

# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY THE TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1977

SEPTEMBER 2001

No. 246

15p.



## Thompson's Farm, Back Lane, Totley Rise

The old buildings once standing behind Totley Rise shops, overlooked the large field which is bordered by Back Lane and Milldale Road. The feild was once Totley Rolling Mill Dam, the Mill closed down in the 1880's.

In September 1987, an Outline Planning Application was made for building of dwelling houses on the land.



Although many objections to the application were made an appeal to the Department of the Environment over ruled the Sheffield City council's objection to the proposal. This paved the way for the buildings to be knocked down to make way for the housing development.

The current situation is that work started in earnest in August 2001 with the land being cleared of its vegetation for the building of 19 dwelling houses by Longden Homes. (Planning Application No. 9A/0678P)

THE TOTLEY SHOW, SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>. SEPTEMBER, TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL.  
(FULL DETAILS INSIDE.)



YORKSHIRE SOUTH  
DISTRICT

## THE WORKERS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

St John's Church Hall or Guild Room, Abbeydale Road  
South, Tel: 0114 2341212 or 0114 272 4983

Monday	1-00 p.m. Gardening for Pleasure 2.30 p.m. Geological People
Tuesday	10.00 a.m. Map Compass and Other Skills for Walkers 10.00 a.m. Calligraphy (1) 1.00 p.m. Calligraphy (2) 1.00 p.m. Jazz Appreciation
Wednesday	10.00 a.m. Painting and Drawing 1.00 p.m. Painting and Drawing
Friday	1.00 p.m. French Language and Culture 1.00 p.m. Flower arranging (fresh & dried)

Enrolment at St. John's Church Hall, Friday 14<sup>th</sup>. September  
2001 - 2.00 p.m. All courses

St Oswald's Church Hall or Crypt, via Bannerdale Road, tel:  
0114 2724983 or 0114 2341212

Monday	10.00 a.m. Antiquarian Notes on West Riding Churches 10.00 a.m. Literature - Money. Money. Money!
Tuesday	1.00 p.m. Creative Veneering and Marquetry including Small Furniture
Wednesday	10.00 a.m. Orchestral Music Workshop 10.00 a.m. Local History Workshop 1.00 p.m. Literature - Short Stories 1.00 p.m. Archaeology of Egypt 7.00 p.m. String Orchestra
Thursday	1.00 a.m. Birds and Natural history 10.00 a.m. Study Activities for the Fifty Plus 1.00 p.m. Artists of the First World War 1.00 p.m. Life in Medieval England - Art Architecture & Religion 7.00 p.m. Birds and Natural History
Friday	10.00 a.m. Musical Appreciation Choice Masterpieces 1.00 p.m. Nature's Year - Plants and Animals throughout the Year

Enrolments at St. Oswald's Wednesday 12 September 2001  
Church Hall, 2.00 p.m. - Monday to Wednesday courses.  
Thursday 13 September 2001, 2.00 p.m. Thursday and  
Friday courses.

### 1<sup>st</sup>. TOTLEY SCOUTS LOTTERY RESULTS

#### JUNE

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Prize Travel clock + shopping vouchers.  
No. 26 Mrs. Billard, Sunnyvale Rd.  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Prize. Prize £10 voucher.  
No. 15 Mr. & Mrs Parkin, Green Oak Rd.

#### JULY

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Prize 9" Oscillating Fan & Murphy Richards Clock Radio  
No. 23 Mr. & Mrs. Chapman, Main Ave.  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Prize. Prize £10 voucher  
No. 14 Mrs Rundle, Now in Broughton, Notts.  
Previously Green Oak Rd.

### The Totley Show

To be opened by Rony Robinson

Produce & Craft Exhibits on over 50 Classes

- Children's sections
- Craft items
- Egg Head Models
- Cakes
- Needlework
- Many more see entry form on page 11



Children's Games



The Gentlemen of  
Jazz Live Music



Guess the Cake  
Weight



Egg Head  
Competition



Class  
Awards



Rony Robinson will  
Auction Items  
Donated

- Much more including :
- Charity Stalls
  - Tombola
  - Raffle
  - Refreshments
  - Lucky number Programme

**SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup>. SEPTEMBER**  
**TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**SPONSORED BY DAVID WILSON HOMES**  
**and THE TOTLEY INDEPENDENT**



### Transport 17

Someone asked me the other day, when I was escorting, whether the bus would be going out again that week. They were astounded when I told them "Yes it will". Every day of the week it, and the other two buses, would take many people out to socialise or have lunch. And no, the council does not run us!

I can't emphasise enough that we are a local registered charity. We are "Community Transport". We have an office and a Project Manager, Michael Finn. These are funded from some of the money from South Yorkshire Transport Executive. The drivers and escorts are all volunteers. Money to keep us going comes from income from clubs and fund raising. I won't say begging but it sometimes feels like it. You may say, "What has this got to do with me?" Well, maybe your parents or relatives moved into the area. Perhaps a neighbour has been bereaved or ill. They may need to get out and meet people or have a bit of lunch - once again many cooked by volunteers. That is what we are about. We are LOCAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT caring for the frail and elderly. We do it because we want to. None of us are getting any younger so more help is needed to keep things going.

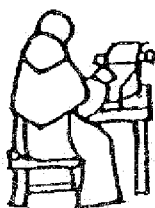
Can you help or have you got some cash to spare? Do you fill up a jar with coins for charity? Well how about giving it to us. Many of our passengers and supporters do. If things are not supported, they collapse, think about it! Best wishes, Margaret Barlow

## DORE AND TOTLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH TOTLEY BROOK ROAD.

The minister and all the congregation are very happy to welcome Mrs. Catherine Morrison and her family to Sheffield South Group. Catherine is to spend about a year with us as part of her training for the ministry. She leads a very busy life as she explains in the following letter which first appeared in Take Notice, our church magazine.

*Dear friends*

Most of you will be aware by now of the stranger in your midst, in the form of myself, the student, and minister. And yes, you wouldn't be wrong in thinking that you might have seen me around before. The reason for this is that I spent my teenage years growing up in Dore and Totley URC. Luckily they survived the experience and so did I; indeed much credit must be given to them for my current occupation as student minister.



However, to introduce myself properly, my name is Catherine Morrison and I have just finished the third year out of four years of ministerial training. As part of my training for stipendary ministry I will be working with Sheffield South Group from now until about next June, for my final year of training. However, as well as time spent with the three churches, I will be continuing my studies at Northern College, Manchester, including writing my dissertation, and I will be spending time on a community placement. If all this seems a bit hectic, it is because it is a bit hectic. However, we, that is myself, my husband John, and Tigger and Murphey, our two dogs, have decided to add a bit more excitement to our lives.

For the past sixteen months we have been going through the assessment process in order to be approved to be able to adopt. In April of this year we were finally approved, and that same month we were approached about a possible match of two young children. We are now looking forward to welcoming a two year old little boy and his sixteen month old sister into our family in early July.

As we wait in eager anticipation for the arrival of our children, I have been able to gain a new perspective on what it means to be adopted in spiritual terms. To know how much we have loved these children, before ever knowing them or meeting them, and despite any problems they may have, has helped me to realise just how much God is prepared to accept us, as we are. It is wonderful to imagine just how eagerly, and with such excitement, God was waiting for the day that we came to know him, and came to be adopted into the world wide family of the Church.

So I hope that you will be able to bear with me, as I learn to juggle parent-hood with ministerial training, and with getting to know everyone in the three churches.

I do want to thank you all for the warm welcome into the South Group and for all your support so far. I am looking forward to an exciting year to come, in more ways than one, and am looking forward to learning more about ministry from you all.

And finally, I must ask, is anyone willing to baby-sit? (Only joking!). God bless and enjoy the summer!

