

# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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FOOTPATH UP FISHERS MOOR TOTLEY BRIAN EDWARDS 1995

The footpath from Strawberry Lee Lane leading to Shorts Lane descends down a footpath alongside Fishers Moor. To the left on the way down can be seen the upturned ground indicating the position of the old Ganister Pits. The "moor" was named after the Fisher family who lived nearby.

## TALES OF THE UNBELIEVABLE

I wandered across to the gate and on the other side a friendly sheep was grazing. "I wonder if you really speak, or is it just a figment of my imagination". "Of course I can speak", said the sheep, "haven't you reported me in the Totley Independent". "I'm not so sure, but I do have a lot of time to consider it now". "Why are you off somewhere?" asked the sheep. "Yes, in a way", I replied. "You see it's like this, it is not my idea, but this friend of mine is off on a journey and wants me to go with him. You see I have known him practically all my life, so I have rubbed up my St. Christopher medal ready for the journey. We played together as grubby urchins on dusty pavements with our marbles and cigarette cards. Thank goodness for "Maula" soap in those days. We learned our English on a diet of "Funny Wonder" and "Chips". In due course we wandered through the Infants, the Juniors and Senior schools. In those days the passing of Matriculation gave no hope of entry to a University - but to Huntsman's Gardens night school, which was probably just as good. They were heady days of youth - the cycle rides, the Youth Hostels, the swimming, the dancing at the Palais. There was a bit of an upset between 1939 and 1945, which brought a more sober mien. Then came the time to try to put a foot on the ladder of success. There were no such creatures as "Fat Cats" in those days. Perhaps it is just as well because he stopped quite a few steps before that exalted height. He tried odds and ends of sport, if he had scored as many runs at cricket as he let in goals at football, he might have done better. He had an ambition to get down to single figures at golf - no, not a single handicap figure, but to do all eighteen holes in single figures. He played quite a bit of Contract Bridge, as a mental exercise, but much of his play would have caused Omar Sharif (and his partners) to shake their heads sadly. He seems to have dawdled his way here and there - and on the way he found a wife who would help them both to surge past the Golden Wedding Anniversary. The marriage brought them three wonderful children and altogether he found the finest set of friends this side of H----. Good Gracious! Just look at the time. I must not keep him waiting any longer".

With that I set off again down the lane. As I looked back I thought I heard a voice being carried down by the wind - could it have been the sheep calling "Good-bye". I shall never know.

Good-bye,

Harry Kelham.

It is with deep regret that we have to inform you that Harry Kelham passed away in early March.

Harry had subscribed to the Independent since the early days back in the late 1970's. He contributed various articles particularly when we ran our "Children's Page", which was quite a popular feature for a number of years.

Apart from his entertaining us with "Tales of the Unbelievable" he also gave us the "Puzzle Corner".

Harry and his friend A.P. Smith wrote a book entitled "The Cat and the Cabbage" copies of which are still available at Totley Rise Post Office, with proceeds going to St. Luke's Hospice at the request of his family.

Our sincere condolences go to his family. We shall greatly miss Harry and his help and contributions to our magazine.

### "DRAMA TO REPLACE FUNDS WITHDRAWN BY CITY COUNCIL."

As part of their fiftieth anniversary celebrations, three SADATA groups are to jointly stage the amateur premier of 'Beauty and the Beast' by Stuart Patterson. Norton Players, St. Chad's Players and Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society are working together on the production which will be played outdoors in the grounds of Beauchief Abbey from 25th to 29th June.

The groups were inspired to stage the event by SADATA Chairman Kath Greenwood, who having lived all her life close to the Abbey, was most disturbed to hear that Sheffield City Council had withdrawn their support. A target of £5000 has been set to create reserve funds to help meet any emergencies which could not be paid for out of the money raised by the Friends of the Abbey, which just meets day-to-day running costs.

Eddie Greenwood.

## TRANSPORT OF DELIGHT

Let me admit immediately that I am not a resident of Totley or Dore. So what is a "foreigner" doing on the pages of your excellent local journal? The connection is Transport 17; that worthy organisation which provides transport in its mini-buses to various luncheon clubs and other bodies; including Greystones Luncheon Club, at which I assist and to whose staff we are very grateful. Another personal connection with Transport 17 was that one of its founders was the Rev. Alan Jockel, your former vicar - I met Alan when he first came to Sheffield in the early 1950's and we formed a friendship which I greatly valued.

