

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

Published by Totley Residents Association 12p NO 62 NOVEMBER 1982

OUT IN THE COLD ?

community centre

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL may have ruled out the possibility of a new purpose-built community centre for Totley on grounds of expense. Totley Resident's Associations' community centre plan, which is now before various council committees, outlines accommodation to include a hall with stage, meeting rooms, kitchen facilities, storage space and toilet and cloakroom facilities. But commenting on the plan, Mr. J.W. Fall, the Head of the Council's Corporate Management Unit says: "It strikes me that the accommodation outlined suggests quite a large building. If new, it would be very expensive", he continues in a letter to Les Firth, chairman of TRA's community centre sub-committee.

Mr. Fall goes on to suggest that TRA should consider "existing vacant properties in the area, if you have not done so".

"Costs can often be quite considerably reduced if existing buildings can be adapted and this has happened in other parts of the city with schools and factories that are no longer needed for their original use".

Mr. Fall concedes, however, "There is much less possibility of this in Totley". Also in the letter, Mr. Fall holds out the prospect of tenants meeting rooms in Totley, which, he says, is under active consideration by the housing committee.

He adds that whether such meeting rooms would be suitable "in part at least" for the needs of the Association "cannot of course be determined in advance of the details of the proposal".

The letter is expected to provoke lively discussion at the next TRA committee meeting, in early November, where a response may be formulated. Further communications from the Council are not expected until the New Year as the TRA report has to go before the Housing Services, Family and Community Services and Education committees before a decision on the provision of a community centre for Totley is made.

war

memorial

THOSE OF YOU who read our report in the September issue will have assumed that the War Memorial story was all but complete. Following the receipt of a letter from the Estate Surveyor's Department it seems that, for the moment, there is no happy ending.

"With reference to the alterations to the rear wall of the memorial and fixing of a bronze plaque in memory of those killed in the 1239/45 war.

Before any of this work can be commenced, the Corporate Estate Committee have requested a comprehensive report on all the War Memorials maintained by the Council be submitted, and I regret, therefore, that the plaque will not be in position for the Remembrance Day Service this year".

D.J.B. George
Estate Surveyor.

The following reply has been sent by Rev. Alan Hosker, the chairman of Totley Residents Association.

"I have received your letter of 29th September, with the greatest disappointment and concern. I am sure that this will be shared by my Committee at its next meeting, and I have no doubt that they will want to express their reaction in strong terms.

I do understand the concern of the Corporate Estates Committee for the condition etc of all the War Memorials maintained by the Council; I find it surprising that (as it seems) it has taken this request by TRA to remind them of a responsibility it appears to have been neglecting. May I please have your assurance that the "comprehensive report" for which the Committee has now called will, in fact be submitted to them as a matter of weeks rather than years, and that we may have a firm assurance that the work required here - on which we have, as I believe, agreed - will not be delayed more than a limited period.

My own feeling is that the Committee ought to be thanking Totley for bringing this matter to their attention, and giving us some assurance that we shall be the first in line for whatever action may require to be taken in general terms for all such memorials.

May I ask therefore, for your confirmation that we can expect the work to be put in hand and completed within the next six months? That, surely, ought not to be too much to expect.

Those who have been looking forward to the immediate repair of this present negligence ought, I believe, to be given those assurances quickly; after all, many of them are now elderly and can look back on a life-time of service to the community and the nation".

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whisperer...

...The date printed last month, on the front page Tunnel article should, of course, have been 1992 and not 1987! - but you realised that didn't you?No excuse for the magazine being late this month - for there was an extra hour, during October, in which to prepare it.....Many thanks to former Staff Member David Brown of Milldale Road, for the three valuable years of contributions he has made to the Independent.....The old St. John's Ambulance Hut has disappeared from the front of the Peacock at Owlter Bar.....New wooden railings to All Saints School will also improve the appearance of the Pinfold perimeter..... When will a rebuilding of the old Totley Hall Lane Well on the Tarmac development take place? The Star News Shop in Baslow Road has a new sign declaring it now to be the United News Shop..... ..After all the concern expressed as to the dangers of traffic etc., in Glover Road, how sad that it was something as innocent as collecting conkers, that resulted in the death of 12 year old Andrew Small, after he had fallen from a tree there.....

