

Price 15p

TUTLEY INDEPENDENT

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Tutley
Residents
Association

DECEMBER/JANUARY

No 219



A Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year



CHURCH SERVICES OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD.

The Churches in Totley and Dore offer you a warm welcome to any of our services over the Christmas Season.

All Saints, Totley.

Sunday 20th Dec. 12.30pm Service of Remembrance.

6.30pm Service of Lessons and

Carols.

Thurs. 24th Dec. Christmas Eve 4.30pm Crib Service.

11.30pm Holy Communion.

Friday 25th Dec. Christmas Day. 10 am Family Service with Communion.

St. Thomas', Woodseats.

Thurs 24th Dec. Christmas Eve. 5.30pm Vigil Mass

12 Midnight Vigil Mass.

Friday 25th Dec. Christmas Day 11.15am Christmas Mass.

English Martyrs, Baslow Road.

Friday 25th Dec. Christmas Day. 9.15am. Christmas Mass.

Totley Rise Methodist Church.

Sunday 20th Dec. 10.30am. Christmas Family Service.

6pm Traditional Carol Service.

Thurs. 24th Dec. Christmas Eve. 11.15pm (Joint Service with

Dore & Totley United Reformed Church & Dore Methodist Church.

Friday 25th Dec. Christmas Day 9.45am. Christmas Family Service.

Dore & Totley United Reformed Church..

Sunday 20th Dec. 10.30am. Parade Service.

6.30pm Candlelit Carols.

Friday 25th Dec. Christmas Day 10.30am Family Service.

St. John's Abbeydale.

Sunday 20th Dec. 6.30pm. Festival of Nine Lessons and

Carols. Organist and Choir Master Alan East.

Thurs. 24th Dec. Christmas Eve. 5.30pm Christingle Service.

11.30pm Midnight Communion.

Friday 25th Dec. Christmas Day. 10am. Family Service.

Dore Methodist Church.

Sunday 13th Dec. 10.30am. Toy Service.

Sunday 20th Dec. 5.30pm Carol Service.

Friday 25th Dec. Christmas Day. 9.30am. Christmas Day Service.

Christ Church Dore.

Sunday 20th Dec. 4.30pm Candlelit Carol Service.

6.30pm Candlelit Carol Service.

Thurs. 24th Dec. 4.30pm Crib Service.

Christmas Eve. 11.30pm Midnight

Communion.

Friday 25th Dec. Christmas Day. 8.00am Holy Communion.

10am. Family Service.

Dore & Totley Christian Fellowship.

Sunday 20th Dec. 10.30am. Carol Service in Church Hall, Townhead Road, Dore.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN S17

Isn't it a shame that Christmas comes at the time of year when the shops are at their busiest? I know - its the Christmas shopping that makes the shops so busy - traders and manufacturers rely on a 'good Christmas'. Its an amazing thought that the obscure and almost illegitimate birth of a baby in a down-at-heel town, in a remote part of the Roman Empire should have come to form the cornerstone of British retail trade nearly two thousand years later. Not only that, but that the whole planet should be spending millions of pounds preparing to celebrate his 2000th next year! Even more significantly, that the accepted date of his birth should have become the point at which we divide ALL human history. BC and AD. Who was this baby who has attained a status denied every King or Emperor who has ever reigned - or any other religious leader, come to that?

In His life, he made the most outrageous claims - sayings like 'He who believes in me shall never die' or 'If you have seen me, you have seen God'. People have spent years in institutions for making lesser claims! - did we establish our calendar around the birth of a madman? The fact about Jesus that sets him apart is that having been crucified, he rose again from the dead - a fairly powerful way of proving he has the power to back up the claims that he makes!

And yet, for all the outward celebration of his birth, its amazing how few people have ever really stopped to consider his life. Christians believe that the man who has had such an effect on the course of history, can also change the course of our lives. Hope, confidence, joy and peace are all in short supply today - but are freely promised by Jesus to those who will look to him. This Christmas, take a second look. As you celebrate the birth of this most amazing of men, remember, that Christmas is only the start of the story

Totley Rise
Methodist Church
Presents

The Babe in the Wooden Manger

a Pantomime for Christmas
plus your favourite carols!

Free Admission!

Sunday 20th
December
10.30am



ALL SAINTS CHURCH, TOTLEY

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE. SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER at 4.30pm

Please come and support this service which enables us to hear the message of Jesus's love, bringing light to the world and helps the Children's Society raise vitally needed funds. The Children's Society help and support over 90 projects throughout England and Wales and works with some of the most vulnerable children and young people. Christingle envelopes for the work of the Children's Society are available in Church.

CRIB SERVICE. THURSDAY 24th December at 4.30pm

This service is suitable for all the family and helps us all to focus on the true meaning of Christmas. We ask you to bring a Christmas present for a child (of any age) to the service. You may prefer to give a gift of money (in an envelope please). Our toys and gifts of money will be used by N.C.H. Action for Children to provide toys for use in their family centre and toy library. Please come and join this service and celebrate the greatest gift of all, our Lord Jesus Christ

HISTORIC CHILDREN

Just for a change, the 29th June this year was fine and sunny despite the weather forecast to the contrary.

I set off with about 26 young All Saints school children, teachers and parents to walk around some of historic Totley.

We walked down Chapel Lane where I pointed out the old pinfold and then down through Bushy Bottoms, between the stoops and past the old Methodist Chapel. Now our route lay down the cobbled path across what was, long ago, Totley Commons and then over the Needham Dyke before reaching Penny Lane. We saw the wooded waste tip where earth and stone from the Totley Tunnel excavations were dumped. At Hillfoot I showed the line of the old corn mill dam and pressed on to the wooden bridge where the Dyke emerged from a tunnel to join the Old Hay Brook. Here I explained to the children why the kissing gate there was so called – and that met with giggles just like Bushy Bottom had done. I wonder why.

Then it was a short walk to Old Hay where the road used to cross the Brook through a Ford well before the present old bridge was built.

Next we saw the old Lead Mill dam site, now a lawn and then we had two stiles and a couple of fields to cross before arriving in Totley Bents. I was able to point out a number of wild flowers before we reached the Recreation Ground once known as the Sick (more giggles).

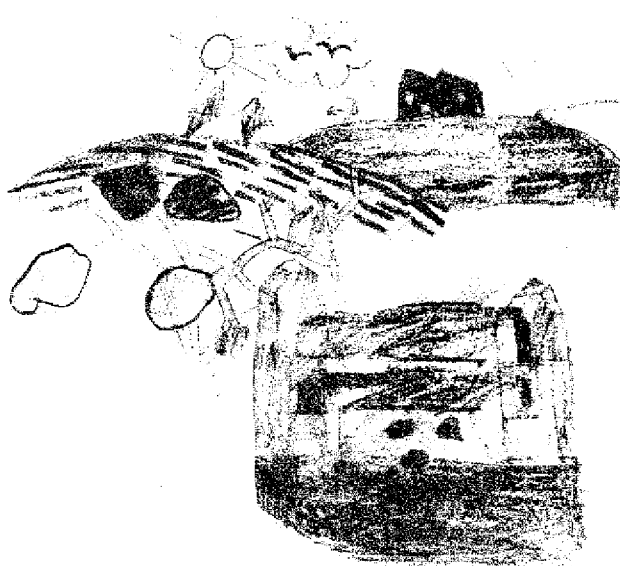
The next port of call was Monneybrook where all the little streams met giving it the name Marybrooks. Then a bit of a toil up to Lane Head passing disused rifle butts and, in the bottom, the old Workhouse then it was a short walk past the War Memorial and down Baslow Road to the school.

Throughout the behaviour of the children was a credit to the school, teachers and parents, cheerful, enquiring and of course throwing in the odd bit of advice. What a pleasurable trip! A few years ago I made a similar trek with children from Totley County and still remember that with a smile.

Sometime afterwards I received a letter of thanks and drawings of our journey from the children.

Brian Edwards

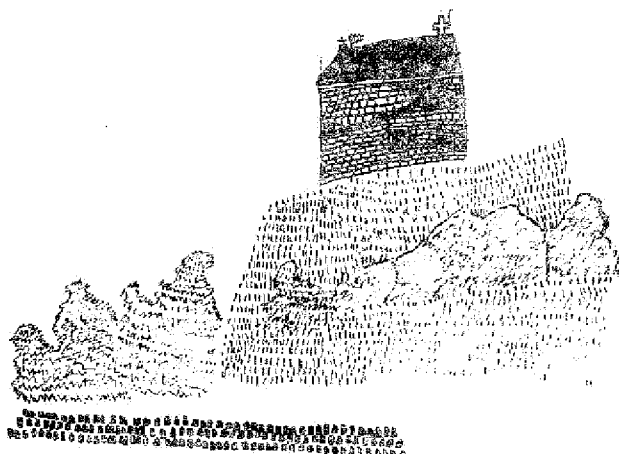
To follow a few of the sketches sent to Brian



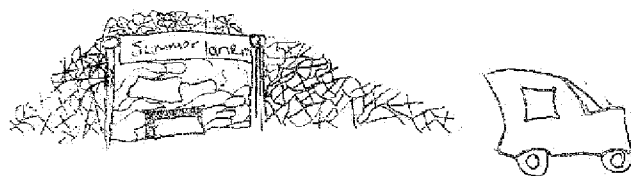
Amy Spencer "A stream with a bridge over"



Celia Houghton "Bridge over Needhams Dyke"



Patrick Thomlinson "View from Bushy Bottoms"



Lara de Thorpe Millard "Summer Lane"

POST OFFICE NEWS

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR BANK HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

The Post Office and Shop will be closed on the following days:-

Thursday December 24th. Closed at 12-30 pm.

