

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY THE TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1977

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17 volunteers planted bulbs on the grass area between the Cross Scythes and the top of Hillfoot Road on November 8th. Many thanks to Kerry, Chelsea, Felix, Wayne, Louise and Justin from Cherry Tree for working so hard.



Totley Residents Association Update

Bulb Planting

This year we had lots of bulbs to plant, so decided to take three sessions to plant them.

Our first planting session of 2000 crocuses was very successful. After a frosty night we were welcomed by bright sunshine. Just after half past ten we began planting down the verges of Mickley Lane. There were 15 helpers including children. The crocuses were all planted after 45 minutes, the sunshine was lovely and it wasn't really cold. Most of us then went into Green Oak Park to look at the stream area. This has now been opened up by the parks team. It looks much better than before; the boys enjoyed splashing in and out of the water and getting muddy. Even the birds are enjoying the improvements. A few days later I saw blackbirds, sparrows, a robin, chaffinches, a wren and a great tit all feeding and bathing in the stream.

Our second planting session was again a success with 18 helpers including some from Cherry Tree and two students from King Egbert School who are taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. This time we planted trial daffodils, on behalf of the Council on the bank just beyond Cross Scythes, near the seat. We also planted daffodils on the other side of Hilltop Road. They will make a wonderful welcome to Totley and the City.

Our third session, again planting daffodils was undertaken on Baslow Road, from Marstone Crescent up to the shops and near the dentist. These were replacements as the others had been destroyed by the gas and water improvements.

I would like to thank everyone who came to help, about 45 in all.

Congratulations to those who came to all three planting sessions and a special thank you to Christine Shimell, who produced all the notices, put them up and picked up the bulbs from Norton Nursery on our behalf.

It appears my request for help to organise another Community Festival in 2009 and for help with a proposed Music Festival has fallen on deaf ears.

A VERY LIMITED number of volunteers have come forward.

Unless more come forward we will not be able to put on these events.

Green Oak Park Masterplan

The meeting in the Heatherfield Club on November 11th was disappointing as not many people came. Residents were joined by officers from Parks and Countryside and Assets and Premises. We worked in groups to complete ideas for the development of our park.

Discussions on the Masterplan are now more or less completed but things will change as the plan develops.

A copy of the Masterplan can be seen in the window of Ahmed's News Shop on The Rise.

We now move to the next stage where we begin to sort out the Action Plan and decide which part of the refurbishment will come first. Some improvements will happen soon, but others will take a long time to come to fruition.

Already work has taken place to remove dead trees and bushes. These will be replanted very soon. On the other hand it will take a long time before the buildings are re-furbished, but we have already begun to look at plans.

It is our intention to build a multi-purpose building, providing community facilities, with space for bowls and other sports.

What is finally built will depend on funding.

Highways

After more phone calls I can report the YELLOW LINES are now in place at the Mickley Lane /Baslow Road Junction.

Again I have been assured the bus shelters will be turned round eventually!

Permission for the work to go ahead has been given to Streetforce.

BUT the shelter near the traffic lights is waiting for YEDL to turn off the power to the lamp. This could take time as they are working to rule!

Planning permission for the 97 bus terminus at Broad Car is going to the planning board on 1st December with a recommendation it should go ahead. The lamp standards have already been erected.

Please note the Library will be open on Saturdays from 9.30am-3.00pm.

This is a pilot scheme from 1st December to 31st March 2009.

Safety at Christmas

Just a few reminders from the Police to help us enjoy the Festive Season safely.

- When out shopping make sure you keep your purse or wallet close to your body, to avoid pick pockets.
- Don't leave anything of value in your car.
- Never leave shopping bags or presents in view.
- Open the parcel shelf and glove compartment to show it is empty.
- At home, keep your car keys hidden away from doors, windows and letter boxes.
- Don't leave presents in view under the Christmas tree.
- If you go out leave a light or radio on.
- If you have anything suspicious to report ring 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

May I thank all the volunteers, who during 2008 have helped to make Totley a better place to live.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2009.

I look forward to next year and hope we can continue with the help of a team of volunteers to make Totley a good community in which to live.

Avril Critchley

Chairman, Totley Residents Association

TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP

Around 35 of us attended the latest meeting of the history group in November. The highlight of the evening was an entertaining and enlightening talk by Mel & Joan Jones, the renowned local historians. They gave us an insight into how to run the group in future and how to approach various topics – they expect great things of us! We also discussed 'archive sessions', to be held in the library which will give anyone the opportunity to bring along their Totley memorabilia. We will scan and record all items so that the owner can both share their momento's with us all. We hope this will be a series of sessions on Saturday afternoons, starting in 2009.

The next meeting will be a 'show' by members of the group on Wednesday 10th December at 7.30pm. As usual all are welcome.

Kerry Clarke



Transport 17

On behalf of
Michael our
Manager and
the

Management Committee, I would like to thank everyone for their support during 2008. Leonard Cheshire Home, English Martyrs Church and the local shops, especially "The Ironing Shop", are particularly good to us in practical ways. We would also be lost without the support of the clubs, local churches, Totley Residents Association, Totley Open Gardens, Totley Show and Totley Festival groups and the Library and Post Office.

Our new bus fund was increased by a £500 donation from Dore Village Society. I know that they support many local clubs, etc. We are honoured to be one of them.

Dore Townswomens Guild decided to have Transport 17 as their charity this year. They raised funds in many ways including selling plants. We attended their Spring Concert given by Totley TG Choir. It was brilliant. Thank you to each and every one of you for your time and effort.

Many individuals help us out with donations of, not just money, but gifts for our Coffee Mornings, such as the one we had on 29th November. I, personally, would like to thank Ian Clarke, Editor of Totley Independent and his staff. He helps me with my articles without making me feel as though I was back at school!!

Keep an eye open for a message telling you that have won a prize in the Sheffield Vulcan Rotary Club Draw. This is on 16th December and they will send/deliver the prizes. Hats off to them.

We will close our office at the end of services on Friday 19th December. We re-open on Wednesday 7th January 2009. That's another year gone!! We look forward to celebrating 25 years of service next summer. We are busily fund raising (and begging) for money for a new bus. A bit difficult in the present economic climate.

Finally, thanks to Michael and John, all the drivers and passenger assistants and my colleagues on the Management Committee for keeping us going during the year.

A Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year to everybody.

Margaret Barlow

Christmas Post

Recommended last posting dates:-

UK last posting dates

Thursday, 18 December	Second Class
Saturday, 20 December	First Class
Friday, 19 December	Special Delivery Saturday guarantee
Saturday, 23 December	Special Delivery

Parcelforce Worldwide

Monday 22 December	Parcelforce 48
Tuesday 23 December	Parcelforce 24
Monday 8 Dec to Monday 15 Decr	Global Priority

International Airmail

Wednesday, 10 December	Japan, USA, Canada and Eastern Europe
Friday, 12 December	Western Europe

Website: www.royalmail.com/christmasposting

Poor Chickens

Bertha and Edna, to the great consternation of Martha, Vera and Dora, moved into the hen run in October. A friend lent me an old rabbit hutch to keep the warring parties apart at night. Bertha is a handsome black and white Silver-Laced Wyandotte, and Edna a cross between an SLW and a Brahma, a bird with feathers on its legs.

When at last the two groups met one evening Bertha and Dora went head to head and I had to separate them. But things were fine as Bertha and Edna stayed in the run in the daytime while the other 3 roamed the garden.

Gradually I started to let Bertha and Edna out of the run a little. They didn't go far but loved the grass. Edna turned out to be quite tame whereas Bertha was flighty and pecked me if inside her coop. One day tree fellers started work in the garden next door and I realised Bertha and Edna had moved into the garden on the other side, probably spooked by the noise. I was not worried as I had not thought they could go far. Later in the day I came to check up on them and found they'd completely disappeared. We found Bertha under a hedge 4 doors down, but could not find Edna, though we searched 8 gardens. Well it had to happen sooner or later: in the middle of the night there were gruesome sounds of chicken murder, no mistaking the fox having found a very tasty surprise dinner. Poor Edna. Now Bertha is completely unnerved and even flightier, and the other 3 chase her round the run when they come home in the evening. She needs a companion so I guess we shall go and get another.

Besides this domestic tragedy, Dora, Bertha and the buxom Martha have been moulting. Which, of course, means no eggs. There is nothing so piteous looking as a



chicken in moult. The feathers come out in clouds, their heads and sides resemble porcupines, they look half the size they were before and they have bare pink bottoms and no tail feathers instead of the lovely plumpy backsides they used to sport. They don't seem to have much energy, get all hesitant and clearly don't feel energetic or want to eat much. They must feel the cold, what a silly time to moult when the weather is cold, wet and windy!! Martha's feathers are all coming back now, and she's reclaimed her title at the top of the pecking order.



Dora in her previous finery

The ups and downs of being a hen-keeper!
Jennie Street

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

TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

Well another Bonfire Night has come and gone. I don't think Lloyd our German Shepherd will ever stop shaking! The Gardening Club has hung up their forks and spades until March and Christmas is around the corner.

We have planted yet another 30 free "Trees for Schools". In reality they are small sticks with roots but we are forever hopeful! With the help of some funding from the LEA the school are buying some new fold-up tables with eight seats for our dining room. This will allow us to stack them easily in a corner and have another large area for teaching.

Mr Paxman our Y6 teacher spent some time over the summer holidays teaching in Africa in a very poor school. He has shown me some photos and the school doesn't even have any electricity. We are hoping, with the help of Unicef and Mr Poxman's uncle to twin our school with this school.

My hens look wet and bedraggled in this weather especially Sage our grey hen. She doesn't have a "comb" on her head like the others she has a Beatles style hair cut which looks really funny when wet. As winter is approaching I am now putting a drop of cod liver oil in their water to replace the loss of sunshine and garlic powder in their feed to stop them getting worms. Martin Farmer, our Chair of Governors, has not let me live down the fact his children Lucy and James got 3rd place in the Totley Show for their hens eggs and I walked away empty handed. Well, you can't win 'em all!

I think we have got the best choir the school has had since I started here. It was great to see some of our pupils at the Remembrance Day Service at All Saints Church. David Rhodes gave a very moving service to a full church and the local police very efficiently stopped the traffic while the wreaths were laid.

