

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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and much more!

DRAWING ON LOCAL TALENT

It is always a pleasure to welcome new local artists to the Totley Independent. This month, Adrian Schofield, for some time a regular contributor of articles to the magazine, has submitted one of his drawings. The drawings of Totley scenes have been amongst the most popular features of the magazine over the years and many local artists have displayed their talent on these pages. If you have a flair for producing pen and ink sketches (black ink is best), featuring local scenes, we'd like to hear from you.

THUNDERER

September 6th is the date of this year's Totley Show. Following the success of last year's Show, entry categories will be largely unchanged and like last year, entries will be judged by "outside" experts.

Watch these pages for further details but remember it is not too soon for gardeners, cooks, knitters, winemakers, flower arrangers, artists, dressmakers etc to begin planning their entries for the Show. (After all it's only 4 months away!) Let's hope the summer weather is kinder to gardeners this year.

So why not help to make Totley Show the biggest event in Totley's calendar? Go on - pop it in your diary now - and cancel everything else that day!

RUBBISH SKIPS

Spring Cleaning? Clearing out the attic? Hiding the garden? Turning out the shed? Then make a note of Monday 12th May. Rubbish skips will be available at two locations in Totley between 9am and 2pm. One will be as before on the Car Park at the bottom of Green Oak Drive (access off Green Oak Avenue). The other will be at the end of Aldam Road.

Please let your friends and neighbours know. Full use must be made of these skips to ensure a regular service in the future months.

Mike Williamson

ALL SAINTS' CHANGES

From Sunday 4th May the present 9.30am or 11am timing of services at All Saints' Church will change so that the main Sunday morning service will be at 10am. The 9am and 6.30pm services continue as before, except that on the third Sunday, when the 10am is a Family Service, the evening service will now be Holy Communion. Sunday School will also now be starting at 10am.

Revd. S Raynor.

TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The main items of business at the committee meeting on 7 April were as follows:

Safety

Following reports of pungent smoke coming from the brick-works, an approach had been made to the company. Apparently both public health and alkali inspectors had recently given the works a clean bill of health. The company had assured TRA that any emissions were of no threat to public health and safety. It was reported that vehicles continue to disregard the speed limit in Baslow Road. Several reports had been received of delivery lorries blocking access past Totley Rise shops. The issue had been raised with appropriate shopkeepers and the police had been informed. Children had been seen playing in an unfenced culvert between Laverdene Avenue and Queen Victoria Road. The dangers would be reported to the appropriate authorities along with a suggestion that a grille should be installed.

whisperer...

Following the recent Palace of Varieties at St. John's Church Hall, Totley Troopers will be presenting a cheque for £100 to the Cheshire Home Minibus appeal. Congratulations to them Well done too Fleur and Hare and Hounds, whose football teams raised £75 at a fancy dress charity match on Easter Monday. The proceeds will go to Totley County and All Saints' Schools, and Dore Junior School A warm welcome to new Totley postmistress, Mrs Myra Badger, who formerly spent seven years at Southey Post Office We hear that, in common with most other branches in Sheffield, Totley Library will soon be closing on Saturday afternoons Totley's new long-legged notice boards may be fine for taller residents, but those of lesser height will appreciate a leg-up to find out what's on

Future Events

1. The TRA Annual General Meeting would be on 29 April. (A full report will appear in the next issue).
2. The TRA Barn Dance will be held on 14 June at Totley Hall Farm. (See feature elsewhere in this magazine).
3. Totley Show will be held on 6 September at the County School. (See Thunderer).

ABBEYDALE HALL

As Eric Smith settles down to his retirement, Mrs. Wendy Lees takes over as caretaker at the Hall. She will be moving in, together with her husband, a retired stained-glass artist, on May 6th. Mrs. Lees has just completed 3 1/2 years in a similar position at Mount Pleasant Community Centre, Sharrowvale, the most recent in 16 years of caretaking posts throughout the city, beginning in the sixties at Fulwood CE School. Wendy Lees, a native of Sheffield, born at Crookes, has a particular interest in Community Welfare and local social life and with a few new ideas on the subject, it would seem we can look forward to some interesting developments at the Hall.

Adrian Schofield.

T.R.A. Barn Dance

Take ya partners by the hand and mosey on down to Totley Hall Farm on Saturday 14th June for the annual Totley Residents Association Barn Dance from 8pm - 11.30pm.


