

# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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## MONNYBROOK

### GOING TO THE DOGS ?

The National Canine Defence League, which takes in stray dogs before finding them good homes, is hoping to open rescue kennels at Monnybrook Farm, Totley Bents.

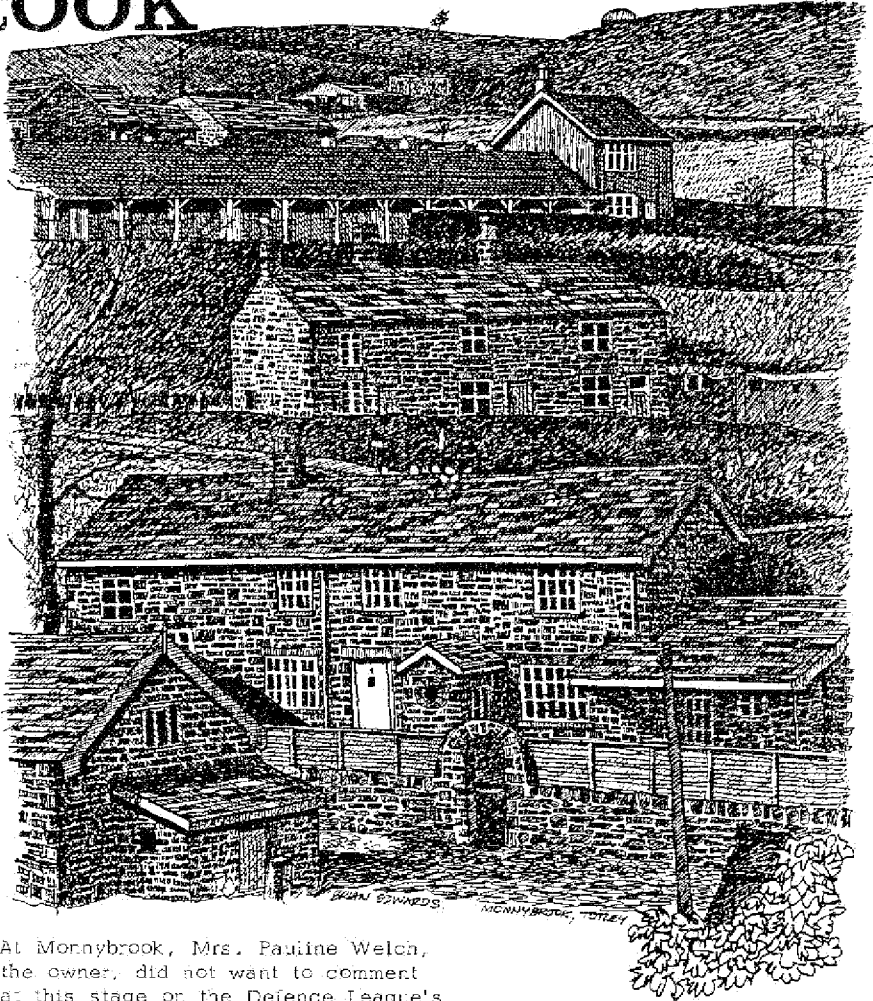
If Sheffield City Council gives planning permission, the League intends to spend about £130,000 buying and converting Monnybrook, currently a private boarding kennels. The League has been searching for some time for a site to house its first rescue centre in Yorkshire. An earlier choice was a farm at High Bradfield but plans were dropped after objections from residents, farmers and the Parish Council, where fears were expressed that dogs might escape and savage or worry sheep.

A spokeswoman at the Defence League's London Headquarters confirmed that Monnybrook was the new centre of their attention. Although the planning application was taking some time to go through because of its nature, the League expected it to be granted soon. "Our local supporters are thrilled with the site. It is a lovely position as far as we are concerned and I think it will be a great success," she said.

Sheffield deals with around 4,000 stray dogs every year and the League hopes that their new centre will help other animal welfare organisations and the police to cope with the problem.

The League runs a strict non-destruction policy and aims to care for stray dogs until good homes can be found.

The Sheffield Area Branch, which was formed four years ago, has raised about £5,000 towards the cost of the project but an anonymous dog-lover has pledged a substantial donation once the kennels open.



