

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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STRANGE HAPPENINGS IN GROVE ROAD

ON Thursday, 16th February, we were mysteriously warned that the Estates Department were about to demolish the five, once-fine Victorian stone-built houses at the end of Grove Road. These buildings had, until fairly recently, been the Management Studies Centre for Sheffield Polytechnic and were the victims of further education reorganisation here.

From then, a few strange things happened.

We tried to contact senior officials at the Town Hall. Director of Planning and Design, Jeffrey Winter, would not speak to us and we were referred to another official in his department who expressed concern that these buildings were to be demolished. A request was made by the Planners to the Estates Surveyors asking them to reconsider their decision.

However, an Estates Dept. spokesman denied that such a message had been received. Furthermore, he noted that the Local Authority, as owners, had no responsibility to inform local residents of this type of action. We asked if it was not possible to restore the houses but were told that an estate of executive-type houses were to be built on the site and on the old playing fields which had belonged to the former Dore and Totley High School on Grove Road. The site, apparently, is judged by experts to be of more value without the five houses than with them. To be fair to some local residents on Grove Road, they had witnessed the deterioration of the houses and welcomed their demolition because of the vandalism and general state of the buildings. By the following Tuesday, Councillor David Heslop had taken up the matter on our behalf and by the weekend had queried whether the Estates Dept. had the authority at all to demolish the buildings. Apparently, a meeting in

January of Sheffield City Council had decided that some consideration might be given to using some of the accommodation for community meeting rooms. Mr. Heslop's enquiries resulted in Roger Pensam, head of the city's Legal Department, insisting that the Estates Department stop the demolition until the situation had been clarified. This was on Friday, 18th February, yet on Saturday and Sunday, the demolition contractors were spotted on site again by a member of the Independent's staff. Councillor Heslop again paid visits to the site and asked that the work be stopped immediately. By that time, however, the houses were beyond repair.

The affair raises a number of issues.

1. Why are the Estates Department allowed to over-rule recommendations made on planning grounds?
2. Why, when ordered by the head of the Legal Department, did the Estates Department appear to allow demolition to continue?
3. Why do the council agree to look at the Totley community requirements and then take no action?
4. Why are housing developments allowed to continue in the Totley area without making any future provision for the site of community facilities?
5. Should the destruction of the character of an area be subject to public consultation?
6. If the houses are demolished in such a fashion, can we really trust the Estates Department to keep the mature trees on the site?
7. Just how much power over matters of planning and policy do the Estates Department have?

CONTINUED P3 COL3

JOIN THE INDEPENDENT

WE ARE aware that we not managing to keep track of ALL of Totleys news and events. We are looking for one or two more people to help search out local news for us. If you are interested, why not contact us (addresses on page 2).

Success at the college!

THE TOTLEY Residents Association, after a number of meetings and discussions with the Polytechnic, have now received confirmation that buildings at Totley College will be available to the community on a controlled basis. This should be seen only as a temporary measure until the time when student numbers increase again following rationalisation of their courses.

This decision to share facilities means that any clubs, societies or groups of people can make use of lecture rooms, meeting rooms or the Buchanan Hall with its raised auditorium seating and dance floor. There are a wide range of rooms and Eileen Wood, secretary of TRA, at 222 Baslow Road (tel. 361988), will be pleased to hear from interested parties.

The College Library on the lower part of the site, is available to residents for reference and reading and has books on a wide range of subjects. Books may not, however, be borrowed. The gymnasium is well used by students although the TRA have arranged for the Cub Scout footballers and the Totley under-14 football team to train there on Friday evenings under the supervision of Brian Edwards. Skateboarding has been discussed but the Poly regret they cannot help there, and weekend badminton is also under consideration.

Totley Residents Association have already used the dining hall for their successful Senior Citizens Christmas Party and Totley County Parent Friends Association are holding a Sheffield Youth Jazz Orchestra Concert in Buchanan Hall soon. The inauguration of a Photographic Section will also take place there shortly (see page 3). Of course charges will be made but reduced rates will apply for community use.

STOP PRESS

NOW a fresh application has been made for building over 80 houses on the land to the rear of the Fleur de Lys off Totley Hall Lane.

