

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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ALL Saints Church March 1990 D. D. W. Ruthven

ALL SAINTS 75th. ANNIVERSARY

Nov 14th 1924 was a proud day for the village of Totley. All Saints Church was opened and dedicated for public worship. Quite a change from services in the school, and having to go to Dore for Communion!

The first vicar was Rev J Hutton, who arrived in 1923, and after spending a short time in lodgings, lived in the newly built vicarage at 222 Baslow Road until the present vicarage became available a few years later.

We thank God for all those people who had the vision to see that the church got built. The first Reader, Mr A J Foulstone, was a leading force at that time.

Since then we have had seven vicars, all of whom have left their mark on the parish in their own individual

way.

A number of things have altered over the years -1928 - Electric lighting installed

1947 - Lady Chapel furnished

1959 - Carpet laid

1964 - Church hall built

1974 - Church seating replaced

We must remember that the Church is not just the building, and we must go forward in Faith, and grow, to do God's work, both here and overseas, for many more years, knowing that our present vicar, David Rhodes, will be a great help and inspiration.

D.M.S

MEETING AT GREEN OAK VIEW

On Friday 15th October, there was a consultation meeting at Green Oak View for all users of the home. This was to provide information on the effect of forthcoming Government regulations in line with modernising social services for older people in Sheffield, and allow the people involved to have their views recorded and hopefully taken into consideration.

Richard Parrott, who is Communications Officer and co-ordinator of the five month consultation period for all 16 council owned residential homes, gave the presentation. (For full details of the proposals see booklet "Modernising social services for older people in Sheffield" in Totley Library).

In the past, council run homes have suffered from under investment and have therefore not kept up with the same facilities as those in the private sector. Unlike the private sector, which has been regulated by the government, the council homes have been regulated by the council and were therefore exempt from government regulations. Because the proposal now is to have national regulations, with no exemptions, it would cost at least half a million pounds each to bring the council run homes up to standard.

As part of the whole picture of providing better services for older people, and in line with the new area based Primary Health Care Groups, the following has been recommended:-

That four homes will be made into Resource Centres. They will resource their area by providing rehabilitation beds, respite care, and specialist services, i.e. flexible day care, and health treatments, and also provide a base for health and social services staff to provide outreach services and home support. These homes are, Sevenfields, Tannery Lodge, Longley Hill, and Hazlehurst.

Four others already providing dementia care, are to provide for older people with mental health problems. These are Foxwood, Hurlfield, Bole Hill View and Norbury.

The eight remaining homes, Ellesmere, Newton Grange, Mortomley, Thornlea, Ravenscroft, The Lees, Kirkhill and Green Oak View to be transferred to the private sector.

This is only a short appraisal of the meeting. There were many questions, which were all noted to be used in the consultation process. It seemed that present staff would be transferred and jobs secure but the current rate paid to council homes workers is higher than in the private sector. It was also not clear as to whether other uses of the home would be able to continue, which includes the use of the day centre for T.R.A. committee meetings.

The T.R.A. are concerned that we may lose yet another resource in our community, along with Abbeydale Hall, and Totley College. We have been very grateful for the use of the day centre for our monthly meetings for a number of years now, especially as it enables any of our members with a disability to serve on the committee. At a recent meeting in Totley Library, (see separate report), about the new South West Area Panel, there was discussion about making more use of the facilities we have in this area. Green Oak View is one of the facilities in the area and could probably be used by more community groups.

We would therefore recommend that everyone should go to Totley Library, and read the green booklet "Modernising social services for older people in Sheffield". Take note of the principles on page 5, especially "to work in active partnership with the community to regenerate Sheffield and improve the quality of life for all its residents". Then, if you

have any comments to make, please fill in a suggestion form available in the library, as soon as possible.

P.M. Perkinson Chair. T.R.A.

HIGHWAYS MEETING

There was a committee meeting of the T.R.A. on 11th October when the main business was local highway issues.

Pete Vickers from Highways Dept. attended along with Councillors Colin Ross and Keith Hill.

Pete Vickers reported that all local public rights of way were being inspected and a three man team would be doing any necessary repairs. Work has been started on repairing steps on Strawberry Lea Lane. The new name board for Penny Lane should be erected and hopefully will be thief proof.

The ongoing problem of Totley Rise service road was discussed. As readers will be aware the T.R.A. have been asking for this to be made one way for some considerable time. This now at last appears to be a little closer to happening. A letter from the council will be sent to all occupiers adjacent to the service road outlining the proposal and asking for comments. Highways Dept. have accepted that a one way system is necessary at this busy spot.

Pete Vickers was surprised when it was mentioned at our last meeting that there was no pedestrian crossing between Totley Rise and Millhouses and feels that there is a need. He has asked the Transportation Policy Unit to look into it and feels that an ideal place would be the bottom of Bushey Wood Road. He confirmed that the Totley Bridge will remain as single carriageway after the repairs are completed to act as traffic calming.

There is to be a narrowing of the junction at the top of Totley Hall Lane to slow traffic and pedestrian refuges provided on Baslow Road near the junction. There is no proposal to move the 30m.p.h sign at Lane Head Road further back towards Derbyshire nor to create a gate feature, or a red 30m.p.h. strip.

A note has been made of our request for a seat to be provided at the bus stop outside the Co-Op. Mention was made of vegetation which was encroaching on to the pavement at the old filling station, Totley Rise, Abbeydale Hall and 249, Baslow Road. Letters will be sent to the respective estate agents requesting them to deal with the matter. May we respectfully remind all our residents that it is an offence to have vegetation protruding on to a public footpath. Usually a letter will be sent by the council asking the householder to deal with the problem and if there is no response the council may do the work themselves and then charge the owner of the property involved.)

Other problems pointed out to Pete Vickers were as follows;

- * the poor state of the pavements at Main Avenue and from the Cheshire Home to the Spitfire
- various road signs which had been damaged or broken
- * bushes around the War Memorial which needed cutting back
- * the boundary sign for the City of Sheffield which is missing from the roadside above Dysons
- * 30m.p.h. signs outside Abbeydale garden centre which are obscured by trees

Someone from the council will attend a future committee meeting to talk about traffic calming measures in the area.

Council Consultation.

Most people in Totley missed an interesting meeting on Monday 27th September. At a gathering in the Library three of our local councillors and several senior officers attended a public meeting and asked us to identify what we wanted the Council to do. It was not a very well attended meeting but that was mostly due to poor publicity. However people who missed this event will have a further opportunity to see the draft plan for the south-west area when it is prepared.

It was brainstorming really but under headings such as Street Scene, Traffic, Library, Young People, Recreation Facilities and Education. Of course there were many issues, which have been heard before (e.g. a one-way system for Totley Rise) but also a number of new points. Some issues were recognised as important by most people present but others had their own personal axe to grind. All the points raised were recorded and no doubt some unfortunate people will have the job of sorting them all out so that the most significant can be included in the next stages of consultation.

Some people present did not appreciate that Totley already has a consultation process in place through the Totley Residents Association and the Totley Independent. The T.R.A. is in touch with both local Councillors and officers and regularly raises issues, which are of community concern. That things remain undone is often a question of money but we are at least able to allocate priority to the most urgent examples and also to offer a wider view of proposals than could be obtained from one or two individuals however strongly they might plead their case.

There are two messages then for all of us. One is to watch out for the draft plan when the Councillors have been able to sift through this and other meetings, which are planned. Secondly all of us are spurred to use the Residents Association and the Totley Independent to raise issues which concern us. Perhaps the Editor will now get a flood of suggestions? Why not write now whilst you are thinking about it?

Maurice Snowdon

Whisperer.

The Pinfold is looking good after all the hard work put in by Gerry Roberts over the last year or so with all his pruning and planting, keeping it nice and tidy, and now the seats have been stained so the area is looking quite good.

Totley Hall Lane.

Work is progressing on the college sites the bottom site is now almost cleared and the drains are now being put in and building work has started on the first new houses.

The big tree in the middle seems to have survived all the dust from the blast and grinding up of materials so the area should soon take on a whole new look.

Avenue Stores.

This shop is to re-open very soon as a farm shop selling meat and bread and many more items of produce etc. This can only be good for the corner as it is beginning to look quite untidy around this area with the hedge at the butchers taking over the footpath, lets hope the whole corner soon looks better

Community Skip.

