

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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Totley Bents in the late 1940's looking from the bottom of Moss Lane with Baslow Road in the distance. Photo from Betty Clark.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Totley Residents Association Update

I recently gave a talk to the Tuesday Ladies Group at Totley Rise Methodist Church about the TRA. While thinking what I was going to say, I looked through some of the earlier editions of the Totley Independent They make very interesting reading.

Page 3 of Issue No 1 July 1977, has an article protesting about the danger of the junction of Totley Brook Road, Bushey Wood Road and Abbeydale Road South. Concerns are expressed about the safety of the junction and the difficulties of residents trying to cross the road. On Page 8 I quote "Totley is a very mixed community with a big distinction between older and newer residents, a pleasant place to live, but some people have become isolated and lonely. Population growth has outpaced the facilities, TRA are trying to seek a community meeting place, somewhere in Totley, hopefully to have the facilities to cater for all residents, especially the elderly and the young"

Page 5 of Issue No 3 warns readers about bike thefts and urges residents to report the loss to the police immediately. Sound familiar?

TRA are still trying to improve the area for all residents, but we need your help and support. You now have an opportunity to speak out, so we can tell our Councillors what we want and they in their turn can inform the Community Assembly.

What annoys you or disturbs you most? Is it the speed of traffic on Baslow Road, or the danger every time you try to cross the road to reach Totley Rise Shops, or you think the children's playground in Green Oak Park is a disgrace? Whatever it is come to the meeting in the library on 2nd of December at 7.30pm and voice your concerns.

Further details pages 3 & 5 in the Independent.

Now to other matters, I mentioned in the last Independent that PC Jo Clifton had joined the Police Team as Dore Community PC, but I have to report she will be returning to her old job in December. PC Mark Wadsworth now has responsibility for Totley and Dore, with help from two PCSO's and a Special Constable. Things are not all bad, a lot of work is going on behind the scenes by lots of people to try and sort out the anti-social behaviour problems in our area. More details page 13.

These things take time, so we must be patient.

Those of us who attended the PACT Meeting on 13th November (there were 12 from Totley) learned that the numbers of incidents reported to the police using 101, 220 2020 or 999 are sent to the Home Office. This information is then used to determine the number of Police Officers needed in an area. We were again encouraged by the police at the meeting to continue to ring in with incidents. If you are given an incident number please keep it for reference.

Going back to Independent issue No3, it gives a list of 30 classes which were held at Abbeydale Hall and a further 12 at King Ecgbert School. It is not too late to get in touch with me if you would like to join an Adult Education Class. To date art in various forms tops the list (236 1568 if you have any preferences).

Work continues in Green Oak Park. After all the rain, the stream is flowing well and newly planted moisture loving plants donated by some residents should begin to clothe the edges. Thanks to Jim Higgins hard work, a damaged bench, when repaired and painted will be placed by the stream so people can sit quietly and enjoy the view and the wildlife. There will be further tree work in the park over the winter, the other willow tree by the bowling green will be felled and replaced by multi-stemmed white birch. An evergreen oak, a handkerchief tree and a red filbert tree will be planted as a group near the Mickley Lane entrance. A replacement for the tree that was vandalised has already been delivered to the nursery. The new trees will be supplied by the Council Pledge.

Once again it is my pleasure to wish everyone A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Avril Critchley

Sheffield's Waste Strategy

Sheffield's new waste strategy was due to be approved by Cabinet on Wednesday 25th November, and this new strategy will mean major changes to the recycling services that are provided to households within the City. Full details of these changes are still being discussed, however the main changes that you will see will include:

- A new kerbside recycling service that will be available to all households in Sheffield for materials including paper, card, glass bottles, plastic bottles and cans.
- A new City-wide garden waste collection service using reusable bags, collected every four weeks.

Residents will keep their existing blue bin and use it for glass bottles, plastic bottles and cans. A new box will be delivered to households for the collection of paper and card. The bin and box will be emptied every two weeks. **The blue bin will no longer be used for paper or card.** The new recycling service will be rolled out in stages across Sheffield from March 2010. All households will have access to the service by the end of November 2010. An assisted collection service is available to residents who are unable to move their bin/box to the kerbside for collection.

The Council will be providing further information in the New Year.

PUZZLE CORNER

A Christmas Quiz

Solve the clues relating to Christmas. The first letters of the answers spell out a message printed on many cards.

1. White gent with carrot nose
 2. Mood of children on Christmas Eve
 3. Boss Gabriel
 4. _ _ _ _ Claus
 5. Bells of St Clements fruit
 6. Christmas in a carol
 7. Children's present carrier?
 8. Five rings metal
 9. Traditionally red nosed
 10. Part of postman's burden
 11. Scrooge
 12. Christmas Days number
 13. Cake covering
 14. Coin collector
 15. Christmas Carol character
 16. Icy pastime
 17. Pantomime venue
 18. Marine pussy pal
 19. Cake paste ingredient
 20. Flashy Christmas tree decorations
 21. Burned or covered in chocolate.
- Don Ashford

Power to the People!

One of the initiatives introduced by the Liberal Democrats when they assumed control of Sheffield City Council was the creation of Community Assemblies. There are now 7 of these covering the city, each representing a population of some 70,000 people. Although similar in some ways to the Area Panels they superseded, they have wider powers and bigger budgets. Their purpose is to devolve more of the decision making process down to the grass roots.

To advise and assist the Assemblies, "Partner Panels" were set up. These essentially comprise those who are expected to deliver the services required by the Assemblies. Attention then turned to the means of engaging with the local communities. At first, it was proposed that "Community Representatives" be appointed to serve on the Partner Panels. The Community Assembly for the South West, serving the four Wards of Dore and Totley, Ecclesall, Fulwood and Crookes, initially proposed that just one such person be appointed. When some of the community groups protested that representing 70,000 people, albeit through established groups, was too much for one person, there was an offer to increase the number to 2. There was then a "Road to Damascus" moment when some community activists in the Dore and Totley Ward realised that there was really no need to appoint community representatives at all, because we already had them in the form of our local councillors. Each ward has three, so there are twelve of them altogether across the South West Community Assembly area. Thus the idea of "Ward Forums" was born.

The plan would be to hold a Ward Forum some time before each meeting of the Community Assembly, attended by all three ward councillors, at which the public would be able to put ideas forward, discuss priorities, etc., for the Assembly to consider and assess along with the Partner Panel. An essential feature would be for the Forum to be chaired by someone from the community, rather than by one of the councillors. It would thus be a community meeting, not a Council one. The Chair of the South West Community Assembly, Councillor Mike Reynolds, agreed to examine the concept in more detail. Councillors and community groups in the Ecclesall, Fulwood and Crookes wards subsequently decided not to pursue the idea for the time being, but those in the Dore and Totley ward are keen to proceed, if nothing else to act as a pilot to demonstrate what can be achieved.

So now it's over to you. The first Ward Forum for Dore and Totley will take place at on Wednesday 2nd December at Totley Library (7.30 - 9.00pm). It will be chaired by Peter Stubbs, the Chairman of Bradway Action Group. This is YOUR chance to have your say and influence what happens in OUR area. Please do your best to attend.

Bradway Action Group, Dore Village Society
Totley Residents Association

DANNY REYNOLDS

It is with sadness that we report the death of Danny Reynolds on November 3rd. He was two months off 99 years old. Danny was one of Totley's great characters and will be much missed. A full obituary of his life will appear in the February issue of Totley Independent. We would like to extend our condolences to all the family.



Transport 17

We were feeling a bit despondent at the shareholders General Meeting recently. We know that we are in a time of recession, but fund-raising for the new bus seems to be dragging on. Then, just afterwards, we were given £500 by Dore Village Society and £5,000 from Westfield, plus some more from other sources that we have been dealing with. We are feeling a bit happier and hope that in 2010 all this will culminate in a new bus.

We are very grateful for all the support that we get from the churches, clubs and individuals every year. The passengers at Dore and Totley Luncheon Club have a collection for us every week. How marvellous is that. But every single penny collected counts. We could not do our work without our marvellous drivers and escorts. John Savournin and Felicity Revill do the official work on asking for funds. Mike Finn, our Manager keeps the buses in good order as well as keeping passengers on the move. The rest of us on the Management Committee, led by Danny Barlow, do other fund-raising as well as working "on the buses". You can't say it's boring!

