

# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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Congratulations and thanks to the hardy individuals that turned out in some atrocious weather conditions to plant daffodil bulbs in recent years – Totley is rewarded with magnificent displays this spring.



Totley Open Gardens – 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> July 2006

## Totley Residents Association AGM 2006

The AGM was held in the Library on Monday 3rd April. As last year there was a very disappointing turn out, with only 24 people. This included Andrea Peers South West Area Co-ordinator, Councillors Mike Waters and Keith Hill, Community Police Constable Mark Wadsworth, TRA Committee Members and local residents.

There were apologies from Councillor Anne Smith.

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

The 2005 Minutes were circulated. There was one query from the floor as to whether Green Oak View had closed. It was confirmed that the closure had taken place in November 2005. The Minutes were then accepted unanimously.

### **TRA Chairman's Report - Avril Critchley**

#### **Treasurer's Report - Richard Wrigglesworth**

There were concerns that sales of The Independent were going down.

Money from the Community Chest (SWAP) had been used to buy new software for The Independent. It was hoped there would be a twice yearly leaflet drop to the community. Help with co-ordinating the information for the leaflet was requested

There was a question from the floor as to whether the price of The Independent should be increased.

#### **Election of Officers 2006/2007**

Sylvia Boyles had resigned during the year, we thank her for her help. We had been pleased to welcome Kathryn Higgins and Mandi McGovern to the Committee.

The existing Committee stood down.

Nominations for Executive Positions and Committee Members were proposed, seconded and accepted by the meeting.

Chairman - Avril Critchley

Deputy Chairman - To be elected by the committee

Treasurer - Richard Wrigglesworth

Secretary - Amanda Hardwick

Committee Members - Les Firth, John Perkington, Mike Williamson, Janet Chapman, Carol Pugsley, Marlene Marshall, Claire Marshall, Duncan Froggatt, Kathryn Higgins, Mandi McGovern, Ian Clarke (Editor of the Totley Independent) and John Beazer (Website). We were pleased to welcome Bet Higgins and Sylvia Ruddle as new members of the committee.

#### **Report from the Chairman of Friends of Green Oak Park**

Sylvia Ruddle reported that the Multi-Games Area had been opened on March 25th.

This was a successful event attended by the Lord Mayor. It also marked the end of the Friends of Green Oak Park. Loss of interest had meant the committee was no longer viable. TRA Chairman had discussed the problem with Sylvia Ruddle earlier.

Mike Williamson explained under the TRA Constitution, Friends of Green Oak Park could become a sub group. Details would need to be discussed and put into the public domain. A public statement would be issued later.

#### **AOB**

Councillor Mike Waters publicly thanked the TRA and the Friends of Green Oak Park for the significant work they had carried out during the last year.

Questions were asked about the traffic problems on Baslow Road.

Councillor Keith Hill informed the meeting that the drawings were at the design stage and it would be late summer before they arrived.

There was also a query about the lack of police checks.

Duncan Froggatt reported on the complexity of the Sheffield Development Framework which requires our comments soon.

Mike Williamson reminded us that next year will be TRA'S Pearl Anniversary (30 years)

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

#### Daffodils

Several people have commented on what a pleasure it is to sit on a seat or walk up Baslow Road and enjoy the daffodils. They make us feel better and remind us Spring is on the way after such a long cold winter.

What a pity we have some mindless individuals in our community who take a delight in smashing down the daffodils thus ruining the pleasure of everyone else. I would like to remind you all that the bulbs were made available to us by the Director of Streetforce John Charlton. They were planted by hardy souls in the community, who braved the cold and damp in the Autumn. After flowering they must be allowed to die down naturally. If the leaves are removed, bent over or tied up, the plant will not be able to make food which is retained by the bulb ready to produce flowers for the next year. If this happens on a regular basis, flowering will cease altogether.

#### DOGS - Continuing saga

According to my vet, the disease which is picked up from dog faeces is called toxocariasis. It is VERY RARE. less than 100 cases in the whole of the U.K. last year. Cat faeces can also cause the same disease. Cats do not always bury their faeces. It is just as unpleasant finding a deposit on the lawn or in a flower bed as it is finding the same in the park or down a country lane.

In order to prevent infection, dog and cat owners must worm their animals on a regular basis. It is also owners responsibility to clean up after their pets.