At Monnybrook, Mrs. Pauline Welch, the owner, did not want to comment at this stage on the Defence League's plans. "I don't want to say anything until things are definite," she said.

The Independent will, as usual, be interested to hear local opinions on this proposal.

MONNYBROOK almost certainly took its name from the many streams which run down from Hollins Hill, joining together to form Needhams Dike.

In this Brian Edwards drawing, from back to front we have the rebuilt Moss Farm, Monnybrook Rise (Brookhill Farm in 1876), Rifle Range buildings, Monnybrook Cottages and Monnybrook Farm, which is the cluster of buildings in the foreground. The old Totley Workhouse is in the right bottom corner.

# T.O.P.S.

On 16th February the Totley Older People's Society will hold its second Annual General Meeting and celebrate the passing of two years since the Public Meeting (on Friday 13th February !) at which it was conceived.

The infant over whose viability some heads were shaken has survived some teething troubles, has had two highly successful Christmas luncheons, two Autumn Fairs, several outings to the sea and elsewhere, informal parties, guest speakers and artistes, etc. etc. It is not affluent but comfortably solvent!

It has sustained a few sad losses, which can happen to any club, let alone one composed of senior citizens, but still has a potential membership higher than its present premises will permit. Roll on the Community Centre!

The Independent will announce, in due course, any changes in office-holders which may concern non-members or potential members.

## badminton

THE BADMINTON SECTION of T.R.A. is looking for new members for their Wednesday night sessions at King Egbert School.

Anyone interested in joining should contact John Hunter on 368907 after 6.30pm.

## DIAMOND

Celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 22nd January, were Lucy and Leonard Hanson of Aldam Croft. Amongst their many cards and presents, were a telegram from the Queen and a pot plant from the Lord Mayor.

Married at Holy Trinity, Wicker, the Hansons moved to Totley nearly seven years ago and until recently still managed to do most of their own shopping, in spite of a considerable distance from the shops.

They are now eagerly awaiting the arrival of Spring in order to enjoy the view from their window of Gillfield Woods and animals in the fields beyond.

With a combined age of 177 years, are they the oldest married couple living in Totley?

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## whisperer...

In spite of the lights, problems and near misses still being encountered with traffic along Glover Road...and what do you make of the altered traffic sign at the Mickley Lane/Glover Rd. junction currently reading "MILKY WAY".....The request to provide nursery facilities at Totley County School was not granted. This item has recently been the topic of conservation for various local groups and, no doubt, will be for several months to come.....  
..What a kind thought! - Totley Youth Club sent a donation to help cover the costs of the Senior Citizens Christmas Party...  
.....On Sunday, January 30th, All Saints Church was handed over to Totley College Students for the 'Students Day of Prayer'...  
.....A Public Meeting is currently under consideration, where opinions on all the outstanding items of local concern can be expressed.....Will Totley get its own Fish and Chip Shop?.....A reader comments "We shall probably never know with any surety, but one wonders what 'refurbishment' of the Rifle Range becomes necessary only a couple of years after the last one and is urgent enough to justify Saturday morning working, involving many deliveries of loads by lorries".  
.....Due to the premises in Abbeydale Road of the Heeley Conservative Association being put up for sale, the Hallam Conservative Office has now been moved back to Totley, at the Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road.....Welcome to new staff member Jo Dobson of Laverdore Way.....The English Taskin Players will perform a concert of Chamber Music at King Egbert School, Tuesday 8th March, 7.45pm.  
.....The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress will plant trees on the Pinfold on 25th March, at 11am....

## CHESHIRE HOME

Hickley Hall Cheshire Home, Hickley Lane, Totley, will be holding their Annual General Meeting at the Home at 7.30pm. on Tuesday, March 1st, 1983, and all friends will be most welcome to attend.

# LIBRARY

## ARGUS AND HELLEBORINE

ONLY TEN MINUTES away by car - or 40 minutes on Bob Warburton's bicycle - lies the valley of Coombs Dale, mid-way between Calver and Stoney Middleton. Despite the lead-mining which still takes place, the valley is relatively untouched and forms a miniature conservation area. It is the nearest limestone valley to Totley and, because of its soil, its local flora is very different from what is to be found round here.

