

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY THE TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1977

FEBRUARY 2002

No. 250

15p.



A VIEW UP BASLOW ROAD CAN YOU DATE THIS OLD SCENE?

Totley Residents Association – What are we up to?

In an attempt to keep residents abreast of what is going on in the area I have been asked to make a brief entry in the Independent each month. This will by no means be a detailed report but you can get more information by contacting any of the TRA members. In the next few months I will attempt to list all new planning applications for the S17 Totley area with the relevant planning number to help you view the plans (at no cost) in Howden House on Union Street.

Item	Comment
Jubilee Celebration	This year marks the 25 th anniversary of the TRA and the Independent magazine. To celebrate we are organising a number of community events culminating in a Family Fun Day to be held on Penny Lane Open Space behind the Cricket Inn.
50+ Council	TRA are encouraging people to join, see article inside.
Greenoak View	The TRA are concerned regarding the future of Greenoak View and are liaising with councillors and the SW Area Panel member D Aspinall.
Traffic issues	TRA are working closely with the SCC safety Office Kevin Platt. Recent lobbying has resulted in a number of safety measures on the main A621 corridor. Additionally, we have been informed that design work on a scheme suggested by the TRA has begun with a view to improving parking and reducing speeds on the 'dual carriageway' section of Baslow Road. These include the provision of Pelican Crossings at the top of Mickley Lane and Hillfoot Road.
Totley Hall park	There is a fund of money to develop and maintain a new park at the bottom of Totley Hall Lane. The provision includes for a substantial drainage scheme, excellent infant playground facilities and improvements and ground games on the derelict tennis courts.
Village Appraisal	David Aspinall, Mike Williamson and Kevin Walker are drawing up guidelines to identify what facilities and resources we have for the community in Totley and what facilities and resources are lacking. David Aspinall SW Area Panel Officer has secured a limited amount of funding to produce a questionnaire asking for you views and suggestions.
Planning applications	Old MVS site proposed 10 flats in 2x2 storey blocks, Landfill site off Baslow Rd, Car Valet Service Glover Road.

How do you want Totley and Sheffield to develop over the next 10/15 years?

Are you in the slightest bit interested in:

Education
The environment
Local transport
Planning issues
Urban sprawl

Regeneration and inner city modernisation.

If the answer to any of the above is yes then read on. Every 10 years Sheffield City council put together a plan for the city, this is called the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). The Council are starting the consultation process for the next plan, this means you can have your say and influence the policy's that affect you.

For more information you can pick up an excellent review document from the Library that explains more about the UDP, tells you where the public consultation meetings are being held and provides a return slip for you to put your views forward. Alternatively you can request a Review of the UDP by phoning 273 4212.

The Public Meetings for the South West of Sheffield will be held as follows:

Tues 29th Jan at 7.30pm in Banner Cross Methodist Church
Wed 13 Feb at 7.30pm in Stephen Hill Methodist Church,
Manchester Rd Crosspool

**Wed 6 March at 7.30pm in Totley Rise Methodist Church
, Grove Rd (off Baslow Rd).**

Whisper

Be there! Kevin Walker

All Saints C of E School. A lot of work taking place in and around the school grounds with the building of new teaching rooms and preparation work for the new all weather pitch.

M.V.S. Car site on Baslow Road a planning application has been put in for demolition of the present site and to build two blocks of flats.

Totley Hall Lane. Someone has gone to the trouble of dumping a washing machine down the lane instead of taking it to the tip.

Mrs Drury of Green Oak Drive would like to thank everyone who sent her cards and presents on her 92nd birthday

All Saints C of E School will be holding another reunion on Monday April 15th. 7-00 p.m. onwards, at the Old Mother Redcap, Bradway, for people who left school around 1942 - 1946.

Apologies to Sylvia (Tummon) Wake whose name was missed off the list of past pupils who have attended previous reunions.

TABLE TOP SALE

**Saturday 16th March 10-12noon
at Wessex site, King Egbert School.**

£6 per pitch.

To book a pitch ring Jennie Street
Tel. 236-2302

+50? Have Your Say

Sheffield is one of 28 councils that have been given approval to run scheme to give +50 'citizens' (experienced teenagers) their say in local government issues.

In January a publicity campaign will be run in the Sheffield newspapers informing people of what the +50 is and what it is aiming to achieve. Anyone falling in to this age group can fill in a membership form to become a member of the **Sheffield Elders Congress (SEC).**

Becoming a member does not mean you have to commit to getting involved, attending meetings etc. All it does is makes sure you are kept informed and gives you a single point of contact where you can raise issues and or get advice on policies that affect you in your area.

Following on from the publicity campaign the SEC chaired by Cllr Lorraine Trueman will ask for people in the community to put themselves forward for election onto the Elders Congress Council as a council member. There will be 89 Elders Councillors and they will have the authority to attend council and sub committee meetings to make sure older people are represented. Additionally, although they will not take any authority from Councillors they will have the power to challenge and question decisions that are being made and that may affect older citizens.

Any SEC member will be eligible to put himself or herself forward for election to the SEC Council. One drawback is that Sheffield will not at this stage be divided into wards, therefore, it is possible that all 89 SEC elected councillors could be from one area of Sheffield if they obtain the majority of votes.

To ensure Totley has its fair share of SEC elected Councillors the Totley Residents Association are encouraging you the +50 Totley community to fill in an application form and send it in. We already have two members who are prepared to put themselves forward for election and to represent the interests of the older community of Totley they are Avril Critchley and Janet Chapman.

Membership forms are available from the Library or from the SEC office in the Old Townhall (no pun intended) Room 133, Sheffield S1 2HH or phone 273 5426.

Kevin Walker

RECYCLING

Recycling facilities are disappearing from Totley. This presents a problem to those people who like me do not have the use of a vehicle and have to fight their way on and off the buses laden with bags of clinking glass and crushed plastic!

I have made it my mission to restore recycling facilities to Totley and have been in touch with Tim Sharp at Onyx, Bernard Road Depot, S4 7YX. telephone **273 5506.**

Tim would be pleased to hear from anyone who knows of a suitable site, bearing in mind glass recycling bins need to be sited well away from housing where residents may be disturbed.

Any suggestions, please?

Lisa Blake

APOLOGIES for our article CONGRATULATIONS

in the December/January issue.

The congratulations were due to **Mrs. Joyce Harrington** (not Heavington) of West View Lane, who had recently been awarded the W.R.V.S. long service medal for her work at Lodge Moor and the Northern General hospitals.

SPOTLIGHT ON

Tom Steele

How long have you lived or worked in S17?

