

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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In the middle ground is the Abbeydale Park Rise Estate that was established in 1875. Thomas Glossop, was a Committee Member and one of the first residents. The houses stand on Devonshire and Brinkburn Vale Roads. All dwelling houses were to be 2 storeys, with or without attics, and to be valued at £500 per detached house or £730 for a pair. In the foreground you may make out Brinkburn Grange and its pond (which was earlier the dam to Bradway Mill). Brian Edwards

*** 20 Pages in this issue of the Totley Independent ***

Totley Residents Association Update

Many people have said how pretty Totley has looked this spring, the daffodils especially, were superb. This is thanks to the Council for providing the bulbs and to the residents who helped plant them on behalf of the Community. The Council workmen have done an excellent job cutting the grass round the clumps of daffodils when they had finished flowering. All this good work has been ruined by one or two residents who decided to cut the grass verges outside their property, including the daffodil and crocus leaves. **This is wrong.**

All **good** gardeners know that once the flowers have died down the leaves must be left 6-8 weeks to die down naturally. During this time the leaves make food which is passed down into the bulb to initiate flowers for next spring.

The bulbs which have not received any food will struggle, probably produce some flowers next year, but eventually they will die from lack of food.

What a pity.

Kelly Riley from Activity Sheffield is pleased with the numerous calls from residents in Totley, expressing their interest in activities for the over 50's.

The programme of activities is being arranged by the Activity Sheffield Development Officer. See details on page 5.

A reminder to get in contact with Phil Harris 236 3331 or totleymusicfest@btopenworld.com

Avril Critchley

TOTLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL – 1st – 11th JULY

Further details on page 5

King Egbert News

On May 21st all pupils in Y7-Y10 will be taking part in a 10 mile sponsored walk. Not only is this a popular school event which provides a real challenge (especially for those who think a walk to their local shops is a bit far!), but we also use the money raised for the School Council to improve facilities at the school. Last year we put the money towards additional seating, including picnic tables and covered areas in the playground.

The School Council are the elected representatives of the pupils in the school who meet regularly to discuss issues raised by pupils. There are also several special interest focus groups who work to develop the school in specific areas, for example our Environmental Focus Group. One recent decision the school council has been involved with is broadening the range of items to choose from that conform with dress code. This means there is now more choice for pupils yet still ensures everyone looks smart and part of our school community.

In July a team of 16 pupils and two staff will be going to Uganda for three weeks. Part of their time there will be spent helping at a rural primary school. They will be helping in classrooms and also providing free labour to help build new classrooms for the school. Over the last two years the team has raised over £5,000 from school events for the development of the village school, an amount that makes a huge difference to what is a very poor area of Uganda. One of last term's events that raised money for this project was 'Battle of the Bands', which was a huge success with large crowds cheering on the competing bands in the main school hall. There was also a special set from The 'Supernova Bandits', who were last year's winners and now have gigs at popular Sheffield venues. The staff band also performed by popular request and they played a special set providing the evening with a real sense of Pupil-to-Staff enjoyment! They were even brought back for an encore.

The school's Parents' Association (KESA) is increasingly active. The Chair, Josée Shaw has contributed items about recent and future events below.

So watch this space for more news from King Egbert School in future editions. If you have any suggestions of anything you would like to know more about within our school or to visit us, then please get in touch with Jackie Arundale (Deputy Headteacher).

King Egbert School Association

Thank you to all who attended the Ladies Pamper Night at the school on 2nd April. Hundreds of ladies enjoyed the fashion show & retail therapy as well as complimentary beauty treatments & massages. The evening was a whopping success & we raised nearly £1,500.

The Dore & Totley BYOB quiz night on 27th March was a sell out & enjoyed by many of the local residents. Thank you to Dr Peter Woodcock who put together a fabulous quiz. It was a great night out and due to popular demand we will look to hold this event twice a year at the school, watch this space for further dates.

SUMMER BBQ & DISCO - A fun summer occasion for all the family. Date: 26th June. Time: 5.30 - 10pm. Venue: The Barn, Povey Farm, Lightwood Lane, S8 8BG. Tickets: £5 per adult £3 per child. Bring your own bottle. The money raised will be divided between the Uganda Project, Bluebell Wood Hospice & KESA.

For tickets contact KES reception on 0114 235 3855 between 9 - 4 Monday - Friday.

We are holding a Disco at school on the afternoon of 17th July, the last day of term for Y 7, 8 & 9 pupils. This event will provide an opportunity for our children to celebrate the start of the summer holidays and raise even more funds for charity.

Josée Shaw, KESA Chair

Totley Primary School Update

Firstly I would like to thank Jan Wyslych of Owler Lee Farm for bringing two Shetland ponies in her very plush horse box for my annual care class on Friday afternoons. I don't know if the children were happier to see the ponies or the fabulous living room inside the lorry. Jan looked shocked when I, with red head and black painted nails which I have to say matched her nail colour, met her in the school turning circle I told her this dress was a one off for Red Nose Day?

The corridor roof nears completion with only seven more roof areas to go. The Gardening Club is busy with Tom Steele and the kids putting up Cane Wigwams for beans and peas to climb up. Tom is a great help to me and I am learning a lot and so are the children. Carol Gardiner is working with members of the Gardening Club to write about our activities as well as photographs for our allotment rose bowl competition that we have been entered for this year. So if you have any flowering plants left over please drop them at my drive so we will have a colourful school ground this year.

On the subject from last months Totley Independent about the new speed limit to the top of Baslow Road I think that the 30mph limit that is in place at the moment should be policed, I walk my dog Lloyd everyday at around 11 o'clock and the traffic race up and down Baslow Road well in excess of 40mph from the war memorial to the lights at Totley Rise. If the traffic police put their speed guns two to three times a week on this stretch of road the revenue they create would pay for itself.

On the 1st June the children will do a sponsored walk around the school grounds, then on the 10th-12th June Year 6 are going to Thornbridge Residential trip. On the night of the 11th June they will eat a BBQ cooked by yours truly, I am sure that the local hospital will be put on standby! And on the 15th June, weather permitting; we will hold our sports day. It only seems a blink of the eye from last years sports day.

That's all for now.

Yours, Allen Miller, Building Supervisor.

Dore and Totley Lunch Club

Do you have some time to spare?
Could you show someone you care?
Could you help or could you cook?
We meet on Tuesdays, come and look
The second Tuesday monthly is
When lack of help means we're in a tizz
But food required that's to be found
On a six week basis comes around
We don't require cordon bleu cuisine
But good plain cooking - you know what I mean
Were truly grateful for help we see
So if you've time, please contact me

Vivien 2360872



Transport 17

My husband and I have just been to the Catholic Church on Baslow Road, to the Coffee, Cakes and Cuttings morning. The rain held off for a while, then came down with a vengeance. It is a very sociable event. People have grown plants, made cakes and manned stalls. Most of the proceeds, which this year was a brilliant £351, go to us for our funds. They are celebrating 25 years this year. My husband, Danny, is our Chairman and it was good to be able to thank a lot of people, personally, for their help and encouragement.

Whilst there we met up with Wendy and Jim Trotter, who are also T17 Committee Members. Jim drove for us for many years and Wendy has only recently stopped helping passengers on and off the buses. Jim celebrated his 80th birthday in April. It is a pleasure to know them both. We will all have met up again, together with other Committee Members and passengers when we had a collection day at Sainsbury's, Archer Road on 24th May. More details of that next month.

We are very proud to say that this month sees the celebration of 25 years of service to the community. In 1983 a group of people got together, under the guidance of Alan Jockell, the Vicar of All Saints, Totley, to form a Committee to raise funds for a minibus. They had commitment and enthusiasm and, in time, became known as Transport 17.

The aim was to provide a minibus to take frail and elderly people to lunch and social clubs, on outings and visits to the surrounding countryside. This not only gave them a chance to meet up with others, it gave their carers some time to themselves.

The Committee had a group of people who would drive and escort passengers. These were volunteers. Decisions had to be made regarding charges for the bus, and routes and a time-table had to be worked out. Funding also had to cover insurance for the bus and the passengers.

On 14th June 1984 the first bus was purchased and a garage in an old people's home was found. A grant from the local authority helped with the running of the bus but donations were very important.