I honestly believe the Union Flag should be flown from all government buildings, including schools and the National Anthem should be sung at public events such as football matches and in theatres etc. We should go back to being proud of our United Kingdom and be patriotic like the Americans. If a huge mixed race nation like the United States can do it, why can't we?

That's all for now. My family and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. Please remember don't drink and drive - let's keep Totley safe.

Allen Miller Building Supervisor

Puzzle Corner

Prime Multiples

Complete the grid using numbers each of 3 digits. Each number is the product of two primes of 31 or lower

6							
				9			
	2				4		
					0		
		9		4			
5							
	1				6		

No 1 Hillfoot Road

(The Old Post Office)

I was surprised to see the picture of my old home on the front page of the November issue of the Totley Independent. We as a family, mother, father, myself, elder sister Kit and brother Clifford, known to me as Toby, moved in 1935 from a cottage on Cowley Lane, near Holmesfield.

We lived there, at least mum and dad did, until it was compulsory purchased to make way for the bus terminus, this of course never happened, the land including Summer Lane was sold on for new housing and mum and dad were rehoused in a prefab on Greenoak.

Before being a Post Office it had been a farmhouse. We still retained a very large garden and huts where I kept an assortment of 30 hens (road island reds, brown leg horns, white sussex).

I also had a large barn where I grew mushrooms and we had a pig sty which we did not use.

The house had 4 bedrooms, a large living room, a large sitting room (or lounge), a large kitchen and an extremely large pantry with stone slab, bacon and ham hooks.

There was no electric, cooking was by over open fire range, gas lighting and hot water from the fire heated copper in the kitchen. I believe the picture has had a bit of licence. I have a much older photo depicting it as a post office with the village postman stood outside and with shutters to the downstairs windows. The shutters were still in place when we moved in. There was no modern street light at the back. The roof tiles were thick stone slabs held in place with wooden pegs. The tiles were blown down in the gales hitting Sheffield in the 1960s. I have many happy memories of 1 Hillfoot Road.

J W Abson

PS - To the writer of Doug Turner's memories in reading the Threshing machinery, it came from Bingham's Hilltop Farm, Cowley, just past the old hirst hollow pit.

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

With apologies to Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your Porsche when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can pass the buck and dodge the bullet;
While taking risks with someone else's dough.
Scams, perks, bungs, insider trading;
Commissions, kickbacks, greenbacks by the ton;
The trough is over there and overflowing;
Fill your boots! Stick in your snout, my son!

Sell short, sub-prime, hedging, self-certificating sleaze
Masters of the Universe - so rich, so wise!

You've brought our once-great country to its knees;
Are you Al Qaeda or Bin Laden in disguise?
You have conned the government with gilt-edged
bullsh**;

You have screwed the hoi polloi and common man;
You have gained the earth and everything that's in it
And flushed virtue and the real economy down the
pan!

You became Masters of the Universe, well done!

Andrew Hassall

Writer of 'Snakebreath' (novel) and 'Bleak Edge' and
'Talking with Angels' (screenplays)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH

You will be most welcome at any or all of our Christmas Services and other activities.

WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER AT 7-30

Carols by Candlelight

SATURDAY 13TH AND SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER

Journey to Bethlehem

The Christmas story brought to life

See Diary Dates on the back page for times and bookings.

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER AT 10-30AM

All age worship and Toy Service

Receiving new small toys for the Shoebox appeal

SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER AT 10-30AM

Youth Church Christmas Service

SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER AT 6-30PM

Candlelit Carol Service

WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER AT 4PM

Christmas Eve Crib Service, for all the family (40 mins, approx)

THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER 10 AM

Family Christmas Morning Service

Refreshments will be served after most of these services.

And in January 2009 our ALPHA COURSE begins.

Alpha is a free 10 week course, giving you the opportunity to ask questions about the Christian faith in a relaxed atmosphere. The course lasts 10 weeks and begins on MONDAY 26TH JANUARY 2009. Please contact John on 236 6819 if you would like more information

"Did you know you can get free advice and support to help you stop smoking? And you can get this support in your area! The Sheffield Stop

Smoking Service has trained stop smoking advisers ready to give you information on nicotine replacement products and other aids to stopping smoking and provide support to you after you have stopped smoking.

You can get support to quit in your neighbourhood in the following places:

- Community Clinic, Bannercross Church, 12 Ecclesall Road South, S11
- Baslow Rd Surgery, 148 Baslow Road S17
- The Hollies M/C, 20 St Andrews Road S11
- Sharrow Lane M/C, 129 Sharrow Lane S11
- Ruetlings Road Surgery, 105 Rustlings Road S11
- (For all of the above you must be a registered patient with this GP practice to access support here)
- Peak Pharmacy, 35 Townhead Road S17
- Peak Pharmacy, 45 Baslow Road S17
- Totley Pharmacy, 158 Baslow Road S17
- Bradway Pharmacy, 298 Twentywell lane S17

Alternatively, you can always ring the Stop Smoking Service on our freephone number 0800 068 4490 and we will help you to find support that is convenient and local to you.

We know it's hard to quit. It's easier with our help."



ALL SAINTS CHURCH, TOTLEY HALL LANE

Sunday services are normally held at 10.00am (contemporary, with activities for all age groups) and 6.30pm (quieter, and more traditional). Things are a bit different across the Christmas period. Each Sunday we follow the same theme, which is shown below. This is also picked up on a regular Wednesday Communion service, each week at 10.00am

Services for December

Friday 5th - Saturday 6th Special weekend with visitor Daniel Cozens - who trained as an artist, but subsequently changed track to become a full-time Christian minister.

Saturday 6th Daniel will speak at

8am Men's Breakfast in the Church Hall.

7.30pm a Healing Service in Church.

Saturday 6th Carol Singing with and for Christian Aid, at the top of Fargate, on Saturday morning, 11.30 - 12.30. All Saints is asked to do this slot. Please come along and support the event and help put CHRIST back into CHRISTmas

Sunday 7th Giving builds Faith

Sunday 14th Getting ready for Christmas

Sunday 21st 6.30pm **CAROL SERVICE BY CANDLELIGHT** lots of well-known carols to sing, special music, drama, a seasonal message and Christmas refreshments.

CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm - Crib service - children are invited to bring a present to place under the tree (Please label with gender and rough age group)- these presents will then be distributed by the Salvation Army

11.30pm Communion Service

CHRISTMAS DAY 8.00 a.m. Communion Service

9.30am 45 minutes worship for all ages

10.15am Brief Communion service.

Sunday 28th

10.00am Looking back and looking forwards

4.00p.m. Memorial Service (A special occasion to remember loved ones no longer with us, and to light a candle in their memory).

Services for January

Overall theme "Joseph, a multicoloured life" a look at Joseph, one of the Bible's big characters.

Sunday 4th Daddy's Boy.

Sunday 11th Bitter Brothers

Sunday 18th A real set-up

Sunday 25th Sweet Dreams

Services for February

Sunday 1st Corrosive Guilt

PUZZLE CORNER

Christmas Card Mix-up

Rearrange each set of letters to show something commonly seen on Christmas Cards

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1 GLEEDS (6) | 11 VARYRIMING (6,4) |
| 2 CHECRUSH (8) | 12 GULPDINDUMP (4,7) |
| 3 SCARRECK (8) | 13 BRILLOPAX (6,3) |
| 4 RIDERENE (8) | 14 LUSTEDTROVE (5,6) |
| 5 TOMISTEEL (9) | 15 LOWLYHERHAT (5,6) |
| 6 ANTMOPS (7) | 16 HISBEYROLLER (5,7) |
| 7 DREPHHESS (9) | 17 RATTERSCHIMES (9,4) |
| 8 SCATSREEKI (3,7) | 18 SUNCASTALA (5,5) |
| 9 SCONESNEWS (4,6) | 19 ROCHISYOB (5,4) |
| 10 NEWSEMI (4,3) | 20 LAWNGINSLOB (11) |

Ramblings

Late-ish November and a friend and I, despite early snow, resolve to explore more of the Cordwell Valley. Hereabouts you meet few walkers and the countryside – its characteristic layout of wood- pasture and ancient field boundaries – seems to have changed little in centuries.

Beginning at Cartledge with its old Hall and Grange, we make our way down one of the ancient tracks that connect the many hamlets of this area – Brindwoodgate. Between hedges this sunken track or holloway (reputed to have been the track which brought the bolt of plague ridden cloth from London to Eyam) takes us down to Highlightly Farm looking rather dour on this wet-cold Sunday. Highlightly, according to Roger Redfern – an expert on the countryside round here – was lived in by landscape artist Winifred Wilson who had a little studio in the nearby Little Brind Wood. Great and Little Brind Woods are ancient “spring” or coppice woods, “brind” meaning burnt, signifying that these woods were used to make “white coal” for lead smelting – just like in our own Gillfield Woods. There seem to be no paths into the woods – only low gates for the Barlow Hunt – and little ongoing management of them. The bare sculptural shapes of the trees reveal themselves now they have lost their leaves, as do more subtle colours – the green shadows of lichen or, nearer in the hedges, yellow lichen dabs on hawthorn. Round and back up through the ancient hamlet of Peakley Hill – where yet another old farm seems to be up for sale and probable modernisation – we regain the old track and spend several minutes watching the bright flash of yellowhammers and goldfinches at the edge of a field.

The wind gets up as we find the car at Cartledge, so we pull of our wet boots, towel down the dog and drive to the wonderful Royal Oak at Millthorpe for a pint next to its welcome stove.

GS

Healing at Last.....

Open any newspaper and you'll be confronted with news of some fresh religious conflict. And if it isn't holy warfare it's the promotion of some new age superstition like feng shui or healing. This has even appeared recently in the pages of Totley Independent where lo and behold we learn we can be “healed” in the pub, without even buying a beer. Oh miracles never cease!

Hey I think I'll drop by and get some healing for those who have the Delusion Sickness, thinking they can cure others with waving their hands in the air and talking comforting psychobabble words over gullible people who need their rationality button repaired.

Or could I get some of this wonderful healing for the Prayer Sickness, which means you have to spend lots of time with your eyes closed muttering forgiveness for the poor people who don't believe in a supernatural body?

Better still I think I'll ask for healing for those with the Evangelical Ailment who think they should screw up the rationality buttons of other people so they in turn can go and do the same to yet more people.

And yes, I could also take along my double-amputee friend because she's in a 'situation' which affects her emotions. Having her legs healed would put an end to this 'situation'.