Several unusual plants prosper, including a member of the saxi-frage family that revels in the name of Grass of Parnassus, and wild orchids including one known as Dark Red Helleborine. Because of the unusual flowers there are also unexpected butterflies such as the Brown Argus (or is it the Northern Brown Argus?) and the Dark Green Fritillary which besides being, confusingly, mainly brown in colour, is known to occur in the Himalayas at altitudes of up to 3,000 metres.

Bob Warburton, who is of course well-known to readers of the "Independent" as a sort of home-grown David Bellamy, will be visiting Totley Branch Library in February to show some of his slides of the area that he spent such a large slice of last summer taking, and to talk about the flora and fauna of the valley. "Coombs Dale" will begin at 8pm on Tuesday, 15th February. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

## U.N.A.

### United Nations Association

THE FOLLOWING Public Meetings have been arranged by U.N.A. for the coming month.

Both meetings start at 8pm.

On Friday, 25th February, Mr. Frank Hooley M.P. will speak on 'Problems in Central America' at the U.R.C. Hall, Totley Brook Road. Prior to this meeting Mr. Hooley expects to visit the Falkland Islands, as a member of a Parliamentary Committee.

On Tuesday 15th March, Steve Baxendale and Irene Young will speak on Peace Studies, as developed at Bradford University. This meeting is at 175 Dore Road.

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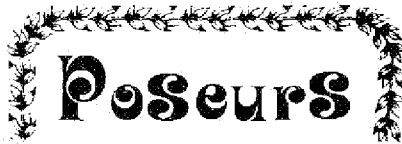
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### Dore and Totley Peace Action Group

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# BLACKA MOOR

CITY BENEFACTOR Alderman J.G. Graves maybe turning in his, at the moment, over the raging row that has broken out over Blacka Moor - Totley's country playground.

The 450 acre stretch of moorland was bequeathed to the people of Sheffield by the Graves Trust in 1933 but after 50 years of relative tranquility it has now become the focus of extraordinary passions.

Almost every day now the Sheffield Press carries at least one article or letter describing its many joys. It was described in 1933 as "the finest bit of unspoilt moorland scenery around Sheffield" and it seems there is a whole legion of groups and individuals who want it to remain exactly that way.

It seems now that even Parliament is about to become embroiled in the continuing argument, which centres on a sheep farmers plans to graze 600 sheep on the moor.

Hallam M.P. John Osborn has asked Lord Ballwin, a Minister of State at the Department of Environment to step into the dispute which has unified local conservation and rambling groups as never before.

The roots of the current turmoil lay in the condition of the gift of the Moor made by the Trust back in 1933. The Moor was to be kept in its present natural state with woodland and moorland paths open to the public.

Councillor Froggatt was quoted at the time: "Although Blacka Moor looks rather bleak from some viewpoints, it is marvellous when known intimately and its vegetation is magnificent.

Incidentally the shooting is extremely good and the moor is a natural breeding ground for woodcock which come there in the winter."

But two years ago a time bomb was started by the City Council's Recreation Committee, which now has responsibility for Blacka Moor, when they decided to give sheep grazing rights to Farmer Elliott, from Calver. They reasoned that it would help to preserve the natural state laid down by the Graves Trust by keeping ferns and scrub in check and reducing the summer

fire risk.

Then Farmer Elliott decided that to keep his 600 sheep from straying, he would erect fencing around the perimeter and across the Moor to organise the grazing properly.

Rambling and conservation organisations started then to cast an anxious eye on the proceedings, but the straw that broke the sheep's back was when the fencing and some existing stone walls were topped with barbed wire.

It seemed that some of the sheep were of the Woolly Jumper variety and would leap their way to freedom unless deterred by the barbed strands.

Then the onslaught began. The South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire Ramblers Association, and the Council for the Protection of Rural England provided the big guns of opposition. But they were ably supported by sundry other groups including Totley Residents Assoc., Dore Village Society and of course the irrepressible Mrs. Susan Murray, from Fulwood, who has been bombarding everyone concerned with letters of protest.