Thunderer

TOTLEY Residents Association Committee have held a number of meetings with Councillors and Officers of the Sheffield Council. Meetings are to be held again on 9th March at the Town Hall at which TRA Committee Members will yet again put forward their views on the needs for community facilities for Totley. A good deal of publicity has been given to this campaign in the local press recently and politicians have agreed 'to look into the matter'—the political way of saying 'nothing doing, lad!' TRA has called for a public meeting before the next local elections in May when we are asking candidates of all interested parties, politicians and officials to attend an open forum on the future planning of Totley. The Environment Society and STOP (Save Tottleys Open Spaces) are joining with TRA in an attempt to explore official policy and also to keep an eye open for all future applications.

ANOTHER ESTATE?

PLANNING officials could shed no light on recent reports that surveyors have been seen on fields adjacent to Totley Grove off Hillfoot Road. This area, across the Lane from the Crown, is also part of the provisional green belt.

WHERE TO BUY

THE FOLLOWING SHOPS ARE NOW SELLING THE TOTLEY INDEPENDENT.

Avenue Stores (Corner Main Avenue)
Broadheads (Opp. top of Mickley Lane)
Fruiterama (Totley Rise shops)
Martins Newsagents (Bottom of Busheywood Rd.)
Moulds (Opp. Totley Rise shops)
Perkintons (Corner Main Avenue)
Strakers (Opp. top of Mickley Lane)
Swifts Newsagents (Totley Rise shops)
Wollaton Rd. Newsagents (Bradway)
Totley Post Office
Dore Post Office
The Pubs - if you hurry.

EDITORIAL STAFF

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TOTLEY HALL LANE

THE TOTLEY Hall Lane housing development proposal is being referred by South Yorkshire County Council to the Environment Minister according to a letter received by the Totley and District Environment Society (TADES). Our information suggests, however, that much objection will be raised. At a meeting of the Totley Residents Association Committee with Chief Planner, Roland Adamson, the planners attention was drawn to the likely traffic hazards caused when the increased traffic from a new housing development, for an increased Totley College population, the enlarged Fleur de-Lys carpark and from the possible golf course on the fields to the rear of Totley College are in force. It was generally realised that the Environment Minister may not have been in full possession of all these developments when making his decision.

SHEEPDOG TRIALS

MR. WARD's letter in this issue reminds us that the very first Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials were held within the Totley boundary. About Christmas 1895, the local shepherds and gamekeepers on the Duke of Rutlands Estate decided to hold a contest amongst themselves on Totley Moss. On 23rd March 1898 the first official Sheep Dog Trial was due to be held on Totley Moss again but it was abandoned after a severe snowstorm. Instead the event was run the following day on Timothy Field by Fox House. In those days, the Duke of Rutland's Longshaw Estate covered a huge area of moorland used principally for sheep grazing and grouse shooting. The Duke had 'drives' constructed across the moors and gamekeepers lodges were built - two of them, Thickwood near Owlbar and Bole Hill above the Rifle Range, still stand.

Dancing in the road

IN September 1945 a group of Totley residents joined together in an 'end-of-war' celebration which included the burning of a 'stuffed' Hitler. On the actual night, crowds came from all parts of Totley to join in the celebration and the traffic on Baslow Road was stopped. Mrs. Busby, now living on Greenoak Avenue, was one of the organisers and remembers Totley people happily dancing and singing, in the traffic-free road, to the strains of a wind-up gramophone.

£100

REWARD

£100 reward has been offered for the return of a red briefcase and a suitcase stolen from a car in Abbeydale Road South on February 27th. The briefcase contained a number of business papers whilst the suitcase contained clothes belonging to Tom O'Brien, managing director of an Isle of Man based company.

Well well well

PERKINTONS, at the top of Main Avenue, have a brick lined hole in their back garden down which their soil disappears. British Rail denied that it was a ventilation hole for a defunct Totley Underground Railway. Anyone got a better explanation?

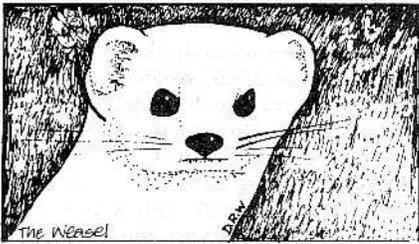
Where to next?

