

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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DID YOU KNOW? The cottage in the photograph – taken by Stuart Greenhoff in the mid-1950's – on the front of the February issue of the Totley Independent was located in part of what is now the car park of The Crown on Hillfoot Road. It was known as 'Crown Inn Cottage' – living there at the time were Mrs Edith Unwin and Les and May Coates. Our photo shows Mrs Unwin. Electoral records show that Mrs Unwin was the only registered occupant on the role for 1966-67, but there is no mention of the cottage in subsequent records. The drawing by Brian Edwards shown above was on the front cover of issue 5 of the Independent in November 1977. Brian's text accompanying the drawing is reproduced, below.

HILLFOOT – DISAPPEARING HAMLET

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS AGO THERE WERE FIVE HOUSES, a farm, a corn mill and a pub at Hillfoot, which is the area around the bottom of Penny Lane. Two houses standing at the corner of the Lane and Hillfoot Road (opposite the cottage shown) vanished under the now-wooded tip of excavated material from the Totley Tunnel about 1888. A further house stood in the middle of Hillfoot Road near the Oldhay bridge (this ancient bridleway was then called Dore Road). Then another dwelling was a cottage shown here which stood on the corner below the Crown (or Dorothy Daltons as it was once called). The fifth one was the now-renovated and extended Rose Cottage, above the 'Crown'.

OPPOSITE the bottom of Penny Lane was a farm with a track continuing on from the lane, through the farmyard and on towards Totley Rise. When the tunnel was started, a small railway track ran through the site of the old farmyard carrying the excavated shale and rock to the Penny Lane tip.

Under this tip vanished a small area called Bentley which consisted of three fields between the lane and Oldhay.

A 1728 map shows these fields as Round (later Square) Bentley, Whin (later Gansey) Bentley and Nether (later Far) Bentley.

A lease of 1350 granted from 'Richard de Meygnill to Ralph le Barker of Dore and Joan his wife, lands in Totenley called Bentley; for their lives at eight shillings and six pence per annum; with haybot and common pasture'.

Haybot was the right to take wood from the area in order to fence the fields.

During 1578 in the reign of Elizabeth, 'Benteley' was still leased by the Barkers from the same family of landlords.

The Corn Mill known as Upper Mill was situated near the footbridge on the path leading across the fields between Hillfoot Road and Totley Brook. There was a large dam close by and sometime after 1830 the mill appears to have been used as a scythe mill. About 10 years later, the landlord John Gray Waterfall pulled down the buildings and erected a house called Totley Vale, close by. This is now known as Totley Grove. Only two of the earlier buildings now remain – the Crown Inn and Rose Cottage.

TWENTY PAGES IN THIS ISSUE

Totley Residents Association Update

As promised in the February Independent, TRA have kept in touch with Council Officer Andy Godson, Transport Planner, Transport and Highways on the progress of alternative sites for the 97 bus terminus.

A new site is being considered just past Lane Head Road.

If it were possible to use this area it would be a cheaper alternative and would mean shorter journey times for the buses. Highway safety and possible speed reductions would probably be required. Officers are still looking at the Broad Car site. It is still early days and there are many things to be taken into consideration before a decision is made.

The new bus shelters continue to give cause for concern.

Many residents have written or e-mailed South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive with their complaints.

A few have received a reply, others have had no response!

If I can explain, the shelters are the responsibility of the SYPTE, but their position on the pavements is decided by the Council.

I have received a letter from the SYPTE Infrastructure Co-ordinator, telling me the shelter at Baslow Road / Mickley Lane cannot have a side panel at the leading end because the pavement is too narrow. Perhaps this will change after alterations at the junction sometime in the future.

After long discussions and many phone calls it is my understanding the two shelters at either end of Marstone Crescent will be turned round.

I asked about the new shelter at Baslow Road / Glover Road which was requested several years ago. It has been ordered and will be erected when the gas work has been completed.

There is nothing to report about Green Oak Park. TRA Committee are looking forward to meeting Karen Wood, Community Partnerships Officer, Parks and Woodlands at their next meeting.

We are delighted to report that after re-organisation, PC's Mark Wadsworth and Dave Spencer are to remain in our area, but PCSO Mick Mason is moving to Barnsley.

The Casualty Reduction Unit have been checking vehicle speeds on Baslow Road recently.

The 101 Service will continue for at least another year. Money has been found for its continuation after the Home Office money ceases at the end of February.

The TRA AGM will be held on Monday 7th April in the Library at 7.30pm.

PLEASE make an effort to come and find out what has been happening in Totley during the last year.

There will be an opportunity to make suggestions for the future, especially in Green Oak Park.

May I remind you that anyone who lives or works in Totley is a member of the TRA.

The Committee are all Volunteers who give their time freely to try and make a difference in our Community.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

Avril Critchley
Chairman TRA

Totley History Group

This group met again on the evening of 13th February at Totley Library. Avril Critchley and Marlene Marshall hosted the evening which 24 people attended. They heard an excellent talk by Maureen Cope from the Dore Oral History Group on how and why they established the group, what they have achieved as well as sharing some of the lessons and things to consider if we are to establish Totley Oral History Group. There was a lot of enthusiasm for this as it could provide a wealth of information that is generally not known or recorded anywhere. Of course, the group will need some funding to buy recording equipment and to be trained in interview and recording techniques but we will endeavour to find a funding source to support this work. If you know anyone who would be willing to speak to us about his or her memories then please let us know.

At the next meeting we will be deciding which specific areas of interest we will concentrate on and establishing small working parties to undertake the work. Suggested areas so far include: flax making, file making, the mills of Old Hay Brook, farming, Totley Brook Estate, Totley Tunnel, Totley clockmaker and Samuel Hill. If you are interested in joining the group please do come along.

The minutes of the meetings are on the website www.totley.org.uk.

The next meeting of will be held in the Library on Wednesday 12th March at 7pm.

Cheshire Chat

Things are just about back to normal at Mickley Hall now after an enjoyable programme of events at Christmas. We have had the entrance hall painted and smartened up and are hoping to get sponsorship to improve the dining room and bar sometime this year. Anyone out there know of a bar fitter or company willing to help? Please call 2369952.

We started our new programme of events with a very successful Burns Night Supper on 25 January. The haggis was piped in again by the excellent Alex on bagpipes and our new chef Paul cooked an excellent supper of traditional haggis, neeps and tatties all washed down with a wee dram. The night was rounded off with a Scottish quiz and more bagpipes from Alex.

We have a very exciting event coming up on Friday, 14 March at 7pm. We have a talk on the Battle of Britain by James Nicolson, nephew of James Nicolson VC, who was a friend of Leonard Cheshire VC. This will be an interesting event for old members of the community, ex RAF and younger people interested in World War 2. It costs £4 per ticket and includes wine and cheese so do come along. I am sure you will enjoy. See the advert for further details.

Then on Monday, 17 March we have our St Patricks Day celebrations in the evening which will be another chance to sample Irish Fayre and entertainment.

Lastly for March, on Wednesday, 17th 10am to 12 noon we have our annual Spring Fayre. As usual there is an excellent raffle and craft stalls selling cakes, jams, marmalades etc.

We are looking forward to seeing old friends and new at all our events. I know the service users look forward to these things so please come and join us and help support your local charity. (Have you seen us on TV yet). You will find us a friendly bunch.

Ann Lee
Voluntary Support Group

**TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AGM WILL BE HELD IN THE
LIBRARY ON MONDAY 7TH APRIL AT 7.30PM**



Transport 17

The Annual General Meeting of Transport 17 shareholders will be on Monday, 31st March at 7 pm. This will be held in Totley Library, Baslow Road. Coffee/tea and biscuits will be served at the end of official business.

Last year there were more people on the top table than in the rest of the room. Please come along and get up to date with what is going on with us and Community Transport.

If you need transport, please ring 236 2962. Maybe you find it a bit difficult to get there and are not a regular T 17 passenger. Just ring and let us know if we can help. It costs just £1 to become a shareholder. This entails being invited to the A.G.M. in spring and a General Meeting in the Autumn. You can become a shareholder at the AGM or at any other time of the year.

If anything special crops up during the year an Extraordinary General Meeting will be arranged to hear your views.

Have a lovely Easter.

Margaret Barlow

FREE BUS TRAVEL.....

From April 2008, all senior citizens (60+) and disabled people will be able to travel free of charge on buses throughout the country, using a national photocard. The SYPTE (South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive) will be writing to everyone who holds a bus pass, and new passes will be issued in March 2008.

This new pass will provide free travel on buses throughout England from 9.30am Monday to Friday, and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays. In addition the South Yorkshire concessionary fares scheme - open to residents and visitors to the area who are 60 or disabled - also includes local tram and train services. Concessions for companions of some disabled people are also being retained.

225,000 letters have been sent out to existing pass holders inviting them to apply for the new pass card. Applicants need to can visit their nearest Travel South Yorkshire Information Centre, with some proof of age and address. A passport-size photo is required (two if applicants haven't got a pass already.)

In case of difficulty phone 0114 221 1413.