PLASTERED

OVER 100 people attended the T.R.A. Dinner Dance on Saturday October 23rd, at Abbeydale Sports Club. The event, once again, proved such a success that another has already been requested.

There was, unfortunately, a casualty from the evenings merriment. Ian Ibbotson, of Green Oak Avenue, ended up with his leg in plaster, after being floored, following a burst of the Can-Can, resulting in a short stay in hospital, where he underwent surgery. In true Totley style, and typical of Ian, one of his main concerns was that he would not be able to help with the transport and arrangements for this years Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

CYCLE SPEEDWAY

OH DEAR! The saga continues.

The plans for a local cycle speedway track (see last month) seem to have taken an eleventh hour diversion.

Apparently, the Abbeydale Road South site is not now considered to be large enough, by the Recreation Dept., without the removal of some trees. Another site, not far from the bridge, near the bottom of Twentywell Lane is to be looked at.

This is of course still subject to planning permission and apparently consent from British Rail.

PARTY

THE ANNUAL Christmas Party, organised by Totley Residents Association for our local Senior Citizens is once again taking place at Totley College on Saturday 4th December.

Due to unforeseen circumstances it is not possible to have use of Lawfields dining room and hall (as in the past) so it has been transferred to Highfields (access still from Totley Hall Lane).

Tickets are 50p each and are available from committee members. They will also be on sale in Totley Library between 2 - 4pm. on Saturday Nov. 13th and Nov. 20th.

Anyone requiring transport should make this known when buying their ticket.

As this event is always very popular and numbers are limited, make sure to buy your ticket early.

Totley College Students are again kindly helping with the food and organisation and the usual high standard of entertainment will be presented.

T.O.P.S.

(Totley Older Peoples Society)

T.O.P.S. are holding an Autumn Fayre at Green Oak View Day Centre on November 5th, from 10am - 12 noon.

Cakes, Groceries, Nearly New, White Elephant, Jewellery, Books, Records & Pictures will be on sale.

Plus raffles for Amas Hamper and other valuable prizes. Admission 15p (includes light refreshments).

THUNDER

OUT IN THE COLD ?

WITHIN THE CITY boundary, Totley seems to be getting a raw deal.

The Totley Independent, the Residents Association (or any other local body for that matter) has never gone in for "Council bashing" and now is not the time to start. It has always been accepted as correct to request and present matters of local concern through the legitimate channels. However, when the history of such items as the War Memorial, Cycles Speedway Track, levelling of a Tag-0-War pitch and a Community Centre are studied, it is wondered if other actions might have produced results.

As a substantial contributor to the city rates (both from private and council residents) Totley should expect more in the way of facilities, particularly when what is being asked for will only bring it nearer into line with other areas and by no means supercede them.

Totley is real proof of a conscientious, self-help community, where the activities are only restricted by lack of suitable accommodations. Under these circumstances, voluntary effort is not being encouraged.

Perhaps Totley is its own worst enemy, by being so readily prepared to do things and having asked for little in the past.

It is fully understood that in the normal sense, we are not considered to be under-privileged. But this does not mean we are not disadvantaged.

After all, how many other associations have managed to survive, founded on collecting subscriptions in the middle of a public park ?

25 NOT OUT

TOTLEY GOOD COMPANIONS, who are based at Abbeydale Hall, are celebrating their 25th Anniversary.

In honour of the occasion they held a dinner last month at Abbeydale Sports Club.

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ANTIQUE COPPER

FORMER Dore and Totley police man Jim Roe is beating a new track in the world of antiques.

He is the owner of Bradway Antiques which has been open some six weeks in the Wollaton Road complex of shops and well worth a visit.

