

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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A wintry scene looking up Baslow Road with Hillfoot Road on the right, this could be the 1950's judging by the cars but the wealth of TV aerials would suggest a later date - probably into the early 1960's.

View from KES (8)

I hope that you have had a good Christmas and New Year.

All the building and grounds work on the new King Egbert School is just about complete, and we are very pleased with the result. More information about this and the official opening of the new school is given later in this article.

We often get many compliments passed on to us, but most of these are 'by word of mouth'. We would like to build up a 'thanks book', where we can keep letters and comments and pass them on to the staff concerned. So if you have been particularly pleased about something – maybe a trip or activity in which your child has been involved, or you have attended a school event such as a concert, a play, or have been shown around the new school on one of our Open Evenings why not send us a note and let us know?

THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDING

I can confirm that the official opening of our new school will take place on Friday 10th March. Richard Caborn MP has kindly agreed to open the school. In addition to Richard, we are hoping to have one or two other guest speakers at the event. The school will also be open on Saturday 11th March for ex-pupils, staff and members of the local community to come and have a look around. In the run up to the opening we hope to have a number of events for students to celebrate this special occasion.

CHARITIES

During the last few weeks of term we raised money for a local charity – HARC (Homeless and Rootless at Christmas). HARC provides shelter, food and friendship for people in Sheffield who have no home over the Christmas and New Year period (this help is also extended throughout the year). The Christmas Concerts were held early in December, following a rehearsal weekend for the orchestra, which provided intensive tuition and rehearsals for our musicians. The concerts were very good, and they were thoroughly enjoyed by the musicians and audiences with the range and standard of music being excellent.

On the last Tuesday of term pupils from Y7-Y9 ran a variety of stalls at the 'Christmas Cracker'. The idea of this event is to allow pupils to take responsibility for organising fundraising stalls (sideshowes, games, sales of homemade food etc.) and to have fun at the same time.

Staff also raised money through a raffle and a 'Colleagues' Christmas Card' – instead of sending individual cards, staff made a donation and gave one card for a staff room display of seasonal greetings.

As a result of these events we raised over £750, and we will be presenting a cheque to a representative of HARC in a Y7 assembly.

In November we had a special fundraising day for the Pakistan earthquake. We had a non-uniform day, an Eid party and pupils also raised money by bringing in homemade cakes etc to sell, having sponsored silences (always popular with teachers) and busking. We raised £1800, which was donated to the Disasters Emergency Committee.

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ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

On Thursday 19th January our Adult Education classes should begin. At the time of writing I am not yet clear how many people have signed up for each of the classes we are running; ICT, Asian Cooking and Biology. These classes are all free of charge, all I ask is that we have a reasonable minimum number who are willing to attend. If you are reading this article and would like to know more or are maybe interested in attending one of the classes, why don't you give me a call at school and I shall see what I can do?

BUSES

We have been working with FirstMainline to make a number of changes to the way we manage the bus service. About half our pupils live outside the immediate area around the school (Dore and Totley), and many of the remainder travel to and from school by bus. In November we wrote to all parents outside the S17 postcode area about bus issues.

We have a longstanding rule that pupils who use the 97/97A service must catch the bus at the terminus outside school at the end of the day. This is because we have staff on bus duty supervising the pupils and ensuring well ordered queuing and boarding.

From January, the bus service after school is due to improve with a fifth bus being put on. This means that between 3.25 and 3.40 there should be five buses to take pupils from school.

We also want to ensure that pupils do not congregate in the area by the Spar and Tesco at the bottom of Bushey Wood Road after school, where there have been some problems in the past caused by poor behaviour. Pupils have been told they are not allowed to visit the shops at the bottom of Bushey Wood Road before 4.15 unless accompanied by a parent. We have spoken to the shop managers about this and they are happy to support us by not serving our pupils after school. The shops will also let us know of any problems and use their CCTV to record antisocial behaviour.

At the same time, the bus company has closed the two stops near the Spar/Tesco area after school, so buses will not pick up from there.

We expect pupils to leave the school straightaway at the end of the day unless they are involved in a supervised activity (sports practice, study club etc.) – we cannot be responsible for unsupervised pupils.

PROGRESS WITH THE NEW SCHOOL

Work on the new school is nearly complete. Since September, the contractors have been completing the external works – car park, drives, tennis courts/play areas and landscaping. We anticipate that everything will have been finished within the next couple of weeks.

We are very pleased with the way in which the new school has been maintained in good condition so far. We have worked hard with pupils to ensure that they respect the tremendous new facilities – we don't want it to be taken for granted, and by and large this has been the case. Unfortunately we have had one or two cases of petty vandalism. However, in each instance the culprits were caught on CCTV, and they have been dealt with by the police – we won't hesitate to report such cases to the police, as well as seeking the cost of the damage.

We have also been largely successful in our efforts to keep the school 'gum-free'. We would like to remind parents that pupils are not allowed to have chewing gum in school, because of the mess it makes, and we deal with culprits accordingly. We also ask that visitors (including parents!) refrain from chewing gum in school.

USE OF THE DRIVES AND CAR PARKS

Dropping off and picking up

Parents who bring and collect their children to and from school are reminded that pupils should be dropped off and collected outside the school gates. Please do not come down the drive to drop off or pick up (unless there is a particular medical need such as a child on crutches) as this causes congestion. Pupils are quite capable of walking the 50 yards from the top of the drive. Also, if you drop your child off at the King Egbert Road footpath, please do not drive down the cul-de-sac, as this causes major congestion problems (and nuisance to the residents). Please drop off in Furniss Avenue so that your child walks along the cul-de-sac.

Visiting school

If you need to come into school during the day you may be able to find a parking space in the car park – otherwise, please park on Totley Brook Road. MITIE (the facilities management company) are introducing a parking permit scheme, so if you have parked in the car park you will be asked to give the details of your car when you sign in at reception. We do have some spaces for drivers with disabled permits.

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

The school travel plan was produced to coincide with the opening of the new building. The aim of the plan is to raise awareness of and encourage sustainable travel to and from the school site by staff, parents and students, and to reduce the use of the car for these journeys. The Travel Plan is a 'live' document, which will be regularly monitored and reviewed by the school.

We shall be actively encouraging staff to car share and for students to travel to and from school by bus or bicycle. Further information on events we have planned in relation to this plan can be obtained by contacting Mr McClafferty, Deputy Headteacher.

If you have any questions to put to me or any comments to make, could you write to me at King Egbert School, Totley Brook Road, Dore, S17 3QN, Thank you

Sean McClafferty

Deputy Headteacher i/c Community and Technology College Status.

BUS SERVICE CHANGES

Changes from 8th January 2006

Service X18 Hanley – Leek – Buxton –Bakewell – Sheffield: This service has been withdrawn. Staffordshire and Derbyshire County Councils have arranged for new Services 118 and 218, connecting in Buxton, to replace the X18. Through tickets will be available for journeys involving a change between the 118 and 218.

Service 65 Meadowhall – Sheffield – Grindleford – Calver – Buxton

The 1510 Meadowhall to Buxton bus now runs 30 minutes later (at 1540 from Meadowhall and 1555 from Sheffield) on Mondays to Saturdays. On Mondays to Fridays, the 1710 Meadowhall to Buxton bus now starts from Sheffield at 1730 and does not serve Meadowhall.

Service 240 Sheffield – Grindleford – Calver – Baslow - Bakewell

This service now runs to a new timetable; many journeys have been replaced by Service 218 (running via Totley between Sheffield and Bakewell), but new Service 241 offers some off-peak journeys between Bakewell, Calver and Grindleford.

