

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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APRIL 1991

Totley church

Our usual front page picture is different this month for we are trying to encourage young talent. In this case it is a drawing of All Saints' Church, Totley by Paul Inman aged 9 years, a pupil of Totley County School. We offer our warmest congratulations to Paul. It is obvious that he is following in his father's footsteps!

It is perhaps time to say again that we should be pleased to receive drawings from others who may feel that they can contribute to the interest and appeal of the Independent.



SCHOOLS.

As reported last month there are amalgamation plans for the two Totley schools. Comments and opinions fly around without any outcome being certain. We have been asked to print some of these but the situation is changing so fast that we fear we shall be out of date before we even get to

the printers. We are reminded however of an article in the Independent in March 1985 when falling numbers posed similar discussion about possible merger. At that time the friendly rivalry between the two schools was seen as a benefit to both schools and to the community at large. We understand that parents of the County School children have formed an action group to protest against the proposals. Whatever decisions are reached it is hoped that the wellbeing of the whole community will be paramount. We must not forget that decisions made now will affect children as yet unborn. Calm and mature judgements must be made without jumping to precipitate conclusions.

T.R.A. AGM

APRIL 22nd 7-45 p.m.

Dear Editor,

I am the Secretary of the Tenants Section of the Totley Residents' Association and as such am responsible for the Poster Displays in our Notice Boards. We always like to see as many events posted as the boards can visibly carry but, on some occasions, we are unable to cope with all the requests because some of the posters are rather too large. This often means that such can only be exhibited for a short time. Through your good offices we should like to invite organisers of events to try to contain their message within a paper no bigger than say A4 or approx 10" x 8". They can rest assured that the notice boards are now well used and established.

Yours sincerely,

Cathy M. Wilson.

Editors Note: A4 is the size of one page of the Totley Independent.



The current debate on E.E.C. Agricultural reform, the G.A.T.T. treaty on Free Trade meetings, the new Government proposals on land tenure reform, the media hype of food health and quality, the "Green" pressure to reduce chemical inputs and pollution problems, the attacks by the animal welfare lobbies, falling prices and incomes have all combined to push an essential industry, already in recession, to the point where it is like a massive supertanker heading for the rocks with no one at the wheel because the crew are having an argument over which way to go!

The current E.E.C. proposal to cut support prices by 30% would kill over half of the industry and lead to food shortages. The proposal to abolish farm support totally and create a "free" market would have an "up-side" in that the industry would be de-politicised (a massive improvement!) and have reduced administrative costs. This would also eradicate the much publicised £15 per family per week cost to the tax payer of agricultural expenditure, but would eventually lead to much higher food prices, probably over £20 per week per family, as the true cost of food production was passed on to the consumer. Remember - removing a subsidy means the product price has to rise accordingly or else production will cease. No one can produce at a loss for very long. The much publicised food mountain represents only a small percentage of total production - a 10% reduction in output would again lead to shortages.

My own personal solution to the problem would be the introduction of Nitrogen Quotas, limiting the application of Nitrogenous fertiliser to 65% of current levels. This would reduce crop yields - eliminating surpluses, reduce grass availability - thereby reducing cow and sheep numbers, reversing the previous trend of intensification of livestock farms and lessen the leaching of nitrogen into the water supply. This one measure would seem to meet the requirement of taxpayers, conservationists, "Greens", animal welfarists, the pollution lobby and

also farmers - provided the measure was introduced throughout Europe.

On a more down to earth note we have just started lambing proper after a series of pre-lambing cervical prolapses and deaths caused by the ewes organs being unable to contain the pressure of fast growing lambs inside them. To date we have had more triplets than singles indicating an average of over 2 lambs per ewe.

We are still busy grading last years potato crop, separating the seed from the eating potatoes and removing any diseased or damaged tubers prior to sale.. When the land dries up a bit our first job will be to put some nitrogenous fertiliser on our cereal and Oilseed Rape crops to promote the growth of strong and healthy plants. The grassland will also be 'top dressed' with fertiliser to provide the newly turned out lambs with lush nutritious grass to aid their growth and development. Mid April is also the best time to plant maincrop potatoes as by then the soil and air temperatures have warmed up. We have 5 varieties to plant this year including Stroma, a new red variety with the good looks of Romano plus the cooking quality of Desiree.