"WHERE to next?" is the title of a talk on King Ecgberts School, to be given by staff member Mr. Nuttall, at Totley County on Thursday, 9th March. The evening has been organised by the School Parent Friends Association to give parents an insight into our local comprehensive. It will be of special interest to those whose children will be going on to King Ecgberts in the near future. The evening which starts at 8 o'clock will also include a 'question time' and coffee. Details from Pat Buckley, Hon. Sec., 363299. This meeting follows on from last month's successful PFA disco-dance which raised about £70. The future programme includes the popular annual Spring Fair on 13th May and a concert to be given by the Sheffield Youth Jazz Orchestra in June.

Mrs Jockel in hospital

Mrs. Barbara Jockel, a lecturer at Granville College and wife of the Vicar of Totley, is presently in Lodge Moor Hospital. The Jockels would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and good wishes.

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WARBURTON'S WORLD

IT's a sad fact but almost every wild creature has an instinctive fear of man. This explains why there are many animals which we rarely see in the countryside. Many are nocturnal so that we must make special preparations, or be very lucky to see them. Others are diurnal (active during the day) but because their senses are more finely-tuned than ours, they vanish at our first approach. It is only rarely that we manage to catch them off-guard. I remember once finding a fox asleep in a bramble bush in Gillfield Wood one day. He awoke only when I made a noise trying to get my camera ready. I never knew foxes could move so quickly!

I have seen some creatures only once since I came to Topley but I would not say that they are not still here. The weasel I spotted in Gillfield and the water shrew I watched from the bridge on Mickley Lane were almost certainly not the only ones present in our area. I saw them by accident, but there is so much cover for small animals in Topley that to go out deliberately to find them would almost certainly end in failure. Even birds on garden bird tables can hardly be watched all the

time. What visits it when your back is turned?

After the recent snow we can find tracks which offer some clue to the number of small animals about. The secret is being able to interpret the prints and give a name to the owner! Only experience and a good reference book can give you the answer.

An important method of sorting out populations of small animals is to find out what the predators eat. This is rather tedious and means investigating droppings or the pellets of regurgitated fur and bones from predatory birds. Owls provide pellets and since they are nocturnal hunters, they prey upon nocturnal mammals (the ones we never see!) The skulls are usually regurgitated whole so that identification is easy. Sorting pellets is not the most pleasant of jobs but is vital if we are to understand the community of animals around us. If you see any wild animals, no matter how common you may think they may be, please let me know. The information is important. My telephone 369125.

Rob Warburton.

PHOTO SECTION STARTS

AT last! Finally! It's happened! After weeks of wearying, worrying and hours of frustrating phoning, the initial meeting of Topley's own Photographic Society has been fixed for Wednesday, March 15th, at 7.00 p.m. in room K16 at the Topley College. Anyone with an interest in photography is more than welcome - novices and experts alike. We need about 40 members to ensure a lively viable

society, so come to our first meeting with your enthusiasm and ideas and make the thing a real going concern. Posters will be in some local shops indicating exactly where the room is so please keep an eye open for these. As yet, we have no name, constitution or even an annual subscription, just an idea. Come and help make that idea a reality.
Bob Warburton.

BADLY DONE TO

THIS week has seen another sit-in by Sheffield Polytechnic students. One of their main reasons is that they do not want some departments to move out to the underused College in Topley. Apparently they feel that Topley is too remote from the city and lacks social facilities. If the students really are dissatisfied with the College, perhaps they should persuade the Poly to give the poor facilities to the local community. We'd be delighted with them. It's no wonder that students command so little credibility.

Grove Rd. (cont. from p.1)

On the Grove Road site are two demountable timber buildings and Topley Residents Association have asked the Council about them. The answers seem to vary between "They are reserved for other departments" and "We're going to demolish them". You may remember that we have asked the Local Authority to earmark a site for community facilities and if we had one, we might just find the demountable buildings of use.

PETER SWIFT

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LETTERS

MORE ON TRAINS

THE LETTER by R.W. Bridgens in the January issue and the train article in February were very interesting. The idea for a station at Totley Brook was first put forward by me as part of the Transport 2000 submission to the Sheffield-Rotherham land-use transportation study (LUTS), and I have yet to hear a valid criticism of the proposal. It would not be necessary to provide extra trains in addition to the existing Hope Valley service since there are invariably empty seats on these trains and therefore the extra passengers would improve the economics of the service. (This is not to say that the timetable on the Hope Valley Line is adequate and Transport 2000 will shortly be publishing a document about this).