The T17 staff get marvellous support from their families and friends so that they can run the service. Sainsbury's have also supported us this year.

We owe a great deal to the Leonard Cheshire Home, the Catholic Church in Totley and Lynne and her staff at the "Ironing Shop". They give us help and support in more ways than I can list. The TRA and their off-shoots and all the Club organisers and passengers make it all worth-while. Ian Clarke and all at Totley Independent sort out my articles for me. I hope I have not left any one out.

Once again a very successful collecting day at Sainsburys where, thanks to the generosity of their customers we collected £238.90. Thanks to all who donated.

We were very sad to hear of the death of Danny Reynolds. He was not a passenger as such but he used to accompany Isobel to any "do" that her clubs had. Very smart they both looked too. They supported us especially by opening their garden. We send Isobel and family our condolences.

We at Transport 17 wish you all a happy Christmas and a good New Year.

God bless.

Margaret Barlow

Totley Residents Website

Latest figures show there were almost 2,000 visitors to the www.totley.org.uk website in September and 1,800 in October.

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

CLOSURE OF TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL JUNIOR CLUB

It is with much sadness and regret that we write to announce the indefinite suspension of Totley Primary School Junior Club at the current venue.

Due to an increase in the rent, high insurance costs, inconsistency in parental support, recent disruption to the building and falling numbers it has left us with no other option. This was an extremely hard decision to make as we have all enjoyed our Thursday nights with the children and have shared some great times with them.

Totley Primary School Junior Club has been running for over 18 years and provides Totley Primary School children (7-11yrs) out-of-school activities one night per week between the hours of 6.30 and 8pm. These activities include Badminton, Table Tennis, Pool, Karaoke and play stations together with occasional disco's and theme nights.

This has always been a voluntary, non-profit making venture with our local children's interests paramount. It has become quite an institution in Totley and I am sure a lot of older brothers and sisters have lots of fond memories and stories to tell! We have looked at trying to secure another cheaper venue but as yet no suitable premises have been found.

We are liaising with Inspector Craig Patchett (our local policeman) to ensure that any new premises will be both secure and suitably supervised.

In the future, if anyone is interested in re-launching Junior Club or has any idea's for premises, offers of help in staffing the club or advice on grants etc then please contact us on the numbers below.

Finally, a huge thank you to past and present helpers, committee members and most importantly Totley children.

We have had a ball!!

Moira Newman	07912 753113
Sharon Rawlings	07949 699339
Nicola Jinkinson	07958 647886
Jill Johnson	07910 803598

Try Badminton for free!

Did you know that badminton is one of the most popular sports in England? It is a sport for all ages and abilities that can be played throughout a lifetime. Badminton also offers a great workout and significantly improves fitness levels when played regularly.

In partnership with Activity Sheffield, Abbeydale Park Badminton Club is offering a weekly session for people new to badminton. Try out your first session for free and if you are over 50 you can play at subsequent sessions for half price! We offer sessions specifically tailored for beginners with a fully qualified coach to give you hints and tips on how to play. All you need is a pair of trainers with non marking soles and the club will supply rackets and shuttlecocks. Come along to as many sessions as you can and why not bring a friend or neighbour?

Abbeydale Park is a friendly club with a variety of coached and recreational sessions so whether you want to play socially or competitively Abbeydale Park could have the perfect session for you!

For further information please contact Ian Sills on 07791 112404 or e-mail ian_sills@hotmail.com

KES Update

Y7 at King Egbert School so far has been fast and furious. It has gone very quickly, however we have taken so much in, learnt so much more and have had a really enjoyable experience. It's so much easier that all the Y6 rumours say, there's no sticking your head down the toilet - everyone is really friendly.

The lessons have been challenging but what do you learn without a challenge? It has also been great having a wide range of extra curricular activities to join in with such as, trampolining, netball, and gymnastics.

Hockey, football and so much more. Music groups, drama, games club and just quiet time in the library are a few of the other things on offer.

Overall King Eggys has been 1st class! We hope you are looking forward to joining us here.

By Ruby Jewitt and Hannah Murray Y7 pupils

Monday Coffee Mornings

We have been running this coffee morning for many years and meet every Monday 10am-12noon in All Saints Church Hall. We normally have about a dozen each week although there are occasionally more than 20 people who use the facility. We seek to make everyone welcome whether they call in for a chat or to sit a while and do their knitting! We are completely informal and would like to welcome more people. It is part of wanting Totley to be more community minded. Maurice Snowdon

New Bus Stop

Replying to "a grumpy Kate Reynolds" I for one living too close to the old terminus am particularly pleased it has been removed and hope that Kate stays grumpy for a good number of years.

She would be far more grumpy if she had a bus (buses) parked by her windows from 4.50am standing with engines running for at least 10 minutes (sometimes 2 or 3 buses at a time for 10 minutes).

The drivers refuse point blank to turn-off vehicle engines, annoying the landlords of the Cross Scythes who were unable to let their rooms due to vehicle noise. Numerous meetings with Mainline Operating Managers, Mainline Radio Control Managers, Mainline Senior Depot Inspectors and other officials have taken place.

I have four telephone numbers plus radio control number, still no engine turn off, I have enlisted the aid of councillors and our MP and leader of the Liberal Party Nick Clegg and the results are laughable.

I and many more would be against a reversal.

Keep on being grumpy!

J W Abson

Carolling in Derbyshire

Hathersage Carollers invite you to join them in singing traditional and "local" carols at the following venues:-

Friday, 18 December - Scotsman's Pack Inn at 9pm

Monday, 21 December - Millstone Inn at 9pm

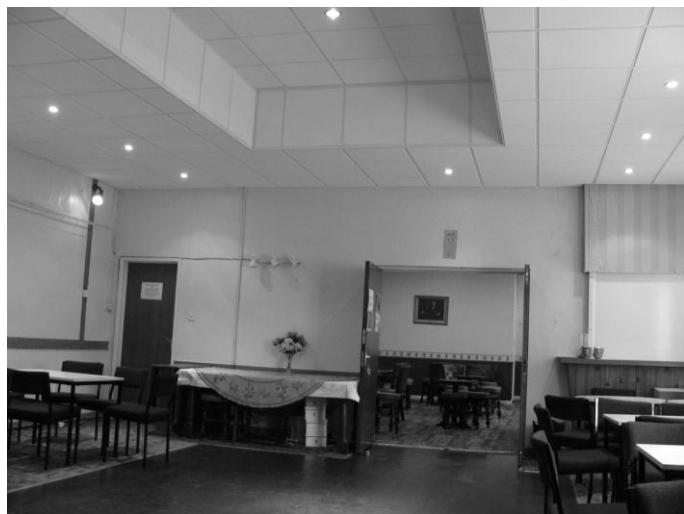
Wednesday, 23 December - Plough Inn at 9pm

Tuesday, 29 December - Little John Hotel at 12 noon
Further information telephone 0114 236 6558



TOTLEY'S BEST KEPT SECRET

What's going on behind the green door - remember it was an old rock and roll song by Shakin' Stephens. Well let me tell you the Heatherfield is certainly rocking and rolling. The last eighteen months has seen a steady change happening to the interior of the rather shabby building and we have deliberately left the exterior till last.



Inside the entrance it is now light, warm and airy leading to the recently refurbished lounge with seating for fifty people and well stocked bar including locally produced real ale at only £2 a pint.

The events area which opens up off the lounge has also been refurbished and opened as the Green Oak Room which also can seat fifty to sixty people for meetings, parties and markets etc. The new heating and lighting system can match any requirements you could possibly require.

Next year will see the front of the building refreshed (not changed) to create something Totley can be proud of and also the restoration of the existing car park to ease parking on Baslow road.

On dozens of Saturdays throughout the year Totley people are laughing, socialising and enjoying the live singing acts provided for free.

So now I have let you in on Totley's best kept secret who am I and what am I doing? My name is Mick Cooper chairman of the Heatherfield social club. I am a big supporter of Totley Residents Association and their meetings and have wholeheartedly supported the creation of a community centre from the existing buildings in Green Oak Park offering my professional services expertise for free. However until this day finally arrives I and the forward thinking and hard working committee which supports me, believe the facilities are now in place for the realisation of a local centre available twenty four hours a day. Another fitness group have already replaced the successful Tai Chi and Sheffield Council are once again on board in January with further classes.