Cllrs. Keith Hill & Mike Davis

T.O.A.D.S SPRING PRODUCTION

After the success of the Agatha Christie murder play in November, we have chosen a comedy for our spring production. "An Eye For an Eye, Darling" by Ian Hornby, will probably ring a lot of bells for the husbands in the audience! How many of you have tried to arrange a "special occasion" for the wife, in secret, only to find that everything is going wrong, two and two make five, six, or even seven? With another large cast of eleven, there are a lot of laughs in this play and great characters.

You can have a good evening out, at St.John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South, Totley, with coffee, orange, red or white wine in the interval, Wednesday to Saturday, 14th to 17th" May at 7.30pm. Tickets available from any member, or from Kate Reynolds on 236 6891

SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Join us and help make a difference to your hospitals!

Did you know that you can become a member of your local hospitals absolutely free of charge and help to make a real difference to healthcare in Sheffield?

Here's how it works: Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, which manages the Northern General, Royal Hallamshire, Weston Park, Charles Clifford and Jessop Wing hospitals in the city became a Foundation Trust in 2004. This means that instead of the Government in London deciding what the NHS hospitals in Sheffield should be doing, our hospitals - along with the help of local people like you and me - are able to decide what services are needed most and where money should be spent to improve the care and treatment provided to local people.

In Sheffield we are lucky enough to have some of the best hospital services in the country and we want to keep it that way. This is why the hospital Trust is asking Sheffield residents to sign up free of charge to become members of the Trust. Members receive a regular newsletter about the goings-on at the hospitals; are invited to special events; are asked for their views on different hospital services; and will be asked for their opinions on plans for future developments.

I feel privileged to have been elected by Trust Members as a Patient Governor of Sheffield Teaching Hospitals in July 2007. The position of Governor is entirely voluntary but is very rewarding in that I am able to visit wards in all our Hospitals to obtain the views of patients regarding their experience of the Hospitals and comments I receive are fed back for the attention of the Board of Directors.

We do need lots of new Members. To become a member of the Trust please contact Jane Pellegrina in the Foundation Trust Office on 0114 2714322 or e-mailing jane.pellegrina@sth.nhs.uk Alternatively, if you would like to speak to me you can leave a message with Jane and I will get back to you.

If any association or local group would like a Governor to attend a meeting or function a phone call to Jane Pellegrina will get the necessary action.

Joe Abson

Patient Governor

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS
Foundation Trust



Councillor Surgeries

Conservatives:

4th Saturday of each month 10.00 to 11.00 am Dore Village Society room, Dore Old School, corner of Vicarage Lane and Savage Lane, Dore, . Contact details: telephone 273 4108 Email: anne.smith@sheffield.gov.uk

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 or mike.davis@sheffield.gov.uk

TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

www.totley.org.uk

Crown Inn Cottage

We have had a lot of interest in the photo on the front of the last edition of the Independent. There were plenty of incorrect guesses as to its location and several that were spot on.

If you have any old or unusual photos/drawings/memorabilia of Totley, we'd be delighted to see them – they will all be returned.

We received some correspondence. The first letter was from Danny Reynolds:

The old snap fronting the Totley Independent no 310 is none other than the old white washed cottage next to The Crown Inn and side of Penny Lane. The lady outside is Mrs Unwin maiden name Coates and brother to Charlie who lived on Lemont Road. The previous tenant was a Mr Fred Axe and family. Mr Axe being one of the many little mesters of Sheffield and I think he was part of the line of men who made razors (cut throats).

He was a Wednesdayite and his wife would meet up with him at home matches to bring him home. I say bring him home because win or lose he was well over a pint or two but always under self control. A keen gardener of a Sunday morning, he would be seen tending his beloved roses and other plants but roses were his speciality. The same applied to Bill Proctor with roses and he was also a little mester other than that I cannot say why their hobbies were alike.

G D Reynolds

And second from Pat Crapper:

Your photo on the front cover is of Mrs Coates, this was taken outside her cottage at the bottom of Hillfoot Road. The building to the side which is still standing is the The Crown Inn.

There was a wooden gate between the 2 buildings and Mr Coates used to stand there for hours watching the world and everyone go by. They had a son Les who married May Lee from Dore. Mrs Coates used to go in The Crown nearly every night with a jug to get some beer for Mr Coates, she used to sit and have a drink herself and chat to other drinkers. Harold and I used to go in The Crown quite a lot in those days when we were courting and Mrs Coates bought us a wedding present when we married in 1960.

The village kids I am sure will remember when we used to sledge from the top of Hillfoot Road to The Crown and Mrs Coates and Mrs Symes who lived in the house above The Crown used to throw their fire ashes over the track to stop us. It never did.

Also in your magazine Jo Rundle wrote about The Grouse at Totley Bents. This pub was only a beerhouse. Tuppy and Mrs Pearson kept it when my sister Betty and I were young, they kept pigs in the yard and in those days they used to kill one every now and then and our Uncle Joe Marshall used to help them, his reward for this was a bit of pork and some chittlings, something I still love to eat. When the Pearsons retired Roy and June Foster took over the pub, a younger couple, but it still stayed a beerhouse only. When they left Mr and Mrs Clark from Dore came to live there with their daughter Vera and their 2 sons Eric and John. They had a milk round, Vera also ran a milkround then when John left school he helped and John and his wife Sandra still ran the milkround from The Grouse, still helped by Vera. They all helped in the pub. The pub finally closed its doors at the end of October 1958 and the licence was transferred to another pub. John and Eric and their wives still own The Old Grouse Inn, Eric is my brother-in-law.

I was born 70 years ago at Elder Cottage, Hillfoot Road. There was Evans shop, Maries's who also had a motor repair shop in the yard and the Dronfields. Mrs Dronfield was Mrs

Coates sister, the lady on the front page, and the Otters in the other house. Opposite our house up some wooden stairs, next door to the Maries's, was Totley Sports and Social Club room where the football and cricket teams were run from. There was a snooker table and on Tuesday afternoon and Thursday night a whist and solo drive was held.

Also every so often Fred Eaton used to run a picture show on a Saturday night, old films – but that didn't matter as it was cheap. The film that still stands out in my mind, even today, was the Loch Ness Monster, it used to frighten us to death. He hadn't a lot of films so you saw it more than once. In the interval Bill Fox from Coal Aston used to bring Ronckleys ice-cream to sell, he used to come round the village most nights as well. I can always remember when I was young they used to sell ice-cream birthday cakes, we all thought they were something special.

Unfortunately, the clubroom was closed down in the late 1950s, it was such a shame as it was a meeting point for the village. It was altered into a flat for John Maries when he got married.

Betty and I had a wonderful childhood in old Totley, every lady was auntie to us and all the kids in the village. If there was anything going off, like a party or a dance in the school, everyone helped baking and making sandwiches, tea, coffee and soft drinks - no alcohol. It was a great time. Dick Wrigglesworth and his band used to play for the dances.

Pat Crapper (Hoyland)

Third Totley Yard Sale

By popular demand!

Sell your surplus from your own front garden!
You don't have to travel - the customers will come to you.
And share a garden if yours is not convenient.

So clear out your house and take part.
You won't have the bother of loading up the car and doing
an early morning car boot sale.

Sunday 6th April from 10.00 to 2.00pm

Advertising will bring punters from all over Sheffield
because lots of Totley people will be selling on the same
day.

We will charge £5 per seller. This money will go towards
the **Totley Festival** in Greenoak Park on Sunday 22nd June.

If you want to take part, ring or email to register your name
and address in preparation for the map and the advertising.

Jennie Street
Tel. 236-2302
jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk
bring your £5 to 16, The Grove
for Totley Residents' Association

Women's World Day of Prayer

for Dore/Totley area, will be held at English Martyrs Church
on Friday, 7 March 2008 at 10.30 am. This year it has been
prepared by the Christian Women of Guyana.

Everyone is welcome.

Any enquires to Rosemary on 2363027. Hope to see you
there.

THE MAGIC OF THE UPPER DERWENT VALLEY

Back to God's Country

Looking back over the years to my early schooldays I get a real feeling of pleasure, for during the 1930's I joined the Boy Scouts. Our first camping trips were to Grimbocar Wood just above old Ashopton village. Take a stroll from the Snake Road and you can still locate the terraced site where we pitched our tents. The highlight of the season was the Jamboree camp, close to Derwent village, a congregation of youth from all over the world. I gaze in awe to the high ground of Derwent Edge, these heights seemed like mountains to me. I was hooked on this great outdoor scene, the bug had bitten, it was my ambition to walk these hills. The year of 1935 was a special treat with a weeks holiday, camping in the grounds of Losehill Hall. In those days it was owned by Major A. Chadburn, a wonderful benefactor to the Scout Movement.

My parents bought me a good pair of hiking boots, Paul Beaver boots, which cost around 35 shillings. Reg Damms, the Sheffield climber from Woodseats area, nailed these boots with alpine and tricouni type nails. My mother cut down my old raincoat which served as an anorak and with a one inch to the mile map of the Peak District I was in business for the call of the hills.