It would be unnecessary to provide a car parking space for car parking exists at Dore and Totley Station - the beauty of a Totley Brook station is that it would be within walking distance of many houses and the fact that such a station would add an extra two minutes to train times is really irrelevant since train times would still be much faster than road travel. The LUTS team suggested extending the route 50 bus down Furniss Avenue to Dore Station to connect with trains but I would suggest that this would not be adequate since the variation in times taken from the city would lead to the possibility of arriving at the station too early or too late. Much better would be a local midi-bus service on a figure eight route-Dore Station-Totley Rise-Queen Victoria Road-Bradway-Twentywell Lane-Dore Station-Furniss Avenue-Dore-Dore Road-Dore Station. This bus could connect with the regular half-hourly Sheffield-Dore-Dronfield-Chesterfield local service when it is re-introduced and would be invaluable for shoppers and schoolchildren as well as for commuters.

Incidentally, there is an inaccuracy in the February train article. This concerns pensioners fares. The Chesterfield-Sheffield local service would surely be P.T.E. supported and therefore pensioners' passes, at present not valid from Dore, would then be valid. Also, the paytrain timetable is wrong as, since October, the 0643 Sheffield-New Mills was retimed to

depart at 0630, run 13 mins. earlier to Chinley and arrive New Mills at 0725 giving an earlier connection to Manchester (arr. 0818).

Peter Fox, 15 Abbeydale Park Rise.

Comment: We note Mr. Fox's comments and thank him for pointing out the timetable error. The timetable was taken directly from the British Rail payguide, supposedly valid at the time of going to print but which has now had slight amendments. We understand the other times are correct. The other point Mr. Fox makes about pensioners' passes being applicable will only occur when and if the Chesterfield-Sheffield local service is provided.

TAKE A TIP

I have just been looking through 'Totley Independent' No.3 and an article headed "Take a tip from British Rail". I am interested in seeing the tips removed and I would like to know who the others are who are interested. About 1972 the Ministry of the Environment was prepared to pay for the removal of the tips but Sheff. Corporation never took the matter up. Are Totley Residents Association interested in pursuing the matter any further? I would like to know if you can give me any more information on the subject. C.Campy, Bank View Farm, Lanehead Road, Totley.

Comment: The idea of removing the unsightly tips in the Totley Bents area was mooted by ourselves and in the following issue, Bob Warburton pointed out the problems likely to be associated with the idea i.e. noise, dirt and heavy traffic. Perhaps a better solution would be to approach the authorities to landscape the tips. Any other views would be welcome and we are asking Totley and District Environment Society to look into the matter.

MR. WARD REMEMBERS

I was very interested to have the chance of reading in the September issue of the Totley Independent of 100 years at the Cross.

I was born at Lane Head and lived there for 25 years before my marriage. I was born in 1900 and have vivid memories of the early years at Totley. My grandmother was a Mrs. Turner and her husband (my grandfather) was the last blacksmith at what is now the Cross Scythes Garage. My other grandparents were the Wards who lived down the Hall Lane. My grandmother Turner was a Miss Bown be-

fore her marriage and lived with her uncle, the Mr. Bown you mention. This would be in the early or mid 1800s, possibly about 1850, and I always understood from her that Mr. Bown built the Cross Grove House. I have still a sister, Mrs. B. Wilkes, who lives opposite the Cross Scythes and several more of the Turner family living in Totley but I am the only surviving male 'Ward'.

I was one of the founders of the Totley Sports Club and Secretary for several years of the Cricket Club. Also I have been the Secretary of the Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials since 1949. The 'Turners' lived in the three cottages down Hill Foot but one has been pulled down and a bungalow built there. The second one, (brick built), was built brick by brick by my great-grandmother herself by money earned from a small shop she had there. Mr. A. Ward, Ivy Lea, Roslyn Cres., Hathersage, Sheff. S30 1BX.

Welcome to Totley

IF you've just moved to Totley,
Don't just stand and wait,
The 'Totley Independent' will bring
you up to date.
With local news and people's views,
We always will relate.
What is "going off" we'll tell,
And your ideas we'll print as well.
So if you drop us just a line,
That will suit us jolly fine.
New to Totley's quite a task,
But all you have to do is ask.
If to be alone's your trend,
We invite you as a friend.
We've sports and plays and socials
too,
To entertain for all of you.
We've churches, scouts and guides
as well,
For your loneliness to quell.
So now's the time to set your stall,
To come and get to know us all.
And if you wish to know of these,
Get your 'Independent' please.
Our churches may be quicker
To help a soul in need,
Just call and see the vicar,
And find a friend indeed.
H.W. Mould, "Ashton House",
96 Baslow Road, Totley.