So here's the challenge ring me (07773 333164) with a concept or requirement and a ludicrous financial offer and discover bartering skills you never you had.

Coop Refurb

The Co-op food store on Baslow Road has been completely refurbished during November. The work, at a cost of £170,000 is in line with their £100m re-branding programme of all 4,200 Co-op outlets.

Totley History Group

Totley History Group goes from strength to strength. We had a record turnout for our October meeting with over 40 people coming to hear Tony Smith give a talk and slide show about the history of Bradway. By the time you are reading this, we will also have hosted a talk by local "man of the woods" Bob Warburton on the history of Gillfield Wood. Members of the group are busy researching a number of strands of Totley history. This includes a new group who are researching all the people who are named on the war memorials. Any help gratefully received.

Instead of a December meeting, on December 12th we are putting on a Totley Christmas Party and ceilidh with lively barn dance band Airs and Graces providing the music. If you have never been to a ceilidh before it is great fun for all ages from 9 to 90 - so bring the family along to Totley All Saints Church Hall - but also your own drink. We'll provide the mince pies and the amazing premiere of Totley's own Christmas Mummies' Play! Best to reserve your tickets with Ian Clarke on 235 2526. They are a snip at £3.50 or £3. Sally Goldsmith, Chair

Buttons/Beads

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated their old buttons and beans to me. I am sorry I could not thank everyone in person but the response has been brilliant. If anyone still has any I would be very grateful.

Thanks again,
Carole at Totley Library

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR?

TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY PROBLEMS?

LACK OF LOCAL AMENITIES?

WORRIES ABOUT THE BUILT OR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT?

DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD?

COME ALONG TO THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW

WARD FORUM

*FOR DORE, TOTLEY AND BRADWAY AND MAKE YOUR VIEWS
KNOW TO LOCAL COUNCILLORS*

WHEN? WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER, 7.30 PM

WHERE? TOTLEY LIBRARY, BASLOW ROAD

ALL WELCOME

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN ARRANGED AND WILL BE MANAGED BY THE LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS (BRADWAY ACTION GROUP, DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY AND TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION)

IT IS YOUR CHANCE TO INFLUENCE WHAT THE CITY COUNCIL DOES IN OUR AREA

Totley Community Centre?

Your correspondent's passionate case for community facilities in Totley is well-made. I can agree with much of it but it doesn't help to provide erroneous data or to generalise. In her commitment to the cause Ms. Street has over-simplified her case.

For instance:

- Totley has around 1,700 homes; other parts of the city of a similar size also lack community facilities of the kind envisaged. Contrary to the article most "council areas" do not have specially built facilities.
- Dore Old School belongs to a charitable trust founded some 400 years ago, is managed by trustees "born and bred in Dore Parish;" lettings are arranged by the church authorities.
- Totley library is quite capable of holding large meetings - witness how it accommodated nearly 100 protestors against the threat to the 97 bus service just two years ago.
- Moreover, let's not forget the Council's Library Service lets the TRA meet there for free every first Monday of the month
- Regular bookings can be made at Totley Methodist Church Hall.
- Bradway has two halls one recently refurbished available to the public.....

I could go on. With reference to the buildings in Green Oak Park Ms. Street is wide of the mark. In denigrating council officers she strikes at an easy target which cannot answer back.

Sincerely, Keith Hill.

Cllr. for Dore and Totley Ward

As a former Regeneration Officer with past experience of developing successful community owned or managed community buildings in Sheffield I was interested to read in Jennie Street's article the problems the TRA is having in acquiring such a much needed facility for Totley. Without knowing all the details of the apparently stalled TRA and Council negotiations about the building in Green Oak Park I can only speculate about the reasons but it does read as though the Council rather than the community are calling the shots.

My advice would be for the TRA (or a newly constituted community organisation with charity status) to negotiate a long term lease (a minimum of 20 years) for the building at a peppercorn rent. Using the Council's starting contribution of £63.5k the TRA or community organisation as leaseholder would then be in a much stronger position to apply to the many local and national grant making bodies which are known to support the refurbishment of community owned or managed buildings. They would also be in a position to acquire the professional support from architects and quantity surveyors etc to develop the plans, cost estimates and tender documents necessary before serious fund raising can begin. We are fortunate in Sheffield that Business in the Community run the excellent 'pro help' scheme in which professionals offer some of these services on a pro bono basis.

If the community does decide to take the lead it should not under estimate the challenges to be faced, the hard work of fund raising or the time it might take to achieve a successful outcome. My most recent experience is as Secretary of the Bradway Community Hall where we have this month completed a £85,000

refurbishment project. In our case the landlord was Network Rail rather than the Council but many of the issues are similar and it took us 5 years, with a few false starts and many setbacks to raise the funds from local donations and grants.

I would also like to comment on the chart in the article about the community buildings in the area. It is not wholly accurate that the Bradway Community Hall is inaccessible; too far from Totley and that there is no bus service. The hourly, daytime only, M17 service runs between Totley and Bradway and many Totley residents are regular users.

In closing can I add that the Bradway Community Hall offers discounted rates to community/voluntary sector groups and any group or society looking for a venue can enquire about its availability. Readers can also visit the Hall to see the refurbished facilities and join our Committee for a cup of tea or glass of wine at our 'open day' between 1 and 4pm on Sunday 6 December.

Harry Hunter, Secretary

Bradway Community Hall Tel 236 4922

The fact is that Council officers in tandem with Councillors and a small sub-committee of the TRA have devoted many, many hours of their time considering the buildings in Green Oak Park and have given freely of their expertise.

Reluctantly, the group accepted that the extra funding needed could not be found - the real figure is well in excess of £300,000, as well as issues over parking problems and traffic congestion along Lemont Road.

Accordingly, it was proposed to spend the whole sum on enhancing the park's facilities and appearance. I understand that the TRA have endorsed this decision. It is now underway.

I do accept that the South West Community Assembly has not appointed a Funding Officer in the first five months of its formal existence. We could not stretch our money that far. However, it does remain on the table, and will be reconsidered next year, if only on a shared basis with another Community Assembly.

In the meantime perhaps Ms. Street could persuade her colleagues to set about constructing a "business plan" for a Totley Community Centre. We have been calling for one for well over five years and without this very little is possible.

For instance we do need to specify the scope and range of activities proposed and the kind of spaces these require. Issues such as cleaning costs, maintenance, repairs, insurance, management etc. need clarification.

In particular perhaps the time has come for the TRA to reconsider taking on "charitable status" The Dore Village Society did this some time ago and has found it most helpful.

Less heat, more light, please.

Sincerely, Keith Hill.

Cllr. for Dore and Totley Ward

Could I please ask Jennie Street where she obtained her information regarding the Heatherfield Club? She obviously hasn't visited us recently; I feel her remarks are an insult to the many people who have worked so hard to make this club an attractive place to be. It is now looking great, and yes, we do have adequate kitchen facilities. At a recent Birthday party, there were over 70 people there; does that sound too small Jennie?

Rita Murr and family

Totley Sports & Social Cricket Club.



Long serving Club Secretary Roger Handley receives the Joe Cartlidge Shield from Sheffield League Chairman Bill Beckett. This award is given to the outstanding club member of the year. A popular figure in Sheffield cricketing circles Roger is still going strong and is as enthusiastic as ever.

Season 2009.

Congratulations to the following players for scoring centuries

1st XI	Zulfiqar	100
2 nd XI	Aslam	139
	Abdul	101
	Nazir	100

Averages

1st XI Batting Gary Birks 34.64

1st XI Bowling **Mark** Birks 29 wickets @ 7.79

2nd XI Batting Naheem Nazir 41.23

2nd XI Bowling Nabeel Abdul 23 wickets @ 6.78

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Season 2010

After playing cricket in the Sheffield Cricket league for over 70 years, the club have made the difficult decision to move to the Yorkshire & Derbyshire league with effect from next season. Dwindling numbers in the Sheffield League was one of the main factors in moving.