In response to Keith Hill's comments last month that Onyx may refuse to empty bins. What about babies nappies? They are placed in bins. If the offending faeces are inside a plastic bag what is the difference?

Avril Critchley

TRA Chairman

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Yet again TRA Committee have had a very busy year.

Along with the rest of Sheffield, we have continued to experience problems with bus services. Our concerns were voiced at the Bus Commission Round Table held in September. Those attending were representatives from S.Y.P.T.E, First Group, Councillors, Officers from Council Transport and Highways, interested groups and residents. The petition collected in Totley was handed in by TRA Chairman, Avril Critchley with the request for a regular reliable service, better bus shelters and a plea for pensioners passes to continue to be available from 9.00am. We had a positive result, free passes available from 1st April with restrictions on usage unchanged. As part of the Sheaf Valley Quality Bus Corridor, subject to funding being available in the next financial year, bus shelters are planned for Baslow Road / Glover Road junction at both inbound and outbound stops.

Problems of the volume and speed of traffic, particularly on Baslow Road and the Mickley Lane/ Baslow Road junction were brought to the attention of the full Council, when a presentation was given and petition handed in on our behalf,

by TRA Treasurer, Richard Wrigglesworth. Representatives from Totley County School, concerned residents including disabled scooter users and TRA wrote to the Council Road Safety Engineers. Following this, a report went to the Planning and Highways Board with the recommendation that a Danger Reduction Scheme( implemented at sites where pedestrians feel vulnerable crossing the road) and a controlled pedestrian crossing at the junction, should be reassessed for possible inclusion in the 2006/2007 Plan. It is now recognised that Baslow Road can be difficult to cross!

Youth Nuisance -A continuing problem. Residents felt the level of incidents in Green Oak Park and surrounding areas could no longer be tolerated and a solution must be found to ensure older residents did not feel threatened and could walk through Totley in confidence. A public Meeting was held in the Heatherfield Club at the end of June. Around 240 people crowded in and around the hall and an unknown number were unable to get in. This wonderful turnout showed the depth of feeling within the community. The Police were subjected to a barrage of questions, but the Community must work with the Police, to help with the problem. It was obvious there was no quick solution to the situation. Following the public Meeting, TRA Chairman Avril Critchley attended the full Council Meeting, presented the petition signed at the Public Meeting and requested help from the Council Youth Offending Team to assist the Police. It was pointed out that Council and Community must work together to improve the quality of life for all Totley residents. As a result of this meeting, a Multi-Agency Group was set up. An Action Plan has been put in place covering law and enforcement, protection of the local environment and more facilities for youth work. It was agreed community representatives, police and all agencies would work closely from now on. Police re-organisation has given increased presence in the area. Residents are delighted to see police walking and cycling in and around Totley. Sheffield Futures Out Reach Project has been extended. They are running a 16 week Community Volunteering, Training Course for Totley residents.

As part of Community Safety, a Community Adult Education Officer ran a trial Chairrobics Session for members of the community. This proved a success and Chairrobics now takes place in the Library, every Thursday afternoon. TRA successfully applied for a grant of £600 to pay for the tutor. Other successes, were the Community Safety Day at the Magna Centre and the Health Event at Totley Rise Methodist Church.

As part of the Multi-Agency initiative, residents walked round Totley for two hours with representatives from Streetforce, Parks, Sheffield Homes and Andrea Peers, South West Area Panel Co-ordinator. The purpose of the "walk round" was to point out the problems which needed to be addressed, in the area. The following day ,after an invitation from TRA, Council Leader Jan Wilson and The Chief Executive Sir Bob Kerslake visited Totley for an hour. Parking problems on The Rise, the state of pavements, the flats near the Shepley Spitfire and the House and Road in Green Oak Park were all highlighted. They were both speechless, when they saw the results of planning consent, granted by the Council. Construction of the house and use of part of our park as a road began in the Autumn. Residents who had fought so hard to oppose the planning permission were incensed when a small boy was nearly run over on the pedestrian entrance by a builders van. Further concerns were raised when elderly people have had to jump out of the way on several occasions. TRA have raised these concerns with our Councillors, Council Officers and MP Nick Clegg. The situation has still not been resolved. We are waiting for

satisfactory answers to a list of questions, given to Mary Bagley, the Director of Parks and Countryside when she met with residents on site in February.