Or maybe I should admit my own emotional illness of Not-Believing-in-any-Supernatural-Being and get help for myself? I could then go off and heal the majority of the British population who also have the same mental illness of not believing in any sort of god.

From the unbeliever in our midst

River Stay Away from My Door

Sheffield, the city set within 7 hills and 5 major rivers, has some grand scenery on its own doorstep. The mighty river don rises high above Winscar Reservoir and Dunford Bridge, with a true source along Upper Dead Edge and is joined at Deepcar with its twin tributary the Little Don or Porter which flows through Langsett Dam and rises at Whizz Grough high above Howden Moors. Who would even begin to know that the mighty River Mersey has a humble tributary at Redhole Spring on Pikenaze Moor, a mere half a mile from the River Don, truly the watershed of Northern England? In my early bog trotting trespassing days in the Peak District hills I used to love tracking the source of the rivers around Sheffield. Our own River Sheaf rises along the Hound Kirk Moors at the Redcar Brook with a twin partner of the Totley Brook through Gillfield Woods. The nearby Porter rises high above Ringinglow Village to flow gently through Forge Dam and the parkland areas of Whiteley and Endcliffe Woods. The River Rivelin rises above the Hallam Moors and the lovely Wyhmng Brook. The River Loxley has always held a fascination for me with a humble beginning at Hobson's Moss Dike along the Bradfield Moors, this is one clough that I have never fully explored for in the early rambling days this whole area was trespass country and could not get past the Gamekeepers Lodge at Agden Bridge. Now that we have got finally full access to the moorlands it is rather too late for me to explore the grand back water clough of Hobson's Moss Dike. The simple answer I am not so fit these days, maybe some of you readers will have done the trek along this clough to the heights of Back Tor along Derwent Edge, the popular route from Bradfield over to the Upper Derwent Valley was via the adjacent Duke of Norfolk's road which track leaves the main highway from High Bradfield at the junction of the Mortimer Road above Agden Bridge. In this area you may stumble across the site of the ill-fated Hawker Hunter jet aircraft crash on Flint Hill located 2 miles along from the start of the Dukes Road. All that remains at this crash site in 1993 is a pond like crater and just across the valley to the north in the folds of the Ewden Beck lies another aircraft crash site of a Second World War bomber, a short sterling plane 1943. All the crew of 10 airmen survived the crash. The River Loxley made epic history back in the mid 1860s with the notorious Sheffield Flood. The Dale Dyke reservoir burst its banks in the adjacent valley causing havoc all along the Loxley Valley, right down to Hillsborough and Malin Bridge. Hundreds of homes were swept away with a tremendous loss of lives. This flood disaster was probably the worst this country has ever recorded, but on a lighter note this scenic area holds in my opinion the finest high level walking countryside around Sheffield's glorious frame.

John C Barrows

Totley Townswomen's Guild

Our 2008 birthday luncheon was held on 7 October at Abbeydale Sports Club, an excellent meal and a most enjoyable and happy occasion.

An interesting programme has been arranged for 2009, visitors are always welcome.

We meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 10.00 am in the Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. Contact secretary Mrs Hazel Brown, telephone 236 8952 or just come along.

The Green Man of Totley

I set up the green man in my front garden about 9 months ago in a senior moment of childish foible. He was a roughly topiarised five foot conifer with a large plant pot hat, carrot nose, ping pong ball eyes and a splendid large white dickie-bow (supplied by a local young mum).

What followed amazed me. Passers by stopped to tell me that he put a smile on their face. Dozens and



dozens of children and parents on their walk to the local primary school were delighted by him and when classes of youngsters were being walked to the library or elsewhere there was an obligatory pause for excited chatter and giggles.

He certainly added a bit of ligh-hearted pleasure and uplift to life.

Sadly, it is all over.

Late on a Sunday evening in October after I had repaired the damage he had sustained a week earlier, he was totally vandalised by a person or persons unknown. What a pity.

Harry Liddle

STRAY DOGS - WHAT TO DO

What would you do if you found a dog wondering the streets? If the dog is approachable check firstly for a collar with a disc which should give the owners name and telephone number or for a plastic tag these come in various colours this should indicate that the dog has been Micro-Chipped, you could then if possible take the animal to a Vets for them to check the Micro-Chip name of owner that is the easy bit. If you find a dog either at night or weekend and no chip is found you would need to contact the Animal Wardens on 0114 203 7410 this should give you the information you require together with an emergency out of hours mobile number. The R.S.P.C.A. have no responsibility for taking in Strays nor does the Police the Animal Wardens are the only ones responsible now for taking in Strays.

Once you have contacted the out of hour's emergency number you would then need to take the animal down to the Kennels where the animals are kept either until the owners are found or they are rehomed.

THE EMERGENCY OUT OF HOURS MOBILE NO. IS 07879651762 REMEMBER KEEP YOURSELF SAFE. If you need more help or advise on animal welfare give me a call Marlene on 0114 235 1005.

Carolling in Derbyshire

Hathersage Carollers invite you to join them in singing their "local" and traditional carols in aid of The Edale Mountain Rescue Team. The venues are:-

17 December, The Plough Inn at 9.00 pm

19 December, The Scotsmans Pack at 9.00 pm

22 December, The Millstone Inn at 9.00 pm

29 December, The "Big Sing" Little John Hotel at midday

Horses at Totley

Another year has gone by since I last reported to readers of the Independent. Since then there have been several changes in personnel. Dexter, a colourful small horse and Alice, a white filly, have departed to pastures new. At Debbie's farm Meg, a brown filly, and the two Shetlands, Merlin and Bonny, are no longer to be seen as they too have moved away.

I still visit the horses at Totley Bents each weekend to hand round a few carrots and apples. Entering Penny Lane Peggy a huge, powerful filly and Caprice, another brown filly, are grazing in the field next to The Crown Inn and come swiftly to the gate on hearing my shrill whistle.

Peggy takes precedence while Caprice hovers in the background as they eat their share of the fare. Further up the lane near The Cricket Inn Daniel is on his own but is pleased to have company while consuming the food.

Teresa has applied for planning permission to improve the area around the stables and things are quiet at the moment while awaiting the result.

At the farm at the foot of Moss Road Punch, Milly and Gus are to be found. Punch, a tall white gelding is somewhat reticent to approach as he gives way to Gus and Milly who are first in the queue. Gus a tall, good looking colt, seems to be in charge and is first to take a carrot while Milly, now three years old and looking more like her mother Anna each time I see her, takes second place in the pecking order. Punch then takes a few carrots to show that he has not entirely lost his appetite at forty plus. In his younger days he had a voracious appetite. He does not however accept a piece of apple but spits it out. He seems to prefer the carrots.

The two remaining horses on my tour, Herbie and Aran are at present grazing a field adjacent to Baslow Road, As I approach they are not to be seen but my whistles soon bring a gallop out of the wood into view. Herbie, the powerful, piebald, gelding is my favourite and asserts his authority taking precedence while Aran, a sturdy white gelding, waits in the background as I throw him a few carrots and apples. Herbie stamps his foot petulantly as he looks for more carrots. When the last of the fare has been eaten Aran rolls over and over on the ground on his back in sheer delight.

And so another year goes by and life at Totley Bents passes much as before apart from those departed who remain old friends in the memory.

Hugh Percival

The Abbeydale

Having just read the article by Ben Miller about The Abbeydale Picture House it brought back memories of the night of the Sheffield blitz. I went with my mother, brother and 2 sisters to the evening showing of the film "Andy Hardy as the Young Tom Edison" starring "Mickey Rooney". The sirens sounded and everyone was ushered down to the ballroom and there we stayed till the all clear. During the raid all the lights went out. The building was a prime target. I was 13 years old at the time. I wonder if there is anyone alive who experienced that night in the Abbeydale?

Joan Hilton

I never did see the remainder of that film!

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH, GROVE ROAD

Everyone is warmly invited to take a special Journey to Bethlehem, to trace the events leading up to the birth of Jesus during the very first Christmas over 2000 years ago. Free 30 minute tours will begin on SATURDAY 13TH AND SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER between 4-15 and 7-30pm. Visitors will be met by a Roman Centurion, who will guide them through scenes from the Bible telling of the birth of Jesus, take them on a visit to the Inn at Bethlehem, and to the village market place, where local crafts will be demonstrated, and visitors will be able to sample food of the time. Having visited the shepherds in the fields, the tour ends at the stable, where a real baby Jesus is cared for by Mary and Joseph.

The tour, in small groups, lasts about 30 minutes and is free, you are invited to stay for refreshments afterwards. Come warmly dressed, as the shepherds,(and their sheep!!) are outdoors. If you have been before, you are most welcome to come again, and bring along your friends, for many people, it has been said that Christmas starts here!

Around 900 people journeyed last year, and now, as then, it is essential to book your time slot in advance: you can do this from 17th November onwards by calling 0114 236 8726.

All of us at Totley Rise Methodist Church look forward to seeing you, as we prepare together for Christmas 2008.

On Your Dorestep

Do we always appreciate what is on our doorstep? Well, a new walks book, "On Your Dorestep", hopes to ensure that the beautiful and varied countryside on hand in our immediate vicinity is both recognised and explored.

In full colour the book presents 25 walks, of varying lengths, all in and around our area. As well as detailing interesting walks, the book's 124 pages also give details of features along the way together with some historical background. A number of photographs and sketches show landmarks and views in the areas of the walks.

The Dore Village Society has produced this book as a service to the local community, as well as to encourage more walking, which apart from being an interesting and inexpensive pastime, is also judged to be one of the healthiest forms of exercise.

Copies of the book are available to purchase locally at Seasons on Abbeydale Road South next to the Tesco mini store and would make a lovely Christmas present at £8 per copy. Get to know what is "On Your Dorestep".



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"Helping people and trees co-exist"

Sheffield Dog Rescue

Sheffield Dog Rescue is a registered charity and has been working in rescue since 1984. They always work to full capacity, and have a non destruction policy.

We have in our care at the moment several adult dogs which are often harder to rehome as many people are drawn to the appeal of a cute puppy, but many of these dogs are in kennels through no fault of their own.



BAILEY

CAN YOU HELP? Bailey is a beautiful Lurcher, he was found tied up on a Motorway Slip Road at night. He is now in our care and looking for a loving home which he deserves. Bailey is approx. 18mths old he has a smooth coat black with a white star on his chest, he is a very friendly lad and wags his tail constantly given the ordeal he must have been through.