Jim retired from the police force last April after 30 years. For most of that period he policed a Dore and Totley beat ranging from Owlbar to Abbeydale Road South and along Old Hay Lane to Dore village.

He arrived in Totley in 1952 astride a police regulation push bike that had to be shoved around a lot of the time because of the weight.

"It used to take 20 minutes to shove it up Bushey Wood Road to Dore village," said 50-year-old Jim, who lives in Dronfield. But over the years the mode of police transport changed dramatically. The bike was discarded for a period of plain foot patrol, then on to motorbikes and finally panda cars.

Jim left the district in 1977 and spent the remaining years, until his retirement, in the records office at Police H.Q. in Snig Hill.

He will never forget, however, the harshness of a Totley winter. One of the most unpleasant, and sometimes regular, jobs was to help to dig out the "inevitable" coachload of travellers stranded on Dore Moor.

Collecting antiques was one of Jim's hobbies and he has now decided to make it a way of life.

//////////

One of the items for sale at the shop include a pot beaker produced to commemorate the opening of Totley Recreation Ground on March 23rd, 1929.

//////////

Harry Wooffinden went along to sketch the beaker, which is an attractive dark blue in colour (no handle) and bears the impression on the base "Pearson Ltd, Whittington Moor". This factory has only recently gone out of business. Reference to these beakers has been made before. At the time of the opening, each Totley school child was presented with one.



LETTERS

With reference to Brick-a-Brac in the September issue, about Moor Edge Brickworks, and the extent of mining having taken place in this area over many years, I was pleased to see mention that coal mining was also carried out, as this could have a bearing on my article.

For a few years, we the residents of the old Totley, have been subjected to some queer smells at varying times, and I along with many more, thinking that it came from the brickworks, assumed nothing could be done and accepted the situation. That is until I met Mrs. Alice Hyde, who lives at Bole Hill Lodge, when she asked if we ever noticed any peculiar smells. I replied that I had and was then surprised to hear as to how she gets headaches and listlessness when the smells appear.

We have reported this to the Environmental Health Dept., and were assured it is not from the brickworks. The Gas Board were informed (a big gas pipeline is at the rear of Bole Hill Lodge) and they were most concerned, tests being made and found to be clear. Mrs. Hyde has been visited by an official from the Recreation Dept., and after she explained about the smell and its effect, there was sufficient interest that this Dept., may now take action.

We must not forget that this area is a public park where people pick bilberries, and other wild fruits.

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LIBRARY

THE MONARCH OF MOUNTAINS

With a height of nearly 16,000 ft. Mont Blanc, "the white mountain" and the tallest peak in the Alps, stands foursquare between France, Italy and Switzerland.

It used to be known as "Les Glacieres", and the Chamonix Valley, or Vallée de l'Arve, contains five major glaciers. Sweeping down from the tops of the surrounding mountain peaks all the way to the cultivated fields on the valley floor, they include the five mile length of the Glacier d'Argentiere, as well as the glittering Mer de Glace, literally the "sea of ice".

Mont Blanc, besides being one of the most spectacular mountains in Europe, is also one of the most popular among climbers. It was first conquered in 1786 by two men from the village of Chamonix and the first Englishman to manage the feat was Colonel Beaufoy in the following year. Many climbing accidents have happened since then, and the glaciers have a grisly habit of bringing to light the deep frozen bodies of climbers who were lost thirty or forty years earlier further up the slopes. "Mont Blanc is the monarch of mountains; They crown'd him long ago On a throne of rocks, in a robe of clouds, With a diadem of snow". (Byron)

"The Chamonix Valley and Mont Blanc", a slide show and talk by Cath MacKay, will take place in Totley Branch Library at 8pm. on Tuesday, 16th of November.

ANYONE FOR POSSET ?