Full details of these and other changes available 0870 608 2 608 or www.derbyshire.gov.uk/buses

Totley Weather Report 2005

The most notable occurrence that struck me during the last year is the sudden temperature change, as much as 7C drop between the day temperature we had on 15 and 16 May. There were many others, both up and down, but not of the same magnitude. On the other hand the temperature stayed the same for the 24 hours, starting at 9am on 3 January and 22 January. The hottest day was 19 June 30.4C Weston Park (WP) and 29C Totley (T) and the warmest night 13 July 17.7C WP and 17.5C T. An exceptionally warm night occurred during October 15.7C WP and 15C T. The coldest night was 29 December -5.1C WP and 28 December -7C T. Weston Park had 28 nights and Totley 34 of 0C or below. There were 8 days in Totley where the temperature did not exceed 0C but none at WP. First frost of this winter occurred on 16 November.

Rain fell in some surprising bursts with 33.2mm WP and 39.2mm T on 28 July being the wettest day followed by 25.4mm WP and 29mm T on 23 October and 16.8mm WP 26mm T the following day during a long spell of continuous daily rain 40 days WP 29 days T. (I suspect their instruments are superior to mine!) Total rainfall for the year 740.9mm WP 1044.8mm T. (WP average 825mm). Every month was wetter in T than WP with 6 months producing more than WP average, 3 months less and 3 just about the same. This shows how much wetter the hills can be compared to the city centre. The driest spell being in July with 11 days without rain. Snow lay for 10 days WP and 22 days T. One shower falling on 8 April in T. There were 2 thunderstorms WP and 4 T when 18 mm fell in less than an hour on 19 June. It was so dark the street lights came on! This was exceeded on 28 July when half a month's rain fell (36.5mm) in 9 hours although thankfully the thunderstorm did not last for that length of time. According to WP their sunniest day was 23 June 15.9 hours with the total for the year being 1561.6 hours against an average (1970-2000) of 1380 hours. Both WP and T show 3 days of fog and 22 days of mist in T. There were 7 days with gales during the year in my opinion.

	Totley	Weston Park
Rain for the Year		
2005	1044.8mm	740.9mm
2004	1100.mm	855.4mm
2003	792.2 mm	591.8mm
Wettest Day		
2005	39.2mm	33.2mm
2004	55.5mm	77.0mm
2003	61.2mm	60.9mm
Coldest Night		
2005	-7.0C	-5.1C
2004	-5.5C	-6.0C
2003	-6.0C	-4.5C
Hottest Day		
2005	29.0C	30.4C
2004	27.0C	28.8C
2003	28.0C	31.4C

Vivien Filleul

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday, 3 March at 10.30 am
at Totley All Saints

Speaker Mrs Catherine Snow

Refreshments after, everyone welcome, telephone 0114
2363027



Transport 17

I hope it is not too late to wish you all a happy 2006. Sadly, for many people, it started with illness or even a stay in hospital. We send our best wishes to you all and hope that you feel fit and healthy soon. We have missed seeing some of our passengers and a few have gone to the great lunch club in the sky.

Wendy Trotter has been an escort on the buses for 14 years. When I first started with T17, I worked with Jim, her husband, many times when he drove for us. Wendy has decided it is time to retire. She will help us out in an emergency. They are both on the Management Committee. It is a pleasure to know them both. I am sure our passengers would like to join us in thanking them very much for all their hard work.

Everyone who works for Transport 17 is very committed. Sometimes though, due to other commitments, we can be short of staff. This can lead to clubs being cancelled – our last resort. CAN YOU HELP? How about starting 2006 by helping us out. Ring 236 2962 if you can help. I am sure you would enjoy it.

May I ask for our passengers to let us know if they can't come to their club. It is especially important for them to let their club organisers know if they can't go to their lunch clubs.

Keep safe. Best wishes.
Margaret Barlow

Tracking down Burbage's Band of Brothers

Peak District National Park Authority archaeologists are looking for help in tracking down a US army division that trained in the Peak District during World War 2.

Archaeologist Bill Bevan is surveying Burbage Edge to record all archaeological remains to inform future conservation.

One of the important aspects of this is evidence of past military exercises. Boulders scarred by bullets and mortar shells, and foxholes survive below Burbage Edge, near to the Fox House Inn, between Hathersage and Sheffield. They were used during target practice in World War 2. But Bill would like to know who was training here.

Bill said: "From the survey we can tell that the soldiers were practising attacking uphill and assaulting positions on Burbage Edge. We believe that the American army trained on Burbage for a while before the Normandy D-Day landings. But we're not sure exactly who it was. It may have been one of the Airborne Divisions who landed behind Utah Beach or one of the Infantry Divisions."

The 1st Infantry Division landed at Omaha beach, which was flanked by similar cliffs to Burbage Edge and had rising ground behind it.

If anyone has any records or information about the American army in the Peak District during World War 2, please write to Bill Bevan at the Peak District National Park Authority, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, DE45 1AE.

The archaeological survey is being funded by the Moors for the Future Partnership, which is restoring the internationally-important Peak District moors that have been damaged by fires, pollution and erosion. Their website is www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk

HOPE CHURCH

The picture of Hope Church in the December Totley Independent reminded me of a particular and unusual association which I have with the church. A certain George Bagshaw who lived at Haslebadge was baptised in Hope Church 11th September 1687. He was married at Leek in Staffordshire but came back to live at Haslebadge which is where he died in 1764. George was a respected member of society for a number of years he was Churchwarden at Hope. For part of the time that he was Churchwarden a certain Nathan Woodroffe was Parish Clerk. Nathan was baptised at Hope 22nd January 1702/3, married at Chapel-en-le-Frith but lived in Hope until he died in 1761.

I have no idea how well these two gentlemen got on with each other but I do know that they were both my ancestors. George Bagshaw was my 6xgreat grandfather being an ancestor of my mother. Nathan Woodroffe was my 5xgreat grandfather through my father. My father and mother met in Oldham in the early 20th century and neither of them knew at that time that they had ancestors in Hope living simultaneously. It truly is a small world!

Of course both Bagshaw and Woodroffe are common names in the area. Our ancestor search has gone back 2 further generations on the Woodroffe line but not as far back as the name Woodroffe is known and by which the "Woodroffe Arms" is named. My brother did most of this particular search although the evidence for both men can be seen in the church (at least until recently).

Maurice Snowdon

Friends of Green Oak Park

At long last work has started on the old tennis courts to transform them into a multigames area. We have had the funding for this project for nearly 2 years and at long last we are looking forward to having somewhere for Totley's children and young people to play football, basket ball and cricket on dry ground.

We are hoping that there will be a strip of tarmac outside the fencing where the smaller children can ride their trikes. There will not be any seating within the enclosed area, hopefully this will discourage the youths from gathering in the area which could stop the younger children from utilising the play area.

We have been given some funding to have a grand opening so we shall have some celebrities to give the children and young people advice on playing the games and using this new facility properly. Posters will be posted soon that give more information.

The Friends of Green Oak Park Annual General Meeting is to be held in March, date to be confirmed shortly. Please come along to lend your support, all welcome.

Sylvia Ruddle

Baslow Road – Stop Press Update

A result ... our collective efforts have succeeded in persuading the planners that the situation on Baslow Road is critical. Highway engineers are to be complimented on their proposals to tackle the overwhelming problems of PEDESTRIAN SAFETY at the Mickley Lane junction. Their preliminary drawings include built-outs, wider central verges/pedestrian refuges and road markings. There is even mention of a pedestrian crossing!