So when I was invited to give an afternoon of slides as one of the money-raising efforts organised by Transport 17's lively supporters club, I was very happy to accept, especially as it is to be preceded by a 'pea and pie lunch' at 12.30 - and I have happy memories of their catering on previous occasions! The event takes place in the hall of All Saints' Church on the 20th April. There are two slide programmes after lunch, the first being a sketch of Sheffield, showing a little of its buildings, its parks, its rivers and so on. Though when I planned it, I had in mind an audience of non-Sheffielders, I was rather surprised on several recent showings to find how much it was enjoyed by groups of local people. It will be followed by refreshments and then will come "Musical Mosaic"; a programme of popular light classical music (e.g. Blue Danube, Chopin's Military Polonaise and an aria from Messiah) illustrated by appropriate slides. Do come and support a worthy cause - it's only £4.00 each.

The giving of such entertainments had become a very satisfying hobby since my retirement, going to Old People's

Homes, Women's Fellowships etc. and I like to think that it gives a little joy and awakens happy memories. As I move around and talk to people, I realise that many people possess good slide collections which others would enjoy seeing. I came into this hobby by what appeared to be a series of chances, though I more and more believe that such things are more than coincidence. May I suggest that if you, or someone you know, has a slide collection, you consider putting together a programme or two - of interesting holiday visits, of Totley (or other parts of Sheffield) in the past, of happy days in the Peak District for instance. There are many clubs and other organisations who would jump at the chance of seeing them. I would be glad to put you in touch. If I can do it, I am sure that you can.

I look forward to meeting you on the 20th April.

Jack Cartledge.



"This is my favourite place in Totley, and look at that lovely little copse"

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## FARMING SCENE

Well, here we are near to the end of March but Spring has still to arrive. The weather is still very cool, but the easterly winds have kept much of the rain at bay, with ground conditions very dry for the time of year.

We are currently busy putting fertilizer on our grassland and Autumn planted cereals, with the Oilseed Rape having been done about 3 weeks ago.

This is beginning to grow now and requires a fairly heavy application of Nitrogen to stimulate its growth, enabling it to reach its full yield potential. Surprisingly the tap root of the Oilseed plant will grow 6 feet into the soil when unimpeded.

Our "early lambers" have now finished producing with the final average over 2 lambs per ewe, which is exceptional for a February lambing flock. These are now back out in the fields next to Totley Hall Lane.

The main flock have just started lambing, so it's late nights/early mornings once again!!

We have nearly finished grading our potatoes and have hit the market at the wrong time this year. Prices have tended to decline of late, whereas last year they rose dramatically about now.

One of our next jobs will be to apply a foliar Manganese supplement to our crops at Whirlow. The soil there is quite sandy and as a result locks up the Manganese thereby starving the plant of a nutrient they need to produce chlorophyll and make use of nitrogen. Untreated crops, particularly barley, which is very sensitive to Manganese deficiency are not very winter hardy and go very yellow and patchy in the Spring, before giving up the ghost!

We are trying a new system on our raspberry and bush fruit area this year. Instead of having bare earth between the

rows, we are planting a 7 foot wide strip of grass there. The idea is to promote better underfoot conditions for the pickers, while at the same time reducing herbicide usage and making the area look prettier.

The grass seed mixture used will be similar to that used on football pitches, very slow growing, but hard wearing and very expensive. Even though it is slow growing it will need mowing regularly, giving Matthew a steady job on our "new", second-hand Kubota mower.

Lass, our sheepdog passed on last week. She was 14 years old having travelled up with us from Coventry and just collapsed and died outside her kennel. A spot of sheepdog buying looks imminent.

Edwin Pocock

## KING EGGBERT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Events organised by the association at King Egbert's School are:-

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT Friday 26th. April, Wessex Hall, 8pm. Adults £1-50, U18's £1, Teams of up to 8 members. Tel 236 8497 for further details.

SPRING FAYRE Saturday 18th. May from noon, many stalls and attractions, more information later.

## TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUP

We will be holding a

PLAYGROUP OPEN DAY

24TH. & 25TH. APRIL, 9-30am.- 12 noon  
In honour of the Church's Centenary Celebrations.

Please come along and see our Playgroup in action, coffee and biscuits. Everybody welcome.

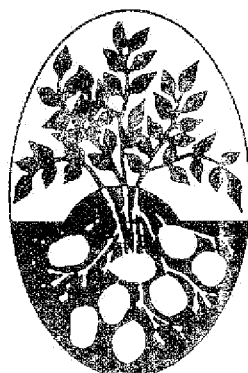
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## Dear Editor

I am just having a well-earned cup of tea. The snow is thick on the ground but I have a crop of tiny cyclamen peeping through in the garden and a pair of thrushes and some robins have just devoured some bread I threw out. I have been reflecting on the dreadful news of the massacre at Dunblane; all those little ones killed and maimed - their teacher gone just before her daughter's 21st birthday. It will take that community a long time to get over it.

We are a bit reticent about showing our feelings at the best of times. People say "I didn't know what to say - I didn't want to upset anyone". I have a sister and a friend who lost beloved daughters at this time of year. They are coping well on the outside but they don't want their loved ones forgotten. If it makes people cry, this can be a great salve and it may even start reminiscences that remind them of happy times and bring back laughter.