We now have three buses, working 5 days a week plus extra outings and trips. We have a paid Manager, Mike Finn, and a part-time paid Treasurer, John Savournin. Mike also, still drives a lot, apart from them both running the office. John is also called on many a time, to escort passengers on and off the busses. The rest of us, men and women, are volunteers. I know from experience that they all are totally committed and care very much for our passengers. The drivers have to pass an assessment test to work for us.

We also, for some years, did holidays to various seaside resorts. That got quite hard as passengers needed more care. We have had first-aid training but we are not nurses. We could certainly tell some good stories though.

We still receive some funding but need to fund-raise all the time. This can be quite difficult because a lot of our time is "on the buses". The support and help from our community and many others is very heart-warming.

We don't just cover the S17 area. We also go to very many other parts of Sheffield, serving over 30 clubs.

We take hundreds of people, many miles each week. The clubs are charged so much a mile/hour. This is collected by their organisers and they are billed once a quarter.

Everyone who started T17 and those who still support it should be very proud of themselves. Indeed, we are very proud of our buses when they are out and about. Colin Price, who has driven for us for a good while now, is opening his garden on Sunday 28th June. This is under the Dore Open Gardens scheme. Our thanks to him and his wife, Lesley, for doing this for our funds. We are 2/3rds of the way to buying a replacement for our oldest bus.

Once again, thanks to each and every one of you for your kindness and support.

God bless.

Margaret Barlow

This year make sure you visit the Gardens of Totley



**This is the eighth year of
Totley Open Gardens and if you haven't been
round yet, don't miss them this year.**

**Sat 11th and Sun 12th July
1-5pm.**

**Totley Open Gardens will have three interesting
new gardens this year, including one with a 00
gauge model railway.**

**Tea and cakes will be served in two gardens and
plants will be on sale in several of them.**

**Programmes available from Totley Library by the
middle of June and from outside the Ironing
Parlour, Baslow Road, on the days.**

Queries: jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk 236-2302

Councillor Surgeries

Liberal Democrats:

2nd Monday in the month 6.00-7.00 p.m., Totley Library,
Baslow Road and 2nd Saturday in the month from 10.30
a.m. to 12.00 noon, Dore Old School Hall, Savage Lane,
Dore Contact details: telephone 235 2289 Email:
keith.hill@sheffield.gov.uk, colin.ross@sheffield.gov.uk or
mike.davis@sheffield.gov.uk

TRA Website:- www.totley.org.uk

Abbeydale Picture House

Last month people flocked to the Abbeydale to try and get a ticket to see the return of the big screen. Yes, by popular demand cinema returned to the Picture House with the showing of 'Arthur and the Invisibles' for families and there were lots of trilby hats and 1950's dresses as people came to enjoy the 1950's themed evening with the classic musical movie 'Guys and Dolls'. The auditorium was full of excitement as the house lights dimmed and the projector was switched on just like all those years ago. On behalf of the board I would like to thank all the staff that made this event possible and a major thank you to 'Staffordshire Reels on Wheels' for donating all their time and equipment. All the money raised by the event went towards the 'Raising the Rafters' campaign to fix the roof which is very important as I had the misfortune of standing in the wings the other day, waiting to go on the stage, and being dripped on during the rehearsal for Copacabana.

THE ABBEYDALE NEEDS YOU!!! 2 ideas that have been raised are a Children's Saturday Morning Fun Club and a Picture House Youth Orchestra to perform with the Picture House Youth Theatre during the musicals. We are also looking for some assistance when it comes to the Saturday Coffee Mornings as we require waiters/waitresses, scone bakers, tea makers, etc. Qualified volunteers are being sought to help so please contact the Abbeydale Picture House if you are qualified and are interested in helping with these projects. 0114 281 1155.

The Nether Edge Farmer's Market donates all their profit made on selling stall space to a different charity every month and this month the recipient is the Abbeydale Picture House. So on June 14th the PHYT Seniors will be publicizing Copacabana and also giving a sneak preview with extracts from some of the toe-tapping dance numbers, so come down to Nether Edge on June 14th between 12am-4pm for performances from the PHYT as well as all the stalls and attractions that make this Farmers Market a massive success.

Thanks to the Community Payback Scheme and R.J. Stokes Ltd paint manufacturers the Abbey Snooker Club has had a repaint and looks fresher than ever.

If anyone is interested the Abbeydale's Annual General Meeting is on Tuesday 21st July at 7:30pm. This is your chance to meet the board of directors and also learn about the future plans for the building.

Don't forget to renew your memberships as Friends of the Abbeydale. It costs just £12 for the year and entitles you to annual updates from the Abbeydale as well as free membership to the Abbey Snooker Club. Pick up a purple leaflet when you're next down at the Picture House or print off a form on our website: www.abbeydalepicturehouse.co.uk

That is all for this month but remember to continue coming down to the Saturday Coffee Mornings, Bar Abbey and Abbey Snooker. Also be quick and get your tickets for Copacabana as it is proving extremely popular.

STILL TO COME IN THE MAIN HOUSE:

Copacabana - July 15th-18th. The Picture House Youth Theatre Seniors are back after their hit performance of 'Me and My Girl' last year. With the help of Stephen, a struggling songwriter desperate to compose a hit song, you will be taken to the Copacabana Nightclub in the pre-war years. With music by Barry Manilow and some of the best young talent Sheffield has to offer you can't go wrong!

July 15th-18th. Evening performances at 7:30pm and a Saturday Matinee at 2:30pm.

Just £10, concessions £8 on Wed and Sat Matinee! Family ticket £35 (only on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening). **WHEN BOOKING FOR THIS EVENT QUOTE 'BEN MILLER, MEMBER OF THE PHYT'**

To book call: 07775 966106 or book tickets when you're next at the Abbeydale Coffee Morning or any of the events in the Main House.

For our Information line call: 0114 2811155

Or for more details visit:
www.abbeydalepicturehouse.co.uk

You can also find the Abbeydale Picture House on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) or [bebo.com](https://www.bebo.com) Also find videos about the Abbeydale Picture House on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) as well as pictures of the Abbeydale on [flickr.com](https://www.flickr.com)

STILL TO COME IN BAR ABBEY:

1st June-Jazz

13th June- Northern Soul

25th June - AbbCom Comedy Night

30th June-Keith Peter's Big Band

Ben Miller

CHUCKLINGS

They're yellowish, furry, have funny little crew cuts and are floppy on their legs.

Yes, one of my hens has succeeded in hatching some eggs.

But not ordinary chickens here. We've now got two downies - ducklings to you and me. And indeed they are very downy!

Dora went broody again this year and I conned her into sitting on four duck eggs. The con is because ducks take 4 weeks to incubate, whereas chickens take only three. But Dora has not given up even though you might expect instinct to set in. She sat on doggedly despite going rather bald on her front and having to brave Martha, Vera, Edna and Bertha when she emerged twice a day all fluffed up and making funny noises.

She didn't even come off the eggs willingly, having to be lifted off in order to get a drink and some grain, before rushing back to her precious eggs.

Now she's happy as Larry with her new babies, and I don't think has twigged that they're not chicks. She tucks them in under her wings if they pop their heads up and she sits clucking to them most of the time. I wonder if hens get sore throats!

The other two eggs did not hatch out, but that's no big problem as I was not really expecting this little experiment to work at all!

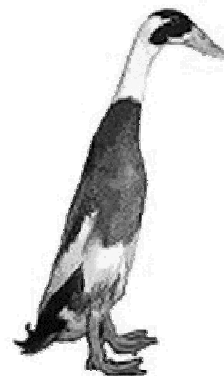
Even when a few hours old, from the moment I first held them in front of the little tray of drinking water, they both put their heads fully under the water. So I think Dora might get a shock when they take to water.

These ducklings are Indian Runners, quaint little ducks with a completely upright posture and a habit of running, not waddling. They have been described as looking like a hock bottle....

I fetched the eggs from a farmer & poultry breeder at Stretton, and knew them to be fertile as he runs ducks and drakes together. 100% hatching rate never happens and I'm happy with 50%, though will not be happy if they are both drakes as I want eggs.

Jennie Street

Jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk



3-2-1....

Last month I wrote about the benefits of batch cookery, and how to save time by turning one recipe into several different ones. This month I thought I'd do the same but with three easy dessert dishes.