Catherine (Cat) Morrison

(Joshua (Josh) and his little sister Abigail are now with Cat and John.)

## CHURCHES TOGETHER in S17

### DID YOU ENJOY THE HOLIDAY?

Holidays for my father (an office worker in London) meant the odd bank holiday, a few days at Christmas, and the much-anticipated fortnight in August. Out-of-season breaks, long weekends, the choice of going at off-peak rates, the option of a second (or third?) holiday etc. etc. were all totally unknown to him, or us as a family. But now, for lots of us holidays come in a great variety of packages, and often a number of times a year. Often they are great. Sometimes they can be a big let down. Some of us breathe a sigh of relief when we get back home. Some of us are always anticipating the next one, and so are apt to miss what is of real value in what is happening today.

If holidays do their job, they help in re-creation. Recharging the batteries, putting a bit of life back where it's been worn down. And after a long hard slog, don't we need it! The apostle Paul once wrote, after discussing people's different religious views, that they were not of importance, "what counts is a new creation." He didn't have a few days beside the Med. in mind. It was deeper things that concerned him. Holidays are great, but they don't change us. In fact, a couple of days after we are home, it can feel like we never went away. At a deeper level, he was saying, we need to be put right with God. The human tendency to live for no.1 isn't changed by Thomas Cook, that is a matter addressed by Jesus Christ. He is the one who can really bring about re-creation - in our innermost being, putting us in harmony with ourselves, and with the loving God who made us, and all the many beautiful things we may have enjoyed on our holidays.

Ah well, when's half term?

David Rhodes

## THE MEANING OF LIFE?

What is the point of life? What happens when we die? Is forgiveness possible? What relevance does Jesus have for our lives today?

An Opportunity to explore the meaning of life.

The *Alpha* course at All Saints' Church, Totley is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith.

It's relaxed, informal, non-threatening, low-key, friendly and fun.

There is a meal together which gives you an opportunity to get to know each other.

Listen, learn, discuss and discover. Ask anything. *Alpha* is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile.

*Alpha* consists of a series of talks looking at topics such as 'Who is Jesus?' and 'Why and how do I pray?' After each talk we gather in small groups for a time of discussion.

There is no charge.

We are running two courses starting on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2001 at All Saints' Church Hall, Totley Hall Lane, Totley. Daytime: 10.00am - 12.00noon. Evening: 7.30pm - 10.00pm.

For more details and to register please contact:

Ric Gray 16 Meadow Grove Road, Totley, S17 4FF.

Tel. No. 0114 236 9204

## A PRAYER for RECALCITRANT HUSBANDS

Dear God, beloved almighty Father, help me: miserable sinner that I am, to avoid making stupid remarks, or avoid doing stupid things, that might upset, or hurt, my dear wife, my darling wife For Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Anon

# MANX GRAND PRIX, 1948

LET'S TAKE A "GANDER" AT THE COURSE GOOD POSITIONS FROM WHICH TO SEE THE RACES

By "JESTER," of the "Isle of Man Times."

In the days when steering "dampers" were just emerging from their a "hush-hush" stage, a solitary young man might have been seen one sunny Whit-Monday afternoon, ambling along to the north of the North Pier, Blackpool.

"Borne from afar on the gentle breeze," as the song has it, came the staccato crack of Racing Motor Cycles, and he decided to investigate. There was a speed trial on.

For the whole of that sun-gay afternoon he sat upon a nicely-fitting tuft of grass and gaped, while such names as George Dance, Herbert Le Vack, Tommy De la Hay, Tommy Spann, and many others were tossed from lip to lip

Motor - cycles, whose names have since been plastered to the ends of the earth, flashed past his eyes . . . Cotton, Sunbeam, Scott, Brough Superior, A.J.S., Norton, Excelsior, New Imperial. It was terrific, it was breathtaking. Since that day nearly 25 years ago, not a T.T. Race, Amateur or Manx Grand Prix Race has he missed as "odd-job" man, Marshal, Reporter, or "anything in the bag." Motor-cycle Racing got him, and has still got him, good and proper. But we were going to take a "gander" at the famous T.T. Course, so if you don't mind the company of an ageing man, who was the solitary young man of that sunny Whit-Monday afternoon in Black-pool, let's do a "slide," and go to -

**THE GRANDSTAND.** -This is, of course, the highlight of the Course from which to see the Races. Here it is that you can see the Winner coming in, all the losers, who are certain it "wasn't the fault of their engines" coming in, the Douglas Corporation firemen coming in (you'll know them-they've got firemen's hats on), and if you are here the day before-the beer coming in. They do sell Tea in the Refreshment Tent, but why bring this up? You'll see Clocks, Frocks, Locks (real blonde 'uns sometimes) and Hocks. (Look for a shortish skirt for these). It is here also that the riders fill their tanks during the Races, and the air with their language afterwards. You can see the Trophies on view, and the "Sophies" waiting by the Refreshment Tent ("New look" and all).

**TOP OF BRAY HILL.** -This is an excellent position. You see the riders "getting down to it" before they take Bray Hill. Don't forget to notice the Bridge. Many people cross it during the Races in search of the Apple Tart that Mother Sykes makes in the Corner Shop. When you're "fed up" there, go to the -

**QUARTER BRIDGE** -You'll see some "classy" cornering here provided the riders leave those straw-filled bags alone. The smell you may notice isn't coming from the "feller" next to you-it's from the Douglas Power Station which graces the vicinity. If they've got beer in the Hotel, you're lucky.

**BRADDAN BRIDGE.** -A lovely spot this, with a sweet "S" bend. The rider knows he's got round when the sewage farm on his right "Hums" a farewell.

**UNION MILLS.** -Here the rider has a "shaky do" if he's not careful. A swing to the right, then a "bank" to the left, and away "flat out"

**BALLACRAINE.** -This is where you lean out of the "pub" window and cheer, or let the window cheer while you hang on to your "pint." I think they sell Petrol-but not for drinking purposes.

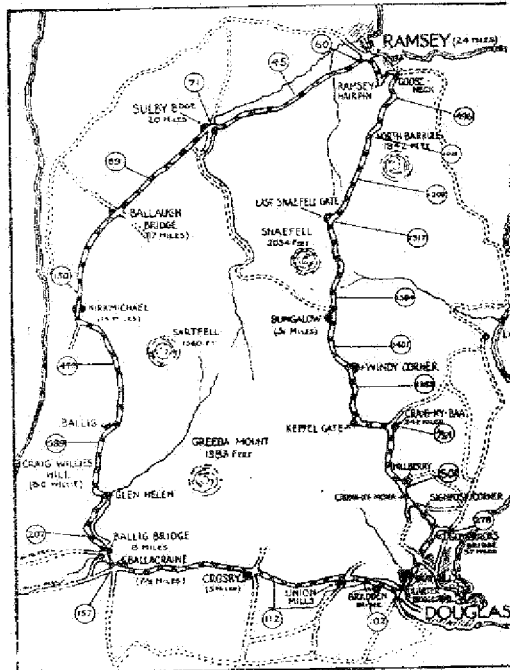
**BALLIG BRIDGE.** -Used to be famous in the old days for the "jump" it gave the riders. They've flattened it, out of consideration for the rider's contours.

**GLEN HELEN.** -The riders "hank" the Model sharply over to the left here and grind their teeth and gears in order to climb Creg Willys Syl. This is a Manx name-not one of the words they use under their breath.

**KIRK MICHAEL.** -A lovely straight "blind" through the village. "Tummy-bashing," that Sorbo rubber tank pad, now comes into its own.

**BALLAUGH.** -Pronounced "Bar-laugh." Nasty bit of bend on a bridge that has a decided "hump." The riders are nearly all "air-borne," and those who don't "land" correctly wish they hadn't been "borne," air or otherwise.