Edwin Pocock.

The Dramatic Society
Reformed



Dure & Totley United
Church

It was almost the last line of the play when we realised that 'Mr Dure' was an anagram of 'Murder'. It wasn't actually crucial to the plot but it provided an intriguing side line to an ingenious play. "Anagram of Murder" was put on for our very considerable entertainment by the United Reformed Church Dramatic Society last month. As usual there were competent performances from the cast with Peter Sherwell playing the pivotal part as the victim (or was he?).

Choosing a play which is entertaining for the audience, within the scope of the cast available and able to be produced within the limitations of stage and facilities is no easy task. Once again we have to congratulate the Society on their success in meeting all these requirements.

On the night we attended there was a considerable representation from T.O.A.D.S. in the audience. There are many good reasons why they should have attended (and I would not want to embarrass anyone by suggesting them) but it was good to see evidence of cooperation between these two local groups.

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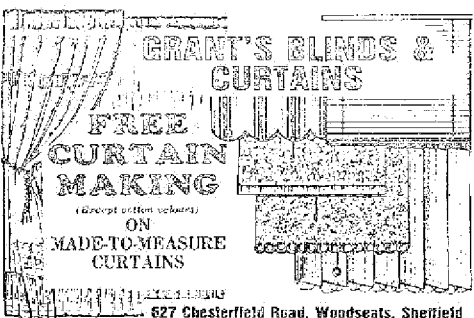
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COFFEE, CAKES AND CUTTINGS.

The Outreach Group of Our Lady and St Thomas will be holding its annual Coffee, Cakes and Cuttings morning at English Martyrs' Church, Baslow Road on Saturday May 18th. Proceeds are for Transport 17.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CAKES AND CUTTINGS READY!

LIBRARY TALK.

The next Library Talk will be on Monday 29th April in the Library at 7.45 p.m. Maurice Snowdon, editor of the Totley Independent, will be speaking and showing slides on "Bridges Through the Ages". Tickets are free and available from the Library.



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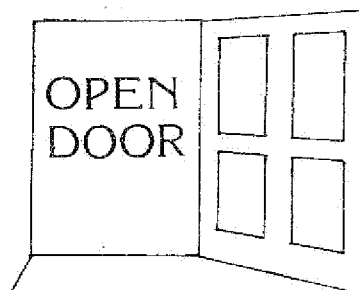
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GARDENING TIPS

"April showers bring May flowers", so the old poem goes, but it needs a lot more than a few showers to give a good show. All that hard work late last year should now be giving a splendid array of flowers. So we look forward to summer and prepare for that now.

Flowers. Clean up weeds. Stir the soil crust of beds and borders. Prepare them for planting.

- * Feed and mulch around perennials.
- * Deadhead flowers as they fade but don't strip the leaves from bulbs, corms or tubers. Let them die down naturally.
- * Clean up rock gardens.
- * Plant gladioli and other outdoor bulbs.
- * Plant dormant dahlia tubers at the end of the month.
- * Set out herbaceous perennials including border carnations and pinks.
- * Plant out patio pots with summer flowering bulbs.
- * Lift, divide and replant herbaceous perennials like michaelmas daisy.

Vegetables. Prepare ground for sowing and planting.

- * Harden off plants raised indoors such as cabbage, cauliflower and lettuce.
- * Thin out spinach.
- * Plant out early and main crop potatoes, onion sets and shallots.
- * Plant rooted cuttings of herbs such as bay, mint, rosemary and sage.
- * Sow all types of vegetable seeds.
- * Cucumbers, marrows, outdoor tomatoes, runner beans and sweet corn can be sown in warmth.

Fruit. Check ties and wire supports and renew as necessary. Firm loose roots.

- * Feed established trees and bushes.
- * Mulching is important especially round newly planted trees, bushes and cane fruit as is watering in dry spells.
- * Spray bushes and canes against capsid, aphid caterpillar, red spider mite.
- * Spray cane fruit against cane spot and spur blight.
- * Spray fruit trees particularly apples and pears against scab.

Trees and Shrubs. Straighten up newly planted hedges, trees and shrubs and firm any loosened by frost or wind.