CAN YOU HELP if so please contact Marlene on 0114 235 1005 for more information.

FOTRS

Friends of the Rowan School

Do you want to join this small friendly group of volunteers with their hugely worthwhile task of fundraising for the benefit of the children who attend this small Special Primary School in S17?

The children come from all over the city, and have severe communication disorders including those on the Autistic Spectrum and have loved the extras that FOTRS have provided in recent years. These include – a minibus, sensory room, Plug into Music Therapy, an outside activity circuit, trikes and scooters and a shed to house them in, amongst many projects.

At present, they need more volunteer fundraisers to help write letters, research on the internet and meet to talk about how to raise money towards new projects such as a sensory garden, a bike track, develop an orchard, woodland area and allotment.

The group meets in the daytime in term time, for an hour or 2 every week or fortnight. Please get involved by calling Chris Moore on 0114 262 0068 or Miriam Broom on 262 1383



Sundays 7th & 14th December

First Train 11 o'clock

Last Entrance 3.30 pm

**Admission £7.00 each
on the gate**

Admission price includes train rides, tea/coffee and mince pie for the grown ups, and for the children a visit to see Santa in his grotto, a quality present and a drink.

We are on Abbeydale Road South, Sheffield S17 3LA (opposite side to Abbeydale Garden Centre and in Ecclesall Woods)
Look for the yellow notice board on the grass verge.

www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk

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with the Animals & Father Christmas

6th - 24th December 2008



Totley Hall Farm
0114 2364761

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

2008 Booking Form

Please tick first and second choice dates.

To: Totley Christmas Festivals.
Please send tickets for:

.....no. of adults @£9.50 =
(price includes mulled wine and
mince pies for adults)

.....no. of children @£9.50 =
(3-16)

.....no. of children @£4.50 =
(aged 2 and under)

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

TOTAL =

	Sat 6th Dec	Sat 13th Dec	Mon 15th Dec	Tue 16th Dec	Wed 17th Dec	Thur 18th Dec	Fri 19th Dec	Sat 20th Dec	Mon 22nd Dec	Tue 23rd Dec	Wed 24th Dec
	1.30	10.30						10.30	1.30	10.30	10.30
	4.30	1.30			4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30
		4.30	4.30	4.30		6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30

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

What some of our visitors said about us last year:-

Excellent and very good value.

Fantastic, not just great for
kids, thank you so much.

An absolute winner! For both kids and adults.

The most wonderful Santa outside Lapland.

Our 2nd year, absolutely brilliant again,

A wonderful experience, I cuddled a lamb!

The Christmas story beautifully and simply told.

Fantastic, Can I have a lamb to take home
please.

It was brilliant says an angel and an
innkeeper.

Sam had a lovely chat with Santa and
enjoyed dressing up as a king.



For further information or to book your places using our
credit card hotline, please call Jenny on 2364761 or visit
website www.totleychristmasfestivals.co.uk

Abbeydale Picture House December `08

November was a pretty quiet month as we are still getting over the busy Summer/Autumn season, pushing on with our restoration campaign and working on the new website, but few things happened during that season that you may still not be aware of.

Over 40 years ago Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice wrote their first musical 'The Likes Of Us' about Dr Thomas Bernardo and how he came to start running an orphanage. The show unfortunately never made it to the stage but the songs were dug up a few years ago and made their debut at the Sydmonton Festival but as the script could not be found the show was narrated by Stephen Fry. This year it was agreed with The Really Useful Group and the National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) that the show would be released to amateur groups (with the script) and to celebrate the release of the show NODA were given the opportunity to create a compilation video to show at their annual conference to publicize it. They chose one drama group/amateur dramatic group from each region to perform and film one song from the show to be put into the final compilation video. The Picture House Youth Theatre (PHYT) was chosen to have the privilege of representing the North East. The PHYT performed the title song 'The Likes Of Us'. The video was not only starring the PHYT but was also filmed and edited by a member of the Youth Theatre, myself, which gave the North East a unique twist compared to the rest of the country as it was youth by youth. Fifteen takes and twenty hours of editing later the DVD was finally sent to NODA and submitted into the final compilation video.

September also saw the new website and the new campaign launched. The new campaign 'Raising the Rafters', is trying to raise £387,000 to have a new roof fitted and to make the building watertight. It is important that we raise this money as quickly as possible, not only to try and stop any further water damage to the interior and heat loss but it is not possible for us to go after any grants or funding until the roof is completed. The campaign gives you the opportunity to buy a stack of slates, through the Abbeydale, for the roof and to also have your name on our Hall of Fame on the new website. Simply call the Abbeydale information line: 0114 281 1155 or go on www.abbeydalepicturehouse.co.uk, click on restoration, click on raising the rafters and download the brochures and donation forms on the right side of the screen. It costs just £5 per stack of slates (5 slates per pack) and you can either make a one-off donation (turquoise brochure) or you can sign up for a monthly donation out of your account (blue brochure). Just print off the form, fill it in and choose how many stacks you want. Don't forget to Gift Aid your donation if you're a UK taxpayer to allow us to claim back the tax on your donation. On the website you can also download a brochure about how to become a 'Friend of the Abbeydale' for just £12 a year (purple brochure). The new website has all the details you need on events in Bar Abbey and the main theatre, any news and press releases as well as history and donation possibilities. You can also contact us with any memories that you may have of the Abbeydale which we hope to publish in an Abbeydale Picture House book.

2008 is a year that will go down in Abbeydale history. This year the Abbeydale has seen some fantastic performances grace its' stage with performers ranging from 5 to 70 years old, the first movie in the Picture House since 1975, a new website, a new fundraising

campaign, a project with NODA and The Really Useful Group and it has seen the Picture House Youth Theatre become full and we now have a waiting list for it. The future is looking bright for the Abbeydale as it continues to go from strength to strength. Hopefully one day the Abbeydale will once again have the glamour and elegance that it did in 1920 with modern facilities bringing all the visual and performing arts to the local community and the city of Sheffield.

Still to come in 2008:

Dick Whittington

December 5th 10am and 1:30pm

A Family Pantomime produced by Chaplin's Gold Pantos in association with Chewits. Let your little ones enjoy the wonder and magic of Panto for just £5 per person. Up to 3 teachers go free with school groups.

NEW EVENT! NEW EVENT! NEW EVENT! Christmas Band Showcase

December 13th 7:30pm

Spend a cold, wintery night in the Abbeydale Picture House listening to a mix of live music to get your toes tapping.

All tickets £5

Abbeydale Christmas Showtime

December 19th 7:30pm

The sell out, annual Christmas Variety Show is back by popular demand. Each year brings new talents to the stage for the Christmas season. This year the Picture House Youth Theatre will be performing a mixture of your favourite Disney songs and songs from Fame along with sketches from the Sheffield Manor Operatic Society's panto and the Amanda Holland Cheerleaders topped off with a Christmas Sing A Long. For one night only!

Just £10 per person-includes nibbles. Tickets going fast!

Call the Abbeydale Box Office to book: 07775966106

Don't forget to visit www.abbeydalepicturehouse.co.uk or call the Abbeydale Information Line: 0114 281 1155 to see what's on in Bar Abbey during December including Keith Peter's Big Band, Northern Soul Night, Ramblings of a Jobbing Actor (one-off special), and many more.

Merry Christmas from the Abbeydale Picture House and a Happy New Year.

Ben Miller

Puzzle Corner

Solution to prime multiples

$$143 = 11 \times 13$$

$$667 = 23 \times 29$$

$$119 = 7 \times 17$$

$$323 = 17 \times 19$$

$$299 = 13 \times 23$$

$$437 = 19 \times 23$$

$$319 = 11 \times 29$$

$$361 = 11 \times 31$$

$$713 = 23 \times 31$$

$$391 = 17 \times 23$$

$$133 = 7 \times 19$$

$$209 = 11 \times 19$$

$$403 = 13 \times 31$$

$$253 = 11 \times 23$$

$$493 = 17 \times 29$$

6	6	7		3		1
		1	1	9		3
3	2	3		1	4	3
	0				0	
2	9	9		4	3	7
5				9		
3	1	9		3	6	1

Don Ashford

OUR EARLY DAYS IN TOTLEY

Recently my wife commented on the friendliness shown her when shopping at shops on Totley Rise and this started us once again reminiscing about when we came to live here in 1957. I had come to work in Sheffield and, after the usual hunt we bought a house not yet built. One lunchtime a colleague offered to drive me up from town to check building progress. He lived off Twentywell Lane and said we would go there for a bite to eat and would need to call at the shops beforehand. This is my first memory of the shops and I have to admit it was not an auspicious one. He parked the car and went to buy two large chops from Tyms the butcher. As I recall there was a sloping wooden panel in the window and here the meat was displayed - not very hygienic was my thought. After we moved here we were regular customers there over many years. An abiding memory is of Horace, slinging the bits he trimmed off meat, into the corner of the shop. I always imagined these were his sausage ingredients, so much nicer than today's pre-packed offerings from supermarkets.