The charge was that the land was being enclosed and public access to the Moor was at best being made difficult, and at worst, denied.

In addition, it was claimed that the sheep would destroy the bilberry bushes enjoyed by generations of folk in the area and the grazing would adversely affect bird and insect life and trees and plants. As Mrs. Murray put it succinctly in a recent letter to The Star: "Speak up now if you want to fill your bags with fat ripe bilberries next July.

Compare the area with Toad's Mouth where the sheep have cropped the bilberries and there are now none left to pick."

All this furore galvanised the Recreation Committee into action and they have now held two recent site meetings on Blacka Moor. Councillors decided that the barbed wire should come down and be replaced with plain wire, the fences across the Moor should be removed and the whole question of fencing should be investigated before long. They also instructed Farmer Elliott to provide adequate gates and stiles and to allow easy public access to the Moor. Some of the

stiles should be modified to help disabled people explore the land beyond.

Now an uneasy truce has developed between the pressure groups and the Council. The Rambler's Association say they are "happier now", but have urged people living in the area and who use the Moor to keep their eyes open for any changes.

The Council, for their part, have admitted in a letter to Alan Jockel, Chairman of Totley Residents Association, that there are lessons to be learnt from the whole episode.

The author, Arroll Winning, the Council's Director of Recreation, points out that the Chairman of the Recreation Committee has "expressed publicly his reservations" on the original decision to allow sheep grazing.

However, the Recreation Department is sticking to its guns over using sheep to "manage" the Moor. Although the farmer's licence comes up for renewal in July.

"On the conservation front the main concern is that the grazing will assist in improving the diversity of vegetation and increase the attraction of the area," wrote Mr. Winning. "The introduction of sheep is considered a management tool to protect the main moorland against devastating fires which have greatly reduced sections of the moors amenity in recent years."

## Oil Change

AS THE ESTABLISHED firm of Sheaf Motors moves to bigger premises in Woodseats, it is replaced by South Yorkshire Motors Ltd.

As yet, the showroom is still being re-organised and it is likely that further structural changes will be seen. However, changes to the staff and services offered are not likely.

The hours of opening are to be maintained, and although the brand of petrol has changed, the cost should not and if anything the lower end of the price market will be continued.

No franchise has yet been settled for the garage, but it is likely to be foreign. Other makes can be ordered on request and a wide range of second hand cars will be available.

The new manager will be Mr. Roberts.

# Warburtons World

I'M SURE THAT many people wonder how keen bug-hunters, like myself, manage to pass the dark winter days when no self-respecting insect shows its face.

The winter is the time for appraising the past year, its successes and failures; and looking forward to the coming summer - making all those wonderful plans which so rarely come to fruition. As a natural history photographer, it's a time for going through all the summer's pictures, putting them in the right places, keeping the index up to date and discarding those shots which are no longer needed. The identification has to be double-checked and everything brought fully up to date by the end of February so that the new season can be started with a clean sheet.

The most important job of winter from a personal viewpoint, is to decide what direction the coming season should take, and make alterations to equipment so that I am as ready as possible for the fray. This year, I intend trying to photograph aquatic animals, which means building a special portable aquarium and arranging the necessary lighting.

More and more people are becoming aware of the insect and plant life around us via the excellent programmes on T.V. It seems like a good time to try something different. - I'll let you know how it works out as the summer approaches.

This doesn't mean that my long-time favourites - the insects and plants - will be forgotten. I've devised some new ideas and stratagems for them too. I suppose the secret of avoiding winter boredom is that the perfect picture has never been taken, and no-one has yet seen everything.

I hope that many of our readers have managed to visit Cilifield Wood to view the changing landscape there. I must admit, that at first sight I was rather taken aback, but on reflection it will probably benefit the wood in the short term. Two comments I would like

to make: first, how pleasant to see that Sycamore was not mentioned amongst the species intended for planting, and secondly, will anything be done to discourage the growth of bracken so that other woodland plants may get a chance to grow in the newly opened space?

Our Heron continues to visit Totley Brook, but the visitors to the bird table have not been very enthusiastic so far, perhaps the winter has not been severe enough yet. Charlie the jackdaw paid us some interesting visits before Christmas, being especially helpful when my wife was sewing!