- * Water round camellias, rhododendrons and azaleas with iron sequestrene.
- * Move wrongly sited or plant new conifers and evergreens including rhododendrons.
- * Spray roses against black spot and mildew.
- * To increase your stock of heathers, magnolia and hydrangeas use layering technique.

Greenhouse and Indoor Plants. Feed established house plants.

- * Continue to feed and water indoor azaleas, spring bulbs, clivias and cyclamens after they have finished flowering.
- * Gently wash the leaves of foliage plants and stand them outdoors in warm rain showers.
- * Shade plants, especially seedlings, from strong sun and give increased ventilation.
- * Prick out seedlings for pot plants and bedding plants.
- * Pot on geraniums and young house plants like begonias and gloxinias.
- * Pot up root cuttings of chrysanthemums, dahlias and fuchsias.
- * Plant tubers of begonias and hot water plants.



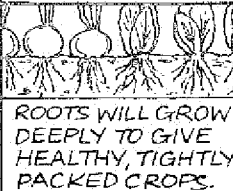
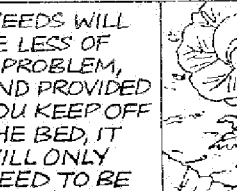

Lawns. Rake up debris and lightly roll.

- * Scarify, spike and aerate.
- * Start or continue routine mowing.
- * Apply lawn dressing or liquid feed.
- * Seed new lawns and keep well watered in dry weather.

General. Watch the weather. April is a very unpredictable month. Frost and snow is not unknown so be careful.

Cheerio for now.

Tom. Busy Bee.

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<p>ROOTS WILL GROW DEEPLY TO GIVE HEALTHY, TIGHTLY PACKED CROPS. SOME VEGETABLES MIGHT BE SMALLER (AND MORE USABLE), BUT OVERALL YIELDS WILL BE HIGHER.</p>		<p>WEEDS WILL BE LESS OF A PROBLEM, AND PROVIDED YOU KEEP OFF THE BED, IT WILL ONLY NEED TO BE TOP-HOED FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS.</p>	
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Christian Life

THE WALLS COME DOWN ON "JERICHO"

"What is the 'Jericho' Coffee Bar?" is just one of the questions I hear people asking as they begin this article. I hope by the end to have answered this question and others you may have as to what happens at 'Jericho' as it has become affectionately known.

The Coffee Bar runs on a Thursday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. and is held in the Church Hall of Totley Rise Methodist Church. It is organised and run by a group of Christians from local churches who have become aware of the lack of facilities for teenagers in this area.

Throughout the evening coffee, tea, pop, crisps and assorted chocolate bars are served whilst in one room music blasts out and in another (on alternate weeks) a T.V. and video are set up for those who wish to take part in a quieter pastime. These activities are dissected by two 15 minute slots at about 8.00 and 8.50 p.m. where everybody is encouraged to get together in one room. On the first occasion this is for a game of some sort and on the second occasion for the Christian message to be expressed to those present. This is done in a way that is relevant to them and usually involves short sketches and stories with someone rounding up to a conclusion. It is usually done by teenagers only slightly older than their audience.

Come 9.30 p.m. we usually have to direct those still left to the door and then begins the clean up operation!

We normally have between 45 and 65 teenagers of secondary school age and run every Thursday evening (except 4th April). If you would like more information please contact:-

John Parker. 352123.

THESE I HAVE LOVED.

On Tuesday evening April 23rd at 7.30 p.m. (prompt) in All Saints' Church Hall there will be held another of my Prose and Poetry Readings.

April 23rd is St. George's Day as well as the commemoration of Shakespeare's birthday. What more need be said?

The evening's entertainment will be as lighthearted as possible - even extremely funny, but there will also be several items of a more serious nature.

TALES OF THE UNBELIEVABLE.