For 30 yrs. Just after decimalization. We bought the shop and flat above from "Monty" Scott the hairdresser who was well known for his "short back and sides". His wife did ladies hairdressing above the shop.

What do you like most about this area?

The people, they are very friendly and helpful. It did not take us long to settle in, and we have made many good friends. I think we are very fortunate to live in such a pleasant area, where else could you walk for 5 minutes or so and be in lovely countryside?

What would you change if you could?

The speed of cars. It seems that everyone wants to be in front and travel at speeds far in excess of the speed limit.

What do you consider to be your greatest achievement so far?

Getting to 68 yrs old.

Do you have a goal or ambition?

Getting to 102, 1 year older than my old mum got to.

Have you any regrets or disappointments?

Yes, I would have loved to have a daughter after having two sons, so that I could have spoilt her.

What makes you angry or apprehensive?

The thought of another war, there seems to me nothing to be gained and so much misery and suffering caused, which could be avoided by talking constructively and without bigotry and hatred.

What gives you hope and encouragement?

When I see children playing happily together

If you ruled the world

I would do away with politics and religion, they seem to be the cause of most of the upset in the world. what I would replace them with I do not know, perhaps the ladies should take over, at least they might talk their way out of conflict.

Which historical event would you like to have witnessed?

The big bang (from a distance), just to see how we came about and what primeval soup tasted like!

Which famous person would you like to meet?

Osama bin Laden, just to ask him why?

Who has had the most influence on your life?

No single person, I have met some really nice people in my life. Father Ball at my first church, when I was 5 to 12 yrs old. He spent a lot of time in Africa and was Bishop out there, where he was tortured and tormented during the war and did not bear any malice. Teachers at school who had a very difficult job during the war trying to educate us. My foreman when I was an apprentice who was a very profound person and taught me patience and skill with wood and people.

What was your childhood like?

Very happy, despite the war. My mother was a very kind, religious person, and offset the strictness of my dad which gave me, I think, a well balanced upbringing. We were not well off but my dad worked hard to provide for my two sisters and myself

How do you like to spend your spare time?

Both Christine and I like walking and get out as often as the weather and other pressures allow. I enjoy photography, I have a little darkroom which I spend a fair amount of time in, in between painting and decorating and all the other jobs around the house. As you can imagine if you read the Totley Independent. I spend a lot of time in the garden. I am not a tidy person so there is always some cleaning up to do after various projects have been tried and written about. I still enjoy doing a bit of woodwork, there is nothing quite so

relaxing as turning wood and producing a nice piece of work.

What was your best holiday?

Earlier, I spent a month at the outward bound mountaineering school, learning mountain rescue amongst other things. This taught me self-confidence, which I later put into practice for a while helping with mountain rescue in Eskdale. We recently spent two weeks in Northern Cyprus which was great. The weather was idyllic and the walking was lovely in unspoilt countryside with wild flowers in profusion, and the people were very friendly and helpful.

Where in the world would you most like to visit?

The Far East. I have travelled the world in my jobs prior to having the shop, America, Canada, France, Germany etc. but never got to the Far East. I have always wanted a massage by one of those oriental maidens I once saw in a James Bond film but never quite managed it!

What are your favourite book, film, song, painting or poem?

I enjoy a good thriller, Dick Francis and similar writers. A good Tom Sharpe story makes me laugh and I enjoy reading Yorkshire dialect tales. I also enjoy James Bond and sci-fi films or anything with a happy ending. If I am watching a film I like to be entertained, not have a serious discussion about it afterwards, to try and make out what it was all about. The song Ging, Gong Goolie reminds me of the good times I had when scouting, both in troupe and in Rover crews.

KING ECGBERT'S SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

On Thursday 20th. December former pupils who had left the school in the summer of 2001 and had just completed their first term at various universities and colleges were invited to return to meet with staff and collect their certificates.

Two former pupils received special awards.

The Ann Ferdinand Prize for best "A" level results was awarded to Alex Foley who is now having a 'gap' year working in industry in Huddersfield for Syngenta. Next year he is going to Kings College, Cambridge to study Chemical Engineering.

From the Alison Firth Memorial Fund the award for outstanding achievement was presented to Victoria Plews who despite bereavement and illness had managed to gain her 'A' levels.



Transport 17

Here we go again! It does not seem possible that we are already into the second month of 2002. If you have had the dreaded bug I hope that you feel better soon.

Our three mini buses are as busy as ever working every day taking many people out and about to various parts of Sheffield, not just the S17 parts. They will be going to lunch and social clubs and outings. Many of these organised by volunteers. Could you be one of these? For us or for a club? It is good fun, great exercise and you meet all sorts of people.

We take passengers to a lunch club at St. Mark's Church, Broomhill. They are kindly going to have a fund-raising concert for us on the 7th. July. More details of this in the next issue of the Independent.

If you are a passenger and need to talk to us about anything, especially cancelling a pick up, our number is 2362962. I know some people don't like answer machines but we can't have someone in the office every working hour. We are out transporting!

Best wishes, Margaret Barlow.

OWLS by Alan Faulkner Taylor

One evening in August a friend phoned, he told me about a tawny owl that had been terrorising people close to the bus terminus at Walkley. One of his friends had been giving his girl-friend a goodnight kiss, when an owl had landed on his shoulder!

People who lived in Walkey and part of Crookes had considered asking the police to do something about the owl. Could it be shot? how stupid can some people be!

One morning a married lady, one of Ken's friends, had been returning home with her shopping. She had seen a tawny owl, sitting on top of a wall, and knowing its reputation she picked it up, put it in her basket, and having returned home, phoned Ken. Did he know anyone who could deal with the bird?

I willingly accepted the owl - keeping it in my garage until I was able to build an aviary.

It only took me three days to build an aviary with bark-covered pine uprights and cross members, and 1-inch mesh wire-netting; I constructed a shelter in one

of the corners - two sides and a top, with a perch.

The tawny appeared to be satisfied with her (we'd decided it was a female although we had no evidence to support this). We also called her "Popeye" - because of her habit of closing one eye as we approached.

One of Popeye's delightful habits, when we entered the aviary, had been to fly onto one of our shoulders and nuzzle her face into ours.

For feeding Popeye I'd arranged with a fishmonger/poulterer in the Castle Market to save me a number of chicken heads, which I would collect every Saturday morning. The feathers provided the necessary roughage to form pellets that owls disgorge.

