





An alternative map
of Meanwood Road

YOUR ROAD, MY STREET

YOUR ROAD, MY STREET

In the book *The Ongoing Moment* Geoff Dyer asks an intriguing question. What is the difference between a road and a street?

"It is not a question of size (some urban streets are wider than country roads). A road heads out of town, while a street stays there, so you find roads in the country but not streets. If a street leads to a road, you are heading out of town. If a road turns into street, you are heading into town. Keep on it long enough and a road will turn into a street but not necessarily vice versa (a street can be an end in itself). Streets must have houses on either side of them to be streets. The best streets urge you to stay; the road is an endless incentive to leave."

Geoff Dyer, *The Ongoing Moment*. 2005, p 262-3

This is a map of Meanwood Road, which heads north out of Leeds. Roads slice up the city, separating the urban sprawl into different geographical areas, whilst simultaneously joining up one part with another. This road is no exception. For many it is simply seen as a means of getting from one place to another; a liminal space where cars have taken priority over people in a continual flow of traffic. Drivers look straight ahead, day and night, as they travel up and down it. But this road is also a street; it has houses on both sides. People live here. Cars are reverse-parked outside homes – much to the outrage of some commuters who have to stop; interrupted – while behind the morning rush hour, horses, deer and sheep can be seen on either side of Meanwood Beck, as it flows across the valley floor and filters into the city, uninterrupted and often unseen.

This map is the result of a collaboration between photographer Lizzie Coombes, geographer Dr. David Dawson and writer Matthew Bellwood. Lizzie and David live at either end of Meanwood Road. The road, which is congested at rush hour and can suffer excessive speeding the rest of the time, has no cameras, and no structures in place to slow the traffic.

The idea for this project came from a road rage incident when Lizzie was parking her car outside her house. Another car was forced to stop and wait – much to the annoyance of the driver – and choice words were exchanged. At first, Lizzie was annoyed. Couldn't the motorist see the houses? Couldn't they see that they were on a street with houses on both sides? Couldn't they see that people lived on the road and appreciate its human value? But then she started to think a little harder... Of course, for many, the road is an important part of their daily commute. It's hard to appreciate the beauty of a place, when you're stuck in traffic or late for work... Surely there must be a way to make the road a safer and more pleasant place for residents, businesses, and commuters, be they in a car, on a bike, on the bus or on foot?

In response to this question, Lizzie has been taking photographs in and around Meanwood Road for the last three years in an effort to reveal its beauty, its history and humanity. Meanwhile, David has been collecting geographical data and information on the road and its surroundings that reveal a wealth of hidden facts and values. Alongside this, Matthew has been collecting stories from local people about their memories and experiences of the road as well as creating poetry from numerous walks up and down the length of it.

The result of the project is this alternative map of Meanwood Road that we hope starts to tell the story of the roads' value beyond it being a means of getting from A to B. We hope it may provoke some interesting conversations and encourage people to think about the road in a different way. In doing so, perhaps it may act as a signpost towards future design initiatives – positive interventions in traffic and infrastructure that slow cars down; that get commuters to look left and right instead of straight ahead; that *humanise* the road and turn it back into a street.

Lizzie Coombes, David Dawson and Matthew Bellwood
February 2017

THE TEAM

Lizzie Coombes is a photographer with a long track record of documentary, portrait, events, theatre, and publicity work, educational workshops and cross artform collaborations. You can follow her work on Instagram and Twitter @betylwallace.

Matthew Bellwood is a writer and storyteller based in Leeds, with a particular interest in interdisciplinary collaboration. You can see more of his work about Leeds at www.365leedsstories.co.uk

David Dawson is a Leverhulme-funded Early Career Researcher at the School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds.