Both teams will now look forward to fresh challenges against different opponents on new grounds. New players are always warmly welcomed either new to the game or players who haven't played for a while and would like to start again. Cricket nets will be held in March/April 2010 please contact club secretary Roger Handley on 0114 265 7825



Totley Sports C.C. members with trophies collected at the Annual Presentation evening on Friday 27th October.

The club are holding a Xmas raffle to be drawn on Saturday 19th December, anyone willing to donate a raffle prize or who would like to purchase raffle tickets please contact Roger.

Invitations are extended to any individual or company who would like to sponsor the cricket team, either in full or in part please contact Roger.

Centenary celebrations due in 2011 look out for further details, memorabilia welcomed

TOTLEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL 1927

I like the 1927 picture from All Saints which was in a previous edition of the last Totley Independent. It includes my second sister Muriel who went to Dronfield Grammar School. Some of the children are easy to identify as family friends, others have unmistakable family "maps". I hope that you are able to get all of them.

Bill Glossop *Ed – a fantastic effort Bill, can anyone complete the line-up?*



From the back, left to right

G Steer Hedley Johnson L Coates L Taylor A Green P? Dawson G Loukes ?? T Ibbotson Geoff Salt K Turner R Barber E Otter

Muriel Glossop Gladys Taylor Esther Pearson ?? Marstone Wise M Barber A Pearson M Rowden Winnie Wortley D Burgess F Green M Roberts May Lees M Green Kathleen Wall

Joyce Henderson Barbara Simpson A Barber J Kelshaw P Whiteman Ruby Mather ? Dexter John Mason J Adams F Otter D Booth Charlie Truswell

E? Street M Wrigglesworth A Drury A Sykes Bill Hinman Vic Crookes J Burgess Doug Bishop

Totley Open Gardens



Kate Reynolds (right) presenting a cheque for £2,000 to Wendy Trotter (left) of Transport 17. This was the proceeds of the Totley Open Gardens event held on 11th and 12th July 2009.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH TOTLEY CHRISTMAS

5th December, Carols, Coffee and Candlelight, 7pm in the Church Hall.

20th December, Children's Nativity Service, 10am, Carol Service, Sunday, 6.30pm.

24th December, Christmas Eve Crib Service 4.30pm

25th December, Christmas Day Family Service 9.30am
Now that it is winter and we have dark nights evening services will be held at 4.30pm.

ALL WELCOME.

DORE AND TOTLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TOTLEY BROOK ROAD

The Minister and congregation invite you to celebrate Christmas with them

SUNDAY 20th December 6.30pm
Carol Service conducted by the Ladies Group.

FRIDAY 25th December CHRISTMAS DAY 10am
Family Service conducted by the Minister the Rev. Shirley Knibbs

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL

DIARY 1940

A little while ago I wrote about finding some of my school documents in a chest in the loft. At the same time I also found some diaries from my last school year 1938/9 to 1942. After delving into these I have much more respect for academic historians ploughing through aged documents trying to throw more light on past events. I have to say my daily records are mostly very boring. In fact the diaries themselves are of more interest than what I wrote in them. They are hard back foolscap in size, three days to a page. The first one was from Timothy Whites and Taylor but the others from Boots. All are of similar style but the earlier ones contain more period advertisements. I think they cost 6d (old pence) a sizeable part of my weekly wage of £1 when I started work in the laboratory at Hadfields in Tinsley.

At the time I lived with my parents in Mexborough. The house was on a hillside with the kitchen door facing south east towards Sheffield. As I write this we are approaching the anniversary of the "Blitz" on Sheffield so I decided to look at what I wrote at the time.

On Thursday 12th December 1940 I noted that my cycle free wheel was 'free wheeling' both ways so I had to change to a fixed gear. In those days I usually cycled the nine miles to work, and home again, on a second-hand single gear machine - not the 18 gears so common these days. Are the 18 gears ever used? I also noted the chain kept 'coming off' and decided the links must be worn. I didn't record how greasy and dirty my hands must have been.

After I got home the "sirens sounded 7.10. Immediately wave after wave of planes, gunfire and bombs - at last Sheffield is raided. Couldn't see fires or gunfire on account of ground fog. Otherwise bright moonlight night."

So I, as a nineteen year old, heard but did not experience, the destruction of Sheffield city centre. On Friday 13th I apparently did not use my bike because of the free wheel and chain trouble. My mode of travel to work was a single deck trolley bus from Mexborough to Rotherham and a double deck tram car from Rotherham. My diary extract for that day reads. 'All clear at 4.30, this morning. Bed for a couple of hours and then to work on the bus. Arrived 10.30 on account of fog. No trams or trains to Sheffield, only to Templeborough. Went up to City at dinner time on borrowed bicycle. Terrible mess, Moor and centre of city absolutely down to ground. Wicker terribly battered, bomb having passed clean through Wicker Arches Trams and buses littered all over. Fires still bunting. Must be fairly heavy casualties as lot of shelters are under big shops in centre of city" Then back to life at home. "Night school" (I think a German class!). "Dad and mother to pictures" (cinema). "Time bombs going off all day. Can't get gas at work as gas works hit".

On the Saturday morning to work again by trolley bus and tram. "Time bombs going off again." Apparently at night I fetched a bucket of coal from a miner uncle as "our coal man had let us down" My record of Sunday 15th is short. "First daylight warning today 1.10 - 1.20 Don't know the cause. Terrific raid on Tinsley 6.50 to 10.20. Terrific row and trembles shook the house. Sat in cellar. Very surprised when it stopped and couldn't account for it. Mother very frightened."

To me as an outside spectator, the record for Monday the 16th is more interesting. "Work. German planes apparently shot down last night and crews at large. Stopped three times on bus on way to work for identity cards. Woodman, Wentworth Rd. and Rawmarsh church. Trams only as far as Templeborough again. Part of Tinsley main road impassable in morning owing to unexploded landmine. Gas works received a hit on a machine shop. Most of works in Sheffield shut down today. Far more profitable raid from enemy point of view than Thursday. No gas at work. Had to improvise electric

plates with Sulphur Furnaces, elements from electric fires etc. Time bombs going off throughout the day."

I think, looking back after nearly 70 years, these extracts illustrate how little I and my parents were affected at the time, in total contrast to many families throughout the country. Food rationing, blackout, travel restrictions, shortage of most everyday items didn't seem so bad, largely for two main reasons. The first is that everyone we knew was "in the same boat" and second, in spite of strict news censorship, we were well aware of the intense and prolonged suffering of many families.

Don Ashford

Green's Cottage

The article titled "Green's Cottage" in the November edition, mentions three families living there in 1893.

Amy Ward was my great-great-grandmother, who was 'Amy Fox', from Eyam, before she was married having previously lived down Tootley Hall Lane. George Ward, living two doors away was her son and my great-grandfather's brother, (she had nine sons and one daughter).

They are shown as living there in the 1891 census.

Also in the 1891 census were eleven houses referred to as 'New Row'. Where were these houses I wonder? Brian Ward, Hathersage.

Draw those Curtains

There could be reasons for leaving the curtains open on dark winter nights, but economy and conserving energy are not among them. A great deal of heat is lost through the windows of a house, even if they are double glazed. Better to draw them and save both on energy bills and in heat loss. Every little helps.

Women Drivers!

A woman drove her people carrier filled with a dozen screaming kids through the car park looking for a space. Obviously frazzled, she coasted through a stop sign. "Hey missis, have you forgotten how to stop?" yelled an irate man. She rolled down a window and said, "What makes you think these are all mine?!"

TR

PUZZLE CORNER

Solution to A Christmas Quiz

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. Snowman | 8. Gold | 15. Ghost |
| 2. Excitement | 9. Reindeer | 16. Skating |
| 3. Archangel | 10. Envelopes | 17. Theatre |
| 4. Santa | 11. Ebenezer | 18. Owl |
| 5. Oranges | 12. Twelve | 19. Almond |
| 6. Noel | 13. Icing | 20. Lights |
| 7. Sleigh | 14. Numismatist | 21. Log |
- Don Ashford

Cottage Cheese Van

I was delighted to see the excellent photograph of the above provided by Jim Martin. I thought that either he or his sister might come good. Also, I would like to thank Jim or whoever put me a smaller version through my letterbox, fond memories.

Further to old photos I have one and intend to find it of the old garage situated in front of the then stables belonging to the Cross Scythes.