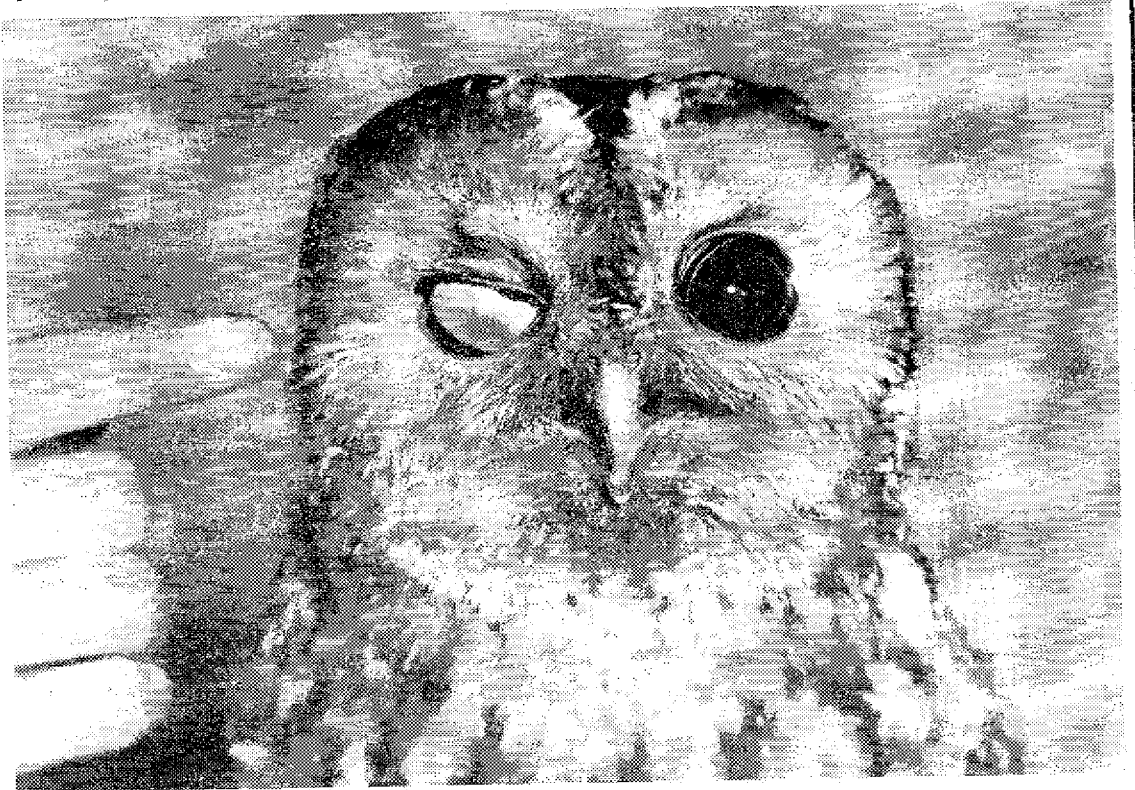
For a number of years I'd been receiving telephone calls from a reporter on the Sheffield Telegraph called George Hopkinson. Whenever he was short of a good story he'd ask if I had anything interesting to report about local wildlife. Resulting from his reports I became well-known of Sheffield's expert in natural history - particularly birds. The late Colonel Gerald Haythornthwaite, as the secretary of the northern Derbyshire branch of the CPRE (Council for the Preservation of Rural England) would always ask my advice about the effect on birds whenever an area was due to be acquired or altered.

When the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) or the PDSA (People's Dispensary for Sick Animals) had taken in an injured bird or fox, they would always ask if I could take give the creature a good home.

On one occasion the secretary of the local RSPCA asked if I could house a tawny owl - it had been confiscated from a boy who had maltreated it. It had been kept in a cardboard box

without a perch! It had no claws! Its feet were covered with bunions! It had neither tail nor flight feathers!

We called him "Ossie", ever though it was impossible to tell the owl's sex. So I built a further shelter in the opposite corner of the aviary to Popeye's. The two tawnies get on well together.



I had installed an old kitchen sink in one corner of the aviary. The owls enjoyed a regular bath - flapping their wings to dry out afterwards.

At one time I had six tawnies and a barn owl in my aviary; the number of chicken heads to be collected on Saturday mornings had increased to fourteen - two per bird per day. The barn owl had been taken into the RSPCA having been picked up alongside the railway line at Wharnccliffe. The owl's face was medium-grey instead of white, and it was suffering from concussion.

It had to be force-fed for a week, but after a month it recovered and I released it in a field in Rivelin Valley. As the bird flew across the field it was mobbed by a number of lapwings.

The story of Popeye and Ossie ended in tragic circumstances. My first job after arriving home from work had been to feed our two tawnies. On this particular occasion it was raining and Popeye was in the long wet grass alongside one of the aviary's sides - not in her shelter as I'd expected. I picked her up and put her on the perch; as I removed my hand it was covered in blood! One of her legs was missing!

I examined the wire-netting and found a number of feathers sticking to the mesh. I surmised that Popeye had tried to attack a cat, and that the latter had wrenched off her leg!

On the following morning, she was down in the grass again - not in her shelter. A younger bird, I'd had Popeye for thirteen years, might have survived the loss of a leg. The only humane act to do had been to wring her neck. Unfortunately Ossie died about a week later - probably he had pined -missing Popeye's company?

WEATHER REPORT 2001

(W.P. = Weston Park, T = Totley)

Thankfully the weather always gives us in Britain something to talk about and this year was no exception – temperatures all mixed up 13 degs at night in October and rain mostly when we hoped it would be dry.

There were 15 days with over ½" of rain, five of these in October contributing to a total of 892.6 mm for the year in Totley 762.4mm (Weston Park). July 17th produced 46mm (1.84") (T) 37.2mm(W.P.). Eight months had rain on more than half the days of the month, July having the least – 9 days and June the least amount of rain closely followed by December with only half W.P.'s average. Altogether 4 months had less than average rainfall while 4 months did their best to counter this with October producing more than double. There were 7 spells of 7 or 8 days with no rain.

Snow fell or lay on 21 days with 7" falling in Totley on 27th February in the morning while the M1 had no snow whatsoever.

The coldest night temperature was on 2nd March –7 1/2 degs (T) 3rd March –5.5 degs (W.P.). Totley's coldest day was 29th December ½ deg and warmest night 29th July (16 ½ degs). The warmest day was on the 4th August, 28.6 degs (W.P.), while Totley reached 27 degs on 26th June and 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 28th July. May 3rd saw a temperature drop of 5 degs by 2p.m. from the mornings high of 13 degs. The 29th November produced the same temperature through the day and night. Thunder disturbed 5 days but there were very few gales during 2001.