Document design and map by **Amy Levene**, a freelance designer and illustrator from Leeds – www.wingfinger.co.uk

A full set of photographs taken on Meanwood Road by Lizzie can be viewed on Flickr at: bit.ly/2m8M0TK

You can get in touch with the team by emailing: youroadmystreet@gmail.com

MAP DATA: OS MasterMap® Topography Layer [DWG geospatial data], Scale 1:1250, Downloaded 2016-11-29 00:46:48.527 and OS MasterMap® Topography Layer [TIFF geospatial data], Scale 1:1000, Downloaded 2016-11-24 10:40:44.908. Updated 23 June 2016, Ordnance Survey (GB). Using EDINA Digimap Ordnance Survey Service, digimap.edina.ac.uk.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This initiative was supported by the **Infrastructure BU** **Business models, valuation and Innovation for Local Delivery (iBUILD) project** (Grant no: EP/K012398/1) and by the **Leverhulme Trust** (Grant no: ECF/2014/144).

The stories on the map were gathered at **Meanwood Fun Day 2016**, with the exception of those from **Pages From My Meanwood Scrapbook** by **Jean Barker** and **Doreen Wood** which have been reprinted by kind permission of the authors.

Traffic and road statistics based on available data collected by **Dr David Dawson**.

Black and white photos taken from **Leads – a photographic archive of Leeds** and reproduced by kind permission of **Leeds Library and Information Service** and **Artemis** (www.leodis.net).

Thanks to Jean Barker, Ross Horsley, Patsy Lytle, Doreen Wood, Behzad Eftekhary and everyone who has spent time and talked with us along the way...



MEANWOOD ROAD

LS 7

SLOW DOWN IT'S NOT A RACE
Bee slow
Vacancy for machine operator apply within
RECEPTION - DELIVERIES - COLLECTIONS
Warning – don't drop litter you will be fined
SECURE STORAGE FOR HOMES AND BUSINESS
Children's and Adults' Bible Classes
DIVINE FAMILY SERVICE
Youth Service
Fellowship
PRAYER MEETING
Youth Meeting
Gospel festival here now
Design - Manufacture - Installation
SECURE FLEXIBLE SELF-STORAGE
To let
Valeting and detail services
HAND CAR WASH
We don't just promise satisfaction we guarantee it
No parking 24-hour access required thankyou
FOOD & DRINK - HOUSE & HOME
DIVINE - Beauty & health
Stationery & cards
THE SALVATION ARMY CHARITY SHOP
Taps, shirts, T-shirts, blouses, trousers, skirts, jackets
Cash machine inside there when you need us
Online money transfer zero fees
LAID BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD MAYOR
COUNCILLOR WM NICHOLSON J.P. FEBY 10TH 1912
Laid by The Assistant Chief Secretary Feby 10th 1912
EMERGENCY LIGHTING FIRE AND SECURITY SYSTEMS
Trade counter
Wholesale electrical distributors
SERVICED OFFICES - AVAILABLE NOW

MEANWOOD ROAD

SHEEPS CAR COURT
Telecoms for better business
OFFICES TO LET
UK Visas, Appeals, Citizenship etc.
Sorting Office
BARRACK STREET
Beds, mattresses and bedroom furniture
RELOCATION SALE
No reasonable offer refused
ALL SHOWROOM STOCK MUST BE SOLD
Final Days
Sustainable communities
PROMISE DELIVERED
Primary Care Centre
Northern Gasworks apologise for any inconvenience during these essential works
NO LOADING AT ANY TIME
Goods inwards
Modern and traditional living room, dining room, bedroom and occasional furniture
We found love mowhens is on twitter
Little London Children's Centre
NO PARKING ON ACCESS ROAD
No one ever complained about quality