**SULBY BRIDGE.** - Sharp right-hand bend after one of the fastest stretches on the Course. Riders pass to the left of the



Hotel. Spectators don't pass.

**RAMSEY.** -We're about half way round the course now, and in Ramsey the girls are very motor cycle conscious. They even know what a pillion seat is for. In the old days Ramsey was the Headquarters of the "Scott" Racing Team. It is also the old home of Mr Harry Burnett, whose wizardry on the "Clocks" at the Start we may yet live to see-if these would-be Manx Grand Prix riders leave us all in one piece!

**HAIRPIN BEND.** -The B.B.C. usually has a commentator here-you know: "Can't see him yet!" "Yes!" "No!" "Ah!" "I think!"

"Should be here now!" "Ahem!" "Over to the Grandstand" - who gives you a thrilling word-picture of the event. When you hear it you can almost imagine you are watching the Race - almost. Nasty bit of work, this bend. Riders sometimes go down on their knees to it and not in admiration.

**MOUNTAIN ROAD.** -This is a wild stretch, and there should be a Road hereabouts. At the moment there seems to be more "here-abouts" than road. We pass such famous viewpoints as the "Bungalow," "33rd" milestone, and "Windy" Corner, as we progress, also the cairn erected to the memory of that "ace" T.T. rider, Jimmy Guthrie.

**CREG-NA-BAA.** - This is a "slice of the nice" so far as cornering is concerned, and as fast as they come. The B.B.C. have been known to have a Commentator here, too. For Diagram, or is it Diaphragm? (I know mine's empty) see Para. "Hair-Pin Bend."

**HILLBERRY.** -A hell-for leather descent where speedmen endeavour to make up for lost time. The riders hurtle through the fresh air around here so fast that it takes the machines all their time to keep up with them.

**THE NOOK.** -A deceptive right-hand bend where there is some good cornering-'on' and 'off.' The riders start to "brake" here for-GOVERNOR'S BRIDGE.-This spot is the "pet of the public."

Young men and maidens, old men and children all fight for

places here on which to "park" their seats. After three hours of raring they can't feel anything between their knees and their necks. Take a cushion if you go to 'Governor's.'

**GRANDSTAND (AGAIN).** - No, the blisters on the wood-work of that Hut, opposite the Grandstand, have not been caused by the sun. They're entirely due to the heat generated inside the Hut on Practices mornings. Yes, the remarks of the Timekeepers may have caused them - also the cracks in the window panes.

Tea? No, thanks! Why bring that up?

Entrants from Sheffield were Mr A. Smith from Walkley, Mr.E.Walker a motor engineer in Millhouses, Mr. R.F.Walker from Totley Rise and Mr.T.G.Wilson a tool manufacturer in Dore.

All were members of clubs Sheffield and H.; Louth

## DORE MALE VOICE CHOIR

The Dore Male Voice Choir is busy preparing for the Autumn Gala Concert. Because a large audience is expected this takes place in Ecclesall Church on Saturday 13th October starting at 7.00 p.m.

This year the choir will be joined by the senior section of The City of Sheffield Youth Choirs who come with a deserved acclaimed reputation. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress will be our special guests.

The Choir was again invited to sing in the prestigious Anglo-Welsh Choir Festival at Leicester in April. Five English and Four Welsh choirs, with over 300 voices sang to a capacity audience at the De Montfort Hall. Over £10,000 was raised for charity at this event.

The Dore Male Voice Choir draws members from Dore Totley and the surrounding area. With over 60 members the Choir gives a number of concerts during the year, both in Sheffield and further abroad.

Perhaps you are interested in joining the Choir, or maybe it has never crossed your mind. Why not come and sit in on one of our rehearsals? You will be made most welcome. Call in on any Thursday night, 7.30 to 9.30 at the Church Hall. You will not be disappointed.

David Heslop, Tel. 2365043

## BOXING CLEVER (2)

Mick Otter and the Parson Cross ABC present their second "Exhibition Evening" at the Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road, Totley.

The success of the first event brought requests for a repeat event to go ahead. Again the likes of Anthony (Rocky) Pellegrina, Junior ABA national champion, Richard Clayton, Russel Kent and (Big) Ben Atkin will demonstrate their skills proving they are at the highest level.

Also "Ted the Totley Terror" alias "Candle Boy" (one blow and he's out) will be aiming to hold on to his undisputed record as the National Horizontal Champion.

A skills pads session plus sparring will also be demonstrated on the evening. A buffet will also be provided. Tickets £3 each available from the bar.

All proceeds will go to the Boxing Club for much needed equipment. So come along and support these young athletes on **Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup>. September, 8-30 p.m.**

### Robert Marnock Lecture Series

**Monday 10 September 2001**

**7.15pm**

**King Egbert School**  
Off Furness Avenue, Dore

**Dr. Christopher Grey-Wilson**  
*Plant Hunting in Western China  
on the Frontiers of Tibet*

*A rare opportunity to hear a distinguished speaker*

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*(includes light refreshments)*

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## OXFAM, ACORNS AND VOMP By C.N.Railton Holden

The story begins with my weight - not exactly a spellbinding subject, but don't go away because what I write here may help you, especially if you are young, to cope with life on this treacherous, unpredictable planet of ours. Just over twelve months ago when I stood on our bathroom scales the reading was eleven stones and six pounds: my normal weight. A month ago, and just before our holiday, the needle pointed an incredible twelve stones and two pounds. With a sinking heart I opened the wardrobe, took out the lightweight summer gear, tried to fit it over my unsightly bulge, and when on the following day my wife escorted me to the Oxfam Shop, I handed over three pairs of trousers and also one complete suit. Absolutely heartbreaking!

On June 2nd my unsightly bulge lay comfortable inside a generous new waistband as I sat beside my wife and daughter in the departure lounge of Manchester Airport. Passports checked, tickets approved, luggage accepted without a murmur of complaint, and bodies carefully examined for hidden kalashnikovs. That was when I became aware of an unexpected notice which announced with startling clarity that passengers flying abroad from Britain must not carry with them, or in their luggage, meat, milk or dairy products of any kind. My wife, having given some serious thought to the matter, produced a packet of home-made sandwiches, handed round all the cheesy items and returned the eggy ones to her hand luggage. That settled that, though if you wished to be maliciously logical you could argue that the cheese now in our stomachs en route to Austria was about to violate the law of the land. I did cast some doubt about the proposed future of the eggy sandwiches and their flight abroad but it was explained to me, rather sarcastically I thought, that eggs come from hens and that very few hens have been stricken down by foot and mouth disease. Wonderful, you learn something new every day.

Low cloud hung over the Alps but our two pilots found their way down to the Inn Valley and then to the appropriate Innsbruck runway. In no time at all airport buses surrounded the plane and promptly delivered we passengers to the Passport Control department - a matter of thirty yards away, we could have walked there under our own steam in something less than a minute, but it's the thought that counts, isn't it? Finally we were transported by coach up to the mountain holiday resort of Seefeld.

Our daughter had chosen an ideal hotel for this vacation but, in spite of the mouthwatering food, my wife frequently tried to offload half her quota onto my plate. Alas, Oxfam, you and I may meet again. One hotel dinner menu included "Samptsuppe aus Peter silienwurzelm mit sautierten Austern pilzen". I gave that suspicious item a miss. My mother, bless her, would have forbidden outlandish delicacies of such nature and would have substituted some wholesome tripe and onions.