TOTLEY

Rain for the year

1999 1024.1mm
2000 1362.6mm
2001 892.6mm

Coldest night

1999 -5.5 degs
2000 -5.0 degs
2001 -7.5 degs

Wettest Day

1999 36.5mm
2000 49.8mm
2001 46.0mm

Hottest day

1999 28.5 degs
2000 28.5 degs
2001 27.0 degs

Sun Hours (Weston Park only)

1999 – 1629.9
2000 – 1400.3
2001 – 1430.7

WESTON PARK

927.7mm
1086.9mm
762.4mm

-5.1 degs
-3.4 degs
-5.5 degs

28.7mm
45.8mm
37.0mm

29.6 degs
30.7 degs
28.6 degs

Vivien Filleul

PUZZLE CORNER

Countdown

Many readers will know the TV game in which competitors have to use simple arithmetic operations to produce a target number from a set of given numbers, as in the example below.

75, 5, 9, 2, 7, 5 578

A solution could be;

75 - 9 = 84 84 x 7 = 588 588 - 5 - 5 = 578

Now see how many different ways you can solve the following:

75, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8. Target 250

I found 7 different ways. Can you find more?

Answers on page 11

Don Ashford

THE GASMEN COMETH

Friday December 7th.

Gas emergency number called due to a smell of gas outside numbers 4 and 6 Milldale. With a fairly rapid response Mr. 'A' came with equipment to check out the leakage.

Getting a bigger reading near number 4 he then called out the team to dig up and replace pipes leading into number 4. Without too much delay Mr 'B' and Mr.'C' came in their lorry and duly dug a hole in the pavement and by tea time had renewed the pipework to the meter of number 4.

Leaving the job at the stage with a hole in the pavement, duly protected with barriers, and leaving number 4 without gas as the turning on of the gas had to be done by a specialist, Mr. 'D'. Unfortunately Mr. 'D' arrived about 10-00 pm. when number 4's resident was in bed and unfortunately was unable to get to the door before Mr. D' had left.

Saturday December 8th.

Mr. 'D' arrives and connects number 4 back up to the gas and duly carries on with his other jobs.

Later in the morning we could still smell gas and thus called the emergency number once again.

Mr.'E' duly arrived and confirmed there was gas leaking and so called for the team to dig another 2 holes and replace the pipes leading to number 6.

Mr.'E' and Mr.'F' arrived and got on with the job on hand digging one hole in the pavement and another hole in the concrete drive in order to get to the gas meter.

With hard work they finished their part of the job by 4-30 pm. and informed the office they had finished in order for Mr. 'G' to come and reconnect us to the mains.

10-00 pm. still no one had been so a phone call to the emergency number was made and by 11-00 pm Mr. 'G' arrived to reconnect us, great we could put the heating back on.

Tuesday 11th. December.

Lorry with Mr. 'H' and Mr. 'I' arrived to fill up the hole on the pavement in front of number 4. "Will you be filling the hole outside number 6", I asked. "Sorry its not on our list, but I'll check with the office" replied Mr.'H'. No joy he had to leave number 6's hole.

Thursday 13th. December

After phoning the emergency number along comes Lorry with Mr. 'J' and Mr' K' to fill in number 6's hole.

Monday 17th. December

Lorry arrives with Mr. 'L' and Mr. 'M' arrive and retarmac the two holes. "That's a refreshing change" I said to the two gentlemen, "Doing both holes, thanks, will you be re-concreting the hole down the drive?"

"Sorry mate we only do tarmac"

Another phone call and by Saturday 22nd we're back to normal.
Ed.

R.S.P.C.A.

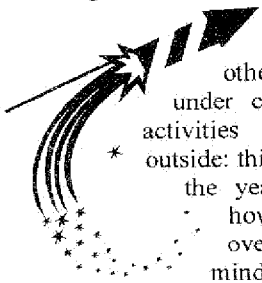
Grateful thanks from the RSPCA kennels at Spring Street to all those who contributed to the annual food collections over the Christmas period, thanks also for the help given as collection points by the local Co-op Late Shop, Totley Library and Halifax Building Society. Unfortunately, the Spring Street Shelter is always full with unwanted dogs, cats and other domestic pets, the position is at its worst at Christmas and summer holiday times, and Totley Library and Co-op Late Shop very kindly have collection points for food throughout the year. Such gifts at any time will be most welcome, as the cost of feeding all the animals - until hopefully they get new homes - is very heavy.

Mrs. D. Styles

BANG BANG BANG

Dear Ed.

Bonfire night for us stretched over four evenings, during which there was a well-nigh continuous barrage of sounds between 5.30 and 10.30 p.m. On looking out we saw some fireworks, but mainly it was just a progression of bangs of varying volumes. Is it cheaper to produce bangs than shooting stars?



For people who are ill this can be excruciating. Our dog - as many others - spent the evenings crouching under chairs in a woeful state. All our activities were against the irritating noises outside: this can be acceptable on one evening of the year but not four. It seems now, however, that "firework time" can last over nearly a fortnight or so with its mindless bangs.

I understand in America and Australia letting off fireworks by individuals is illegal. They have community fires with much colour and party-style enjoyment on the one occasion. I, and many of the people I have spoken to, would very much appreciate the introduction of this way of celebrating here, and would certainly back a law supporting this.

It seems a pity that the real enjoyment of a "Bonfire Night" is being watered down by a fortnight of sporadic fireworks. I suppose now we can also expect them over Christmas and the New Year. Christmas, too, is being watered down with shopping, Father Christmases and turkey dinners starting in November!

I know you must have much more important things on your mind, but should be grateful if you could give this letter a bit of attention when you have opportunity.

Miss N. Shirley Haworth

(Copies of letters that have passed between Miss Haworth, Richard Allen and Colin Ross on "firework disturbance" have been given to Totley Library.)

Dear Sir

I read with interest a letter in your December issue of the Totley Independent from a resident complaining about still being bombarded by fireworks despite Bonfire Night being long past.

I would like to make your readers aware that there is currently a national campaign underway for the Control of Fireworks for Animal Welfare (COFFAW). This campaign aims to represent people who would like further restrictions placed on the sale and use of fireworks, a drastic reduction in the increasing noise levels of these fireworks, and to bring about a stronger public awareness about the terrifying effects fireworks have on animals. The campaign is receiving a huge amount of support from all over the country and we currently have over 30,000 signatures on our petitions. You do not have to own an animal to be part of this campaign - many of our supporters are simply involved for their own sakes because they are fed up of the relentless noise and disturbance night after night.

This campaign closed on 31 January 2002 so, unfortunately, this issue of the Independent is too late. However, if anyone is prepared to receive some petition forms, I would be more than happy to oblige. I can be contacted on 07949 595 919.