VIRTUAL OFFICES - WORKSHOPS - MEETING ROOMS

SACKVILLE STREET
Tabacconist - Confectioner
General Store
OFF-LICENSE
Barracks

EDUCATION ROAD
We sell cartons tape and bubblewrap
REUPHOLSTERY
Restoration
MODERN-TRADITIONAL
Recliners headboards new interiors no job too small
ANTIQUE FRENCH POLISHING WING CHAIRS DINING CHAIRS
Welcome to Penraevon Light Industrial Units
Your event made special - Invites with bite - Seamless event management
NOW AT CELEBRATION CENTRAL
Window blinds for commercial and domestic premises
Specialists in all aspects of plastering including Partitioning projection plastering colour through rendering systems
Quality bathrooms at trade prices
DISCOUNT HEATING AND PLUMBING SUPPLIES
Bathroom - heating - plumbing
Plumbing & Heating
BATHROOM SALE OPEN TO PUBLIC
OPEN TO EVERYONE
Paint manufacturer, wallpaper & decorating supplies est. 1741

CAMBRIDGE ROAD

Coffee Bar
Belo - Bosch - Hotpoint - Indesit - Hoover - Bellini - Samsung
MASSIVE SAVINGS
Domestic appliances spare parts & accessories
DELIVERY SERVICE - CHINESE TAKEAWAY - LUNCH SPECIAL £3
We sell boxes
Business storage from £5 per week
Offices available flexible terms easy in - easy out
Full English breakfast hot and cold sandwiches delivery services available toasters salad bar
SIGNS GRAPHICS DIGITAL PRINTING DISPLAYS ESTABLISHED 1997
Signs banners vehicle graphics posters displays
CUT-OUT LETTERS ILLUMINATED & NON-ILLUMINATED
Built-up lettering shop-fronts & window lettering
In-house graphic design digital copying & much more
SANDWICH BAR
Café and grill

Sheepscar Warning: These premises are protected

We store everything for home and business

DEVELOPMENT LAND GALLERY FRAMING MIRRORS Repairs, servicing, bodywork

JACKSON ROAD
Custom built bikes - servicing and repairs - parts and accessories
Specialists in Asian cuisine
Commercial and industrial contract cleaners
Construction courses in bricklaying, painting & decorating, joinery, tiling. All students welcome
MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF FRESH CURRY COOK-IN SAUCES
FOOD CASH AND CARRY
Wholesale meat and boning contractors
Light industrial & Offices Units from 300 - 2,700 sq ft
To let on flexible terms
Rents from £150 per month (plus service charge and business rates)
NEW BATHROOM SHOWROOM OPEN 7 DAYS
SPECIAL OFFER - COMBI BOILERS
CNC machine services - Shop displays - Window displays - Exhibitions
Large and Small batch productions - Spray paint finishing - Bathroom suite combi boilers - Solar hot water panels
Open Saturday till 3:00 pm
Meat for the week £20 now open to the trade and public

PENRAEVON AVENUE
This stone was laid by Benjamin Stocks August 9th 1873
DISCOUNT CARPETS - DISCOUNT DEALS
Carpet your house from £99.00
OTHER FULL HOUSE PACKAGES AVAILABLE - FREE MEASURING SERVICE
Open to the public - Open to the Trade - Discount Carpet Warehouse
Saxony, Chunky Twists, Wool Velvet, Wool Twists, Vinyls, Shadow Pile, Berber, Shag Pile, Wilton, Axminster, Stain Free Twists, Loop Pile, Open to the Trade and Public.
Job vacancy - Apprentice carpet fitter, full-time - Contact Clive
DOOR BELL

BUSLINGTONHORSE GREEN
Leeds City Council - Buslingthorpe Green - Light Industrial Estate
Brunkrupt Beds and Furniture Warehouse
Now open to the public
Brand new double beds - Good quality double faux leather beds
Luxury memory foam deep mattress double beds
While stocks last - Other sizes available
WE CAN DELIVER
Cycle lane
Trade & Landlords Brunkrupt Stock - End of Range and Clearance Lines
The independent Christian Church of God
Power connections
ENTRANCE
QUALITY FURNITURE AT TRADE PRICES
Brand New Stock - Everything must go
ASK INSIDE
Beds - Suites - Bedroom Furniture - Dining Suites - Rugs And Much More
Top quality memory foam SALE
DECORATING CENTRE
For all your decorating needs
ENTRANCE
SELLING OR RENTING YOUR HOUSE?
Need any building works renovations or rebuild? Need a HIF pack or an EPF? We can help
Commercial Property Developers - Interior Design Consultants - Dealers of New & Used Vehicles