## Micro Talk COMPUTERS IN SCHOOLS

UNDER A Government scheme, money has been made available to help every Primary and Comprehensive school buy its own microcomputer.

Many local parents have expressed an interest in hearing more about this innovation. The P.T.A. at All Saints School, Hillfoot Road, have arranged for Mr. Steve Dommatt to talk on this subject in order to find out about microcomputers and their role in education with particular emphasis on their use in primary schools.

Mr. Dommatt is currently an Advisory Teacher in Computer Education with the Local Education Authority. He has twelve years experience of teaching in primary schools, most recently at Arbourthorne Middle School. The talk will include demonstrations and is open to anyone interested, everyone is most welcome. The talk starts 7.30pm. on Tuesday 1st March. Admission free.

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## REPORT BACK

THE Totley Residents Association  
Committee Meeting 26th January.

With such a large number of subjects for discussion, it was unfortunate that several items had to be held over until the next meeting on Tuesday, 22nd February.

### ROAD SAFETY

The roadworks around the bus terminus are proceeding well. Apparently the various utilities have finished "mining" and the rehabilitation of the surface is going ahead. The kerb-edging outside the Post Office has been lowered to facilitate access for wheelchairs and prams and a new pavement made round the opposite corner. The roadworks on Totley Bridge will be reported on at the next meeting.

### COMMUNITY CENTRE

There was a general feeling amongst the committee that little or no progress was being seen or made. It was proposed that other lines of approach might be considered. The sub-committee said they would meet on Tuesday 1st Feb. This they did when it was decided to arrange a meeting with the three City Councillors to review the situation.

### WAR MEMORIAL

Once again, major concern was expressed, on-going delays have seen this issue outstanding now for several years.

A letter dated 2nd July, 82, from the Estate Surveyor's Dept., included two schemes to incorporate a plaque at an estimated cost of either £925 or £775. T.R.A. preferred the £775 scheme and also confirmed, as requested, a willingness to subscribe £200 towards the cost.

The letter printed in the November 82 issue being the last correspondence received from the Estate Surveyor's Dept.

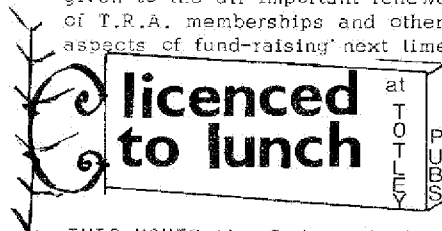
However, at a meeting of the Corporate Estates Committee held on 12th November, 82, when the subject was discussed, it was resolved to meet half the cost of the work or £387.50, whichever should be the lesser amount.

This was in response to "a request of the T.R.A. for grant towards the cost of the provision

of a bronze plaque on the Totley War Memorial, Baslow Rd". As no direct request has been made by T.R.A., the committee decided that a strongly worded letter from the Chairman should be sent, as this now appears to be a complete turn-round of the situation from what was previously assumed to be the case. It is also now wondered if doubt is being expressed as to the exact ownership of the Memorial. In the meantime the work remains, as ever, uncompleted.

### MEMBERSHIPS

Urgent consideration will be given to the all important renewal of T.R.A. memberships and other aspects of fund-raising next time.



THIS MONTH the Independent launches its Licenced to Lunch Guide - a new series aimed at informing you of the culinary dinner time delights in our local pubs. First to be drawn out of the hat is the Shepley Spitfire, Mickley lane.

The Shepley Spitfire - Totley's newest pub - has recently been gaining a well-deserved reputation for its very reasonably priced lunchtime fare. The menu is on offer between 12 noon and 2pm Monday to Friday. Landlord Harry Scholey and his wife Margaret have decided not to serve meals at weekends because of the pressure of their own family life - they have three children.

Customers can choose from around 20 different dishes served on Denby pottery with cooked meals ranging from about 50p to £1.50.

A three-course meal including coffee and indulging in the most expensive fare on offer will only take a little over £2 from your pocket.