There will be a skip in the Library car park on **Thursday 25th November 7-30 am to 12 noon** Please do not over fill the skip.

What will you be doing on December 31st 1999?

Local churches have joined together to organise a community celebration of the new Millennium on New Year's Eve under the title 'Together into Two Thousand'. Running from 6pm - 8pm, the organisers hope that as many people as possible will want to take part - the early finish allowing parents to put children to bed or go on to other parties and family get-togethers later in the evening.

The main part of the evening will be held at Totley Rise Methodist Church from 6.30-7.15 taking the form of an all-ages celebration service to include drama, dance, contemporary and traditional music. Informal parades will start from various points around the area at around 6pm to converge on the church beforehand. Walkers are encouraged to bring lanterns and torches to add to the atmosphere - and some groups have already offered to produce banners on the theme of 'new beginnings'. Before people return home or move on to other venues warming winter food will be served, and children will have the opportunity to join in a 'Sparkler Relay'.

The Totley community have few opportunities to join together in this way and the organising committee hope that as many people as possible will put this date in their diary as the start of their Millennium Celebrations. The minister of the Methodist Church, John Thompson, is chairing the committee and would be glad to receive any offers of help or other suggestions.

The starting points for the parades have yet to be finalised, but will cover the whole area - look out for details nearer the time.

WHEELCHAIR WELCOME AT St. JOHN'S

Recently the powers that be at St. John's, Abbeydale, have taken measures to allow easy access for wheelchair users to our church.

A ramp is provided to make entrance to the church easy and a space has been made at the front of the church to allow those confined to wheelchairs to be able to partake fully in the services. Though wheelchair users would be very welcome at our routine Sunday Services these measures will allow wheelchair users to partake in all our Baptisms, Marriages and Funeral services as well.

With the loop for the deaf already in use, St. John's is playing its part in making provision for the disabled in our community.

David Caldwell

Apologies from the Editor TOTLEY SHOW

In the last issue of the Independent we unfortunately omitted the overall Best of Show Winner.

The winner was **Mrs.D.Andrews** who the judges agreed was Best in Show for her soft toy; a fox dressed as a gamekeeper.

TOTLEY BENTS V.E. DAY PHOTOGRAPH

The information in our last issue was sent to us from **Anne Rose**, not Mary as we printed. Sorry for the mistake. Ed.

THE EDICT

The world's knowledge of history is profound indeed and there is no need to argue the point, but from time to time new stories will always come to light. Practically every day fresh incidents from World War II are given an airing. Recently an ex naval officer, involved in the disposal of enemy mines, told us of an occasion when he had to remove a whale which had putrefied for too many days in shallow water until the staff on the naval base had taken to wearing gas masks. The mines expert placed three charges inside the whale but forgot to allow for the wind direction whereupon he and the entire station became covered in gobbets of stinking whale meat. New anecdotes from the first World War also continue to make their appearances, and the other day I came across newspaper references to a pair of hussars, north country men, who had taken part in the charge of the Light Brigade. Further back into a time almost beyond recall, the year 1081 A.D. our "Edict of Hallamshire" was promulgated: an absorbing slice of local history with which very few Totley people are familiar.

First of all you will surely remember that day in August this year when the television cameras arrived in Totley and filmed the glorious demise of our college's high-rise accommodation block. The building sank gracefully in clouds of dust and lacked only a loud, brassy prelude from Mr. Richard Wagner. Some of the spectators had assumed that the crucial plunger would be pressed down by Barbara Cartland but in the event a lesser bigwig presided over those final seconds. A few days after this historical occasion my wife and I sat down in a city-bound bus and then very soon began to identify from somewhere behind us, the strikingly, unmelodious tones of Godfrey Shorthouse as they alternated with the giggly, bubbly responses of Phyllis Cowlshaw. But, even if I were interested in eavesdropping, my chronic deafness would preclude such entertainment. On the other hand my wife's hearing is second to none and often during a bus journey she will latch onto a nearby conversation of engrossing content and I then have to maintain absolute silence lest any succulent titbit be lost.

Acquaintances on the bus must often wonder if my dear lady and I have quarrelled and are not on speaking terms. Such an idea is glaringly untrue however. I do suspect that on rare occasions this soul-mate of mine will ignore the city centre, a destination she has planned, and travel halfway to Hillsborough in order to absorb quite clearly the outcome of a spellbinding tete-a-tete at the other end of the bus. On this quite recent journey of which I now write, I learned nothing of the Phyllis-Godfrey gossip until my wife and I were back at home and eating our lunch. The two bus prattlers had begun their discourse with the Totley tower block downfall and then moved on to the prospect of the high-priced, executive type, up-market residences which were to be built in the same area. The conversation, though I cannot quote word for word, ran something like this

"And you may be interested to know", said Godfrey, "that I shall be buying one of the new six-bedroomed villas when they are built."

Phyllis hooted with laughter. "Don't talk wet!" she burred, "you don't have that sort of money. Why, whenever you see my husband in the Spitfire or the Fleur-de-Lys, you scrounge cigarettes from him".

"Aha", was the dismissive response, "our finances have changed for the better just lately: an inheritance from my wife's ancient cousin who used to have a business in Southend: chiropody, nose-piercing and ear de-waxing. Very profitable, apparently."

"I'll believe your six-bedroomed villa when I see it".

"Well", answered the cigarette scrounger, "strangely enough the new villas plan was almost derailed by a secret consortium of London businessmen who were hell bent on constructing a racecourse".

"You mean for Eddie Irvine and Barrichello?"

No, no! For four-legged Red Rum type animals. Mr. Pocock's strawberry fields were earmarked for a grandstand, Victoria Wines, Wendy Flowers and the Post Office were to be combined into one large betting shop, while for a car park the entire Laverdene estate was to be flattened. Large financial offers were in the programme otherwise the purchases would have been impossible."

"Rubbish", declared Phyllis. "The Post Office would never consider moving."

"Money talks, my dear. Some folk would sell their grandmothers if the price was right."

"Do you mean to tell me that our postmistress would sell her grandmother?"

"Now, now," spluttered Godfrey, "I didn't say that! Just be careful with that tongue of yours".

"Any more crackpot news?" asked Phyllis.

Take the mickey as much as you like. I thought of laying in a stock of horseshoes and nails before the Busy Bee woke up to this racecourse scheme, but my bank manager is a short-sighted nincompoop. A friend of my wife's tried to buy some shares in the Felicity Hat shop, bearing in mind that the racecourse might organise an annual Ascot type week. The prospects were exciting".

"But why has this wonderful idea been abandoned? Why has the fabulous London consortium disappeared?"

"Simply because the lunacy of ancient times has been visited upon modern Totley. One of our local historians stumbled, quite by accident, upon the "Hallamshire Edict".

It took Godfrey a long time to explain matters to his companion therefore I shall intervene at this point and condense the narrative to the best of my ability. Soon after the Norman Conquest a headstrong and boastful retainer of the Bishop of Hallamshire challenged the headstrong and boastful son of a Saxon farmer to a horse race. The course was to begin at Beauchief crossroads, which were not there in 1080 A.D., and to end at the Totley tunnel signal box which, likewise, was missing in 1080 A.D. The race duly started and was all but run when the treacherous Norman slashed a spur into the flank of his opponent's horse, whereupon the Saxon flew through the air and came down spreadeagled outside Jimmy Martin's shop.

Jimmy, by a strange quirk of fate, had not yet been born or I am sure that he would have dashed out of his shop with a mug of tea and a packet of Elastoplast. Early on the morning after the race the dark tide of destiny revealed this Norman retainer at the back of a Totley alehouse, suffering from a chronic attack of rigor mortis and a knife in the back. As you can well imagine, the Bishop, upon hearing the news, was incandescent and before long his scribes drafted the famous "Hallamshire Edict", a document several pages long which, to put it briefly, forbade horse racing in the dale of the abbey from that time forward. Disregard of the edict would entail the severest of penalties, with some extensive reference to "drawing and quartering". The edict was soon ratified by the new King William I and was later rubber-stamped by Pope John VIII, (872-82 A.D.).

"Well, well," declared Phyllis scornfully, "and in addition to all that there are fairies at the bottom of our garden".

"My dear lady, you were always a sceptic, but by all means

don't take my word for this gem of history, just wend your way to London Town, visit the Public Records Office, ask to see the Domesday Book and there, in black and white, you will find the "Hallamshire Edict". An 'A' level in Latin or French might be helpful".