Readers of the 'Independent' will know that one of Mr Pocock's sheep is keenly interested in the affairs of the district. Indeed, as has already been reported, I speak to her from time to time if anything serious takes place in Totley. During the winter I had lost sight of her, I imagine that the sheep were moved about from time to time depending on where the grass was available. I did see her one day with her companions when Mr Pocock was heroically struggling through the snow to get fodder to his flock. Then she was busy elbowing the others aside to get at her food and unable to pass more than a slight "G'Day" over her shoulder. As the weather improved I walked across the field and she came trotting up, "What's this I hear?" she said "about Eureka?" "That seems to be a bit of a puzzle in itself, what do you mean 'what is it?'" I answered. "There seems to be a paragraph in the Independent called 'Eureka', what's it all about?" I considered carefully before I replied, "I don't suppose that you will want to know about a gentleman who lived over two thousand years ago, who was called Archimedes, and it is reported that he leaped out of his bath crying 'Eureka', which in his case meant 'I've found it' - but it is merely an invitation to the Independent reader to try to find the solution to a little puzzle". "What kind of puzzle?" "Oh, usually of a mathematical kind such as There was a hunter who pitched his camp and then marched ten miles southward. He turned westwards for another ten miles and at this point he was ten miles from his camp when he happened to see a bear. What colour was the bear?" "You are wasting your time" retorted my friend, "I know, of course, about sheep but you cannot really expect me to know anything at all about bears".

Anon.

Editor's Note - as everyone knows the bear was white!

Do come along and see what our party has in store for you! On the commencement of the programme the evening will still be light so there should be no parking difficulties.

We look forward to another very enjoyable evening. Coffee and biscuits during the interval. Do please come along.

Leonard Brightmore (Cheshire Home)
and other friends.

THE STRANGE STORY OF WATERCRESS JACK.

Many readers will have strolled through the delights of Monsaldale and surrounding countryside on a Sunday afternoon. Maybe some will have been a little more adventurous and explored even around Great Shacklow Woods and the limestone regions of Deep Dale. But very few walkers venture into the area of Taddington Dale after parking the car at White Lodge (on the A6 Bakewell to Buxton Rd.)

There are many spectacular cave systems in the White Peak, notably Thor's Cave in the Manifold Valley and many caverns around Castleton, Peak Cavern and the Giant's Hole all having impressive entrances. But all these have an almost unknown rival high on the slopes of Taddington Woods. A short stroll of some 300 yds up Taddington Dale after leaving the White Lodge Car Park brings us to a bend in the road and keeping to the left hand side of the highway we locate a grassy terrace on the hillside. The track has got rather overgrown with sycamore and silver birch trees but the slope is only gradual and after 100 yds we break out on to a level plateau. Before us is a most impressive limestone cliff face some 100 ft high and nestling at the base a cave to delight the beholder. The entrance is fully 50 ft wide, 20 ft high and approx 30 ft in depth - a most spectacular scene. Stranger than fiction, this was the abode of a most enterprising character who lived here just at the turn of the last century. He made his living by trading round the hamlets of Taddington and Ashford-in-the-Water and selling his natural health giving potions and herbs to the locals. Known throughout the area as Watercress Jack he collected his wares from the streams that flowed into the river Wye. Several local farmers also nicknamed him Donkey Jack, presuming

his transport system was a donkey. He was a popular figure in Taddington Dale for many years passing away around 1920. It was even reputed that at one period his spouse also lived in the cave.

There is evidence of quarrying on the broad terrace near the cave for here are piled huge square limestone blocks, neatly stacked and weighing several tons. How they were cut and manhandled to this high spot is a mystery for lifting and cutting machinery was primitive. I presume this stone was first used when a basic highway route was driven through the gorge of Taddington Dale. Modern day traffic is never ending as it thunders along the A6 yet on this high level plateau we have stepped back into a by-gone era.

Maybe the spirit of Watercress Jack still lives on with another present day traveller. This bearded cave dweller is a popular character around Stoney Middleton and Baslow. During the late 1970's his address was a cave high in the woods of Eyam Dale. Tarpaulin sheets covered the entrance to keep out the rain. He did odd jobs round the area. Maybe the blasting sirens at the Middleton Dale quarries would act as his alarm clock. Anyway he moved his address in the 1980's to a cleft in the rocks along the A619 Baslow to Chesterfield Road. This abode could hardly be called a cave, more of a wedged rock recess and a mere 15 ft off the busy highway. The location is 1½ miles from Baslow and nearby to the popular "Robin Hood" Inn below Birchens Edge. Traces of soot from countless fires still show the marks along the rock face where he once chose the spartan life.

John C. Barrows.



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TOTLEY MEN.

According to February's Independent this year's Totley Produce Show is on September 14th and I know there are quite a few people who will work towards this. But its the same people year after year and mostly its the women.