Belonging to the garage was a petrol pump, hand operated, by a young school leaver, Cliff Dronfield, as I recollect. The interesting bit by far is Cleveland Disc Oil at 11.5d (nearly 5p new money) per gallon or what would now be 20 gallons for £1, happy days!!

Still in old photos the house pictured on page 11, issue 328, was occupied by Mrs Flowerday and her daughter Dr Marjorie Flowerday at least until 1960. I used to call on them every 2 weeks for years.

Keep the photos coming in.

J W Abson

If you have any photos you would like to share of Totley in times gone by, please pop along to the Dore Village Society office at the rear of Dore Old School on Saturday 5th December 10am - 12 noon.

November's Independent

Did you notice a problem in last month's *Independent*? A very small number of copies of last month's issue had pages 5, 6, 19 & 20 missing with pages 3, 4, 21 & 22 duplicated. If your copy was affected and you would like a replacement please contact John Perkinson, details on back cover.

We would like to apologise for this error.

Totley Christmas Party and Ceilidh



TOTLEY CHRISTMAS PARTY

All Saints Church Hall, Totley Hall Lane

Saturday, 12th December

7.30pm - 10.30pm

Featuring Ceilidh, Ails and Graces Barn Dance Band and The First Totley Mimmers Play

RAFFLE * MINCE PIES * FAMILY FUN
BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE

TICKETS: £3.50 or £3.00 (concessions) in advance available from:
Sally Goldsmith 07790 637016 goldsally@gmail.com
Ian Clarke 235 2526 ianclarke@hotmail.com

Proceeds to Totley History Group for recording equipment

Live Nativity Plays

with the Animals & Father Christmas
12th - 24th December 2009



Totley Hall Farm
0114 2364761



Live Nativity Plays

The Event

A very special and magical start to your christmas celebrations as you visit the authentic manger setting in the barn at Totley Hall Farm where our live nativity plays will be happening. The children will love dressing up and joining in together with the new born lambs, 'Spirit' the donkey and 'Rosie' our new calf, as we bring to life the events surrounding the arrival of the baby Jesus. Be sure to bring your camera as this will truly be a memorable experience. You can see pictures of last years events if you visit our website at www.totleychristmasfestivals.co.uk

The Schedule

- On arrival all children (and adults too if they wish !) are encouraged to choose a part and dress up in one of our many costumes.
- Actors and animals are guided to join in at the appropriate times as the nativity story is unfolded
- The audience can join in with the carol singing
- Refreshments served: mulled wine & mince pies for all adults, squash & christmas biscuits for each child. Tea and coffee also available.
- Children and parents visit and chat to Santa in his grotto as he gives out presents to the children.
- Plenty of time to hold the lambs and ride on the donkey.

The Facilities

- Newly constructed integral, high quality toilet block with disabled and baby changing facilities
- Tiered seating giving good viewing of the play
- Parking area adjacent to the barn, with level access
- Wheelchair access
- Sheffield City Council licensed & fire authority approved
- Fully risk assessed and insured



Totley Townswomen's Guild

To remind us of warmer days – Coffee Morning held in August at the home of Mrs. Rita Farnery.



The Timing

- Please do not arrive more than 15 minutes before the performance starts.
- The whole event lasts about 1 1/2 hours, the first 45 minutes being the nativity play. This is held in the barn so please wear warm clothes

How To Book

- You can use our credit card hotline on 0114 236 4761. There is a £1 charge for this service
 - Alternatively fill in the booking form overleaf or a downloaded form from our website.
- Enclose a cheque payable to J.E.Pocock and post to Totley Christmas Festivals, Totley Hall Farm, Totley Hall Lane, Sheffield, S17 4AA.
- Enclose a Stamped Addressed Envelope - we will post your tickets to you.
- If you would like to make a group booking (for a minimum of 30 and maximum of 70 people) at any alternative time to those listed overleaf, please contact us to discuss your requirements.
 - If you would like to arrange a group visit just to perform the nativity play with/without refreshments/ Father Christmas please ring and ask for our special price/option form.
 - Tickets are not transferable and we regret that refunds cannot be made.

2009 Booking Form

Teachers and Group Leaders - please note we can put on performances for groups of 30 to 70 from 9.30 am to 6.30 pm daily from Nov. 18th.
Ring for details of options and charges

To: Totley Christmas Festivals.
Please send tickets for:

....no. of adults @£9.80 =
(price includes mulled wine and mince pies for adults)

....no. of children @£9.80 =
(3-16)

....no. of children @£4.80 =
(aged 2 and under)

(prices include a good quality, age appropriate present, drink and christmas biscuit for each child)

TOTAL =

Please tick first and second choice dates.

Sat 12th Dec	10.30	1.30	4.30	
Mon 14th Dec				
Tue 15th Dec				
Wed 16th Dec			4.30	
Thur 17th Dec			4.30	
Fri 18th Dec			4.30	
Sat 19th Dec	10.30	1.30	4.30	6.30
Mon 21st Dec		1.30	4.30	
Tue 22nd Dec		1.30	4.30	
Wed 23rd Dec		1.30	4.30	6.30
Thur 24th Dec	10.30	1.30	4.30	

Name.....

Address.....

Post Code.....

Tel. No.....

Names of children:

Name.....

Age.....Boy/Girl

Names of children:

Name.....

Age.....Boy/Girl

Names of children:

Name.....

Age.....Boy/Girl



GARDENING TIPS FOR DECEMBER / JANUARY

It's raining again. I have not been able to get into the garden for a few days, this retirement game is very time consuming I must get cracking soon or I will not be able to catch up with leaf clearing ,pruning , paver levelling (all the things I remind you to do) I will have to practice what I preach .

I hope you have sent your notes off to Father Christmas and that you have asked for something sensible like a shredding machine or a ride on mower or a daisy grubber they are much better than a train set or a Barbie doll. I hope you are making plans for next season in the garden bearing in mind that the Totley Show is on the 18th. of September plenty of time to finish your knitting , tapestry , artwork etc and polishing up your cooking skills, and preparing the vegetable plot and flower beds to give us a good show on the day , it's not long in gardening terms so get cracking. The onion seeds should be planted in the warm on boxing day or as near as hangovers will allow, this gives them plenty of time to grow into those wonderful beauties that we saw at the last show ,leeks can be put in about a month later , if you don't have a heated greenhouse or cold frame you will have to wait for the warmer weather and go for quality rather than size, I have known smaller size win over the whoppers when the quality and matching is superb .

There is always something to do in the garden at this time ,but the weather can make things a bit miserable you can cheer yourselves up by looking through those lovely catalogues and gardening books, dreaming about those lovely flower beds you are planning and looking forward to spring which as they say is just around the corner .

Have a nice rest over the holiday period and gird up your loins ready for another good gardening year.

A happy and joyous Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year to you all.

FLOWERS Check over dahlia tubers to ensure they are not rotting or drying up too much. Give them a dusting of flowers of sulphur after cutting out any suspect parts. Break away the dead foliage from gladioli corms prior to storing them away ready for planting out next spring. Begonia tubers should be checked to see that they are still healthy. Winter flowering iris (IRIS UNGUICULARIS with pale lilac flowers should now be coming into bloom. Not only does this plant give a bit of welcome colour in the garden but also supplies superb flowers for indoor decoration, provided they are cut when in bud. This iris flourishes best if planted close to a south-facing wall and then left to fend for itself, so you get splendid results for very little effort. When the soil has dried out (we hope) dig over any new beds, add a bit of bone meal or well rotted compost (or both) leave the ground roughly dug so that old Jack Frost can do his stuff on the nasties. Cover cold frames which are over wintering plants with insulating material to protect from frost. Take root cuttings of phlox, verbascum and oriental poppies and root in containers placed indoors or under a frame. During any mild spells, perennials such as lupins and michaelmas daisy can be planted out. Pot up Lilies and place in a frame ready to set out in the spring. December is the last chance to plant out late tulips, also plant out alpines and rock plants, and choose a mild day. Firm in any plants, which have been moved by frost or wind. Prune roses down to about half way, this makes the beds look tidier and does not harm the plants it also helps to reduce the plants rocking in the wind, they can be pruned fully in April.