MEANWOOD CLOSE
MOT Testing Station
OFFICES AND WORKSPACE TO LET
Health Fitness Sports Conditioning Cricket Coaching
Discover the talent & unlock the potential
Sports injury assessment, rehabilitation and massage
Martial Arts & Fitness Academy Boot Camp Circuit Training Kettle Work Kickboxing Male & Female Changing Facilities Weights and Cardiovascular Equipment
Pro/Am boxing - Thai boxing/Muay Thai Kickboxing classes - Ju Jitsu classes - Circuit training
All aspects of Demolition Work including Preparing & Blasting
BLAST PREPARATION - DISMANTLING EARTHWORKS
A family run nursery - A warm welcome awaits you - Book a showeraround
Ofsted Good
PRIVATE DAY NURSERY
Changing lives - Reducing crime - Now recruiting
Study Programmes - Traineeships - GCSE Maths & English - Financial Assistance Support
Study programmes include: Army, English, Maths and IT, Hospitality and Catering, Motor Vehicle & Motor Engineering, Sports, Sport and Leisure, Warehousing and Forklift Training
Training Education and Development Centre
FOOD PREPARATION/OFFICE UNIT TO LET
Alloy Wheel Refurbishing, Bumper Scuffs, Dents, Scratches, Competitive Prices, Car Paint Spraying Open Weekends
RESIDENT PERMIT HOLDERS ONLY
Flowers with style next right
Important - Please leave your car in gear - You are parked on a hill
Baptist School - Yoga Classes - Workshops - Training COPIERS & PRINTERS - FULLY REFRURBISHED & NEW SALES - REPAIRS & SERVICE
Established 1983
Red Diesel - Paraffin/Kerosene

CLIFFDALE ROAD
Our strict environmental policy ensures your car is washed responsibly and with care
Event not to be missed! Meanwood Olympics Is Back, Bigger & Better
FREE FAMILY EVENT
Community Games Inspired by London 2012 - Celebrating your Community Free Here
Home of Woodhouse Warriors ARFC EST 1986
SLUMMING WORLD HERE EVERY MONDAY
WOODHOUSE CRICKET CLUB
Vehicles parked at own risk
Headingley Hawks Amateur Rugby League Club
Your local licensed private hire for all your taxi needs
BEWARE EXIT
Solutions: Training Support - Accounts Stock CRM Payroll Computer Hardware & Systems Software development
Please park anywhere
Be Aware Security Surveillance System in Operation
AUTHORISED VEHICLES ONLY
NO PEDESTRIANS PERMITTED
Property Repairs - Flagging - Pointing - Slating - Estimate Free
WASTE SORTING SITE - RECYCLING CENTRE
Only household waste from Leeds residents accepted
Entrance HGV only
Leeds resident permit scheme
DO NOT REMOVE ITEMS FROM THIS SITE
If you are bringing items that are still useable, why not save them from landfill by using charity shops
Follow the information boards around the site
CCTV IN OPERATION - NO TRADE WASTE
Unity Court
OAKDALE HOUSE
MEANWOOD HEIGHTS PRIVATE CAR PARK
Parking reserved Parking reserved