Where are the men? Have they got no competitive spirit? Are they just contented to sit and wait for the undertaker and do nothing to make the years between interesting?

There are lots of categories that men could enter and if they can think up other things that are not on the list these would also be considered. For older men who cannot do anything physical there is always craft work they can do There is nothing wrong with men knitting, sewing, doing tapestry etc. And if they can't do these things and would like to learn why don't they join a Craft Group e.g. the one at the library. I know we are all women at the moment but we don't bite!

If you look in the library you will find some of the finest books on craftwork are written by men, Kaffe Fassett and the Bishop of Leicester to name but two. Come on men; get out of your apathy and lets see more of you competing in our local shows.

Mrs M.Marsh.

CHRISTIAN AID.

The May Day Trek 1991 will be on Monday, 6th May. The proceeds will support the Natural Childbirth Clinic at Estell, Nicaragua. Registration forms can be obtained from Sonia Stone, Tel. 334221.

Come and "Walk for Health" - both your own and that of the poor in Nicaragua!

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SCOUT LOTTERY WINNERS.

February 1991.

1st Prize 6 Crystal Wine Glasses.
No 65. Mrs B.Stenson, Aldam Croft.

2nd Prize £10 Voucher.
No 67. Miss Adamson, Marstone Crescent.

A TIME TO BUILD.

Totley's future may witness many changes, some subtle, others having a major effect.

Doubt is being constantly cast over suburban libraries - Totley included. Totley library has adapted and changed its face and usage quite admirably in recent years. It is well used and probably the nearest to a Community Building that will be achieved at present.

The Totley Site of the Polytechnic (locally known as the "College") is already on countdown to closure with plans recently unveiled for a central re-location. It is more than likely that new housing will be the order of the day as a redevelopment for the majority of the site. However some of its existing buildings could be most useful although Totley would have to fight to retain them. (After demolition it's too late!) Could this possibly be a glimmer of hope for a Community Building?

The current proposal of the merger of our two local primary schools should raise a few questions and general debate. Local parents and the community at large have invested honestly and honourably in both these sites and it would be most improper if one were to become vacant and lost to community use. Once again hesitation would be fatal.

The recent trial introduction of "Wheelie-Bins" for refuse collection will not be without its administrative or physical problems, particularly for the elderly or infirm. It would appear that these uniform containers could easily substitute as building blocks and if we have to revert back to good old dustbins the new plastic variety will be surplus to requirements and in plentiful supply!

If these were gathered at a central plot and fixed together into a simple structure, this really could be the answer to a Community Building!

Mike Williamson.

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Although the National Canine Defence League unfortunately had to close its rescue centre in Totley there are thirteen other kennels throughout Britain still doing a very worthwhile job. This year is the Centenary Year for the League and to mark the event they would like to raise enough funds for a new centre.

So that we can help with this venture, supporters in Totley will be holding a Coffee Night at the Heatherfield Conservative Club, Baslow Road, on Wednesday 15th May at 7.00 p.m.

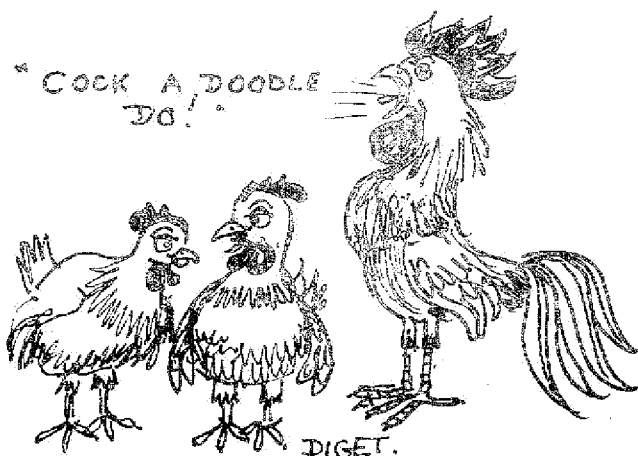
We are hoping to have Nearly New, Bottle Stall, Cake Stall, Craft Stall, Raffle etc. Please help us to make this a huge success by BEING THERE and ringing Marlene Marshall on 351005 or Pauline Perkinson on 361601 with offers to bake, make things or give anything saleable to this very worthy cause.