Every Sunday was dedicated to the Derbyshire hills. Along with my friends, I trespassed along the ridges of Derwent Edge to the shooting cabins around Abbey Brook and the Builstones cabins at Broadhead Clough. To save carrying tents on weekend trips we often slept in the cabins so it seems sad to me that over the years these shelters have been demolished, often by irate gamekeepers. Who can remember Four Jacks Cabin in Grindsbrook, the Pagoda Cabin on Seal Edge, Golden Clough Cabin, Fox Holes Cabin under Grindslow Knoll, Ashop Cabin etc..? Fortunately Oyster Cabin above the Snake Pass is still in good order, and the Round Cabins in Lower Small Clough and Jubilee Cabins on Kinder are the only ones still intact in this area.

On our adventure trips we often met up with the top names in the rambling and bog trotting world. G H "Bert" Ward from Storth Lodge at Owlbar was the daddy of them all; Alf Bridges, Reg Damms and Fred Heardman BEM, "mine host" of The Church Hotel and later The Nags Head in Edale. Fred was on the committee that first formed the Peak National Park in 1951, there is a plaque to his memory on the wooden foot-bridge at the start of Cutgate track just beyond Slippery Stones. Little Benny Rothman, who was a leading figure in the Mass Trespass in 1932, will be remembered with real pride. These pioneers of the Peak District were our heroes.

Those early years passed all too quickly and more people were taking to the great outdoors. The first national park was created in 1951 and three years later, on Good Friday 1954, Tom Tomlinson was made the first warden for the Peak National Park prior to which he had been the warden at Rowland Cote Youth Hostel. His role as head warden for the National Park was no easy task, trying to uphold the bye-laws of the area, fortunately he had helpful backing from the local rambling clubs from Sheffield and Manchester. I remember those early days when Tom used to brief us in Coopers Cafe in Edale, for our patrols around Grindsbrook. Later, as all areas became so busy with the increased number of tourists, the Peak Park Planning Board decided to employ part-time patrol wardens and a full-time assistant, namely George Garlick, who was resident at Fieldhead House in Edale. In 1960 I jumped at the chance to become a weekend warden, it all seemed so magical after the days dodging gamekeepers

around the Westend and Alport valleys., but as the saying goes ""If you can't beat them, join them", so we tried to make friends with these custodians of the grouse moors. Meeting Alf Hammond, keeper for Howden Moor, was always a pleasure. Later, in 1961, Alf moved to Langsett Moors which were finally opened to access in August of that year. I was the first warden to work the new area.

Another of my favourite gamekeepers was Alec Simpson from Birchinlee, he was a real gentleman. Joe Townsend, who worked the Northern Edges of Kinder Scout, was a tougher nut to crack, he simply didn't like ramblers; woe betide you if he caught you in the vicinity of Fairbrook Edge. As the years progressed into the 60's many new areas opened up for access with increased staff of full-time and part-time wardens. Stanage Edge, Tideswell Dale, Millers Dale, Crowden and the Eastern Edges were bringing in more visitors to an already crowded national park. Hayfield was the second important access area, after Edale.

Top names were employed as full-time wardens. Ken Drabble was to take George Garlick's post at Edale, Gordon Miller became full-time, Geoff Howe took over the Goyt Valley area, plus Mike Hammond and Brian Jones were employed in the Upper Derwent. Ex RAF Mountain Rescue Team Leaders Johnny Lees GM, Pete McGowan & Has Oldham, all BEM holders, Terry Tallis, Ian Hurst, Geoff Frost and Tony Hood became part of the growing organisation that was to become the Ranger Service, which had a much nicer ring to it than the title warden.

During my years as a part-timer I have worked at most centres, but my favourite remains Fairholmes and the Upper Derwent Valley. My old legs have just about worn out, but even after all these years I still love a trip out to my favourite valley of the Dambusters, where chatting with the visitors and tourists seems to bring out their impression that this is God's Own Country, and Fairholmes is a treasure to be enjoyed by all.

John C Barrows

Totley Open Gardens

Dates for your diary:

This year the Open Gardens event will be

Sat. 12th and Sun. 13th July

**We have some great new
gardens taking part. If you
also are interested in opening
your garden please contact**

Jennie Street

Tel. 236-2302

jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk

The Talk of Totley

A Community Constables View.

Firstly for those who were wondering The Sharrow Policing Team came 3rd in the awards in London.

Our area has been, in Policing Terms, quite busy of late with a number of worrying incidents taking place. We have seen robberies (two local shops have been victims of such), damages (a rise in graffiti/ and bus shelters being smashed), burglaries and a rise in Anti-social behaviour. This is not to say that Totley is still one of the safest places to live in Sheffield and perhaps that's why the above is a little bit more than concerning me.

I don't want to be a doom-monger but the worrying part from my point of view has been a lack of public response to these. I really can't believe that NO-ONE either witnessed these acts or has any information about these types of Crime. I can't stress enough that without information received from the public then the type of crimes which have such a negative impact on peoples quality of lives will go unchecked and hence escalate. With the extra pressure put on our time by events and other duties your Policing team can't be everywhere and we need your support. ITS THAT SIMPLE.

We can be contacted on the following numbers below at Meersbrook on 0114 2963187 or at Totley box on 0114 296 3681 or email mark.wadsworth@southyorks.pnn.police.uk

I will agree that some of these crimes would be difficult to foresee let alone stop but some could be. We have had a couple of crimes committed whereby the offenders have tried to steal car keys from within the Hallway of houses. These have been attempted by pushing poles (yes long pieces of metal) through the letterboxes in an attempt to snare car keys. South Yorkshire Police have for some time now attempted to prevent this type of crime through publicising the best way to stop this, i.e. to keep car keys etc well out of sight. I know that its often easier to keep keys to hand just by the door, but if its easy for you then its easy for anyone wanting to steal your car.

Other timely crime prevention matters involve the garden. As the days lighten we tend to see a rise in crime related to thefts from Sheds etc. A new one on me has been a number of thefts of garden walls i.e. coping-stones etc. Someone who probably thought all was ok must have seen these. Can I ask that if anyone does see anyone dismantling walls etc and this looks suspicious then they at least phone me at Totley Box and leave some details. You never know.

Some of you will have no doubt seen the local press reports about the selling off of local police Boxes. I can confirm that in relation to the section station on Totley Brook Road within the next year it may indeed be sold of. Naturally this causes me some concern and prompts me to seek alternatives. I DO NOT WANT TO LOSE OUR BASE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. But Neighbourhood Policing is all about Partnership working. This works really well when we tackle issues like graffiti and Anti-social behaviour. What I am now going to look for is to develop another Policing base within the Sheffield 17 area. This may be in a school, library or any other building. If any one has any ideas or suggestions please get in touch.

These changes will also affect the boundary that the local Policing team cover. From mid February the area for Dore and Totley will be extended to included Millhouses, Bents Green and Whirlow. This has many positives allowing for better planning regarding youth problems, Senior School liaison etc. These changes will also mean a slight realigning of staff and I hope to gain another PCSO.

That's all I have to say for now I shall of course continue to make Totley a safe, crime free and pleasant place for people to live, work and visit.

Pc 486 Mark Wadsworth
Totley Community Constable.

Services for Holy Week and Easter at St. John's Abbeydale.

Passion Sunday 9th.

8am Holy Communion (said)

10am Parish Communion (sung)

6.30pm Handel's The St. John's Passion. Sung by St. John's Church Choir augmented by friends and other singers from the area.

Palm Sunday. 16th

10.30am Ecumenical service at King Egbert School.

Monday 17th

8pm Address & Compline.

Tuesday 18th.

7.30pm Chrism (holy oil) Eucharist at Sheffield Cathedral with the Bishop of Sheffield.

Wednesday 19th

8pm Address & Compline.

Maunday Thursday 20th

7.30pm. Holy Communion commemorating the Last Supper and washing of the feet

Followed by:

8.45pm - Midnight The WATCH of the Passion.

Good Friday 21st

10am Family Service & making of the Easter garden.

2 pm Hour by the Cross (meditations & Music)

Easter Day 23rd

8am Holy Communion (said)

10am. Parish Communion (sung)

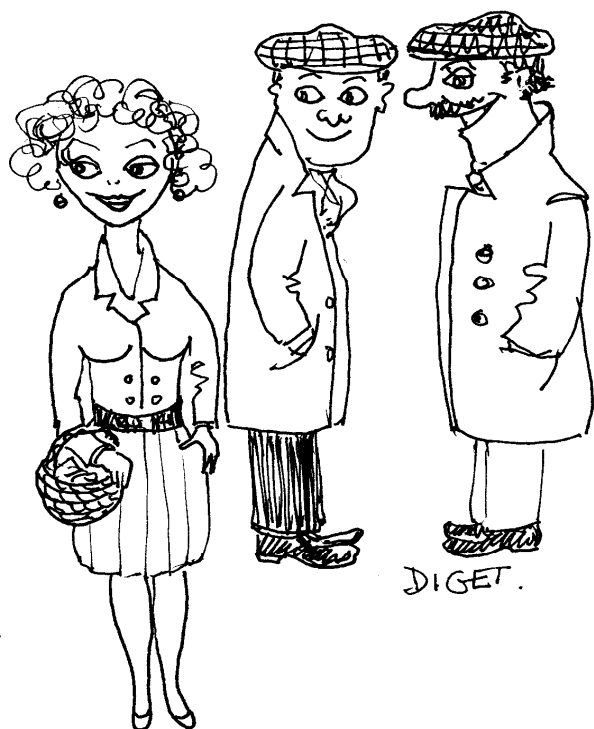
All are welcome'

Revd. Helen Blackburn - new priest - in - charge of Abbeydale St. John Church.