Thank you.

Lucille Cavadino, South Yorkshire Area Co-ordinator, COFFAW

TOTLEY, A VIEW FROM ABOVE

Picture it. Totley 15 March 1961 around 9:30am. There are traces of snow in the hedgerow bottoms and the trees still have their bare winter branches. This is shown on an old RAF photograph taken at 1,800 ft. above Totley and held by the NMR in Swindon. This is a somewhat higher altitude than the 1945 photograph, which I described in November 2001 edition of the TI. Consequently it shows about 4 times the area but in less detail.

So what has changed in the 17 years between them? The old prefab houses of the Green Oak Estate, which were just being finished in 1945, are well established, Green Oak Park is much as it is today, although the trees by the bowling green are obviously a lot smaller. Rowan Tree Dell and Meadow Grove are complete and the bottom of Sunnyvale Road is in the process of being completed. The county primary school is functioning and the college building on the Highfield site have been built over the former walled garden, with a new tennis court at the top of the site. The metal shed of Totley Motor Sales stands out like a sore thumb I am sorry to say.

In terms of what are termed crop marks - patterns in fields showing buried walls or ditches, the picture is mixed as it often is. The bumps in the fruit field of the fruit farm are invisible, although they could be seen clearly in the previous photograph and are visible to the passer-by today. Likewise the ridge and furrow that can be seen in some of Edwin's pastures, and I have seen in his plough soil in one of his strawberry fields, are not to be seen. How easily individual crop marks show up varies enormously on many factors and may be visible for only a few days over a period of decades. Some modern herringbone field drainage is to be seen in places, notably near St. Georges Farm. Many fields show the lines produced by the ongoing cultivation.

However, I am intrigued by some features. In Gill Field Woods about 200m upstream of the point where the footpath to Woodthorpe crosses Totley Brook there is a dark rectangle about the size of a small house fed by a leat from Totley Brook. Is this the remains of the Totley Hall swimming pool or am I totally confused? Also there are a series of circular features, about 3 to 5 meters in diameter, in some of the fields between Gill Field Woods and the track up to Woodthorpe Hall from Mickley Lane. Are these ancient burial mounds abandoned early industrial workings or, more likely, something far more prosaic? If anyone can shed light on any of this, please let me know.

An aerial photograph of Totley taken in late October 1971 shows the newly built tower block and other buildings on the Lowfields site of the polytechnic that was demolished in August 1999 to make way for the new housing development. This is the last of 3 aerial photographs that I obtained as part of a basic local studies search for Totley from the National Monuments Record. The pitches are clearly seen to be marked out for football at Penny Lane, Green Oak Park and the Poly's playing fields. The first of the modern replacements for the prefabs are going up on Green Oak Avenue and Green Oak Road. Totley Grange has now become the housing we see today. The mysterious rings that I saw on the 1962 photograph are still visible and just as perplexing. Although this photograph was taken at a much lower altitude the resolution is not much greater and so it is hard to make out any more detail. With the eye of faith I think I can see some more crop marks showing through from below the modern cultivation in some fields but I may be wrong. After all some people believe they can see canals on Mars!

Duncan Froggat

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN S17

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY AND BEYOND

She says: "Arise my darling, my beautiful one, and come with me. Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth – for your love is more delightful than wine". He says: "Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb, my bride; milk and honey are under your tongue".

February 14th, and countless cards and gifts, cryptic newspaper messages, flowers and "romantic surprises" tell us that St Valentine's day has arrived again, and all is sweetness and love for the day! Yet the words "She says" and "He says" above are not from an anonymous modern greetings card, but from a book over 2,500 years old. Reputedly written by King Solomon, the book "Song of Songs" makes good reading for 14th February – you'll find it half way through the Bible, in the Old Testament. It's really fruity, for the bible, and it celebrates in beautiful poetic form the gift of love (including physical love) from God. The book's message is that God intends that such love – often grossly distorted and abused by both ancient and modern people – to be a normal part of marital life in his Creation.

Of course love is more than just the physical. Love is sometimes extremely costly. On 11th November each year, in Acts of Remembrance for those killed and wounded in wars (and this year we'll no doubt think of terrorist incidents), we hear another biblical quotation – "greater love has no man than this, that he lays down his life for a friend". And we Christians think of a loving God who loves each of us so much that he replaced the ancient need for "sacrifices to placate the pagan gods" with a "once for all sacrifice" of his only son Jesus. All we need to do now is "repent" – say we're sorry to God – for the things we get wrong. In a couple of months it's Easter, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus to an everlasting life that we can share, because of God's sacrifice. Easter, and every Sunday throughout the year, are other and, to Christians, more important days to celebrate real love than Valentine's Day. Alas, the historical St Valentine probably didn't exist (I'm told), although the historical Jesus definitely did (as some who were not his followers describe).

I'm not knocking Valentine's Day at all! It's GREAT to have a day which is dedicated to love – we should ALL have more of them (like Christians do). But on "St. Valentine's Day", spare a thought (and a prayer) for the living God who invented the concept of love, and who sacrificed his only son to demonstrate the intensity of his perfect love for each one of us. Dig out the flowers and the chocolates, and have an intimate and godly evening reading "Song of Songs" – for a refreshing change. And may true love flow well beyond February 14th, 2002.

Much True Love to you all, from the Christians of all the churches in Sheffield 17! Andy Parsons.

Maasai Walk 2002

David Rhodes and the gang in Kenya.

Dear All

The sun cream has been put away, and the kagools dug out. The rainy season appears to have arrived early, so much so that not only are we sliding through mud, but Saturday's seminar had to be suspended mid - sermon (Rev. D. Rhodes - help!), whilst reading Mat 5:43-46 as it happened! - rain on the unrighteous! Hail on the iron roof was deafening. An hour or so after we were able to resume.

This email has not been without risk - we forded our local river, and hiked at speed through the bush for 50 minutes before arriving at the tarmac road - we jest not. Hailing a pick-up, eventually 15 of us were crammed into the back plus baby clinging on to white finger. Eventually the clutch burnt its way safely into Narok.

Looking forward to tea without sugar, a slightly better appointed bed-room than our current 12ft x 8 ft chamber for the four of us, minus of course electricity, or en-suite!. However we do have an organic alarm clock - his rival has already accompanied ugali (local maize food. I have refused to call it stodge, as suggested by the others), and that only leaves a goat whose nocturnal amorous intentions have so far been thwarted.

Seriously, we are having an excellent time. Some 80 people came to Christ in the first three days, including a 10 year old child. We have prayed for healing often, and one club foot was clearly improved. The whole experience of sharing with local Christians and non-Christians, including an alcoholic compound, has been utterly inspiring and faith building.