CALLING ALL YOUTH

ARE you of an enquiring mind and searching nature? If you are and between 15 and 20 years of age, why not come to the C.Y.F.A. Young Christians Group. It meets at 8.15 every Tuesday at 1 Green Oak Drive. You will be most welcome.
Terry Irwin.

DANGERS OF DOGS

MAY I comment on the letter by Mrs. B. Gelsthorpe (No Fouling Please, Issue No. 8, February 1978). Whilst I agree with what she says about the fouling of public areas by dogs and the resultant health hazard, I would like to make the following points:

1. The condition she is describing as Toxoplasmosis is in fact Toxocaris, two entirely different disease conditions.
2. Toxoplasmosis is caused by a blood parasite. This parasite affects cattle, sheep, pigs, dogs, rabbits, mice, birds and man. It can be transmitted by ticks and lice. Cats are more likely to be affected than dogs. The condition has been diagnosed in man but infrequently.
3. Toxocaris on the other hand has a greater significance. This is caused by a roundworm, Toxocara canis.

The potential human health hazard is most important and certainly generates a lot of emotive talk by the anti dog lobby and is often apt to get out of perspective.

With Toxocara, there is a unique development of the larval stage by which puppies may be infected prenatally. In breeding bitches after the 42nd day of pregnancy, previously restive larvae become reactivated and cross the placental barrier to develop in the foetus. Larvae in the mammary glands may even be passed to the suckling puppies via the colostrum. Such migrating larvae can occasionally affect humans, particularly children and lodge in such places as the eye to cause impairment of vision from a condition known as Chloideretinitis. Immunological tests suggest that Toxocara might be incriminated as a cause of asthma or even epilepsy, but evidence is inconclusive.

As the most serious and concentrated source of infection for man is a bitch nursing a litter of puppies between 3 weeks and 6 months, one would advise the following measures against the condition:

1. Routine worming - this cannot be overemphasised. In many ways it is more important than vaccination. Your veterinary surgeon will advise on the correct timing for worming of puppies and adult dogs. This precaution will go a long way to keep the worm burden down in the environment.

2. Scrupulously remove dogs faeces from the garden and train dogs to defecate in gutters or on ground not used by playing children.
3. Forbid children to handle puppies in the nest from 3 to 6 weeks of age.
4. Never allow nursing bitches to lick the faces of children and adults.

M.G. Roberts.

A NUMBER of people have complained about the fouling of public areas, particularly in Greenoak Park, where it is quite usual for children to come home with soiled legs, hands and clothes. If you feel strongly about this situation, why not send names of constant offenders to us.

A COUNCILLORS JOB

FOLLOWING on from our comments on local councillors in previous issues, we decided to ask local Councillor Thompson to tell us about his work, without making it sound like a party political broadcast. Readers will be aware that the Totley Residents Association is a non-political organisation and indeed has decided not to accept straight political advertising. However, we felt the people should be aware of what a local elected representative has to do.

As a Councillor for the Dore Ward, I represent about 15,000 electors over an area which extends from well into Low Edges to Dore Moor Inn. By next May, I shall have served two years doing this job and, although it often entails working at high pressure, I find it most interesting and satisfying. Problems I have had to deal with in the Ward range from housing to attempting to eliminate an infestation of bees.

My colleagues, Councillors David Heslop and Pat Santhouse are also kept pretty busy dealing with Ward matters as they arise. We are always available when help and advice is needed and our addresses and telephone numbers are well-known in the community.

Apart from Ward matters, I am on the Environmental Planning Committee which has various sub-committees and I serve on Development Plans, Environmental Projects and Environmental Health. These give us some control over the aesthetic and practical development of the city and

I am also on the Family and Community Service Committee and serve on the following sub-committees: Residential Day and Building Services, which sees to the construction and maintenance of the many buildings controlled by the main committee, such as homes for the elderly, establishments for children in care and centres for the physically and mentally handicapped. Special Cases and Assessment, which provides money and services for extremely needy cases.

I am also on a Working Group for Adult Training and Work Centres. The government allotted a large sum of money to set up an experimental scheme for helping mentally handicapped adults and Sheffield was chosen as the centre.