Hello, I'd like to introduce myself to all the readers of the Totley Independent. I have recently joined the community of St. John's Abbeydale and am enjoying getting to know people and the locality. Everyone is so friendly and helpful I can't believe I've only been in my job for 2 months. St. Johns is situated on Abbeydale Road South but it is the local church for not only the surrounding area but also the top of the hill and the Bradway Estates. Anyone is welcome to join us at 10am on a Sunday; you will find a very warm welcome. If you live in the Parish you can get married or have your children baptised at St. John's or if you suffer a bereavement I am available to take funerals or offer bereavement support.

I have lived in Sheffield for almost 16 years and know parts of it well -but not Bradway- yet! I moved here with my husband and family of four children (3 girls and 1 boy) when we lived in Mosborough at first. My husband is also in the church so I have been a Vicar's wife for many years before training and being ordained myself nearly 9 years ago. Previously I worked as a music teacher - both class and instrumental - violin and viola, so I appreciate the choir at St. John's and the high level of music, making for special services.

I am originally from Leeds but feel very much at home in Sheffield. My husband and I love walking in the Peak District on our days off you can't beat the scenery and the many fantastic places to eat on the way! Our children have left school now but love returning and enjoying the delights of local pubs and clubs as well as theatres. I am enjoying sampling the food and drink in S17 area too!



THERE SHE GOES THE POCKET VENUS
OF TOTLEY, MIND YOU SHE'S 'ARMLESS'

Service details for All Saints Church, Totley

March

2nd Mothering Sunday Theme: 'God's take on time'

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion

9th Theme: 'All about Mum and Dad'

10.00 a.m. Baptism

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion

16th Palm Sunday

Theme: 'A most significant journey'

10.30 a.m. Joint service with S17 churches at King Ecgbert School

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer

21st Good Friday

12 - 1.30 p.m. Meditation (activities provided for children)

8.00 p.m. Joint service with S17 churches at St. Johns Church

23rd Easter Theme: 'He's alive!'

10.00 a.m. Family Holy Communion

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion

30th Theme: 'I could kill him'

10.00 a.m. Morning Praise

6.30 p.m. Open to God

WARD COUNCILLORS' FEBRUARY UPDATE

Our smashing new bus shelters....!

Welcome though they are to our area, we remain bemused at the siting and design of a few. In January we contacted the agency responsible (South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive) and received the following reply:

Shelter location and design is a three-way decision between the SYPTE, the Police and Sheffield City Council/Streetforce. In most cases they can be located on the old sites but new regulations, traffic issues, vulnerable services beneath the footway, the need to provide wider access for mobility scooters, larger children's buggies etc. mean a compromise has to be arrived at.

We learned also that "fully enclosed shelters are no longer provided due to issues raised by the public relating to personal safety reasons."

Generally this is acceptable but we have asked for an urgent review of the following locations:

- Inbound: outside Transport 17. Relocate 1m further down to provide more room for passage of buggies/scooters, coupled with a weather panel at the both ends and relocation of seat to middle or lower end. All to be completed before insertion of raised kerb/tactile area for the new buses and DDA legislation.
- Inbound outside No. 122 Baslow Road - we requested better weather protection at each end - there is room. This is under consideration. SYPTE are reviewing the positioning.
- Inbound: Traffic lights/Marstone Crescent - too narrow a footway and sightline problems for traffic exiting Marstone Crescent and the traffic light control. We have requested half panels at each end to give some degree of weather protection. Streetforce have confirmed they will turn the shelter round the other way.
- Inbound: Glover Road, confirmation received that a shelter will be erected once the road works are completed.
- Outbound: Abbeydale Road South/Dore station - tilting forward. It needs to be re-erected.

Cllrs. Keith Hill & Mike Davis

PEAK DISTRICT EVENTS

02 March

Castleton Farmers Market

01433 620699 in the Village Hall

06 March

Buxton Farmers Market

Pavilion Gardens, Buxton 01298 23114

www.paviliongardens.co.uk

11 March

Matlock Farmers Market

Imperial Rooms, Imperial Road

01629 57488

www.matlock.gov.uk

21 March to 24 March

Polish Your Own Blue John Stone

Treak Cliff Cavern, Castleton 01433 620571

www.bluejohnstone.com £1 per piece stone

22 March to 24 March

Antiques and Collectors Fair

Pavilion Gardens, Buxton 01298 23114

www.paviliongardens.co.uk

23 March

Book Fair

Pavilion Gardens, Buxton 01298 23114

www.paviliongardens.co.uk

80p/40p

All the above, plus many more events, can be found in "What's On Peak District" the National Parks Free Guide. www.visitpeakdistrict.com

TOTLEY ALL SAINTS SCHOOL REUNION

At the Fleur De Lys Totley on Monday 14th April 7-30pm onwards.

For pupils who left around the late 1940s early 1950s.

We look forward to seeing as many old friends as possible.

OLD TOTLEY by Jo Rundle

In relation to the three Inns in Totley the Cross Scythes Hotel is quite different, and much of its history has already been written. Although the actual date of the building is still uncertain, it is very likely to have been built shortly after the completion of the new Turnpike Road in 1818. My grt.grt. grandfather Thomas Fisher moved to Totley from Brampton Derbyshire in 1836 to 'The Cross' farm in Town Street, at the same time taking over the Licence of the Cross Scythes Hotel from Samuel Hopkinson. At the time the Hotel was little more than a changing post for the horses that pulled the stagecoaches from Sheffield, but was soon to become an Hotel in the true sense. Thomas brought with him his wife Jane, son Robert, 2yrs.old, and daughter Jane 1yr. old who both became pupils at the school in the Old School House when they reached the age of five.

The rent for the Hotel and farm was £50.00 a year but, bearing in mind that there was an upper limit to the price disclosed to the public for large businesses and large private Halls and Houses, the actual rent could have been more. In a directory at the time the rent for Totley Hall, and a farm at Dore were also £50.00 per annum.

Thomas Fisher was a farmer at heart and he left The Cross Scythes Hotel and farm in 1846, and migrated to Hallfield Farm (also £50.00 per annum), at the bottom of what was to become known as 'Fisher's Moor' close to the entrance to Blacka-moor at the bottom of Shorts Lane. By this time he had produced three more sons, the youngest, Samuel in 1843, who was to become my Great-Grandfather.

Landlords at the hotel changed at least three times during the next twenty-six years until Thomas Bown became the licensee in 1872 by which time the hotel was taking-in more guests from the stage-coaches and becoming more profitable than the farm; a fact that didn't worry Mr. Bowes, for he was also a blacksmith, a skill he picked up in his young farming years and, according to my grandmother, was a 'dab-hand' at making and repairing farm implements and tools.

My grt.grandfather on the Distaff side, William Bradley, was a table-knife forger in Sheffield who, like many other manufacturers, took advantage of the lucrative market for English goods created by the wealthy new settlers in America, and twice a year he made a 'sales-trip' taking, not only his own goods, but also those of his father, Joseph Bradley, a silversmith in Rotherham.

In 1875 my grt.grandmother died and William found homes for his two daughters where they would be safe and happy during his absence. Julia age 15 became a paying guest at the Cross Scythes Hotel, and Vina age 8, at the Fleur de Lys Inn. On the 1881 census Vina is described as 'servant' in compliance with the tradition that Inns did not take paying guests, which was not unusual as daughters were often described as 'servants' in the census reports.

However, the traditional purpose of inns had by now died a natural death due to the gradual spread of local railways, a service that proved of great convenience for travellers. William's elder daughter Julia remained at the Cross Scythes for three years until her marriage to Edward Abraham Salt, my paternal grandfather, at Dore church in 1878, where Julia arrived in a white coach pulled by white horses; and said to have been the most handsome couple to be married at Dore Church. I wouldn't know, but I see from the photographs I have that she certainly was a very handsome woman. Vina remained at the Fleur de Lys until 1884 when, at the age of eighteen she accompanied her father on another business trip to America when, during heavy weather and storms, their ship was lost at sea for three months. Vina having been put off sailing for life, refused to return. However, hoping that she would change her mind William left money in chancery but, as fate decreed; Vina stayed, married, and raised a family with a wealthy black man and as family records show, lived happily ever after. So far as I am aware, the money is still in chancery unclaimed!

A few months ago I learned of the recent alterations at the Cross Scythes Hotel, as what appeared to be old bedrooms had been uncovered. This, I thought was not unusual for, as an hotel that was its purpose, and, on reflection, the following information may be interesting. Thomas and Jane

Bown already had four children when they came to the Cross Scythes, Hannah Elizabeth, age 8, George age 6, Mary Elizabeth age 5 and Margaret Elizabeth age 1. as shown on the 1871 Census. Mrs Ann Hill, a widow, became their living-in charlady, with her two children Lucy and Gerard. By 1881 Julia Bradley had left, and Hannah Elizabeth and George Bowns had obviously moved on for they are not mentioned in the 1881 census, however, Mary Elizabeth now age 15 and Margaret Elizabeth now age 11 are.

