "How about a bowling club for people who aren't fit but can drink?", and here we are today, nearly 50 years on, and still enough of us to put up a good team (well, at least a team). In January 1968, the first ball was bowled by the then Sheffield University Tenpin Bowling Club (SUTBC) at the Mecca Bowl, Queens Road. SUTBC was a great club from 1967–73. During that period we had over 600 bowlers and won many cups and trophies. We may have started as a social club but we became a sports club (with strong social activities) which Sheffield University and Sheffield Polytechnic were proud of. Our next reunion will be in 2017!

David Antcliffe

(BSc Mathematics 1970, MSc Probability and Statistics 1972)



The event was 19 March 1974 and the Sheffield University football first team won their way to the final of the national universities' championship. The opponent was Bath University and the result was a 0-0 tie after 90 minutes. The rules at that time resulted in the trophy being shared. I was the unofficial press photographer and took the pictures and developed and printed them in the University dark room in the Students' Union. The captain of the team was Tony Winzor (BMet Metallurgy 1972, PhD Metallurgy 1975). He captained the football first team for most of the seven years he attended Sheffield. Tony is seen in the photograph on the shoulders of his teammates holding the trophy.

Dr Jeffrey Wadsworth

(BMet Metallurgy 1972, PhD Metallurgy 1975, Hon DEng 2004)

In Scene 1 of a production of *Die Fledermaus*, but re-written for amateur groups to include more chorus and retitled *Pink Champagne*, the tenor singer Alfred was supposed to drink an entire bottle of pink champagne. To make it easier we warmed the bottle, and when opened it gave off a wonderful fountain of fizz. With each successive performance we contrived to get the bottle ever hotter, until in the final performance the cork actually hit the back wall of the balcony and broke the shade on one of the house lights.

John Malcomson (BSc Mathematics 1977) and
Jillian Malcomson (née Taylor) (BA English Literature 1978)



The Theatre Group presented a production of *Lysistrata* by Aristophanes in June 1982: I did the costumes and props.

Dominic Ganteaume
(BA Law 1982)



I particularly remember one year's Geological Society dinner. Several students in my cohort were very musical; they processed into the room wearing gowns and bearing a geological hammer as a cross and using Gregorian chant sang extracts from the textbook *Rutley's Mineralogy*; then, using the tune to *Jerusalem*, sang a song about geology – "Did ammonites in ancient time, swim in the English coral sea, and did the lowly pelecypod swim in the waters dark and green ... And did the dinosaurs walk there, on England's low Jurassic hills?"

Carolyn Gay Hall (née Drinkwater)
(BA Geography 1969)



Members of the Hellenic Society celebrated the Greek Orthodox Easter in 1967 by the traditional roasting of a lamb.

Dimitrios Karapistolis

(BEng Mechanical Engineering 1968, MEng Control Engineering 1970)

Reunite with friends

We run a series of events and reunions for alumni each year, to reconnect and engage them with their University.

Two popular features are our Reunion Luncheon, which each year celebrates the anniversaries of alumni marking 50 and 60 years since graduating, and the Annual Alumni Reunion, which focuses on the anniversary years of 25, 30 and 40 years.

Claire Rundström, Head of Alumni Relations, explains the events' appeal:

“ In 2007, the Alumni Relations team launched the Annual Alumni Reunion, to celebrate key graduation anniversaries and welcome alumni back to their University. In 2009, we also introduced a special Reunion Luncheon event, hosted by the Vice-Chancellor and taking place in Firth Hall. These events offer alumni the opportunity to take guided tours of the ever-changing campus, as well as seeing memorabilia from the University's history and hearing anecdotes from special guest speakers. The luncheon in particular has proved extremely popular, with almost 200 places being filled each year. ”

The Reunion Luncheon usually takes place on a Saturday in late June. The Annual Alumni Reunion takes place on a Saturday in early September. If you are interested in attending either event when it is your graduation anniversary year, please remember to check the date and keep it free in your diary!

We always try to send an official invitation to as many of our former students as possible, but unfortunately we are not in touch with all of our graduates. If you know of anyone who will be celebrating a milestone anniversary since graduating, but is not in touch with the Development, Alumni Relations & Events team, please let us know so that we can ensure that as many of our alumni as possible receive invitations.

In 2016, the 50th and 60th Anniversary Reunion Luncheon will be for the Classes of 1956 and 1966 and will be held on Saturday 18 June 2016. The Annual Alumni Reunion 2016 will be on Saturday 3 September and will celebrate the Classes of 1976, 1986 and 1991.