WILL ANYONE be making their cakes for bonfire night? Or Posset for Christmas? These are just two of the traditional seasonal delicacies to be enjoyed at this time of year. Their cakes are made mainly of medium oatmeal, mixed with a little flour, a touch of salt, and sweetened treacle. Baked nice and brown they are similar to parkin biscuits. Posset on the other hand is a mite stronger, and consists of a mixture of milk, ale (which curdles the milk), eggs, currants and spices.

Into the posset pot some people used to put a wedding ring and a coin, then invited the guests to have a dip each. Whoever got the ring was "sure" to be married within the year, while the finder of the coin could expect some financial success.

Derbyshire, of course, is full of traditional events and activities, not just in winter but throughout the year. Well-dressing springs immediately to mind, as do the Castleton Garland Ceremony, the Shrove Tuesday game of Ashbourne "football" and local morris dancing.

If anyone wants to know more, then the December library talk provides the perfect opportunity to find out. "Crafts and customs of the Peak District", a talk by Brian Woodall, will take place in the library at 8 pm. on Tuesday 7th December. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

oxfam

Those of you who came to last December's talk, about India, may well remember Peter Furniss taking up a collection. A letter was received at the library last month from Oxfam acknowledging receipt of a donation of £25. This was made up of the original collection, a further collection at TOPS and Peter's fee, and the letter asked that grateful thanks be expressed to all who contributed.

Terry Whitham
Branch Librarian.

A Cover

Story

TOTLEY'S VENTURE Scouts always do their best - as the painting job they carried out at All Saints School went to prove. Headmaster Ernest Priestnall could only fault their work in one small respect - they painted the WRONG building. The Great Green Paint Mix-up has been the cause of a few red faces in Totley since the summer holidays.

The School Governors decided that the nursery unit for three to four year olds, needed a lick of paint. The outside of the steel fabricated building had not been painted since it was opened in 1975.

The money for the job - £70 - was put up jointly by the Parochial Church Council and the Parent Teachers Association. Who better to do the work than the Venture Scouts who were in need of some such community project to earn their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The paint - green to fulfil planning conditions - and equipment was bought and left in the playground for the scouts to arrive at the end of summer holidays and complete the job before the new term. They were not told exactly, however, which building to paint and the school caretaker was not sure either. The label on the paint specified "exterior brickwork" and the most likely candidate was the two classroom unit, sandwiched between the nursery and the school.



In the true traditions of the Scouting movement they got on with the job in hand. Close by, the nursery sat untouched.

"When we arrived on the Monday morning, we were faced with a nicely-painted building, but not the right one", said Mr. Priestnall. "They did a very nice job though. The problem was it was done during the summer holidays when supervision was not what it might have been".

He assured the Independent, however, that the nursery would get its coat of paint eventually and negotiations are in progress between the bodies involved. Robin Carter, Scout Leader, School Governor and P.C.C. member and the man who organised the paint, said the mix-up was caused by a breakdown in communication between the parties involved. He added he was on holiday at the time.

But what of the Venture Scouts and their awards? "Oh that will be alright, it wasn't their fault - they did a good job", he concluded.

LYN LINES UP

Lyn Cooper of Laverdene Drive has written and broadcast short stories and articles but poetry is her first and main love. She is a founder member of Sheffield Poetry Workshop and is a listed reader with the National Poetry Secretariat. As a regular reader of the Independent, she wasn't sure if poetry would be suitable for inclusion. However, her friends and neighbours suggested she offer some of her work. After reading the following poems, we feel sure that readers will look forward to further contributions.

for autumn

Autumn - the shape and sound of the word breathes mist, conjuring scattered leaves in bronze and gold; apples ripe on trees the sun has kissed. No longer young, the year, though not yet old.

This is, perhaps, for some the richest phase, a gathering-in of dreams, nostalgic song, the harvesting of hopes from other days when the hours of sun were long.

for november

ash leaves now (november early) are utterly separate blown/flayed torn in half shaped other than leaf yet leaf entirely

praying mantis folded moth one twists on slender neck like a swan...

soon tree-sculpture is complete no brittle shred will hang

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SCOUT NEWS

T.O.A.D.S.