I work a lot with elderly people and often hear their relatives say how difficult or slow or annoying they can be. I have to smile to myself because that is probably the way their parents felt about them years ago. But, once again, a bit of thought and love can get round this. It is not only teenagers that suffer from the 'Generation Gap' - we middle-aged do as well. Sometimes we can't seem to do a thing right for 'our oldies' but we have done our best and that is all we can do. Many times we have our own problems but keep them to ourselves so that we can make life pleasant for them. So "come on, you of greater years, give us a break". Everything we do is done out of love.

Someone said "How could God let those killings happen?". When He made us He made us all unique. He gave us

the choice between good and bad. Sadly, we sometimes choose the latter. Let us think about Dunblane and pray for them, but let us also think of the goodness that will come from that community, and how much we have to be grateful for in our own lives.

During the terrible weather the milk, post and papers have arrived on my doorstep every day. Food has been in the shops and we have not been without gas or electricity. On the news we have seen people who have been helping each other out. Keep in touch with each other. If you are worried about your 'phone bill, buy a 19p stamp and write to family and friends. It gives so much pleasure. Which brings me back to thinking about loved ones and the good in the world, not just the bad. Mind you, we are awaiting the arrival of our first grand-child. "Ain't life brilliant?".

ESPA BUNTING.



"IF YOU ASK ME IT'S TIME SOME OF THESE BOXERS FOUGHT PEOPLE THEIR OWN AGE!"

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## "YESTERDAYS HEROES"

A walk of some 8 miles across the Kinderscout Plateau to pay homage to gallant war-time air crews:

The remnants of many crashed war-time aircraft still lie rotting away on the hills of Britain, remaining almost as a by-gone tribute to the raw courage of unsung heroes.

At least 60 'planes met their last days around the Dark Peak area. The Kinderscout Moors claimed around 12 aircraft alone. Causes of crashes ranged from technical problems, shortage of fuel, clashes with enemy 'planes, navigation errors etc. We will attempt to visit the sites of 8 aircraft scattered along the plateau and across hidden gullies. Dark Peak map, compass, stout boots and warm clothing essential, for the weather can quickly change on these high moors. Start from the popular venue of Edale, proceed past the Nag's Head Inn and the Pennine Way sign, over the foot-bridge and into the Grindsbrook meadows. Swing hard right up the steep zig-zag stepped route to the Nab - glorious views en route of the hills around the Hope and Edale valley. Head towards the lofty escarpment of Ringing Roger. Slight incline to the right again under the edge and a well-defined path brings us to the head waters of the Ollerbrook Clough. Walk left onto the plateau and follow the water channels and peat hags to our first crash site - the Handley Page Halifax bomber - just a few pieces of rusting metal still remain. An epic event on October 5th 1943 returning to Snaith after a raid over Frankfurt; only 2 survivors out of a crew of 7. A few of these crash sites have permanent memorial plaques. In time I do believe every site will be remembered in respect.

Next we head a few hundred yards in a north westerly direction to the large trig. point at 1937 feet. En route you will be lucky if you can locate bits of wire and metal scattered around. This belonged to the Vickers Wellington, known as the Bouncing Bomber, which actually crash landed on the plateau when returning to base at Croft, County

Durham, after a shipping raid on the ports of Lorient and St. Nazaire.

The pilot deserved a medal, for Flying Officer American Carl Taylor had been turned down by the USAAF as pilot material but proved his worth in the RAF. All the crew escaped serious injury. Crash date January 26th 1943. The following month whilst on leave from the RAF I watched the maintenance team winch the aircraft, almost intact, down the fellside of Golden Clough. This operation took several days to clear - only wish I had photos of the event.

The walk carries on towards the top of Golden Clough and the ridge path along the crest of Nether Tor. After 1 mile this joins Upper Tor, where a break in the cliff face denotes another Wellington crash site; July 31st 1941. After attempted bombing raid intended for the city of Cologne the aircraft was caught in a bad storm over the channel and tried to return to its base at Snaith, near Goole, and then crashed into the crags of Upper Tor. A sad story, just 1 survivor, the rear gunner. I visited this site a few days after the crash, had my first leave from the RAF with a trip across Kinderscout.

We continue along a fairly broad path which rejoins the top section of the Grindsbrook Gorge - scenery of a very high order hereabouts. The plateau levels out again as we are able to walk close to the stream bed. Locate the ruined stone pile where once stood the proud shelter known as Four Jacks Cabin. Many a stalwart bog-trotter has slept in this bothy in the old days when Kinderscout was trespass country - magic days before the mass invasion of the tourist. This is an ideal spot for a lunch break.