That is the end of the story and the moral is: whenever you travel on a Totley bus, KEEP YOUR EARS OPEN!
C.N.Railton Holden

TOTLEY LIBRARY — more than books

Did you know that in addition to thousands of books Totley Library also lends audio-visual materials?

Music We have CD's and cassettes, varying from classical to pop, easy listening, jazz, country etc. They are loaned for a week and the current charges are 80p for CD's and 30p for cassettes. There are concessions on the loan charges for people who are disabled, unemployed or over retirement age.

Videos

We have quite a range of videos, including popular feature films, children's and TV tie-ins. They are all loaned for £1.00 or 50p per week. There are also educational or instructional videos on such subjects as gardening, keep fit, fishing and cookery as well as videos of local interest on old Sheffield or local football teams. These are loaned free, just like books. Videos can only be loaned to borrowers over 18 years of age.

Talking books

There is a range of recorded books, for both adults and children, which can be played on an ordinary cassette recorder. These are mainly fiction but there are also educational ones, e.g. helping to learn a foreign language. These are loaned just like books.

Jigsaws

We have a good stock of jigsaws, which we swap with other Libraries from time to time. They have all been donated and we would always welcome more, so if you have some jigsaws you no longer want, please think about the Library. All of these can be borrowed on your ordinary library ticket. If you don't have a ticket, you can join by bringing 2 items of identification to the Library. These must include your name and address and signature. You will just need to fill in a form and you can join on the spot!

If you have any queries, please contact the Library:

Tel no. 236 3067

Pauline Rosser, Community Librarian

Sheffield's claim to Robin Hood

Why Nottinghamshire lays such claim to the legend of Robin Hood we can only guess. The case for our own area is surely just as strong!

In the medieval period large parts of England were covered by forest including the area we know today as North Derbyshire and South Yorkshire. In fact this area was covered by what amounts to an extension of Sherwood Forest. Robin Hood is said to have been born at Loxley, now on the outskirts of Sheffield and there are many local names associated with him, such as Hood Brook in Hathersage and Robin Hood's cave on Stanage Edge.

There is certainly strong evidence to suggest that Little John

was a native of Hathersage, and that he is buried in the village Churchyard. Local tradition has it that little John was trained in the local industry of nail making, before fighting under Simon de Montfort at the Battle of Evesham in 1265. He joined Robin Hood and others of the Earl's men who were outlawed.

When Robin Hood died at the age of 80 it was little John who buried him at Kirklee, near Huddersfield. Little John himself died at Hathersage and was buried in the churchyard of St. Michael's Church. His great bow, arrows, chain armour and green cap were hung in the church, until the bow and armour were removed to Cannon Hall in the 18th century. The bow, which required a pull of 160 lbs to draw it, is in the hands of the Fraser family.

In 1784 Captain James Shuttleworth opened up Little John's grave which is 3.5 metres long. He discovered a human thigh bone about 30 inches in length suggesting a man nearly 7ft tall. This, and the size of the bow, certainly point to a man of great stature. Little John's cottage still stood at Hathersage about 100 years ago.

St Michael's Church is well worth a visit, its Norman predecessor having been replaced in 1381 and then extended by Robert Eyre soon after the 1415 Battle of Agincourt, in thanks for his safe return. There are a number of brasses to members of the Eyre family.

There are many legends of Robin Hood and Little John, woven no doubt from folk memory and wishful thinking. We may never know the truth, but if he did exist, it would be nice to think we could lay claim to him. Perhaps his camp was in Ecclesall Woods!

John Baker



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News from Totley A.C.

Don't be put off by the name. We are a mixed bag of people who run various speeds and distances; in fact being a member of Totley A.C. is about much more than just running. Some of us take part in races, others do it for fun and fitness. We even have social members who don't run. During the summer months we meet at the Cricket inn and do most of our runs in the surrounding beautiful countryside. Unfortunately in the winter the dark evenings force us to change venues. Our winter training venues are as follows:

Tuesday 6.30pm	Dronfield sports centre car park
Thursday 6.30pm	Midland Bank sports ground, Dore

This continues until after Christmas when the training venues will change to:

Tuesday 6.30pm	Rowlinson sport centre - rear car park
Thursday 6.30pm	Millhouses Park cafe entrance gate

All training runs start at 6.30pm and invariably finish in a local pub. If you are new we will make every effort to place you with the right group and make you feel welcome.

Our recent social events include a pie and peas supper at the Crown and a weekend at

Greenside in the Lake District. Our members have taken part in a wide range of events recently including the leafy Clumber Park 10k, the Sheffield Way relay and the Ian Hodgson Mountain relay in the Lake District.

Ian Hodgson was knocked off his bike and killed the day after winning the Karrimor mountain marathon 13 years ago. His widow and many of his friends decided to organise an event in his memory and so the Ian Hodgson Memorial Mountain Relay was started. It is now one of the most prestigious events in the Fell Running calendar after the Fell Running Association (FRA) championships. It starts and finishes at Sykeside Camp Site at Brotherswater between Ambleside and Patterdale and is a very scenic circular route that is run in four legs. Obviously because it is a bit hilly around there for safety reasons each leg is run in pairs. Simple and scenic especially if you are able to see where you are going. We have done this event in sleet and snow or even worse in thick mist, which can create a few challenges, as there are several orienteering type checkpoints that need clipping on the way round.

We awoke on the Sunday morning to the delicious aroma of bacon butties wafting over from the food tent. Tea and Coffee 20p and such a wonderful selection of home made cakes we almost decided to forget running the first leg and to scoff instead. We all had splendid time and were 44th team out of

60 (against the very best in the country).

If anyone would like any further information about our activities please phone either William or Carol on 235 2041 or just turn up at one of the venues stated.

Carol Parsons

TOTLEY ATHLETIC CLUB FUTURE EVENTS

November

Sat. 20th Penmaenmawr Fell Race. 11m/1400' 1030am.
£3 PE.

Sun. 21st. Clowne Half Marathon 10am, £5 P.E., £6 O.D.
Roaches fell race. 15m13700' £2.50 O.D.

Sun. 28th. Barnsley 10k 10am, £4 P.E. £5 O.D.

December

Sat. 5th Percy Pud 10k 10.30am. £5 PE

Sat. 11th. Round Rotherham 50. 7am, £10 PE., £11 OD.

Fri. 31st. Very Last race Of The Century 2000m Millenium
Run. Belper. 11-.57 pm. £5

F=fell R=road XC=cross country PE=pre-entry OD=on day
More details from Jon Gilchrist - 0114 2665148



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THE NORTH ANTRIM COAST by Alan Faulkner Taylor

The thought of geology for a holiday is enough to turn most people off! But be patient. Only a moron (in my opinion for what it's worth), couldn't fail but be impressed and fascinated by the rocky coastline of this part of N. Ireland; not only the cliffs and headlands, but the superb distant views of the Mull of Kintyre in Scotland some 30 miles away. Incidentally it's on the Mull of Kintyre where Sir Paul McCartney has an estate. Remember his evocative song bearing the same name?

The superb cliff-top walk is called the Antrim Way - part of the Ulster Way.

But, to return to geology. Geology forms the basis of the landscape, or to be pedantic - the rocks, their movements and erosion over eons of time, have created the scenery as we see it today. The rocks of the Antrim coast turn on even the most blasé of geologists, professional or amateur. So - why is this so? The rocks are an intriguing mixture of off-black lavas and brilliant white chalk, with a little limestone thrown in for good measure. In many places there is a striking contrast where black and white are in immediate contact.

Of course everyone's heard of the Giant's Causeway. So how was it formed? 60 million years ago immense lava flows poured out from volcanoes - from the Antrim coast to North-West Scotland. As the lava cooled, contraction of parts caused the crystals to arrange themselves in a strange way to form hexagonal columns, although some of these can be either five- or seven-sided. Over millions of years the surface rocks have been eroded firstly by weathering, then by scraping during the Ice Age.

Still photographs can never do justice to the scale of the Causeway. Quarter of a mile away, within the cliff face, there is the Organ; these are columns of basalt that appear to reach to the sky when you stand at their feet.