Anyone living or working in Totley is welcome and for £3 you'll get a pie and pea supper plus the music and caller of the band Airs and Graces. There'll also be a bar and raffle. Tickets available from early May by phoning any of the following numbers:

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- 364604
- 351373
- 369101
- 364761

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Nb. 7 J.K. Ducker

The present lottery cycle
ends with the draw in May
(a video) and application
forms for the next cycle will
be delivered to houses in
Totley shortly. If you do not
receive a form and would like
to join, please phone Alan
Vitty (367397). All profits
go towards repaying our
building loan.

Paper Collections

Sorry about any inconvenience
caused by the switch of venue
last month from the College
carpark to the Fleur de Lys
carpark. This was due to a week
end conference at the College.
In spite of this we filled two
skips and collected over 8½
tons of paper and cardboard.
Next collections are May 10th
and June 14th.


Alan Vitty

PLANTS FOR SALE

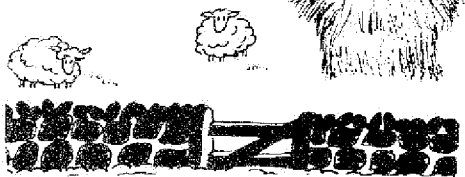
READY NOW
* Lettuce 50p tray.
* Pansy £1.00 tray.
* Conifers from £1.20.

READY END OF MAY
* Hanging baskets.
* Grecian urns.
* All summer flowers 60p tray.
* Pot grown geranium, salvia,
dahlia, begonia, fuchsia,
tomato.
* Sprout, cabbage, cauliflow-
er, calabrese and
runner bean plants.
* Compost 75p for 10 litres.

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FARMING SCENE



- Here are the answers to last month's quiz. How many did you know?
- 1/2. Annual output is £12,000,000,000, only exceeded by the oil industry and due to the recent fall in oil prices, agriculture is likely to regain its traditional No. 1 spot this year.
 3. The farmer receives 9p per pint for milk. Apart from a small charge by the M.M.B. for transport, the rest goes to the bottlers and retailers/deliverymen.
 4. Land values are falling by 15-20%. A farm purchased for £200,000 3 years ago could now be worth £130,000, a £70,000 loss.
 5. Cereal production last year was 20 million tonnes, 5 million less than in 1994.
 6. Rapeseed oil is used in margarine and cooking oils.
 7. Lard is produced from pork fat.
 8. The Tolpuddle martyrs were deported for organising an agricultural workers trade union in 1834.
 9. Ministry of Agriculture figures show that the average farmers income last year was £4,500 with many losing money.
 10. Suet is produced from beef fat.
 11. Contrary to media propaganda, cereal prices have fallen in real terms by 65% since 1973. No subsidy is received by the farmer. This goes to the intervention store owners and grain exporters.
 12. The "average" hen lays 270 eggs per year.
 13. A sow eats approx. 27 cwt of feed per year.
 14. The farmer currently receives around 45p per pound dead weight for pork pigs.
 15. A lamb that is over 12

- months old is called a Hoggett.
16. 600,000 people are directly employed in agriculture, with a further 400,000 ranging from vets to tractor manufacturers, dependent on agriculture for employment.
 17. Silver Spoon is the trade mark used to identify sugar produced from sugarbeet grown in Britain.
 18. Potatoes, which sold at an average price of £70 per tonne last month cost £80 per tonne to produce.
 19. The "average" cow produces 1,250 gallons of milk per year, but this will vary from 700 to 1500 depending on the breed.
 20. A ewe usually has a life-span of 7-8 years.
 21. Farmers owe the banks £6,000,000,000. At 15% interest, they earn £900,000,000 from agriculture each year, taking 40% of farmers' profits.
 22. During January and February 240,000 lambs were killed each week, mostly for home consumption, but large quantities were exported, particularly to France.
 23. Eyespot is a fungal disease of cereals, and an alcoholic disease of farmers!
 24. Angus, Charolais and Limousin are all breeds of beef cattle.
 25. 1 cwt of seed wheat produces on average 35 cwt of grain, but in perfect conditions can produce 5 tonnes.

I hope these answers will give you an idea of the scale of agricultural operation, the low price the farmer receives compared to retail prices and the fact that the industry is in depression, with incomes well down. During the early seventies, world food prices rose sharply so the Government and the EEC decided to encourage farmers to produce more, thereby reducing imports. The end result is that we are now more than self-sufficient in many foods, as is the world in general, with prices falling and farmers in financial difficulties. In the USA, so many have gone bust, that a "Band Aid" type charity called "Farm Aid" has been organised to help them.

(Edwin Pocock.)