Tomorrow we move on to another village - Kisiriri, where we may stay the night. But first we have our last session at Naisoya School today, where we sing, play games, and give Bible presentations. It is incredible that in these basic schools, 12 year olds can converse in 3 different languages.

Please pray for
new real disciples

- follow up by the local Christians over the next two or three weeks.

- the weather - we really have had a lot of rain, which is highly disruptive.

- wisdom to know how to respond in each new situation.

Thanks for

- we all remain well, and in good heart

- the very open reception, and fruit that we have experienced

- excellent relations within the team and with local Christians.

Getting to town to communicate is not simple, so we doubt whether there will be a chance to send another email before we return.

With love from us all

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GARDENING TIPS FOR FEBRUARY.

I hope you have had a lovely rest over the Christmas and New Year holidays. No time now for resting. Lots to do at this time, tidying up the garden moving all the collected debris, moving all old vegetables and digging over any spare ground and getting it ready for the next lot of plants by manuring or fertilizing (not both). You should have all your seeds standing by (the onions should be already in if you are going to show them at the "Totley Show" in September). The seeds are in the shops now and before you buy them read the back of the packet and make sure you have the means to propagate them. This will avoid a lot of disappointment later. When planting seeds a good rule of thumb is to cover them with a depth of compost equivalent to the thickness of two seeds. In the case of very tiny seeds such as lobelia, busy lizzie etc. these need pressing into the surface of the damp compost. Cover seed trays with glass and newspaper to keep in the moisture and exclude light. Place them in a warm place or propagator and maintain a temperature of 60F or as indicated on the packet. Give the compost a spray over with a fungicide such as chestnut compound to help prevent damping off (the seedlings topple over rotting at the base). As soon as the seedlings show signs of germinating, remove the newspaper to allow them to get as much light as possible but not in full sunshine. When they are large enough to handle prick them out into pots or trays to develop further. Start planting the slow growing seeds first, such as sweet peas, salvias and bedding begonias. Follow on next month with other bedding plants.

FLOWERS

Cut down established perennials and fork around them, work in a bit of balanced fertiliser like Growmore, or well rotted compost. Leave penstemons till next month. Clean up rockeries and top dress with compost and chippings (grit). Fill in any gaps in your wallflower beds make sure that they are in firmly. In mild spells the winter flowering pansies will be flowering to encourage more flowers pull off dead or fading flowers to stop them forming seeds. Crocosmia or montbretias if neglected develop into large clumps and produce few flowers. The flowers will be much better quality and more numerous if the plants are lifted and divided every second year. Old plantings of lily of the valley also benefit from being lifted and replanted using the selected crowns taking care to spread the roots in wide shallow holes after working into the soil a fertiliser. Rose fertiliser is ideal for this type of plant. If you want to have flowers for cutting plant out Scabiosa such as Clive Greaves or Rudebeckias, Pyrethrums also produce masses of large daisy like flowers over quite an extended period.

VEGETABLES

Make sure any ground earmarked for vegetables is well balanced for the type to be planted. Top dress growing cabbage and broccoli with nitrochalk. Sow broad beans under glass in boxes or pots set seeds at 2" intervals and cover with about ¾" soil. Germinate in a slightly heated greenhouse or frame. If weather is favourable sow parsnips, the longer and steadier they grow the better, shallots can also be planted if the soil is well drained, sow lettuce, cauliflowers and parsley indoors. Watch out for the slugs during warm periods and deal with them straight away.

TREES, SHRUBS AND FRUIT.

Planting of trees, shrubs etc. should be completed this month. Prune autumn fruiting raspberries down to 6" from the ground and give a general feed. Rose fertiliser is ideal for raspberries and goosegogs. Give your apples a dressing of super phosphate if they haven't had any for a year or two. Check on the security of tree ties and supports the winds can be quite aggressive at this time. Also check the insulation and protection around potted shrubs and plants, the frosts won't be over for a little while yet. Prune late flowering clematis to within 6" of ground level. Other climbers and shrubs can be pruned at this time such as hydrangeas, perniculata, spirea, japonica and buddleia. Give a good mulching all round trees and shrubs.

GREENHOUSE AND INDOOR PLANTS

Continue to pot up rooted cuttings of chrysanthemum and perpetual flowering carnations. Avoid having your seedlings bolting and growing too straggly by removing covers as soon as they appear and give them plenty of light (not in full sun). If you have a fully heated greenhouse you could bring on cucumbers, tomatoes, courgettes etc. early by planting seeds

now. Prune and start greenhouse plants, which have been resting, by gradually increasing water intake. Towards the end of the month start planting seeds of summer bedding plants such as dianthus, kochia, marigolds, busy lizzie, ageratum, statice, lobelia, nicotina, nemesia etc.

Increase the watering of indoor plants, add a little liquid feed to the water. Plant indoor gladioli corms. As I mentioned last month, but worth repeating, watch the weather carefully and ventilate in warm spells closing the vents mid to late afternoon. This will help keep down too much humidity and stop plants from forming buds too quickly. Clean up the floors and benches and disinfect if you haven't done so already. Keep cyclamen cool and well-watered, not waterlogged remove flowers as soon as they go over. Keep sensitive, thin leafed plants away from heating appliances. In frosty conditions move plants away from windows to prevent cold temperature damage. Prune climbers in greenhouse or conservatory. Cut out weak and unwanted growth and trim side shoots to within one or two buds of the main stem.

LAWNS.

It is advisable not to walk on frosty lawns. It does leave marks later which take a little while to recover. Keep lawns clear of leaves etc. when possible spike and or scarify later in the month, especially if you have a soggy patch, dressing with sand after spiking will help eliminate some soggy patches. If weather permits prepare ground for lawn areas to be seeded in the spring.

Happy Gardening to you all!

Cheerio for now. Tom Busy Bee.

Order your Bedding Plants the easy Totley way!

Totley Primary School PTA has an arrangement with a plant nursery to order bedding plants. Last year we took orders from parents, friends and relatives to the value of over £600. We made £120 on the order, for school funds.

We are repeating the order this year, because the plants bought last year were of such excellent quality, and such good value that everyone who ordered asked us to repeat it this year. You have a choice of 43 different varieties of plants or hanging baskets or tubs.

We will take orders from anyone, wherever you live, and whether or not you are connected to Totley Primary School, provided your order is returned by early April. Plants will then be delivered to school, for collection by those who ordered, on Friday 19th May. Payment is made at the time of ordering.

Order some beautiful plants and help Totley children at the same time.