As in previous years, Totley Open Gardens Event, raised money which was given to T17. Thanks again to Jennie Street for organising the event and to those who invited us into their gardens.

Totley Show was also a success but we would welcome more entries in all categories. Thanks to Les Firth and the team who worked hard to put the Show on the road.

Thanks to those who again helped to brighten up Baslow Road by planting 2,000 daffodils in the verges.

Finally thanks to all Committee Members for their hard work throughout the year, particularly Amanda Hardwick for keeping the Minutes, Richard Wrigglesworth for taking care of our finances, Ian Clarke and John Perkinson for the Independent John Beazer for looking after the website and Mike Williamson for acting as my Deputy. Thanks to Sylvia Boyles who left us during the year. We were delighted to welcome new members to the Committee, but for various reasons they are not able to attend regularly. We are looking for new, younger people to join us.

Thanks to Andrea Peers, SWAP Co-ordinator, The Police, our Local Councillors and other Council Officers for their invaluable help.

We have made a nuisance of ourselves this year and must continue to do so. This way, we can keep important issues in front of the Council. We must all be prepared to work together, help each other and in so doing improve, the environment in which we all live.

Avril Critchley

## Totley Open Gardens

This year about 14 local gardens will again be open to visit on the weekend of 15th and 16th July from 2-6pm.

Please put the dates in your diary and come along to enjoy the variety of lovely gardens on show. Money made from the event will go to a local charity.

In some gardens there will be plants for sale, in others, tea and cakes will be available.

If anyone has any plants or cakes or fresh produce they would like to contribute for sale during the weekend, or if you would like to add your garden to the list, or for queries, please contact Jennie Street, 236-2302. email: jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk

## Councillor Surgeries

### Conservatives:

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

### Liberal Democrats:

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

## TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

[www.totley.org.uk](http://www.totley.org.uk)



## **Transport 17**

At the A.G.M. in March, Shareholders were told that passenger

numbers are catching up after a bit of a dip. We are still in need of drivers and escorts, especially to cover holiday times. Many of the clubs are voicing concerns at the amount of "red tape" in running their organisations. They are all volunteers, giving up their time to provide meals, friendship and entertainment for many people. They do not need this extra worry. These last remarks are my own but reflects the mood of many.

Once again there will be Coffee, Cakes and Cuttings at the English Martyrs Church. This will be on Saturday 20th May in their car park, Baslow Road, next to our office. It runs from 10 am till noon. It is always a smashing event and we thank everyone for their hard work and for the money that they give to Transport 17.

Our own Coffee Morning will be on Saturday, 15th July at 10 am till noon. Come along and see us and, hopefully, get yourself a bargain.

Here's to the better weather.

The T17 Committee members are -

Chairman Irene Wells

Treasurer John Savournin

Secretary Danny Barlow

Committee Members - Wendy and Jim Trotter, Ethel Beckwith and Margaret Barlow.

Tony Bradbury has resigned as he lives a long distance away, but continues to work as a well-loved and pleasant escort. Many thanks to him for all his hard work.

Best wishes to you all.

Margaret Barlow

## **DOG FOULING BIG ISSUE.**

To continue from last months Totley Independent, there is no excuse for anyone who allows their dog to foul in a public place, only last week a 79yr old lady was fined £50 maybe this was unfair but the Council are cracking down on offenders. Dog fouling is very offensive and could cause serious health risk. Dog faeces could spread infection by a parasite worm called *Toxocara canis*, to help eradicate this is to worm your dog regularly (every 3months is recommended) this will kill any worms and help to protect your pet, yourself and the general public, this does not mean that it is acceptable to Not pick up your dogs faeces.

A few General questions answered.

### **How many parks are infected with Toxocara Eggs?**

Random soil sampling shows that the majority of the parks in the UK are contaminated with *Toxocara* eggs in various stages of development.

### **If parks are disinfected would that eradicate Toxocara?**

*Toxocara* eggs are resistant to freezing and disinfectants and can survive for two years or more.

### **Are all dogs infected?**

It is reasonable to assume that all puppies are infected with *Toxocara T. canis* and produce larger numbers of eggs than an adult dog. However, the prevalence of *Toxocara* diminishes as the dog grows older.