Of course, every child did not enjoy a bedroom to call it's own as today, and children often slept four or five to a bed, or three at the top and three at the bottom (even in the twenties and thirties!), sex was of no consequence.

In 1881 Charlie Smith age 23 was described as a 'Spring Striker' (an occupation of which I haven't a clue, but a male reader may know!). Mary Ann his wife and their daughter Martha age 1 were also living at the Cross Scythes Hotel when a note in a directory states that Martha Ann was the grand-daughter of Joseph Maxly the postman, age 57 and his wife Martha age 61, which may indicate that Mary Ann's name was Maxly before her marriage. After the death of his wife Mr. Bown married Mrs. Hill, and the family remained there until 1892 when Mr. North became the new landlord.

According to photographs of the Cross Scythes Hotel around the turn of the century the back door of the farm-house was approached from the main road through a half-circular wall at the side of the hotel, on top of which, and in the yard beyond, appear at various times a selection of crafts e.g. concrete tubs and garden ornaments; various plants and large shrubs; and one showing farm implements and a scythe reared up against the door. The latter possibly the efforts of Mr. Bown himself. Whilst Thomas Bown was landlord of the Cross Scythes Hotel it really did become what the name implies, a home. My own memories of the Cross Scythes Hotel are a few years on in the mid. twenties. By this time, and for many years previously, the old farm-house had been partly demolished and the upper rooms made into a large tea-room and an open-fronted shed below with horse feeding cages along the back wall; alterations that must have been done many years before, for I don't remember anything different. The shelter during my memory, i.e. from about 1920, does not bring to mind any grazing horses, but then, I didn't live in the village, nor frequented it at five-years old, so I must say, I don't know who put them there, nor what they were for. The upper room I do know as it was where my wedding reception was held in 1936, as were those of almost every girl who was married in Totley church, and every other tea-party for whatever occasion. It was also the place where those village girls who's fathers would pay for the privilege gathered once a week from 1928 to learn dancing.

The landlord of the Cross at the time was Mr. Scott, who had two daughters, Eileen the elder, and Elva two or three years younger. Elva went to London to train as a dance teacher, and, after about four years returned, fully qualified to commence her first class. This was a great innovation for the

girls in Totley and they all wanted to go. Some Dads however, said "no" including mine because we lived outside the village and I was considered too young to be in the village on my own! Strange, I reasoned, when I could walk to Totley Rise on my own and do the Friday shopping when I was only seven! What I did like was when he bought a new dress for me when I was ten years old, and took me as his guest to the first Ladies Day at the Cross Scythes Bowling Club in 1926 to play in the Ladies Bowls Competition. He was Captain of the Cross Scythes Bowling Club and that year was runner-up in the competition for the Shield, having won the Yorkshire open competition the previous year, so I was very proud to have him as a teacher.

The bowling green at the Cross Scythes was a crown green, the subject of my first lesson, as he held in his hand one of his set of three bowls and the white 'jack' and explained how the bias on the bowl was used to counter act the effect of the bias of the Crown. Then, as the draw that decided which two pairs of competitors were to play in the first round I wasn't too nervous when I saw that my first opponent was Mr. Scott's daughter Eileen whom I knew quite well. After the toss for who should go first. Dad handed to me the jack with a last minute instruction as to where I should put one foot on the mat, crouch down and smoothly bowl the jack to the corner of the Green, a move that didn't seem very daunting. Picking up the first bowl he paused, then, what I thought at the time was very strange, he pointed and said, "Now, you see that little twig that's sticking up above the top of the hedge, aim for that". "But Dad" I said, seeing that it was nowhere near the jack, as he continued, "remember the bias lass, do as I say", and I did, and was amazed when my first ball ended just where he intended, just 'kissing' the jack (his word not mine). Somehow, although it really was my Dad's success and method of teaching, and Eileen was very kind, and laughed profusely when I won that first match. After three more rounds Dad was very proud when I won the second prize and was presented with a black velvet-lined case containing a cut glass butter dish and a silver butter knife donated by Mr. Billy Wise. This was the first of four years playing on Ladies Day, adding a silver toast-rack, a silver and china jam-dish.

The fourth and last was when I was thirteen years old and the contests were rained off and replaced by a whist drive. I knew little about whist except when seeing my parents and friends, and knew what trumps and revoking meant. Possibly by good luck I won second prize, a picnic basket, later very handy for carrying my cat from Northumberland when visiting home every month in the 1970's.

In 1916 when we left the Old School House in Hall Lane and settled at Lane Head, amongst our neighbours was the family of Charlie and Lucy Smith and their children Charlie aged about 11, Annie aged about 8, Nellie Age 5, William, (Billy) age 3, Louie age 3 mths. Mrs Smith talked sometimes about her life at The Cross Scythes, in particular about a friend called Olive, who, on reflection, must have lived there in between the census dates as my Grandmother did, for she is not shown in the records.

I think I did meet Gerard's wife one day in 1926, when Louie and I went to visit her in Rotherham. The occasion stays in my mind, because my Father warned us not to go near the Town Hall as there was going to be a big meeting there by the miners who were on strike. Of course we obeyed when we came within sight of the crowd, but being curious we moved just a little closer to listen to a man who was reading 'The Riot Act', which my Father explained later was a warning to the rioters that those who did not disperse within a given time limit, would be prosecuted and sent to gaol. After watching for a few minutes, when the crowd appeared to be

getting more violent, we took Dad's advice and made a quick departure through a nearby gate to the park and soon reached our destination. After all the excitement I remember little about Gerard and his wife, if, indeed it was they whom we visited. To be continued.

Archaic practise

A group of us attended the latest TOADS production – Agatha Christie's "A Murder Is Announced" – which we thoroughly enjoyed. TOADS is a great little company providing sorely-needed local entertainment.

What is not sorely needed is what happened at the beginning of the evening and amazed us.

The national anthem was played and everyone stood to attention.

While we did not stand up during the music, a small canvas of people sitting around us revealed later that most people found it embarrassing to have the pressure of standing up for something they did not believe in, and resented this. One woman even bent forward in the interval and said "Well done. I wish I had had the courage not to stand up like you did."

Surely this archaic practise should be dropped? Since most people today are quite indifferent or even opposed to the monarchy, the playing of the national anthem has been judiciously dropped from most events. The Ecclesall Players dropped the playing of the anthem nine years ago, and it is high time TOADS did the same.

Its continuation makes it appear a fuddy-duddy and anachronistic organisation.

Come on TOADS – leave the national anthem out in future!

Jennie Street

A response from TOADS: Sit down for what you believe in.

I am sorry that your correspondent does not approve of the national anthem being played, as it always is, before the curtain is raised at TOADS productions.

She is probably correct in her assumption that a lot of people find it anachronistic. TOADS was founded fifty five years ago by Lil and Geth Robinson. Before Lil died, almost ten years ago, playing the anthem was already considered by many to be old fashioned but it was Lil's fond wish that it be continued – indeed she extracted promises to that effect before she died. If for no other reason the anthem should be continued to honour the treasured memory of a tireless organiser and immensely talented and funny actress.

There is no pressure to stand for the anthem at TOADS, in fact Lil's own son, who continues to support the society, chooses to remain seated. It is a broad church and there is room, and a welcome, for everybody.

It is sad to think, however, that in the 21st century, after all the freedom fighting that has gone on, the drive for choice, self expression and the assertion of the individual, some people are still cowed by a tune. I, too, wish the lady who "bent forward at the interval" had had the courage to remain seated. If everyone had stood, or sat, for their beliefs, we might have had a clearer picture. Did everyone in Ms Street's party really want to remain seated or did they pick up the subtle body language from the alpha female in their group as the band struck up? Were any of them, in fact; pressured into sitting just as others were "pressured into standing"?

TOADS plays to full, and sometimes packed houses, to regulars who arrive knowing the anthem will be played. They are all most welcome to stand or sit or sing along as they wish. I do hope Ms Street will come again and enjoy another play with us, I hope she will choose to sit during the anthem and be more comfortable, and enjoy the show.

Richard Clubley - TOADS

Gardening Tips for March

The north winds do blow and we shall have snow and what will the robin do then poor thing. He will sit on a barn and keep himself warm and hide his head under his wing poor thing. I wonder if this old poem will still apply taking into account global warming last March and April, it was warm enough to go into the garden without coats so the old robin could sit on a twig and watch me just dig and pinch all the worms poor thing.

Enough waxing lyrical, March is a funny month for gardeners, lots to prepare but we must hold back the temptation to plant out too early in case old Jack Frost decides to ignore global warming and gives those little seedlings and plants a nip.

I suppose all the garden centres will have the bedding plants on show soon, do not be tempted unless you have a greenhouse or cold frame to keep them warm and keep the frost out. Do not forget to watch the temperature, a greenhouse can reach 100F in no time when the sun is out, this sort of temperature level is not conducive to healthy plants, a steady 60 to 65F is much better.