FARM HILL SOUTH
Also leads to Urban Farm and Model Farm
Accessible Parking Only
NO SMOKING ON GROUNDS AND PREMISES
This NHS Trust will not accept liability for any loss, damage or theft or any personal property
All vehicles are parked at owner's risk. THESE PREMISES ARE MONITORED BY CCTV
Anytime, Anyplace, Anyhow
Say a warm hello to a completely new approach to healthcare
MOBILITY & INDEPENDENT LIVING AIDS
Mobility Aids Independence at Home Personal Care & Hygiene Visually Impaired Aids
Transit Wheelchair Free Courier Delivery
Sunbeds Collagen Bed Fibelabs Tone Machine Creative Nails La Tan - Spray Tanning Hairdressing Manicures and Pedicures Brow Shaping and Tints Bridal Hair & Makeup Waxing Facials Mince & Shingles
No Parking 24 access required
Hair Nails Beauty Spray Tans Sunbeds Fibelabs Tone Machine Health & Beauty
Score & Wincoast
ANYTIME SCORECAST
Best Price, Best Price, Stay in the Game, Best Price
DRY CLEAN HERE ANY 4 ITEMS FOR £14 WE ALSO DO CURTAINS & DUVETS HERE
Dry Cleaning Service Washes Duvets 7 Days A Week Welcome Here
SERVICE WASH/IRONING SERVICES LAUNDRETTE & DRY CLEANERS
Inhale the Freedom
The E-cigarette Specialists Huge discounts August While Stocks Last
RENT DVDS HERE FIRST RENTAL FREE
Spirits cold beers chilled wines day to day crisps & snacks
FREE CASH MACHINE INSIDE
Late opening pharmacy accepting electronic prescriptions
We specialised in Afro Caribbean & Multicultural Hair Types
Relaxers & Textures Curly Perms Weaves Bonding Can-row Single & Bulk Twist Eyelashes Waxing Manicure & Pedicure Massages Colouring Acrylic Nails & Dreadlocks Wigs Caps

End of Bus Lane LEEDS COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST

MEANWOOD ROAD

BENTLEY LANE
MOTOR CYCLE MOTOR CYCLE
Accessible Parking Only
NO SMOKING ON GROUNDS AND PREMISES
This NHS Trust will not accept liability for any loss, damage or theft or any personal property
All vehicles are parked at owner's risk. THESE PREMISES ARE MONITORED BY CCTV
Anytime, Anyplace, Anyhow
Say a warm hello to a completely new approach to healthcare
MOBILITY & INDEPENDENT LIVING AIDS
Mobility Aids Independence at Home Personal Care & Hygiene Visually Impaired Aids
Transit Wheelchair Free Courier Delivery
Sunbeds Collagen Bed Fibelabs Tone Machine Creative Nails La Tan - Spray Tanning Hairdressing Manicures and Pedicures Brow Shaping and Tints Bridal Hair & Makeup Waxing Facials Mince & Shingles
No Parking 24 access required
Hair Nails Beauty Spray Tans Sunbeds Fibelabs Tone Machine Health & Beauty
Score & Wincoast
ANYTIME SCORECAST
Best Price, Best Price, Stay in the Game, Best Price
DRY CLEAN HERE ANY 4 ITEMS FOR £14 WE ALSO DO CURTAINS & DUVETS HERE
Dry Cleaning Service Washes Duvets 7 Days A Week Welcome Here
SERVICE WASH/IRONING SERVICES LAUNDRETTE & DRY CLEANERS
Inhale the Freedom
The E-cigarette Specialists Huge discounts August While Stocks Last
RENT DVDS HERE FIRST RENTAL FREE
Spirits cold beers chilled wines day to day crisps & snacks
FREE CASH MACHINE INSIDE
Late opening pharmacy accepting electronic prescriptions
We specialised in Afro Caribbean & Multicultural Hair Types
Relaxers & Textures Curly Perms Weaves Bonding Can-row Single & Bulk Twist Eyelashes Waxing Manicure & Pedicure Massages Colouring Acrylic Nails & Dreadlocks Wigs Caps

This poem/map is a visual record of the printed and written text visible on and along Meanwood Road on the 16th of August 2016