Friday & Saturday 25th & 26th Christmas Day & Boxing Day

Monday 28th Bank Holiday

Friday 1st. January, New Years Day

LAST POSTING DATES. U.K.MAIL

Second Class December 18th.

Standard Parcels December 18th.

First Class December 22nd.

For information on Royal Mail services call 0345 740 740 or ask at any Post Office.

To find out a POST CODE call 0345 111 222

PAYMENT OF PENSIONS & ALLOWANCES

The dates for EARLY payment of pensions and allowances will be as follows:-

Due date of payment

Payable on or after

Thursday Dec. 24th.

Thursday Dec. 17th.

Friday Dec. 25th.

Friday Dec. 18th.

Monday Dec. 28th.

Monday Dec. 21st.

Friday Jan. 1st.

Tuesday Dec 29th.

CHRISTMAS BONUS PAYMENT

The £10 Christmas Bonus Payment will be paid the week commencing Monday 7th. December.

CHRISTMAS CARD RECYCLING

Totley Rise Post Office will again participate in the recycling scheme between December 28th. And January 30th.

Last year more than 6000 Post Offices and 2500 schools collected over one million used cards, money raised was used to plant trees in 11 community forests in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

SEASONAL GREETINGS

Glen, Jim and all staff at Totley Rise Post Office again thank everyone for their custom during 1998 and extend their very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Following the article in the November issue on a Community Centre or Village Hall for Totley, comments by letter are urgently required from local residents, local associations and others who may be interested in this topic.

Feedback is essential if any further action is to be considered.

SCOUT CHRISTMAS POST

As in previous years the local Scout Groups are taking part in the Scout Christmas Post scheme.

From 27th. November to 16th. December 1997 special stamps are on sale at various outlets in the area. These can be used to post Christmas Greeting cards in the special post boxes for delivery to addresses in the area.

Leaflets will be available and posters displayed with a map of the area to which cards may be sent. This covers all Sheffield, Rotherham, Dronfield and Chesterfield as well as some other outlying areas.

The price of each stamp is 15p., a part of which is retained by the Scout Group for its own funds and therefore for the benefit of youngsters in the area. After running costs the remainder of the profit is distributed to local charities, a list of which will be displayed on the posters.

The main conditions of use of this scheme are :-

Christmas Greeting Cards only, no enclosures.

Post only in special Scout boxes, NOT Royal Mail.

Use only special Scout stamps.

For use in the area on the leaflets and posters.

Last posting date is 16th. December.

WANTED.

Enthusiastic people with a sense of fun who care about the countryside!

Candidates will: want to learn new skills and meet new people, want to have fun, have a love of the countryside, need no experience and above all want to enjoy themselves, have some spare time on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

And the benefits:-

You will learn lots of new skills, get the chance to work on a wide variety of projects, gain a real sense of pride and achievement, make a valuable contribution to the countryside and its wildlife, learn more about your local countryside's past, present and future, gain valuable experience and most of all HAVE FUN!

Is this advert describing you? Do you want to experience all the benefits listed here? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, then the Three Valleys Conservation Volunteers is for you!

The volunteers meet every Tuesday and Saturday, 9.00am at Tapton Lock Visitor Centre in Chesterfield and 9.30am at The Parish Rooms Church Street, Eckington. All you need to bring is your lunch, wear some old clothes (waterproofs are advisable) and strong footwear.

If you want to know more, or fancy joining in the fun, then give us a call on (01246) 433186 or (01246) 551035.

Mark & Sally Fletcher invite you to

The Grouse Inn

Longshaw

SHEFFIELD S11 7TZ

Our Bistro is open 4 nights a week, from Wednesday through to Saturday, with orders taken from 7-00 pm. Our chef Louise, presents a first rate menu which will change fortnightly. So to enjoy our good food, good wine and relaxed atmosphere, phone 01433 630423 or catch us behind the bar.

The bistro will be open on New Years Eve!

Christmas menu available for parties.

**TOTLEY HALL FARM
TRADITIONAL FARM FRESH
OVEN READY TURKEYS**



8lbs. to 25lbs. ORDER NOW

**RING JENNY or EDWIN for FURTHER
INFORMATION ON 2364761**

COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Following the article in the November issue on a Community Centre or Village Hall for Totley, comments by letter are urgently required from local residents, local associations and others who may be interested in this topic.

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RSPCA AND PDSA

There are so many charities asking for help at this time of year, but please, if you can, contribute a tin of cat or dog food, or biscuits, towards feeding the unwanted animals at the RSPCA shelter at Spring Street. With high unemployment and breakdown of families, there are even more animals becoming homeless through no fault of their own, besides, unfortunately, the cruelty cases waiting for re-homing.

Totley Library, Oldales (Halifax Building Society on Totley Rise), Totley Co-op and 'Valerie of Dore' are again kindly acting as collection points, and have boxes to collect tins etc.

Blankets, towels and sheeting are also needed for the winter at the kennels, these can be left at 10 The Quadrant, Totley and Mrs. Styles will see they get to the Shelter.

The PDSA shop at 13 Cumberland Street, is desperately short of voluntary help. The shop is easy to get to on the 97 bus from Totley, anyone interested please contact Mrs. Brenda Spencer on 2759138. Both charities are very grateful for good quality clothing and bric-a-brac to sell in their shops to support the Shelter and the Veterinary Clinic.

Dear Editors

May I refer to the front page of the October Independent and article by John Perkinton. The year the twenty or so cottages were demolished was not given, I assume John is not aware of the date.

I wondered if one of our elder residents can recall the builders dust and rubble, maybe on their way to school! Should no one provide us with an answer would some sixty-five years ago be there or thereabouts?

Jerry Roberts

*Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality
in the hall, the genial fire of charity in the heart.
(Washington Irving)*

Dear Ed

Returning to Totley on a nostalgic visit, I stopped off at the War Memorial to pay my respects to my childhood friends who never returned. The name of a particular very dear friend was there, Steve Atkin, but alas no indication of his service branch. He was a Pilot Officer, flying a Lancaster bomber and brought down over Le Havre in May 1944. It set me wondering if anything could be done to rectify this matter.

Looking at the aerial photograph on the front of the November issue of 'Totley Independent' brought back fond memories of when we first arrived in Totley in 1933, we being my parents and my brother and sister. Our house was 44, Aldam Road, and it stood at the cross road of Aldam Road and Greenoak Road, which is not yet completed in the photograph. As I recall only four more houses were built either side and Greenoak Road was a footpath through fields, leading to the bottom of Main Avenue, where Mr & Mrs. Parker's dairy was the last house in the avenue. Mr. Parker was our milkman and used to deliver the milk with his horse and buggy. At some time he had lost one of his hands replaced by a hook, with which he deftly used to handle the cans and churns, no bottles in those days. I often wondered how he coped, when I served milk the same way when in the Land Army.

I too went to Totley C of E school, which in my day was a small village school ruled by a real Victorian headmaster called Johnny Wood, who terrified us all. I remember we used to watch for him marching down the school yard on a Friday morning and if the Gladstone bag he always carried was missing, we knew we had Friday afternoon holiday, this happened quite frequently.

Since losing my two dearest friends Raymond and Joan Peace, I have little cause to visit Totley and read the 'Independent' which they used to pass to me, so it gave me great pleasure to pick up the latest issue from Avenue Stores and read it eagerly, especially the letter from 'Bobbie' Carr, an old friend of my brother, it brought back many happy memories. Keep up the good work, and good luck with the Community Centre.

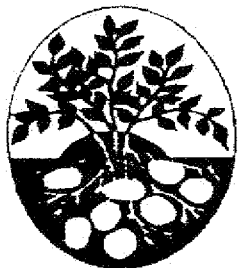
Yours sincerely,

Elsie Winstanley (nee Abbott)

Wollaton Park. Nottingham.

TOTLEY HALL FARM PRODUCE

TOTLEY HALL LANE



55lb. SACK OF POTATOES @ £5-00

10lb. PACK @ £1-30 (Price @ 21/11/98)

EGGS, HAY and STRAW ALSO AVAILABLE

8-00am. to 8-00pm. MONDAY to SATURDAY

RING JENNY or EDWIN ON 236 4761 FOR
FURTHER INFORMATION

BOOK THIS DATE NOW!