Have you ever heard of Tratsberg Castle? I certainly never have. Before our excursion party began to shuffle from one chamber to another an electrical gadget was clamped onto each head, it gave out navigational instructions and short historical lectures, but as I entered room one my gadget began to describe room three - not a very good start to the visit. My life already embodies a large enough measure of natural confusion: I need no help from foreign electrical whatnots. Happily my daughter made some adjustments which solved the problem. Then later, when my mind had reached a stage of tranquility, I realised that these Austrian type headsets would be a boon in Totley. Take glace cherries, for example: I can never find these in our local supermarket, whereas this

magic headpiece would say: "Just walk along aisle number two, look for cooking ingredients, and there you will see glace cherries. These glace cherries were smuggled secretly out of China by Marco polo in the year 1295. Have a nice day"

The road downhill from Seefeld to Innsbruck twists, turns and plunges in true alpine fashion as if to put the wind up timid lowlanders and to demonstrate at the same time the horny-handed, fearlessness of the Tyrolean people. Our guide assured us that the coach was equipped with the traditional braking systems plus a wonderful, electronic stopping device which would ensure our absolute safety. Science being one of my weak subjects, I was not in a position to argue with this gentleman, but during the uneasy descent I counted six or seven "escape roads", all of them quickly identified by large, clearly printed warning signs.

Later, one road along the valley led us through a small township by the curious name of "Vomp". Every so often during our lifetimes we have to declare the place of our birth. No birth certificate can be regarded as valid unless it names the place where we came out into the world: Totley, Dore, or even Vomp. So my imagination began to flit about and as I was suddenly reminded of my service life in World War I, I settled for the following triviality:

Austrian Recruiting sergeant: "Now then, soldier, where were you born?"

Austrian Recruit: "Vomp"

Austrian Recruiting Sergeant: "Right, I am now going to put you on a charge for being insolent to a senior N.C.O."

A stupid anecdote you may think, but I can tell you this: on one occasion in 1942 I was put under close arrest for wearing idle bootlaces, and I was double-marched off the Parade ground accompanied by an armed escort. Twentyfour hours in the guard room. Truth is stranger than fiction.

How about this: in Britain the Daily Mail costs 35 pence whereas in Seefeld the very same newspaper costs £1.50. It is a comfort to realise that Seefeld newsgagents are not going to starve to death.

Next, our hotel introduced us to a Tyrolean evening with some quite lively dancing by ladies elegantly clad and by men arrayed in tight leather shorts, dazzling braces and William Tell hats. During most of the items the men added generous interludes of slapping - themselves, not the ladies - and I began to wonder how this part of the dance originated. You can be sure that Freud would have had an answer: probably it started with mediaeval flagellation. Our Henry II, repenting for the murder of the Archbishop of Canterbury, submitted himself to being scourged before the tomb of the martyr St. Thomas. But the dancers of Seefeld were in a slaphappy mood and so was the audience.

We all know that in bygone years Britain's battleships were constructed of wood. For a few of those years we had a far-sighted admiral who, when he was ashore, carried a pocketful of acorns which he carefully planted wherever he thought they might germinate. So very many oak trees had to be felled to make one man-of-war that this apprehensive officer wished to ensure a steady supply of oakwood for the future. Very praiseworthy! Present day excursion guides are always full to overflowing with information and we were told that the current government of Austria is as troubled about timber as our old acorn admiral was, for Austria's chief export is timber and there seems to be a danger of the supply petering out. However the Politicians here, vigilant and uncommonly dynamic, have introduced legislation which will guarantee a ready supply of wood for years to come. Any person who

cuts down a mature tree is legally obliged to replace it with four saplings. Not one - four even without the help of an honours degree in maths, you can quickly identify the flaw in this reasoning. Soon the woodland areas will become extremely dense, then saplings will need to be planted on greenfield sites. After that parks and private gardens will be occupied, golf courses, racecourses and airports will disappear, followed in time by roads and railway lines, nevertheless, I want you to be quite clear about this : Austria is a delightful country for holidays, but if you are planning to go there, book now, before there is standing room only.

## PUZZLE CORNER

### MAGIC SQUARES

1. Put the numbers 1 to 16 inclusive into a 4 by 4 grid so that each horizontal, vertical and diagonal row of four numbers add to 34.

2. Put 4 letter words into the 4 by 4 grid in answer to the clues. The first word across and down are identical as are the second across and down etc.

Clues: 1. Copotent. 2. Footware. 3. Type of Chop. 4 Volcano

### A CODED LIMERICK (from the last issue)

Here is a limerick written using a simple code. Can you decode it?

Tgfrd xar b yvnf macz oe Sifb.

Wgp sljlde ar thd soef om b thheq.

Uhdz rduuqoec grnn tgf rhee.

wjtg uhd macz inticf.

Ame tgf sljld pn sie dbcd pf sie sjgds.

### Solution.

The limerick was coded as follows:

For each group of three letters, retain the first unchanged, replace the second by the one before it in the alphabet and replace the third by the following letter in the alphabet.

There was a young lady of Riga

Who smiled as she rode on a tiger.

They returned from the ride

With the lady inside.

And the smile on the face of the tiger.

Unfortunately I did not fully anticipate the effect of typing errors. I thought an occasional wrong letter would be obvious once the code was cracked. I failed to anticipate that a missing or additional letter would ruin the grouping into sets of three letters. This happened in the second word of the second line where an extra letter "I" crept in during printing. There was also an error I made. Last line, sixth word should have been ebcd.

Don Ashford

## BIRTHDAYS

Recently my wife answered the telephone after 10 o'clock at night expecting to hear one of our daughters. Instead she heard a lovely Scots accent saying "Hello Joan, its the young man from Scotland". To appreciate this story you have to know the young man was our old friend Sandy who celebrated his 100th birthday last April. I was reminded of the "young man" aspect when we last visited them two years ago. Sandy and his wife Jenny took us out to dinner at the Crieff Hydro restaurant, a venue which my 10 year old grandson Jack would call "a posh place". As soon as we were seated Sandy said in a voice several decibels above a stage whisper, "one of the waitresses here Don wears a very short skirt". This from a serious, very moral man, pillar of the local Presbyterian Church. I murmured some reply, hoping he would not pursue the subject, and thinking that ideas of a short skirt in a small Scots town may not be the same as in a large English city. I was wrong. When the lassie came to take our order, even I, though registered blind, had enough peripheral vision to pass judgement. Her skirt would not have been out of place in Carnaby Street in its heyday.

But back to birthdays. Earlier this year I had my 80th birthday and was overwhelmed with good wishes and kind remarks from family and friends. I felt I had done nothing to deserve this, just been lucky to survive with reasonable health. However I have to confess I do feel neglected in one birthday area - I do not know a single other person who has a birthday in my month of June.

At least six of our family members have birthdays in November, my two brothers and my father were in March and my wife knows lots of people with birthdays in her month of May, at least four of them on exactly the same date. I have heard that so many people are born in May because it comes at the appropriate interval after the August Bank Holiday celebrations! More seriously, it set me wondering if there was some sort of gene explanation for clusters of birth months within a family. So off to the family records to test my theory. My dad's family seemed to support the idea. Four children, three born in July, and this on top of the three in March mentioned above. Alas, searching back in earlier generations produced no support for my idea.

Ah well, perhaps I'll have a brighter idea next birthday.

Don Ashford

*Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest*

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## GARDENING TIPS FOR SEPTEMBER

I hope September the 15th will be a day to remember, the Totley Show, with help from you will certainly be remembered if the hard work put in by the Show Committee and other volunteers is anything to go by. Lots of things to do and see the art section is usually good and Aaron's onions have to be seen to be believed. The cakes and jams always look delicious. I will be putting in a snap or two in the photographic section; we were a bit short of flower arranging exhibits last year. I hope some of you will enter its a bit of fun and you might get a certificate or even a cup, come on have a go. The children's section should be better this year as they will be back at school so please encourage them to take part, there is a section for computer art (so you can see we do keep up to date) the egg head should be fun I'm looking forward to seeing the children's exhibits. The handicraft is always worth a visit, the wealth of talent in Totley always amazes me, so get that piece finished off and entered, you never know and it's always nice to see your work displayed. Well I hope I've given you enough encouragement to enter the various categories remember your enthusiasm in taking part is encouragement for the Committee and volunteers to carry on with the traditional village activities.