Another regular port of call was Mrs Springs well stocked sweet shop. Sometimes, on the way back from a local Sunday walk, we would call in for the children to select something from the halfpenny tray, a selection laid out to tempt any small child and needing much consideration before the choice was made. This always had to be done under Mrs Springs vigilant guard. I seem to remember Mrs Spring telling me her father ran the photo shop in Norfolk Row in town - the Sheffield Photo Company- and that he was a pioneer of cine films. Occasionally my wife and I would treat ourselves, not being restricted to the tray! The constraint in those days was more financial than possible effect on the waistline. A little higher up were the delicatessen run by Eric and Davy's the provision merchants. We occasionally shopped there though most of our provisions were from Ormes at the corner of Bushey Wood Road. The system there was for a lady to come round to the house to collect the order which was then delivered later. I suppose this may be regarded as the forerunner of ordering over the internet - but no charge and no minimum order. Next to Ormes was Bradshaw's greengrocer, Jimmy Martin next to them, and the local branch of the city library, now a hairdresser's establishment. Our girls loved to go to chose their books from the children's selection. One of our early neighbours here was manager of the large Davy's branch in Fargate, the one which always had the lovely smell of grinding coffee. He occasionally gave me a lift into town and I remember him having a little moan one morning. He compared his job with that of the manager of M&S also in Fargate. The point he was making was that as soon as any line did not sell well in M&S it was withdrawn. On the other hand he had to stock over 5000 different items and he could be called to account if a customer found just one not available. Of course M&S survived and Davy's disappeared. Another illustration of different attitudes to service comes from my own family. My son-in-law John works in London in the news industry. His first job every day before breakfast is to devour the morning newspapers. His regular grumble whenever he stayed here over a bank holiday was that he couldn't get them because Jim Martin was closed. We, on the other hand remember Jim's kindness all round. Shortly after our move here my wife asked for a magazine Jim didn't have. A few days later he dashed out when he saw her at the bus stop to tell her he'd got it. Another time offering to cash a cheque before cash machines were around, reminding us to get tickets for the local shows, selling someone a single battery fiam a pack of four and many others. It was not just the shopkeepers who seemed so helpful in those days. We moved into the new house in

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the depth of winter, in early December with two small girls. What could be more welcoming than finding a pint of milk on the doorstep left there before we were up by Mr & Mrs Frith who continued to supply us for many years. Two particular things I remember about Mrs Frith were her refusal to accept any "alien" milk bottles for return and her scorn for "hogmanised" (homogenised) milk. I am sure it is not just we oldies who look back on those times with pleasant memories. Our three daughters have all been known to drag up some memory from their childhood Recently our eldest daughter related a tale, perhaps towards the end of her primary school days. She said she had been allowed to join a group of local children, each armed with sixpence, to go to the chip shop on the rise. Apparently their goal was to buy a bag of chips each, a real treat different

from home prepared variety. It turned out on arrival at the chip shop one of the lads discovered he was a penny short of the required sum for the bag of chips. This must have been before the cod war because he was able to buy a portion of fish instead. However the lady serving couldn't bear this poor lads disappointment, so gave him a few chips as well and so he got fish and chips.

Of course they were lucky in two particular aspects, a lot of children of similar ages all moving into these few houses within about a year, and being at a time when they could go unescorted by adults as they grew older. In days before widespread television, mobile phones, internet and universal car transport, they were more dependent on their own resources for play and entertainment.

Perhaps on some future occasion I may be allowed to offer other memories of changes since our early days here.

Don Ashford

Wooden Pole

The imaginatively named Wooden Pole, which served as a guide for travellers over the moors, also marks the boundary between the townships of Hathersage and Holmesfield. A stone at the base of the pole is carved 'T 1778' and is believed to mark the riding of the bounds of the parish of Totley at that date. The Holmsefield Turnpike Road, which was authorised in 1781, also passes this point but was adopted by the Duke of Rutland as a private road for the estate, and the road (now the B6055) moved to its present course in 1836.

The date of the first Wooden Pole is unknown, but nearby Stanage Pole which served the same purpose (and today even marks the boundary of a European Constituency) has been in existence since at least 1550.

Gardening Tips for December 2008 and January 2009

Mid-winter is on the way, I hope you have done all the jobs to keep your plants nice and cosy over the colder period. I have insulated the greenhouses, taken in most of the vulnerable plants, I wait for the frost to placton dahlias before taking them in, covered the pond with netting to catch the leaves and acorns which fall from the old oak tree, it also deters the herons. We have managed to do a bit of tidying up (Christine is able to do a bit more now that her hip is coming along nicely) so the garden looks as though it belongs to someone again. I have started digging the vacant vegetable areas I have to dig it a bit at a time as my old back gives me a hard time if I overdo it (that is my excuse!!). The lawn is looking good, I gave it an autumn feed earlier so I shall look forward to a lovely green sward next year. I have kept the mower fairly high this year and it has paid dividends in its appearance. The acor "Autumn Blaze" is coming into colour, it is a lovely showing tree but it grows very fast when it reaches 6 years old. The cordon apple trees have fruited well, we have a few in store and we have feasted well on crumbles baked and apple pies, nothing beats the flavour and satisfaction of harvesting your own fruit and veg knowing that insecticides have not contaminated the plants. I have just been up the garden, it is raining again, I have cleaned out the bird feeders, they do make a mess and the rain tends to clog up the seed holes. It is important to given them a good clean so that the birds have a healthy feed, another important chore is getting rid of algae and moss from pathways. I have used path and patio cleaner, this time it seems to have done the job. It needs a good brushing and hosing down after applying the cleaner. It does look a lot better and we will not be slipping and sliding about so it is much safer. It is a good thing if you can get these jobs done now when it is not too busy at his time. We have an indoor plant called aeschynanthus, now there is a mouthful! Common name is basket vine, it has just finished flowering, the plant is not very exciting with plain bay type leaves on straggly stalks until it flowers, it has narrow 4 inch long orange/yellow trumpet like flowers with white projecting staymens up to 8 on the end of each stem and during the day it appears to be lit from inside each flower, it is one of the easiest flowers to look after, we very often forget to water, it does seem to mind at all, is a really lovely plant for about 3 or 4 weeks when in flower. It needs to be kept pruned otherwise I think it would take over the dining room.

The leaves are falling quite rapidly now, do not let them lie to long especially on the lawn otherwise you will have a nasty mess, bag them up and leave them for a year or so when you will have lovely leap mould to add to your compost or use as a mulch around plants. That is all the comments for this year. I hope Father Christmas brings you some nice gardening goodies and that you have a wonderful gardening year.

Flowers

Dig any vacant ground and top dress with a good manure or fertilizer, if you are putting in bedding plants next season don't over do the fertilizer or they will make more green than flowers. A touch of bone meal or hoof and horn will do nicely. Make sure your insulation around the plants which are likely to be affected by frost is adequate, straw or agricultural please or even newspaper can help (newspaper can only be used where it is a sheltered spot, otherwise it goes all soggy and freezes up). You can take root cutting at this time, oriental poppies, perennial verbascums, anchuvras and phlox can be propagated this way, dig up a root mark the top cut into small pieces about an inch long noting the up end, push them into a sandy compost in a well drained box or pots. The tops of the cuttings should be just level with the soil. Place in a greenhouse either warm or not and water moderately. They will be slow at shooting, and in late spring when they are properly hardened off the small plants can be established outdoors. Check dahlia tubers in store, cut out any rotting bits and dust the cuts with flower of sulphur. Prune clematis, jackmanii and the hybrid types. Increase stocks of rhododendron and azaleas by layering, that is bending one of the lower branches down to earth and pegging it down. A bit of sand mixed with the soil where it touches the ground will help, a small nick in the branch will also be beneficial and encourage it to "strike" sooner.

Vegetables

Dig any vacant plots, clearing away any crops that are finished. Leave the clods of earth large so that the frost can get at them, this is the only thing that frost is good for. Oh it also knobbles a few slugs. Check your soil condition and balance the pH. To suit the crops you are going to grow, do not add any lime to freshly manured soil, the lime locks the goodness in the manure and takes a long time to be of benefit to the soil. Protect cauliflowers from frost by bending a leaf or two over the curds. You should all know by

now if you have been paying attention, that Boxing Day is the traditional day for planting onion seeds, especially the ones for the Totley Show. Kelseo or Robinsons mammoth are the real whoppers.

If you want really good flavoured onions use Ailsa Craig seeds, they are great for kitchen use. If you are not growing from seed, onion sets make good bulbs but are planted in May under cloches or April in the open. (Turbo or Sturon are good varieties.) Seeds need to be in deep boxes or in individual fibre pots. Pots are best because there is less root disturbance when planting out in May or April and therefore less check to growth. They don't need a lot of heat 55 to 60 degrees or so, lowering to 50 degrees F when they show through.

Start planning what you are going to plant and where, try not to plant the same crops in the same place as last year, rotation is the order of the day.

Buy the seeds in good time so that you have an early start if the weather is clement (we hope).

Trees, Shrubs and Fruit

Continue pruning if it is not already done, it must be completed by the end of January. Also the winter tar oil wash. This will kill off any aphid eggs and other nasties waiting to pounce in spring. Check over any potted shrubs and ornamental trees in pots, make sure they are comfortable in their winter quarters and make sure they have not blown over or the insulation is loose. These things can be quite expensive so a little thought at this time can save a lot of heartache later. Cover any soft fruit bushes with fleece or netting in January as birds can be a nuisance pecking off developing buds. Spring flowering almonds and any shrubs or trees susceptible to silver leaf curl or black spot or canker with a good healthy quality fungicide, choose a bright calm day and wear a mask and any other protection recommended by the manufacturers. If we have snow this winter go round knocking it off the branches of conifer trees, the weight of snow can seriously deform this type of tree, especially if they are quite small ones.

Greenhouse and Indoor Plants

You greenhouse should not be empty at this time, but, if it is give it a good clean up with a good disinfectant, especially if you have had nasties in there last season. Those proper gardeners who have plants in will have to be extra careful when disinfecting and cleaning, cleaning the glass is particularly important as in the winter the plants which are growing will need as much light as possible during the shorter days.

Whilst you have the disinfectant out, give the empty pots and trays a good dowsing ready for the busy springtime ahead. Where watering is needed, do it sparingly and don't splash around, you need to keep the atmosphere as dry as possible. On sunny days, even in winter, the temperature can be quite high so be ready to ventilate when it reaches 60 degrees F or so, but remember to close the vent in the afternoon, or when it turns dull, when the temperature can drop quite rapidly. Mid January is a good time to sow cyclamen (they take 15 months to reach flowering stage), geranium and begonias.

Start taking chrysanthemum cuttings and also at the end of January you can start off begonia and gloxinia tubers, the begonia will need a minimum temperature of 55 degrees F. Gloxinias need a bit more, around 60 to 65 F If can't maintain these temperatures leave them dormant until later. After the daffodils and hyacinth you got for Christmas have finished flowering give them a weak feed of house plant food and let the leaves die back before storing the bulb away until next season, it's a shame to throw them away and they will give good flowers given the chance.

Mother Nature is wonderful you know, especially if she is given a little help from us wonderful gardeners (Ha Ha!). House plants don't like high temperatures and draughts (well most of them) so don't put them near the heating appliances, the non flowering specimens will not need a lot of water at this time, standing them on damp pebbles and spraying over them will do just fine. The exception is any plant with hairy leaves, they need watering from the bottom, again, quite sparingly.

It's given me quite a funny turn thinking that there may be an empty greenhouse out there!

Lawns.