SATURDAY, 30th. JANUARY 1999
7-30 p.m.

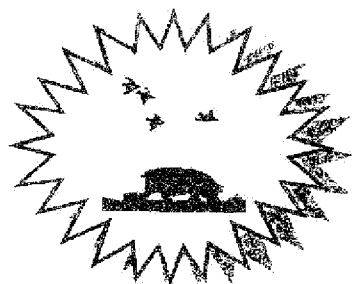
THE CELEBRATION CHOIR
WILL BE AT TOTLEY RISE METHODIST
CHURCH
TO LEAD AN EVENING OF PRAISE AND
WORSHIP.

PLEASE JOIN US.

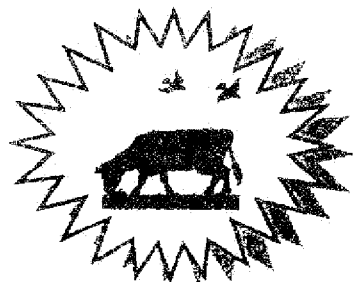
Tickets £3 each available from the local churches
 or Joyce Cook tel 236 4837
PROCEEDS TO N.S.P.C.C.

L. TYM BUTCHER

61 Baslow Road, Totley Rise



Telephone: 236 0558



Home Deliveries Thursday Evenings



Fresh Meat Specialist
Variety Of Home Produced Sausages
Spit Roast Chickens & Cooked Meats.

FANSHAW GATE BARN SAVED



We would like to say a big thank you to all your readers who protested against the residential development of the historic tithe barn at Fanshaw Gate, Holmesfield. We are delighted to report a happy end to the campaign.

Having received planning permission from the council, the developer put the barn up for sale in October. We were fortunate enough to purchase it. Encouraged by the strength of support from Totley residents, we now look forward to repairing the barn and preserving the structure in its original state for all to enjoy.

Many of the objectors to the development were people who regularly walk the footpath by the barn, and who were as horrified as we were that this beautiful agricultural building should be turned to domestic use. We hope that anyone who needs a moment's rest after trekking up the fields from Totley will appreciate the bench we have placed by the barn as a small gesture of thanks.

We are especially grateful to Jim Webb at the Totley Rise Post Office and to the Librarian at Totley library for displaying the petition, and to that venerable campaigner, Campie Barrows, for alerting people to the threat and for gathering so much support. They shared our disappointment when NE Derbyshire District Council, seemingly ignoring the strength of local opinion, granted planning permission – so it makes us doubly happy to share the news of the final outcome. Many thanks to everyone!

The Ramsden Family.

Christmas Island was discovered on Christmas Day in 1643

LEONARD CHESHIRE SERVICES IN SHEFFIELD



Offering choice and opportunities
 to people with disabilities
 If a person with a disability needs
 care we can help by providing:-

- * Long term care
- * Respite care
- * Day care
- * Single rooms
- * Computers
- * Many activities
- * Aromatherapy
- * Physiotherapy
- * Aquatherapy

(For our new "Care at Home Service"
 see separate advertisement)

Any other requirement could be considered

MICKLEY LANE. SHEFFIELD S17 4HE
Telephone (0114) 2369952/3

TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

**NEXT COFFEE MORNING
WEDNESDAY 9th. DECEMBER FOR A
LITTLE CHRISTMAS CHEER.**

**11am. 4 GROVE ROAD, TOTLEY
MEETINGS DURING 1999**

**FOR VARIOUS REASONS, WE MUST
CHANGE FROM THE THIRD TO THE
FOURTH WEEKS IN THE MONTH.**

**WE SHALL CONTINUE WITH OUR
PRESENT PRACTICE OF MEETING ON
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY,
ON CONSECUTIVE MONTHS.**

OUR INTENDED DATES ARE: -

JANUARY	TUESDAY 26;
FEBRUARY	WEDNESDAY 24;
MARCH	THURSDAY 25;
APRIL	TUESDAY 27;
MAY	WEDNESDAY 26;
JUNE	THURSDAY 24;
JULY	TUESDAY 27;
AUGUST	NO MEETING;
SEPTEMBER	THURSDAY 23;
OCTOBER	TUESDAY 26;
NOVEMBER	WEDNESDAY 24;
DECEMBER	THURSDAY 9;

DATES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION.

STAN CHAMMY DRURY

Raymond Drury and Family would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and cards sent to Mrs. Drury on the death of her husband Stan Chammy Drury.

Can anybody help with the answer as to how Stan got the nickname "Chammy", lots of older people in villages like Totley seem to get these nicknames but nobody seems to know where they originate. Does anyone know?

DIARY OF A WOULD-BE- PARAOLYMPIAN

By now many of you will know that 1998 has not been my year - I have had 3 operations this year, and have been very unwell as a result, however to finish this year, I thought I'd fill you all in:-

I am now facing my 4th lot of surgery this year - to my shoulder this time - that too keeps dislocating; so in order to manage my wheelchair or crutches and hopefully swim again, I am seeing a surgeon soon, in order to rectify that fault with this extremely faulty piece of machinery - ME. David thinks that I should have come complete with insurance and free regular MOT free no quibble money back guarantee.

'So times is hard' I can't manage my crutches or wheelchair, so visits are welcome, as I can't drive my car - the car remains a big novelty as I have only been driving a short time and that bit of independence is temporarily lost.

Anyway next year will be mine and hopefully I can get back in the water and become a contender again. I still think that the Olympics is a real possibility and I intend to train again towards that goal.

In the meantime I will turn the lounge into a gymnasium and do my exercises in an effort to keep a good base fitness.

This year has been an extreme contrast to last years euphoria surrounding my GB selection, but hopefully next year I can regain my England place and ultimately my GB place.

I won't retire until I've given it my best shot!. And my best shot is yet to come.

Thank you for all your Get Well wishes and offers of help, it is all very much appreciated. Happy Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all.

Helen Spencer

Time was with the most of us, when Christmas day, encircling all our limited world; like a magic ring, left nothing out for us to miss or seek; bound together all our home enjoyments, affections and hopes; grouped everything and everyone round the Christmas fire and made the little picture shining in our bright young eyes complete. (Charles Dickens)

LÉONARD CHESHIRE SERVICES IN SHEFFIELD



introduce

CARE AT HOME

A new service to provide
care to people in their
own homes.

LEONARD CHESHIRE SERVICES
Mickley Hall, Mickley Lane
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6 Totley Grange Rd.

Sheffield, S17 4AF

Tel. 2364626

REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA

Last September I had not previously encountered this daunting name and even then it was never my intention to inflict it upon unsuspecting members of the human race, but one morning I became desperate, groggily desperate. Needs must when the Devil drives, because without warning, outside the greengrocer's shop, this bunch of strong fat fingers gripped my arm. Godfrey Shorthouse again....seeking an audience, any sort of audience, so long as it was passive and unable to reach sanctuary in a toilet or police cell. For the next twenty minutes Godfrey revealed to me, in intricate detail, how he had succeeded in unblocking his drains, and at that point, in order to stem the mind-numbing flow, I butted in and announced as emphatically as I possibly could, that in two days time we would be flying to Hrvatska. Godfrey's eyes narrowed, but the drain unblocking saga paused for no more than a couple of seconds, the fat fingers tightened about my arm and at the end of it all I staggered home, swallowed some aspirins and went to bed for an hour or so. There was nothing else for it.

But why any nation should wish to label itself with such an outlandish title as Hrvatska, I shall never understand, for a good atlas will indicate in perfectly clear lettering that these bemused natives live in CROATIA. 'Oh boy' exclaimed our taxi man, 'take bullet-proof vests with you'. We laughed weakly, but, being incredibly brave, or incredibly stupid, we dismissed his advice. Phyllis Cowlshaw had already quizzed me about our destination and then, opening her eyes wide, she squawked, 'graciousKalashnikovs and things'. I tried to modify her misconceptions but she continued dolefully, 'well, I must give you something for emergencies,' and she did just that, she rummaged in her handbag and presented me with a packet of Elastoplasts. 'What a kind, sweet thought' I murmured. (Well, I had to murmur something, hadn't I?)

Some days later the journey via Manchester Airport came to pass without leaving any incandescent memories; nothing like an earlier debacle when the Spaniards were on strike and when I sat in the departure lounge for nine long hours, plunging imaginary bodkins into imaginary wax effigies of imaginary Spanish air traffic controllers. This time we were delivered in tranquil style to our hotel in Rovinj, from the balcony of which we found a glorious, sunny view across harbour boats to the old town area. Here, buildings from an earlier century clustered together on a gentle hill, topped majestically by St. Euphemia's impressive church and creating overall a picturesque resort ideally suited to jaded Totley fugitives.

