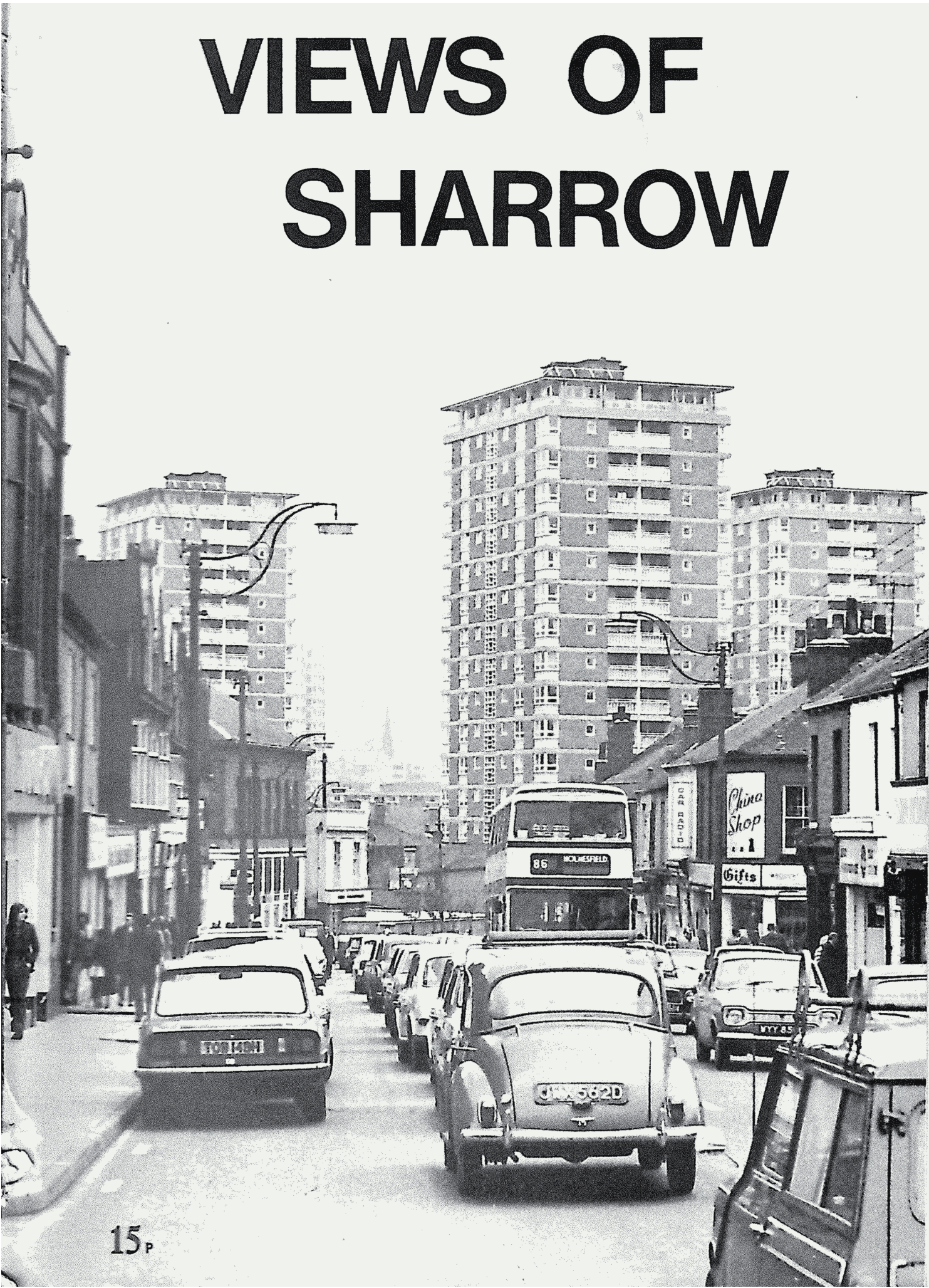


SHEFFIELD COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ACTION

The Grassroots of a new Urban Politics



From the late 1960s, Sheffield was part of a movement for people to plan their homes and communities. Against the background of big social changes, they campaigned for “bottom up” alternatives to “top down” plans.

Action groups

A network of Action Groups formed in several areas. They talked to people about their neighbourhoods, lobbied the Council and held demonstrations demanding more people-friendly development.