As usual rake up any leaves etc. but only on fine days, don't walk on lawns when it is frosty or snow covered or you will have yellow footprints across your grass in the spring. If you have a wet spot on your lawn area give it a bit of sharp sand that should help. If that does not cure it, then land drains are the answer, but that can be quite a big job. Don't forget the old mower may need an overhaul, it's cheaper to have it done before February. Whilst you are at it get the shears out, they may need a bit of fettling also.

Once again a Happy and Joyful Christmas to you all and a good gardening year to all you proper gardeners. Don't forget the Totley Show in September; Be prepared as the scouts say. Cheerio for now Torn.

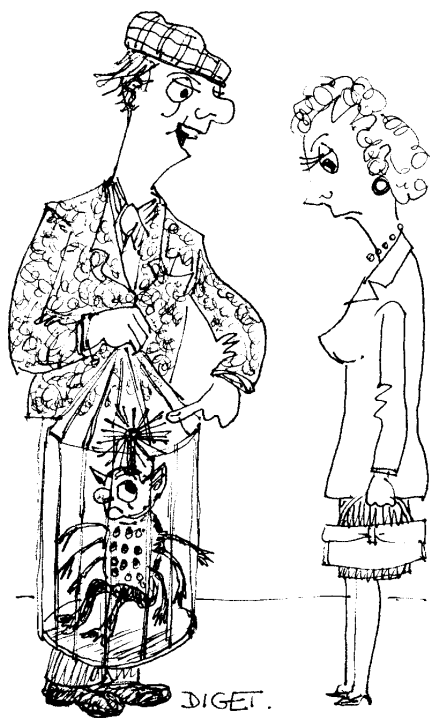
Christmas Carol Coffee Morning

Dore and Totley United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, Saturday, 6 December

Come and see our display of Christmas trees at Dore and Totley URC, tea, juice and mince pies from 10am to 12.30 pm. All proceeds in aid of HARC (Homeless and Rootless at Christmas)

All welcome.

THIS FOOTPATH LEADS FROM MILL LANE IN TOTLEY AND PASSES OVER THE TOTLEY BROOK VIA A FOOTBRIDGE CLIMBING CLAY WOOD AND THE POYNTON WOOD BEFORE REACHING BRADWAY. DOES ANY READER KNOW THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME POYNTON OR POYNSTON?



"I THINK I'VE CAUGHT THAT FLU BUG THAT'S BEEN GOING ABOUT TOTLEY!"

SUSAN CHESTER

Fiona Howard writes that her mum, Susan Chester, was a house mother at Cherry Tree Children's Home in the late 50's/early 60's. The matron in charge when she started was Mrs Mason and then Mrs Moore. She would be grateful to gain news from any other staff, children from those times. Please contact Fiona via email: fionaandandrew@fsmail.net

OLD TOTLEY by Jo Rundle

My first personal encounter with William Aldam Milner was in September 1930, nine months after I left Totley School at Christmas 1929 age 14. There were no jobs for girls except in domestic service, in farm houses, as cleaners in the public houses, or as 'skivvies' as they were nicknamed, for the residents of the newly built bungalows on the Heatherfield Estate. The latter was not the most popular choice for the first few years due in part to the problems encountered in the actual buildings that caused some amusement in the old village. Fortunately, or unfortunately, dependent on which way it was viewed, my Father said that I would not go out to work; my job would be Mother's help now that my three brothers were growing up. I had mixed feelings, and so did my Mother who had helped on her Grandfather's farm and, although her life had been very happy, she had 'Never had the experience of going out to work'. I very soon had the same sentiments as my Mother who was very independent and did not really need any help, and I spent much time sewing and playing the piano, or fiddling about making fancy salads or trifles.

A few weeks before Easter my old school friend Gladys and I were contemplating our futures and wondering where the Gods might lead us, when she suggested that I persuade my Father to let me spend the summer at Photo Finishers in Nether Edge. Her Sister Marjorie had worked in the offices there and had negotiated a job as seasonal worker for her from Easter to September, and they had a few vacancies left. With the support of my Mother I sprung the question on my Father that night and was delighted and excited a week before Easter to find myself walking the three miles to the trams at Beauchief on the way to my first job.

At this juncture I must explain my Father's puritanical attitude as to work and pleasure. (1) Work is a virtue, and if you make work a pleasure and have to work all your life you will have enjoyed it! (2) He who pays the Piper calls the tune! He also believed that exercise was good for the Soul, and a good walk every day opened the lungs and improved the health. Hence the decree, that my Brother should walk to Totley station, take the train to Heeley, and walk across the city to Walshs workshops in Trippet Lane, and I should walk to Beauchief, take the tram to Broadfield Road and walk up to Nether Edge. No doubt a healthy programme, but sometimes a little unfair on myself as, occasionally in the busy summer season, staff at Photo Finishers had to work overtime in order to get all orders out for delivery by van at 7 am to places like Grimsby, Worksop, Epworth and chemists in South Yorkshire. It was not unusual for me to miss the last bus for Totley from Pond Street and walk past Beauchief Dam at 11-30 pm ...not a pleasant experience for the nerves! However, walking did not change my attitude to my Father's principal that work was good for the soul and I enjoyed every minute of that first summer.

September came all too quickly when Gladys said that she would walk home with me from Beauchief on this our last night. As we neared the Cross Scythes, and knowing that I was not looking forward to a boring future, she asked what I was going to do next. 'You know, they want a new kitchen-maid at the Hall and you could do that'. In my ignorance I asked 'What does a kitchen-maid do?' 'Well, said Gladys, she must have to do some cooking, and you like cooking, so I'm sure you could do it'. On an impulse, as she turned towards her home in Hall Lane, I left the road to Lane Head and joined her. 'I'll go and ask', and in a few minutes I was standing in front of the huge carved front door viewing the great iron bell hanging from a bar about six feet above my head. Reaching for the heavy chain attached to it, with extreme difficulty I pulled it and the bell rang throughout the Hall and into my terrified ears. William Aldam Milner answered the door bell, staring with a menacing expression, heavily bandaged gouty foot sticking out whilst he balanced on his stick and fired the question, 'What do you want?' 'I've heard you'... I stammered when he interrupted, 'You should be at the tradesman's entrance, go round to the back door' when

a voice came from the dim interior 'What is it Aldam?', as a hand pushed him aside and Mrs Milner stood there looking straight at me. 'What is it little girl?' she asked kindly, to which, no more afraid, I started to explain, until she interrupted with 'Come inside little girl, into the drawing-room where we can talk. After a few questions as to why I wanted the job, and a few explanations as to what it entailed, she asked my name and I was puzzled by the change in her attitude and question 'What is your Father's name Josephine?' 'Isaiah' I said, and was even more surprised when she rose and with a smile held out her hand 'Well Josephine, I shall be very pleased to have you work in my kitchen, and I will make sure that you like working for me'. With that she showed me out of the door.

Many, many years later in the 70's I had the answer, from a cousin seven years older than myself. She explained that my Grt.Grt. Aunt Julia, daughter of a Sheffield Silversmith, and sister of William, (mentioned in a previous article) was a great friend of this lady who was to become my employer Sarah Milner, and together they always attended The Cutler's Feast at the Cutlers' Hall in Sheffield. It's a small world! It was with some trepidation that I went home after my encounter at Totley Hall wondering what reception I would have to face. My Mother was taken aback, and not a little worried about what my Father would have to say, but very understanding as to why I had done it. She had been in a similar situation at 12yrs. old on leaving Dronfield Woodhouse School when her Grandparents needed her to stay at home and work on the farm. She had always regretted not having the opportunity of going out into the world to work with other people, and was worried about my Father's reaction to the news. 'This is the very thing your Father didn't want' she said, 'You going into Domestic service'. That night passed without her telling him and he rose early as usual and went to set on the morning shift at the Strawberry Lea pit, and I was out when he returned as usual about three o'clock after setting on the afternoon shift I understood very well her relief when she recounted what had happened. Dad was standing at the sink after scrubbing off all the coal-dust he had accumulated and was talking to my Mother when there was a loud knocking at the door and when she opened it in walked none other than Mrs Milner who, seeing my Father, hurried towards him, hand outstretched saying, 'I'm so proud to have your daughter Josephine as my kitchen maid', then pushing him aside she turned to my Mother and asked, 'Does Josephine work at this sink?', and an amazed Mother answered 'Yes Mm' Out came a tape measure to measure the height of the sink, the depth from front to back and the height and position of the tap. 'Is Josephine comfortable working at this height?' 'Does she have to stoop?', 'Can she reach the back of the sink easily?', I do have duck-boards, and stands to raise the bowls in the sinks if necessary. To which my Mother answered yes or no as befitted the question.

Finally, 'My servants must be comfortable at their work, and I am sure that my kitchen and scullery sinks will be satisfactory'. Then a final word as she made for the door, 'I look forward to having your daughter as one of my servants Mr. Salt, goodbye, and Mrs. Salt and out of the door she went, on her way picking up the lead of her French Poodle, who had been tethered to our gatepost. According to my Mother, for once my Father was speechless. 'What's that all about?' he asked her when he had his senses back, and speech, for my Mother said he had looked bewildered and had never said a word all through the action. Relief was all over hers. It was strange, she always knew when to speak out, and when to stay 'strumm' (Old Derbyshire for 'silent').

Arrangements had been made for me to commence my new job on October 1st 1930. On that day I walked down Baslow Road into a completely new life. My Mother had helped to pack a huge suitcase with all the clothes I would need, except my new uniform, for that would be waiting for me when I arrived at the Hall and she now carried it for me as we walked in silence past the War Memorial towards the Post-Office corner. Standing there for a moment she hugged me tightly, wished me happiness in my new life, handed me my case, and with a final hug watched me as I crossed the road, and with a wave of the hand made my way down Hall Lane.

The latch on the back gate to the Hall was stiff, and seemed not to want me to open it. The suitcase was awkward as I gingerly negotiated the flight of steps to the courtyard, but by the time I had taken two steps across the huge stone slabs, the kitchen door in the far corner opened, and a smiling, auburn haired, 24 year old cook came marching towards me, grabbed the suitcase and welcomed me over the threshold into a large warm, cheerful kitchen that would play a great part in my new life.