Have you ever heard of an Austrian navy? Probably not, for it more or less disintegrated in 1918 when the Austro-Hungarian Empire came unstuck and when many of its vassal parts elected for self-rule. But until then Pula, a Croatian seaport, provided one of Austria's naval bases with an active submarine flotilla during World War I. Inside Pula's Roman amphitheatre, a guide and mentor cheered our holiday spirits with a florid account of blood-letting in former centuries. And afterwards if any vestige of levity remained in his party he sought to eradicate it by announcing that Venice's gondolas were painted black in memory of a bygone plague which wiped out half of the city's population. Having absorbed that morsel of history, you will perhaps remember that (a) in 1665 London also suffered a dreadful plague and that (b) London's taxis today are as black as those Italian gondolas. Lunch, after these sobering disclosures by the guide, was taken in the village of Zminj, but before we sat down to eat, small helpings of a mysterious, transparent liquid were dispensed to members of the excursion. I can now

tell you that from that particular experience I shall certainly return to Zminj whenever I find myself needing a good quality paint-stripper or rocket fuel. The next stopping place on this outing was to see a fine panoramic mountain view from an ancient village which looked as if it had not yet recovered from a social call by Gengis Khan. Now for any fellow creature who has been reared carefully on as diet of the Queen's English, the pronunciation of most Croatian place names is out of the question. I was unlucky to be standing near our guide when he named this old village 'Grachische', because for a moment or two I felt as if I were standing in the middle of a malfunctioning car wash. After that incident, I kept a reasonable distance between myself and any possible drenching pronunciations.

The 'Quo Vadis' was a small pleasure boat. Today it may still be a small pleasure boat, or on the other hand, it could now be well-seasoned firewood keeping worthy Croatians from freezing in the winter months. But in late September it chuntered away from Rovinj quayside, headed into the Adriatic and then turned right towards the Limski Fjord, carrying with it three honest, naive holidaymakers from Totley. There was about this vessel a conspicuous air of antiquity; the timbers might have been glued together recently and not for the first time, and then I noticed that the date 1904 had been carved sentimentally, in the bows. By and by, a deckhand began to move around and issue measured doses of schnapps to passengers in order to alleviate any possible seafaring qualms. Then halfway up the fjord our captain, without any warning or farewell wave, dived overboard. Next, his dog, as if it knew something we didn't, dived overboard after him. I began to feel distinctly uneasy for I could sense that here I might be witnessing the initial overture of a new Marie Celeste mystery. In a civilised country with an efficient and conscientious Board of Trade and a responsible Mercantile Marine, captains are expected to be the last persons to abandon their sinking ships. I was really too young to die, I thought. Then suddenly it occurred to me that my Birth Certificate would render such a claim laughable. However, someone familiar with the temperamental moods of 'Quo Vadis' took over the helm and we soon tied up at a primitive jetty. Later the skipper and his dog reappeared, but no apology was given nor any explanation either. Fortunately I am able to keep a cool head in times of emergency.

During one Sunday morning we climbed up the narrow cobbled streets and peeped inside St. Euphemia's main doorway. A line of communicants was moving forward to receive the host and the remainder of the congregation were singing a hymn to one of our well-known Anglo-Saxon tunes; 'What a friend we have in Jesus'. It was a tune especially popular among British servicemen and servicewomen during World War II. Using the fertile imagination of some unremembered poet they sang; 'When this blooming war is over, oh how happy we shall be'. I forget the following lines of this version, which involve a sergeant-major, but I feel sure that the ending was both warm and affectionate. The servicemen and servicewomen of those days were probably more musical and more spiritually-minded than their counterparts today.

A Statue of St. Euphemia is situated at the pinnacle of this Rovinjian church. It actually revolves day and night, summer and winter, motivated, we guess, by the wind. On that high place she is a symbol of hope and blessing for the fishermen as they set out with their nets and as they wonder, perhaps, when they will see their loved ones again. This prompts me to

ask a favour; if my saintly life ever merits a statue, please do not arrange for me to be revolving on a church spire, day and night, summer and winter. It would be far more appropriate if I were to be across the road from the Busy Bee, unswivelling on the roof of Totley" Co-op building, for I have spent many an hour inside this hallowed emporium, fishing restlessly for cod-in-butter-sauce and wondering, like the fishermen of Rovinj, when I would see my loved ones again.

Farewell then to Hrvatska; bears in the mountain forests, Melow fields on the lower slopes, and one unique, enterprising restaurant manager who offers his customers 'domestic sausage'. It is alleged that wild sausages scuttle among Croatian heather as hunters oil their guns and await the 'Glorius Twelfth.' I suspect that Hamlet never shot a wild sausage but he did say 'there are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy.'

C.N.Railton Holden.

AND DOWN CAME THE RAIN



The above taken by Steve Hannam on the morning of October 27th. Shows Laverdene canal, previously Laverdene Avenue.

Apparently sailing to town could be quicker and also miss out the bus lanes.

HELP FOR THE HARD OF HEARING

Hello, my name is Judy and I am a Lipreading Teacher in Sheffield. I'd like to explain what I do and how I can help you.

Maybe your hearing has changed, it's not as good as it used to be. Do you have to have your television louder? Have you been issued with a Hearing aid, but it's living in a drawer because you can't get used to it? Hearing aids are invaluable, but in a noisy shop or crowded place are still often incomprehensible. Perhaps you have Tinnitus? Whatever your problem lipreading can help you.

The most often said comment by people in my groups is "When you are deaf, people think you are daft". Maybe you have thought that! In a Lipreading Group you will meet other people with similar problems in a friendly atmosphere. Whatever your age, it is never too late to start or improve. It's nothing like going back to school; I try to find subjects to talk about which will interest you and help you relax. There is also information on hearing aids, different hearing losses, problem solving and how to help yourself.

I hope I have interested you to take your courage in both hands and join us, you will have a warm welcome.

A new group is starting on Wednesdays from 1.00 to 3.00pm. to serve the Totley and Dore area, and anyone in that part of the City. I have rooms in the Mount Pleasant Centre on Sharrow Lane which is the Needlework Room. Unfortunately this is up some stairs but in future we may be able to get a room on the ground floor. The classes are free. You can start at any time during the year and come with a friend or partner if you wish.

If you have a car an alternative venue is Norton Centre, Dyche Lane. This class is held on Tuesday mornings from 9.45/11.45 in B015 and there is a disabled entrance.

If you would like to let me know you are coming I will look out for you. Please write to: -

Judith Sutton, 16 McLaren Crescent, Maltby, Rotherham.

Richard Walker



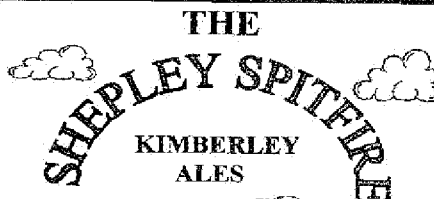
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GARDENING TIPS FOR DEC/JAN.

I hope you don't think there is nothing to do in the garden, sat there reading this article. December and January are consolidating and planning months, like all good marketing men and women, you should be looking at the strategy you are going to employ next season, taking into account changes which are to be made, timing of these changes, placing of orders (seed, bulbs, trees etc.) organising labour (telling the wife or husband), drawing up layouts, and working out your budgeting, taking into account all of the aforementioned (now go and have a lie down). Now you see, December and January are busy months for gardeners, lots to do. Don't just sit there, get cracking. The Totley Show is not all that far away in gardening terms, for the best onions, seeds must be sown around Boxing Day and leeks about a month after, fuchsia need to be pruned to give them a good shape for the show bench, fruit trees sprayed against scab etc. so that your fruit is pristine for that top award, I'm sweating just thinking about it. Read on:-

Flowers.

Prune back any large rose bushes, chop them down to about half way, so that they can be pruned properly in the spring. This early chopping down will reduce any wind rock which can severely damage rootstock if rain and frost get down there. It also makes your rose bed look tidier. Work in humus making material into your soil during the winter months, manure, leaf mould, spent hops, garden compost, old Growbags etc. are ideal. All these will have a beneficial effect.

Herbaceous plants sometimes suffer from slug damage during the winter, delphiniums are generally first in line, to help prevent them spoiling your young plants, scrape away a little soil from around the crowns and replace with sharp sand (better still cinder ashes). Check all the structures supporting flowers (arches, fences, trellis etc.) make sure they are sound and ready for next season's weight of flowers and berries.

Mulch over any roots exposed by the rain. Top dress with compost of soil, peat and sand. Large flowered clematis such as Jackmanii can be cut back fairly severely. Order your seeds in good time, try something new this year, there are a lot of new varieties to choose from, or maybe resurrect an old favourite that you haven't sown for a few years. They say a change is as good as a rest. You can divide and move or plant new stock of Michaelmas Daisy and Golden Rod.