### **Are there many eggs in dog mess?**

A single dog mess can contain approximately 1 million microscopic eggs.

So this is for the irresponsible 'Dog Owners who Do Not pick up', please think about the general public health issues, and also to keep our environment clean and free from this mess.

Marlene Marshall.

## **Friends of Greenoak Park**

On Saturday 25th March 2006 the new multigames area of Greenoak Park was officially opened by Sheffield's Lord and Lady Mayoress. Sports activities and music was provided by Activity Sheffield, many thanks to local adults and children who attended to make the event a very special occasion. The weather was marvellous which was a surprise to everyone.

The committee of Friends of Greenoak Park have now achieved what they set out to do so they are now stepping down. The committee have requested that they come under the umbrella of the Totley Residents Association. If this is agreed then Friends of Greenoak will remain under that umbrella until such time as the next task for this committee is decided and further action needs to be taken. Further information will be provided as and when this action is agreed.

And finally Friends of Greenoak Park would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the successful refurbishment of the Park.

Sylvia Ruddle



## **CONGRATULATIONS TO FRIENDS OF GREEN OAK PARK**

Some three years ago a resident on Queen Victoria Road petitioned the City Council about the dilapidated state of the Green Oak Park playground. Cllrs. Keith Hill and Colin Ross took up the case and strongly supported by the Totley Residents Association (TRA) and with the help of Area Officer David Aspinall formed the "Friends."

This month the "Friends" disbanded and merged their assets with the TRA, not with sadness but with a genuine sense of a job well done.

Since 2003 there has been significant improvement of the play equipment in the children's playground and an exciting "trim trail" has been installed. Early this month an even more ambitious project came to fruition when the Multi Use Games Area was officially opened by the City's Lord Mayor, Cllr. Roger Davison.

"Despite delays in the last few months," said Cllr Keith Hill, "The end product is a super asset to the park's facilities. I look forward to continuing improvements in the future as the TRA continues the good work. This has been a terrific achievement by all concerned. Very well done indeed."

Cllr. Keith Hill

## **Scout Lottery News**

The 1st Totley Scout Lottery enrolment forms are ready for delivery. Please support Totley Scouts by filling in and returning the form, or ring Peter Casson on 236 3881.

## **Buxton Opera House**

### **Exciting New Summer Season At Buxton Opera House**

Buxton Opera House is delighted to present another exciting and entertaining season programme which again puts Buxton on the map as the Festival Capital of England for summer 2006. Along with its long standing partners, the Opera House is proud to be hosting the internationally-renowned Buxton Festival and the International Festival of Gilbert and Sullivan. In addition there is the packed Buxton Festival Fringe and the fourth Buxton Puppet Festival.

The May to September brochure is packed with drama, music, dance, comedy, children's shows and more. A highlight at the beginning of the new season is Buxton Opera House Productions presentation of Lady Chatterley's Lover. D.H Lawrence's sensual tale is showing from Wednesday 26 to Saturday 29 April. Other highlights include the sparkling family musical Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and English Touring Opera's presentations of Tosca and Jenufa. Theatre goers can also enjoy an array of drama including Wuthering Heights, the Victorian thriller Gaslight, Funny Money featuring a star cast, Noel Cowards final play Star Quality and Hull Truck's comedy Ladies Day. Children and families will enjoy the 2006 Buxton Puppet festival from 23 to 29 July, the magnificent adventure Kensuke's Kingdom, a musical production of Wind In The Willows and a live stage version of the hit CITV series Fun Song Factory. The host of famous names appearing in this stunning summer season includes Dylan Moran, Paul Merton, Mickey Rooney, Richard Digance and Simon Callow,

The packed programme also features a feast of music including performances from Dominic Kirwan, The Seachers, The Drifters, Hot Chocolate and Jane McDonald. There is also an eclectic Fringe Season in The Paupers Pit Theatre featuring drama and film, along with the popular Buxton Buzz Comedy Club, upstairs at The Old Clubhouse.

Much of the work of the Opera House couldn't happen without financial support from both individuals and organisations. There are a variety of ways individuals can help including Name-a-Seat and membership of the Buxton Opera House lottery. There are also some fantastic opportunities available for local businesses to benefit from association with the theatre including a range of sponsorship opportunities and membership of the Cavendish Business Club. For further details please contact Liz Holland the theatre's Development Officer on 01298 72050.