### FLOWERS

To encourage a late flush or to help the plants develop into stronger specimens keep up with removing the faded flowers, reduce by half any perennials which have finished flowering to prevent wind rocking them loose. Prepare ground for new borders clearing away old summer bedding plants. Make ready for spring beddings add a little bonemeal or hoof and horn if you have not done so for a year or so. Lift and pot up geraniums and fuchsias ready for moving indoors, take cuttings from herbaceous plants as insurance against frost, if you have beds which are ready you could plant out daffodils and narcissi, primrose, polyanthus viola, forget me nots and winter flowering pansies, don't let the pansies flower nip off any buds which appear this will make stronger plants which can face the winter frosts better. Mildew can be a nuisance at this time deal with it as soon as it is seen; a good fungicide should help. Pot up hyacinth, tulips and narcissi for forcing, keep them as cool as possible in a dark place for 8 - 12 weeks, inspect from time to time to make sure they don't dry out or get mildewed. Rambler roses will have finished flowering they can be pruned now, cut out the old canes that have just borne flowers, if there is not much young wood you will have to keep the best of the old and simply remove the obviously worn out or diseased. If you have to do this cut back all old flower trusses and hips they may be bearing.

### VEGETABLES

Gather french and runner beans regularly, do not leave any pods which are ready on the plant unless you are entering the largest bean in the Totley Show. Keep the old hoe going removing weeds, make sure that all plants are not short of water, thin out spinach being grown for harvesting late Autumn, if your onions are slow ripening turn down the tops, lift and store as soon as they look reasonable (note the ones for the show and leave them until show day then dig them up leave the roots on trimmed a bit, chop off the tops and bind the chopped end of the onion with a bit of raffia or twine you need 3 matching and or one whoppa) and the best of luck.

Prepare ground ready for planting spring cabbage later in the month. Marrows can be stored if there are too many for immediate use hang them in old nylons in a cool frost-free place. Earth up leeks and celery. Keep an eye on the weather forecast so that outdoor tomatoes and marrows can be picked before they are spoilt by frost. Lift a bit of parsley and pot up and place in the cold frame this will provide pickings for the winter and food for the slugs if you are not careful. Divide and replant chives, thyme and welsh onions.

### TREES SHRUBS and FRUIT

Prepare ground for planting new raspberries and black currants, place grease bands on fruit trees especially apples. At the end of the month prune blackberries, cut out the old fruited canes and tie in the old shoots. Pick up windfall apples to prevent the spread of disease from the rotting fruit. Prepare ground for planting evergreens including heathers, hedges, shrubs and conifers plant out at the end of the month. Take hardwood cuttings and semi ripe cuttings of most shrubs at

this time rooting in a cold frame bear in mind hardwood cuttings can take quite a time to root (2 years sometimes). Start winter pruning apples and pears towards the end of the month.

### GREENHOUSE and INDOOR PLANTS

Gradually decrease watering except plants which are coming into flower i.e. cyclamen, dry off tuberous begonias, cacti, gloxinias, hot water plants and clematis.

Feed plants in flower such as African violets, Bush violets and chrysanthemums, as flowering finishes discard summer flowering annuals which have been used as pot plants. Pot up seedlings of cinerarias, cyclamen, primula and poor mans orchid to flower late winter and early spring, re-pot arum lilies to flower at Easter. Take cuttings of flowering maple, campanula, coleus, fuchsia, busy lizzy, ivy and geranium. Divide plants of peppercorn, mind your own business and rodahy poxis. Detach the plantlets from spider plants and pot them up, be careful watering in the greenhouse as excess water at this time encourages mildew and fungal diseases, also keep benches and floors clear of leaf droppings etc.

### LAWNS

Continue regular mowing and edging, rake, scarify and spike then apply a top dressing of sieved potting compost. It's a good time to sow new lawns or lay turf on well-prepared ground.

### GENERAL

Watch the weather in September the variation can be quite marked early on you can expect fine warm days but nights begin to feel colder, ground frost can occur so be prepared, make space for those tender plants and sort out the insulation covers for cold frames as just in case.

**DONT FORGET THE TOTLEY SHOW 15TH SEPT AT TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL SUNNYVALE ROAD. SEE YOU THERE.**

Cheerio for now TOM BUSY BEE

PS Entry forms at the Library, Busy Bee, and Totley PO.

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## PEAK EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

1 Sept. to - 27 October

**MATLOCK BATH ILLUMINATIONS AND VENETIAN NIGHTS** Tel. 01629 761390 for details

#### 1 EYAM CARNIVAL DAY

Includes judging and procession of fancy dress entries at 1.30pm decorated bikes/prams/wheelbarrows and tableaux vehicles judged at 1.45pm, procession includes various bands at 2.45pm and evening procession at 6pm. Sheep roast during day in Eyam Square. Tel. 01433 630044 for details.

#### 1 HATHERSAGE HORTICULTURAL ANNUAL SHOW

3pm to 6pm at Memorial Hall, Hathersage. NB No trade stands. Tel. 01433 651097 for details.

#### 3 - 8 CHESTERFIELD WELL DRESSING IN THE MAKING

Peacock Centre Courtyard, Low Pavement, Chesterfield Town Centre. Admission free, donations gratefully accepted (all donations will go towards the Mayor of Chesterfield's Appeal). 9.30 to 5pm each day. Contact Tourist Information Centre 01246 345777/8.

#### 6 - 8 LONGSHAW SHEEPDOG TRIALS

Longshaw Pasture, Longshaw Lodge, Grindleford, Hope Valley. 7.30am to 6.30pm approx. Tel. 01433 651852 for details

#### 8 - 15 CHESTERFIELD WELL DRESSINGS

4 to 5 wells on show in Chesterfield town centre. Sites include the Crooked Spire Church and the Peacock Centre Courtyard on

Low Pavement. Wells on show 10am to 5pm. Sunday opening 11am to 4pm. Tourist Information Centre Tel. 01246 345777/8 for details

#### 23 BRASS BANDS ENTERTAINMENT CONTEST

The Octagon, Pavilion Gardens, Buxton. Up to ten brass bands play 20 minute programme and are adjudicated. Start 1pm. Tel. 01663

744907 for details.

Information from the 'Peak District 2001' the official guide to the National Park. These events can be seen in the free guide, available throughout the Peak District or by visiting their Web Site [www.peakdistrict.org](http://www.peakdistrict.org).

NB Please check if the event will be on or not due to current Foot and Mouth problem.

## Graveyard Walk!

You will recall last month, when I invited you to accompany me around the General Cemetery? Well, the action took place, and what a cracking day it was! The Open Day and Promenade Theatre Event took place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> of July, and included stories of 15 incidents of the lives of people who are buried in there. These varied from individual record of their particular life (or death if that was the reason for their qualification to be there!) or because they were part of a more conglomerate story like the Blitz or the First World War. The tales spanned the years from early Victorian days to fairly modern times, and were all done in costume, and were "penned" by members themselves, which added a local flavour of interest to the proceedings.

The event was organised by The Friends of the General Cemetery, and was formed in 1989 in order to save it from neglect and vandalism. Since then, they have worked to enhance it's appearance, whilst protecting habitats and maintaining it's unique romantic atmosphere, by undertaking extensive research into the history of the cemetery and it's 87,000 occupants! This year's event was the most ambitious attempted with a cast of more than 40, and lots of music by a "folk" band, which provided both background and "incidental" music to the action, or entertained us on the travelling from one venue to another.