LETTERS

Sevenoaks
Kent.

Dear Sir

The invitation regarding memories of Greenoak Hall in the February edition of the Totley Independent, prompts me to ask if my memory is correct, not only as to the way in which I have written Greenoak as all one word, but - was the hall used in the thirties by the Young Conservatives (the Primrose League) for their meetings? I think so - or it may have been for their dances and other functions.

The reference to Abbeydale Hall together with the letter from Mr. Jim Harrison brought back many memories to me, having started work in the Rating and Valuation Department of the Norton R.D.C. in 1931. The increase in the rate in the E in 1934, to bring it up to the level of the Sheffield rate, was such that it was spread over 10 years to reduce the impact! The half-yearly rate on a house in Vernon Road in 1933 was just over £7, on a rateable value of £23.

At that time there were five fat golden carp in the lake, but only about 4 inches of water on top of a couple of feet of rich mud, as the Assistant Surveyor and myself found out when we had a swim. Fortunately there was a bathroom in the offices! I remember the "loo" (there was only one) certainly justified the old-fashioned expression "the throne room". It was a magnificent structure in beautiful mahogany, complete with arm rests, the whole being mounted on a 9 inch high mahogany dais some six feet square. Superb! (A reminder that when it was installed a water flush was a rarity.) The "monkey puzzle tree" near the upper end of the lake was reputed to be the finest in the north of England.

When a letter box was put in the front door by Mr. Councillor Marcroft (a local builder, after whom Marstone Crescent is named) his carpenter found that his drills were not up to the job. That door is sheet steel sandwiched in wood!

Yes, I have many happy memories, including the fact that when I joined the office staff of the Council, I became the fifth member of that staff. (How many district councils today manage with a staff of five?) With all good wishes for the future of your paper

Yours sincerely
Ken B Sanderson

PS - The carp disappeared during the war, when the Hall was also occupied by the Army and by Civil Defence, and when there was food rationing. Who did it?



"We just took them as potholes until Arthur Scargill sent the pickets"

Old Windsor
Berkshire.

Dear Sir
On a recent visit to Sheffield, I picked up a copy of issue No. 93 of the Totley Independent in the Shepley Spitfire and have found it most interesting. We came to Totley from Marple, Cheshire, in October 1908 and settled at Grove Villa, now Bridge House, at the corner of Grove Road and Abbeydale Rd South. The cartilage was much bigger then and a marvellous place for a young boy to grow up. There was a large coach-house between the house and the railway line, (now a separate bungalow) and a paddock behind facing Grove Road, (now the site of another house). The house belonged to the Midland Rail-

way who let it to my father for £35 a year! In 1913 they needed it for one of their area managers, so we moved - temporarily as it was then thought - to a newly built semi-detached house, the fourth up King Ebert Road off Totley Brook, named Netherfield.

We were actually the first residents in the road, which then only extended a short way up, surrounded by fields. With the onset of the 1914-18 war, we were marooned there and did not leave until 1922, when my parents purchased at auction "The Dingle" in Woodland Place, Queen Victoria Road. We had some happy years there but my father sadly died in 1932 and by 1940 when I had gone away to the forces, my mother couldn't manage there alone. (There were 2½ acres at the time, now all built upon). She sold it and moved away. Incidentally, we got £2,900 for the house and land! So as a family we lived for 32 years in and around Totley.

Reverting for a moment to Grove Villa, by the time we lived there, one bedroom had been converted to a bathroom and there was inside water-closet provision. But in the garden there were still earth closets and a two-seater! I have often wondered, given normal modesty, how and when those were used! Behind the former coach-house there was - it still exists - a railway siding. Around 1915 King George V visited the Sheffield munitions factories and spent the night on that siding in the Royal train, presumably to avoid any zeppelin bombing.

While at Netherfield, the upper end of Totley Brook Road, which in those days ended at the small reservoir, was my happy hunting ground and I delighted in the etching on the front cover of the magazine. It was a private, magic world up there and apart from Totley Grange there was no building until the big house with lodge, "The Ilms" at the top of Old Hay. (Instinctively I have called it "Totley Grange": do I mean "Totley Grove" I wonder?)