Image courtesy of Geoff Green

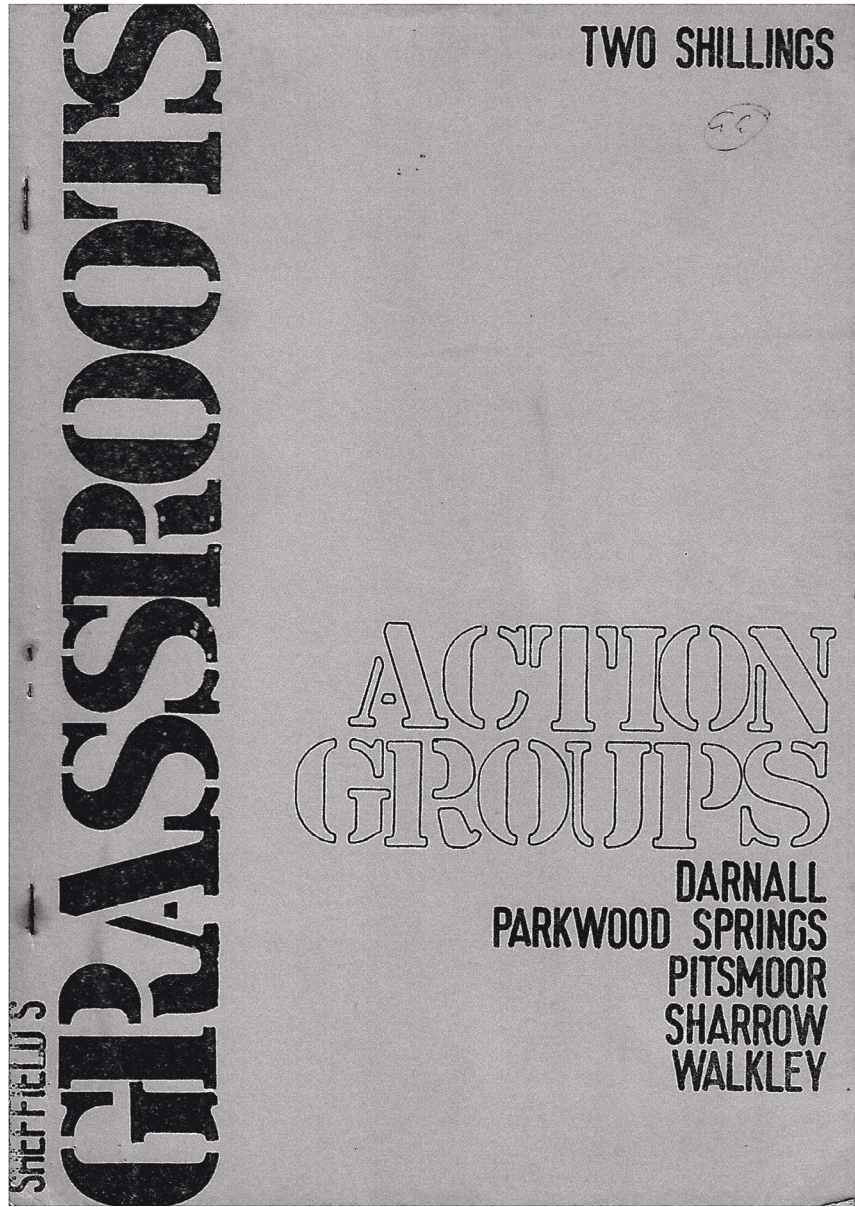


Image courtesy of Geoff Green

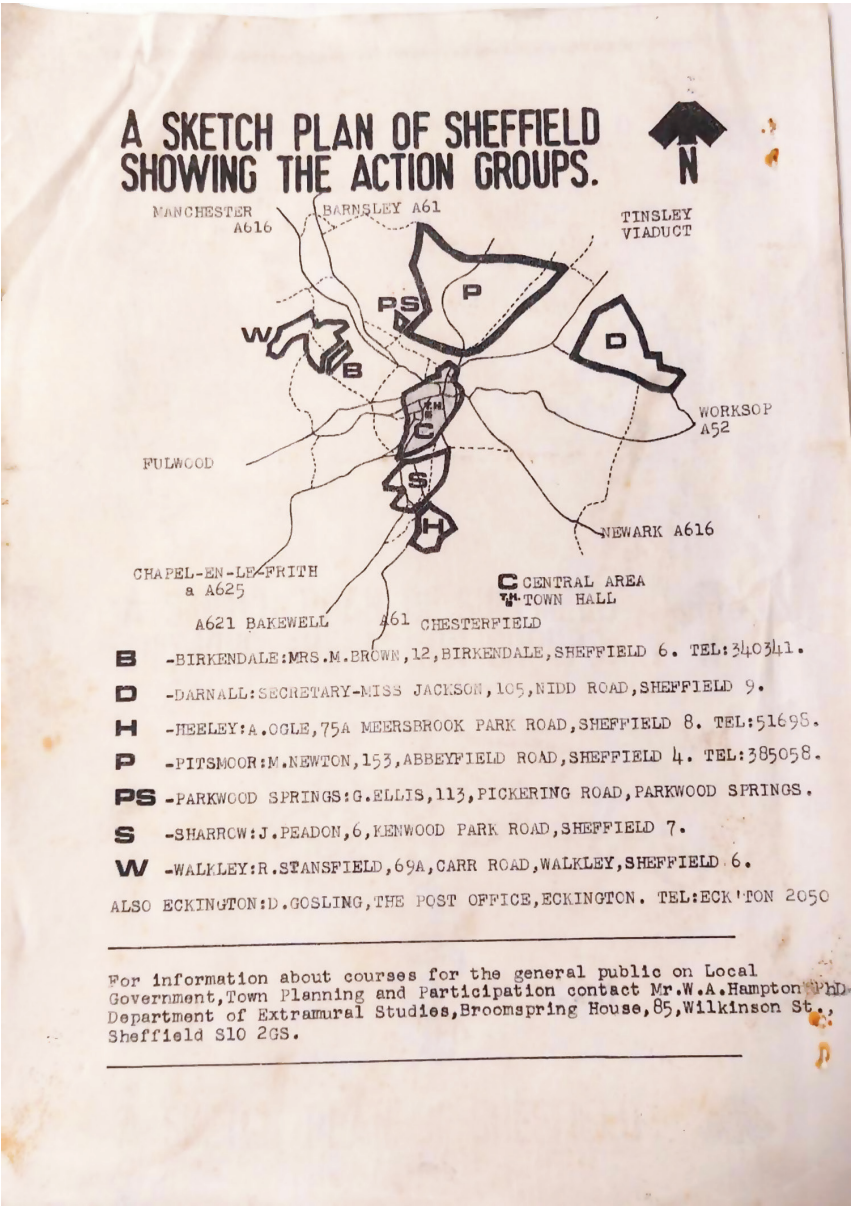
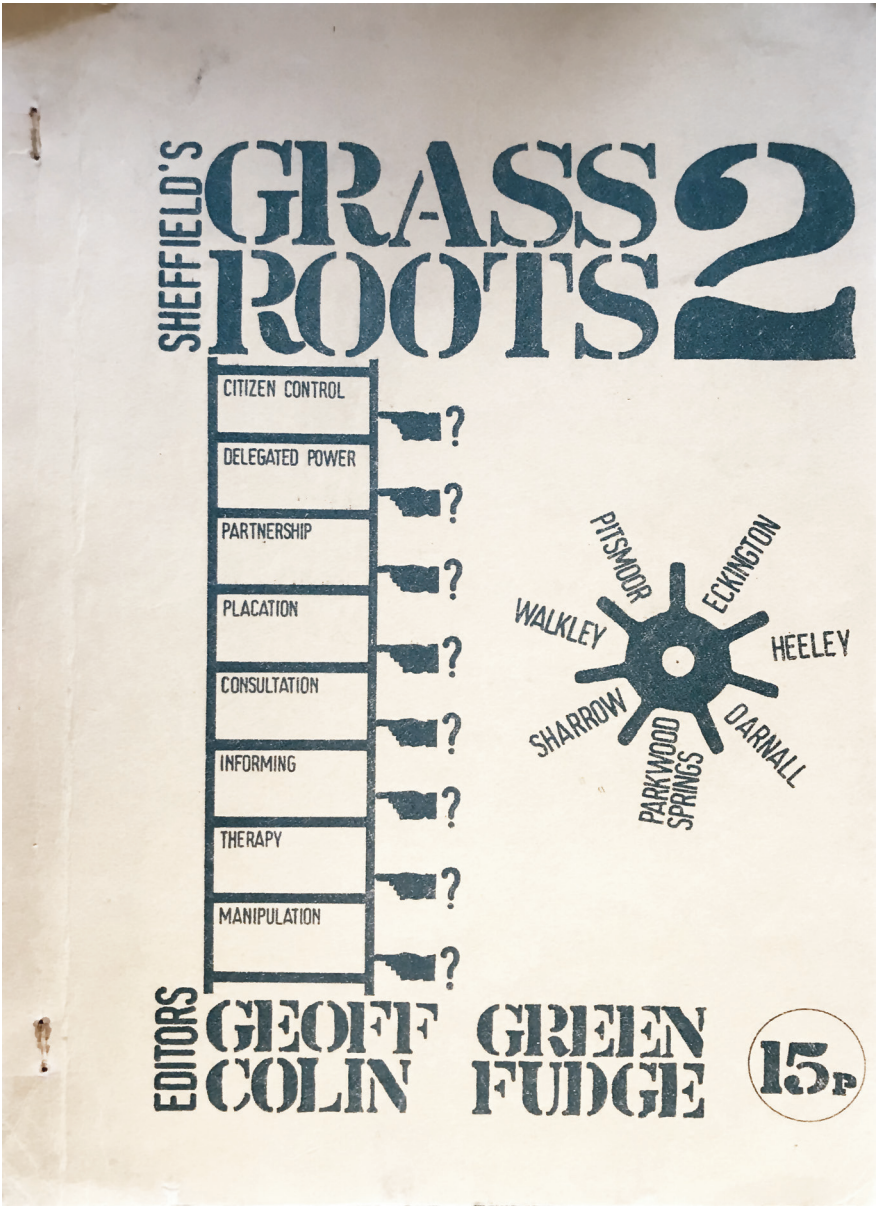


Image courtesy of Geoff Green



A new generation of radical young activists

A new generation of radical young activists formed part of a distinctive new approach to municipal politics. Several became local councillors or went to work for Sheffield Council.

There were some big wins, like Heeley City Farm, hundreds of homes saved in Walkley and Sharrow. In Broomhall, a damp-ridden council estate was demolished under community pressure.



“We were wading through the treacle of bureaucracy, but also making real human connections. There was a sense of vision and hope.”
ONE OF THE ACTION GROUP MEMBERS