Traditional recipes can be quite easy to follow due to the fact that many years ago people had to get by without kitchen scales and fancy gadgets. Recipes were based on quantities, for example one part this, two parts that. This easy recipe is for crumble mix, but like last month's recipe, it can be turned into other things. It is certainly one that children can get involved in, and a good way to introduce them to the mixing bowl and the feeling of butter between the fingers! Something I remember well as a child.

There are only three main ingredients for this recipe with the addition of a few more towards the end to make the other two dishes; chocolate shortbread and 'cheats' spotted dick, which is obviously made with suet, but this is a good alternative.

The recipe is simple ...**3-2-1**...three parts flour, two parts butter, and one part sugar. I find that:

900g plain flour

600g unsalted butter (softened and in small cubes)

200g caster sugar

is a suitable quantity to make these three dishes. You will also need:

200ml milk

2 large free-range eggs

50g cocoa powder

a handful of raisins

one heaped dessert spoon of baking powder

a handful of oats (optional)

Pour the flour and sugar into a mixing bowl and add the butter. Rub the ingredients together until a fine yellow breadcrumb texture is achieved. Squeeze the mixture together and then rub back down into crumbs to give the mixture more texture.

This is your basic crumble mix which you can top any fruit with and bake at 180c gas 3-4 until golden. When your fruit is topped, sprinkle the oats over the mix if desired. For fruit crumble ideas feel free call in at my kitchen at Liberty Foods, where I am always happy to give free cooking advice.

Now the shortbread. Roughly split the mixture into thirds, and into one third, add the cocoa and 100ml of the milk. Squeeze the mixture together into a dough and roll out onto a baking tray lined with grease-proof paper. Again, bake at 180c, for ten minutes and then take out the oven and prick all over with a fork and mark lines for cutting the shortbread when cooled. Put the shortbread back in the oven and bake for another 15 minutes or so. The shortbread will remain soft until it cools, at which stage it can be cut into biscuits and stored in an air-tight container.

Take another third of the mixture for the spotted dick. Add the baking powder and mix together well. Now add the eggs and 100ml of milk. The mixture should make a heavy cake batter. Beat it well until smooth and then stir in the raisins and pour into a greased and paper lined eight inch cake tin, and bake at 150c for about an hour and a half. Serve hot with custard or vanilla ice-cream.

All these dishes freeze well and the crumble mix can be left at its basic stage and adapted when it has been taken out of the freezer if this is more convenient. And there we are 3-2-1

Simon Barnes, chef, Liberty Foods.

Over 50s to 'Get Active' in Totley

Activity Sheffield (Sheffield City Council) has been allocated funding to develop physical activity opportunities in the Totley area for the over 50's.

We launched a campaign where we asked you, the readers, to suggest which activities you'd like to see and support in your area. We've had a terrific response and would like to thank all those who took part. From your suggestions we've selected your top 3 choices, Tai Chi, Dance and Multi-Games, and are delighted to announce that with effect from the 01/06/09 Activity Sheffield will be running a twelve week programme of activities at The Heatherfield Club on Baslow Road.

**Sessions will run from
12:30 pm to 2:00 pm
and will consist of an hour of fun
activity and 30 minutes socialising
all for just £2 per session.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

For general enquiries please contact Activity Sheffield on 273 4266.

English Martyrs

....R.C. Church, Baslow Road (across from the Coop) has a problem with an 'inconsiderate' neighbour - dumping 'untaxed' vehicles in the church's small car park. This regular practice is occupying valuable space in restricting the use by parishioners, with mobility problems, attending regular services, and occasional funeral gatherings.

Also 'Transport 17' - who have the right of access are also inconvenienced by the presence of these cars and vans, when they are manoeuvring their coaches in the car park. All we ask is that the car park is respected, and not to be taken advantage of, by it being a daily open parking area....

Unfortunately, if this continues to be a problem, a security gate/post will have to be fitted, to the inconvenience of us all.

A Parishioner.

TOTLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL

As reported back in the September edition, the first Totley Music Festival is planned for summer of this year. With the support of the Totley Residents Association, work is well in hand in putting together the programme. The Festival will kick off on Wednesday 1st July with a concert by pupils at Totley Primary School, and will continue from Saturday 4th until Saturday 11th July. The programme so far looks set to deliver all kinds of music from all kinds (and ages) of performers. Look out for posters over the next few weeks with details of the final programme! And there are still opportunities during the festival week for more events, so if you're a talented Totley musician who wants to perform, do get in touch with Phil or Sue on 07956 858944, or email at totleymusicfest@btopenworld.com

Update: SPACE

Sheffield and Peak Against City Encroachment

The formation of SPACE was occasioned by residents' horror at huge urbanizing street lights erected in open countryside towards Owl Bar, prior to the construction of the 97 bus terminus at the end of Gillfield Wood. Since then SPACE has taken up other issues threatening rural fringes to the west of Sheffield, gaining support from many local residents and organisations including the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

Lights Out in Totley

Since the erection of the street lights, SPACE has discovered that not only was this in contravention to the Council's own policies in the Green Belt, but that there was no consultation with the Peak National Park. The Environment Act states that developments which adjoin National Parks, or are visible from them, should be consulted upon. Since SPACE's protests, the Council has been forced to discuss the lights with the Peak Park and the amelioration of their impact (hopefully by being removed altogether!) The Council has now promised that they will consult the Peak Park on any future highway and transport issues.

We are told the lights are legally necessary to accompany the new 30mph limit out towards the new terminus. SPACE agrees that road safety is of the utmost importance. However, we believe that the road has become more unsafe. Several of us have driven along the road at 30mph only to have frustrated drivers driving close and overtaking us. Residents have argued ever since the planning stage, that a reduction from the national speed limit of 60mph to 40mph was a more workable solution, that extra lighting would be visually intrusive and necessary only around the terminus itself. We argued for other traffic calming measures together with the proper enforcement of the 30mph limit through Totley itself. We were told that the 30mph limit out towards the terminus was necessary and that a road safety audit had recommended this. On further enquiry we found out that there had been no road safety audit, only informal comments on the plan which were not at all clear in their recommendations.

We have also discovered that it is a myth that the new bus terminus, created at an expense of £375,000, had to be done to save the 97 service due to objections from the Cross Scythes about buses turning there. SPACE contacted both the then landlord of the Cross Scythes pub and Enterprise Inns who own the pub. Enterprise Inns and the landlord told us they would still like very much to do business with First so long as drivers turn off their engines whilst waiting. Enterprise Inns gave consent for all the details of the contract with First Buses to be made public. However First refused to allow the information to be disclosed. This expensive, environmentally damaging new terminus and associated lights has been built at the CHOOSING of First and the Council, not because they had to do it to save the bus service.

SPACE submitted a petition of 600 signatures against the lights to the Council earlier this year and spoke both to full Council and to the Planning Board. The Chair of the Planning Board, has insisted that the Director of Transport and Highways prepares a full report in response to our petition, including the results of recent discussions with the Peak Park. SPACE will again get the chance to speak.

It is clear that Council Officers have made mistakes every step of the way on this one and that SPACE has been at the forefront in uncovering, exposing these and demanding action. If you also object to the creeping urbanization of these lights please email Councillor John Hesketh, Chair of Planning Board: john.hesketh@sheffield.gov.uk

Green Light in Green Belt

The development of the Fairthorn site in Dore, on the border of the Peak National Park, has been another issue taken up by SPACE. Fairthorn was given the go ahead in 2005, despite being in direct contravention of Sheffield's own Unitary Development Plan which states that: "In areas of high landscape value, protection and enhancement of the landscape will be the overriding consideration" and that "new buildings should complement the scale, form and architectural style of surrounding buildings".

The developer was allowed to use the full footprint of an existing building and all its outbuildings to create one huge block that is out of character and scale for this location. The developers then built it even bigger and to a different design to the original plans. Only after a local resident involved the Local Government Ombudsman was the Council Planning Department forced to admit that it had been built to different plans. The developers had to apply for retrospective planning consent and this went to the Planning Board last month. With the building already occupied, nobody realistically sought its demolition or any major alterations. Yet it presented an opportunity for the Council to learn from the mistakes and ensure measures were taken to reduce the impact of the development and demonstrate commitment to the green belt. However planning officers recommended it be approved with just a bit more landscaping added and shielding on some of its outdoor lights. Many objections to the development were received including from Dore Village Society, Friends of Blacka Moor, Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, Sheffield Wildlife Trust and SPACE along with many individuals. Only one councillor on the planning board, took up objector's suggestions of at least changing the bright blue roof slates on the high roof and changing the white uPVC windows for wood.