I could see that it was almost lunch time by the time cook, a local woman from Holmesfield called Lillian Pearson, had taken my suitcase up to my bedroom, where I found my new grey dress and large white apron laid out ready for me to slip into, and I was soon in the kitchen once more, and ready for work. It was almost time for serving lunch and my first job was to mash and cream the potatoes. Lily, as she told me to call her, had strained them from a huge black iron pan into a panchon even bigger than the one in which my mother used to ferment the rhubarb wine, and with a huge wooden masher I began to pound them, sure that the muscle in my right arm grew harder with the effort, even harder as I used a large wire whisk and, with the addition of a jug full of cream, beat them into the finest, purist, white peaks that looked like a bowl full of ice-cream. "You'll do" said Lily, as she filled a serving-dish with my creation ready for Edna the parlour maid to carry with the rest of the lunch items to the mistress's lunch table.

Now it was time for me to learn how to do a job that would be mine and mine alone, except on my days' off which was laying the table for the Servant's lunch and now was the time when I really came to understand what my mother had told me; that Gentlemen's Service was completely different from 'skivvying'. She knew, because her Aunt, my Grt. Aunt Annie, who was the nearest to a 'Gramma' from the age of four, born in 1866, had at the age of 8yrs had (not unusually at that time in large families) been put out to Service at Dronfield Hall. This was the beginning of a career that ended as Chief Cook in the kitchens of two Sheffield Master Cutlers, when tammying, spit roasting, wine-

making, sauces and ice creams were all the crafts of the cook, before all the bottles, tins and packaged mixtures of today were invented.

I think we all have reason to be proud of, and respect our ancestors. Sorry, 'offside', or is it a 'foul?' I followed Lily down the passage and into the Servants' Hall, and watched as she went to a chest of drawers and brought out a large newly laundered tablecloth and put it on the table. "Now Joss" she said, for that was the name from that day forward that I was known by, and answered to. Very carefully opening the cloth, it was soon covering the table and being nimbly eased into place, taking care that the folds were exactly parallel, and of equal distance from the edge of the table, and the ends were exactly the same distance from the floor at both ends. Opening one of the two large drawers on the side of the table she withdrew a handful, and proceeded to set them in place according to how many would be taking lunch that day. The precision was quite breath-taking, for I had only heard of such procedures by my Grt. Aunt, and thought then that it was a bit weird. Every knife, fork and spoon, every mitred table napkin, every cruet and sauce-bottle, were set in their ordained places, the latter duplicated at each end of the table for easy access for all the diners without needless stretching. The only omission was no flowers, a fact that I didn't really notice at the time, but learned a lot about later. Now, it was my turn. Everything was removed and had to be replaced in the same order, position, and content. Thankfully, by the time the Mistress had finished her lunch, I had 'passed muster' and could look forward to my first meal, and meet some of my future work mates.

After lunch Lily sat down with me and explained some of the things that she knew had puzzled me, particularly all the care and precision for my Mother was careful in all she did, and had taught me many things, but now I understood why she had said to my father "She will learn much more than I can ever teach her". After washing-up was finished and everything back in it's place, free time was had by all until teatime, and this was the time for Lily to explain, and I listened very carefully. "You see Joss, the Milners are the County aristocrats, there are many in between them and the Monarchy, but they are important in the chain. Before being accepted in a Royal household the staff have to be trained and, to some extent, vetted or proposed by someone and those people form a chain, of which those like the Milners are the first rung of the ladder". She continued "You know, if you learn the wrong way to do things, or one that other people don't favour, it's hard to change your habits but there are some basics that are accepted by everybody, and that's what this first rung does, and their reputation depends on it. The reputation of the servant also depends on it, because, when they apply for a new job and are asked for a reference and a list of the places that they have worked in, the reputation of those employers is even more important than the new servant's. The pathway of training is most important, and reputations depend on it. That's why we, and the Milner's, have to be strict".

Her final, rather flippant words made my heart beat a little faster, "You know Joss, if you learn to do things right, including courtesy, diplomacy, integrity, and are an excellent cook, you'll have no difficulty in getting a job at Buckingham Palace in about 1950". Lunch time gave me a chance to meet and get to know a little about the rest of the indoor staff, including the canny

old Isabella Forbes, a Scottish lady who had been the children's nurse until they were old enough to be independent, when she was invited to stay on at the Hall and using the old day-nursery as her private room. Now 75yrs old she was invited on some occasions to the front of the house and was a much respected member of the household.

The first child Marjorie was born in 1885, William (Billy) in 1888, and Roy much later in about 1896. Sadly, he was killed in World War I a week after enlisting, when the whole village mourned his passing. Both house maids were local girls and had been at the Hall for a number of years; Mary Bishop, the Head housemaid, whose family lived in Shrewsbury Terrace, and Gladys Lees, the Under housemaid from Totley Rise, who had adopted the name Annie, because the parlour maid at the time was also called Gladys and this might have caused some confusion. She was the daughter of Fred Wragg, who lived at the old Toll-bar cottage on the Holmesfield Road and had been allowed to take the job of kitchen-maid at the age of 13, although the school leaving age had been raised to 14 a few years before, because World War I had started, and there was an acute shortage of workers. She had left Totley Hall in May 1930 to get married, when Edna Doe, from Old Whittington near Chesterfield became the present parlour maid and years later married Tom Cook who some old Totley residents will remember when he worked at Pickford & Holland's brickworks. Lillian Pearson, Cook, an old friend of Gladys Wragg, had come to the Hall in August, having been recommended by Gladys. She said one day "I'm still feeling my way". So, as things turned out I was not the only new maid servant at the Totley Hall, but the one with no experience. To be continued

Farming Scene

We are now nearing the end of November and at last we are having a few days of dry weather. The sun has even come out on one or two occasions. The ground is dryer now than I have known it for some time. It is surprising how much easier it makes a shepherd's life. No slipping and sliding as you try to beat the sheep to the feed troughs with their daily protein fix. No slipping sideways across a hill in the Mule ATV (all terrain vehicle) even though it is locked in four wheel drive. No getting wet through from the rain or by the sheep rubbing their sodden fleeces up against your legs. It makes shepherding much more tolerable, or even enjoyable!

The tups have been busy getting intimate with out Texel ewes and put pretty blue, red or black marks on 98% of them now. We will leave them with the ewes for another 3 weeks or so just to catch any that do not hold to the first service. They should start to lamb around the beginning of April. We have bought in some extra ewes this year which bring our numbers up to 170, and give us a bit higher stocking density. This is very much against the national trend with many farmers reducing or dispersing their flocks purely on economic grounds. The national flock itself is reducing, particularly in the Scottish Highlands where there has been a 30% reduction in ewe numbers. This is a trend copied by most livestock enterprises, including dairy herds where numbers have dropped so far that milk is having to be imported from Northern Ireland to help make up the shortfall.

We mentioned last month that we were having our Dorsets ultrasound scanned to see how many lambs they were carrying. Of the 91 scanned 8 were not in

lamb and the rest averaged just under 2 lambs a piece. This included 15 lots of triplets! This sounds good in theory but with ewes only having 2 teats more often than not one of the 3 has to be hand reared. This problem is further aggravated when the ewe only has milk on "one side" as one that lambed last night had. We had 3 lots of triplets born one after the other late last night/early this morning so bedtime was put off to 1.30 am.

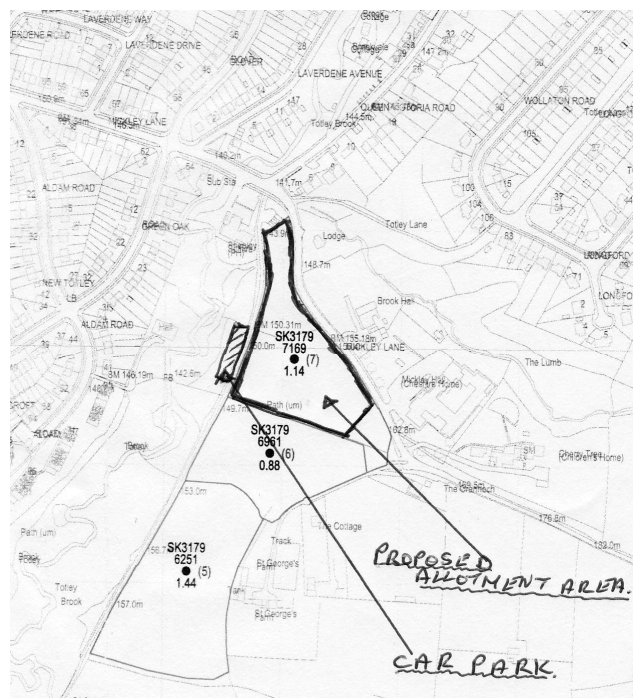
The nativity plays have started and Jen and the team are gradually getting back into the routine of these events. The schools that have visited to date have commented that they have had a good time with the children really enjoying themselves.

The results of our soil tests have arrived and make some interesting reading. 2 or 3 of the fields require a small dressing of lime to correct a slightly acidic index. The potash index is mainly adequate but the phosphorous index are generally a bit low. This was sure to be the case as this is the nutrient that is the most expensive at the moment! We have been quoted a price of £485 per tonne for a nitrogen and phosphorous based fertiliser. Needless to say we will not be using more than we have to.

That "hardy perennial", the allotments issue, has become a more pressing problem recently. A meeting was recently held between 4 of the interested parties and as a result a new site has been put forward for consultations with the planning department and other interested bodies. The site adjoins Mickley Lane just opposite to the Brook House and is accessed by way of the track that runs alongside The Shepley Spitfire. It extends to some 2.5 acres and has the benefit of mains water, good access and street lighting. The latter should help prevent overnight theft or enable really conscientious gardeners to work their plot at any time. If you have any strong views for or against this proposal, please direct them not at me, but to the Council's Allotment Officer, John Martin telephone 273 4528. A plan of the areas affected is posted alongside for your information.

Farmers are noted for being "Jack's of all trades" and necessity now requires me to cease my journalistic efforts and revert to midwifery mode. Let's hope their timing is better tonight.

Edwin Pocock



Green Oak Park Trees

Those of you who visit the park regularly will have seen the Parks and Countryside Team have been very busy clearing away old shrubs and diseased trees from the stream area and the shrubbery.

Many people have commented how much better the park looks already. Some of you were also surprised to know there is a stream in the park. We plan to develop the stream area and put in new trees and wild flowers.

We have met with Jerry Gunton the Tree Manager from Parks and Countryside.

With his expert help we have chosen nine new trees for the park.