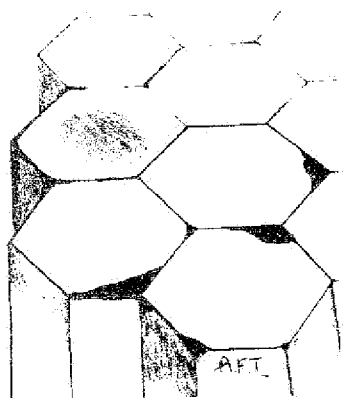
The legend has it that the kind Irish giant, Finn McColl, heard that there was a wicked giant in Scotland, so he built a causeway across the sea with the intention of sorting out his rival. When he was half-way across he saw the ugly giant and noticed that he was even bigger than himself. Finn turned about then ran back home, joining his wife in bed. When the Scottish giant arrived at Finn's cave, the latter's wife came out to meet him, telling him that her husband was away, but only their baby son was at home. The Scottish giant asked to see the boy and when he saw Finn in bed, dummy in his mouth, he wondered just how big the baby's father was. The Scot turned around and rushed back home!

The chalk cliffs are equally as impressive as the basaltic lava. In some places erosion by the sea has left standing stacks and arches although some of these are inaccessible at high water. There are places in the chalk cliffs where boulders of basalt are encapsulated to produce a startling effect.

Fossils only occur in the chalk, but they are few and far between - ammonites and belemnites. Most of the chalk faces contain nodules of flint.

Botanists will find plenty of interest. While walking down a path to reach one of the coves I noticed the rare grass of Parnassus with its delightful little white flower, which has to be examined closely to appreciate its beauty.

Bird watchers may be lucky to see the rare member of the



crow family - the chough. I first heard the call (similar to a jackdaw's) and then saw three on one day. Ravens are quite common - distinguished from the carrion crow by its slower wing-beat, separated feathers at the wing-tips, trowel-shaped tail and its call - a hoarse croak - which gives the raven its scientific name - corax corax. Then there are peregrines and buzzards to look for. The seabirds seen are common, black-headed and black-backed gulls mainly also those superb gliders - fulmar petrels. On the beaches look for rock pipit, wheatears, stonechats, then migrant wading birds from the middle of August onwards - redshanks, oyster catchers, curlews, etc.

A 'first' for me were five brent geese from their breeding grounds in the Arctic.

Forget the Troubles - they don't exist. The locals wonder what it's all about!

My visit was with a party of amateur geologists, led by a professional. Whilst looking for fossils embedded in the chalk I composed in my mind the following ditty. The Editor offers no prize for the first to 'phone in with the title of the music!

JOLLY GEOLOGISTS

There were once some jolly gologists a hoppin' on the rocks one day.

When an extra large wave came and washed one away.

But in spite of being one less they continued to play

Til the sun sank low at the end of the day.

Jumpin' gologists, jumpin' gologists,

They'll go a gologing again next day.

And then they'll look and they'll find a little ammonite,

and some will look harder and find a belemnite.

Jumpin' gologists, jumpin' gologists,

They'll go a'gologing again next day.

And they'll hammer and hammer at rock 'til close of day.

And so these jolly gologists were on the rocks next day
They'd no money left 'cos they'd boozed it all away. So they
looked and they looked for crabs to pay the rent, but all they
found were little bits of flint.

Jumpin' gologists, jumpin' gologists,

They weren't able to gologise again next day, but go a-home
and earn brass to return another day.

Jumpin' gologists, jumpin' gologists,

They'll go a'gologing again another day.

To seek and to find some fossils and to play.

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Slimming

MEMORIES OF TOTLEY CO-OP by Robert H. Carr

I was passing the Co-op on Baslow Road not long ago and my thoughts went back to that shop many years ago when I was in my youth. In those days the building stood well back from the road but eventual road widening changed that and in time the emergence of the supermarkets changed the Co-op and to my mind a lot of what was unique about the Co-op went with those changes. No longer that personal touch given by the counter staff, home ordering, and delivery, etc., The Co-op Society had inevitably to change and so we see today their own style supermarket doing it's best to live alongside the giants of the trade. How different it all was in the 30's and 40's

When a young boy I was occasionally asked to fetch the odd item from the Co-op, to which request my dear mother would add that immortal tag line "Don't forget my Divi number!! So I would go on the dash to the shop, and here I must point out I had no busy roads to cross from our home on Aldam Road to the S & E on Baslow Road. Being young at the time I sometimes gave the wrong number mixing up the five figures in the wrong order. However, my mother soon saw to it that I knew it by heart. Like many offspring in those days, if you had an errand to the Co-op you had not to forget your mother's Co-op number and along with so many of my generation, that number has lived with me down the years.

The Divi was all important, each Co-op member had their own registered number and every time you paid for your goods the amount spent was recorded along with that number on the little receipt given to you, a percentage of that amount being credited to your Dividend Account, a useful source of savings and a more personal transaction than to-day's stamps.

The Branch was divided into three separate shops, the largest being the Grocery Department, the Butchers Shop was in the middle with the Greengrocery at the top end. Being so young, the whole place had a magical attraction to me, I was fascinated by the overhead wire tracks attached to which were containers transporting your money to the Cashier's office. If you were shopping in the Greengrocery your money made quite a trip, out of the shop it would go through a hole in the wall into the Butchers shop and out the other side into the Grocery Department and its destination at a lofty position in the far corner - the all important Cashier. In the Grocery Department you would see a constant to-and-fro of money containers criss-crossing below the ceiling to the various counter points within the building. I was transfixed with the sight, I longed to pull the cord that set the container on its way - but no, that was done by the counter staff, and how I envied them.

Moving on a few years, Mr Barker the Manager of the Butchers Dept. a friend of my parents was on the lookout for an errand boy to deliver on Saturdays to customers in the district. He asked my mother if I would be interested - I certainly was! I would be earning some pocket money; I would have a shop bike to ride; and although only part-time, I would be working at the Co-op.

For a time there were two of us delivering from the shop and we would vie with each other for the best bike. One was a real "bone shaker" with dodgy brakes, the other was brand new - a beauty!

In the winter months I would go to the shop before daylight particularly if I was playing in a football match that afternoon. Having so much to deliver I had to make an early start, carefully loading in order the parcels of meat, etc., into the large wicker basket on the front of the bike Then off I would go, fully laden, the weight of it making control difficult at times, but I managed. Later my mate left the job,

going to work for another butcher I think, so I had full use of the new bike most of the time apart from when the Assistant Manager wanted to use it. The territory was quite widespread, testimony I suppose to the quality and service the Co-op gave. I delivered anywhere from "the top of Totley" as we called it, on the one side to the area around Dore and Totley Station on the other. Further afield, after calls on Bradway Bank, I had two deliveries in Bradway Village then down Twentywell Lane to the cottages at the side of the Castle Inn. Then round the back to a little house in the dis-used brickyard and out the other side along a track to a lone house where lived a delightful lady, Mrs Gibb, a friend of my mother's - being both members of the Totley Co-op Women's Guild.

One occasion I had to deliver to a farm off Abbey Lane at Parkhead where lived the Mountfords, friends of Mr Barker. Mrs Mountford. I can see her now, a typical farmer's wife always kind and jolly would offer me refreshment after my long trek and very welcome it was too! Later when Mr Barker left I no longer had to make the journey.

Mention of the Co-op Guild brings back happy memories; many of my friends having mothers who were Guild Members. And in pre-war days we youngsters attended occasional social events with them.

One we always looked forward to was the Co-op Gala held every summer in Graves Park. We had a great time helping out (or hindering) with the stalls and taking part in the organised games, etc., There was always plenty of "pop" to drink and things to eat, how we enjoyed those warm summer days - did the sun really shine so much. We made the journey there and back by bus and tram, a long and very happy day for all. Occasionally in summer we were taken by train to Unstone Station, then a long walk up the hill to Apperknowle to a house owned by a kindly lady on the edge of the village, it stood on its own down a narrow lane and possessed a lovely garden, all winding paths and hidden nooks - pure magic. We youngsters thought we had found fairyland and on top of that we were served afternoon tea. Later, back down the hill and home on the train - how we all enjoyed our day out.

At Christmas a party was given to Co-op Guild members and their families, it was held in the Co-op Hall on Napier Street, Sheffield, not far from the much loved store, the S & E Arcade, now just a nostalgic memory. We sat down to a "Party Tea", after which entertainment (a panto of sorts) was performed followed by party games and to end the night some rousing carol singing, and then back on the bus to Totley - happy, happy, days.