Following the decision, SPACE attended the Full Council Meeting (which happened to fall on April Fools Day) to hand out a leaflet to councillors and ask the question: Is the Unitary Development Plan a serious document?

Sheffield City Council has effectively sent a strong sign to developers that they may change the shape, size and design of new buildings in Sheffield's green belt to suit themselves and will face virtually no financial penalty.

We are left with a potentially dangerous precedent for future development.

We have repeatedly asked the Council for an explanation as to how Fairthorn came to be passed in 2005 when it is clearly out of character and scale with any other dwelling near it, visible from the Peak Park, Blacka Moor and high ground all around. Also, whether they think it was a good planning decision and if not what they are going to do now to prevent developers using Fairthorn as a precedent. They refuse to give answers to these questions, simply assuring us that they are committed to protecting the green belt. If you feel that these questions need an answer, please contact the Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development and Transport: email ian.auckland@sheffield.gov.uk

Sally Goldsmith and Dawn Biram

S.P.A.C.E.

You can contact us: space.sheffield@talktalk.net

Those Lights! Baslow Road

Did we "take our eye off the ball?"

Since SPACE publicised the issue a range of views have emerged and I compliment them for it. Most of us would still regard the lights as intrusive and some would say that the new phased speed reductions will be ineffective.

However, recently I have been reminded from a variety of sources that:

- A621 is hazardous (see the wall repairs just above Dysons)
- We did succeed in saving the 97 bus service to Totley (but at a cost?)
- The parking contract with the Cross Scythe Pub was highly insecure
- The Totley community rejected wholesale Totley Grange estate location (1,300 name petition!)
- The Gillfield Woods turning circle was the only viable option
- Without lower speed limits and lighting buses would find access to the highway dangerous
- Buses carry cash; drivers and passengers need the protection of good lighting at a terminus
- Last but not least, the Highways September Report to the Planning Board in September 2008 stated:
**"A reduction in the speed limit leading to the proposed bus terminus from de-restricted to 30mph (requiring "an additional 1km length of Baslow Road to be lit, requiring an additional 30 lighting columns.
 ".....the reduced speed limit and additional street lighting would help reduce those accidents."**

..... (Displayed in Totley Library for over 6 weeks by Cllr. Keith Hill)

So, did we take our collective eye off the ball? Yes. Perhaps we did. The question now is, "Can we or should we redeem it?"

Yes. I think we can. The SPACE petition will be discussed by the Planning Board on June 15. We must press for mitigating measures e.g.:

Repainting the lamp standards (grey/green - see next to the war memorial?)

Changing the lighting regime: different bulbs, timed or action activated..... etc?

Reviewing the traffic-calming measures

e.g. using permanent speed cameras; installing VAS (Vehicle activated signs.)

Could we remove the lights altogether? Could we have them used elsewhere? I believe we could - but not without significant extra cost. I understand the turning circle would need to be modified, extended and its cabling re-laid.

Should we dispense with the new 30mph extension?..... Not if we are serious about traffic calming. We have been campaigning for significant traffic calming all along Baslow Road since before the year 2000. I, for one, would feel better if we could see an end to those sad, little bouquets of remembrance which adorn our highways all too often.

Cllr. Keith Hill

PUZZLE CORNER

Common Trios.

Find answers to the clues so that the last three letters of each solution are the same as the first three letters of the following solution. The last three of solution 12 are the same as the first three of 1.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Could be led astray | 7. Boisterous brawler |
| 2. Mix together | 8. Chairback cover |
| 3. Component | 9. Scornful |
| 4. Keen advocate | 10. Tobacco extract |
| 5. Star related | 11. Inedible |
| 6. Used to measure heat | 12. Have a right to |

WANTED

Do you have any unwanted beads, broken necklaces, bracelets, buttons etc. If you want to get rid of them - Carole at Totley Library would be very grateful to take them off your hands. Can collect. carolecking@aol.com Tel 01246 290686 or library 293 0406

St John's Church, Abbeydale

On Wednesday, 20 June we are having an **OPEN CHURCH** from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon

Come and have a look around and join us for a cup of coffee and a cake

ALL ARE WELCOME

THE PUBLIC MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST

Many Christians believe that divine healing and restoration takes place today through the power of Jesus Christ who is alive, and there is a lot of evidence to prove it.

All Saints Parish Church, along with friends from other local churches are prepared to pray for divine intervention, for the public at large, in a public place.

If anyone has an illness or situation affecting their emotions, their mind or their body, they are welcome to come for divine prayer, without obligation.



This will happen at the Fleur de Lys Public House, Totley Hall Lane (function room, entrance at end of pub near main road A621 Baslow Road).

Each **TUESDAY** in June 4.30 to 6.30 pm.

For information, email contact: missionbritain@aol.com OR tel Brian on 07877303709

*One man went to mow...
...but his mower wouldn't go!*

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CANASTA - CORRECTION

We published this letter in May, but had an incorrect phone number.

Years ago I used to play canasta. Would anyone be interested in having a weekly card evening as I would love to start playing again, if someone can remind me how to play. Please contact Jean 0114 235 1586

OLD TOTLEY by Jo Rundle

The 1891 census shows that the servants at Totley Hall were a Butler-cum-domestic servant Frederick Holland, who lived at The Lodge, Hall Lane; a Cook, Clara Boulton age 28; one Housemaid Ann Sherriff age 30, and a Kitchen-maid Mary A Green - all believed to be from local families, and Nurse Isabella Forbes, age 41.

By 1901 there had been a complete change, for by then, Charles Western, age 26, who lived at Totley Grange Lodge with his wife Annie, was Domestic Coachman; Elizabeth Thompson, Trained nurse, was sick; Isabella Forbes Domestic nurse; Ann Bagshaw age 16 was Housemaid; Alice Gillott age 19, Housemaid; Minnie Stacey age 19, Waiting maid; Florence Smith, Cook - and Anna Wootton age 15 was Kitchen-maid.

This raises questions, as most censuses do. Why was Mr. Weston Coachman at Totley Hall, when he lived in Grange Lodge on the Earnshaw Estate? Was he, for some reason, Coachman to both families? Incidentally, he still lived in the Lodge throughout the twenties and early thirties until his death, when his daughter Muriel went to live in a cottage in the Bents. Mr. Milner was 47 yrs old and Mrs. Milner 44, whilst Roy, their youngest child was then 8 yrs. old. There was, of course, no record of Marjorie or William, because at that time Marjorie was a pupil at a school at 262 St. John's Road, Eastbourne, and William was at Evelyns School East Hillingdon, Middlesex. By the beginning of W.W. I in 1914, another housemaid Gladys Wragg age thirteen, daughter of Tom Wragg of the old toll-bar cottage at Owler Bar was added, when children were allowed to leave school at the age of thirteen, provided they had jobs, a move made possible due to the call-up of all able men and women.

Mrs. Hill, a widow who lived in the Bents, came every Wednesday to wash and iron all the handkerchiefs, for which she was paid 2s/6d.(25p) with lunch included, and she was still doing the same job twenty-five years later. Miss Marjorie married Major Wilson of Beauchief Hall at Dore Church in 1909, when there were celebrations throughout the whole village, and crowds turned out to cheer her return from Church amid the bunting that hung across Hall Lane for a week. Until then, Mrs. Milner had been busy supervising the alterations to the Hall, designing and making many of the furnishings, discussing and designing the new gardens with Mr. Lewis, during the years when the Master was travelling to and from Manchester each day to Barclays Bank.

She was an enthusiastic and accomplished gardener, and was often seen looking around the glass-houses, the lily-pond, and the shrub and flower borders, bringing in arms full of flowers and foliage which she arranged in the little room under the front stairs, and was always ready to encourage her servants to have the same interest.