Continue along the Grindsbrook bank for around 350 yards, then swing right again to a distinct line of rocks, marked on the Dark Peak map as 'Ancient Pile'. Here we locate a more recent crash site - a Dragon Rapide, 30th December 1963; engine block and bits scattered around. The crew of 2 both survived. The flight was a photographic survey, en route from Darlington to



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Birmingham. The co-pilot had leg injuries: rescue handled by Peak Park Wardens and RAF Mountain Rescue Stafford Team.

Retrace our steps back to Four Jacks Cabin, and just below take a side clough on the right. Follow faint path for 150 yards. Note a shale bank where two streams divide and take the left hand fork, where we find our 5th crash site - an Avro Anson flying from Newton near Nottingham to Millom (Lake District), December 11th 1944. All crew of Polish airmen survived, although one member sustained serious leg injury. I recall seeing this aircraft completely upside down and fully intact. Over the years souvenir hunters have almost picked it clean. Always remember, it is actually an offence to remove any parts without permission from the Air Ministry. This site still has the most wreckage on the plateau of Edale Moor with the two Cheetah engines almost sinking into the peaty grough. During this period of the war, RAF Millom was a Mountain Rescue Unit where my friend the late George (Scottie) Dwyer did sterling work on the Lake District fells.

Continue the quest for more sites by heading south west for nearly 1 mile over the peat hags and crossing the Pennine Way track to the imposing rock formation known as The Crowden Towers and the weird shaped Woolpacks. After crossing the top of Crowden Clough select the ridge line and you will note a bare patch about 150 yards below the edge between the huge rock known as Pym Chair and the Woolpacks. A steep grass slope to our 6th site - a Harvard trainer aircraft - very little wreckage left, just pieces of undercarriage; crashed 14th January 1952. The Fleet Air Arm pilot was killed en route from Nottingham area to Cirencester. Continue down the slope for another 200 yards, bearing slightly left towards the stream bed above the area known as The Cloughs and viewing the well-known track the Jacob's Ladder (ancient bridleway between Upper Booth and Hayfield). We find our 7th site of another Avro Anson engine at the edge of a boggy patch.

Here is a plaque to the memory of Wing Commander Dickie Speare D.S.O., D.F.C. A sad end to a distinguished hero (23rd November 1945). Flight from Halton in Buckinghamshire to Feltwell, Norfolk - a mere 73 miles, yet by a cruel twist of fate crashed on Kinderscout 100 miles off-course. Just above this site wedged under a large boulder are pieces of metal buried from both the Harvard and Anson.

We head back towards Edale via the ridgeline over the shoulder of Crowden Towers and skirt the gorge of Crowden Brook. Pick up a broad track in the direction of Grindslow Knoll; just before the knoll summit a narrow path heads right across a grassy level plateau to the corner ridge of Broad Lee Bank Tor. Locate a wall area with an adjacent hollow. Here is our final crash site of a Handley Page twin-engined Heyford bomber. The crew of 6 died 22nd July 1937. This pre-war crash was the worst disaster around the Edale Valley - a night-flying exercise from RAF Leconfield, Yorkshire. All that remains are wire struts and twisted metal.

Edale comes into view as we descend Broad Lee Bank and pick up the main path from Foxholes and Grindslow Knoll and the field path to Peat Lane. Note a ruined farmstead just above the ski run fields. Here in a steep gully a small Cessna aircraft was caught in a wind-storm and crashed about 8 years ago. The crew of 2 just suffered slight shock - no traces left on site for the 'plane was towed away by tractor.

To finish the walk from Peat Lane we are tempted by a well-earned snack meal at the popular Cooper's Cafe and don't forget to visit the Peak National Park Information Centre at Fieldhead House before heading for the carpark and home.

Even if you fail to locate all these sites you will still have had a wonderful walk. Allow at least 6 hours.

John C. Barrows.

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## GARDENING TIPS FOR APRIL

I have just had a lovely day in the garden and greenhouse tidying up and planting seeds. It was warm and sunny and lots of things were stirring - daffodils are well up and the perennials are putting out fresh shoots - a good sign that Spring is around. I have just heard that snow is forecast, which is better than sharp frosts, at least it blankets the tender shoots and protects them from the severest frosts. We can only hope for a milder spell soon - April is one of the busiest months in the gardening calendar, so get cracking so that you have a good display in the coming months.

### FLOWERS:-

Complete the planting of herbaceous perennials, plant gladioli. April is a good time to plant or replant alpine. Apply a good fertiliser to roses - it will give them the food they require throughout the summer. Sow hardy annuals. Plant out and stake sweet peas, also violas and pansies if they have been properly hardened off; a rather cool semi-shaded place is best - this will give a longer life to the flowers, and a well manured bed will ensure fine blooms.

Start dahlias in a frame, cover tubers with a light soil and water moderately. Those of you who planted half-hardy bedding plants early can transfer them to a cold frame. Keep the frames closed for the first few days unless it's really hot. Cover over with sacks or insulation at night in case of frost.