VEGETABLES The thing to think about is to work with nature rather than against her. So keep off your garden in wet conditions. Do however; press on with winter digging whenever conditions are favourable. It's also a good time to apply Lime, if this is needed, ground chalk or Limestone. Buy your seed potatoes early when there is plenty of choice and set the tubers to chit (sprout) in light frost free conditions. Remove yellowing leaves from brassicas; check over stored root crops for possible rotting. Prepare runner bean trench. If you are going to put onions in the "Totley Show", sow seeds on Boxing Day for the show, sow Kelseo or Robinsons mammoth, for the kitchen, Ailsa Craig or wait a bit later for the kitchen variety and put in onion sets turbo or sturon are good ones. Lift a few roots of mint, place them in a deep box of old

compost, and put them in a frame or greenhouse to give shoots for early picking.

Prepare the onion bed as soon as weather permits, dig in plenty of manure or well rotted compost deeply. Spread bonfire ash liberally over the top also bonemeal and hoof and horn meal each at the rate of 4ozs (104g) per sq. yd (mtr). Clear away any finished crops and prepare ground as above.

TREES SHRUBS and FRUIT Now that deciduous species have lost their leaves you can check over the trees and bushes for dead or weak branches which need to be removed. Evergreens can also be pruned. You could use the prunings for Christmas decorations. Check all trees and shrubs for wind rock damage, also all stakes and supports have not worked loose and that ties have not become too tight around the stems. Spray trees and shrubs and especially fruit trees and bushes with winter tar oil wash; choose a fine calm day to avoid spray drifting. Complete the pruning of apples and pears, paint cut branches with arbrex or similar to prevent ingress of woolly aphids and disease. Raspberries are difficult to weed by hand you could try selective weed killer, it's very slow at this time but very effective. All fruit bushes will benefit from an early application of high potash fertiliser followed in the spring by an application of general fertiliser such as Growmore. Firm in any newly planted stock. Inspect all grease bands and replace if necessary. Give evergreen trees a shake if they are covered with snow especially newly planted ones. Wrap up warm any vulnerable plants like azalea, rhododendrons with fine mesh netting or straw.

GREENHOUSE and INDOOR PLANTS Water sparingly and ensure plants in flower are kept moist and away from hot fires and radiators, increase humidity round indoor azaleas, cyclamens and winter cherries by standing on wet pebbles. Use insecticide pins to control aphids and whitefly

Paint patches of scale and mealy bug with fentricide or methylated spirits. Light is very important in the greenhouse now, glass should be washed particularly on the outside to remove residue of shading and grime. Vines under glass should be pruned. All side growths or laterals are cut back to two buds.

Fuchsia are now dormant need to be inspected and not allowed to dry out keep them just slightly moist. Cut back old geranium plants, shortening the growth to a joint or a bud 6 to 9 inches above the pots. Then re pot the plants shaking all the soil from the roots and repotting in the smallest pots into which the roots

The Talk Of Totley

As most of you will be aware this time of year is a very busy time for myself and my colleagues within the Sharrow and South West Sheffield safer Neighbourhood team. In line with our Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings and listening to what our community had to say, we have continued our efforts to tackle youth nuisance and various levels of Anti social behaviour. Extra patrols in the local area have proven very effective in identifying and reducing this type of behaviour. This has gone hand in hand with continued support from our local community and early feedback suggests that our efforts have been more than evident. To give you a flavour as to what happens when youths are "spoken" to by Police staff under Anti social behaviour conditions I can explain that names are taken and contact made with parents. This is usually under the guise of a Parental Advisory letter (PAL) which details the full circumstances surround the reported incident. This is effectively a means of letting parents know what their kids are up to and in most cases actually stops any further incidents. In the event that misbehaviour continues and youths are spoken to again under similar conditions then further contact is made with parents and often an actual visit is arranged. During the period of "Bonfire week" our team spoke with over 50 youths which have resulted in excess of 20 "PAL" letters being sent out. Also a number of youth were arrested for various offenses mostly of an Anti Social nature. I am certain that this type of positive action directly led to the drop in misbehaviour reports. But this type of intervention is only effective once reports have been made and for some time now The Policing team have been trying to set up various schemes to divert youths away from trouble. One such scheme a Youth Club for Dore and Totley aimed at the ages 14 to 19 is currently being pursued with vigour. This project is fully supported by Youth activity Providers, by local businesses and of course by the Police. It is hoped that it will be up and running in the near future.

I all too often hear the phrase "but we have nothing to do and no where to go" from the youths I speak to. If this Youth club takes off then its impact on our area should be enormous. Youths will have somewhere to go, where they feel like they belong and where they can engage in activities much removed from hanging about on street corners.

In addition to the above the team were also busy over the "Bonfire period". We were involved in visiting shop premises to target under age sale of both Alcohol and Fireworks. We were involved in a number of arrests for various offenses ranging from Burglary to Cultivate Cannabis.

Most of this information is already available on our web site to be found at <http://tinyurl.com/ybaxs3n>. This web site is updated daily and is a valuable source of information about our team and its activities. The Web page also includes regular updates on our monthly PACT meetings. These are monthly meetings held usually at St Johns Church Hall, Abbeydale Road where the Police sit and listen to our communities to discuss local worries and concerns. The meeting then decides on what will be our monthly Policing Priorities. I would urge anyone who wishes to attend these meetings do so that their voice can be heard.

Of course if anyone wishes to contact me then they can do via telephone on 0114 296 3681 or via e mail mark.wadsworth@southyorks.pnn.police.uk

PC Mark Wadsworth, Totley Beat Manager

The next PACT Meetings will be on 4th December and 8th January at St John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road 6pm

Coop Refurb

The Co-op food store on Baslow Road has been completely refurbished during November. The work, at a cost of £170,000 is in line with their £100m re-branding programme of all 4,200 Co-op outlets.

Gardening continued from page 12

can be placed. Clean up inside the greenhouse; clean all pots and trays ready for seed planting. Make preparations for taking chrysanthemum cuttings. Give freesias, which are coming into bloom a little weak liquid manure. Cyclamen seedlings should be potted on into 3 or 3½ inch pots. Remove flowers from azaleas as soon as they commence to fade and before seeds start to form. After your pots of daffodils and hyacinths finished flowering allow them to continue growing until the leaves die down. If you have been troubled by vine weevil (a little creamy white grub which eats plant roots) treat all pots in the greenhouse with PRAVADO it will also control other insects such as whitefly, greenfly etc.

LAWNS As usual at this time keep it clean, tidy and keep off during frosty weather.

GENERAL Nothing to stop you altering paths, painting garden furniture, cleaning pots, mending tools, taking mowers etc for sharpening (it's cheaper just now) Recovering the shed roof, making a new compost heap, don't just sit there get cracking! ! Well that's it for this year. I hope you have a lovely Christmas and a really great gardening New Year. Cheerio for now.

TOM

Totley History Group

Share Your Photos

Bring along your Totley & district photos and we scan them there and then and ask you a few details about them. You can take your precious photos away with you.

We'd then like to use the photos in the community magazines, websites and exhibitions. The photos should be of interest to the local community – your holiday snaps won't be of any interest to anyone except you!

Even seemingly hopeless cases of ripped or worn material would be worth bringing along. So please look through your old photos & bring them along.

Contact: Ian Clarke 235 2526
email iangclarke@hotmail.com



**Dore Village Society
Room**

Dore Old School

Saturday 5th

December

10am – 12 noon

THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL by Jo Rundle

Part 2

I remember the day in 1920 when I was five years old when I first put on my special new white dress. It was all needlework and broderie anglaise from neck to hem, little flower sprays scattered about, the groups getting larger as they reached the scalloped hem. It had a short bolero made entirely of needlework to match the dress, fastening at the sides with bows of blue ribbon. Under it I wore a needlework skirt to match, a petticoat of flannel, a wool vest, and my 'corset'. A pair of long-legged cotton knickers with four inch deep needlework frills on each leg came down to my knees and put the finishing touch to my ensemble. I was truly grand!