One morning, Lily returned from their after-breakfast meeting with the news that we were all invited to the large tropical glasshouse where bananas and other exotic plants were reared, many of them reaching to the roof. Mr. Lewis had informed her that the huge Cactus plant that covered the end wall of the house from floor to ceiling, which flowered only once every seven years, was going to flower that night at twenty-five minutes after midnight, and we were all invited to be there to see this phenomenon. Midnight saw us all, Mistress, Mr. Lewis, Fred Cook of Green Oak, William Green, of Summer Lane, another whose name I don't recall, and my cousin Thomas Ibbotson, just left school, and now the new Garden and Boots boy. We all waited patiently - some admiring the banana tree, others interested in the huge ferns and other tropical plants, when suddenly Mr. Lewis called, "Look, absolutely on time", and all eyes turned onto this

wonderful Cacti, just showing a gentle movement, then more obvious, and suddenly, amid gasps of wonder, its petals opened into a giant flower almost filling the end wall of the glasshouse with red, orange, and yellow rays of light. There was silence for about five minutes as we savoured this wonderful sight then the petals began to move, slowly at first, then rapidly, until five minutes later, it was quite dead. There was a very subdued silence for a minute or two, then Mrs. Milner thanked Mr. Lewis, turned, and we all followed to return to our respective beds.

The outbreak of W.W.I changed life at the Hall dramatically when Mr. Roy was killed only a week after enlisting, a sad occasion from which Mrs. Milner never recovered, but, according to Nurse Forbes, she found some solace in working for the war effort. Sewing and knitting meetings were held every week, and throughout the War was seen regularly walking in the village with 'Bogy' - her large, meticulously clipped, black French Poodle dog on his lead in one hand, and carrying a large wicker basket full of whatever could be spared from the Hall gardens, or the kitchen, to be distributed to households where she knew the children were feeling the effect of the meagre rations.

Almost immediately after the outbreak of War, it was obvious that the existing hospitals were rapidly filling with wounded soldiers, and small hospitals were created to take the less severely wounded. Wherever there was a building near to a station it was turned into a small hospital with a local Doctor in charge, and voluntary nurses from the local community. The trains carrying the casualties always arrived at the stations in the quiet hours around midnight when the Station Master would be waiting with a number of volunteers to help the nurses to unload the wounded and see them safely into bed. One of these that proved to be one of the busiest was at Yarm in Cleveland where the Station Master Alf. Anderson, and his wife Helen met the train at 4 a.m. every morning for four years to help with unloading and carrying-in the wounded.

Most people will be familiar with a similar, but smaller hospital that was set-up in St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South, a stone's throw from Dore and Totley Railway Station. Mrs. Milner was one of the Committee who organised the arrangements for setting-up the hospital, which was manned by local women who had lightening courses in nursing practice. To find patients on whom to practice, she, with other Governors of Totley School, negotiated with John Wood the Headmaster to release some of the children from their respective classes for a few hours in the mornings until the first patients arrived. The local Doctor, Dr. Mary Andrews was in charge of The Hospital at St. John's Hall, her nurses all local lady volunteers. Mrs. Colin Thompson, Mrs. Nelly Gill, sister of Choppy Jackson of the Top-shop, Totley, and Mrs. Wint, wife of Mr. Wint the Grocer. The War years strengthened the relationship between Totley Hall and the village community. Men respectfully bowed or nodded a head when encountering her in the village and women bowed a head, often coupled with a slight curtsy. **TBC**

What's On at Blacka Moor

The year has kicked off with a few events on Blacka Moor – a general guided walk, a bird walk, some 'looking' training and a couple of meetings. To keep up the momentum and to get people more involved, we're starting a regular volunteer day on the first Saturday of every month. We'll keep people informed through local publications, our website and on-site posters.

Blacka Moor Volunteer Days – Saturday 6th June and Saturday 4th July 10am to 3pm. Meet at Stony Ridge car park (the small car park at the end of the woodland on the left hand side as you drive out of Sheffield on the A625 Hathersage Road). Grid reference: SK 277 806. Hot drinks & biscuits & gloves provided. Bring suitable clothes & footwear. Phone or email Hannah Shaw (Community Wildlife Ranger) for details.

Blacka Moor Reserve Advisory Group (RAG) - this is a group that is made up of representatives from all sorts of organisations, as well as local people that use Blacka Moor. There are representatives from Friends of the Peak District, Sheffield City Council, Sheffield Campaign for Access to Moorland, Ramblers' Association, Dark Peak Fellrunning Club, Dore Village Society, Peak District National Park Authority and Natural England amongst others. Most of the RAG is made up of members of the public (including mountain bikers, bird watchers, walkers and horseriders) so everyone is welcome to come to meetings, whether you're on the RAG mailing list or not. We take agenda items before the meetings so that we can ensure that meetings are productive and positive. The idea of the RAG is that you as an individual or representing your club or organisation can contribute to the decision-making. This is a very useful way for us at Sheffield Wildlife Trust to understand the use and perceptions of Blacka Moor in a much wider way, and a way of generating ideas on how to solve problems. You can either join the mailing list to receive updates, minutes and information about meetings, events and work on the nature reserve, or go to our website (see below). Or phone to find out a bit more. The next meeting is on Monday 15th June, 7pm to 9pm at Totley Rise Methodist Church.

Visitor survey – to help us get a better understanding of what people think about Blacka Moor (and what they do), we've put together a visitor survey. So far, we've sent this to the RAG and given forms out on the site. However, to get more views we'd like you to tell us what you think. It's really quick to fill in. Either download a form from the website and email to a.kennedy@wildsheffield.com, or phone to get a paper copy with a stamped addressed envelope.

'Looking' –local people who use Blacka Moor regularly have been helping us to keep an eye on the cattle, gates, walls and fencing. For more info please get in touch.

Contact details: www.wildsheffield.com Or phone 0114 263 4335. Email h.shaw@wildsheffield.com for information on the volunteer days, or a.kennedy@wildsheffield.com for anything else. Annabelle Kennedy (Nature Reserves Manager)



Sheffield & Rotherham

STREETLIFE

So Sheffield Council, or their contractors, have been around S17 and sprayed yellow lines on our pavements and roads. These highlight areas which are in need of immediate repair. Will this happen soon, or will they go the way these lines have done in the past and just fade away with few or any repairs being undertaken?...

The pavement on Sunnvale Road has areas where tree roots have caused it to lift. Repairs were started before Christmas, when several trees were left beheaded, with little sign of them completing anytime soon. One length of pavement has been closed for several weeks.

Men Are Just Happier People

- Your last name stays put.
- The garage is all yours.
- Wedding plans take care of themselves.
- Chocolate is just another snack.
- You can be President.
- You can never be pregnant.
- You can wear a white T-shirt to a water park.
- You can wear NO shirt to a water park.
- Car mechanics tell you the truth.
- The world is your urinal.
- You never have to drive to another petrol station rest-room because this one is just too icky.
- You don't have to stop and think of which way to turn a nut on a bolt.
- Same work, more pay.
- Wrinkles add character.
- Wedding dress £5000. Tuxedo rental-£100.
- People never stare at your chest when you're talking to them.
- The occasional well-rendered belch is practically expected.
- New shoes don't cut, blister, or mangle your feet.
- One mood all the time.
- Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat.
- You know stuff about tanks.
- A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase.
- You can open all your own jars.
- You get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness.
- If someone forgets to invite you, he or she can still be your friend.
- Your underwear is £5.00 for a three-pack.
- Three pairs of shoes are more than enough.
- You almost never have strap problems in public.
- You are unable to see wrinkles in your clothes.
- Everything on your face stays its original colour.
- The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades.
- You only have to shave your face and neck.
- You can play with toys all your life.
- Your belly usually hides your big hips.
- One wallet and one pair of shoes one colour for all seasons.
- You can wear shorts no matter how your legs look.
- You can "do" your nails with a pocket knife.
- You have freedom of choice concerning growing a moustache.

No wonder men are happier - what do you expect from such simple creatures?