T.O.A.D.S. revert back to a humorous vein with their next production, which is a York-shire comedy. "Cat Among the Pigeons" by Duncan Greenwood is the story of a young couple living with parents and a cantankerous Grandma. Complications arise when brother returns from National Service with a surprise package. Performances are Wednesday to Saturday, 24th - 27th November at St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Rd. South, at 7.30pm. Tickets 50p, Children & O.A.P. 40p, available from Kate Walker 366891, or any member of T.O.A.D.S.

scene stealers

T.O.A.D.S. may have to find another scenery store in the very near future, as their present one is up for sale. Can anyone offer a large garage, store room, outbuilding or basement suitable for the storage of scenery and tackle. Not too much inconvenience will be caused, as they only do two productions a year, involving moving the scenery in and out twice. Any offers of help please contact Kate Walker, 366891.

CHESHIRE HOME

LAST YEAR'S Christmas Fayre at the Cotter's Hall was a great success, and we shall be having another this year on Saturday, November 13th, when there will be a Gift Stall, Christmas Foods, Christmas Cards, Crafts made at Holesby Hall etc., and it will be held from 10.30 am. - 1 pm., Coffee and biscuits available too.

There will also be a Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy, Crafts for sale etc., at the Home on Thursday, 2nd Dec., when we hope to see many of our local friends. (10 - 12 noon).

POST HASTE

1st TOTLEY SCOUT GROUP ask you to look out for blue coloured posters appearing from November 11th. Advertised will be a 10p stamp scheme, which will enable locally addressed Christmas post to be collected and delivered by scouts throughout the city.

The parents committee of St. John's Scouts, Guides and Brownies are organising their annual Christmas Fayre for the 4th December, in St. John's Church Hall at 2.00 pm. The many stalls and attractions will include Santa's Grotto (a big success last year), raffle, tombola, baby bar, gifts, handicrafts, bottic stall, gottley and cakes. There will also be on sale, Christmas crackers, wrapping paper, cards, fairy dolls for the tree and numerous other items to help you with your Christmas shopping. Why not pay us a visit? We will, of course, be serving refreshments to include home made cakes, scones and the traditional mince pies. We look forward to seeing you on the 4th Dec.

JUST STOP and think of the problems the Totley Scout Group face in order to raise £9,000 for a loan repayment, considering that the majority of the group is aged under 18! This is the amount borrowed from the Scout Council for new headquarters, now that the new site is available. A recent jumble sale raised £220, many thanks to all who contributed to the 'mountain' of jumble, collected by hard working helpers on a very hot afternoon.

There's no shortage of ideas for more fund raising. Watch out for dates of regular waste paper collections. The first was on October 30th. Tied bundles of newspaper, cardboard and carbonless computer paper are all acceptable.

The recently organised Lottery has so far had a limited response with only 120 tickets being sold, mostly to non-parents. Roy Whitehouse and David Collins have put a tremendous amount of work into this scheme, so their efforts deserve better rewards. (Roy even sold tickets to people as he travelled by coach to Italy).

There are magnificent prizes so if you'd like to join, contact either Roy at 65 Sunnyvale Road, Tel. 365323 or David at 100 Sunnyvale Rd., Tel. 368745.

Remember, you will actually see the results of your contribution taking shape when the new building makes its appearance.

PRESENTS

THIS YEAR, instead of their usual December Christmas Fayre, Totley All Saints P.T.A. are holding an Autumn Fayre at the school, on Saturday Nov. 13th, when you will be able to "stock up for Christmas". There will be a good selection of handicrafts, toys and seasonal fare, as well as side-stalls and entertainment for the children, not forgetting refreshments.