We went to Chapel on Whit Sunday morning, but instead of the usual Sunday School we practised the hymns that would be sung around the village next day and in the afternoon there was the usual children's service when the adults and soloists joined us for practice. On Whit Monday we all met at the chapel after dinner, when we were formed into a 'crocodile', two by two, ready to walk around the village, led by the 'Banner' held high by one of the men (In 1904 my Grandfather Edward Abraham Salt had the honour, see photograph outside Grove House). We stopped to sing at various vantage points, Grove House usually being the first, then up through the village and up the main road to Lane Head. The singers stood in a half circle opposite the row of cottages, the children in front where they could be seen, with everybody raising their voices in resounding notes of rejoicing on this day of celebration. We were quite safe in the middle of the road as cars were very few and far between in the 20s.

At the end of the recital the collecting bags were taken round by Jim Green and one or two of the other adult members, whilst Mr. Elliot, the Superintendent, diplomatically talked to the parents and those who had been watching and listening. This was the opportunity for us children from Lane Head to nip into the house and grab a piece of cake or a bun as a 'putting off' until teatime.

The last stop was on the lawn at Totley Hall, where we sang a selection of hymns from our repertoire for Mr. and Mrs. Milner who came out and met the Superintendent very graciously, whilst the servants peeped out from the front windows and Mr. Lewis, the Head Gardener, who was always on hand at such times, listened in the background. After this final performance we were allowed to play around the gardens and visit the large glasshouses for about half-an-hour whilst the officials politely talked to our hosts, and, no doubt, picked up a nice little monetary gift as well. Then it was back to Chapel where tea was provided, and games in Uncle Joe's Woodthorpe Hall Farm fields below Rowan Tree Dell, (now part of the Green Oak, Aldam Estate).

The Anniversary Sermons were one of the most important occasions in the Chapel year. Tiers of open seating were erected on the platform at the side and behind the pulpit, and the sliding screens dividing the two sections of the room were drawn back creating one large area for the audience. The highest tier of the seating was about three feet from the ceiling and the youngest children had to climb up and sit on the top row, legs dangling in mid-air. I dreaded the climb; every time I lifted a leg to the next row I felt myself falling through the gap in between, seeing myself sprawled on the floor beneath. I was terrified when I had to get up and sing, feeling the pull of that space on my legs, and when I had to sing a solo verse it was a miracle that any sound came out at all. I longed for the day when I was old enough to sit on one of the lower rows of seats. It was considered an honour to be chosen to sing a solo verse from one of the hymns, one which came my way only twice. I remember how nervous I was in case my voice didn't come out of my mouth as I knew that Gertie Trusswell had a better voice than mine, and she was to sing a verse too. I kept calm as my Father had told me; opened my mouth and let my voice rip. It was wonderful; I liked showing off! This was, as you might guess another occasion for white dresses with all the accompanying accessories. Emily Green did a roaring trade in white socks and ribbons. Shoes were 'Blanched' as white as driven snow, for they could be seen very clearly

between the white dresses on the row below, and white ribbon bows like a host of butterflies winged their way around the heads of the little angels on the top row. All the villagers attended Chapel for the Sermons, including the old couple who drove from Totley Rise in a Brougham pulled by a small bay pony, which was left tethered outside in the chapel yard.

The next event was the Harvest Festival, which everybody in the village looked forward to, not least the children. Pyramids of potatoes scrubbed clean as new pins, celery, beans, tomatoes, marrows and peas, piles of home-grown apples, red, green and russet, oranges and lemons, plums, gooseberries, raspberries and bananas. Leeks competed with flowers of every hue, and, framing the whole display, two giant sheaves of corn fashioned into fan shapes of fat golden ears of grain by a generous farmer.

The biggest attraction for the children was, without doubt, the 'Pomegranates'. On Monday night all the produce was sold by auction for chapel funds, or charity, I never knew, nor was interested enough to find out at the time. Every child went with at least one penny, and sweets were forfeited on Saturday that week in order to save a penny for the Harvest Festival sale. Patiently we all waited until everything but the pomegranates were auctioned, and then there were shouts as the first fruit was held high. Cries of "I want one", "Give me one", "Save one for me", rang out as never a hymn had done in the whole of the harvest service. Eager arms were held aloft, pennies thrust forward, as feet climbed on to seats for better vantage points. It was no holds barred, anything was allowed in the name of 'Pomegranate'. Pennies were thrust into the auctioneer's hands, and the luscious fruit grabbed in grateful thanksgiving; then the pins came out. As Fathers and Mothers produced knives to cut the delectable morsels in two, one by one the succulent seeds were extracted by the point of a pin, chewed to extract every drop of delicious juice, and mouthfuls of pips were spit out as we happily trudged our way home. Such happiness was rare indeed!

As the year neared its end Christmas was the next time of rejoicing, as in all churches, but, before Christmas, about the middle of November, it was the time to start practising for the annual concert. Casting was completed about six weeks before the time of performance, items ranging from songs and duets, recitations, short plays, or whatever the performer might be best at. Rehearsals were held once a week until the last week when two or three were held as necessary, and, of course, the dress-rehearsal that was held the night before the concert. For the first

from page 14 two or three years, because I was so young with very fair hair, I was always a fairy, until I was old enough to be the fairyqueen in a play called 'Discontented Peggy and the way she was cured'. Dressed in a white 'tutu' I boasted a splendid pair of wings and a magic wand with a beautiful shining star on the top, which eventually transformed Peggy into the good girl she was from then on. I had few words to say, something like "I am the Fairy Queen", a statement so obvious that it was difficult to go wrong, but enough to raise my prestige to the glittering heights of imagination. I never sang on a concert, although Great Aunt Alice Salt was heard to say I had a "Nice little voice". I doubt whether I would ever have been successful as a Primma Donna. But, Gertie Truswell of Summer Lane, did have a good voice, powerful enough to sing 'One alone' from 'The Desert Song', with someone else dressed as the 'Sheikh of Araby'. I disliked the song intensely, and still do, but it went down well on the night.

As I grew older my 'Forte' was more in acting, and I usually had a part in whatever play was included. The most successful, and the most hilarious was a thirty minute sketch called 'Washing Day'. It was written for two people, Sally Slops, and Jane Binks, a wash-day scene that told the tale of a pair of socks belonging to Jane Binks. Mrs Binks was a wealthy lady whose washing was done each week by Sally Slops. She was fashionably dressed for the play in a long black silk dress, a feather boa around her neck, and a huge black hat with flowers around the brim. Louie Smith was Jane Binks. As Sally Slops, my skirts were also long, or would have been had they not been scraped up and pushed through my apron strings showing the old decrepit boots I had on my feet. I was unkempt, hair untidy, sleeves rolled up, and generally looking like the old washerwoman I was supposed to be. The 'Props' were a zinc 'Peggy-tub' and 'Peggy-legs' borrowed from my Mother, and a few clothes strewn around the floor, which were washed during the play. The action was brisk, opening in the middle of a hot argument about an offending pair of missing socks. Words flew backwards and forwards fast and furious, in rapid succession towards the climax. Louder and louder came the abuse, one trying to be dignified, the other not caring a toss for protocol, until, near the end, when the socks were eventually found, I had to shout "Get out or I'll chuck a can o' watter o'er you". Can in hand I dipped it into the tub, pulled it out full of soapy water, and, in my excitement and enthusiasm for authenticity, let fly. Louie was drenched, and the stage was deep in suds; not what had been rehearsed, but the uproar that followed was well worth it. To make matters worse, I had worked up a good imitation of rage only given vent to by vigorous twisting and ponching of the 'peggy legs', every splosh downwards splashing even more water around the stage, then, in the middle of the splashing, as if giving credence to the performance, a cry came from the audience "Sithee, she can use 'em an all", meaning of course the 'peggy-legs'.

There were one or two experienced and more professional performers and one popular attraction was the 'Male Voice Quartet'. who were the backbone of the concert. One of the quartet was Everard Bowley, a Supervisor for the Parish Council Highways who lived in Hillfoot Road just above the Crown Inn. Another was Ernest Ward, son of Harry Ward who lived on the bank above Chapel walk, (now for some reason called Chapel Lane). Sadly Ernest, husband of Doris Turner from Green oak, and Father of 4yr-old

Hilda, died suddenly at great loss to the Chapel. And one very professional performer was Marjorie daughter of the Superintendent, Earnest Elliot, who had elocution lessons, and gave some profound performances of well known poems. My Father was particularly keen on poetry and tried to persuade us all to learn a poem for the concert from his book 'A Thousand and one Gems of Poetry'. Elijah opted out, emphatically refusing. Jeff and I learned one, but only half-heartedly, eventually dropping out of the contest. Then Dad made an offer, sixpence for anyone who did recite. This was the incentive for Geoff who couldn't resist, and he entered into the task with vigour. On the night of the concert he was word perfect in his rendering of 'The Sweep', a pathetic tale of a little boy who was forced to climb chimneys with a brush to clear the soot. Geoff was very serious in his interpretation, the sixpence shone out brightly as his reward, as he duly appeared on stage recounting the sorry tale of the poor little Chimney-sweep.. Dad was a very proud man!