I must apologise for using Latin names for the trees we will be planting, but not all trees have a common name.

A Ginkgo biloba or Maidenhair tree will soon be planted not far away from the Indian Bean tree.

A Pyrus calleryana "Chanticleer" or Ornamental Pear will also be planted in between the winter flowering cherry and the crab apple. Two maples, acer campestre and acer cappadocicum will be planted on the corner near the flower beds. Three Rowan trees, Sorbus Joseph Rock, Sorbus hupehensis and Sorbus commixta "Embley" will be planted near the childrens playground on the bank. Two Silver Lime trees will be planted near the mature acers across the path from the childrens playground.

I thought it would be interesting to learn something about the trees we will soon have in the park.

Ginkgo Biloba (Maidenhair tree) is a unique species of tree, a living fossil dating back 270 million years. It was thought to have been extinct in the wild, but is now known to grow in Eastern China. It is a large tree with unique fan shaped leaves which turn a bright buttery yellow in autumn. The tree adapts well to the urban environment and rarely suffers from disease problems or attacks from insects. Four trees survived the Hiroshima atom bomb explosion and although charred soon recovered and are still alive today. There is Ginkgo in The Botanical Gardens and a small one in my garden.

The **Ornamental Pear** is an unusual stately, deciduous, thorny Chinese tree, introduced to the West in 1908. "Chanticleer" comes from America. It is very popular because of its terrific show of early spring blossom and brilliant red autumn leaves. It has a tall spire-like shape and the ability to tolerate pollution, so is often grown in cities. The tree has been given the Award of Garden Merit by the Royal Horticultural Society.

In the next Totley Independent we will look at some of the other trees.

The maples -there are many different species. They are all very beautiful especially in the autumn.

Acer campestre, the field maple is native to England, but not found in Scotland or Ireland. The leaves turn a clear yellow, but also red and golden brown. It tolerates drought, air pollution and soil compaction. The wood has been used for veneers, furniture and musical instruments. It is a versatile, resilient and attractive tree.

Acer cappadocicum is a deciduous tree from China with beautiful winter bark.

The Rowans

Sorbus "Joseph Rock" - Chinese Mountain Ash is a spectacular tree introduced from China by the plant hunter Joseph Rock. It has lush green leaves that turn

a fabulous blood red in autumn. The yellow berries hang in large clusters. It is a glorious small tree.

Sorbus hupehensis, (Hupeh) Rowan comes from West China. It is a small columnar tree, introduced by the plant hunter Ernest Wilson. The large leaves have a blue / green appearance when young which take on a fiery red and orange in autumn. Masses of pretty white flowers are followed by white / pink berries in autumn.

Sorbus commixta "Embley" is a small tree, native to Japan, Korea and the far east of Russia. Pale flowers in early summer are followed by clusters of glistening deep red berries. The leaves produce a spectacular display of red and gold.

Tilia tomentosa "Petiolaris", the weeping silver lime or Silver Linden. The most graceful of all our large weeping trees, it grows very quickly and is resistant to aphids, and makes an excellent tree for a park. The flowers are scented and the dark green leaves are white and felty underneath. They shimmer in the wind. The tree comes from Eastern Europe and was introduced to Britain in 1767. Bees pollinate the flowers, but often die as the nectar is toxic to them. In autumn the leaves turn a translucent gold. The tree prefers a heavy, damp soil, so should thrive in our park.

Avril Critchley

Edward Carpenter

I have just been reading the November edition of the Totley Independent and find Sally Goldsmith's piece on the eccentric Edward Carpenter and his many friends to be fascinating.

Local history came alive for me when mention was made of "Woodland Villas", no 48 or 50 Queen Victoria Road being Carpenter's address in the 1880s. My wife was born at no 50 and my auntie Annie, dad's sister, lived at no 48 as the first wife of Frank Gliddon from about 1916. Unfortunately, Annie died in 1922.

I seem to remember George Hukin the razor grinder being around in Totley in the 1930s.

My special interest is in Harry Brearley, the stainless steel pioneer who moved into Brook Terrace when he married in 1895. Harry's life story, "Knotted String" speaks of meeting Carpenter's friend and companion George Adams who was then living with the poet at Millthorpe. Adams taught Harry how to make waxed thread and stitch leather and acquire skill in repairing the family footwear. This was especially useful when Harry's wage was £2 a week and his total capital £5. As many will know Harry Brearley went on to become a Freeman of the City of Sheffield and a great benefactor.

Bill Glossop

PUZZLE CORNER

Solution to Christmas Card Mix-up

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 Sledge | 11 Virgin Mary |
| 2 Churches | 12 Plum pudding |
| 3 Crackers | 13 Pillar box |
| 4 Reindeer | 14 Turtle doves |
| 5 Mistletoe | 15 Holly wreath |
| 6 Postman | 16 Holly berries |
| 7 Shepherds | 17 Christmas tree |
| 8 Ice skaters | 18 Santa Claus |
| 9 Snow scenes | 19 Choir boys |
| 10 Wise men | 20 Snowballing |

Don Ashford

BEE HIVES IN TOTLEY

For many years Totley was part of the parish of Dronfield, the origin of which name appears to be 'open land with drones'. Drones are the non-working males of the Honey Bee which help to maintain the temperature of the hive, provide the initial fertilisation of the queen and, like all bees, produce a humming noise - hence the monotonous speaker 'droning on'. Towards the end of the summer they are driven out of the hive by the workers to die.

The name 'Dronfield' therefore owes its name to honey, the universal sweetener before sugar replaced it in the mid-nineteenth century. A survey of inventories and wills of the 1535-1750 period for Dore and Totley show that of the one hundred-and-fifty-nine scanned, ten had bee hives (6%).



Included were Grace Woodhouse of Totley (1679) who had two hives and bees valued at sixteen shillings and who left them to her cousin, Alice Woodhouse. Also Henry Yellott (Elliott), a Totley husbandman, in 1618 had two swarms of bees valued at thirteen shillings and fourpence. In Dore, Christopher Waddy (undated) and Jone Waddy (widow in 1591), had bees. In 1616 the inventory of Robert Newbould of Totley (almost certainly the father of George who built Totley Hall) included two 'hyves'.

Hives of bees would be given or bequeathed, and beeswax often given to churches for candles.

More people probably had bees but either felt they were too unimportant to include in their inventories, took them for granted or had the view that bees were here today but might be gone tomorrow.

Walker and Crane, who specialise in the history of bees, say that wicker or straw 'skeps' used as hives were bought and sold. A house in Beeley on the Chatsworth estate has a stone platform in the garden where a beehive was placed. At the front of the slab is a raised piece on which the bees would land before entering the hive.

Honey is still farmed only 10 or so miles from Totley at Troway near Coal Aston.

There are many claims for the benefits of honey - burns, stomach ulcers, wound healing etc.

Brian Edwards 21/11/08

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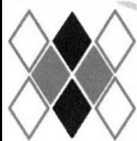
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4. Accept that you will have ups and downs in your weight loss journey, and be forgiving of yourself if you hit a difficult patch.
5. Listen to your 'inner script' and make a conscious effort to talk to yourself in a positive, encouraging way.
6. Keep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

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MONDAYS	COFFEE MORNING , All Saints' Church Hall, 10am-noon
TUESDAYS	COFFEE MORNING . Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am-noon WOODSEATS ADVICE CENTRE . Drop in service, free, impartial, and confidential. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10am-noon CRAFT GROUP . Totley Library, 2pm
WEDNESDAYS	COFFEE in the LIBRARY . 10am-11.30am TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUP . Grove Road 9.30am-noon, Phone: Judith 236 3456 or Gill 236 1373 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
SATURDAYS	MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING . All Saints Church Hall 2 nd . And 4 th . Saturdays 8pm-10pm

DECEMBER 2008

MON 1st - 23rd DRESSED FOR CHRISTMAS, Chatsworth House
SAT 6th CHRISTMAS CAROL COFFEE MORNING, display of Christmas trees at Dore and Totley URC, 10am to 12.30 pm
SAT 6th BIRCH CLEARANCE, Meet at Strawberry Lee Lane Car Park, grid ref. SK296803, at 10.00am event run by Sheffield Wildlife Trust
SAT 6th & SUN 7th VICTORIAN XMAS MARKET, Kelham Island, 10am-7pm Sat, 10am-5pm Sun, £3 Adults, £2 concessions, accompanied kids free
SUN 7th CASTLETON FARMERS MARKET, the Village Hall, 10am-3pm
SUN 7th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, SANTA SPECIAL, Abbeydale Road South, First train 11am - 3.30pm (weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
WED 10th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP, Totley Library, 7.30pm, all welcome
THU 11th - SUN 14th SHEFFIELD CHRISTMAS MARKET City Centre
SAT 13th & SUN 14th JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM, 4.15pm-7.30pm, Totley Rise Methodist Church, free 30 minute tours, bookings on 236 8726.
SAT 13th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Ginny Marie, Baslow Road. 8.30pm. Members Christmas Party
SUN 14th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, SANTA SPECIAL, Abbeydale Road South, First train 11am - 3.30pm (weather permitting) www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
TUES 16th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Christmas Meeting, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am
THU 18th SHEFFIELD FARMERS MARKET, 10.00am-4.00pm, Barkers Pool
SAT 20th HOLMESFIELD CHRISTMAS FARMERS MARKET, the Village Hall, 11.30am-4pm, Local Produce, Cheese, Meat, Hot Sandwiches & Tea/Coffee
WED 24th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Ray David, Xmas Eve Special, Baslow Road. 8.30pm. Non-members welcome, small charge on door
WED 31st SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, New Years Eve Carnival, Baslow Road. 8.30pm. Non-members welcome, small charge on door

JANUARY 2009

SAT 11th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Vince Lee Gayle, Baslow Road. 8.30pm. Members Christmas Party
TUES 20th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, 'The Gas Man Cometh (Anaesthetics)', Dr.J.A.Caunt, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am
WED 21st TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP, Totley Library, 7.30pm, all welcome
SUN 25th BIRCH CLEARANCE, Meet at Strawberry Lee Lane Car Park, grid ref. SK296803, at 10.00am event run by Sheffield Wildlife Trust

THE INDEPENDENT FOR FEBRUARY 2009

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

SATURDAY 31st January 2009

COPY CLOSE DATE for this issue will be
SATURDAY 17th January 2009

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 Tel. No. **235 2526**.

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