The proposals are now forwarded to the design department for detailed drawings and costings. If all goes well the work could be included in the 2007/8 construction programme.

Well done everybody!, Councillor Keith Hill

Green Oak Park – Access Hazards

Now that the new building of no 26 is nearing completion the danger of both vehicles and pedestrians using the Mickley Lane access is clear for all to see. We pointed this out at the planning stage and the planners ignored us! Although the problem is not of the Park's making, it looks as though Park's is left with the responsibility for the community's safety.

This is what I have learned:-

- Keys for the existing central bollard at the entrance will be held by the lodge tenant and the new occupant. Thereby they will control vehicle movement onto the access drive
- The present (flimsy) gate will not be used
- Parks will erect 2 further bollards, further in, to restrict vehicle movement beyond the access path
- The upkeep and management of vehicular access will now be shared by Parks and the occupant of no 26.

Not very satisfactory, is it? Gifting a piece of parkland for a private access drive was wrong in the first place and although I have no quarrel with the new dwelling, this sets a very disturbing precedent.

Councillor Keith Hill

KING ECGBERT SCHOOL PRIZE GIVING

Just before Christmas, at the end of their first term at University, pupils returned to school for a reunion and prize-giving. The Ann Ferdinand Prize for academic achievement was awarded to Joe Kavanagh, who is now studying Medicine at Birmingham. The Alison Firth Memorial Prize for personal achievement was awarded to Lucy Walsh, who is taking a Gap year before commencing Media studies at Sunderland in September.

Les Firth

Congratulations Are In Order

As well as working very hard as TRA Chairman, Avril Critchley has other strings to her bow.

Her working life was spent as a teacher at East Hill Special School. Here, she devoted her time to seeing each child as an individual and preparing suitable education programmes for them. After taking early retirement in 1984, Avril became a member of the newly formed Friends of the Botanical Gardens. She soon became a committee member and has been Deputy Chairman for several years, responsible for the lecture programme and giving lectures to a variety of groups in Sheffield and district.

In her spare time Avril was Guide and Ranger Leader at Victoria Methodist Church in Norfolk Park area. She was also Camp Adviser and Outdoor Activity Adviser for the whole of Sheffield. Her life long interest in natural history (She used to play with frogs instead of dolls as a little girl!), meant she was well able to pass on her knowledge and enthusiasm to the young people who crossed her path.

Avril also began going to Sheffield College when she retired. She first attended community courses where she learned a variety of crafts. Eventually, Avril was persuaded to take an Access Course and this in turn led to an HND in Fine Art.

After four years hard work attending College three days a week and chairing TRA, Avril successfully completed her HND last year. I had the pleasure of attending the Graduation Ceremony in December.

Janet Chapman

TRA Committee member

Wheelie Bins at 5.30am

Or - pistols at dawn.

Well if I'd had a pistol I might well have used it when I was woken at 5.30am on Monday 31st October by the wheelie bin collection.....

Has this happened to anyone else?

I recall a piece in Totley Independent some while back about the same problem, and a complaint being made but the problem returning a few weeks later.

Well this time I hope that it will stop.

The reason?

I made a formal written complaint at the highest level possible - to David Bird, Director of Waste Management at Sheffield City Council (because he is responsible for the Onyx contract with SCC), and to Judith Turner, Director of Operations, Onyx. In addition, I informed all three Totley councillors - Keith Hill, Anne Smith and Michael Waters - and asked them to take action on my behalf to get a resolution for Totley in general.

My complaint focused on the issues:

1. that this is a complaint that has been made before by Totley residents who have been disturbed by early collections and
2. that if residents are required to put their bins out by 7.00am this pre-supposes that bins are not collected before this time, and anyone who lives where bins are collected at 5.30am will miss having their bin collected and
3. that the problem might go away in Totley but be an issue for residents in other parts of the city.

Well, it took a fair bit of time and pushing from the councillors to get a response and though Onyx has never bothered to reply to me direct, they responded to David Bird and the result was an email from David Bird with the following sentences of interest to all Totley residents (and residents of other parts of the city):

An Onyx officer replied to say that:-

"I have interviewed the crews concerned and issued a written instruction that collections must not take place before 7am at the above area.

A failure to follow that instruction will result in the crew being subjected to formal disciplinary action."

David Bird then wrote:

"Whilst I appreciate your overall concerns regarding the rest of the City I can only deal with individual complaints and where these are raised they are dealt with.

I do appreciate that from time to time early collections will occur. These are not a city wide problem and whilst they do give rise to complaint from time to time we receive comparatively few. I can assure you that any early collections, other than those specifically agreed, are as a result of over eager collection crews not following instructions rather than any cost cutting or other issues. I am, however, continuing to monitor all complaints and am in active discussion with Onyx about how they intend to deal with this within their industrial relations framework. "

I ask myself why general complaints cannot be dealt with? This is for a wider debate, but the individualising of issues in our society is the reason why we have to put up with so much poor service, bad planning, lack of consultation etc. Who has the inclination or energy to keep making complaints when things only change for them, and not for the wider good?

Anyhow thanks to our Totley councillors for helping get an answer to this complaint.

The key word here is hope that the problem is ended. But nothing is certain in this world of sub-contracting and budget

cutbacks, so watch this space and if this problem should re-occur, or you know someone in another area of the city where wheelie bins cause problems with ridiculously early collections these are the people to write to, plus the local councillors:-

David Bird

Head Waste Management Services

Sheffield City Council
Staniforth Road
Sheffield S4 3HD

Email:

David.Bird@sheffield.gov.uk

Judith Turner

Director of Operations
Onyx

Bernard Rd Service Centre,
Bernard Rd,

Sheffield, S4 7YX

Tel. 0114-228-3550

Jennie Street

A PS from Keith Hill on this topic:

- a) this is a recurring problem across our ward - and has been challenged many times by local councillors
- b) where crews have been instructed to make an early collection e.g. roadworks (?) local residents have to be informed beforehand
- c) please report instances of early collection to Onyx via tel call centre number 2734567 ext. 1
- d) notify your councillors also. This helps us enormously.



DIGET.
OUR NEIGHBOUR IN TOTLEY IS AN
ASTRONAUT AND WHEN I FELT
AMOROUS ABOUT HIS LADY DOG HE
SAID "WE HAVE LIFT OFF"!

Summer in Oz?

Sydney home swap - large comfortable bungalow with large garden, car available - beaches, bushwalks, city ferries and buses all handy - all expected facilities, appliances etc - 3 to 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, sleeps 6. Non smokers only, please. Available throughout June and July 2006.

Phone Fergus McClory 010 61 2 9451.2808 (nb 11 hour time difference) or e-mail totleyrise@optusnet.com.au

PUZZLE CORNER

Bakewell Origins.

Write the name BAKEWELL vertically. Answer the following clues.

The answer to number 1 beginning with B, that to number 2 beginning with A and so on. Each answer has the same last letter as its first. Additionally the answers increase in the number of letters starting with three for the answer to 1 rising to 10 for the answer 8.

Clues:

1. Sleigh hair style;
2. Indian girl's coin;
3. Skin boat;
4. Show in camera;
5. Painful inflammation;
6. Rapidly increase use of the stair;
7. Port for crews;
8. Caterpillar killer.

Don Ashford

Answer page 10

Remember the pubs. Yes, I do.