Adult Learning Champions for Totley and beyond

Good News!!

Totley Residents Association has been successful in winning a bid from the Lifelong Learning and Skills Service (which sits in the Children and Young People's Directorate of Sheffield City Council) for two Learning Champions.

What this means is that two people from Totley Residents Association will become Learning Champions for the south-west Community Assembly Area (which covers Totley, Dore, Bradway, Fulwood, Ecclesall, Crookes, Crosspool and Millhouses), with a brief to inform people about the opportunities for adult learning in their area.

The two champions will not be paid a penny, so will do this in a voluntary capacity, but – and this is the good news for Totley! – the Totley Residents Association, which will 'host' (i.e. be responsible for) them, will earn £3,400. This will be a help towards the TRA's aims of one day getting a community centre for Totley.

Each champion has to make contact with 200 people in the Community Assembly area, and this will be done through meetings, personal contact, or by post, phone or email.

The project lasts only until March 2010.

Since the TRA heard about this money one day in October, and the application for the project had to be in by the next day it was all done very quickly and we did not have a chance to go out to ask people through the Totley Independent or by personal contact if anyone wanted to be the champions. Therefore, two TRA committee members volunteered for this and they are Jennifer Burns and Jennie Street. So if you are interested in any adult learning opportunities at all, help the TRA to hit the 400-people target, and contact one of them:-

Jennifer Burns Tel: 235-0071

Email: jburnstotley@supanet.com

Jennie Street Tel: 236-2302

Email: jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk

Avril Critchley, as Chair of the TRA, is the responsible person for supervising the two Champions, and she can be contacted on:

Tel. 236-1568 Email: avril.critchley@btopenworld.com

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Wednesday 23rd December	express24
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Thursday 10th December	Japan, USA, Canada and Eastern Europe
Friday 11th December	Western Europe
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Thursday 1st October	All non-European destinations except Canada, Far East, Middle East, Hong Kong, South Africa and the USA
Tuesday 6th October	Far East (except Hong Kong and Singapore) and Middle East
Tuesday 20th October	Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Africa and the USA
Tuesday 10th November	Eastern Europe, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Malta and Iceland
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Horses at Totley

There have been several departures and arrivals of horses at Totley Bents since I last reported to the Independent a year ago.

Herbie, the powerful pie-bald horse, has moved on to better grazing, a great loss as he became my favourite when Lara left. Herbie is a great character and always assumes a position of authority. Teresa tells me that there is a chance that Herbie may eventually return to Totley Bents. Lara incidentally is in good hands and is winning trophies at riding events.

Unfortunately Gus, the elegant brown horse, died suddenly in the summer at the age of 10 when sharing a field with Punch at Linda's farm. The cause of death was never established.

Daniel, a brown horse, left for pastures new earlier in the year. Merlin, Debbie's Shetland pony, has returned to the area to graze at present. in a field on Penny Lane.

I was very sorry to hear last weekend from Teresa that Milly has been sold. She has gone to a lady at Maltby who will ride her and love her to bits. Milly, age 4, is Lara's half-sister and the last link with Anna the mare who herself left some time ago. Milly is beautiful and will be greatly missed by all at Totley Bents. Milly was born in July 2005 and was very ill early on in her life but, thanks to the vet, she recovered and is now a healthy young filly.

Dexter, a small brown grey-flecked horse, spent most of the year at Totley Bents but has recently returned to

his owner.

Other newcomers include ponies Sunny and Olly, Breeze, a brown pony, Max and Banjo 2 piebald horses known as Herbie juniors and George, a tall brown horse. I do not feed Olly and Breeze as they become excited and prone to illness.

As I approach Penny Lane Aran, the sturdy white gelding age 13 and Caprice, a brown filly, are waiting together with Sunny for a share of the carrots and apples. Aran has since been moved to the field adjacent to Baslow Road. Next in the rota is Merlin, the Shetland pony, in a field on his own. At the stables adjacent to the Cricket Inn Peggy, the powerful brown filly accepts a share of the fare. George stands in the jumping arena receiving beauty treatment from Teresa.

Linda's farm at the foot of Moss Road has been sold and the horses now occupy the fields at the other side on Strawberry Lee Lane. Here are to be found Punch, the veteran white gelding well into his forties and Max and Banjo the young piebald horses.

Finally at the field adjacent to Baslow Road wait a light coloured horse and a young brown horse who have as yet to be named. The young brown horse stands reticently in the background while the light coloured horse eagerly devours the fare. They have since been joined by Aran. Then it is back home after another rewarding visit.

Seasonal greetings to all readers.

Hugh Percival

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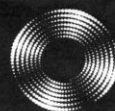
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TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

MONDAYS	COFFEE MORNING , All Saints' Church Hall, 10am-noon TAI-CHI , All Saints' Church Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm ANTE NATAL PILATES , United Reformed Church, 6.30-7.30pm, Phone Emer Coffee 07792 422909 RAINBOWS and GUIDES , All Saints' Church Hall, 5.45pm-9pm
TUESDAYS	COFFEE MORNING , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am-noon WOODSEATS ADVICE CENTRE , Drop in service, free, impartial, and confidential. TR 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
FRIDAYS	PILATES , The Old School, Dore, 10.45-11.45am. Phone Teresa Tinklin 235 0826
SATURDAYS	MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING , All Saints Church Hall 2 nd . And 4 th . Saturdays 8pm-10pm

DECEMBER 2009

TUE 1st BOB HALL AND HILARY BLYTHE, The Crown, Totley 8.30 pm
WED 2nd WARD FORUM, Totley Library, 7.30pm, full details page 5
WED 2nd WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, Carols by Candlelight with Curbar and District United Choir, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Church, 7.30pm
SAT 5th & SUN 6th VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS MARKET, Kelham Island Museum, 10am-7pm, Sun 5pm, £4 & concessions, further info 272 2106
SAT 5th SHARE YOUR PHOTO'S, full details page 13
SUN 6th CASTLETON FARMERS MARKET, the Village Hall, 10am-3pm
SUN 6th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES. SANTA SPECIAL, Abbeydale Road South, First train 11am-3.30pm (weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
TUE 8th FOLK AT THE FLEUR, Fleur de Lys, 8.30pm, all welcome
SAT 12th JOURNEY TO BETHLEHAM, 4.30-7.30pm, Totley Rise Methodist Church, free 30 minute tours, full details page 2
SAT 12th TOTLEY CHRISTMAS CEILIDH AND PARTY, All Saints Church Hall 7.30-10.30pm, full details page 10, All Welcome
SAT 12th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Trevor Allan, Heatherfield Club. 8.30pm. Members Chrstmas Party. Non-members welcome
SUN 13th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES. SANTA SPECIAL, Abbeydale Road South, First train 11am-3.30pm (weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
TUES 15th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Christmas Meeting, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am
THU 17th SHEFFIELD FARMERS MARKET, 9am-4.30pm, Barkers Pool
SAT 24th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Miss Ginny Marie, Heatherfield Club. 8.30pm. Come & play Bingo & Play Your Cards Right. Non-members welcome
THU 31st SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Dave Johns, Heatherfield Club. 8.30pm. New Years Eve. Non-members welcome

JANUARY 2010

SUN 3rd CASTLETON FARMERS MARKET, the Village Hall, 10am-3pm
SAT 9th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, John Howard, Heatherfield Club, 8.30pm. Come & play Bingo & Play Your Cards Right. Non-members welcome
TUE 12th FOLK AT THE FLEUR, Fleur de Lys, 8.30pm, all welcome

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT FOR FEBRUARY 2010

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

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