Now, returning to the butcher's errand boy - they say the bane of the postman's life is the dog, well we had cause to be on our guard too! Because if dogs were around they quickly picked up the scent of raw meat and we had to watch out. Customers dogs were rarely a problem, knowing the weekend joint was about to be delivered they were kept indoors. It was the neighbour's canines or the odd stray you had to be wary of.

I remember one particular call, a house on Sunnyvale Road, walking the path from the road to the side door I was often accompanied by two of the most ferocious "husky" type dogs you ever saw - I say accompanied, fortunately they were on the other side of a stout fence and I was glad of that, they thumped and clattered that fence howling away - it was a relief to hand over the delivery to the customer. I am sure that if ever they had got out I would have thrown the meat their way and run like heck to the bike. I cannot say that I

have ever been afraid of dogs, but those two were something else! One call however I paid little attention to the customer's small dog, sometimes snapping away as I walked up the path, because I was looking forward to the glamorous lady of the house opening the door to me, she was a "knock out blonde" and just exchanging a smile and a few words with her really made my day.

On the down side I once left an order on the doorstep (at some calls it was arranged I leave the order in an outhouse etc.) this call had no such arrangement and after getting no response to my knock I risked it and left it at the door, and of course a dog found it and bang went the Sunday Joint! - I am sure the lady was compensated for the loss and I no doubt got a "telling off" from the Manager - I can remember however the reception I got the following week when I once again called at her house. She tore into me (rightly so) for being so stupid. I was near to tears by the time she had finished. That taught me a lesson - I never did it again.

One manager at the shop had a little stepson around five or six years old and if he was around the premises would pester me for a ride in the basket. I would plonk him in the empty basket making sure he was safe then off we would go down Mickley Lane the little lad shouting 'faster, Bob, faster', oh how he loved speed. A born speed merchant you might say. However, aware of my responsibility I never went too fast. In later life that lad owned his own Motor Business in Sheffield.

One winter's morning I did go too fast and parted company with the shop bike for the one and only time. In thick snow I had just left the shop with a full load, when turning off Mickley Lane into Laverdene Road I hit a patch of ice! The bike slipped from under me and shot sideways along the road with me following close behind. At least half of the contents of the basket flew through the air and landed in a deep snowdrift. A lady living nearby (Mrs Levick) witnessed the calamity and rushed out to me convinced I was badly hurt - fortunately I was just shook up and soon recovered. I then realised I had to search for a number of orders in the snow drift, but with the good lady's help they were soon found and I continued on my round, - much slower I might add.

In Totley at that time there were at least three other butcher shops Walkers, Tyms, and Thompsons. Mr Walker ran his shop at the top of Main Avenue and the other two had farm connections. Lawrence Tym on Baslow Road (I see the name lives on today) worked Totley Hall Farm and Thompsons had a shop on Totley Rise with farm buildings on Back Lane, their family farm was at Lydgate, Holmesfield. Colin Thompson I remember could often be seen wearing a clerical collar, why I cannot recall, maybe he was a Lay Preacher, I am sure many mistook him for the Vicar.

Butchers delivery boys are a thing of the past now and largely due to Supermarkets and their pre-packed meats, so are butchers shops, yet there are still a number in business giving that personal touch many customers appreciate and long may they do so.

Looking back, how enjoyable those times were at Totley Co-op - a feeling of one big happy family running through all three departments. I remember the satisfaction it gave me doing that worthwhile little job earning my first pocket money and being part however small, of the service the Co-op gave to its customers. The Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS) had shops wide-spread the length and breadth of the land in all the towns and many villages, under the "Wheatsheaf" banner they provided goods and services literally "cradle to the grave", being so much part of so many people's lives - not so much a shop more a way of life. Pre-

war and for a number of years after, the Co-op Society traded alongside the small retailers in perfect harmony. Yet on the eve of the year 2000 I cannot help thinking how things have changed. So many small shops who have tried to maintain the tradition of the friendly local store are being beaten by today's "cut throat" system. It is so sad to see the old values and that quality of life slipping away. On a lighter note, could it be I wonder, inside the Co-op on Baslow Road in dead of night, the sound of money containers can still be heard threading their way through the building? - who knows! Oh, for the good old days of the Divi receipt. NOW, WHAT WAS OUR NUMBER AGAIN?

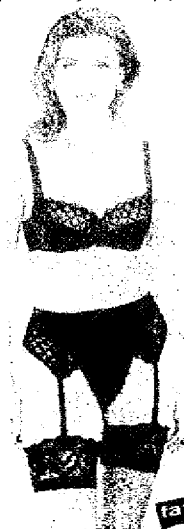
T.O.A.D.S. AUTUMN PRODUCTION

Just in case you missed the previous announcement, our November play is "No Love Lost", by Rony Robinson, a wonderful wry romantic comedy. This play was commissioned for the B.T. Biennial last year and was performed all over the country the same two weeks last October. Making her debut with TOADS will be Louise Haigh, age twelve, and she seems to be enjoying rehearsals so far! She plays the younger of two daughters of Max and Kate. Grans and Gramps, Noon the alternative therapist, and Jeff the car salesman also appear. Oh, and I nearly forgot Frank. People do forget Frank!

Anyway, lots of laughs, so come and enjoy yourselves - usual place, St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South, Wednesday to Saturday, 24th to 27th November at 7.30p.m. Tickets £2.50, concessions £2. Phone 2366891.

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GARDENING TIPS FOR NOVEMBER

I'm just finishing a little holiday up in Scotland and I know Les will be wanting his articles, in early, so I am relaxing writing the tips for you.

By the way we are not closing down at the Busy Bee as many rumour mongers are saying, we are looking for someone to take over the shop until that happens we will still be around to see to your needs. The garden is still very colourful with the winter pansies coming on nicely and the penstemons have not been nipped by the frost yet. We get the odd marigold right into the winter, the colours in the greenhouse still look well, fuchsias and geraniums being the most prominent.

It's time to wrap things up for the winter. The greenhouse insulation should be put up now after you have disinfected all round to kill off all those nasties that have accumulated over the summer, the insulation will give another 10 degrees F or so keeping those precious plants nice and comfy.

FLOWERS

Tidying up is the main job this month. Move leaves and debris from all beds, take up any vulnerable plants before the frost starts and store them carefully, those which can't be moved should be covered with straw or packing material. Plant out hardy lillies, in the mild spells, cover with mulch, also anemones, hyacinth and tulips and moisture loving plants. Perennials such as Michaelmas daisies, Golden rod and marguerites, can be dug up and divided if they have out grown their plot, replant the outside pieces, they make the best plants, discard the centre matted clump. Scabious and Pyrethrum can be left until springtime. Examine any dahlia tubers regularly, cut out any rotting parts and dust with flowers of sulphur, if they show signs of shrivelling the covering can be slightly dampened. As chrysanthemums in the greenhouse finish flowering cut them back to within 5 or 8cm (2 or 3in) of ground level, this will encourage suckers to grow which will make ideal cuttings later on.

VEGETABLES

Dig over any vacant plots leave the soil in large clumps so that the frost can get to it. Lift a few roots of parsnip and store in case they get frozen in. Remove any yellowing leaves from brussels sprouts, also leaves that have fallen. It's a good time to force rhubarb. This can be done by digging up strong roots and laying them on the ground for a day or two, if the weather is frosty so much the better. Take the roots into a warm greenhouse, stand them close together in deep boxes or on the floor under the staging. Pack soil between them and keep them as dark as possible by fixing a screen of sacking or linoleum or board. Water moderately, maintain a temperature of 13-14 degrees C (55 to 75 degrees F), alternatively you could put a straw filled bucket over a crown or two, this will bring it on early.

TREES FRUIT AND SHRUBS

Prepare ground if you are planning to plant trees or bushes. Dig in plenty of organic matter and add some bonemeal, give tree, bush and fruit a tar oil winter wash, to help control pests

and diseases. If you have not given your apples and pears a dressing of super phosphate, for a year or two, then give them a treat this year at the manufacturers recommended dosage. Pruning trees and bushes should be undertaken now, refer to a good gardening book. The PBI series have covered this subject and they are not too expensive. The library carry a few gardening books also. Heather can be planted now. They prefer a peaty soil. Remove runners and out of season flowers from the strawberries. Newly planted raspberries should be cut back at the time of planting and should not be allowed to fruit the first year.