Plant antirrhinums and penstemons once they are hardened off. Clematis can be planted now - a good pot-grown specimen is best.

### VEGETABLES:-

Feed spring cabbage which are near maturity with a top dressing of nitrate of soda and hoe it in, and another dressing in three weeks' time. Plant second early and maincrop potatoes to give them plenty of room. Plant onion sets 4 - 6" (10-15 cms) apart in rows about a foot (30 cms) apart. Sowings of lettuce, radish, peas etc., should be made.

Soil should be pulled up along each side of broad bean rows. Sow winter cabbage, savoy cabbage and broccoli. Prepare trenches for runner beans which will be sown or planted next month.

Keep the hoe going on all plots - the frequent aeration of soil and checking of weeds does a great deal of good and certainly encourages growth. Those of you who grow celery should prepare trenches now unless of course you grow the self-blanching type. Sow parsley outdoors. If your garden is susceptible to carrot fly then make a fleece tent for your parsley as carrot fly grubs love a change.

### TREES, SHRUBS & FRUIT:-

Clean up strawberry beds - take off dead or damaged leaves and clean up generally making the whole tidy. Spray blackcurrants against big bud mite with a proprietary insecticide or lime sulphur. Spray gooseberries against mildew.

Make sure any newly planted shrubs or trees are kept moist during dry spells while they are getting established. Keep an eye on plum trees for the first sign of aphids and deal with them as soon as they are seen. Remove grease bands from around trees which have been on since September.

### GREENHOUSE & INDOOR PLANTS:-

There will now be much less difficulty in maintaining sufficient temperature in the greenhouse; it may even be necessary to shade temporarily on the hottest days - do not use side vents or doors which can cause damaging draughts.

Prick off seedlings as soon as they are handleable. Do not let them get too deep-rooted as this causes them to check growth when transplanted. Pot on seedlings pricked out earlier.

Take cuttings of winter flowering begonias. Rest freesias, lachenalias, arum lilies and cyclamen. Place them on a shelf near the glass and gradually reduce watering. Stop early-flowering chrysanthemums by pinching out the tips of rooted cuttings required for spray flowering.

Plant tomatoes, cucumbers, capsicum etc., in a heated greenhouse. Sow annuals for flowering in pots in the greenhouse. Watch out for ants and woodlice - they can do an awful lot of damage to seedlings.

Indoor plants should have their watering increased and established houseplants given a good feed. Split up, and re-pot ferns.

LAWNS Rake up debris and lightly roll. Scarify, spike and aerate. Start or continue routine mowing. Apply lawn dressing or liquid feed. Treat any moss or lawn diseases as soon as they are seen. Seed new lawns and keep well watered in dry weather.



Gardening joke:- Two caterpillars on a leaf, bemoaning the fact that it was cold, not much food to be had and things were generally off, when a butterfly flew by. One caterpillar said to the other "...and you wouldn't find me in one of those things either..".

Cheerio for now -

TOM, BUSY BEE.

**GROWING ASPARAGUS**

PREPARE TRENCHES 12 IN. 4-5 FT. LONG. REMOVE ALL EXCESSIVE SOIL. FIRM GENTLY.

SET CROWNS 15 IN. APART ON SMALL MOUNDS. SPREAD THE ROOTS EVENLY. THEN COVER WITH 2-3 IN. OF SOIL.

DO NOT FILL TRENCHES IMMEDIATELY, BUT GRADUALLY AS THE YEAR PROGRESSES. THIS ENCOURAGES THE ROOTS TO GROW DEEPLY IN SEARCH OF MOISTURE.

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## A NEW CONCEPT IN GARDENING

The mid 1990's has produced a new concept in growing flowers, especially for those who love flowering plants but haven't the ground space. They are known under several names flower bags, flower pouches, swags, garlands, hang-ups, flower towers etc.

They are basically a round bag filled with compost, like a sausage and have the plants growing out of the sides and front and hang on a nail on the wall or fence. In full bloom and growth it is not possible to tell how the plants are growing.

They are quite simple to make up, just fill the bag up to the first level of plants, place the plants in carefully, then add more compost to the next level and add more plants etc. Water well and lay flat on the ground out of the sun for several days and then hang up. Water carefully until established. Use large plants but not ones in flower. Use Busy Lizzy, Begonia, Lobelia, trailing Petunia, Ivy leafed Geranium or any cascading plants.

Watering can be a slow process but this is easy with the hang-ups. They are made of a mesh material which allows the bag to take in water in only five

seconds if fully immersed in a large bucket or dustbin etc.

A compost containing a wetting agent must be used and with slow release fertilizer added.

Well made up bags will produce a good show for in excess of 125 days.

Good Growing,

Barry Higgott.