Politics do not play a great part in any of these sub-committees. I like, and get on very well with, councillors whose political views differ from my own. I like to think that this is a desire of the individual to do his best for the community and cut across party lines.

On the first Wednesday of each month is the Council Meeting. This is the arena for political debate and we are all briefed with the Council Minutes and Agenda a few days earlier. This involves six hours reading and each political group meets to decide what amendments and observations to put forward. There's not much difference between middle-of-the-road Labour and Conservative views, but some issues can become rather inflammatory. It is decided which members should speak and they are required to prepare their own speeches which must be thoroughly researched.

Well, I hope the foregoing has given some insight into the duties of a councillor and give my best wishes to Totley Independent.

J.J. Thompson, 1 Pentland Rd.,
Dronfield Woodhouse. Tel: 95 415945.

MP meets Totley people

Local MP, John Osborn, was at Totley County school last Saturday morning giving local residents a chance to air their views. Also there were TRA committee members and local councillors.

Woodland plot

£5000 or nearest offer is the asking price for a 434 sq. yd. building plot adjacent to no. 15 Woodland Place, off Queen Victoria Road. The land has outline consent for a single dwelling.



DRAWING BY M.G. ROBERTS

Your street 2 TOTLEY HALL LANE

FORMING part of an ancient bridleway from Dore via Totley to Holmesfield. Originally this road made a hindleg turn to the left and followed a course roughly parallel to Rowan Tree Dell, joining up with the track running up the left of Wings Hill then to Holmesfield via Woodthorpe, not through the park as we know it now but more than likely following the track to the west of the park coming out near the top of Horsley Gate Lane. The appearance as in the drawing was lost in the late fifties when the students residential block was built. Also lost was the distinct aroma caused by the twice-daily passage of cows to and from Totley Hall Farm. To many locals, the lane was aptly known as Cow---- Lane.

As shown, the original road was deeply sunken as in the case of Hillfoot Road near Oldhay.

M.G.Roberts

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TOTLEY'S PARROT

ONLY a short while ago, Mrs. Hibbard of Greenoak Avenue, was the proud owner of that extraordinary green parrot called Rita who led such an eventful life of 15 yrs. The bird became renowned for raising the alarm which saved Mrs. Hibbard's house from burning down. Miraculously, Rita survived a serious attack of double pneumonia lasting 25 wks. but was greatly helped by Mrs. Hibbard's nursing and brandy. When the parrot recovered, she was once more able to visit the park-keeper in Greenoak Park for a morning gossip and receive the numerous school-children who called on her every day on their way home from school. Naturally, Mrs. Hibbard misses her little companion but now she has more time for her interests of embroidery and painting. Local children will miss the memorable view of Mrs. Hibbard walking around her garden with the parrot perched on her shoulder, chatting away to each other.

UNDER THE HAMMER

THE BUNGALOW, Avenue Farm, Old Hay Lane, is due to be auctioned on 14th March by Brownhill, Spencer and Fleetwood. The Bungalow was built a few years ago by the Lancashire family and is situated in a $\frac{3}{4}$ acre plot fronting on to the picturesque Old Hay Brook.

SPORTS

SNOWED UP

SPORTS activities were somewhat curtailed over the last month because prolonged coverings of snow led to the cancellation of many matches and events. Once again sledging was in full swing on Sheps Hill, Chapel Fields, Akley Bank and Bradway Bank. Many people took advantage of the weather for a crisp trudge through about six inches of snow up Strawberry Lee.

SQUASHED IN

ABBEYDALE Sports Club was the venue last week of World Professional Squash when 32 of the top professionals including Jonah Barrington and Geoff Hunt, took part in the £10,000 Shepherd Spacemaker Tournament. Unreserved spectator prices of £1.50 did not deter an enthusiastic and full house

FOOTPATHS

A PUBLIC inquiry into South Yorkshire footpaths started in Sheffield last week. Included on the agenda were paths at Blackmoor and Dore. The decisions of the independent adjudicator may lead to changes in the County Council's official footpaths map.

Anyone for tennis?

DORE and Totley Tennis Club on Devonshire Road are welcoming new members of all standards. There are three courts and the new season opens in April. Contact Mrs. R. Uttley of 20 Mercia Drive. Telephone 365953 for details.