The new season brochure covering May to September 2006 is available now. 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 the theatre's website: [www.buxton-opera.co.uk](http://www.buxton-opera.co.uk).

### **WANTED**

Volunteer treasurer

Totley Primary School Junior Club

- Taking over September 2006
- Minimum assistance
- Required to attend one meeting per term.

Please contact:

Moira Newman (Chair) 07812 691477

Sharon Rawlings (Sec) 07949 699339

### **The Man Who Never Was Lost Never Went Very Far**

The above title has always been a true slogan for the Sheffield Clarion Rambling Club which was first founded by G H B Ward back in the early 1900s. I quote the following story from a local walk I did about 12 years ago. At this period I was a little fitter than now and often went out to the local hills about twice a week. Alone I worked an interesting route of around 15 miles from Totley across to Stanage Edge and return. So in company with 2 friends I repeated the same crossing a few days later.

We started the trip from Hillfoot Road, passing The Cricket Inn, Bents Farm, Old Hay, Shorts Lane, Blackamoor, Lady Cannings plantation, Ringinglow Road, Brown Edge Quarry and Farm, Fulwood Lane and the new concessionary path across the Hallam Moors, via Rud Hill and the white stones, Fairthorn Clough, the top of Redmires Reservoir, ancient trackway to Stanage Pole, the normal route from here would be along Stanage Edge, Cowper Stone, Upper Burbage Bridge, Green Drive, cairned route to the Houndkirk Road, Parsons House, Blackamoor, Strawberry Lee Lane and return to Totley.

On the approach to Stanage pole on this day the weather suddenly turned nasty, strong wind, rain and misty, so I decided to short cut towards Friar's Ridge and Burbage Bridge. This rather boggy stretch of moorland is about 1.5 miles and joins a conduit and the North Sea gas line. For a short while there is a faint path and then one has to head roughly in a south easterly direction towards the bridge. I had done this wet crossing many times in the past.

On this occasion we strolled along, chatting with heads down and without a care. After a few yards the mist sprang up and suddenly visibility was almost nil, we floundered around and all sense of direction went haywire and to my horror I had forgot to pack my compass. The rules of the pure hill walker had certainly been broken. It took a full half an hour before we finally hit the dyke that cuts the line of Hallam Moor.

We certainly breathed a sigh of relief when out of the gloom the road appeared. It had taken us over an hour to do the crossing from the Stanage Pole to Burbage Bridge. A lesson learned the hard way. After strolling along the green drive towards Fox House the weather improved and we were able to enjoy the grand view across to Higger Tor and the Longshaw Estate.

Not far from the Friar's Ridge and heading towards Rud Hill can be traced the site of a crashed Second World War Bomber Wellington Aircraft. On the 16 July 1942 this twin engine plane took off from Lichfield, Staffs on a night flight navigation exercise, hit bad weather, flew off course and crashed into the boggy Hallam Moors. Fortunately the crew of 4 were only injured and with the aid of local Homeguard volunteers were rescued from their ordeal. The full story of this crash is featured in a book "Hell on High Ground" volume 2 by aviation historian David W Earl, publishers "Airlife" Shrewsbury. If you try to locate this crash site beware these Hallam Moors are heavy going and are pretty wet underfoot and very little remains of the aircraft.

But at least I can fully recommend this extensive walk from Totley to Stanage Edge and return. But definitely rule out Friar's Ridge unless you do not mind getting your feet wet. Enjoy our local hills, happy walking.

John C Barrows.

## Webster Family

Can you help track down any surviving relatives / descendants of the Webster family who lived in Totley during WWII.

To explain my interest in this family: - My father passed away two years ago and like all sons I had tried to speak with him regarding the war, (I served in the Army for 9 years during the seventies). He was very reluctant to do this and only once, did I ever get him to talk. It is only now since his passing that I have done a fair bit of digging and found out about his exploits during this time.

During my "digging" it became apparent that my Dad (who was a Warrant Officer Pilot with 211 Sqd out in India & Burma) had a "best mate" his name was Warrant Officer Pilot 1455066 Ken Webster -- they both flew Beaufighters and just before the end of the war they re-trained on Mosquitos.