On a personal note, I cannot recall having enjoyed myself so much for a long time, because the three shows we did in the afternoon were subject to three different audiences, which varied from approx. 100 persons to 150, and then 250+. As it was my role of local "bobby", in authentic Victorian cape and helmet, to shepherd them around, and then organise "crowd control" so that everyone hopefully was able see the action, I was glad to be able to sneak away somewhere and empty my helmet and dry my fevered brow. It turned very warm if you remember?

So, if you did come and see it, thank you, and if you didn't, you missed a good show for a good cause! I can only request that you keep the event in mind for next time, and I can assure you I will be there even if it's only as one of the residents!!

Tony Reynolds.

## TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED.

### NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 26<sup>th</sup>.

THE MEETINGS ARE AT 11am. AT 4, GROVE ROAD, TOTLEY

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## SUPPORT DOGS

This summer there have been a number of lovely gardens open to the public in aid of various charities, and when I read in "The Star" that "Bishopscroft" in Fulwood, the home of the Bishop of Sheffield - Bishop Jack - was to be open one Saturday in July, my husband and I went there. The fact that the proceeds of the day were to go to "Support Dogs" was an added incentive to attend, as having been involved in the past with the Cheshire Home at Totley and now with various animal charities, "Support Dogs" combined both interests.



The afternoon was a delightful one, such a beautiful garden and most interestingly several "Support Dogs" with their owners were present. The dogs and owners were so happy together, enjoying the day out. Most dogs are chosen from rescue centres for training and the subsequent owners benefit from assistance with daily tasks by their dog. Many tasks which seem so slight to an able bodied person can, in some ways, be difficult or even impossible to a wheelchair user or person with physical disabilities. One dog who was present with his "socialiser" doing training was called Archie, he was a small dark Labrador cross and by now he will have gone to his new owner in Doncaster on conclusion of his training, and he will wear the yellow coat of a fully-trained "Support Dog". The proceeds of the Open Day at "Bishopscroft" will go towards Archie's support.

The Charity was founded in 1992 to provide a nation wide service from a training centre in Sheffield, and incorporated Medical Assistance Dogs, Disability Assistance Dogs and Seizure Alert Dogs. Guide Dogs for the Blind and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People are also members of Assistance Dogs (UK) and Assistance Dogs International. "Support Dogs" currently has 85 clients receiving help from a fully trained dog and there are a further 14 dogs in the early stages of training or socialisation who will be matched with a person in due course. When a dog retires the client has a trained replacement dog thus ensuring there is no loss of independence in this transition period. The charity aims to help 24 clients each year, with each client/dog partnership costing £5,000. No charge to clients, no government funding, depending entirely on donations and grants. The tremendous improvement in quality of life and independence for the dog's owner and the enriching relationship between the two means that the demand for these services is increasing, but is of course limited by available funds.

A number of our local associations and societies make donations to charities of their choice, or hold events in aid of charities, and perhaps like the summer "Open Day" at "Bishopscroft" the very worthwhile "Support Dogs" could be considered as future recipients?

Their address is "Support Dogs", The John Fisher Centre, Trianco House, Thorncliffe Park Estate, Chapeltown, Sheffield S35 2PH.

Mrs. D.F. Styles

## WILDLIFE UPDATE

by Alan Faulkner Taylor

At eight o'clock in the morning, on Saturday 11th August, my wife was looking through our kitchen window, when she saw a fox at the bottom of the garden. It stood up on its hind legs, rested its front paws on the edge of our birdbath and drank some of the water. We wondered if the fox savoured the taste of water flavoured by bird-droppings!

One of my friend's daughter lives with her husband and family on Baslow Rd, just about opposite the library. During the second week of August, she was down at the bottom of their garden in the afternoon, when a fox walked slowly past her. My friend's daughter said: "Where are you going?"

The fox flopped down onto its side and went to sleep!

When my wife is gardening a juvenile robin follows her wherever she goes. On one occasion it came so close that it flew between her legs and in between her arm and her body as she stretched out to remove a weed from the rockery.

By Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August red feathers had started to show on its breast.

### More Totley Wildlife.

One Tuesday night, talking to a friend outside the Heatherfield Club on Baslow Road, I also saw a fox come across Baslow road towards the flats below the Library. It stopped took a look at us and jumped over a wall. We were just about to leave when a figure jumped over the same wall towards Baslow Road. At first we thought the fox was returning but no it was a badger that slowly crossed the road and proceeded up one of the drives opposite. Ed.

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## WWW. Insomniacs Aft. Co. Totley by Alan Faulkner Tayler

Web: as far as I'm concerned a "web" is for spiders. And what about "Net"? Nets are for keeping one's hair tidy, or for fishing. Trawling the Net: again trawling is to do with catching fish. But to be serious - for many people insomnia is a problem and without taking tablets difficult to solve.

I have an easy solution and it may also work for some.

I imagine, in my mind, that I'm walking one of my favourite walks.

The first walk starts at the Old Bridge in Froggatt, but it begins whilst driving my car. I slow down and indicate "right", about 200 yards before The Chequers Inn then carefully, making sure that no other car is coming from the opposite direction, turn into the steep hill that passes through Froggatt. At the bottom of the hill I turn slowly left and negotiate the narrow road leading to the Old Bridge. Again, indicating "right" I drive very slowly across the bridge, making sure there are no pedestrians walking out from one of the alcoves that are on both sides of the bridge.

Having crossed over the bridge I indicate "left" then pull into the side of the road to allow my passenger to alight. Once she (or he) has got out I continue in low gear and park the car beside the wooden five-bar gate (providing no other car has beaten me to it.) Then I de-clutch, put on the handbrake, leave the gear in number three, and switch off the engine. While removing the ignition key I look through the offside wing mirror to make sure no other car is crossing the bridge, open the door, close it and place the key into the lock, but not lock it. After a further look over my shoulder I walk to the boot, open its lid and remove my trekking pole and rucksack. Having closed the boot I then return to the door and turn the key in the lock - thus locking all four doors and the boot.

Now comes the start of my walk: climbing over the stile and down onto the path; my first object of interest is a large boulder sticking out from the river Derwent on the opposite side where mallard can often be seen resting or preening. Then I look down onto a bank of gravel where mallard are regularly seen; (game birds and game mammals are always referred to in the singular, as distinct from the plural.)

After another few metres or so I remember the times when I've heard young sparrow hawks calling to be fed - perched high up in the pine trees on my right-hand side.

At the end of the pinewood is a narrow squeeze-through stile - rather strange because one of the uprights is made from Millstone Grit, the other two from wood.

After about fifty metres or so, on the left-hand side of the footpath, there's a sloping-down area, with three shallow steps held into place with timber, to allow cows and their calves to walk down to drink from the river. There are times, after days of rain, when the ground is so muddy that the steps are completely indistinguishable.

After another few metres I look up to my right: towards a tall black poplar on the nearside of a sparse strip of woodland. Turning my eyes down to the left I see a willow, then another black poplar - smaller than the first. When I've reached the smaller I observe that the topmost thirty percent is missing - probably the result of a thunderbolt; yet comparing the diameter of the trunks, it's apparent that both poplars had been planted at the same time.

Next comes a wooden five-bar gate; usually this is chained and padlocked - to prevent cows and their calves straying into the water and marshy ground, in which the calves could easily get stuck or even drown. I then walk through a well-made kissing-gate. Once through I look to my right and recall the occasion when I saw two teal - ducks easily recognisable by the bright yellow triangle just in front of their tail feathers.

On another occasion I remember a moorhen - startled by our approach - part flying, part running in its attempt to reach the river. In the water to my right I would regularly see a couple of mallard or so.

On one occasion my wife and I saw a female goosander and her five youngsters; enthralled, we watched their antics for fully fifteen minutes - two of the youngsters would climb onto their mother's back, then as the third attempted to do likewise she would dive, to re-appear a few feet ahead.