Ye Olde Crossed Scythes Hotel.

During WW2 the Stable, a dry space sheltered from the weather, was a place for us to play. It was also the place where Mr Marsh, the coalman, stored his truck. After the War, round about 1949-50 the Brewery parked an Ice Cream Cart there to serve a growing weekend tourist trade. Later the space was enclosed and became a "Used car showroom".

The Scouts used the Tea Room for their Christmas Parties. We were entertained with a film show. As I recall, the man who owned the projector only had a couple of films, a silent adventure about the Lock Ness Monster and a Popeye Cartoon.

I wonder if John Perkinson remembers a night when there was an intense storm which dumped goodness knows how much water on Totley. I think the noise woke John and he went to see who was battering at the front door of the Post Office. He was greeted by the contents of Kirby's farm yard which washed, on a tidal wave, through the gap into the shop. How do I know this? Well, at that time I "waited on" at the Crosse Scythes Hotel and had delayed my departure until the rain eased. That was in the days when John and Lucy Warkup officiated. John was an Oxford graduate and later became Classics Master and Librarian at King Edward's Grammar School.

My Grandfather, David Lewis (mentioned in issue 289, through his connection with Totley Hall) was a keen bowls man and a member of the Totley Club. He was instrumental in designing and constructing the Bowling Green at the Crossed Scythes. This was originally turfed with pasture grasses that he had selected from Totley Hall Farm. As a child, taken there one Saturday afternoon, I recall seeing two rather large, brown glazed lions at the entrance to the Green. Later, part of the Green was destroyed to make room for an extended car park. On the night of that rainstorm the Bowling green was flooded leaving a small island in the centre.

The Crown Inn.

Mum and Dad moved back to Totley in late 1938 and settled at No 3, Grove Avenue, a house which backed onto Hillfoot Road and overlooked The Crown Inn. At that time the "Crown" was kept by two old ladies. They had sweets and "Penny" sticks of liquorice which I could buy at the back door. It was easy to run down the garden and cross the lane to purchase a treat. I also played in "The Train Fields".

In 1939, soon after War was declared, Totley C of E School was closed and "Home Service", a form of part time schooling, was instituted. So all children had a lot of free time. The Crown Inn Tea Rooms, which had served the cricket field behind the Inn, was taken over by the Army as a barrack room for soldiers who were sent to guard Totley Tunnel. There were two sentry boxes, one at the top of the cutting and one at the Gangers Hut by the Lines. I used my free time to talk to these old men. They were veterans of WW1 and possibly Territorials or Reservists who were too old for active service elsewhere. Now they protected Totley Tunnel from "Fifth Columnists". It was not long before I invited one of my new pals and his Le Enfield Rifle home. Mum made him a cup of tea while I learned how to use and clean a rifle. For a while we entertained several of these old warriors. Later, younger men who were training at the Rifle Range were billeted with us. So, if it still stands, The Crown Inn Tea Room is a relic from WW2.

Many years later I teamed up with Ann Hussey and, encouraged by her parents, we helped a much younger Landlord and Landlady by collecting and washing glasses two or three nights a week.

By 1957 Bert Renolds, who had been running the Prince of Wales at Ecclesall, moved in as Landlord. One Saturday lunchtime "treat" laid on by Bert and supplied by Mr Denniff of Dore was a large plate of freshly boiled Tripes. In the days before "Lager" this delicacy, coarsely sliced, dashed with pepper and salt then laced with strong malt vinegar, was washed down with half a pint of "Bitter". I cannot recall the brewery who supplied Bert's bitter beer but he provided an enjoyable meal few patrons refused.

The Grouse Inn

I can only remember once visiting the "Grouse Inn", when celebrations were held at the close of WW2. A bonfire was built on the small "Tipping" for the kids while our parents enjoyed hospitality at the Inn. I think we were provided with a box of fireworks. One of the older lads arrived from the Rifle Range with a pocket full of purloined cartridges. He started throwing these into the fire and we took cover on the flanks of the Tipping, enjoying the loud reports as they detonated, listening to bullets whine as they flew, trailing sparks across the night sky.

The Peacock, Owl Bar

I mention this hostelry because it was no more than a moderate walk from Totley. At the Peacock I met Ossie Tyler who, in the mid fifties, was one of the first people to support a younger generation of aspiring musicians. He hosted a loose group of post teenagers, mainly from Holmesfield, who brought their instruments, new electric guitars as well as the good old tea chest base and their voices. I took my Spanish Guitar along and did the usual three chord trick. Ossie must have been one of the entertainment pioneers and a champion of young people.

Ivor Lewis,
Redhill, South Australia.

UPDATE ON TOTLEY YOUTH NUISANCE

The Anti Social Behaviour Action Plan also contains a number of initiatives to improve the environment in the Totley area. For example, it is important that graffiti and litter are removed quickly, that local residents feel secure using footpaths and gennels and that problems are rectified as soon as possible.

A visual inspection survey took place on Monday 16 January. This was an extensive walk about with officers from StreetForce, Parks and Woodlands, the Council's Area Coordinator and staff from Sheffield Homes accompanied by Councillors and the Totley Residents Association. The aim was to note any problems so that action can be taken by the Council departments responsible.

These include -

1. The removal of graffiti from the surface of some footpaths, hoardings and gennels
2. The clearance of a number of overgrown gennels in the Main Avenue / Sunnyvale area
3. The removal of litter and excess vegetation from several public utility sites
4. The reinstatement of several benches in Greenoak Park
5. The need for highways repairs in many areas.
6. The repair and reinstatement of damaged verges and the removal of mud and debris from footpaths.

These problems should now be addressed in a programme of work by the departments concerned and we will keep up the pressure.

Councillor Anne Smith
Councillor Michael Waters

OLD TOTLEY by Jo Rundle

Ben Salt, Edward's brother lived next door with his wife and family. Both Brothers worked in their father Joseph Salt's clay mine on Totley Moor, (mentioned in an earlier article) which, about 1899, was sold by its latest owner, Mr. Batley, to Joseph Holland, to become part of Pickford and Holland's. In those early days, the Brickworks were open to the sky, when Jack Slack passed our door every evening just before dark, carrying his lantern and 'Snap-bag', knowing that he would probably have company through the night, for Tramps passed regularly up the road from the Workhouse at Sheffield on their way to the next Workhouse at Bakewell, and a warm night and the possibility of a mug of tea was not to be missed. The Kilns then were open to the sky, the light from the fires being visible for miles around and it was not unusual for a tramp to walk in and have a cup of Jack's tea and a warm seat for an hour. The outbreak of World War II changed many things, especially the Blackout, and very soon a roof was built over the whole Brickyard site in order to blot out the light from German planes.