Top of the menu are chicken and scampi both at £1.50 served with chips and peas or salad. Plaice with chips and peas costs £1.40 and Cod £1.30.

Salads, still popular at this time of year, says Harry, come in three varieties - beef, ham and cheese - and cost £1.20.

Moving below the £1 mark comes steak and kidney pie, chips and peas at what must be an unobtainable 80p. "An Australian couple came in and said they couldn't believe we could do it for that price", said Harry.

A range of burger dishes are also on offer - beef, cheese or bacon - served in a variety of ways from 50p up to 80p. Different sandwiches and butties are also available. The meal can be rounded off with fruit pie and fresh cream or ice cream for 45p, or ice cream for 25p. Coffee costs 20p.

To wash the food down, the Spitfire offers a range of wines by the glass at 52p, Hardy Hanson bitter at 51p a pint, mild at 49p a pint, lager at 65p a pint, draught cider at 70p a pint and Guinness at 69p a pint. There is also the normal range of spirits with Bells whisky 45p a measure and gin 44p.

## GUILD

Totley Evening Guild Meeting at Abbeydale Hall, February 11th, 7.30pm.

Speaker is a member of the South Yorks. Police talking about Crime Prevention.

Sales table is jewellery!

## iii cricket

### TOTLEY RISE CRICKET CLUB

A DINNER attended by 80 past and present members was recently held to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Totley Rise C.C. During the evening, an oil painting of the teams Green Oak Park ground was presented to Philip Schofield as thanks for his continuous involvement and enthusiasm as Player, Umpire and President.

The team is a member of both the Norton and District League 1st. Division and the midweek Alliance League.

A cricket net has been hired at Bramall Lane Sports Hall on Monday evenings 9 - 10pm, commencing Monday 21st February, 1983, for 10 weeks.

New members would be welcomed whether keen youngsters or experienced players.

Please telephone either - Terry Duncan - 368534 or Dick Wrigglesworth - 368577.

## S.E.I.S.A.

THE SHEFFIELD Educational Information Service for Adults (S.E.I.S.A.) is an organisation which exists to provide as much information as possible about all educational courses for adults which are run in and around the Sheffield area, whether they are vocational courses, higher education courses, or courses which are run simply for leisure purposes. S.E.I.S.A. is currently based in Leader House at the end of Surrey Street (tel: 755126), but the staff are very keen to try various other temporary sites in an effort to increase the use made of the service, and to help people become more aware of the great variety of activities that Sheffield has to offer. By travelling around in this way they hope to reach a large number of people, both employed and unemployed. A member of the staff of S.E.I.S.A. will be available at Totley Branch Library from 10am until 4pm., on Friday, 25th February, and again between the same times on Monday, 28th February.

Information will be available about a wide range of courses including, among others, those which are given by the University, Polytechnic, Adult Education Centres, centres of Further Education, the Open University and Age Concern. Information will also be provided about the availability of grants: many courses, for instance, can be taken free by people who are unemployed. Whether you want something to fill your leisure time, or want to extend yourself, or to learn a useful skill, or whether you want to improve your chances of getting a better job, this is an opportunity for everyone to find out what is available.

## FORUM

THE MEETING OF TOTLEY FORUM planned for Friday January 28th, at Green Oak View Day Centre, was postponed and a new date is fixed for Friday 18th February, same venue, at 8pm.

All local groups and associations are again invited to send along a representative.

At the December 3rd meeting, the suggestion of a Totley Festival for 1983, met with general enthusiastic approval. This is just one of the topics to be discussed further.