GREENHOUSE AND INDOOR PLANTS

Water sparingly any plants which are resting or going into that stage. Feed any plants that are in flower. See that the glass in your greenhouse is clean. The more light getting to your plants in the winter the better. Another important factor, in the greenhouse is ventilation, allow as much as possible during the warmer days, but do not let it get cold, close vents by mid afternoon, even on sunny days. Remove all dead and decaying leaves from plants and staging and do not splash water about. November is a good month to buy many deciduous shrubs for early flowering in the greenhouse. Hydrangeas, lilacs, brooms, deutzia and roses are all suitable, after potting stand the hydrangeas in a frame and protect from frost, but place the others to the pot rims in a sunny sheltered place outdoors, bring them into the cool greenhouse in December or January to get flowers a few weeks ahead of the normal season. Keep succulents and cactii all but desert dry until spring. When the bracts of poinsetias show colour give them one feed of liquid manure.

LAWNS

Keep clear and keep off in frosty weather, if you haven't already done so spike and scarify and give a winter feed. If the lawn needs cutting set the mower high and choose a dry day.

Cheerio for now
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The Sheffield Bach choir is performing Elis Pehkonen's
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on Saturday 20th. November 1999 at 7-30
in Sheffield Cathedral.

Soloists: Jenny Leadbeater (soprano)
Anita Wiencelewski (contralto)
John Dunford (tenor)
Nigel Boucher (bass)

Also on the programme is: -

Bach's Cantata 21 "My Spirit Was In Heaviness"

December 6th. Handel's "Messiah"

Alison Smart (Soprano)
Susannah Self (contralto)
Robert Johnson (tenor)
Giles Davies (Bass)

Venue as above (You are advised to book early for this event)

Tickets £8-00 (£6-00 concessions) available from
Sheffield Music Shop, Broomhill, Tel. 0114 266 1000
SPCK Shop, East Parade, Sheffield Tel. 0114 272 3454
By post (please attach SAE) from Michael Buxton, 3 Tapton
Crescent Road, Sheffield S10 5EA, Tel. 0114 2266 8257
Or at the door.

TRANSPORT 17

The Dore and Totley Lunch Club raised £213 plus for us at their 25th. Anniversary Coffee Morning, we are most grateful. It was a super morning and I know that our passengers who are current members of the Lunch Club thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was nice meeting everyone.

At the General Meeting, held in Totley Library on Monday, 18th. October, shareholders were given the good news that a new bus is being ordered as soon as we have sufficient funds. Thanks go to them and everyone else who supported us in our fundraising. S.Y.P.T.E. and various Trusts and local organisations have really supported us well.

This will be a bus for the "Millennium", Michael Finn and the committee have decided that this bus will possibly be a Volkswagen.

On Saturday, 13th. November our office at 172, Baslow Road will be open from 10 am. till noon. This will be for the sale of books and bric-a-brac. We would also like to talk to anyone who is interested in driving or escorting for us. Please come in and see us and get a bargain. The prices will not be "Jumble Sale" amounts though!

We will be asking our supporters to buy Raffle tickets soon. The Rotary Club of Sheffield Vulcan is including us in the Christmas charity fund raising. Tickets are 20p each in a book of five.

If you want to speak to us about anything our number is 236 2962. Please speak after the long tone if it is the answer phone.

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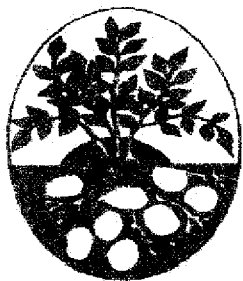
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ABBEYDALE PARK BOWLING CLUB.

The club held their annual dinner and presentation night at the sports club on Friday 22nd October 1999. The following members recieved their trophies for competitions held throughout the season.

Curvacious Cup, singles handicap.

Winner M.Hastings
Runner Up K.Byers

Leslie Hulse Trophy Veterans singles handicap

Winner D.Matthewman
Runner Up C.H.Talbot

Roebuck Cup, Doubles handicap

Winner M.Stobbs/ M.Hastings
Runners Up A.Wright/ G.Torry

Hallett Trophy Singles handicap

Winner D.M.Hudson
Runner Up D.W.Pilley

Hargreaves Cup, Singles open

Winner A.Wright
Runner Up M.Hastings

Mid Season Competition

Winners M.Cross / A.Wright
Runners Up T.North /K.Gore

Captains Day

Winners A.Wright / G.Torry
Runners Up J.Perkinton /J.Furniss

End of Season Competition

Winners M.Stobbs /D.Reeves
Runners Up R.Smith /J.Church



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£30-00 Christmas Hamper

7-8lb. Fresh Turkey
2lb Bacon Loin Joint
3lb. Pork or Beef Joint
1lb. Christmas Cracker Sausage
1lb. Pork Sausage Meat
1lb. Back Bacon
1lb. Pork Pie
Jar of Cranberry & Port sauce
Jar of Applesauce

£45-00 Christmas Hamper

11-12lb. Fresh Turkey
3lb. Leg of Pork
3lb. Topside/ Silverside
3lb. Gammon Joint
1lb. Christmas Cracker Sausage
1lb. Pork Sausage Meat
1lb. Back Bacon
1lb. Pork Pie
Jar of Cranberry & Port sauce
Jar of Applesauce

Hampers to be paid for by 12th. December. Free delivery in local area within 5 miles.

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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY DECEMBER 10 and 11th. CONCERT.

The John Wade Singers will be giving a performance of Flotow's opera Martha, alternatively, The Fair at Richmond (Concert version).

Conductor: John Wade.

Organist: Paul Green.

Venue and Time: St John's Church, Abbeydale, 7.30pm.

Tickets: £5.00 and £4.00 (Senior Citizens/Students).

Availability: 0114 236 0820. 01246 415778
or via members or at the door.

Proceeds in aid of the Sheffield Junior Steelers Wheelchair Basketball Association based at the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield.

ALL SAINTS LADIES CLUB

All Saints' Ladies Club would like to thank all the people who attended their Coffee Morning on the 1st. of October. This event raised £330 for the McMillan Nurses. Thanks to all the helpers and anyone who supported this worthy cause in any way.
Joan Gray

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HOLIDAYS AND GAMES

Attending a Church school had certain advantages. As well as statutory holidays at Easter, Whitsuntide, Christmas, Empire Day, and four weeks in August, we had half-day on Ascension Day, when we had a short Service in school in the morning or, after 1924, in the newly build All Saint's Church, after which we were given the rest of the day off. Then there was a half-day on Shrove Tuesday, which, as it was 'Pancake Day' was very fortunate as dinner took rather longer than usual while Mom made pancakes. Pancakes by necessity were made one at a time in a large iron frying pan, which rested on a grid on the top bar of the fire. It made pancakes about ten inches in diameter, and not too thin either, or Mom, catering for four hungry mouths, would have been making them until eternity! I could manage only one, but the three boys, especially Elijah, the eldest, could scoff them as fast as she could make them. The batter was made in a big yellow bowl, and Mom tried to save sufficient for a couple for Dad, as she said "If your Dad doesn't get his pancake on Shrove Tuesday he'll cry his eyes out!"

Next day was 'Ash Wednesday' when we had a special talk in school by the Headmaster, John Wood, more prolonged than the usual hymns and short 'Bible reading' and, I remember, rather boring for children (Forgive me Lord) about 'Fasting', 'Giving up sweets' or something else you enjoyed, and wearing 'Sackcloth and Ashes'

All schools had a holiday on Empire Day 24th. May, Queen Victoria's birthday, when the Union Flag was flown from bedroom windows, (I wonder why it is illegal to do that now?), and bands played in the streets in celebration.

One holiday we country children enjoyed, which many town schools missed, was the week during October called 'Potato picking week' This enabled children to work for local farmers, not only helping them to harvest the crop, but earning a few coppers, either for themselves, or in some cases to help the household budget. Some boys worked for farmers regularly in the evenings in summer and at weekends for regular pocket money. Elijah worked for Wakefields, Hall Lane Farm, when he was nine years old, and at the age of twelve, transferred to Creswick's on Moorwood Lane, Owl Bar until he left school. Geoff, the next Brother took over the job at Wakefields, delivering milk, and helping on the farm, whilst Jeff, the youngest of the three, like many other boys, earned his coppers by delivering newspapers morning and evening for Wesley's, the Newsagents at Green Oak (Now the Solicitor's Office). But, in potato-picking week there was work for all boys and some Mothers too. I'll bet you are wondering about the two boy's names, Jeff and Geoff. I'll explain another time!