The Brickyard before WWII

We do not see tramps these days, but before WWII they called at our cottage regularly, on their way from the workhouse in Sheffield to the next one in Bakewell, asking for a pot of tea and a bite to eat, and my brothers and I swore that there was a mark on our gate telling all the tramps and gipsies that we were a soft touch. But, as my father explained, they were respectable men who were either looking for work or they preferred that way of life. He also explained that, according to the Vagrancy Act, anybody could be apprehended in the street by the Police, if they suspected that a person had no means of paying for a night's lodging; if not they were taken to the nearest Police station for the night as a vagrant. The Workhouse system avoided such disgrace by giving the man supper, a night's lodging, and breakfast, in return for some simple work, and next morning giving him a sandwich, and a shilling, to offer to another workhouse for his next night's lodging, thus avoiding arrest as a vagrant. It now seems a strange law, that asking at someone's door was different from begging in the street, for under The Beggar's Law, the police could arrest anybody and take them to court for the latter, but not for doing the same thing at someone's door, because, I presume, he had money to pay if asked, and of course, he never was. Such are the finer points of the Law. A few years ago I asked a policeman friend if these two laws had ever been rescinded, and he said that he had never heard of them, but would find out. He contacted me a few weeks later with the news that no one else in the office had heard of them; but had investigated and, yes there had been such laws, and they had never been rescinded, just faded away through

not being used! Father said we were never to turn away a Tramp and my Mother said the same about gypsies who called regularly, selling lace in the early 20c. To be continued

100 Years Ago

I was most interested to see Philip Robinson's postcard illustrated in the December/January edition of the Totley Independent. Except for 3 years in the RAF in the 1940s my permanent address has always been in Totley Rise and for many years I have possessed or copied postcards and views of old Dore and Totley. Identifying this one took longer than expected thinking that it must be on Totley Brook Road. Reference to the 1916 Kellys Directory showed only one "Briar" anything for the whole of Dore and Totley, and a visit to the central library confirmed the fact. My grandpa built the house next door in 1901 (Pattysbrooke), the house pictured is "Briarbank", Brinkburn Vale Road.
Bill Glossop 236 1611

Warning to 4x4 owners

POLICE are urging owners of 4x4 cars to be on their guard after criminal gangs in Derbyshire stole more than 100 off-roaders in the last year.

Nearly half the cars taken were Land Rovers, police have revealed.

Sgt Jon Rawlinson, of Bakewell police, said: "We know that organised teams of criminals are concentrating on stealing this type of vehicle. The older the vehicle the more vulnerable it is. Modern cars tend to have more sophisticated anti-theft devices fitted as standard. But additional, good quality immobilisers and alarms will always make a vehicle more secure."

Totley Hall Park

BMX Track

- Installation of pipework to drain water collection from depressions in 4 number positions from within the track layout.
- Reduction to the height and reshaping of section of banking alongside hawthorn hedge (Totley Hall Mead), removing flat surface.
- Removal of large stones from within and around the BMX track.
- Installation of finished smooth surface throughout the track layout.
- Installation of a knee high timber barrier rail to contain BMX tracks users to the start position and deter start being extended to access gate (Totley Hall Lane) and the resultant denudation of grass growing through the reinforcement.

Access and footpath finishing etc

- To finish construction of footpath from Totley Hall Mead to tennis courts and forward up to BMX track.
- Raise levels to run off water collection along footpath.
- Installation of bollards at pedestrian access.
- Excavate for and plant replacement section of hawthorn hedge and temporarily fence off until hedge established.
- Sand and oversow with grass seed the denuded section of access from Totley Hall Lane.

Operation

New costings are to be obtained for the works described, Parks and Countryside officers will then consider what finances available for the scheme.

An anticipated start date will much depend upon suitable ground conditions during the early Spring 2006.

Councillor Keith Hill

Gardening Tips for February

I have just come in from the garden, it looks a bit of a mess at this time, the leaves seem to be more prolific this year and the rainy spell does not help when trying to clear them up and the net over the pond has not worked all that well, so it means another messy job cleaning it out later. I hope you had a nice Christmas and New Year break and all those presents were sensible ones, like spades and forks and wheelbarrows! I had a garden blower vac, it is quite powerful, I have to turn it fairly low when doing the lawn or it tends to pullout the grass, I haven't quite got the hang of it yet. The vegetable patch is looking quite sad. Just a few leeks and cabbage left, I must get it turned over if we have a mild spell so that old Jack Frost can get to all the nasties. There is not a lot to be done apart from tidying up repairs to patios and paths and giving any wood a coat of preserver on any nice sunny days that we may get, it is a good time to do the planning and getting your seeds and plants ordered so that you are not panicking later. Do not forget to include those things you are going to grow for The Totley Show, try and made a real effort this year, encourage the young ones to have a go, it can be a lot of fun and better than TV and computers and much fresher air. I am keeping the best in show cup polished ready for this year's winner, so go on make a real effort.

Flowers

Winter flowering jasmine should be pruned as soon as it has finished flowering. Trim back winter flowering heathers as blooms fade with shears to prevent them getting straggly. Do not forget to look at dahlia tubers in store and dust any mould with flowers of sulphur, do not let Jack Frost nip them, protect them well.

Give herbaceous plants a feed of rotted manure or compost, lightly forked in, or a dressing of good general fertilizer. Fill any gaps in your wallflowers now before they

start into active growth. Make sure all plants are firmed in, as some may have been loosened by frost. Give any roses which have suffered with black spot a spraying with fungicide to help prevent a further occurrence, clear away any leaves lying about. Clean up rockeries, top dress with compost and chippings.

Vegetables

Check vegetable plots for lime content and add any lime required at least 2 weeks before sowing or planting, work in a dressing Growmore or similar, onions require a very rich soil to get the really good ones for the shows.

Before sowing carrots, rake soil pesticide into the ground. Put seed potatoes in a light airy frost free place to sprout. Watch out for slugs and deal with as quickly as possible. Top dress spring cabbage and sprouting broccoli with nitro chalk. Plant out autumn sown onions. Dig trench for runner beans and celery. Sow herbs chervil, chives, dill and parsley in slight warmth. Sow leeks to be ready for The Totley Show, plant the best seeds in individual pots in warmth to start them off well, moving them to cooler positions later, prior to planting out when the frosts are past, or under cloches. Cauliflower and broccoli benefit from a long growing season. Plant seeds now in deep trays in a cold frost free greenhouse. You will have strong healthy plants in good time for spring planting out.

Trees, Fruit and Shrubs

Prepare ground for any spring planting which you are considering. Plant out deciduous shrubs and heathers later in the month. Prune late summer flowering clematis. Cut back hard shrubs like callicarpa trumpet creeper, spirea and tamarisk. Fruit trees growing in grass will need a feed of sulphate of ammonia or nitro chalk to make up nitrogen deficiency, about half an ounce (30 grams) to a square yard (sq m) Prune autumn fruiting raspberries, prune gooseberries, firm in any cuttings of black, red and white currants and gooseberry.

This is the perfect month for tree planting, care at this stage will pay off with rapid sustained growth for the future, take

Cottage DIY Projects

A leaky tap or wonky shelf ?
New flat pack furniture, Bunged-up gutters or peeling windows ?

Would you like pipes or radiators covered ? Or maybe a fitted wardrobe, A new socket or a dimmer switch & much more... For those jobs you don't have the time, tools or inclination to do:

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Hourly, day & weekly rates available
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care choosing the right tree for the site, note its eventual size, this will avoid drastic pruning later, bear in mind that pretty blossoms will look lovely for a week or so but how will the tree look in summer and winter? Is it colourful in autumn? Select only the best specimens with even open growth and a good root structure with no obvious defects such as a faulty graft or damaged on the trunk, do not be seduced by size. A small light standard tree will grow just as well as a large heavy tree, need less staking and will most likely be less expensive. Small mature trees called ships will be even less expensive but of course will

take longer to mature. Make the planting hole big enough to spread the roots evenly and make sure they never dry out during the planting process, a little slow release fertiliser blended with well rotted compost will improve the soil onto the roots using your heel to tread it in. Water frequently in the first season while the tree is becoming established and mulch with bark or compost.