You can get an order form from Totley Library, or by phoning Jennie Street, 236-2302.

There's still time to join in!

TOTLEY OPEN GARDENS 2002

On Saturday July 20th and Sunday July 21st 2002, about 20 gardens around Totley will be open to the public. The plan is for the gardens to be open to the public from 1 pm. to 6 pm. on both days. Some gardeners may want to sell tea and food, or plants to help the funds.

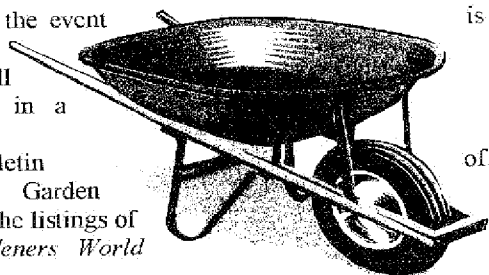
Organisation of the event well under way. We will have mentions in a national information bulletin the Cottage Garden Society, and in the listings of the *BBC Gardeners World* magazine.

The magazine has also told us that they plan to run a feature on open gardens in July, and might be interested to cover the Totley Open Gardens event. So who knows, Totley might be in the national print media, or even on BBC TV!

Funds raised will go to Totley Library for more books. We can still accept a few more gardens for the event. We need small gardens or large, tidy or wild, flowers or vegetables, or both.

If you would like to participate by opening your garden, contact Jennie Street, Tel. 236-2302.

Totley Tenants' and Residents' Association are promoting the event.



A PIONEER OF THE HILLS

Mention the name of John Derry to the ordinary man in the street and the reply would be "never heard of him".

Yet he put Sheffield on the sporting map long before the Don Valley stadiums were even thought of.

It is now just 65 years ago that this pioneer for the call of the great outdoors passed away.

I rate John Derry as a true benefactor to this once proud city of steel. He was an original editor of the Sheffield Independent newspaper, the forerunner of the present Sheffield Telegraph.

A most contented gentleman, his spare time hobbies were simple, he loved to explore the lovely countryside around our golden frame. He tramped the local hills complete with rucksack and published his classic handbook "Across the Derbyshire Moors" back in the years of 1904. When John Derry died in February 1937 his friend G.W.B. Ward from Storth Lodge, Moorside Lane, Totley took on the task of revising the book. Bert Ward died in 1957, a real colourful character, but the knowledge of two great hillwalkers will never be surpassed. I doubt if they would fit in or even approve of today's fast pace of life. They had the privilege of being able to stand and stare.

There is a plaque to the memory of John Derry at the rebuilt packhorse bridge from Derwent village now sited at Slippery Stones above the Howden dam, upper river Derwent valley.

There also is 'Ward's range view finder stone' on the summit of Loose hill above the village of Hope.

I knew Bert Ward, founder of the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers Club very well but never had the pleasure of meeting that special gentleman John Derry the pioneer of all true hill walkers. John C. Barrows

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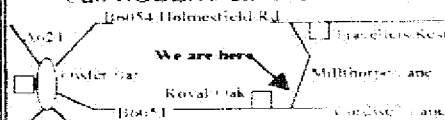
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editors

We were sad and angry about Alan Faulkner Taylor's remarks about a young black woman in the November Edition of your paper. It was racist and unnecessary.

My knee jerk reaction was to write a sarcastic reply but I see that later on in the paper he is also moaning about car drivers. I am assuming this man is elderly and tetchy so annoying him further will do no good whatsoever.

However I would be grateful if you would watch very carefully for racism in future and generally explain to people like Allen Faulkner Taylor that they may hold whatever beliefs they like but the Totley Independent will not print them. Thank you very much for your attention.

Paddy McCormick.

Dear editor,

I was dismayed last month regarding an article written by Mr Alan Faulkner Taylor. Mr Faulkner Taylor had experienced an unpleasant train journey. I can understand if he was upset by a young woman placing her feet on the seat opposite her, however, surely the colour of her skin was and is irrelevant.

Having bought the last issue rather late I did not contact you directly I read it, hoping to see an editorial apology for what I believed was an over sight. This was not to be the case and further evidence of what I understand to be in contravention of article 4 of the Press Code of Conduct appeared in a further article by Mr Faulkner Taylor.

I hope that stronger editorial control will be practised in future and look forward to more pleasurable reading of the Totley Independent.

Paula McGrail

Dear Editors

I was shocked to read the racism in the article you published under the heading My Pet Hates! in the December edition of the Totley Independent.

I do not read the Independent regularly enough to know whether this article is an isolated oversight on your part, or whether these views are regularly expressed in this publication. I appreciate that you have a statement within the magazine disassociating yourself from the views expressed in it, but I do not think this will protect you from the powers of the Race Relations Act.

I suggest you publish a retraction and apology in the next addition, and would appreciate the reassurance of receiving a copy of your retraction, as I do not intend to buy this publication again.

Christine Shimell

Sir,

I assumed that the publishing of the racist comment by your frequent contributor, Faulkner Taylor, in last month's issue was an aberration. I refrained from comment, believing that this was a 'one off'.

Far from it. The Christmas issue carries more of this person's prejudices and comments, which not only I personally but others who have spoken of it find most offensive. Surely you cannot be so desperate for copy that you will actively condone such comment? Frankly your editors are failing in their job when they allow such remarks to go to print.

I hope that the latest diatribe will draw strong criticism from your readers. Racism is to be far more despised than any of this 'gentleman's' pet hates. Perhaps in future he could keep them to himself! The 'Totley Independent' should remain a source of local information and interest and not allow itself to become a vehicle for one man's prejudices.

John Davenport

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NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY 2002

Future events:-

- March 24th Spring Plant Sale 2-00 pm. to 4-00 pm.
- May 12th FOBS Main Plant Sale 10-30 am. to 2-30 am.
- May 15th History Trail round the Botanical Gardens 7-15 pm.
- May 22nd Tree Trail Round the Botanical Gardens 7-15 pm.
- July 7th Specialist Nurseries Plant Fair 10-30 am. to 4-00 pm.
- September 8th Autumn Plant Sale 2-00 pm. to 4-00 pm.
- September 9th Lecture by professor Melvyn Jones
"Trees, Woods and People – a South Yorkshire
Perspective" 7-15 pm.
- October 12th Autumn Colour – Study Day 10-30 am. to 4-00 pm.
- October 24th Children's Fun Day 11-00 am. to 3-00 pm.

All meetings will be held in the Botanical Gardens except September 9th lecture which is to be held at King Egberts School, Dore.