Around this time, according to the weather, there was one activity we all enjoyed. Mr. Wood had lived in Totley for a time when he first took up the position as Headmaster in 1908, and was well aware of most things that happened in and around the village, whether by self-exploration, or by listening to other residents. He knew just when the blackberries were ready for picking, and one morning, possibly on Friday instead of games on the 'Sic', we were told to report to school in the afternoon armed with bowls, bags, or baskets, and walking-sticks, because we were going blackberrying on Swift-Hill-Side. It is very difficult to identify that particular hill now for it is hidden by a forest of trees on the right-hand side of the road that runs through Blacka-Moor from the bottom of Short Lane. The whole hill-side was covered with heavily laden blackberry bushes and basins and baskets were quickly filled, and Mums were very busy for the next few days making jams, jellies, and

blackberry puddings.

The school day was much as it is today starting at nine o'clock with quarter of an hour playtime morning and afternoon, and an hour and a half for dinner. This long break was essential, for many of the children came from as far away as Grove Road, Totley Rise, and Cherrytree Orphanage and as school dinners were not provided in those days, a half-hour walk each way was necessary, and there were no excuses for being late. But, of course if for any reason it was necessary to take sandwiches, we were allowed to sit in our own classrooms and one of the teachers would organise something to drink. On the one occasion that I stayed at school with sandwiches I loved the novelty of it and often asked if I could do it again. Our school day finished at 4pm. except for infants who were allowed a shorter day until 3.30pm.

Playtimes were times for games, the younger ones getting 'Scatty' over games like tiggy' or, appropriate for a Derbyshire school, 'Ring-a-ring-a-roses', which originated from the plague at Eyam. Older pupils played more complicated names. I remember joining in a circle for 'In and out the windows' and 'Oh Mary what are you weeping for?', (A story of a girl who had lost her lover), and forming two teams for 'here we come gathering nuts in May'. A more energetic one was 'The Farmer wants a wife' which ended with all the players soundly 'Patting the dog' with enthusiastic zeal. And, of course, playtimes were a time for gossip, such as schoolgirls might indulge in.

Games in the boy's schoolyard were rather more boisterous. 'Cops and Robbers' was a favourite, when the Cops congregated at the top of the yard, the Robbers half way down wearing their caps back to front. The stampede started when, with whoops and yells, the Cops chased the Robbers down and round the yard, until all were captured, when the roles changed and the stampede started all over again.

Then there was 'Rusty -bum-Ben', when one boy bent down against a wall and another boy jumped on his back at the same time raising either a finger or a thumb. He then shouted "Rusty bum Ben finger or thumb", and the bending boy had to guess which. If he was right, the boy jumped off and bent down behind the first boy, and another jumped on to his back, then on to the first. If he was wrong the boy stayed on, the game continuing until all the boys were either bending and taking the load, or sitting comfortably above.

It would be impossible to leave the boy's yard without mentioning football. They all had their favourite teams, but the most favoured combination was, of course, United and

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Wednesday. As usual one team played up the yard, the other played downhill, changing over at halftime. A game like this could last for days, being continued every dinnertime and playtime until a result was achieved.

Shrove Tuesday was the day for whips and tops, in both school yards, with Shuttlecocks and Battleboards coming a close second for the girls. The older boys played clever with 'Pegtops', deftly wrapping the long string around the top and flipping it sideways in a deft movement that set it spinning and humming for a considerable time. There was great competition between them as to who could make it spin longest. We all played with chalk, drawing rings of many colours on the surface of the tops; watching the colours converge as they spun round, and hoping they were spinning fast enough for them to turn white. For a while the schoolyards were filled with whip-cracks and flying shuttlecocks until the novelty wore off

Before the first World War the main road through Totley was a dirt road, but, soon after the War the centre of the road was covered with Tar-Macadam, and on Shrove Tuesday it really came into its own and was wonderful to play on with whips and tops, shuttle cocks, and 'Rims', which were controlled by long iron hooks made by Mr. Bradbury the Blacksmith in the Chemical Yard. On the very rare occasions when we heard a car approaching there was plenty of time to get out of the way, for no vehicle went so fast that the driver could not see us in time as he rounded the bend and by the time we heard one approaching we had plenty of time to move out of the way. How times have changed!

Jo Rundle

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All things must have

All things must have,
A beginning,
A middle,
And an end.

This is the way it has always been.
But times are changing.
Old values are being ignored,
And people are doing it their own way.

Let me give you an example.
What would happen if we didn't start at the beginning?
And went straight to the end?
The old scholars would probably laugh.

However,
If our end is now the beginning,
It is no longer the end
And is now the beginning.

So therefore,
The beginning, which is now at the end,
Is the end and not the beginning.

So we still have,
A beginning,
A middle
And an end, don't we?

Confusing, isn't it?

Ciaran Hyland, Cherry Tree

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PEAK TOWN STORY by Hugh Percival Chapter 18

Into the final year of his studies prior to the examination John Winter's behaviour underwent a change that gradually became evident to his colleagues and acquaintances.

Most apparent in his appearance he now came to work dishevelled and unkempt contrasting strongly with his previous neat, tidy well-groomed state. Quite often he arrived late, vague in his instructions to juniors and hesitant in his conversation as though he had other matters on his mind.

"A penny for your thoughts, John" said Alan Brown, one Monday morning when the two of them were working in the second-floor office at Smith Square.

"Eh", exclaimed John coming out of a reverie to his senses.

Alan Brown repeated his remarks.

"Oh. Nothing at all", replied John hesitating as he did so.

"Just thinking about the exam - that's all".

"You are in a state John. I suggest you take a week or two off from your studies and have a rest. It will do you good", remarked Alan, showing his concern for his colleague's well being.

"Don't worry Alan. I'll be all right. Just one or two things on my mind at present", John remarked with a feeble smile.

"Can I help?" asked Alan kindly.

"No, thank you very much Alan. Just a little local difficulty - that's all", replied John quietly.

These vague responses did little to ease Alan Brown's concern but he let the matter rest hoping to see John back to his normal state shortly.

At lunchtime John made his way to a small cafe, squeezed in between office buildings in an adjoining side street. He took a seat at a table near to a window shaded with lace curtains from the sunshine.

"What can I get you today, sir?" asked the petite waitress. Her fair hair was tied back and her prominent blue eyes sparkled with health adding to the attractiveness of her soft, clean-cut features. She appeared to be no older than sixteen.

"Good afternoon. I think I'll have a jacket potato with cottage cheese and a pot of tea", stammered John, eyes downcast to avoid the waitresses gaze.

"Your usual order sir in fact", remarked the waitress pertly.

"Don't you eat anything else?"

"Yes, but jacket potato and cottage cheese is a simple vegetarian meal - besides I happen to like it", replied John with a quick glance at the girl.

"The customer is always right" the waitress said with a demure smile and went to fetch the order.

She eventually returned carrying a tray with the requested refreshment.

"Are you a vegetarian?" asked the waitress.

"Whenever I have a choice", replied John. "I recently read an article on factory farming. The treatment of animals and chickens restricted in movement and never seeing the light of day is frightful".

"I quite agree", the waitress said in sympathetic tones.

"Did you enjoy your weekend sir?" she asked politely.

"Not particularly. I spent most of the time studying and United lost", replied John with a lack of spirit.

"I had a wonderful time at the dancehall on Saturday night", the waitress gaily remarked.

"I am pleased", said John quietly and began to eat his meal when the waitress left to serve another customer.

John ate the potato and drank three cups of tea, then waited awhile before calling for his bill.

"Did you like your meal sir?" asked the waitress as she made out the bill, "Very much, thank you. I always enjoy this meal my empty plate is evidence of this", replied John.

"Of course sir. I should have known", remarked the waitress "That will be one shilling, if you please".

John gave her a coin.

"Are you sure that's the right amount?" asked John belatedly coming to his senses. "Jacket potato sixpence, pot of tea threepence, total ninepence".

"My goodness", exclaimed the waitress. "You are correct sir. How careless of me".

"Never mind - these things happen. Keep the change won't you", replied John pleasantly.