Orange belts

BOTH sons of local postmaster David Rudkin, Nicholas aged 11 and Christopher 13, on the 22nd February attained their orange belts at judo. They train at the YMCA on Broomhall Road, Sheffield.

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TOTLEY CHAMP

ARCHIE THOMAS turned into the home straight and only one man separated him from his greatest ambition. No runner had ever won the 3½ mile Heatherfield Cup three times in succession and 19-year-old Archie was determined to claim the trophy as his own. But ahead of him, Ron Hoole was only yards from the tape and didn't look like failing. Then the impossible happened. As Archie fought to close the gap, Ron staggered and fell out of the race. And Archie, not believing his luck, raced past to win and enter Totley history in 1922 as the village's greatest ever long distance runner.

"I don't know to this day what happened, whether he did it because he knew it was me or whether he just couldn't make it", said Archie at his home in Queen Victoria Road. After three successive wins, Archie was entitled to keep the Heatherfield Cup, given to Totley Sports by a local businessman.

Football Teams competing each year in the Hope Valley League now fight for that same cup, donated to the League by Archie. No-one was more pleased than Archie when the Totley team took the title last season. Archie was born a butler's son in fashionable Belgravia, London, in 1903. Soon after, his family moved north and his father took a post at Totley Hall. They lived then in a now-demolished house off Baslow Road which backed on to the war memorial.

He entered his first race as a lad of 15 when he was working for a local butcher. "I won the mile then I ran back to work to milk a couple of cows" smiles 74-year-old Archie.

The budding athlete was taken under the wing of a young and knowledgeable coach, Frank Taylor, now living in Greenoak Road. Frank groomed his young prodigy and three years later, Archie paid back the hard work and faith by clinching that Heatherfield Cup.

Archie went on to join Sheffield United Harriers who then had a branch in Dore and Totley. He became part of a highly successful Yorkshire Junior Team and won a Yorkshire Gold Medal.

He remembers well his first run with

the senior team. "Juniors ran seven-mile races while seniors ran ten. After seven miles I was right up with the leaders but I went over the line in the 67th place".

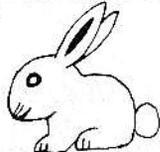
Archie went on to win many races with the Sheffield team but when he was 26, tragedy struck his family and the whole of Totley mourned. His father, a popular secretary of the thriving Totley Sports died soon after a motor cycle crash and Archie gave up running to take his father's place. "I knew that was what he would have wanted me to do" he said.

That began a lifetime of activity in local sport for Archie who now enjoys being one of the district's elder statesmen. He was secretary of Totley Sports for 20 years and served 40 years with the Hope Valley League as delegate, vice-chairman, chairman and president. He was also the secretary of Beauchief Golf Club for a time.

Archie remembers his life in sport with great affection. "Especially the football side of my life" he said. "But the greatest pleasure has been to know that my wife has been behind everything that I have done". Archie and Doris met during their schooldays and later lived in Baslow Road.

Archie suffered a coronary last year but has now fully recovered. He can no longer do a mile in four minutes 28 seconds - no mean achievement in the 1920's - but at 74 he looks as though, given a pair of buckskin running shoes, he would probably have a go.

Lindisfarne
LIQUEUR PRESERVES
and lots of other
goodies from
AVENUE STORES

HOP-ALONG
TO
PERKINTONS 
for Bunny food
and bedding

MARCH DIARY

- 8 St. Johns Womens Fellowship visit to Pear Tree Potteries
9 United Ref. Church Social Club, study of Jerusalem, 7.45 p.m.
10 Townswomens Guild, "Travel", with Mr. Pearson, 7.30 p.m., Abbeydale Hall.
11 Jumble Sale by Ladies Working Party, All Saints, 2 p.m.
14 Derbyshire and the Lake District, a journey in sound and colour, Topley Branch Library.
15 "The Sound of Murder" by the Dramatic Society, United Ref. Church, 7.45 p.m. Runs till 18th.
16 Hillfoot Church School, Open Evening and Book Fair (5 - 8.30 p.m.)
18 "Women's Weekend" at Methodist Church, joint coffee morning with various stalls, 10 a.m. - noon.
22 All Saints Young Mums, 10.15 a.m. "Local Walks".
22 Children's Cinema, Library, 7 p.m.
24 Good Friday, United Service at St. John's, 8 p.m.
26 Easter
30 "Magic and Witchcraft" by Mr. E. Vickers, Heatherfield Club, 8 p.m. Everyone welcome. 20p each.