RED CROSS

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

AT MANY LOCAL events, you'll usually find the Red Cross giving first aid cover, going quietly about their business, only to be noticed when you require their services. Recently the magazine has received enquiries as to this worthy band of volunteers, who make no charges for their attendances, (although a donation towards their expenses is always welcome). The Sheffield Headquarters is 53 Clargrove, Tel. 662962 and a detachment meets Mondays and Wednesdays at Abbeydale Hall. Further details are available from Mrs. Shepherd, 16 Hilldale Road, Totley, Tel. 364931. It takes three years to gain a first aid certificate, some expense is involved (upkeep of equipment etc). It is enjoyable, worthwhile and a useful qualification to have. Some employers will pay you extra if you hold a certificate.

GOOD AFTERNOON

GREEN OAK VIEW

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

THIS IS a new club started in July, to cater for people in Totley who are either handi-capped or housebound. The club meets each Friday from 2pm - 4pm and refreshments are provided. Activities include films, music and games, along with the opportunity to have a hand out!

At the moment, the club membership is at its maximum number, but enquiries may be made to: John Stanton - Community Worker Tel. 734910.

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NOVEMBER DIARY

- 3rd Wed. T.R.A. Committee Meeting. 37 Sunnyvale Rd. Spm.
 3rd Wed. 4th, 5th and 6th. United Reformed Church Hall, Totley Brook Rd. 7.45pm. "The Potterquest".
 5th Fri. T.O.P.S. Autumn Fayre. 10am - 12 noon. Green Oak View Day Centre. Admission 15p.
 5th Fri. Bonfire. 7pm. Cross Seythos. Fireworks & Refresh.
 10th Wed. St. John's Wednesday Club. Spm. Cut Crystal Sale. Mr. R. Warne will talk about the manufacture of lead crystal. 10% of sale will go to charity.
 12th Fri. Totley Evening Guild. Speaker Mrs. D. Simons and her demonstration of Xmas decorations. Sales table is "Christmas Goodies". (Xmas party December 10th. Abbeydale Hall). 7.30pm. Films:- Nuclear Waste, Green Peace Protest & Arab-Israeli Conflict. (Evening arranged by local group, DATPAC).
 13th Sat. Cheshire Home Xmas Fayre. Cutlers Hall. 10.30- 1pm
 13th Sat. Tickets for Sen. Cit. Xmas Party. Totley Library.
 13th Sat. Autumn "Present" Fayre. 2pm. All Saints School.
 13th Sat. Brownie Guide Jumble Sale. 2pm. All Sts. Church Hall
 16th Tue. Library talk. 8pm. Full details inside.
 19th Fri. King Egbert Upper School (dining room) 8pm. U.N.A. & D.A.Y.P.A.G. "Disarmament-The Way Ahead. Speaker Mr. Bruce Kent, Gen. Sec., C.N.D.
 20th Sat. Tickets for Sen. Cit. Xmas Party. Totley Library.
 26th Fri. 10am - 12 noon. Green Oak View. Location rear of Library car park. BAZAAR. Lots of bargains many made by Residents & Staff. Refresh. Admission free. to 27th. Sat. TOADS "Cat among the Pigeons".
 24th Wed.

KINGS PAGES

TOTLEY MAY SOON no longer have to share its library with Dore bookworms.

The Dore Village Society is putting in a new bid for a library of its own on an historic village site.

Society chairman Sydney Hoffman says: "Dore is one of the most literate parts of Sheffield.

We feel we should no longer have to make do with a mobile library or go to Totley".

The society is appealing to the library dept., to convert the present King Egbert sixth form building - King's Croft - into a library, when the sixth form is dissolved in an education shake up.

Libraries committee deputy chairman, David Brown, says

The plan could go ahead if funds allow. He admits Totley is a long way for Dore readers to travel.

The move could mean less pressure on books for Totley Library - and that could lead to a cut down on waits for books, and a better range of titles on the shelves.

But there can be no action for at least two years.

The independent wonders whether this could lead to a new episode in the Totley/Dore border clashes. Provision in a medieval treaty allows Dore to share Totley's Library in exchange for Totley's use of Dore Station. The terms may well have to be re-negotiated.

FROM THE 8th REPORT - 1872. (THIS BUILDING IS NOW THE CHESHIRE HOME).



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