My garden is a bit untidy at the moment, soggy leaves and dead perennial tops look rather unsightly. My little stream leading to the pond has sprung a leak so it is not running at the moment until a bit of fine weather enables me to find the leak and fix it. The fish do not seem to mind, we have a few extra fish this year, the little ones are turning colour and are a bit more noticeable. The frogs will soon be coming to breed, it was chaotic last year, the frog spawn filled the wildlife pond and it went a nasty green and did not smell very nice so I will be removing a lot this year (any recipes for frog spawn soup). The old barn is having a facelift or should I say roof lift. I suppose there will be a mess when the builders get cracking, I am looking forward to when its finished, and the roof is once again watertight. We are very fortunate to have such a lovely backcloth to our garden, it really sets it off and keeps it quite private. The veg garden is looking soggy, I have not had time to do the digging of it all, still quite a bit to clear. The last of the broccoli will give us a nice last boiling, nothing like the taste of home grown vegetables. I hope you are all looking forward to getting out into the garden more, I hope the rain eases up so that we can have longer spells.

We must be thinking about The Totley Show, the Committee are all working hard to make it a success. It really needs PEOPLE to take part so do make a big effort to be there otherwise it will disappear along with all the other traditional events which seem to be dying out.

Lots to do in March, finish those jobs you have not completed yet, get them out of the way before the busy period coming up. I will have to try and practice what I preach, that's my new year resolution. I hope I can keep it up. The main thing is to enjoy your gardening.

PS: I notice that the children of Totley Primary School are starting gardening, well done Alan. I am quaking in my wellies.

FLOWERS Prepare vacant ground for planting and seedbeds, if possible cover seedbeds with cloches to warm them up. Harden off plants, which have been over-wintering in frames or indoors, including seedling herbaceous perennials and rock plants. Work into the soil well-rotted manure or compost, or a balanced fertiliser such as Growmore, or both would give the ground and plants a treat. Keep elementary weeds down, nobble them whilst they are young, it's a good plan to get into a regular hoeing routine, this will prevent them getting established. Water newly planted perennials during dry spells. Deadhead flowers as they fade. Keep checking for slug damage, especially around young plants and lay slug bait or beer traps as necessary. Plant lily bulbs. Plant gladioli corms in trays, start them off in slight warmth for planting out in April.

Lift and split up over-crowded snowdrops. Sow hardy annuals like larkspur, clarkia and love in a mist either in the garden or under cloches or indoors to plant out later, take cuttings of early flowering chrysanthemums and dahlias, root them in warmth. Lift and divide over-crowded herbaceous perennials such as Michaelmas Daisy, Golden Rod etc. Sow sweet peas one inch deep (25cm) 2-3 Inches apart, Plant out indoor bulbs which have finished flowering, they will give a show next spring. Remove shoots that have no live buds from summer flowering clematis and cut back late flowering varieties hard.

VEGETABLES Dig up vacant plots and test soil for Ph (add lime if necessary). Sow cauliflower, broccoli and other brassicas in a frame. Brussel sprouts must have a long steady season of growth to be really successful.

Sow now in boxes and germinate in a heated frame or greenhouse. If you also want a supply of cabbages in midsummer (butterflies love them) sow an early variety now in same conditions as sprouts. Sow spinach in a sheltered spot. they love a bit of sunshine. Sow broad beans in boxes for planting out later.

At the end of the month sow culinary peas outdoors, scoop out a trench the width of a spade, about 9ins - 23cm, not more than 3ins - 75cm deep, place the seeds singly in two lines one

at each side about 3 ins (75cm) between seeds, cover with an inch of soil, the depression left will provide the tiny seedlings with a bit of protection, putting a few in every two weeks will give a nice succession.

Plant early potatoes, have cloches or plastic ready in case of late frosts. Sow spinach beet, a very useful form of beetroot grown for its leaves, which are used like those of spinach.

Try growing a few French beans in the greenhouse, they make a nice early change and they don't take up a lot of room. Make a sowing of turnips or swedes, they need a rich but not newly manured ground. Plant

onion sets, use a trowel to set them rather than a dibber, they are less likely to push themselves out of the ground as the roots develop.

TREES, FRUIT & SHRUBS Prepare ground for new shrubs or trees. Plenty of organic compost and well rotted manure will give them a good start. A dressing of sterilised bone meal will give them a real treat and pay dividends by way of healthy plants and trees. Firm in newly planted shrubs and those loosened by frost. Feed established plants with a balanced fertiliser. Apply mulch especially round new additions. Watch out for aphids and caterpillars, and spray as soon as they are seen. Prune autumn flowering shrubs which flower on the tips of new growth i.e. butterfly bush, blue spirea and hardy fuchsias.

Prune hybrid teas and floribunda roses.

Cut out any dead or diseased shoots or branches from all trees and shrubs around the garden. Feed cane fruits with balanced fertiliser, feed black currants with nitro-chalk. Firm in newly planted fruits, mulch and keep well watered.

GREENHOUSE & INDOOR PLANTS Busy time for the greenhouse owners with seedlings and young plants to watch over, and all the dormant plants coming into bud. Watch carefully the ventilation and

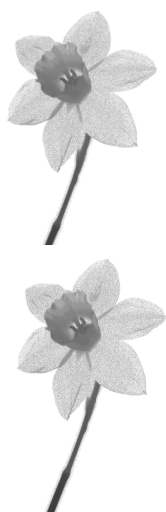
humidity, young seedlings need plenty of light and air if they are to develop into strong sturdy plants. To avoid, the deadly damping off fungus, spray as the plants show through the potting compost with cheshunt compound. Take cuttings as soon as they are large enough and place in propagator,

geranium, fuschias etc. will give you added stock for hanging baskets and tubs next year. Plant some schizanthus (poor man's orchid) seeds, they germinate readily and give a lovely colourful show in the early summer months. You need to keep a steady temperature of around 65 - 70F for all seed and cuttings until they are established. Re-pot foliage plants and ferns, use a pot one size larger or on some varieties reduce the root ball size, try not to damage the roots as you do this, do not remove all the soil, just enough to get a reasonable amount of new compost into the new pot. Syringe or spray every morning for at least a week and shade from direct sunlight. Pot up tomato plants. Sow seeds of outdoor tomatoes, they should be ready to plant outside in June. Pot up begonia and gloxinia which were started in February. Take leaf cuttings of African violets and cape primrose. Houseplants like maidenhair fern, button fern, spider plant can be divided and re-potted. Sweet peas which have been raised in the greenhouse should be hardened off. Hydrangeas growing in pots should be fed from now on with a weak mixture of liquid manure every 10 days or so, water the ordinary way in between times.

LAWNS Start, a regular cycle of cutting, if you didn't give an autumn feed to your lawn, give a spring one now. Spike, scarify and top dress with old compost with a little balanced fertiliser or lawn food mixed in. You will soon have a green sward. Check over your mower, oil all moving parts ready for the hard work ahead. Don't forget to trim the edges to give the finishing touch and be the envy of your friends.

Cheerio for now.

Tom



"DEBBIE HILL"

Mobile Hairstylist

Phone 07977 969911
for an appointment

Community Policing Feed back

Readers will know that the 101 non-emergency number has been under threat from some time. We now learn from Councillor representatives on the South Yorkshire Police Authority that it will wind down over the next twelve months. This is a great pity since it proved to be much more efficient than the discredited 2 20 20 20.

We also learn that the Police Authorities propose to close the Totley Brook Road Police Box. This has been a useful asset to our local bobbies, PC Wadsworth and PC Spencer but we understand that cuts totalling £1.8m are required.

If readers have a view on this, either for or against may I suggest they write to:

Asst Chief Constable Jon House
Police HQ
Snig Hill
Sheffield S3 8LY

Cllr. Keith Hill



Seed swap

If you come along to Totley Festival in Greenoak Park on Sunday 22nd June, you might like to bring along some packets or bags of seeds that you have a surplus of.

In exchange you can take away some different seeds that you fancy growing.

The Seed Swap will be beside the Plant Stall, so come and get some new inspiration for your garden!

For more information

Christine Shimell

236-1631

c.shimell@virgin.co.uk



Totley Festival is coming again!

On Sunday 22nd June 2008 there will be a second Totley Festival in Greenoak Park.

This is just advance notice to anyone who would like to have a stall, help with preparation, run an event or take part in the sports or music competitions.

The Festival is being prepared under the the TRA by a group who would welcome any support and help you can give.

The 2008 Totley Festival should be bigger, better and more fun than 2007 – and without the "weather" we had last July.

The Music Truck for the rock bands has already been booked. So has the ever-popular Escafeld Brass Band and our local celebrity MC Jill Turner from Sheffield Community Radio.

This year the Festival will run for longer from 11-5pm as everyone said we needed more time as there was so much to see and do last time.