GARDENING TIPS FOR JUNE

The long evenings and sunshine (we hope) makes June a lovely month, we can sit outside have a barbie, the veg is nearly ready for the first picking, the apples are setting on the trees, the flowers are showing a lot of colour. At the moment it is pouring (mid May) down, everything in the garden is soggy. The plants in the greenhouse are waiting patiently for the time to set them outside. The onions and leeks are looking good. I am doing the usual singing to them so that they are encouraged to be at their best for The Totley Show. The lawn is a lovely green sward after its spring feed, it really worthwhile giving it regular feeds autumn/winter and spring/summer. The plants I risked putting out early seem to be OK though they have not grown very much, it has been a bit too cold. I hope they pick up when the warmer weather is with us. The slugs are on the rampage. I will have to go out with my torch later and see if I can nobble a few. I have put nets over the veg to stop the pigeons but the slugs can get underneath. It is one long battle for us gardeners. The tomatoes are well on the way, I am growing 4 types, sungold (my favourite), moneymaker, gardener's delight and I have just managed to propagate a nice very small orange pear shaped one (I do not know its name, it came with the green groceries). I hope it survives, it is looking good up to now. I like to do this sort of thing, it is very satisfying when it turns out well. I have a most unusual plant in the greenhouse, it is the fastest growing plant I have ever come across, it grows at least an inch a day, the leaves are dark green/brown and when it flowers it fills the greenhouse with an awful musty smell, it is called arisema tortuosum, it makes growing things a bit more interesting and is a good talking point. The plans for the open gardens next month are well underway. Jennie Street is working hard with her team. We will be selling programmes outside the Stabmate Shop (the old Busy Bee). Our garden will not be officially open but if you want to look round unsupervised you are welcome.

Must close now the Editor is standing over me waiting for late copy!!!

FLOWERS If you have not planted out your bedding plants get cracking now. All those which are out will need to be watered add a little liquid feed to the water (not too much) they will really benefit from this. Keep the old hoe working on the weeds, before they get too well established, or if you prefer use a paraquat weedkiller but be careful it does not drift onto your precious plants; otherwise you will have a bare border. Cut the seed pod from lupins as soon as the flowers fade, the plants will be all the better for it. Hardy primulas of all type can be lifted and divided when they have finished flowering, the crowns can be split into several clumps and should be transplanted into a moist shady position. Aphids and caterpillars can be very troublesome and need to be dealt with as soon as possible, particularly on roses. Do not allow sweet peas to become dry, they cannot give of their best if they are starved of water; also give them a regular feed. Trim back alpine plants that have finished flowering this will keep them nice and compact. Biennials such as Canterbury Bells, wallflowers and Sweet William can be sown this month. When cutting roses for house display make sure you use sharp secateurs, or a good knife, and cut immediately above a strong bud at a leaf joint, this will encourage the bud into early growth which will produce more flowers later on. Cut out any sucker growth that appear from below ground level as close to the rootstock as possible, this will prevent further growth.

VEGETABLES Marrows can be planted out now. I plant mine on a raised bed between two bales of straw, with well rotted manure and compost in between, these keep the soil moist and the slugs don't like the dryness on top. Carrots and beetroot sown last month need to be thinned out. I was asked how to stop carrot fly attacking. I recommend a tent of fleece over the rows, the fly can't get to the plants and the fleece will let in air and rain, otherwise a good quality soil pest killer dusted against the rows. The same stuff can be used on members of the cabbage family to prevent cabbage root fly. Outdoor tomatoes can be planted out now, keep your fleece handy in case we have a late frost. Cucumber growing in frames should have the growing tip nipped off and as with all vegetables watch that they don't dry out. Onions should have a weekly nitrogenous liquid feed up to the end of July, then change to a tomato type

feed for a month- they should be just right for the Totley Show, in September. Leeks can be dealt with the same way; they will need blanching by covering the growth with a tube of card or roofing felt, 6 inches or more high. Earth up potatoes. Keep planting salad crops for succession, Savoy and January King cabbage can be sown now. To help rhubarb to build up a good crown for next year, flower spikes that appear should be removed and the plants kept well watered and fed. They would appreciate a top dressing of well rotted compost. Any curds on cauliflowers should be protected from the sun by bending over a leaf or two. There's a mixed feeling amongst gardeners as to whether spraying runner beans helps to set them. I say spray them in the evening it can't do them any harm and I feel it does help. Especially if you are entering them in The Show. There will be two prizes one for the best 5 matching beans and one for the longest bean. Take cuttings from rosemary and sage and root in pots on the window sill.

TREES SHRUBS and FRUIT As with everything in the garden at this time, keep newly planted and most established plants well watered. Remove dead tips of cotoneaster and cherry, remember to pick the seeds of Laburnum especially if there are children around. Do not allow newly planted fruit trees to flower, pick them off to encourage strong growth for the future. Trim apples and pears after the June drop of fruitlets. Tie in growth of Loganberry and blackberry to supports, check the supports and ties on other trees and bushes make sure that they are not too tight. Cut out any canker on apple trees; paint the cut with arbrex or similar. Any shrubs grown from seed should be hardened off and plunged rim deep in a bed of ashes, or in a shady part of the garden. Cytisus or brooms benefit if cut back immediately after flowering, remove any leggy growth and any seed pods, young growth low down on the plants may be slightly trimmed, avoid any severe pruning.

GREENHOUSE and INDOOR PLANTS As I say every year ventilation, shading and watering are the most important tasks for the greenhouse 65 - 75 degrees F. is the ideal temperature to aim for. Fresh air and light are most beneficial, strong sun must be shaded, especially if you have seedlings coming along. Grape thinning is a regular job from now on. Final potting of chrysanthemums must be completed now and should be stood out of doors. Cuttings of regal pelargoniums

can be taken now. These should be taken from firm young growth, 1 part loam 2 parts peat and 3 parts course sand would make the ideal medium for them to root in. Pot up cyclamen in their final pots; they need cool moist shady conditions in the summer. Cineraria seedlings should be pricked out as soon as possible. Mid season chrysanthemums can be stopped.

Begonias may need staking to support the larger flowers. Tomatoes should be starting to ripen. If some show signs of greenback where hard green skin forms around the top of the fruit, water with a solution of sulphate of potash, 1 ounce in a gallon of water. Watch out for all the pasties, greenfly, whitefly, capsid bug, vine weevil, caterpillars, earwigs etc etc, and deal with them as soon as possible. There is a new insecticide developed especially for the troublesome vine weevil which has been difficult to eradicate in the past, it is called "Pravado" and the yellow sticky cards are great for aphids and white fly. If you are unfortunate enough to get red spidermite, spray with pyrethrum based insecticide and keep spraying plants with water, they don't like moist conditions. Indoor plants need light but not direct sunshine and a bit of humidity, stand them on a gravel tray and keep the gravel moist, they will love it. To increase your stock or for the charity sales take cuttings now of most indoor plants such as fuchsia, geraniums, kalanchoe, plumbago etc.

LAWNS Clean up cut and rake regularly, keep edges tidy. If you have a dry patch, spike the area and top dress with compost raked well in, in dry weather set the mower high and let the cuttings fall on the lawn, remember to rake them up when the weather is wetter. Don't forget the TOTLEY SHOW in September at the Totley Primary School, there will be lots to see. Do encourage your children to take part it's lots of fun for them and will keep them away from telly or computer for a little while. The schedule will be in next month's issue of Totley Independent.

Cheerio for now.

Tom

16th International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival

This festival takes place in Buxton from 1st. to 22nd. August 2009 in the Opera House and the Pavilion Gardens Complex. A mixture of professional and amateur performances of the Savoy Operas take the stage in the Opera House with daily fringe events in the Paxton Suite, next door.

Locally born professional baritone, John Savournin, brings his own company, Charles Court Opera, to perform "Iolanthe" in the Opera House on Sunday, 2nd. August, and "The Zoo" on Tuesday 4th. August. John is also directing the Youth Production of "Patience" which takes place on 11th. August.

Further information and tickets from the Opera House, 0845 1272190, or visit www.gs-festival.co.uk

The English Bluebell

The English Bluebell is currently heading the way of the Red Squirrel. Its demise is caused by the import into this country of the Spanish bluebell, sometimes known as garden bluebells. The problem is that pollen from the Spanish variety is being transferred from

gardens into the wild. Unfortunately now, many of our valued sites for native bluebells are already showing signs of hybridisation. This is the case in one of Sheffield's largest woodlands, Ecclesall Woods. An indication of a high level of hybridisation in the population is the appearance of white bluebells.