## T.O.A.D.S.

T.O.A.D.S. Spring production is an updated version of "Fish Out of Water" by Derek Benfield (recently appearing on your T.V. screens as Betty Wainthrop's husband).

If you are thinking of holidaying on the Italian Riviera, pop into your nearest Travel Agent and book it now, as our play may put you off for life!

Late flights, double bookings, love affairs, wine-tasting and Agatha, provide an evening of uproarious and innocent fun.

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## THE LIFE OF A HARRASSED MUM

A morning in the life of a Harassed Mum, wife of Disappearing Husband (nothing sinister, he works away from home) and mother of Little Madam age 4 and Demolition Man age 2.

4.00a.m. "No it is not morning yet, go back in your own bed, you can come back when it's light. That's when it's morning". I hear myself repeating familiar words almost subconsciously. Little Madam is not impressed and refuses to move and I with all the strength of will and determination of a jelly, struggle out of bed to fetch Demolition Man who has also decided to wake up and doesn't want to be left out.

6.30a.m. and many "Go to sleeps, be stills and be quiets" later they are arguing about who is nudging who and are generally wide awake. Demolition Man is now up and running around the bedroom which is where I suddenly develop the speed of lightning and shoot out of bed before he can explore what he'd like to demolish. "Yes, it's Playgroup today", I reply to one of Little Madam's never-ending questions about what the day's events will entail. "Where you might do painting or cooking, or colouring or sticking" she pipes up. By sticking she means one of the many craft activities the Playgroup offers but it rather reminded me of my feeble attempts at baking with my children. Thank goodness for Acorn Playgroup. I can leave that activity - and many more besides - entirely in the capable hands of the patient Playgroup staff until Demolition Man chooses a new career, preferably in the construction industry.

7.30a.m. Breakfast has passed uneventful and as I am removing cornflakes from Demolition Man's hair and ears etc., poised to begin my guessing game of where else they may be, the floor perhaps? the chairs? the cupboard doors?, my thoughts

are interrupted by the cries of "Out, out, I want to get out!". "Yes darling, you can go out and play", I reply, lifting Demolition Man out of his high chair and brace myself for the next hour or so. "Mummy, this table is hard, isn't it? and the carpet is soft". I'm not quite sure whether this is a rhetorical question or not but answer appropriately (I think) nevertheless and I gather from this that textures is one of the current topics being covered by Little Madam's Playgroup. As the conversation develops, my thoughts are confirmed by a few of her comments such as: "My skin is smooth and yours is rough, isn't it?" (Well, she's got the idea, however, I'm not so sure about the analogy) mixed in with "I can't find Polly Pocket again", can anyone?, please let me in on the secret.

9.30a.m. We arrive at Acorn Playgroup and as I puzzle about where the previous two hours went, Little Madam is kissing me goodbye, anxious to play at house in the home corner with her friends; their roles having already been decided on. I smile happy in the knowledge that she is content and settled. Demolition Man is quite put out that I am removing him from the climbing frame/slide apparatus and decides to wriggle free and make for the trampoline. Unfortunately for him, I can still catch him, but the expression on his face sends me on a major guilt trip, because I am insisting he comes home with me. "Okay, okay, housework abandoned again" I think to myself, trying to decide whether it's safer to get out the playdough or paints. Playdough is a clear winner, I hear you cry, but it is not that easy to get out of carpets you know, or the treads of little shoes for that matter.

11.45a.m. Surrounded by drying pictures of squiggles and splodges (the paint won by the way), it is time to get

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ready to pick up Little Madam. Having prised the paint brush out of his hands and attempted to wash them, I kid myself that we both look respectable as we get in the car to go. I notice a smudge of paint "Oh dear, it's too late to do anything about that, perhaps no-one will notice".

12.00p.m. Little Madam races out of the singing/story room to tell me all about her morning and to show me what she has made for me to put up on the playroom wall. Whilst she is putting her coat on, I manage a quick chat with some other mums whose conversation is like a breath of fresh air. Strangely enough, their mornings have been similar to mine and they used to do things like go to work on time, remember what date it is and even know what it was they went to the cupboard for, just like I used to! Feeling human again, even part of an exclusive club (I'm thinking of starting one for scatterbrained mums - entry requirements to be having held down a responsible position for years, world recently turned upside-down, house in total disarray, but who cares, they grow up so fast don't they?) I collect our things together, pick up Demolition Man out of the sand pit and head for home, contemplating lunch. "Look at the feather I've made Mummy, feel it, it's light isn't it? We've been doing about light and heavy today....."

Acorn Playgroup is based at Dore and Totley United Reformed Church Hall, Totley Brook Road, benefiting from light, spacious premises and a high staff : child ratio. It is a well-equipped and safe environment for pre-school learning through play. Acorn Playgroup has been established for over 22 years and is a recent winner of the 'Mother' magazine 'PLAYGROUP OF THE YEAR' award. Anyone interested in the Playgroup for their child should contact Lesley, our admissions clerk on 0114 236 2878.