If you graduated in any of these years and would like to attend, please ensure we have your up-to-date contact details by emailing us at alumni@sheffield.ac.uk or completing the Update Your Details form at www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/keepintouch/alumni-keepintouch-update



Please consider making a gift to help us support tomorrow's students in making their own memories of Sheffield.

Higher education continues to be one of the most life-changing experiences a person can undertake, but many students from low-income backgrounds miss out on the new experiences, opportunities and social mobility offered by a university education because of financial constraints.

Philanthropic gifts play a vital role in creating a level playing field, helping to nurture raw talent and ensuring that as many students as possible can take full advantage of the myriad experiences and opportunities on offer at The University of Sheffield.

Through generous gifts from our alumni, staff and friends, we provide scholarships of £1,200 per year to students from low-income households and areas with low university participation rates, enabling them to buy books and equipment and more fully involve themselves in extra-curricular activities. Philanthropy also allows us to fund dozens of grants to student clubs and societies – vital elements of the university experience which help our students to flourish.

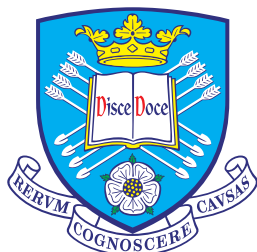
To make a gift, or for more information about how to remember The University of Sheffield in your Will, please contact us:

Development, Alumni Relations & Events
The University of Sheffield
40 Victoria Street
Sheffield S10 2TN

Tel: 0114 222 5598

Email: giving@sheffield.ac.uk

www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/donate



“

Sheffield University gave me a chance in life and I want others to benefit in the same way from the opportunities it provides. I have included a gift to the University in my Will and I do so because I believe in the University and I would encourage fellow alumni to do the same.

”

Richard Hollox
(BA Geography 1965)



1982

The Students' Union and the University take part in a 2,000-strong protest march against government cuts in funding

1983

The Octagon Centre opened

1983

Departments of Greek and Latin replaced with Classical Studies, which closed in 1987

Sheffield

In Sheffield I had my first experience of live classical music. I heard Handel's *Messiah* in the City Hall; and regularly attended the local repertory theatre and particularly enjoyed a production called *The Stirrings* in Sheffield, about the cutlery industry and its origins. We heard the late Ravi Shankar play the sitar and Los Paraguayas play wonderful South American folk music.


Carolyn Gay Hall (née Drinkwater)
(BA Geography 1969)

Unforgettable dinner times (lunches to most now) were taken at Ma Butler's where we mixed with a complete cross-section of Sheffield working society, from company owners to steelworks labourers, all at the same lino-topped tables with the ever-present Henderson's Relish bottles. I cannot recall having any meal there without Yorkshire pudding, even fish and chips.

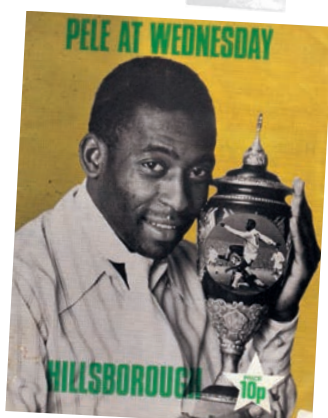
David Broughton
(BEng Mechanical Engineering 1968)


The Yorkshire people had a warmth and were so welcoming. I remember my first day in Sheffield and asking for directions. A resident not only gave me directions, they actually went out of their way to take me there! However, they don't suffer fools gladly and if one was stupid enough to talk to them in a patronising manner they would soon cut you down to size. A group of friends and I made a point of frequenting one of the local pubs and enjoyed many evenings playing darts with some of the regulars. This was a great way of showing them that we were not all stuck-up, left-wing loonies.

Gordon Moss
(BA Economics and Business Studies 1970)

 My programme from Sheffield Wednesday's game against Santos, featuring Pele, held on 23 February 1972 at Hillsborough.

Anthea McLauchlan (née Hodson)
(BA Psychology 1973)



 An oddity: the Hole in the Road which used to define the city centre [1967–94].

Jonathan Nettelfield
(BA Geography and Economics, PgDip Business Studies 1973)

A group called The Beatles came to play at the City Hall in Sheffield. They stayed next door at the hotel there and a crowd of us went to see them. A little later there was a large gathering of girls clustered outside the hotel. They were screaming! We went to see what was happening, and (with the confidence that Sheffield students have) we walked straight through the crowd into the hotel reception. Sitting in the lobby area was Gerry Marsden, Roy Orbison, Ringo Starr, George Harrison and John Lennon! We were totally unfazed by them, and just sat down and had a long chat. We finally left when John Lennon wanted to come back to our digs for a party. We explained that we could be slung out of the rooms – but looking back, maybe it was a small risk to take!

Stuart Woolf
(BDS Dentistry 1967)