To my eye, the native English bluebell is an exceptionally beautiful flower that I look forward to seeing in our woodlands every year. They look so delicate and give the woodland floor a strong vibrant blue colour. The Spanish variety is a much paler blue, with large flowerheads, thick strap-like leaves and it will out compete the English bluebell.

To identify native English bluebells, look for:

- Vibrant blue colour flowers, bearing cream coloured pollen
- Flowers that are narrowly bell-shaped, with straight-sided petals, deeply curled back at the tips. The majority of flowers droop from one side of an arched stalk
- Long thin green leaves at the base.

The Spanish variety is characterised by:

- Pale blue, bell-shaped flowers, bearing blue pollen
- An upright flower stalk
- Thick strap-like leaves at the base.

Hybrids can take up characteristics from each type but the clearest indication is the colour of the pollen.

The only chance of preventing the loss of our native woodland bluebell is to remove the Spanish ones from our gardens and to replace them with the English variety. This is especially important if you live near woodlands or other areas where our native bluebells grow. English bluebells are now being sold in garden centres, so be careful to check which you buy. When buying bluebells, make sure they are described as *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* (or are listed under their former names of *Scilla non-scripta* or *Endymion non-scriptus*).

The cheaper way to re-stock your garden, if you have the patience to wait a few years for them to flower, is to purchase native English Bluebell seeds. Sprinkle them onto soil in a plant pot in autumn and leave them outside. Next year they germinate to look simply like little blades of grass. They die back to form a very small bulb. Next year they come back a little stronger, maybe two blades per plant and die back to form a larger bulb. I then space them into maybe four or five bulbs per pot and let them grow again. They die back to form long courgette-shaped cream coloured bulbs. Then I plant the clump out into a sheltered shady part of the garden and I now have a huge number of beautiful flowering English bluebells in my garden. Obviously never take plants from the wild. It is also illegal to collect seeds from English bluebells later in the year when the seed pods are drying and starting to disperse mature seeds, if it is for commercial reasons.

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ESCAPING THE GALLOWS

In past submissions I have occasionally mentioned my family researches. Due to failing eyesight I am now not able to read large print very well, let alone the handwriting of for icier generations. Fortunately our youngest daughter is interested and does quite a bit when she has the time. Of course in my day research was more laborious and involved travel to London and other record offices. Most of her work in later years has been via the internet.

Our research got away to a good start from entries in a family bible, handed down over more than two hundred years. The earliest dated entry reads:

Thomos Ashford was born July 15 1782

The above Thos ashfor Died Augeth 17 1862

Mary Ashfor the wife of the above Thos Ashfor

Was born 1799.

We suspect these early entries were made by his son, also Thomas, born in 1823 as his marriage and children are fully recorded. He was, of course, no great scholar. My grandfather William, the ninth of eleven children was recorded as Willie and the youngest, George Henry was recorded gorgherny.

We have Thomas and Mary and families on the 1841, 1851 and 1861 census returns though, as is not uncommon, the recorded ages do not exactly fit each other and do not tally with those recorded in the bible. We suspect the above Mary was called Whitehouse before marriage but so far cannot be absolutely certain. In trying to find more certain evidence Elizabeth came across another Mary Ashford, and it is her tragic story I thought would be of interest.

On May 27th 1817 the body of twenty year old Mary Ashford was pulled from a pit of water in Sutton Coldfield. It was established she had been murdered and there was strong evidence she had been raped. There was evidence she had been held down by hand shaped bruises on her upper arms and not far away from the pit was a blood stained depression in the ground. Suspicion quickly fell on a local bricklayer named Abraham Thornton a stocky well built young man. Apparently she had attended a dance at the Tybourn House inn and they had several times danced together and left there together. Stains found on Thornton's inner shirt were said to be blood, but he said not. It was only at this stage he had admitted he had intercourse with Mary after the dance but claimed it was with her consent.

Thornton was arrested and charged with rape and murder and the trial took place at Warwick Assizes on 18th August 1817. The case had aroused national interest with most people apparently being convinced of Thornton's guilt. The trial was scheduled to start at 8 but a large crowd had gathered by 6 o'clock.

Thornton pleaded "Not Guilty" to both the charges of murder and of rape. The prosecutor, as would be expected, dwelt upon the poor, pure and honest nature of Miss Ashford and her parents. In addition to evidence already mentioned, it was established that they had left the pub together around midnight, called at a friend of Mary's house for her to change her dress about 5 and walked towards the pool together from there. Additionally Thornton had been heard boasting to friends he had slept with Mary's sister three times and would soon do the same with her. Witnesses had seen them together in the vicinity of the pool.

Thornton's defence produced several witnesses who swore they had seen him some three miles from the site of the murder only minutes later. The jury brought in a verdict of Not Guilty.

However there was a strong suspicion that Thornton's father had paid the witnesses to swear on his son's behalf and that was how he escaped the hangman's noose.

Had this been the end of the story it would just be one in many hundreds of similar nature. However what followed I think will interest readers and certainly had far reaching consequences.

Mary had a younger brother William who either decided or was persuaded to avail himself of a chance to right what he regarded as a faulty judgement. He requested an Appeal of Murder dating back to the time of the Norman Conquest. This enabled a victim's kinsman to demand justice even though a Not Guilty verdict had been given. It must be remembered that there was widespread belief that Thornton had "got away with murder".

A second trial was ordered to take place on 17th November 1817 this time in the Court of the King's Bench in London. When asked how he pleaded after the charges were read out Thornton replied "Not Guilty" and then PRODUCED HIS BOMBSHELL.

He read from a paper handed to him by his counsel "and I am ready to defend the same by my body". He had issued a Wager of Battle. He then donned one of a pair of gloves and threw the other to the courtroom floor, thus challenging William Ashford to fight. It has already been stated Thornton was sturdy and well built. William was small and delicate and did not pick up the gauntlet (glove) to accept the challenge. William's counsel argued that the Wager of Battle was an obsolete legal procedure no longer a part of the law. Arguments from both sides were offered as the court reconvened three times and it was eventually decided that the Wager of Battle defence was valid as it had never been abolished by parliament. Because the challenge to single combat was not taken up Thornton was again given the verdict Not Guilty.

After this the law was changed and Thornton was perceived as escaping the hangman again. He apparently tried to emigrate but could not find a vessel captain willing to take him until he managed it in disguise.

Some readers will no doubt remember similar events in Sir Walter Scott's Ivanhoe. The novel was published two years after the Ashford v Thornton case and Scott would no doubt be aware of the case in view of its nationwide notoriety. Perhaps Scott was prompted by the case. Indeed it has been suggested he wrote it partially as a defence of the chivalry idea.

I am sorry we cannot find any connections between Mary Ashford and my direct forebears. It would have been nice to have an ancestor whose case changed English law. At least poor Mary's name will be remembered in legal circles.

Don Ashford.

PUZZLE CORNER

Solution to Common Trios

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. ENTICEABLE | 7. TERMAGANT |
| 2. BLENDING | 8. ANTIMACASSAR |
| 3. INGREDIENT | 9. SARDONIC |
| 4. ENTHUSIAST | 10. NICOTINE |
| 5. ASTRONIMCAL | 11. INESCULENT |
| 6. CALORIMETER | 12. ENTITLEMENT |

Don Ashford

HAVE YOU TASTED TOTLEY PORRIDGE?

Adults are cautious, children lap it up, and it's not like the breakfast variety, more of an experience. It is in fact to sit in and be locked up in the Totley Stocks.

At this point a fair number of readers will be saying Totley Stocks never seen them, never heard of them, thought they had disappeared ages ago.

They are in fact situated very close to where the original Stocks Green existed and where the old Stocks were more than a century ago near the crossroads and Fleur-de-Lis.

When Hall Farm Village came into being about 1980 the roads were named from local connections and included Stocks Green Drive.

I came here in 1983 when only part of the houses had been built and my house had not been given a number and was still referred to as plot 57, this proved a bit awkward for the postman as unfinished houses and marked out spots also had plot numbers, so I called my house The Stocks and put up the sign. I thought a road with this name should also have them, so in 1984 National Heritage Year I decided that my contribution for Totley would be to make and erect a replacement set of Stocks, a job which gave me great satisfaction and a change from accountancy.