My parents took me to St. John's Church, Abbeydale, where in 1911 I joined the newly formed Scout troop. Years later, my sister was married there. I remember so well the lodge at Abbeydale Hall to

which reference is made in a letter. It was as described. Opposite the Hall gates, across Abbeydale Road, there was an elaborate matching gate, with a driveway down to the river where there was a pavilion. I forget the name of the old lady at the Hall (was it in fact a Mrs. Hall?). On Sundays she was wheeled to the church (which I believe her husband had endowed), in a most massive and elaborate wheeled chair, pushed by an elderly retainer. She was accompanied by her house-keeper, a Mrs. Thompson, a most erect and stately woman in her own right, who later lived in retirement

with her husband at "The Cottage". This was an attractive old-world cottage, long since gone, just across the river at the foot of the climb up to Queen Victoria Road. She was a very kind woman and often invited us boys in for tea and delicious homemade scones with cream and strawberry jam. Wonderful memories! At that time, Brinkburn

Grange was occupied by Dr. Laverick, a colliery proprietor. I did not know him then, but came to know him after the war in his 80s. The Grange was memorable at this time of year for a remarkable display of crocuses and snowdrops in a small wooded area adjoining the road.

Later, I played tennis at the Devonshire Road Club, situated at what was then the top of Devonshire Road. Before that, around 1920, there was a thriving tennis court in Victoria Road, near the junction with Mickleley Lane, opposite the path leading to Tinkers' Yard. My mother used to play there. Another member at that time was E. Ransom Harrison, a Sheffield accountant, who became Chairman of the Rover Motor Co.

My late wife was the former Olive Turner, a well-known Sheffield soprano singer, who took the lead in many Croft House productions, in the 30s. We married in India where I had served most of the war and where Olive, to whom I had been engaged since 1940, joined me after VE day in Europe. On coming home in 1946 we settled in London but her family remained in Sheffield. One could go on, but enough! Yours very truly

William C Carter

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Whirlow Hall Farm

Whirlow Hall farm is situated on Whirlow Lane. The farm caters for all school-children in Sheffield but with special emphasis on the mentally and physically handicapped and deprived children. It offers the opportunity for children to visit a working farm in a rural setting and to have the experience of close contact with animals. Such contact can, in some cases, help in overcoming communication problems. Escape from the routine urban environment can also, for some children, be a strong influence in their development. Some 15,000 children come on day visits each year and, with schools increasingly aware of the benefits to be gained, this number is expected to increase. The Hall of Residence is constantly fully booked. In a full year, nearly 1,000 can be accommodated in this way with, for example, free horse-riding facilities being enjoyed by special needs children, who would not otherwise have such an opportunity. Maintaining such a learning facility costs a great deal of money, currently about £100 each day. Improvements planned are intended to provide additional classroom, library and medical room facilities. The Whirlow Hall Farm Trust Appeal has been launched to collect money for this venture. A target of £400,000 has been set initially, to provide for the next 10 years. One of the Trust's money is used to finance the running of the farm, which is a separate commercial undertaking. Trust money is purely for the educational facilities. Any help in the form of donations will be greatly appreciated. Many people in Totley have organised events for other charities in the past and may be willing to do so again for this appeal. Further information may be obtained from the Trust Office at the farm (Sheffield 360896) or locally from Mrs. Joan Ashford (369721).

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EXHIBITION

Abbeydale Art Group, part of the Totley Community Association, held its annual exhibition of members' work on April 25th and the two following days at Abbeydale Hall.

The show, as always, demonstrated the very high standards reached by the group in technical expertise and composition. Almost 150 pictures were presented, just about the limit for the display capacity and easels available. Almost all were, as is usual for suburban societies, pictorial views, but none the worse for that, and more than making up for the lack of anything controversial or technically startling, was the near professional excellence of several artists. Of these, the pictures by Geoffrey Smith and Des Brophy were well worth buying and indeed these were snapped up almost as soon as the show opened. This annual event, well sign-posted (and serving tempting home-made cakes), deserves several visits and will please anyone who admires talented work. The group, working in all media, but mainly oils and watercolour, meets alternate Saturdays at Abbeydale Hall under the chairmanship of Mr. R.L. Ivritt. You may contact him for more information, but membership is about full, as are Norman Bevan's

T.O.A.D.S.

TOADS latest production gave the ever popular farce a rest and with "Candied Peel" went for comedy drama, involving established members of the Society and introducing newer, younger recruits to life on the boards. The drama was provided by the complications and intricacies of a winding plot, with Gerald Waite providing the anchorman in a large cast of twelve. Comedy was provided mainly in the character of Miss Pethington, ideally played by Dorothy Howe, who was warmly applauded as she lifted the enjoyment and pace of what was rather a slow first act. Her part was almost incidental to the plot and could well have been the playwright's afterthought, to provide a comedy interlude. Other laughs were supplied by James Staton who seemed to be thoroughly enjoying himself, portraying an older man, with youthful vigour. Such are the opportunities in amateur dramatics.