KING ECGBERT EVENTS.

Future events at King Ecgbert School include:-

Fashion Show by Clothing Warehouse of Broomhill. Tuesday 23rd April 7.30 p.m. in the School Hall, Wessex Building, Totley Brook Road. For tickets please phone Barbara Mangles 360725. Adults £2.00, Children £1.00. Refreshments available.

King Ecgbert School presents "Man of Steel". A musical spoof by Simon Denver and Ian Dorricott. Tuesday 30th April - Friday 3rd May. 7.30 p.m. Tickets available from school. Phone 369931. Adults £2.50. Unwaged/Children £1.00.



"There he goes again with his 'Totley Rise' and - Shine!"

All Saints Church, Totley

Country Fayre May 11TH 1991

2pm - 4pm

PET SHOW

Please complete the entry form below

Name _____
Address _____
Type Of Pet (breed if known) _____

Return To The Editor, M. Snowden.

EUREKA.

Did you get the answer to the puzzle in the March Independent?

Since it is highly unlikely that Billy is either 32 inches or 64 inches tall the only possibility between these two is that he was 48 inches tall. Incidentally this means he ate 24 apples. Your editor hopes that the setter of these puzzles wasn't encouraging Billy!

Now try this one:-

In this sum each letter represents a different number. What are they?

SEND
MORE
MONEY

Answer next month.

We welcome letters about local affairs and will publish as many as possible. However the views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, Editorial Staff or Totley Residents Association and must not be imputed to them.

APRIL DIARY

- Thurs. Apr. 4th (and all Thursdays) Open Door, United Reformed Church Hall.
10 a.m. - noon. All Welcome.
- Tues. 9th All Saints Mens Fellowship. Rev Grant Macintosh. 8.00. p.m.
Church Hall
- Weds. 10th Cheshire Home Spring Coffee Morning. 10 a.m. - noon.
- Fri. 12th Ladies Evening Guild. "Papawestray - Who, where, or what is it?"
Abbeydale Hall 7.30. p.m.
- Sat. 13th Scouts Paper Collection. Skip at College Car Park.
- Tues. 16th Townswomens Guild. Methodist Church Hall. 10.00 a.m.
- Weds. 17th United Nations Association. A.G.M. 32, Stonecroft Rd. 8.00 p.m.
- Weds-Sat. 17th-20th "For Better - for Worse". T.O.A.D.S.
St John's Church Hall. 7.30. p.m.
- Sat. 20th Copy Date for May Independent.
- Mon. 22nd Totley Residents Association Annual General Meeting,
Totley Library. 7.45. p.m.
- Tues. 23rd "These I Have Loved". Leonard Brightmore & Friends.
All Saints' Church Hall. 7.30. p.m.
- Tues. 23rd Fashion Show at King Egbert School. 7.30. p.m.
- Sat. 27th Coffee Morning. Alzheimer's Disease Society.
Totley Rise Methodist Church. 10.00 a.m. - noon.
- Mon. 29th Library Talk. "Bridges through the Ages" Maurice Snowdon. 7.45 p.m.
- Tues-Fri. 30th April-3rd May King Egbert School presents "Man of Steel" (see notice)

CRAFT WEEK.

Totley Library will be holding a Craft Week again from 20th - 25th May. We intend to follow the previous format of demonstrations of different crafts each day, with items made by local people on display all week. Many of these are made by members of the craft group who meet in the library on Tuesday afternoons, but any craft items would be welcome.

If you could demonstrate a particular craft or bring some articles for display, please contact the library - tel: 363067.
Pauline Rosser.

COME AND SEE!

The Annual Exhibition of Abbeydale Art Group will be held on Friday and Saturday 10th and 11th May 1991 in St John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South. Admission will be free and Refreshments available.

The Exhibition will be open from 10.30 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. on Friday and from 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturday.

THE INDEPENDENT FOR MAY.

The NEXT issue of Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on Wednesday 1st May. Copy date for this issue will be Saturday 20th April 1991.

EDITOR

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DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISING

John Perkinson, 2, Main Avenue, - 361601

EDITORIAL TEAM

Mike Williamson, Colin Wells.

Items for publication may be sent to or left at 1, Quarry Road, 2, Main Avenue, V. Martin's (Abbeydale Road South) or Totley Library..

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