Pick over plants in frames or cloches, remove dead leaves etc. and dust with fungicide. Dig and prepare new beds. Place insulation over frames at night to give extra protection from frost, also ventilate well on sunny days. December is the last chance to plant out late tulips. If you haven't given your flower beds a slow acting fertiliser for a year or two, now is a good time (January), a dusting of hoof and horn or bone meal will do your flowers a world of good. Hoe it into the top inch or so, the worms will do the rest (stand well back in the spring as the flowers burst forth). If you want to increase your stock of perennials or have some plants ready for the various charity stalls or swaps, you could take root cuttings. Dig up the plant to be propagated, or cut a portion from one side, wash off as much soil as possible so that the roots can be separated from each other, cut off the sound roots about the thickness of a pencil, divide into sections about 2ins long (5cm). Trim off small fibrous roots, cut the bottom of the root diagonally and the top straight, so that you know which way up to plant it, insert into pots of cutting compost with the tops just buried. Water well and stand in a frost free cold frame or propagator, if you want them to root faster. Plants with thin roots can be multiplied in a similar way, 3ins (8cm) long pieces laid horizontally in the compost (dusted with fungicide) cover them with another 1-2cm of compost, water well. Some of the plants which can be done this way are acanthus, brunnera, caenothus, dicentra, echinacea, eryngium, Japanese anemones, nepata oriental poppies, phlox, rhus, verbasum etc. Remember root cuttings taken from variegated plants will turn out green and NOT variegated.

Vegetables.

Firm in any plants loosened by frost. Dig any vacant plots and manure the ground. Apply lime to acid soil where cabbage is to be planted (do not apply at the same time as manure, wait a month or two if possible). Prepare runner bean trench. Take off any yellowing leaves from Brussels sprouts and compost them. In January chit seed potatoes i.e. put them in a frost-free place in shallow boxes with the eye ends upwards, this will encourage them to sprout.

Prepare your onion bed (I'm giving away secrets now). Dig in manure deeply, spread bonfire ash over as well as bone meal and hoof and horn at about 4ozs (100gms) per sq. yd. Prick this into the soil lightly. As mentioned before sow onion seeds around Boxing Day, either in separate pots, two or three seeds per pot, place in propagator or greenhouse at a temperature of 65F. When they have reached the loop stage, discard the weakest seedlings leaving just one per pot. Or put seeds in a tray when they are at the loop stage, transplant into deep boxes or trays, reduce temperature to 55F. Lift a few roots of mint, place them in a deep wooden or plastic box, cover them with potting soil, old stuff will do, place them in a frame or greenhouse, this will give shoots for early picking.

Mulch asparagus beds with well-rotted manure break it up well and spread it about 2ins thick.

Shrubs, trees and fruit.

Do not let snow hang on conifers, it can break off branches and spoil their shape. Firm in any newly planted trees and check all stakes and supports, make sure they are firm. New fruit trees can be planted now if weather permits (keep roots moist and frost free prior to planting). Prune apple and pear trees, remove cankered branches. Prune fruit bushes and canes, check grease bands and renew if necessary.

January is a good time to give fruit trees a tar oil winter wash, choose a fine and wind free day. Black currants will benefit from feeding in January, they like plenty of nitrogen so a top dressing of Sulphate of ammonia or nitro chalk at 4-6ozs per well established bush, sprinkle it thinly over the soil and keep it away from the stems. Newly planted black currant and raspberries should be pruned back severely, black currants to 2-3ins from ground level; raspberries 6-9ins above ground. Plant out in mild spells deciduous trees, hedging plants, stored or heeled in shrubs.

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Greenhouse and Indoor Plants.

Dead head faded flowers and pick over all pot plants, water sparingly. Keep bulbs fed and watered after flowering, but move to a cool spot. Increase humidity around indoor cyclamen, azaleas and winter cherries.

Use insecticide pins to control aphids and white fly, paint patches of scale and mealy bug with methylated spirit. Plant amaryllis, Lily of the Valley and indoor gladioli. Pot on cineraria, primula and slipper flowers. Examine all bulbs placed in the dark, they should be about ready to bring into half light conditions prior to bringing into a light warm house, don't rush them though. Seedlings and cuttings should be kept as near to the glass as possible, stake up schizanthus. Sponge over large leafed evergreen plants with half a teaspoon of milk stirred into a cup of water, this will make them nice and glossy. Make sure the greenhouse glass is kept clean. Cut back old geranium plants, shortening the growths to a joint or bud 6-9ins above the pot. Re-pot the plants, shaking all the soil from the roots. Re-pot them in the smallest pot into which the roots can be placed, use ordinary John Innes compost or similar.

Get ready for seed sowing by cleaning all pots, seed trays and boxes. Pot lillies required for the greenhouse feed fuchsias pruned earlier, as geraniums the plants will be potted on into larger pots as new growth develops. If you have a heated greenhouse you can start tuberous rooted begonias and gloxinias. Keep a careful watch on ventilation. Remember a sunny day can reach quite high temperatures in a greenhouse or cold frame, even in the depth of winter. I have known mine to shoot up to 95F when snow was on the ground, so be warned. Heat at this time can do a lot of damage to young or freshly shooting plants, and quite a lot of plants cannot put up with large variations in temperature.

Lawns.

If you walk on your lawn at this time of year and find squelchy patches they need attention. Spiking is a real pain, but it's a good cure for squelchy bits. Note where they are and when they have dried out a bit (hopefully) go over the area making holes at about 6ins intervals with a fork, do a couple of square yards at a time, then brush in a good dressing of sharp sand (not builders sand, unless it has been in the rain for a long time) leave a shallow layer on top, this will encourage rooting in spring. Keep lawns clean and keep off in frosty weather. Clean and overhaul your mower, you could take advantage of the cheaper rates for servicing, up to the end of February.

Please bear in mind that these notes cover two months when doing the various jobs.

Have a Happy Christmas and a lovely gardening year.

Cheerio for now, Tom Busy Bee

PS. TOTLEY SHOW 4th September 1999.



"I'M PRUNING THE BUDDLEIA, IT ATTRACTS BUTTERFLIES & DURING THE COLD WAR THERE WAS ALARM WHEN A RED ADMIRAL WAS SEEN LANDING IN TOTLEY!"

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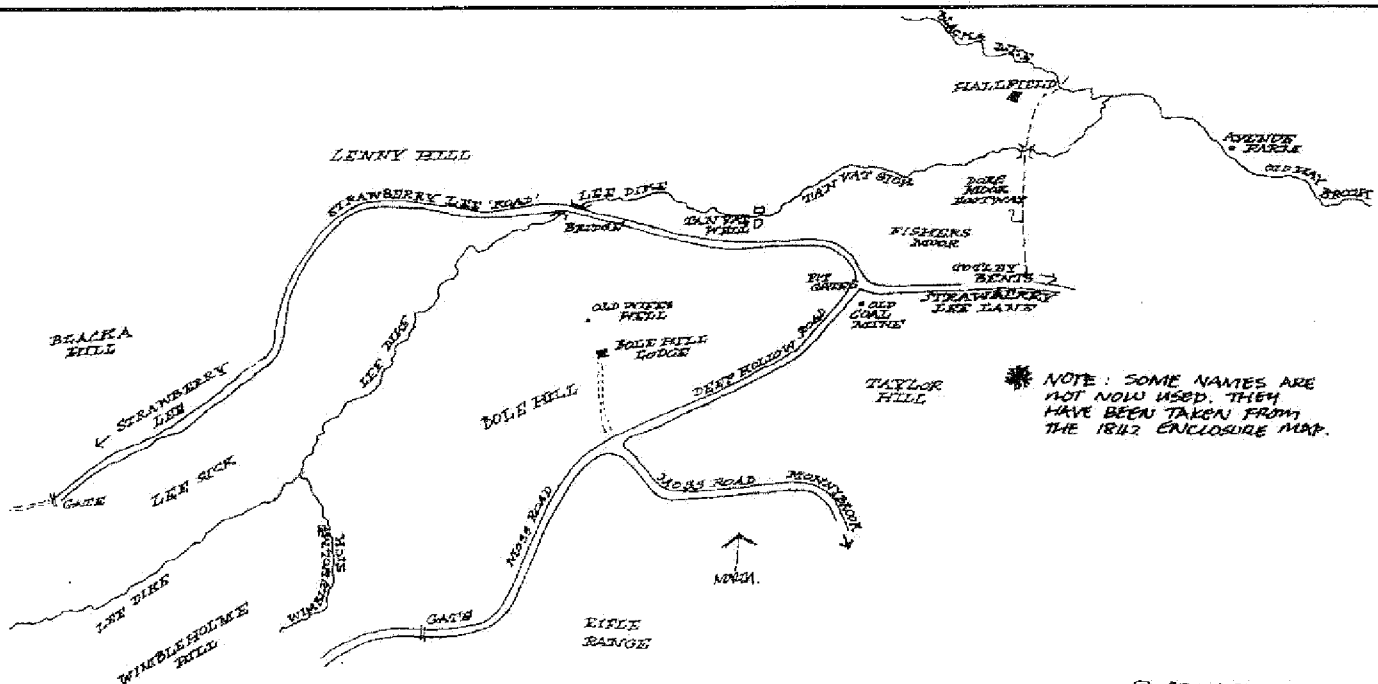
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WELL TANNED.