And so my thoughts will continue

My second favourite walk takes me below Robin Hood's Stride, walking along The Old Portway (3,000 years old - commencing close to where Nottingham is today, thence fording the river at Alport, but its ending is shrouded in the mists of time.) From here I walk to the Hermit's Cave - situated below Cratcliffe Rocks. I imagine that I'm with a friend, explaining that there were probably a number of hermits - giving advice and food to travellers walking or riding The Old Portway. The cave is protected from vandals by railings, which are usually secured by a padlock. Inside the cave there's an altar and a crucifix carved out of the rock. When researching to write an article about the Hermit's Cave, some six years ago, I read in a booklet (written by a local historian) that in all probability the crucifix was carved during the 10th century - the reason being that the twigs and leaves growing from the horizontal arm of the cross resembled those shown in drawings made during that time.

If I'm still awake I continue to explain the way in which the hermit (or hermits) made life easier: (a) carving a "couch" and a "seat" inside the cave; (b) pointing out holes cut into the rock above the cave - no doubt to hold the ends of spars that would have supported a roof covered with bracken; (c) a long channel above the cave - probably used to carry rain water away from the join between the rock face and the roof.

I've usually fallen asleep before the end of my imaginary walk.

This method of overcoming the problem of insomnia works for me (Alan Faulkner Taylor). It's certainly worth trying.

## SLIMMING WORLD

Slimming World consultant Alison Murphy achieved the Slimming World Gold Award not for the first time but amazingly for the second.

She was the first in the region to receive the prestigious award and now she has achieved it for the second time.

Alison became a member of a class herself and after reaching her target weight trained as a consultant and took over the class at Bradway Annexe in April 1996 with a total of 11 members. The class went from strength to strength and the Thursday night class soon had to open 5pm and 7pm sessions to enable Alison to give the 100 plus members the service they deserve.

"Admitting to yourself that you need to lose weight is very hard to do, so all the members need to feel at ease when you attend a class - that they're among friends. Our eating plans sell themselves but it is the class and the help and support the members get both in and out of the class that really makes the difference to their weight loss. Seeing my members, male and female alike, change before my very eyes into more energetic and self confident people is reward enough for me. My congratulations go to each and every member both at Bradway and also my Dore class, for their exceptional losses. Members have lost anything from 7lb to 14.5 stone. The classes have lost a total of over 2000 stone since I took over." For further details contact Alison on (01246) 410145.

## A GARDEN IN MY LIFE

by Cynthia Ramsden



Fanshawe Gate Hall

**A unique account of one woman's love for her garden**

Cynthia Ramsden first opened the garden of her lovely 16th century home Fanshawe Gate Hall to the public in 1995. In this beautifully illustrated book, she describes how the garden has developed over more than 40 years, against a background of changing fashions in gardening, and the challenges of bringing up a large family and coping with cancer.

Cynthia Ramsden's account of her successes, disasters and highly personal approach to garden design and planting, helps to explain why Fanshawe Gate, on the edge of the Peak District, is one of Derbyshire's most visited private gardens.

'A garden in my life' has been written to benefit Macmillan Cancer Relief and the Oesophageal Patients Association.

**The book launch will take place at Fanshawe Gate Hall on Thursday 20th September at 12 noon. Press representatives are most welcome.**

For further details and an invitation to the launch, contact Grafika Ltd on 01629 813300.

A garden in my life: Published 10th September 2001 by Grafika Ltd Hardback, full colour; RRP £25.00. Available from all leading book retailers from October 2001

Orders by post: Grafika Ltd, Riverside Studio, Lumford Mill, Buxton Road, Bakewell DE45 1GS

Orders by telephone 01629 813300. Orders on the web: [www.fgh.org.uk](http://www.fgh.org.uk)

Fanshawe Gate Hall is situated on the edge of the village of Holmesfield, Derbyshire off the B6054. The Hall, which dates from 1260, is the original seat of the Fanshawe family. The garden is open under the National Gardens Scheme in June and July.

### About the author

Cynthia Ramsden was born in Dronfield, Derbyshire in 1930 and has lived in the county all her life. She is married and has five children. Gardening and the development of the grounds at Fanshawe Gate have been combined with an active life in voluntary service, including several years spent supporting Barnados and the Women's Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS). Since her recovery from oesophageal cancer in 1997 and strengthened by her Christian faith, Cynthia has devoted time to helping both Macmillan Cancer Relief and the Oesophageal Patients Association. In 1999 she climbed Mont Blanc to raise funds for the two charities.

### SHEFFIELD SOUTH WEST AREA NEWS.

I have been notified by Nick Sellwood (Assistant Trees and Woodlands Manager) (Telephone Number 2736387), that a new all weather footpath is to be re-surfaced during August in Ecclesall Woods. This is from the gennel half way up Dobcroft Road at the rear of the houses towards Parkhead Cricket Ground, Ecclesall Road (South). This is part of the Management Plan proposals.

The next Area Panel meeting will be in Bradway at Sir Harold Jackson Primary School, the meeting will be concentrating on local issues. The new Area Housing manager Mr Paul Voyce will be there to answer any questions. If you have any issue that you would like to raise please contact me before hand so that I can get fully briefed from the appropriate officer. Posters and agendas will follow in due course. For the date and time etc. telephone David Aspinall, SW Area Co-ordinator

Tel. 0114 226 4112



## THE LOCAL CO-OP

Readers may not have realised just how long the Co-op has been in Totley. As far as I can tell, there had been a branch of the Sheffield & Ecclesall Cooperative Society here by 1908 when it was listed in the Derbyshire Directory as being at Totley Rise. Where it was on the Rise I just do not know. Perhaps an older reader can fill me in on that point. An intriguing reference appears in the Clarion Rambler's Handbook where G.H.B Ward refers to the Co-op renting the Rolling Mill field in 1924 some four years after the dam had been drained and the dam wall stones transported to build the tea rooms extension to the Waggon & Horses at Millhouses. What did the Co-op have the field for? A search through the 1923 Totley Valuations provided the answer, for there is mention of the Sheffield & Ecclesall Co-operative Society Social and Welfare Club having a wooden building which appears to have previously been in the occupation of H.B.Stevenson. Presumably there was some sort of sports field there.

The previous year (1922) had been the fifth Totley Allotment and Horticultural Society Show and the Co-op had taken an advertisement in the programme. From that we learn that the Society had been established in 1874, that the entrance fee to join was 1s3d and "in addition to the advantage derived from mutual trading, all members of the Society and their wives and husbands are insured under the Free Assurance Scheme. No premium to pay and no policy needed."

Anyway Ward reported that in 1931 the new premises were being built in its present location on Baslow Road. The design featured a smart Dutch gable in brick, which is not so noticeable in these days of large fascia signs. The photograph shows the new premises as they appeared in the 1930s.

Brian Edwards June 2000



"I'M HAVIN THE TOTLEY HOUSE MODELLED AFTER A BRIAN EDWARD'S DRAWIN'."

## One swallow

One swallow doesn't make a summer, or so the saying goes. Their arrival is welcomed every year, but somehow we never seem to notice the last swallow of the year until in autumn and suddenly they are all gone. Early gatherings might be broods of fledglings collecting near their nests, but then more ominously as summer draws to a close, you may notice small chattering groups on local telephone wires, as if they are discussing the travel prospects, before even larger groups assemble as the time for migration approaches. Then suddenly they are away for their winter break in Africa.

Early travellers leave in August, but the peak departure is in September and early October with the odd straggler in the south holding on into November. They will be back again in April (Saint George's Day is the traditional date of their return), but the precise timing is dependent on the weather as they move north through Europe, and a cold spell can delay nesting until June.

We are usually most aware of these birds in flight, high above Dore on a warm summer day. Circling overhead with ease, their flight combining a series of short glides and sudden swerves (their name comes from the Old English *swel-* to swirl). Alternatively you might spot them skimming over fresh water where insects are most abundant, or darting with great verve along hedges and over grass land in chase of a meal.