April

- 4 7.30, All Saints Church Hall, Ladies Club. Talk and film on drug addiction by Mr. S. Hawkins.
6 Humorous Political Debate, 8 p.m., Heatherfield Club.
7 Topley All Saints Nursery Class Coffee Evening, 7.15-9.15 in All Saints Church Hall. Various stalls e.g. cake and jewellery.
8 Topley Scouts Jumble Sale
11 -15. The Mikado by Dore G & S Society. King Ecgbert Lower, 7.30. Tickets 50p and 70p from members (or tel. 365251). Reductions for OAP's and parties on Tuesday and Wednesday.
14 Townswomen's Guild, Demonstration of the Potter's Skill, 7.30 p.m. Abbeydale Hall.

Dr LINFOOT

FOUR years after retiring from his Baslow Road practice, Dr. John Linfoot has died in Sheffield Royal Infirmary. He had spent 25 years practising as a family doctor and was also involved in the Cheshire Homes on Mickley Lane and a maternity unit run by GPs at Nether Edge Hospital. Dr. Linfoot was a past president of Topley Sports and Social Club and had at one time played rugby for Derbyshire. Aged 58, he leaves a widow, son and daughter.

Mr DICK WRAGG

THE DEATH has also been announced of 59-year-old Dick Wragg, the popular Dore butcher, who started as a trainee with the Topley Co-op at the age of 14.

Unstoppable

FOR the moment, STOP seem to have lost their cause over the Furniss Avenue/Busheywood Road. The 9½ acre site is to be offered by auction in two lots on Tuesday, 21st March, at 3.30 p.m. by Eadon, Lockwood

SOUNDS GRIM

THE TITLE of the United Reformed Church Dramatic Society's next production is 'The Sound of Murder'. It was originally performed at the Aldwych Theatre, London, in 1959 and William Fairchild has created a plot which has not lost anything in the intervening years.

The Society is staging the play as its third presentation in their Golden Jubilee Season and it promises to be in stark contrast with the delightfully nostalgic 'Palace of Varieties' they gave last month in the URC Church Hall on Topley Brook Road. May we remind readers that tickets do sell very quickly and to avoid disappointment one should book early, through the Box Office (tel. 361081) or Martins Newsagents. 'The Sound of Murder' will be showing 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th March (see diary).

Duchess in Topley

ON Thursday, 23rd February, the Duchess of Devonshire visited the Cheshire Home off Mickley Lane to open a large extension to the dining hall. She congratulated all those who helped in any way for their very commendable effort and after the unveiling of the commemorative plaque, she made an inspection of the new building.

Puppet show

THE PLUS Puppet Theatre Company visited Topley County School on the 3rd March to give a performance of The Sleeping Princess. The visit was designed to give children an opportunity of seeing a live puppet play and the materials, ideas and techniques involved. Deputy Headmaster, Barry Jex, hoped it would encourage children to make use of readily available material around their home and school in the simple construction of their own puppets.

Hillfoot collapses

HILLFOOT Ladies Club has finally collapsed after two frustrating attempts of revival, after being excluded from All Saints School by the Local Authority.

Meetings were transferred to the Cross Scythes and then to Topley United Reform Church but numbers dwindled from over 60 to around 20. Some of the members hope to join the Ladies Club at All Saints Church Hall where they should be made welcome, according to Ladies Club secretary Mrs. Margaret Wiggitt

HAPPY 103rd BIRTHDAY

YOU may remember we mentioned Topley's oldest resident, Mr. Sharpe, in a previous issue. Well, February saw his 103rd birthday and we sent Felicity Crowther along to see him. He recalled that when he came to Topley as a young man of 73 in 1948, he was warmly welcomed by members of the Methodist Church with which he became closely connected. At the time, most of his leisure time was taken up with local preaching and growing vegetables on a plot of land near Mercia Drive. Reluctantly he gave up serious gardening when he was 88.

When he arrived here, Mr. Sharpe noticed that many of the houses were large and standing in good-sized grounds but he doesn't think that Topley has lost its 'countrified' feeling since the district became much more populated.

COUNCILLOR HESLOP

FURTHER to December's list of local councillors, please note that Mr. David Heslop now lives at 41 Church Lane, Dore. Tel: 365043.