Tan Vat Well is situated just north of Strawberry Lee Lane, a hundred yards beyond what is called Deep Hollow Road, and the site of the old coal pit. The well is situated by the side of the Lee Dike, a small stream tumbling down from Wimbleholme Hill. Adjacent was a small pool and thereafter the stream is known as Tan Vat Sick, until it reached the Blacka Dike above Avenue Farm. Why Tan Vat? The chances are that the well was actually sunk to form a tanning pit.

We have records to show that tanning took place in Totley for centuries. In 1876 bark was still being stripped from oak trees in Totley but the majority was carted to Beauchief Station for onward transport to the huge leather industry. In that year Clement Needham, proprietor of the Grouse Inn at Totley Bents, was paid £4. 7s 6d for carting bark, he was also paid £1.18s 0d for repairing the walls around the Totley Woods owned by Mr. Coke of Totley Hall and Brookhill Hall, Nottinghamshire.

The tannic acid produced from oak bark acts as a kind of preservative when it is soaked up by leather. The bark was taken to a tan yard where it underwent a lengthy and rather disgusting series of processes.

Totley independent's Bob Warburton has sketched a man stripping bark in the excellent book 'Sheffield's Woodland Heritage' by Melvin Jones and available at local book shops. I never knew woods were so fascinating. It is likely that one of Totley's cordwainers (or shoemaker) may well have tanned his own leather, hence Tan Vat Well.

Just a few hundred yards away is another - Old Wife's Well - I'm not sure why it is called that, was it a gossiping place? So high up on the moors? I came across one of the same name recently in North Yorkshire. Incidentally the aforementioned Lee Dike is joined by another brook called Wimbleholme Sick, which sometimes dries up in summer.

Brian Edwards.

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FROM JANUARY 1999

Tuesday 6.30pm. Graves Tennis centre (Meadowhead)

Thursday 6.30pm. Millhouses Park Café.

SPRING & SUMMER EVENTS

Revert back to the Cricket Inn, Totley

Trips to fell races, London Marathon etc. plus social events.
All standards welcome

For further information telephone Carol or
William
(0114) 235 2041

COFFEE – DROP IN

It is more than six years ago since the Monday morning Coffee Drop – In began at All Saints' Church Hall. Apart from just a few of the Bank Holidays the kettle has been on each week without a break. Some people use it as a weekly opportunity to catch up with their friends and others just drop in to see what is happening or to catch someone they expect to be there.

Either way it is a friendly and relaxed occasion, which can include both leisure and business.

One of the features which has not always been appreciated is that those people who are offering tea or coffee also offer a listening ear to those who have some specific problem on which they need another opinion. We do not claim to have specialist knowledge or counselling skills but it may be that a finger can be pointed in the right direction and thus be helpful.

In any case the opportunity is there for anyone at all to pop in for as long or as short as they wish. They will find some friendly faces and someone to say "hello" to them. Do use the facility – you will not be pressurised into anything else. We meet each Monday from 10-00 a.m. till noon. Do come and see sometime!

SAILING SANTA.

Celebrate Christmas with the Chesterfield Canal Trust.

Santa is joining the Canal Trust for a trip or two on their boat the 'John Varley' this year. It's his seventh year so he must like it too! There's a present for the children and a glass of sherry and a mince pie for the adults. At only £1.50 a head it's very popular, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Santa will be onboard on the following dates: Sat. 28th and Sun 29th November.

Sat 5th and Sun 6th December

Sat 12th and Sun 13th December.

Sat 19th and Sun 20th December.

To book your trip call into Tapton Lock Visitor Centre (On the Chesterfield Canal, off the A61 Tesco Roundabout) Tel. (01246) 551035. From 1st November. For more information phone Alan Slack on (01246) 274077.

When you're visiting Santa's canal boat, come and join the team at Tapton Lock Visitor Centre and make some Christmas decorations with a difference. Experiment with natural materials and surprise yourself with your own creativity!

WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP GROUP

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT TOTLEY RISE
METHODIST CHURCH HALL STARTING AT 8-00 PM.
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WEDNESDAY 2nd. DECEMBER

ARGENTINIAN SLIDES by JEAN HODGKINSON.

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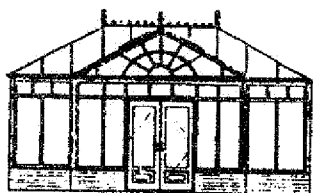
"KHAKI SUITED ME by BESSIE RENWICK.

GET NOTICED.

The Notice Boards around Totley are to be renewed and replaced in the near future.

They have served their purpose well, over a good many years, but recently have become dilapidated and the one in Mickley Lane has collapsed.

A Grant has been secured from the Area Consultative Fund by the Area 10 Housing Office, following an application earlier this year by TRA.



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ABBEYDALE PARK BOWLING CLUB.

The club held their annual dinner and presentation night at the sports club on Friday 23rd October 1998. The following members received their trophies for competitions held throughout the season.

Hargreaves Cup, singles open

Winner Donald M. Hudson
Runner Up John Perkinson

Roebuck Cup, doubles handicap

Winners D.M. Hudson/A.Astley
Runners Up G.Butterworth/D.W.Pilley

Hallett Egg Trophy singles handicap

Winner Graham Torry
Runner Up Dennis W.Pilley

Curvacious Cup singles handicap

Winner John Perkinson
Runner Up Keith Byers

Leslie Hulse Trophy Veterans singles handicap

Winner Donald Hudson
Runner Up Ronald Lee

Kenneth George Shield mid season comp.

Winners K.Byers/R.A.Clarke
Runners Up G.A.King/C.L.Jackson

Captains Day doubles

Winners S.Brown/R.A.Clarke
Runners Up J.Perkinson/W.H.Oldershaw

Autumn Shield End of season competition.

Winners J.Church /K.A.Byers
Runners Up A.Wright/F.Young

*Time was with the most of us, when
Christmas day, encircling all our limited
world; like a magic ring, left nothing out for
us to miss or seek; bound together all our
home enjoyments, affections and hopes;
grouped everything and everyone round the
Christmas fire and made the little picture
shining in our bright young eyes complete.
(Charles Dickens)*

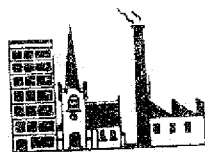
CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD

The Local Mayor has presented Austen Macintosh, aged 10, of Quarry Road with the Sheffield Children's Book Award, for the poster he designed in a competition organised by the Sheffield City Council Library Service, and sponsored by Macdonalds. An enlarged version of the poster has been displayed all round the city. Austen's prize was £30 worth of books and a supply of Macdonalds vouchers, which he intends to share with his twin sister Chloe. They attend St. Thomas of Canterbury School, Woodseats, which has also benefited by an award of books to the school as a result of Austen's prize.



"I'M THINKING OF USING SOME
OF THE SOIL REINDEER OFF
TOTLEY MESS AGAIN THIS YEAR."

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IMPATIENT No. J1/AFT/02

10.18/KgEcg

Just 20 days ago I was in Ward J1 of the Royal Hallamshire feeling more dead than alive! At the time, but unbeknown to just 20 days ago I was in Ward J1 of the Royal Hallamshire feeling more dead than alive!



At the time, but unbeknown to me, my wife was talking to the Ward Sister. She (sister) stated:- 'Alan's well and Mr. Shorthouse has had a good look around whilst he was in there and everything else's OK.' Good Show.

My recollections of the op. Are rather sketchy. I remember the injection, then a mask being put over my nose in the theatre anti-room (called by some the ampitheatre). Then suddenly my eyes were filled with a bright flash; in the centre of this white balloon a man's face appeared. I zoomed in and I thought it to be Mr. Shorthouse (thought) - but of course he was wearing his bandit-mask). Drooping from his thumb and forefinger was a scalpel - dripping blood (my blood). Suddenly he grabbed a length of my intestine and threw one end out - 'catch it nurse' which she did deftly. Then he shouted to another nurse 'get the sutures and knit a net down from his guts'. This she did and he shouted again - 'Kevin (the bloke lolling against the anaesthetist's trolley) - grab a kidney bowl, Sister grab another'. Then Mr. Shorthouse (if indeed it were he) tossed a swab into the air and shouted 'Kevin, Sister - let's see how you can play badminton!'.