Word of their existence reached the press and one day a reporter and photographer arrived at the door, and wanted some details, they also wanted to take a shot of someone in them. I tried to find a friend of mine, a real Totley character known as Bud Rawlings but was unsuccessful so I had to be the stooge in the Stocks, the details and photo appeared in the Sheffield morning paper.

I was the first to be photographed in them and strangely enough at the moment the last when recently I sat in them holding the hand of a tall, slim, blond, blue eyed young Dutch girl and was photographed by my grandson. Some punishment. In between I have been in many times so have had more Porridge then the three little bears.

At that time we had Totley College and the students used our road to go to the top side of the college and to the student's social building and so passed by the Stocks. During their free time they wandered around the village and took photo's including the Stocks.

From my conversations with them I learnt that the native students knew about Stocks and their use but most of them stated they had never actually seen one until they came here which indicates their rarity. The students from the Far East were amused and fascinated that people were put into them as a form of punishment for minor misdemeanours, they also took photo's no doubt to prove the story they would tell when back home.

This year is the 25th Anniversary of their entry into England Heritage but their significance should not be underrated, in the nineteen sixties I read an article which stated that stocks had become rare and the ones in existence were mostly in a dilapidated state, so after more than a further forty years on how many are now left, and what is the condition of any which have survived, are any in a sound and workable condition and are currently being used like Totley, very doubtful which means we are now rare and of National interest.

We have some notable personalities in the area who have not tasted Totley Porridge.

Rony Robinson

Will now be able to speak to his listeners and tell them about Totley Porridge and 25th Anniversary of the stocks and ask them if anyone had seen any in recent years and where.

Nick Clegg

He will be able to tell the house on the subject of Public Disorder that anyone committing such a thing on his patch could receive a taste of Totley Porridge, beat that Brown and Cameron.

Brian Edwards

Our beloved Brian, the man who has drawn everything of interest for miles around, could he have somehow failed to discover Stocks Green, I have not yet seen his drawing of the stocks, or could it be that he has done it and failed to send me a copy, either way is a punishable offence, so now he must tell us all just what the score is.

Footnote

Any child who wishes to try the stocks should be accompanied by a parent for obvious reasons, and also bring their own camera, if the child and parent wish to be together in the stocks, they will need to bring another person to take the shot.

On arrival knock on the door, you will need me to remove padlocks and ensure that entry and exits are carried out in a safe manner

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CAR BOOT SALE

Totley Primary School PTA are holding a car boot sale in support of school funds on Sunday June 7th. The boot sale will take place in the Cross Scythes car park and will begin at 9 am. 20p entrance fee.

Open to all

Anyone wanting to sell please contact the school on 236 4482 , £6.00 charge per car.

Music Hall

Well, the big moment has arrived; we have sorted out the contents of the show, which is of a slightly different format, with suitable songs embraced into it, and have worked hard with "movement" routines.(I will not insult the word "dancing"). Also included are very subtle humorous references to various points in our lives (so you will have to listen very hard!). And I must mention yet again about the costumes. They are stunning! All researched and made by our lady members, in the most vibrant colours for the pub "ladies", or the muted tones for the hunting scenes. It really is worth the entrance fee just to see them, as well as the "doxies" who all love a sailor. (That should have got the men interested, I hope!) We have just finished our Dress Rehearsals, and are straining at the leash to be let loose on an unsuspecting public. If you would care to judge for yourselves, I list once again, the venues so far.

Sat. May 30th The Lantern Theatre 7.30

Sat. June 6th Coal Aston Comm. Hall 8.00

Fri. June 19th The Gatty Hall Ecclesfield 8.00

Price of tickets £7.00, Cons. £6.00

Others are in the pipeline, but securing suitable venues at convenient dates is a bit of a problem, but as we say - watch this space!

Any further information you may require please contact me on 236 6891.

'Bye for now, Tony Reynolds.

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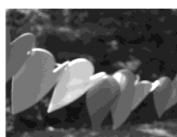
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4. Accept that you will have ups and downs in your weight loss journey, and be forgiving of yourself if you hit a difficult patch.
5. Listen to your 'inner script' and make a conscious effort to talk to yourself in a positive, encouraging way.
6. Keep up your interest in your healthy eating plan by trying new foods, new recipes, and new ways of using your Sins. This will help you avoid getting in to a dieting rut which can be boring and demotivating.
7. Be honest with yourself about what you are expecting from your weight loss and how you are getting on with Food Optimising week by week. People who set unrealistic targets for weight loss or body shape are more likely to give up than those who set achievable targets and share their ups and downs.
8. Go back to your class even after (especially after) you've had a weight gain. You will not be judged, just helped and supported.
9. Keep setting new goals and rewarding yourself for milestones until you reach your target weight, and afterwards!
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TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

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TUESDAYS	COFFEE MORNING , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am-noon WOODSEATS ADVICE CENTRE . Drop in service, free, impartial, and confidential. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10am-noon CRAFT GROUP , Totley Library, 2pm
WEDNESDAYS	COFFEE in the LIBRARY , 10am-11.30am TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUP , Grove Road 9.30am-noon, Phone: Sheila 235 0130 or Janine 262 0773 TODDLER GROUP , 10am-11.30am, All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. Mel 236 6300 HEALTH WALKS , 10.30am, Totley Library foyer. Phone Sue, The Health Walk Ranger: 0114 283 9195 MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING , All Saints Church Hall, 8pm-10pm
THURSDAYS	TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUP , Grove Road 9.30am-noon, Phone: Sheila 235 0130 or Janine 262 0773 NCT COFFEE GROUP FOR DORE TOTLEY & BRADWAY , 10am-noon, For mums & babies/toddlers, meeting in various locations, Phone Sally Spearing 236 2604 for further details (email: sally@spearings.me.uk) PUSHCHAIR CLUB , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 1.30pm-3pm. Tel. 236 3157 for further details CHAIROBICS , Totley Library, 2pm-3pm. £1 PILATES CLASS , United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, 6.15pm-7.30pm, Phone Emer Coffee 07792 422909
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JUNE 2009

WED 3rd WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, 'The Samaritans', Isobel Blincow, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Church Lounge, 7.30pm
SUN 7th CASTLETON FARMERS MARKET, the Village Hall, 10am-3pm
SUN 7th CAR BOOT SALE, Totley Primary School, 9am, details page 14
TUE 9th FOLK AT THE FLEUR, Fleur de Lys, 8.30pm, all welcome
SAT 13th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Tony Brooklyn, Baslow Road. 8.30pm.
TUES 16th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, 'Look in the Librarian's drawer's, Miss', Mike Tolson, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am
WED 17th WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, 'War through the eyes of a child', Margaret Maxfield, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Church Lounge, 7.30pm
SUN 21st MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, Abbeydale Road South, First train 1pm - last train 5pm (weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
WED 24th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP, Totley Library, 7.30pm, all welcome
THU 25th SHEFFIELD FARMERS MARKET, 9am-4.30pm, Barkers Pool
FRI 26th SUMMER BBQ & DISCO, King Ecgbert Schol Association, 5.30pm-10pm, Povey Farm, Lightwood Lane, further details page 2
SAT 27th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Russell T Bird, Baslow Road. 8.30pm.
SUN 28th DORE OPEN GARDENS

JULY 2009

WED 1st WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, 'Tales of the Unexpected', Lawrie Ginn, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Church Lounge, 7.30pm
SUN 5th CASTLETON FARMERS MARKET, the Village Hall, 10am-3pm
SUN 5th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES OPEN DAY & EXHIBITION, Abbeydale Road South, First train 1pm - last train 5pm (weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
SAT 11th & SUN 12th TOTLEY OPEN GARDENS, 1-5pm, details page 3
TUE 14th FOLK AT THE FLEUR, Fleur de Lys, 8.30pm, all welcome
SUN 19th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, Abbeydale Road South, First train 1pm - last train 5pm (weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
WED 20th WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, 'Sheffield's link with Esteli, Nicaragua', Charlie Withall, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Church Lounge, 7.30pm

THE INDEPENDENT FOR JULY/AUGUST 2009

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

SATURDAY 4th July 2009

**COPY CLOSE DATE for this issue will be
SATURDAY 20th June 2009**

Editor **Ian Clarke** Email editor@totley.org.uk
Tel. No. **235 2526**.

Advertising & Distribution **John Perkinton** Tel. No. **236 1601**
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