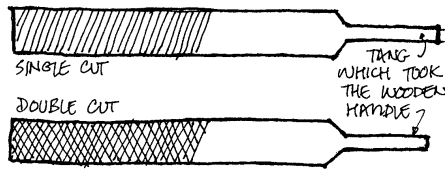
If you can help, have any suggestions or want a stall or to organise an event, contact:

Avril Critchley
Tel. 236-1568
Betty Higgins
Tel. 236-8984
Jennie Street
Tel. 236-2302

FILE CUTTING IN TOTLEY

The hand made files I am writing about are steel implements used for smoothing rough surfaces by abrasion and usually having a wooden handle for ease of working and a narrow end called a 'tang' which fitted into that handle. The working surface was covered

STEEL FILES WERE GROUND ON BOTH SIDES



both sides with parallel lines, produced by the cuts of a chisel, and the ridges formed could vary in thickness, depending on its use. The edges were usually scored too. Much of the work was done by hand and, as you can imagine, required considerable skill; these days files are mass produced by machine. David Hey in his 'The Village of Ecclesfield' wrote that at one time in the 18th/19th centuries 400 people were engaged in cutting files by hand in their cottages, little (work)shops, gardens or backyards in that village of about 1500 inhabitants. Eastwood in his 'History of Ecclesfield' wrote that the chief trade there was file cutting, the teeth of which were formed by a series of cuts made by a small chisel and hammer of peculiar construction. The constant sound of tapping thus never failed to be heard. C.A. Turner

in his 'A Heritage of Sheffield' reckoned that the rate of cutting ranged from 100 to 250 strokes per minute. An average file had about 1000 cuts on each side and 300 on each edge. The file was then hardened by heating in a coke fire and cooling in water after being protected by a saline composition. The whole tool was washed and scoured and covered in oil to prevent rusting. This cottage industry was based on 'blanks' being supplied by agents or manufacturers. However in Totley's case the blanks may have been forged at a blacksmiths adjacent to file grinders in Summer Lane.

Incidentally, it is more than likely that women would carry out some of the work too although they were rarely appreciated.

The earliest references I have to file making in Totley are from the Cutlers Company records of apprentices. These young lads were usually working under a journeyman who had served his time. It is interesting to note that the fathers who sent their sons to serve apprenticeships were not often involved in file grinding full time but rather worked as farmers, mill workers, miners, breeches makers, tanners, shoemakers and so on. In the Dore & Totley wills and inventories of 1539-1747 there is no reference to any file grinder as such, yet we know, that one local boy was learning the craft as far back as 1692. It is quite likely that the men in Totley had other part time jobs. Bound apprentices, often 7 or 8 years old, were boarded, fed and clothed paid at the expense of the master, however the terms varied very widely and some were quite bizarre. The boys were subject to very poor conditions in many cases and not until they were 15 or 16 did they receive more than a few pence a week. Twelve year old Thomas son of Thomas Dalton (trade not recorded) was apprenticed to Richard Carr a filesmith (probably in Sheffield) in 1692 for eight years.

There are no other references in my Totley records to apprentices who might have come from a family of filesmiths. I have further information on Totley filesmiths and apprentices from the Census, Cutlers Company records and my chronological data, and these detail names..

In this article I refer only to the manufacture of files; other young boys in Totley were apprenticed to various masters; for example sickle and scythe makers. Of course Totley was a very much smaller village and only a handful of file grinders are known. Often apprenticeships went on far beyond their term; but on completion they could easily set themselves up in trade; all he needed was a continuing supply of coal and that may have been supplied by the mine at Strawberry Lee. It is obvious that file grinding was a convenient way of working, close to home, few overheads and often just a small outhouse as a

workshop. Of course he would need his tools and iron and blanks. He would sit astride an anvil and as the working surface may have had lead sheet to reduce damage when he turned the file over, lead being a soft material. Of course the likelihood of lead poisoning would create a problem as tiny particles of the metal would be in the air. I am sure that the workers knew of this hazard (called belland poisoning) because for centuries lead smelting had been carried out in Totley. Other problems included deformed hands and fingers, bad backs due to the crouched working position and, as if that was not bad enough, grinders could end up bandy legged. I wonder if these tough conditions led to the phrase 'daily grind'?

We know that Totley seems to have been a small centre for the cutting of files and Summer Lane, Lane Head on Baslow Road and Butts Hill are mentioned as having cottages where the craftsmen could ply their trade. At Lane Head the cottage gardens have yielded up corroded pieces of steel that seem to be files. There is in existence a deed of 1867 conveying a house, file forgers shop, etc., to the occupier Samuel White.



For the Totley Independent in 1980, the late Bill Carter-Wigg sketched the cottages, one of which he occupied, and that drew a reply from Arthur Ward, who remembered well the Greens living next door. Mr. Ward recalled them early in the 1800s when they cut files out of blanks which their mother used to fetch from Heeley

Bottom and then take the completed files back, probably by donkey.

For more information on apprenticeships in Sheffield and surrounding districts see 'Children of the Industrial Revolution' published by the University of Sheffield Continuing Education 1985' and the Cutlers Company list of Apprentices and Freemen. David Hey and Joan Unwin edited 'The Cutters of Hallamshire 1624-1699' published by the University

BRIAN EDWARDS

Farming Scene

Sunbeam Gone and Spirit Causing Trouble

Sunbeam and Spirit have been regular attractions at our nativity plays over the last 4 years. Both have been very child friendly and have been great assets to have for the events, providing children with rides, amusement and enjoyment.

Sadly, Sunbeam our brightly coloured red and white Hereford cow has had to be put down. She was 17 years old, and although she was healthy and happy in most respects, she had developed a weakness in her hips that meant she found walking any distance difficult. It could well have been a touch of arthritis which caused her to sway a little as she walked. At 17 years old she had had a long life for a suckler cow. The hunt is now on for a replacement for her, either an older 'pretty' cow that is used to children or alternatively a youngish calf that we can rear ourselves. If it is used to being handled by ourselves it should grow up into being a customer friendly attraction like Sunbeam was.

Spirit the donkey is still with us, but is certainly causing us more trouble than Sunbeam ever did! When we first had him we put him in a field with Sunbeam and some oldish lambs. This seemed to work OK, Sunbeam acted as his companion and the sheep did not mind too much when he stole some of their food. However, the following spring we put him in with some ewes and their young lambs and he caused havoc. Not only did he chase the ewes all round the field, he singled out the lambs and chased them till they were exhausted and then picked them up in his teeth and shook them. Fortunately a passing walker spotted this happening and alerted us to the problem. We were too late to save one of the lambs; it died of its injuries. Since then we have had to keep him well away from lambs and tended to put him and Sunbeam in our field at Lane Head along with some tups. Here if he chased them about they could at least escape from him by retreating under some low bushes where he could not follow. This did not prevent him from giving them a hard time as he tried to nick their food.

The passing of Sunbeam meant we have had to revise our strategy to keep him away from sheep, whilst still enabling him to have a live in companion. Fortunately, Pat England was looking for a new home for her pony next to Mickley Lane. Having spoken to her it was agreed that Spirit could live with her horse in the field next to the Cheshire Home. However, although he is quite happy there this arrangement has caused us great upset as a number of people have launched a campaign against us on animal welfare grounds. Firstly it was the R.S.P.C.A. they contacted. When they failed to support their complaints they made contact with the animal welfare department at Sheffield City Council and have got them involved. Over the last three years we have had a number of visits from R.S.P.C.A. inspectors as they respond to complaints made by local people. On all these occasions both the donkey and ourselves have been given a clean bill of health. At no point have we been threatened with prosecution or warned as to our standard of animal welfare. This is hardly surprising when firstly, you realise that we are regularly visited by officials from D.E.F.R.A. and F.A.B.B.L. which is the animal welfare based Farm Assurance Scheme, of which we are an approved member, Trading Standards and or course, our own vet. Also, secondly, Spirit is regularly wormed, has his hooves trimmed and is de-loused. If anything, he is overfed and over weight. He is more likely to be crippled by Laminitis as a result of over feeding by well meaning but ill informed passers by, than suffering from lack of nutrition. Anyone who has watched the TV lately will have seen donkeys carrying heavy loads up winding paths on mountain sides in sub zero temperatures in Pakistan, as people try to recover from the recent earthquakes. This hardly portrays donkeys as 'soft' animals that need to be wrapped in a blanket or kept in a shed as soon as the weather turns cool or wet. This fact has been proved as when we have provided Spirit with a proper livestock trailer to shelter in when it is cold and wet; he has refused to make use of it. Just proves the point that he is happy as he is.

Quite frankly this vendetta, which is what it has become, has gone on for long enough. I have resisted the temptation to respond to it previously but now it has got to the point where I have to take action to prevent any further unfounded harassment.

Notice is hereby given that if those responsible for this campaign do not cease their accusations forthwith, the police will be informed, their names will be published and they will be sued for compensation for deformation of character. Our reputation and our livelihood have been put at risk through no fault of our own. The phrase 'biting the hand that feeds you' seems very relevant to this situation. Sorry, I just feel very upset at the moment.
Edwin Pocock

LOCAL STREET NAMES

Marstone Crescent S17

Was built with Stonecroft Road in 1934 by Charles Lindley Marcroft, builder, who lived nearby. Marstone and Stonecroft seem to be concoctions of the name Marcroft and the word stone.

Meadow Grove, Meadow Grove Road S17

From 2 fields which stretched down the hill from Totley Hall Lane, one called the Meadow, the other called Far Meadow.

Meadway Drive, The Meadway S17

Were all built on or near former meadow land. Mead is another word for meadow.

Mickley Lane

From the area called Mickley which is referred to as Micklelee in a 13th century document. It means a great clearing.