At this moment in time my vision dissolved (a term used in the Film Industry - meaning MIX) to Mr. S's top parts. His grip on the scalpel had changed. It (the scalpel) was being aimed towards the clock on the wall (which I distinctly recall read 0936 hours). From Kevin the words : 'Andrew. Aren't you going a little over the top?'

I blacked out.

How long later I have no idea, but I woke up in bed. Blondie was in bed with me - trying to take my pulse halfway up my forearm. How do they train nurses these days!

The first three days were awful. The nurses picked on me. Even the other impatient picked on me. Poor me!

Then things started to improve; not that I enjoyed things, you'll understand. During his rounds, accompanied by the camp followers, Mr. Shorthouse even showed me the photograph of the polyp he'd removed. He apologised for having made such a big hole in my belly. It was supposed to be a keyhole job, but he'd fumbled his key a bit (or a lot). I was one of the unfortunate 10% where keyhole surgery fails. Mr. Shorthouse, I forgive you. Mr. S is known to his colleagues as 'Shortie' or to his rather more irreverent friends as 'Shortar..'

At 2000 hours of my last evening, I walked down the corridor of Ward J1 - eight nurses were sitting or standing at their station. I asked: 'Have you ever had anyone like me on the ward before?' 'No!' came the chorus. Then one said: 'it'll cost you Alan'. Another: 'you're too late, we ate 'em all two nights ago!' Bless their little cotton socks, when I go in for my check-up I'll take a tin of biscuits into Ward J1. I shall stick a label on with the message 'save the crumbs for Martin.' He was my favourite physio.

At home my first bath. I look down at the wound and muse 'very neat Mr. S, but I'm very glad your scalpel didn't travel another inch downhill. Ouch!!'

Alan Faulkner Taylor.

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TRANSPORT 17.

A good number of shareholders attended the General Meeting on 2nd November. John Savournin reported that we are in a reasonable state financially. We have to continually fund-raise though so that our buses do not depreciate too much before replacement. Mike Finn gave his report and said that new ways of charging for mileage meant that some Clubs paid less. Everyone seemed quite happy with new registration of passengers needed by SYPT. This also updates our files. Mike thanked John and Olive Calton for doing a good job in the office, and the Committee generally. We would be nowhere without our drivers and I know how much our passengers appreciate them and also their escorts!

Transport 17 would like to thank all the Churches, Clubs and individuals for their support. The Post Offices, local shops and the Library have always been a great help to us. Now that the shops along by our office are all being used there is a good feeling of Community. Thanks also to Christine and Tom at Busy Bee and their staff. Totley Residents Association and ourselves look forward to even closer links in 1999. My most heartfelt thanks go to Totley Independent for giving us space and for editing my contributions.

Everyone at Transport 17 send good wishes to you and yours for Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Best Wishes.

Margaret Barlow.

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PEAK TOWN STORY by Hugh Percival Chapter 9

John Winter's habit at this time was to spend a couple of hours most evenings in his room at the Rodger's house on his accounting and auditing skills. These were progressing to his satisfaction and the excellent results of tests set by the correspondence course tutors were evidence of the pains he took over these.

He knew by heart the definition of a bill of exchange, was familiar with double entry bookkeeping, trial balances, trading and profit and loss accounts and balance sheets. Auditing practice was now less of a mystery following his reading of a book on that subject by the celebrated author 'De Paula'. He was gratified to read the remarks of the judge in one legal case that 'an auditor is not a bloodhound but a watchdog' and as an animal lover appreciated the difference.

Occasionally John took an evening off to visit a cinema, usually in the company of one of the other clerks. On one such occasion he went with young Harry Evans, the office boy to the Dome picture house to see Paul Robeson in 'Sanders of the River'. The Dome had originally been a theatre and still retained the balconies known as the gods, at the top of the auditorium. The seating here was primitive and consisted of rows of forms without any backrests. Paul Robeson's powerful voice was reverberating throughout the cinema when there was a tearing of cloth as his trousers (John Winter's not Paul Robeson's) were torn asunder on a nail protruding from the form. After the performance John remarked to Harry 'False economy to go in the gods this time. It will cost more for a new pair of trousers than ten seats in the stalls.' John bid Harry a good night and made his way to his lodgings, self-consciously holding his trouser seat.

The time now arrived after two years of study, when John was to sit the intermediate examination of the Society of Incorporated Accountants and Auditors. This was to be held in a neighbouring city some forty miles away over the Pennines. John journey there in an omnibus, the route taking him via a public house on the moors, now in the ownership of Frank Barber, a former employee of Dilks and Sons. Frank had been the cashier.

As he waited for the bus to leave this stop, John recalled the internecine warfare that was a feature of the cashier's relationship with another colleague, Sam Spencer, who shared an office with the cashier. John, when an office boy was always wary of entering their office, particularly if he was carrying cups of coffee or tea. On one occasion John had been struck by a missile on entering the room without knocking at the door and spilt the coffee as a consequence. That the missile, a ball of brown paper tightly bound with string, had been thrown by one of the two could not be in doubt to one who did not believe in poltergeists. However, the interest the two shared in the papers on the desks before them, evidenced by the most serious facial expression and rapid writing of notes, made it difficult to detect the culprit. Only the slightest of grins that eventually creased Sam Spencer's swarthy face, gave an indication of his guilt. Frank Barber's expression never gave a hint of such levity but retained its serious aspect as befitted his position as cashier.

John smiled to himself at the recollection as the bus continued its journey. On arrival in the city John, after taking directions from a passer-by, walked to an hotel in the suburbs where he had booked a room for two nights.

Next morning John, in a nervous condition after a restless night, confirmed when he spilt his cup of tea over the breakfast table, to the great indignation of the waiter, made his way to the local Town Hall, where the examination was to be held.

The invigilator, a tall, moustached man of correct demeanour briefed the examinees on the procedures to be followed. The first paper would be on bookkeeping and accounts, there must be no collusion between students and no consultation with text books or other extraneous matter. The invigilator's assistant then delivered the examination papers, face downwards to each desk. A clock on the wall behind the invigilator showed the time at ten O'clock and permission was given to start.

John turned over his papers and briefly studied the questions to decide in what order to attempt answers. Whilst doing this a loud noise behind him distracted him and his fellow students. He turned round hastily to see a pale sickly-looking student being helped to his feet from a prone position on the floor. This candidate was then escorted from the room by the invigilator's assistant, much to the evident distress of the remaining examinees. John looked at his neighbour, who seemed as pale as the departed student.

The incident was soon forgotten however, when the candidates began to answer the questions on the paper. The invigilator surveyed the scene with a watchful eye as if expecting some students to take advantage of any momentary lapse of concentration on his part.

The questions were relatively simple, being mainly concerned with bookkeeping entries, trial balances and the production of accounts but their voluminous nature made it difficult to complete all answers in the time allowed. However, John, a rapid thinker and whose handwriting suffered as a consequence when putting his thoughts on paper, had answered all his quota of questions by the end of the two and a half hours time limit. The invigilator told the candidates to cease writing and to lay down their pens.

At lunch in a nearby restaurant John discussed the first paper with a fellow student. This young man, bespectacled and of a studious nature, remarked 'Not too bad a paper for the first stage.'

'No, I managed to answer my quota of questions.' Replied John.

'I didn't I'm afraid. Almost but not quite' admitted the fellow student. 'Which questions did you answer?' he continued. (Only six out of a total of ten questions had to be answered.)

'Three trading and profit and loss accounts and balance sheets, the bookkeeping exercise on foreign exchange, the bank reconciliation and the cash flow statement' replied John. 'I did almost the same except I answered the question on hire purchase transactions instead of that on foreign exchange' the fellow student remarked.

'I don't recall a question on hire purchase transactions' said John Winter in some bemusement.

'Yes, question number eight. One of the easier ones I felt' the fellow student replied with conviction.

'I must have overlooked that question' remarked John Winter in some alarm at his carelessness.

John made a mental note to be more careful when answering the next paper on auditing, as they returned to the Town Hall. The auditing paper proved to be more difficult, including as it did, questions on internal control and statistical sampling of transactions which John felt were rather advanced subjects for the intermediate examination. However he persevered and had finished his replies sometime before the time limit expired, a bad sign being probably due to a lack of knowledge.

John spent the evening in his hotel and retired early to bed. There was no point in further study at this late hour. After another restless night pondering on the possible questions that

might be set on the final day, he arrived at the examination hall ready to tackle a second paper on bookkeeping and accounts and in the afternoon, a paper on Company Law. In the accounts paper, John again answered the questions in time, due to his speed of thought. This was greatly to his advantage giving undue credit for speed rather than for quality and thoroughness of reply. He later found, during the lunch interval, that few candidates had completed replies to all the questions.

In the Company Law paper, John again found time to spare and had completed his answers a full half hour before the time limit.

He returned to his lodgings that evening in the omnibus rather tired and reflected on his examination performance. He was not sanguine despite hopeful thoughts regarding the accounts papers, where he knew he had achieved at least arithmetical accuracy. John was less optimistic regarding the other two papers realising his knowledge was less than complete.