For more details about the full lecture programme and Membership of F.O.B.S. (£10-00 per annum) Contact 236 2425 or 236 1568



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Dore Art Group will be holding an Annual Exhibition of members' paintings in 'The Old School' Dore

on: -

Friday 5th. April 2002. 2.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

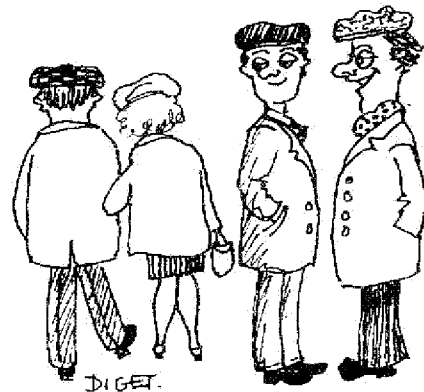
and

Saturday 6th. April 2002, 9.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

All visitors will be welcome and admission is free.

This is an excellent opportunity to view or to purchase works by local artists.

Your support has been appreciated in previous years - please come again.



DIGET.

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LOCAL SLIMMERS PUT THEIR WEIGHT BEHIND
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Big hearted

Dore and Bradway slimmers are shedding lbs. this New Year -and raising £££'s for charity into the bargain. And they are inviting anyone who'd like to slim down in time for Easter to come and join in.

Award winning slimmers at Alison Murphy's Dore Old School and Bradway Annexe classes held on Tuesdays at 5.30 p.m. and Thursdays at 5.00 p.m. & 7-00 p.m. respectively, are embarking on a 6 week sponsored Slimathon, to raise money for the children's' charity, Sargent Cancer Care for Children. The more people who take part the more money will be raised. "You don't need to lose lots of weight, every little bit will help", says Alison. "It's just for 6 weeks anytime during January, February and March. In 6 short weeks many people will lose a stone and come down a size or even 2 sizes in clothes".

Three years ago thousands of determined Slimming World members raised half a million pounds for Marie Curie Cancer Care. "I think the reason a slimathon is so motivating", says Alison, "is to do with plucking up courage to 'go public'. Once you've done that and you've got a list of sponsors as long as your arm, you can't push it to the back of your mind. Too many people are rooting for you - it works like a charm!" The event is open to everyone, not just Slimming World members. Anyone who wants to lose weight and play a really active part in raising funds to help very needy children at the same time is most welcome to pop in to either of Alison's classes to pick up a sponsor form and have a FREE weigh in at the beginning and end of the 6 weeks.

It's a great incentive to help yourself and others at the same time. For more details contact Alison on 01246 410145.



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April Thursday 18th. May, Thursday 16th.

June, Thursday 20th. July, Thursday 18th.

August, NO MEETING September, Thursday 19th.

October, Thursday 17th. November, Thursday 21st.

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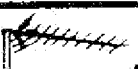
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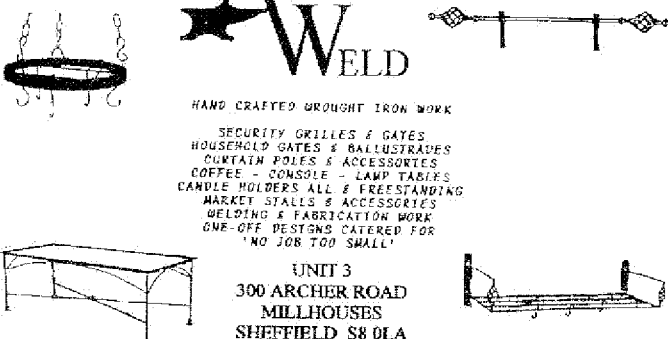
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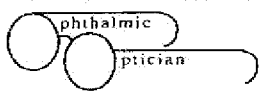
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MONDAYS	COFFEE MORNING , All Saints' Church Hall, 10am. To noon
MONDAYS	HEBREW PRAISE DANCING , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 8pm. to 9-30. Feb. 4 th . and 18 th .
TUESDAYS	COFFEE MORNING , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am. To noon.
	CRAFT GROUP , Totley Library, 2pm.
WEDNESDAYS	COFFEE in the LIBRARY , 10am. to 11.30am.
	MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING , All Saints Church Hall 8pm. to 10pm.
	TODDLER GROUP , 10-00 a.m. to 11-30 a.m., All Saints' Church Hall, Details tel. 236 6789 or 236 3603
THURSDAYS	PUSHCHAIR CLUB , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 1.30pm. to 3pm. Tel. 2363157 for further details.
SATURDAYS	MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING , All Saints Church Hall 2 nd . And 4 th . Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.

FEBRUARY 2002

SAT. 1st. VOCALS, Heatherfield Club, Baslow Rd., 8-30 pm. Non Members Welcome Entrance £1.50.

TUES. 12th. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, "Crime Prevention for your Home", by John Turner 2-30 pm. Totley Rise Methodist Church.

TUES. 19th. TOTLEY TOWNWOMEN'S GUILD, "South Africa" Slides Mrs. Anne Cresswell, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am

SAT. 23rd. SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, ST. JOHN PASSION, 7-30 pm. Sheffield Cathedral. Full details inside.

TUES. 26th. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, "Dedication Service & Communion", Mrs. M. Jefferson & Rev. C. Kirk, 2-30 pm. Totley Rise Methodist Church.

MARCH

FRI. 1st. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Women's World day of Prayer, 2-30 pm. Totley Rise Methodist Church.

SAT. 16th. ANTIQUE FAIR, St. Joins Church Hall, Abbeydale, 10am. to 4-30 pm.

THE INDEPENDENT FOR MARCH

The next issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on

SATURDAY 2nd. MARCH.

COPY DATE for this issue will be

SATURDAY 9th. FEBRUARY

FOR THE MARCH EDITION PLEASE SEND ANY 'E' MAILS TO KEVIN WALKER AT

walker2001@aol.com

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

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Future Events.

Friday 8th March 2002 at 7.30pm - Friends of King Ecgberts invite you to a **Spring Ball** at Whirlow Hall.

£25.00 per head - gourmet meal and disco.

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Saturday 16th. March 10-12 p.m. Table Top Sale. 50p per site, 50p at the door. For bookings tel. 236 2302

Friday April 12th from 7.30pm Quiz Night - bring friends and family to form a team of up to 8 or join one on the night. Bring your own refreshments or order your own Pizza.

Price £3.00 adults, £2.00 senior students, £1.00 junior students Tickets on the door at Wessex Hall.

Saturday, April 20th. Jumble Sale, Dealers 10 am. to 11 am. £5. Public 11 am to 1 pm. 50p. Please deliver any jumble to Wessex hall on Friday evening.

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