"Thank you sir. Please call again" said the waitress quite seriously this time.

"I will of course. As I told you I like jacket potato and cottage cheese", replied John with a quick glance at the waitress.

"We do have other meals sir - if you just look at the menu" remarked the girl with a smile. "See you again".

The waitress left the table while John, watching her trim form depart, gave a sigh, consulted his watch and left the cafe to return hurriedly to the office - late again.

From this time John always took his lunch at the cafe whenever he was working at Smith Square or on an audit not too distant. He became addicted to jacket potato and cottage cheese and always drank at least three cups of tea, much to the amusement of the petite waitress.

Some months later on a sunny day in September, after spending much time on distant audits, John entered the cafe at lunch-time in determined mood most unlike his lackadaisical behaviour of late. His appearance had also undergone a decided change for the better. No longer dishevelled and unkempt he was smartly dressed in a grey pinstriped suit, well groomed, clean-shaven with hair brushed and greased.

"Good day sir. Your usual of course" remarked the petite waitress while smiling.

"Not today thank you. I'll have soup and to follow cheese and apple pie - cold if you please" said John with an air of authority. The soup is vegetable I suppose. Yes that will do nicely".

The waitress gave him a look of astonishment. "Are you feeling well?" she asked.

"Quite well thank you. I feel it is time for a change", replied John confidently.

The waitress soon returned with the soup.

"There's a good film on at the Star this week", John remarked a little hesitantly despite his newfound air.

"Oh. Is there", replied the waitress nonchalantly.

"Yes. 'Angels with Dirty Faces' with James Cagney", replied John. "It's a gangster film".

"Indeed", said the waitress pertly.

"Would you like to see it?" John asked with a slight stammer he couldn't avoid try as he might.

"But what about your studies sir?" enquired the waitress blushing.

"I can take an evening off if you agree to go with me", replied John eagerly.

"I wouldn't like to interrupt your studies with the exam so near," said the waitress with concern.

"It will do me good to have a break and relax", said John convincingly pleading his case.

"In that case I shall be pleased to go with you", replied the waitress eyes sparkling with pleasure.

"Wednesday evening - seven thirty at the Star", suggested John happily starting on his soup course.

"Very well" replied the waitress. "My name by the way is Susan Lilleywhite".

"Mine is John Winter. I think that customer over there is

waiting to be served", remarked John pointing out a gentleman with prominent jaw who was staring angrily from an adjacent table.

Susan left abruptly to serve him while John enjoyed the fare as much as any meal he had ever eaten.

On the Wednesday evening John, nervous at the prospect of escorting the beautiful waitress, arrived early at the cinema.

He walked up and down frequently consulting his watch in an increasingly agitated manner as time passed. Eventually, to his great relief Susan appeared somewhat later than arranged.

The waitress, glamorously made up, wore a flowery dress and blue cardigan, the evening being warm. John, smartly groomed and wearing flannels and tweed sports jacket, carried a small package in a paper bag. They joined the queue waiting for the second house to begin.

"Do you live with your parents?" John asked.

"With my mother. My father died while I was quite young. He was killed in the war", replied Susan despondently.

"I'm very sorry to hear that", John said with great sincerity.

"My parents live at Oakley although of course I stay in lodgings in Slope Street". Later he produced a box of chocolates from the paper bag. "Have a chocolate while we're waiting" Susan selected a soft centre.

"Good. I prefer the hard centres myself", John remarked with a smile as he helped himself to a chocolate.

The first-house audience now streamed from the picture-house chattering excitedly as they discussed the film - a good omen. John paid for two tickets at ninepence each and they took seats in the back-stalls.

The lights dimmed and a cartoon of Popeye the Sailor-Man appeared on the screen to be followed by the newsreel. In the short interval before the main film John bought icecreams for them both. Susan, evidently enjoying herself, smiled at John in thanks whereon he couldn't resist kissing her. Susan giggled but didn't protest at this liberty.

Soon, such frivolity forgotten, they were immersed in the exploits of James Cagney in the dramatic story of 'Angels with Dirty Faces'. Cagney, a hard-boiled gangster, at the end feigns agitated pleas for mercy as he is lead screaming to his execution in the electric chair. This to prevent boys idealising him as an unreformed villain who accepts death stoically, and from following his example.

Afterwards John escorted Susan to her tramstop for home. They were reluctant to say goodnight and allowed several trams to depart without her while they conversed happily and exchanged banter.

Eventually John, unable to resist the temptation rising within him anymore, seized the young beauty and kissed her with a passion that grew between them with each passing moment. The last tram of the evening was about to depart. Susan slipped from John's embrace and climbed reluctantly on board. She waved frantically through a window at her hero. John returned the wave with gusto until the tram disappeared from view round a corner. Whistling with the exuberance of a blackbird he walked the short distance to his lodgings.

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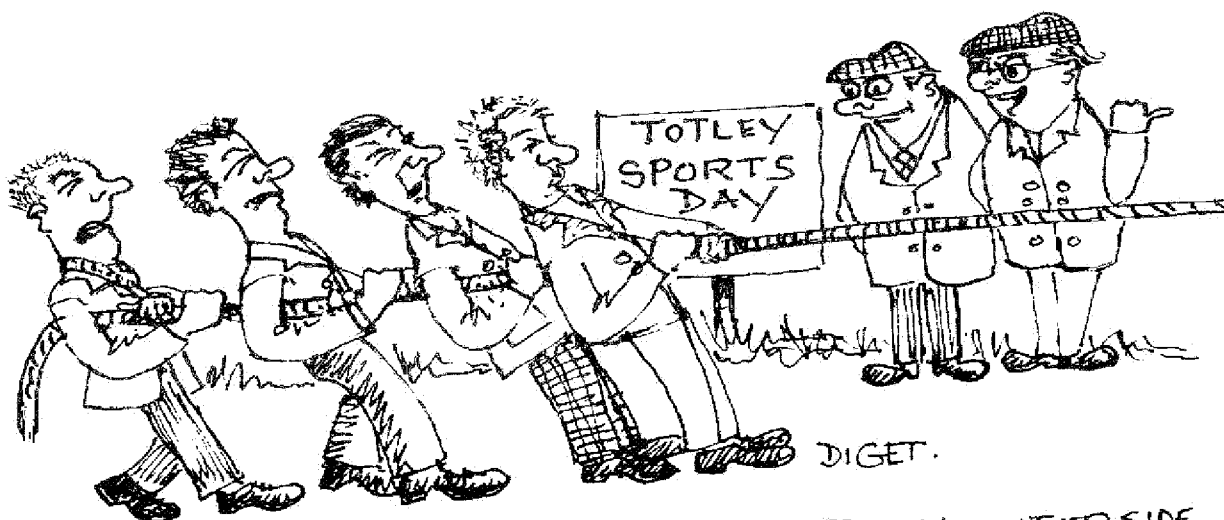
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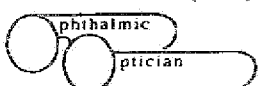
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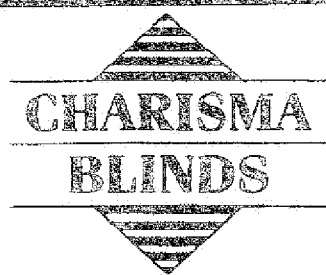
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- WED. 17th.** LEONARD CHESHIRE HOME, "Celebration 2000 Choir Concert" Sheffield University Octagon Centre, Details & tickets contact Jackie Short 0114 236 7491
- SAT. 20th.** SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY CONCERT. Sheffield Cathedral 7-30pm. Full details inside.
- WED. 24th.** WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP. "Leonard Cheshire Services in Sheffield", by Jackie Short, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 8-00 p.m.
- WED.24th. to SAT. 27th.** TOADS AUTUMN PRODUCTION Details inside.
- TUES. 30th.** WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Totley Rise Methodist Church Schoolroom 2-30pm Townswomen's Guild Choir
- SAT. 20th.** A TASTE of CHRISMAS All Saints Church Hall 2 pm., Gifts,books, cakes, christmas items, refreshments etc.
- DECEMBER**
- Wed. 1ST.** CHRISTMAS FAYRE LEONARD CHESHIRE HOME - Mickley Lane Details & tickets contact Jackie Short 0114 236 7491

THE INDEPENDENT FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

The NEXT issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1ST, 1999.**

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