Greenhouse and Indoor Plants

Gradually increase watering, keep African violets, cyclamen and indoor primulas humid by standing them on moist pebble filled saucers. Plant indoor gladioli corms. Pot up January sown seedlings of geraniums, fuschias etc. Plant rooted cuttings of late chrysanthemums and carnations. For a nice summer display sow seeds of plants with bush violet, busy lizzie, carnation, gloxinia and schizanthus, (poor man's orchid). Sow primrose for winter flowers. Cut back last year's shoots of fushchia, passion flower and plumbago. Plants particularly seedlings like fresh air but not cold air, so on warm days ventilate freely, especially cold frames but keep a weather eye open for frosty forecasts.

Pollinate and train early vines, later in the month sow half hard annuals and greenhouse plants. Start into growth resting plants such as clivias, bird of paradise etc. Freesias which finished flowering some weeks ago can now be laid on their sides in their pots to dry off. Lobeli cardinalis is becoming more popular, it can be potted now, pull away single shoots with a little root attached and pot each separately in a 3 1/2 pots.

Lawns

Rake, spike and top dress with sand, keep off especially when frosty. Spring is just around the corner.

Cheerio for now,
Tom, Busy Bee

FOUND

Prescription sunspecs found on footpath in local wood. They are designer specs. My number is 0114 235 2749.
Chris Measures

Farming Scene

It seems a very long time ago since I last sat down to write a 'piece' for the Independent

Certainly a lot has happened on the farm since then, as this has now become our busy time of year. Late November was hectic as we prepared for the Dorset flock to lamb, the sale of Christmas trees and the event that takes the most organising and time - the Christmas Nativity Plays. Many hours are spent cleaning up our top barn and installing the stable backdrop, the sheep, cow and donkey pens, not to mention the tiered seating, the tables and chairs, the actors wardrobe with its 75 costumes of various sizes and types, the cooking facilities, washing up facilities, hand washing and toilet facilities. These all need time and care to get them up to the right spec for our customers and the licensing authorities. Having done all this, we then start on decorating the shed with trees here, holly there, tinsel, tree lights and banners. These all need to be in place to make it look and feel homely, welcoming and most of all Christmassy. While all this is going on Jen is busy organising the advertising, mailing the schools, responding to information requests, sending out brochures and tickets. All this before the actual events start and the real work of the costume dressers, narrators, lighting and audio operators, refreshment preparers and servers, Santa's helpers and Santa himself begins! We have come to the conclusion that organising and running these plays is much more demanding than our previous diversification - the Pick Your Own soft fruit enterprise. There are, however, plenty of good things mixed in with all this hard work. The children whose day is made by having a ride on the donkey or holding a real, live lamb, or by sitting on Santa's knee and being able to choose a present for themselves. We are so privileged to see the tenderness and joy on the face of the really tough teenage boy with emotional and behavioural difficulties as he cradles a lamb in the shawl of his shepherd's costume, the thrill of the little girl in a wheelchair as we dress her in a 'wheelchair friendly' costume and she joins in and becomes a heavenly angel for a little while. In fact the sight and sounds of excited children, and also parents really enjoying themselves as they meet the animals, act the parts and wait in anticipation to see Santa just makes it all worth while.

As many of you will know, we had a visit from Yorkshire television, as well as radio Sheffield this year. The children and animals were the new media stars on T.V. and radio. Some 2,500 teachers, parents and children came to the plays this year, a 40% increase on the previous year. Yes, it is hard work slotting everything into place but it is so much fun, so rewarding and heart warming to see the continued growth and appreciation of our efforts. As some of you will know, John's old house - the farmhouse at Hall Lane Farm has now been completely refurbished, and is now occupied by its new owners. Their arrival heralded the start of a competition to win the favours of the local Christmas tree buyers. Having two premises next door to one another both selling trees caused some consternation to us and confusion to many customers. However, thanks to the loyalty of our regular customers, and with the help we received from friends on the lane with the positioning of our signage, we eventually sold nearly the same amount of trees as last year. One of the things we noticed this year was that 'Frasers' in the 4-7foot range are becoming more popular due to their dense growth and compact shape taking up less space in smaller rooms. They have a nice 'resin' smell to them as well.

While all this was going on, our Poll Dorset ewes were lambing, in what has been a rather exceptional way. We have

had one set of quads and 10 sets of triplets from a total of 35 ewes that have lambed. This has given us an average of 2.1 lambs born per ewe. This is well above the 1.7 we would expect from December lambing flocks. Is this result due to the mineral supplement drench we gave to the ewes pre-tupping or the lupin seeds we fed to the tups for 6 weeks before they were put in with the ewes? Our Texel ewes should provide a clue when they start lambing in March as they were not drenched and we wait to see if there is a real difference in their performance.

Finally, a big THANK YOU to all our customers who bought trees from us or came to the plays this year. Thank you for your support and encouragement, it has been really appreciated. We wish you all a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Edwin Pocock

Totley Health and Well-being Event

Tuesday 21st February

1.00 - 5.00pm

Totley Rise Methodist Church,

Baslow Road

Information and advice on:

Alcohol

Stopping smoking

Exercise

Staying Warm

Eating a Healthy Diet

Personal safety

Drugs

And much, much more.....



Sample the healthy
buffet lunch



Enjoy a free
aromatherapy massage



For more information please contact Nijah Jinnah or
Andrea Lees from South West Area Panel on 292219!

Happily Ever After

For those of you who missed Local and Live Community Theatre's annual "panto" in Totley Library at the end of October, all is not lost! The Chief Librarian was so impressed by his visit to the show on its tour of libraries that they were offered the use of the Library Theatre for the night of Saturday, 11 February to give more people the chance to have a good laugh.

For those of you who have never seen these shows, you have missed a treat! Not exactly a "panto" in the strict sense of the word, but a series of sketches based on a theme. In the current one, it is what happens to the characters in children's books when the library is closed at nights and weekends, or worse still, never taken out to be read by anyone! Redundant dwarfs applying for jobs etc. It is all perfectly proper and quite suitable for all ages, as long as you like a good laugh. The bring books to life with a topical South Yorkshire twist! Not to mention a guest appearance by Mr B B Wolf.

So make a note in your diary and contact Kath Navratil on 0114 2482211 for tickets which are £5 or concessions at £4 or on the door, subject to availability. The show starts at 7.30 pm. Kate Reynolds

Bumper New Season At Buxton Opera House

The bumper new season programme at Buxton Opera House is packed with an array of drama, comedy, music, children's shows, ballet and dance. The new brochure, which covers January to June 2006, is bursting at the seams with choice. Call the Box Office on 0845 127 2190 to request a brochure or to make a booking. You can also view details of the new season or make a booking online at: www.buxton-opera.co.uk.

The Spring highlight is the Four-Four Time Festival Of Live Music which runs from 17 to 26 February and features 20 concerts in 10 days, including John Martyn, The Osmonds, The Levellers and Jools Holland.

The programme includes a feast of drama including Charles Vance's production of Kind Hearts & Coronets, a daring adaptation of Moll Flanders, Little Women and the Opera House's very own production of Lady Chatterley's Lover.

Famous names visiting Buxton in 2006 include Willard White, Alexander O'Neil, Dara O' Brian, Sir Ranulph Fiennes, Tony Robinson, Jimmy Tarbuck, Dylan Moran and Ronnie Corbett.

Other highlights include St Petersburg Ballet's presentation of The Nutcracker, Snow White on Ice, the smash hit musical Joseph and The Moscow State Circus.

The new season also features opera in the form of La Boheme, Rigolotto, and Tosca and dance performances including Coppelia, the colourful Paris Can Can plus a visit from the acclaimed Henri Aguike Dance Company.