## SHEFFIELD CHESHIRE HOME

**SUMMER FETE- 22 JUNE 1996**

### ART EXHIBITION

Please offer a painting to the Sheffield Cheshire Home for sale at their Fete. 50% of the takings to go to the Home's funds.

Paintings, which should have your name, address and price clearly marked on the back, must reach the home by Monday, 17TH. June 1996. Your help would be much appreciated.

### DORE ART EXHIBITION

Dore Art Group will again be holding their annual Spring Exhibition in the Old School, Dore on Friday 12th April 2p.m. - 8p.m. and Saturday 13th April 9.30a.m. - 5p.m. Admission is free and refreshments will be available at a small charge. A wide range of work both in subject matter and medium will be exhibited and available for purchase. Please visit the exhibition to encourage and support the local artists.

Mrs Joy Baptie - Exhibition Organiser.



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## TRANSPORT 17

At the last count the money raised for the Sponsored 'Hymn-Singing' was £1140+. Money had been pouring in since the event. This really is a magnificent amount and everyone is to be congratulated.

The 'Outward Bound' Club has a new diary of trips planned and we hope that everyone enjoys them. Of course, our thanks go to the drivers and escorts who give up their time to do this as well as the normal weekly clubs.

Many of our passengers are of a great age and amaze us with their energy, knowledge and humour. One of 'our ladies' reached her Century last month - I won't name her as she is a bit shy, but we had a lovely celebration at St. John's Lunch Club. I have never known this lady to complain and she is so full of life she puts some of us to shame!!

On 20th April we are having our 'Pie & Pea Lunch' at All Saints' Church Hall, Totley. This will be at 12.30, followed by a film slide show given by Jack Cartledge. We will have a refreshment break halfway through this. Tickets for this event are £4 each. Please let us know if you need transport. There will be a raffle.

We are always in need of drivers and escorts and if you can help in this way, or could assist in the office, please give it some thought. Our Manager, Mike Finn, will have returned from a well-earned holiday when you read this. Without him, Transport 17 would grind to a halt!!

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank John C. Barrows for his kind donation to our funds generated from the proceeds of his book "Walks Around Totley"

M. Barlow

## TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH CENTENARY

For a week during April the congregation of Totley Rise Methodist Church will be celebrating the Centenary of their Church building.

### TOTLEY RISE CENTENARY DATES

#### Saturday 20th April

10 am. to 3 pm. Coffee Morning and 'Now & Then' Exhibition.

3 pm. to 5 pm. balloon Launch & Barbeque Party

#### Sunday 21st April

10.30am. Retired Bishop Richard Hare. & Rev. John Thompson

6-30pm. Retired Bishop Richard Hare, Joint service - Churches in S17

#### Tuesday 23rd April

2-30 pm. Women's Fellowship. "Shopping - Then and Now"

6pm. Brownies Open Evening, 25th. Birthday Party with Guides.

#### Wednesday 24th April

9-30 am. to 11 noon Playgroup Open Day

7-30 pm. Prayer Walk around area.

#### Thursday 25th April

9-30 am. to 11 noon Playgroup Open Day

1-30 pm. to 3 pm. Pushchair Club

7.45 pm. Centenary Celebration Concert led by St. John's Singers of Dronfield. Hosted by Totley Rise Choir.

#### Friday 26th April

5-30 pm to 8-30 pm. Boys Brigade Meeting.

#### Saturday 27th April

7.45 pm. Good Old Days Concert. Audience in period costume. admission by ticket only.

#### Sunday 28th April

10.30 am. Rev. Dr. Bill Davis Retired Principal of Cliff College. Faith Church Lunch and Cake.

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## TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

### TOTLEY LIBRARY.

Totley Residents' Association will be placing a collecting box in Totley Library as from Monday 1 April 1996 for monetary donations in order to purchase books for Totley Library. These books will be kept in Totley Library for the benefit of the local community. The library also accepts books in good condition as donations.

### SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL.

SPRING CLEAN WEEK 13th - 21st April 1996.

Totley Residents' Association Committee will be cleaning up the War Memorial, Baslow Road on Sunday 14th April 1996. Organisations and anyone who feels that they would like to help clean up Totley on that day are invited to do so. Please meet at Totley Library 2.30p.m. Sacks and gloves have been ordered from the Cleansing Department for the event.

### A.G.M.

Totley Residents' Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Monday 22nd April in Totley Library at 7.45p.m. We are looking for new committee members and maybe someone has something to offer in the way of new ideas. Please come along and support us, as Totley Residents' Association committee members devote a lot of time and energy looking after Totley's needs.