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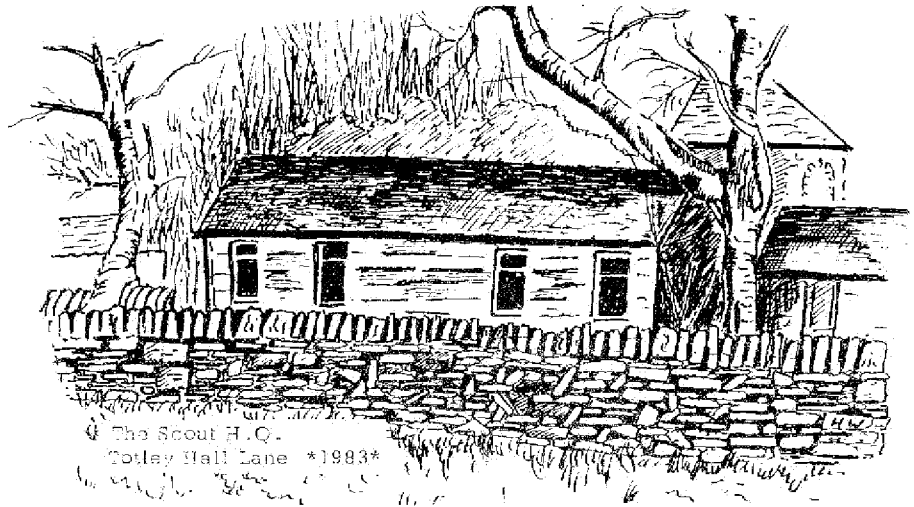
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Items for publication may be sent to or left at J. Perkinson, 2 Main Avenue, Peter Swifts, Totley Rise and V. Martin, Abbeydale Road South.  
\*\*\*\*\*

COPY DATE FOR MARCH ISSUE IS SATURDAY FEBRUARY 19th.



TOTLEY'S SCOUT GROUP wants to sentence you to hard labour - by helping them build their new Headquarters.

Chairman Roger Hart says that some labourers will soon be needed to clear land at the Aldam Road site, although a machine will do the bulk of the work. "It will help to work off the Christmas overfeeding," he added.

On the financial side, according to the Group's first newsletter (hoped to be a monthly sheet), the prospects are much rosier.

The all-important lottery scheme, after a long warm-up, has now reached the starting blocks, as the number of promises to take shares has reached the required level. It is hoped that the lottery, if run to capacity, will supply the £900

needed every year to pay off the loan for the new H.Q. as well as paying the costs of the H.Q. and the Group.

The long awaited Bottle Bank, at the current Totley Hall Lane H.Q. is now also open for business. After months of negotiations, the containers for the bottles were finally delivered on Christmas Eve, said Mr. Hart, but they were sited in the wrong place - next to a neighbour's hedge.

Mr. Hart also appeals in the newsletter for parents of members of the Group to attend in force at the next meeting of the Group Council, to air their views and ideas.

The Council would like a parent to represent each cub pack, the Scouts and the Venture Scouts on the Parents Committee of the Group.

The meeting will take place at the Scout H.Q., Totley Hall Lane, on February 28th at 7.30pm.

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welcome you

**JOHN D. TURNER**  
**(contracting) LTD.**

PROPERTY REPAIRS  
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FREE ESTIMATES

TEL. 367594 evenings

## FEBRUARY DIARY

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|-----------|---|
| 4th Fri.  | to Sat. 12th. Panto 'Sleeping Beauty' All Saints School.  |
| 11th Fri. | Totley Evening Guild, Abbeydale Hall. 7.30pm.   |
| 11th Fri. | A.G.M. Dore & Totley Peace Action Group.  |
| 15th Tue. | Totley Library. Bob Warburton "Coombs Dale" at 8pm.   |
| 16th Wed. | A.G.M. T.O.P.S. Heatherfield Club. 2pm.   |
| 18th Fri. | Totley Forum. 8pm. Green Oak View Day Centre.   |
| 22nd Tue. | T.R.A. Committee Meeting. 37 Sunnyvale Road. 8pm.   |
| 23rd Wed. | St. John's Wednesday Club. 8pm. Mrs. Julie Binks, Senior Courier & Guide of Sheffield will talk about the life of Mary, Queen of Scots. |
| 25th Fri. | U.N.A. Public Meeting. 8pm. Speaker - Frank Hooley M.P.   |
| 25th Fri. | Also Monday 28th. 10am to 4pm. S.E.I.S.A. at Library.   |
| 28th Fri. | Totley Scout Council Meeting. Totley Hall Lane. 7.30pm.   |

### MARCH

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| 1st Tue. | Computers in Schools. Talk 7.30pm. All Saints School. |
| 1st Tue. | A.G.M. Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane. 7.30pm.           |