Designed with long narrow wings, which reduce the energy required for flight, swallows can remain airborne with little effort. Their two long tail 'streamers' help to give them their great mobility, and along with their chestnut coloured throat and forehead are a key identifying feature.

Swallows flying high is said to be a sign of good weather, probably because they are in pursuit of swarms of aphids or flying ants carried up by warm, rising air. But their favourite prey are fast-flying insects including large flies, and these are to be caught in all weathers by flying low, skimming a few inches above ground.

In addition to their entertaining flight, swallows are no doubt popular because they seem to choose to nest close to mankind. Nests are typically built on buildings or even inside in sheds and porches.

They also seem to return year after year to the same site. It may not actually be the same birds as mortality rates on migration are high, but young swallows return to the neighbourhood where they were raised, thus maintaining the link.

The swallow's nest is basically a mud cup built of material collected in the beaks of the parents. It is usually fixed against a vertical surface, preferably supported by a rough surface or protrusion and lined with feathers. Wall-mounted burglar alarm boxes make an ideal foundation, a ringing endorsement of man's helpful innovations.

Pairs may raise two and sometimes three families from clutches of five or six eggs, which is more than their cousins the house martins and swifts. This is probably because they spend longer here than most other insect-eating migrants and because they are such efficient feeders. When the eggs have hatched, both parents are kept busy bringing food to the engaging row of gaping beaks that appears above the rim of the nest each time they arrive. However life may not always be as straight forward as it seems, and cuckoldry is common. Some nestlings may be fathered by a different male or derived from another female's egg, laid cuckoo-like in the nest.

These delightful gregarious birds with their cheerful twittering, is an essential element of a summer's day.

Unfortunately their population, like that of so many other birds, is in decline. The reason is not clear-cut, but it could be the result of changes in countryside management leading to fewer insects, or the pressures of mankind in general, from shooting to pollution. Their loss would be a sad blow indeed to the English summer.

John Baker

## Whisperer

A Planning application has been made to the council, for the use of land as a land fill site on one of the fields on Baslow Road somewhere between Lane Head Road and the Brickworks. Planning application no 9B/0677P.

Totley Hall Lane is now getting tidied up a bit with the new curbs and re surfacing. The old style street lights look quite smart.

Baslow Road is also having work carried out with re surfacing, new street lights and new road signs and hopefully some traffic calming measures.

Back Lane, building work has now started on this site.

Beauchief Junction. Work is due to start on alterations to traffic lights at this junction any time now so there could be traffic delays.

A planning application has been made for 15 flats to be built on the site of the Texaco service station also at this busy junction.

Totley Characters.



Does anyone remember the chap in this photograph he was Frank (Hob) Marshall who lived in a cottage on Totley Hall Lane where the Fleur De Lys car park is now.

He was the local shoe repairer and he worked in a little wooden hut next to his cottage he was very popular with the local children who used to go and chat to him. Does anyone have any memories or stories to tell about him or any other local characters, if so, please write and tell us your stories.

## MacMillan Cancer Relief

On behalf of Totley All Saints Ladies' Club I would like to thank all the people who generously sponsored our charity walk in May. We raised £531 for this worthy cause.

Our coffee morning this year will be on Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> September in the Church Hall, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

We hope to see you then.

Sheila Parkin



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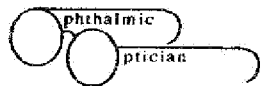
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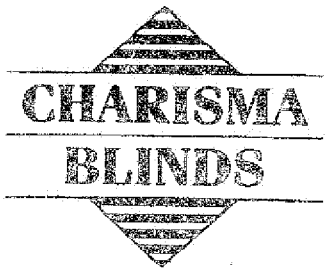
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<b>MONDAYS</b>	<b>COFFEE MORNING</b> , All Saints' Church Hall, 10am. To noon
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>COFFEE MORNING</b> , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am. To noon. <b>CRAFT GROUP</b> , Totley Library, 2pm.
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>	<b>COFFEE</b> in the <b>LIBRARY</b> , 10am. to 11.30am. <b>MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING</b> , All Saints Church Hall 8pm. to 10pm. <b>TODDLER GROUP</b> , 10-00 a.m. to 11-30 a.m., All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. 2360097 or 2620741
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	<b>PUSHCHAIR CLUB</b> , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 1.30pm. to 3pm. Tel. 2363157 for further details.
<b>SATURDAYS</b>	<b>MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING</b> , All Saints Church Hall 2 <sup>nd</sup> . And 4 <sup>th</sup> . Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.

### SEPTEMBER 2001

**SUN. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>**. **MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES**, Abbeydale Road South. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

**TUES. 4<sup>th</sup>**. **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**. "Opening Meeting" Rev. C.Kirk. 2-30 pm. Totley Rise Methodist Church.

**SAT. 15<sup>th</sup>**. **TOTLEY SHOW**, TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL. Details inside.

**SAT. 15<sup>th</sup>**. **BOBBY NORTH, MALE VOCALS**. Heatherfield Club. Baslow Rd. 8 pm. Non Members Welcome Entrance £1. 8-30 p.m.

**SAT. 15<sup>th</sup>**. **COFFEE MORNING**, an Overseas Mission Event 10-00 am. to 12 noon. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall.

**SAT. 15<sup>th</sup>**. **CONCERT**, by the **DRONFIELD BRASS BAND**, an Overseas Mission Event. 7-30 p.m. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. Tickets \$3-00 on the door or tel. 236 8927 or 2361598 for further details.

**TUES. 18<sup>th</sup>**. **TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**. "Desert Island Antiques" Mr. Roy Young. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 10am

**TUES. 18<sup>th</sup>**. **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**. "Slides of New Zealand", Totley Rise Methodist Church 2.30 pm

**WED. 19<sup>th</sup>**. **WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP**. "Stories in Stone", Mr. Fred Cocking. Totley Rise Methodist Church Primary Room. 8-00 p.m.

**FRI. 21<sup>st</sup>**. **LEONARD CHESHIRE SERVICES DINNER** at **WEIRLOWBROOK HALL**, Music by The Maurice Naylor Jazz Band. Details from Jackie Short 0114 236 7491

**SAT. 22<sup>nd</sup>**. **JUMBLE SALE**. Dore & Totley United Reformed Church Hall. Totley Brook Road, 10-30 a.m. to 12 noon. 25p. 10-00 a.m. £2.50

**MON. 24<sup>th</sup>**. **OPEN MEETING ON BLACKA MOOR**, 7-30 p.m. Totley Rise Methodist Church.

**FRI. 28<sup>th</sup>**. **THE WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING**, All Saints' Church Hall 10 am. to 12 noon. In aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief.

**SAT. 29<sup>th</sup>**. **LIZZIE WILD, FEMALE VOCALS**. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Rd. 8 pm. Non Members Welcome Entrance £1. 8-30 p.m.

### THE INDEPENDENT FOR OCTOBER

The next issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on **SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**.

**Copy date for this issue SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER.**

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

**E Mail** [les@lesfirth.f9.co.uk](mailto:les@lesfirth.f9.co.uk)

**Distribution & Advertising**. John Perkinson, 2, Main Avenue, Tel. No. 236 1601. Items for publication may be left or sent to 6, Milldale Rd., 2, Main Av., Totley Library or V.Martins Abbeydale Rd.

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

### OBITUARY

We are sorry to report the death of Jim Twigg from Totley Brook Road, on 22<sup>nd</sup> July at the age of 83.

Jim became a sergeant in the Second World War serving with the Yorkshire and Lancashire regiment and later as a "Desert Rat" After his army days he worked at Balfour and Darwins until his retirement when he followed cricket, horse racing and enjoying the company of his friends at the Shopley Spitfire and the Heatherfield Club.

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