Children and families will enjoy a spootacular stage show of Rentaghost, the extraordinary drama

Kensuke's Kingdom, a musical production of Wind In The Willows and a visit from Engie Benjy.

There is also a packed Fringe Season featuring drama, comedy and film.

MY FRIEND MISS FLINT

When Tom Lambert, botanist and TV gardening personality, receives a telephone call one morning from the Inland Revenue enquiring about his public relations consultant, a Miss Joanna Flint, he can honestly say he has never heard of her. By lunchtime, however, he knows all about Miss Flint and rather wishes he didn't! The plot thickens (as well as the puns) as this light hearted comedy blossoms into an evening with more twists and turns than a honeysuckle, or vine weed. And Miss Flint is certainly a honey.

The plot, sown by writers **Donald Churchill and Peter Yeldham** is cultivated and grown by Linda Williamson to delight you on a Spring evening. **My Friend Miss Flint** will be performed by the **Dramatic Society Dore & Totley United Reformed Church** on Totley Brook Road from Wednesday 22nd March to Saturday - 25th at 7.30pm. Tickets available from members of the Society, or the Ticket Secretary, Margaret Spivey on 0114 245 4166.



"I HEAR TOTLEY INDY WERE THINKING OF INTRODUCING A HOROSCOPE BUT HAD TO CANCEL DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES!"

1st Totley Scout Lottery

Final draw of this series

1st Prize No 55
Christmas Hamper
Mrs Tym, Sunnyvale Road

2nd Prize No13
£10 Voucher
Mr & Mrs Lloyd, Old Hay Close
Enrolment forms for the next lottery should be available from about the end of February 2006.

PUZZLE CORNER

Answer to Bakewell Origins.

1. Bob; 2. Anna; 3. Kayak; 4. Expose; 5. Whitlow; 6. Escalate; 7. Liverpool; 8. Larvicidal.
Don Ashford.

A Big Thank You to Nigel Watson

This is to let you know about a problem I had last week which was solved by ringing one of your advertised services, Nigel Watson. During the night last Friday I was woken up by a large cracking noise and I realised that my bedroom window had been blown wide open during the strong gales. I was unable to close it - it wouldn't budge a fraction. The next morning I tried again to close it but failed so decided to ring for help. The first number tried out of the Independent was someone calling himself a Handyman (the landline number was no good as the message told me it would not receive incoming calls so I left a message on the mobile number but he did not get back to me). I then rang Nigel Watson and a lady answered who told me that he was out on a job but would try to help when he came back at lunchtime if I could not get anyone else in the meantime. I tried other numbers from the yellow pages but was beginning to get nervous that no one would actually come out to look at this window.

At mid day as promised Nigel Watson came to my house and fixed the problem straight away and then wouldn't accept payment. I hope you are still awake after all this - I write to let you know that I was so pleased that he took the trouble to come when he said he would and I would like you to mention this in your next publication if possible. Such a change these days to find someone to help who doesn't immediately expect a large sum of money as a call out charge. Brilliant!

I have lived in Totley 38 years and this is a first for me.

Pat Peck

On Parade in the Big City

Firstly I would like to thank Mary Hanson for the nice words of tribute in last month's issue.

During the period of 'Early Autumn'* I was feeling rather browned off, housebound and missing my walks around the Peak District hills when out of the blue a special letter arrived to brighten the day from the chairman of the RAF Mountain Rescue Association namely Sqdn/ldr Brian Canfer offering me honorary membership of the society plus an invitation to join the Remembrance Service Parade in London on 13 November.

The letter stated that my senior officer from the Second World War days Ex-Sqdn/ldr Tom Scudamore, now a retired doctor, and living in the Nottingham Area, had already accepted the 2 invites. I was really thrilled to be able to join the group of 25 members on parade.

I was picked up by ex-team leader John Chapman who had been on M.R.S at RAF Stafford Unit from the 1980s and now lives in Sheffield. He had obtained a Red Cross folding wheelchair for my assistance so we travelled in his Land Rover on the afternoon of 12 November where arrangements had been made for the party to stay overnight at Bentley Priory RAF fighter command HQ situated near Harrow, North London. We were greeted by the C.O. who himself had been a member of the M.R.S. in previous years at RAF Kinloss in Scotland. We all met in the bar and were treated like VIPs, there was just Tom Scudamore and myself from the early days of the M.R.S, the main party had seen service from periods of 1960 onwards at units such as RAF Valley, St Athans, Kinloss, Stafford and Cyprus etc.

It was great meeting up with Tom Scudamore again. He had been a good friend to me back at Llandwrog, it seemed rather sad to think that he and I were the only two left from the original team back in the 1940s. My bedroom was luxury indeed, the VIP suite normally reserved for senior officers, the builds and rooms were really palatial with portraits of high ranking officers hanging on the walls such as Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding. We all congregated in the bar and chatted about our past adventures on the hills. I indulged with a glass of lemonade due to medication problems. The beer prices would have been an alcoholic's delight at only 97p per pint. It takes some believing that it was 70 years since I had last stayed overnight in the London area. In 1935 after starting work I had my first holiday in company with my cousin Roy, we cycled from Harrow On The Hill to Lyme Regis, Dorset and back to the big city. We were involved with a rescue at sea at the Lyme Regis resort. My first impression of London then was the number of Lyons corner houses and the cinema house lights showing the film "High Wide and Handsome" starring Randolph Scott and Irene Dunne. My cousin Roy joined the army, was promoted to lieutenant and sadly was killed at Arnheim in 1944. I wrote this story "rescue at sea" in the Independent about 6 years ago.

After a hearty breakfast on the morning of 13 November we bade farewell to our hosts and boarded the coach to take us into London Town. The traffic was heavy as we neared the destination of horse guards parade. Military veterans in every direction all sporting their medals, we assembled on the parade ground about 10.00 am, our RAF section was towards the rear and just behind a small unit of the air sea rescue team, a cinderella group that did sterling work in the war years. You may recall the best seller book "The Sea Shall Not Have Them" written by the late John Harris of Sheffield Newspapers around 1955. This book was made into a film which I believe starred Richard Attenborough and Anthony

Steel. I often used to visit the air sea rescue unit at Fort Belan close to Llandwrog along the Menai Straits for a social Saturday night. Leorab McNab, a stalwart member of the Stafford Mountain Rescue Team, pushed me across the gravel surface square and after the few minutes silence we were on our march towards The Cenotaph. Tom Scudamore laid the wreath, from our front row position there must have been around 8,000 military and civilian marchers on parade, bugles were blowing and crowds thronged along the route. I never did get to see the Queen, and finally Prince Charles took the salute as we returned to horse guards parade, a most eventful morning. Traffic was everywhere as the coach slowly edged its way back to Bentley Priory. The 12 mile drive took us over an hour.

The highlight for me was meeting up with my friend Doctor Tom Scudamore, at 87 years he still looked fit. This special gentleman should have been awarded a medal for his services to mountain rescue. After the founder sqd/ldr George Graham was posted overseas from Llandwrog, Tom Scudamore his deputy took over the duties as station medical officer and team leader of the mountain rescue unit. He had never climbed a mountain before where as Graham was a skilled mountaineer. Doctor Scudamore set an example to his team with real dedication to the often grim tasks we had to perform. Many times we had to turnout in the middle of the night to the aid of injured aircrews from crashed aircraft in the Snowdonia hills. He never simply delegated the difficult tasks to the other members, he led by example, it was a privilege to have worked with Doctor Scudamore in the Welsh mountains. We finally bid our farewells from Bentley Priory. The first attendance of the RAF mountain rescue service at The Cenotaph had all been very special. Let us hope we can all get together again in the year 2006.