**A WINTER SCENE, OLD HAY BROOK by
Tom Steele**

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE.

On behalf of Totley Youth Football Club players and parents, I would like to thank everyone who has fought to keep the field on the Lowfield development a public open space.

The football pitch is used most Sundays (sometimes twice) for our Totley Youth teams and is therefore much needed. When we are consulted about these facilities make sure YOU have your say as to the use of this area.

Diane Wilkinson.

ST. JOHN'S PLAYGROUP, ABBEYDALE.

It is with much regret that St. John's Playgroup has decided to close at Christmas. This is due to a variety of reasons, including greatly increased administration requirements, planning regulations and prospective competition from another local provider of pre-school places. However, there is a possibility that we can replace it with a Mother and Toddler group, which will enable us to continue providing a service for young children, where they can play, socialise and learn as well as a valuable social and support network for their parents and carers. This depends on finding enough people to both run it and attend it, so if you are interested in finding out more, please phone me on 2360229.

Vanessa Boddy.



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HE PLAYED SOCCER ALONGSIDE THE GREATS.

There is no doubt that Totley caters for plenty of sporting activities with football playing a major part. Our local amateur team that kick the ball along the pitch adjacent to the Cricket Inn show plenty of enthusiasm every Saturday, who knows there maybe a future star in the making.

I am privileged to have a neighbour who was a real football star. Let me tell you a little bit about my next door friend, Bob Foster. Bob was born in 1929 and hailed from the Pitsmoor area. School life was tough in those early days of the Second World War. He showed real promise in the not so gentle art of soccer and was soon playing for the school team. At the age of 16 he joined the Chesterfield F.C. junior team as an inside forward striker. In the year of 1950 he was playing in the old central league. At this time the Preston North End Scouts were looking for a quality inside forward to link up with their top winger the celebrated Tom Finney. What a tremendous talent emerged with this pairing, for in those days Preston North End rubbed shoulders with the best teams. They won promotion to the First Division 1950-51 and Bob scored many goals. It was a magic combination for he was a master at heading the ball. That team had many big names at Deep Dale, which included that controversial figure Tommy Docherty, who later was a manager for Manchester United. The years 1952-53 they were runners-up to the mighty Arsenal, and only missed out winners on goal average. Bob made it through to a special day of glory at Wembley in 1954 when his team were just beaten 1-2 by West Bromwich Albion in the Cup Final.

He earned further distinction for whilst serving his two years National Service, he was picked to play for the British Army football team. Bob certainly had a grand career and played alongside many of the great names during the 1950's. Life can be a little cruel for this sportsman with the illness of Parkinson's. But his footballing spirit still shines through and he will always be remembered as a crowd-puller at Deep Dale. He keeps in touch with his special partner on the wing, now of course Sir Tom Finney.

I was a Sheffield United supporter in those early days, and any visits from Preston to Bramall Lane would draw capacity crowds, just to see Bob Foster and Tom Finney weave their magic on the wing. Maybe these stars and names such as Jimmy Hagan, Jimmy Dunne, Ellis Rimmer, Mark Hooper, Sir Stanley Matthews and one of my old favourite players Tommy Lawton etc. would wonder what has happened to the game with the massive fees and transfers, these great players were simply born too soon. There was another great player who gave good service to Sheffield United in the 1920's to 30's. The late Tommy Sampy, can any reader remember this gentleman, who used to reside on Main Avenue, Totley. I am not quite sure if he played in the team that last won the F.A. Cup in 1925. I do know that Billy Gillespie was Captain and Freddie Tunstall scored the winning goal against Cardiff City. Magic Memories.

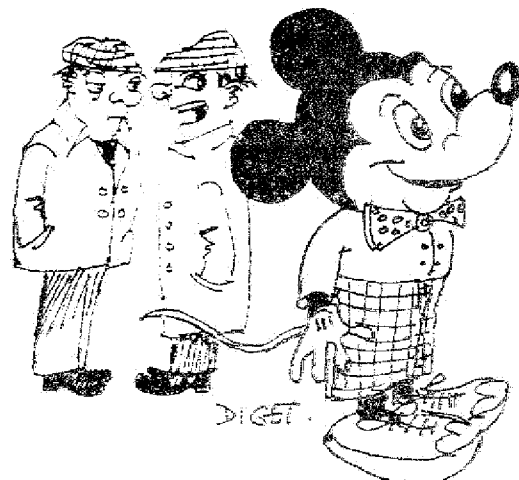
John C. Barrows.

*HAPPY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Sir Isaac Newton (1642) and Humphrey Bogart
(1899) were both born on Christmas Day*

COBBLED UP.

I remember when we converted the Old Methodist Chapel to a house in 1975, the cobbled footpath was quite wide. Readers will have seen the reports about cleaning up this section of what was once called Bents Footway, leading across the commons which stretched all the way nearly to Fox House. We planted some oaks, hawthorn and mountain Ash in Chapel Bank to the left of the picture, and these have now become a small copse. I had forgotten that I had sketched the view in 1975, one of the first of hundreds I have done over the years in and around Totley.

Brian Edwards.



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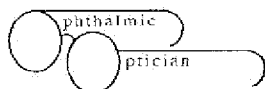
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COFFEE MORNING, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am. To noon.
CRAFT GROUP, Totley Library, 2pm.
LADIES EXERCISE TO MUSIC, All levels, United Reformed Church, 10-15 to 11-45am.

WEDNESDAYS.
WEDNESDAYS.
THURSDAYS.

COFFEE IN THE LIBRARY, 10am. to 11-30am.
MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING, All Saints Church Hall, 8-00pm. To 10-30pm
OPEN DOOR, United Reformed Church, 10 am to noon.
PUSHCHAIR CLUB, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 1-30pm. To 3-00pm. Tel. 236 157 for further information.
MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING, All Saints Church Hall, 2nd. & 4th. Saturdays 7-30pm. To 10-00pm

SATURDAYS.

DECEMBER

THUR/FRI 3rd. & 4th. JOHN WADE SINGERS CONCERT, St. John's Church Abbeydale, 7-30pm.

SAT. 5th. "CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING" Totley Primary School 10 to 12 noon Craft stalls, cakes & mince pies, carol singing, Father Christmas Grotto, raffle, tombola. Free Entry.

SAT. 5th. "CHRISTMAS FAIR" St. Johns Church Hall, Abbeydale Road, Opened by Santa at 2pm. Have your child's photograph taken with Santa. Many Stalls. Raffle drawn 4.30 pm. Admission Free.

WED. 2nd, 9th, WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP GROUP, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 8pm. All Welcome. (Full details inside)

TUES. 8th. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Totley Rise Methodist Church Schoolroom 2-30pm. "TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD CHOIR"

THUR. 10th. DORE MALE VOICE CHOIR, Christmas Concert, Dore Methodist Church, 7-30pm. Tickets £3 from Greens D.I.Y in Dore or phone 2364367

SAT. 12th. DORE MALE VOICE CHOIR, Christmas Concert, Dore Parish Church, 7-30pm. Tickets £3 from Greens D.I.Y in Dore or phone 2364367

SUN. 13th. "STEAM TRAIN RIDES" Ecclesall Woods, Abbeydale Rd. South. 2pm. To 5pm. Santa's Special.

Mon. 14th. "COME & SING MESSIAH" 7-30PM. Dore Parish Church with Wine & mince Pies, £5 inclusive.

TUES. 15th. TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Pre Christmas get together Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am

TUES. 24th. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Totley Rise Methodist Church Schoolroom 2-30pm "Devotional" Rev. J.R. Thompson.

DETAILS OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES INSIDE.

JANUARY

TUES. 19th. TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD "MY YEAR AS LADY MAYORESS" by Mrs. C. Heslop Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am

TUES. 5th. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Totley Rise Methodist Church Schoolroom 2-30pm. New Year party, Husbands Welcome.

WED. 6th. Wednesday Friendship Group, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 8pm. All Welcome. (Full details inside)

TUES. 19th. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Totley Rise Methodist Church Schoolroom 2-30pm. Devotional, Rev. J.R. Thompson.

SAT 30th. "THE CELEBRATION CHOIR" 7-30pm. Totley Rise Methodist Church, Proceeds to NSPCC. Full details inside.

THE INDEPENDENT FOR FEBRUARY

The NEXT issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on **JANUARY 30th 1999**. Copy date for this issue will be **SATURDAY 9th. JANUARY 1999**.

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

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


TYPING Eileen Ogley. Items for publication may be sent to or be left at 6, Milldale Road., 2, Main Avenue, Totley Library or V. Martin's Abbeydale Road.

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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 the Totley Residents Association and must not be imputed to them.

The Totley Residents Association Committee and the Totley Independent Editorial Team would like to say a big thank you to all our contributors and advertisers without whom there would not be an Independent and wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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