Milldale Road, Mill Lane S17

Was built near the site of an 18th century lead mill which later became a cutler's wheele and later still a rolling mill. It closed in 1886.

Moss Road S17

No longer listed, named from the old bridle road across Totley Moss, moss in this sense meaning flat, marshy ground.

Newfield Crescent, Croft, Lane S17

From an old field name. The field, which fronted Newfield Lane, was part of Upper Causeway Head Farm. When the farm was offered for sale in 1897 it included "three closes of land called The New Field" measuring just over 12 acres.

Oakbank Court S17

From the much older name Akley Bank, which is nearby. Akley means oak field.

Old Hay Gardens, Lane S17

Old Hay Lane was recorded in 1770 as Ouday Lane which, according to language experts, comes from the ancient words ald haeg, meaning old fence or enclosure. The name was also used as a field name and as the name of a stream, the Old Hay Brook.

Extracts from STREET NAMES OF SHEFFIELD by Peter Harvey, Sheaf Publishing, ISBN 1 85048 025 7 £17.95

The Totley Commune

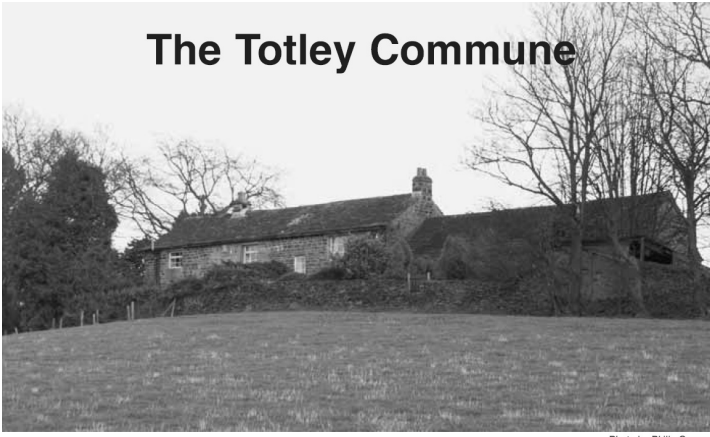


Photo by Philip Gregory

UTOPIA – MORE FOR ALL

In 1516, Thomas More wrote *Utopia* and the world was turned upside down. Attempts to create paradise on earth abounded. It was followed by visions of a New Jerusalem and other revelations. The Diggers, the Quakers, the Shakers amongst others became fired up by prophecy and the hot breath of the charismatic. Crazy sun-baked schemes were hatched, crazy half-baked schemes were carried out - Moravian, Muggletonian, the Camisards, Behmenist and Swedenborgian - eccentric and bizarre, often futile, but never dull.

THE TOTLEY COLONY AND JOHN RUSKIN

In 1871, the visionary John Ruskin established the Guild of St. George as a means of transforming a declining and corrupt Britain into a place of beauty and justice. For Ruskin, art and life were to merge as one. His utopian vision involved working the land and encouraging traditional crafts. Ruskin was a hater of rapacious capitalism, modern technology and saved special invective for the railways.

An area of 13 acres was bought in Totley in 1877 by the Guild of St. George. The land was first used as allotments for a group of Sheffield workmen. Then, it was run as a land colony with around 12 members. Edward Carpenter describes the men as Communists and great talkers. The installation of William Harrison Riley as custodian or Master of the Totley communitarian experiment was not a popular move and signalled the beginning of the end. Numerous arguments and disagreements finally sank the colony, though the severe weather, poor soil, the lack of mechanisation and the labourers lack of agricultural expertise must have contributed to the failure of the scheme.

St George's farm was taken over by Ruskin's own head gardener at Brantwood (David Downs) who set up 'Mickley Botanical Gardens' to try and show the best methods of cultivating fruit-trees including strawberries, currants and gooseberries. When this venture failed even John Ruskin lost faith and could not wait to unload his 13 acres of poor land at Totley.

EDWARD CARPENTER AND THE TOTLEY COLONY

Edward Carpenter, who stayed at St. Georges farm for a few months in 1880, was philosophical about the failure of the Totley colony though appreciated the efforts of those involved. 'They have kept the sacred fire alight through a long and dark night.' Through the influence of Carpenter, George Pearson, a quarryman and a miner, was allowed to lease the land. In 1882, Carpenter moved to Millthorpe to set up a market gardening business of his own.

FROM KROPOTKIN BACK TO CRACKPOT

According to Marx, history repeats itself, the first time as tragedy, the second as farce. Only this time, the policy is not driven by the hot breath of the charismatic, but by the hot and greedy breath of the developer. Politicians speak of change,

but never mention improvement. They spin about the need for sport in the community yet close down open spaces with aggressive and hostile fences. They wax lyrical about opportunity yet ignore the fact that social mobility has never been so poor. They speak of social harmony but never mention the crackpot policy of open borders and overcrowding. The ghost of John Ruskin haunts the landscape, repelled by the relentless cram and spread of urban ugliness and appalled by furtive plans to steal the Green Belt from under the noses of the people.

THE MAP BECOMES THE TERRITORY

On those 13 Totley acres, on those green and pleasant slopes, in summer meadows redolent of paradise, or when a pale winter moon rises above the distant moor, perhaps a crazy and glorious remnant of the vision of utopia can still be found. Overlooking those fields, it is almost possible to believe that the dream of heaven on earth is still alive and that the spirit of communality can be dug out of the stony ground of contemporary existence. As Oscar Wilde said 'A map of the world that does not include Utopia is not even worth glancing at'. Perhaps, a New Jerusalem of mutual cooperation, beauty and social justice can still be achieved. Then, perhaps, nowhere will become somewhere.

Jill F. Solomon PhD Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University

Andrew Hassall BSc (Econ)

writer of 'Snakebreath', 'Bleak Edge' (screenplay) and 'Talking With Angels'

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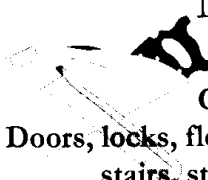
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TUESDAYS	COFFEE MORNING , Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am to noon. CRAFT GROUP , Totley Library, 2pm.
WEDNESDAYS	COFFEE in the LIBRARY , 10am. to 11.30am. TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUPE , Grove Road 9:30-12.00, Phone: Judith 236 3456 or Gill 236 1373 TODDLER GROUP , 10-00 a.m. to 11-30 a.m., All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. Mel 236 6300 HEALTH WALKS , 10-30 a.m., Totley Library foyer. Phone Sue, The Health Walk Ranger: 0114 283 9195 MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING , All Saints Church Hall, 2 nd & 4 th Saturdays, 8pm. to 10pm.
THURSDAYS	TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUPE , Grove Road 9:30-12.00, Phone: Judith 236 3456 or Gill 236 1373 NCT COFFEE GROUP FOR DORE TOTLEY & BRADWAY , 10.00-12.00, 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.. to 3pm. Tel. 2363157 for further details. CHAIROBICS , Totley Library, 2pm to 3pm. £1.
SATURDAYS	PILATES CLASS , United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, 6.15-7.30, Phone Emer Coffee 07792 422909 MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING , All Saints Church Hall 2 nd . And 4 th . Saturdays 8pm. to 10pm.

MARCH 2008

SUN 2nd CASTLETON FARMERS MARKET, the Village Hall, 10.00 am – 3.00pm
FRI 7th WOMENS' WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, English Martyrs Church, Baslow Road, 10.30am
SAT 8th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Carol Scott, Baslow Road. 8-30 pm. Non-members welcome, small charge on door.
SUN 9th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, Abbeydale Road South, First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m.(weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
WED 12th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP, Totley Library, 7.00 pm, all welcome.
FRI 14th BATTLE OF BRITAIN, Cheshire Home, 7pm, James Nicholson, cousin of James Nicholson VC, close friend of Leonard Cheshire VC, tickets £4 236 9952
SAT 15th SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, Mass in B Minor (J S Bach) with South Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra, 7.30 pm, Sheffield Cathedral, Tickets 0114 268 3812
TUES 18th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, AGM, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am
WED 19th SPRING FAYRE Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall. 10.00pm to 12noon.
SAT 22nd SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Russ Elliot, Baslow Road. 8-30 pm. Non-members welcome, small charge on door.
SUN 23rd & MON 24th (EASTER) MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, Abbeydale Road South, First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m.(weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
SUN 30th SHEFFIELD FARMERS MARKET, 10.00am-4.00pm, Barkers Pool

APRIL 2008

SAT 5th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Russell T Bird, Baslow Road. 8-30 pm. Non-members welcome, small charge on door.
SUN 6th TOTLEY YARD SALE, 10am – 2pm, see page 4 for more details.
SUN 6th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, Abbeydale Road South, First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m.(weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
TUES 15th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, 'Support Dogs', Mrs.J.Whitman, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am
FRI 18th 2pm-6pm & SAT 19th 9.30am-5pm ANNUAL ART SHOW, Dore Old School, all visitors welcome, works for sale. refreshments available, admission free
SAT 19th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Michael J Oliver, Baslow Road. 8-30 pm. Non-members welcome, small charge on door.
SUN 20th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, Abbeydale Road South, First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m.(weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk

THE INDEPENDENT FOR APRIL

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