### LABRADOR WELFARE

Please support the Coffee Morning to be held at Heatherfield Conservative Club, Baslow Road, Totley on Thursday 11th April 10 a.m. until 12 noon. Proceeds to Labrador Welfare. Admission 50p, which includes coffee and biscuits. Cake stall, bric-a-brac, tombola etc. Do come and bring a friend.

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### PLANNING PERMISSION REFUSED

Proposed use of Ground Floor of Building for Food and Drink at 187, Baslow Road, 17. has been refused on the following grounds:-

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"Insufficient details of the fume extraction system are submitted to enable the Local Planning Authority to determine that the proposal will not be detrimental to occupiers of nearby residential property and in the absence of such information they have no alternative but to refuse planning permission."



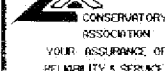
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# ESCAPE TO THE EDGES OF SHEFFIELD

This is an issue I have some feeling for, on duplicitous occasions being a person who loves to escape as is possible to the edges of Sheffield, for, mainly dog walking exercises, I find Blackmoor unaccountedly by far the prettiest and demanding of areas to bolster my fitness. The two dogs I walk (black and white) feel presumably on their own high knowing such terrific a valley.

Only on certain visits the termination for many jaunts rests with the car park at Strawberry Lee (gateless may I add) and often they prefer not to jump into the vehicle and often come back more muddy than they would gain mud on their walk. However it is, something I should mention, the litter (variation of) problem in this gully is abominable. I have often each year, whichever, had the need to remove, and, hold on it sounds like a lot, had to take 1 or 2 binbags plus up to 3 carry bags stuffed with litter and a lot of bottles, once even a car door. And this is true, of a lot more of the walks through Sheffield.

In my honesty I have offered the services my body beholds, direct to the council, searching for some kind of fund, either on in past but will only be turned down. Never mind.

There are two other things I would like to mention, but regard these as being a different matter.

- i. Doesn't the lady who lives at the top of the hill do well, she most likely knows me as the boy from Ecclesall. We talked once.

2. I would love to have knowledge of the whereabouts, or indirect understanding of whom it is that may have lived in the building Avalon on the

corner of the hill above the Crown.

It is not everyday I get as far as Totley, but cherish at heart the days I do.

do. This something I wrote, briefly. It may suit a spot in an up and coming issue of the magazine, hopefully jolting some of the many who visit.

"I write as a passing vehicle may pull in to let the opposed traffic suit his or her day, but turn each limping corner to the hard realism of tracking on foot through the wilds that have only become a stopping place to the risen, sticky or chewy".

Yours favourably,

Mr. C.J.A.C. Bland (28 years

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MONDAYS COFFEE MORNING, All Saints' Church Hall, 10-00am. - noon  
 TUESDAYS COFFEE MORNING, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10-00am. - noon  
 CRAFT GROUP Totley Library.  
 WEDNESDAYS COFFEE in the LIBRARY 10-00 am. to 11-30.  
 THURSDAYS OPEN DOOR, United Reformed Church, 10-00a.m. - noon  
 THURSDAYS PUSHCHAIR CLUB, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 1-30 to 3-00  
 Telephone 2363157 for further information

### APRIL

FRI. 5th. TOTLEY EVENING GUILD, GOOD FRIDAY NO MEETING.  
 THUR. 11th. COFFEE MORNING, Heatherfield Club, 10am. to noon, in aid of Labrador Welfare, Details inside.  
 FRI/SAT 12th./13th. DORE ART GROUP EXHIBITION, Dore Old School, Details inside.  
 TUE. 16th. TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Methodist Church Hall, 10-00 am.  
 SAT. 20th. PIE & PEA LUNCH & SLIDE SHOW, All Saint's Church, 12-30pm. See T17 inside.  
 SAT. 20th. DORE MALE VOICE CHOIR, 7pm. Psalter Lane Methodist Church, Details inside.  
 SAT. 20th. START OF TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS. Full details inside  
 MON 22nd. TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION A.G.M, Totley Library, 7-45pm. Details inside  
 FRI. 26th. FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT, 8pm. Wessex Hall, King Egbert School, Details inside, Every one welcome

MAY 15th. TO 18th. "FISH OUT OF WATER" by Derek Benfield, a T.O.A.D.S presentation. Details inside.

### THE INDEPENDENT FOR MAY

The NEXT issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on WEDNESDAY 1st. MAY. Copy date for this issue will be SATURDAY 13th. APRIL 1996.

EDITORS Les & Dorothy Firth, 6, Milldale Rd., Tel. No. 236 4190

DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISING John Perkinson, 2, Main Avenue, Tel. No. 236 1601

TYPING Vicki Crookes, Items for publication may be sent to or left at 6, Milldale Rd. 2, Main Avenue, Totley Library or V. Martin's (Abbeydale Rd.)

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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.

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