* This has no bearing on the day's event but I could not resist a plug for my favourite jazz music "Early Autumn" was the title of a great album record for the Woody Herman Orchestra back in 1947, with ballads composed by pianist Ralph Burns and saxophone solos by Stan Getz.

John C Barrows.

Friends of Green Oak Park would like to invite young people to

SPORTS SESSIONS

In
GREEN OAK PARK

Saturday Mornings starting 4th February

10am – 12 noon

For ages 8 – 13

Younger children are welcome if accompanied by an adult

Free

Just come along on the day

Open access – come and go as you please

For further information call

Richard Fowler – Activity Sheffield on 2735689

Andrea Peers/Naomi Hinch – South West Area

Panel on 2922191

Abbeydale Miniature Railway

Timetable 2006

All dates: public running at Abbeydale Miniature Railway, Sheffield Model Engineers. First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m. unless stated otherwise. Refreshments available. Contact Mick Savage 236 9002 or visit www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk for further information and map.

March

Sunday 19th.

April

Sunday 2nd.

Sunday 16th

(Easter Sunday).

Monday 17th

(Easter

Monday).

Sunday 30th.

May

Monday 1st

(Bank holiday).

Sunday 14th.

Sunday 28th.

Monday 29th

(Bank Holiday).

June

Sunday 11th.

Sunday 25th.

July

Saturday 8th Open Day and Exhibition and public running. First train 11 a.m. – last train 5 p.m.

Sunday 9th Open Day and Exhibition and public running. First train 11 a.m. – last train 5 p.m.

Sunday 23rd.

August

Sunday 6th Teddy bears' Picnic.

Sunday 27th.

Monday 28th (Bank Holiday).

September

Sunday 10th.

Sunday 24th.

October

Sunday 8th.

Sunday 22nd.

December

Sunday 3rd Santa Special. First train 11 am – last train 4 p.m.

Sunday 10th Santa Special. First train 11 am – last train 4 p.m.

Raised Security Levels

The British are feeling the pinch in relation to recent bombings and have raised their security level from "Miffed" to "Peeved." Soon though, security levels may be raised yet again to "Irritated" or even "A Bit Cross." Londoners have not been "A Bit Cross" since the blitz in 1940 when tea supplies all but ran out. Terrorists have been re-categorised from "Tiresome" to a "Real Nuisance." The last time the British issued a "Real Nuisance" warning level was during the great fire of 1666.

Also the French government announced yesterday that it has raised its terror alert level from "Run" to "Hide." The only two higher levels in France are "Surrender" and "Collaborate." A recent fire that destroyed France's white flag factory, effectively paralysing the country's military capability, precipitated the rise.

It's not only the English and French that are on a heightened level of alert. Italy has increased the alert level from "Shout Loudly and Excitedly" to "Elaborate Military Posturing." Two more levels remain: "Ineffective Combat Operations" and "Change Sides."

The Germans also increased their alert state from "Disdainful Arrogance" to "Dress in Uniform and Sing Marching Songs." They also have two higher levels: "Invade a Neighbour" and "Lose."

Belgians, on the other hand, are all on holiday as usual, and the only threat they are worried about is NATO pulling out of Brussels.

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

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STILL PLACES LEFT

Course will take place on Monday evenings

7.00 – 9.00pm

at Totley Library.

For more information call
0114 292 2191 and ask to speak to Naomi or Andrea

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

When my wife and I are out walking we have often remarked we would like to visit past times to see places we know as they were in those days.

The key word is visit- we are not expressing a wish to live in those times!

As far as I am concerned the most interesting choice would be say three to five generations back 1750 - 1900.

Not unconnected to the above idea is associated with another comment; "I wonder why, or who" Naturally, since we have lived in Totley nearly fifty years, we have wondered about some aspects of the area.

I wonder if, from time to time, the Totley Independent could act as a go between for those who question and anyone who could help.

Here are three to start off, if the editor thinks the idea may work.

1. Walking from home to Dore we can leave Abbeydale Road South on the path adjacent to the Glen Residential Home and emerge from the woods onto the playing fields near the corner of Limb Lane. On the path in the woods along the bottom edge of the playing fields there are obvious sections of stones in parallel lines. Are these some early tracks like railway lines? If so were they connected with work at the Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet?
2. Why is there a high stone wall on the right hand side of Penny Lane at the Hill Foot end? This looks more like a boundary connected with a dwelling than a field boundary.
3. The pathway from Penny Lane to Chapel Lane is presumably an ancient route between Totley and Totley Bents. Why is it so beautifully cobbled and who did it ?

I feel sure some readers with local interest and knowledge will know the answers and be prepared to enlighten me and, I hope, interest other readers.

Don Ashford

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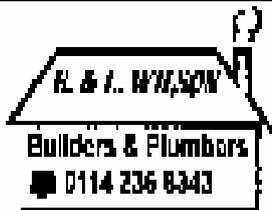
- MONDAYS** COFFEE MORNING, All Saints' Church Hall, 10am. To noon
TUESDAYS COFFEE MORNING. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am. To noon.
CRAFT GROUP, Totley Library, 2pm.
WEDNESDAYS. COFFEE in the LIBRARY, 10am. to 11.30am.
MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING. All Saints Church Hall 8pm. to 10pm.)
TODDLER GROUP. 10-00 a.m. to 11-30 a.m., All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. 236 0163 or 236 6789 or 236 3603
HEALTH WALKS. 10-30 a.m., Totley Library foyer. For a current programme and/or further details contact:
Sue, The Health Walk Ranger: 0114 2839195
THURSDAYS PUSHCHAIR CLUB. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 1.30pm.. to 3pm. Tel. 2363157 for further details.
SATURDAYS. MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING. All Saints Church Hall 2nd. And 4th. Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.

FEBRUARY 2006

- WED 8th DORE TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**, Diane Leek, 'My Year as Lord Mayor', Dore, Old School 2pm
SAT 11th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Valentine Special, Ray David. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome.
SAT 11th STEP OUT TO FANSHAW GATE HALL & HOLMSEFIELD, 5-mile walk with the Rangers, meet at Totley Library 10.30am 0114 283 9195
SAT 18th SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, Brahms, Liszt & Britten, St Mark's Church, Broomhill 7.30pm 0114 266 8257
TUES. 21st TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Rev. David Rhodes, 'My visits to Naisoya, Kenya', Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.
WED 22nd TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, Totley Methodist Church, Grove Road,11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
SAT 25th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Paul Leigh, Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome.
SUN 26th Guided Walk Around Historic Sheffield, Ron Clayton, looking at the city's history, architecture and folklore. 234 6669

MARCH 2006

- SAT 4th BEAUCHIEF GARDENS** Volunteer Working Morning 2006: 10 to 12 am. All Welcome. Mike Kidder 296 0550
SUN 19th MINATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, **First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m.** www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
TUES. 21st TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, A.G.M, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.
THU 23rd TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, Totley Methodist Church, Grove Road,11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
SAT 25th SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, Bach's St Matthew Passion, Sheffield Cathedral 6.30pm 0114 266 8257



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

SATURDAY 4th MARCH 2006

**COPY CLOSE DATE for this issue will be
SATURDAY 18th FEBRUARY 2006**

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