Mike Williamson

classes at Dore - and, if you saw the exhibition, you'll know you have to be pretty good!

Adrian Schofield.

SPORTS

This year, tennis tournaments sponsored by Wlks-wagen are being held throughout Britain and are structured in such a way that anyone of any age and ability can take part. Several are being held in the Sheffield area and people living in Totley will be pleased to know that one of the largest tournaments is taking place at the Sheffield Amateur Sports Tennis Club (SASTC) at Abbeydale Park. Tournament entrants do not have to be members of SASTC, or any other club in Sheffield and it doesn't matter whether they are County players or absolute beginners, because everyone is given a "rating". The "rating" given is not a handicap - the draw will ensure that players will be matched with others of similar ratings and will start at "scratch" in each round. Tournaments have already been held at Tom Lane and Pinegrove Clubs and Eccleshall Club is also due to stage one, in addition to the one planned for Abbeydale. Local tournaments are sponsored by Gilders of Sheffield and for the event at Abbeydale, some social events have been organised. Competitors and their guests are welcome to attend. Anyone wishing to enter can obtain an application form from SASTC at Abbeydale Park. All entrants are guaranteed a match against someone of the same standard.

Chris Woodhead.

WHY NOT TAKE OUT AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION TO THE INDEPENDENT?

For only £3 per year (including postage), you could have Totley's own monthly magazine delivered directly to your home. Or why not take out a subscription for a friend or relative who has left the area? (Please enquire about rates for overseas subscribers). To cover 10 issues (the Independent is published ten times per year), fill in the coupon below and send it with a cheque or postal order for £3 payable to "Totley Residents' Association" to: John Perkinson, 2 Main Avenue, Totley, Sheffield S17 4FG.

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 Please send the next 10 copies of the I.I. to:-
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 I enclose a cheque/postal order for £3 payable to Totley Residents' Association.
 Name (if different from above)
 Address (if different from above)
 Postcode Date

UNDER FIVES

Wendy Gregory of the Education Department's Early Childhood Education Resource Centre, is at present gathering information about services for the under-fives. This is in order to compile an information booklet for distribution to parents and those working with young children and their families. She would be glad to receive any information at the Centre, Acres Hill Nursery First School, Mather Road, Sheffield S9 4GQ (telephone 441577)

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 Items for publication may be
 sent to or left at: 11 Stocks
 Green Drive, 2 Main Avenue,
 Peter Swift's (Totley Rise),
 V Martin's (Abbeydale Rd Sth).

COPY DATE FOR NEXT
 ISSUE IS TUESDAY
 20th MAY

DIARY

May

- 2nd-3rd 10.30am Spring Art exhibition by Staveley Art Society at St. John's Church Hall. Admission free.
- 6th 7.30pm Potato Marketing Board at Christ Church (Dore) Young Wives' Group at Church Hall, Dore. Visitors 50p including refreshments.
- 9th 7.30pm Totley Ladies' Evening Guild: "Antiques" - Mr. G. Shaw. (Bring items for valuation for a small fee).
- 10th 10.30am Christ Church (Dore) Young Wives Group Jumble Sale at Dore Old School (behind Hare and Hounds).
- 10th 8pm "SaintsAid" cabaret at All Saints' Church Hall. Proceeds to Christian Aid. (TICKETS SOLD OUT)
- 10th Totley Scouts waste paper collection. Skip at college car park until 12 noon.
- 12th 9am-2pm Rubbish skips for public use in Aldam Road and Green Oak Drive (access off Green Oak Avenue).
- 12th 7.30pm Totley Residents' Association Committee Meeting.
- 13th 7.45pm Totley Independent Staff Meeting at 2 Main Avenue.
- 17th 10am "Coffee, cakes and cuttings" at English Martyrs Church. Proceeds to Transport 17 and Cheshire Home mini-bus appeal.
- 17th 2pm Totley County School Spring Fair.
- 20th 10am NSPCC Coffee Morning at 22 The Quadrant.

CHANNEL 4 TO RISE

The IBA engineering Information Service (Oracle page 297) gives details of Channel 4 commissioning and advises that Totley Rise relay station is due to transmit Channel 4 (on channel 42) from December 1986.

RETIREMENT

Mr. Frank Smith, Manager of the National Westminster Bank at Totley Rise since 1978 is retiring. Mr. Smith previously worked at the Darnall and Heeley branches.

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