Sadly Ken was killed in a flying accident on the 2nd July 1945 aged just 22 years an event that I now understand greatly affected my father, Ken lies in the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Madras War Cemetery, Chennai

Enquiries with the CWGC reveal the entry that Ken was the son of Kate Webster of Totley in Yorkshire. Further enquiries reveal that Ken had an elder brother Vincent who was also in the RAF with 35 Sqd (Service No 814232). Vincent was aged 35 years when he died on the 18th August 1943 he lies in the Berlin 1939 - 1945 War Cemetery. Again the mother's name of Kate is shown in the CWGC entry in respect of Vincent.

Using the telephone directory I have spoken to as many Webster's I can contact in the Totley area, the reason for this is that I have a copy of a photograph taken of Ken Webster and my Dad when they were in Tel Aviv, and I am trying to track down any descendants of either Ken, but given his age it's more likely to be descendants of Vincent, to see if they might want a copy of the photograph. I can't explain why I just feel it's what I should do.

During one telephone conversation with an elderly lady Mrs Webster 82 years (not related to Kate) she mentioned that she remembered a Webster Family with two brothers, both in the RAF and both killed, but then went on to say that she thought there had also been a sister -- a nurse -- also lost when the hospital ship she was on was lost.

As 60 odd years have now passed -- back then I would image Totley as a small place where if all three children in the same family were lost it would surely have been recorded somewhere.

Maureen at the local studies library has tried to find any entries re the Webster family in the local papers for the times when both Vincent and then Ken died but to no avail.

If you feel you can assist me in this endeavour I will be grateful for any suggestions / help you might be able to give.

My name is Eric Taylor and my home phone no 01995 606031 (Garstang in Lancashire) my mobile No is 07946 521 440

## 'PARK HOUSE'

Is it just me, or are there other people out there who are utterly sick and tired of the 'hate campaign' against the new house in the park. Yes, I know it is a unique situation, but surely the time for all the protests was BEFORE all the plans had been passed, not when the building was in progress and nearing completion.

Have you given a thought to the members of the family who are to live in that house? I feel very sorry for them and hope people will give them a chance to enjoy their new home without people with clipboards standing on the pavement. Council vans have always driven in and out of that entrance to the park, and I don't remember any protests about that, or indeed any accidents.

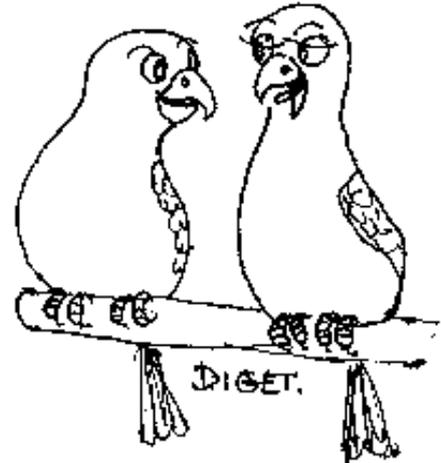
To me, the red eyesore are the flats by the Shepley Spitfire, but maybe the main protesters use that pub and want to carry on using it!

Name and address supplied.

## COFFEE, CAKES and CUTTINGS.

This annual event is to be held at English Martyrs Church, Baslow Road on Saturday May 20th 10am to 12 noon. The main beneficiary, as usual, will be Transport 17. We hope you will come along and enjoy a coffee or two with your friends. We shall be grateful for any donations of plants, books or bric-a-brac. Arrangements to have these collected can be made by 'phoning 2367176 or 2365313. Looking forward to seeing you on the day.

Thank you, John Artindale



" I MET THIS HUMMING BIRD  
ASKED IF IT COULD SING  
THAT OLD SONG 'THERE'S  
NO PLACE LIKE TOTLEY?'  
HE SAID 'NO BUT IT COULD  
HUM IT! "

## Sheffield and South Yorkshire 2006 Visual Arts and Fine Crafts Open Studio Event

29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> May

[www.openupsheffield.co.uk](http://www.openupsheffield.co.uk)

### Wendy Carlton

Abbeydale Sports Club  
Abbeydale Road South  
0114 235 3159

**Open** – 30 April, 1 May, 6 and 7 May  
Paintings of large striking flower heads

### Steve Elliott

49 Meadow Grove  
Sheffield S17  
0114 236 8469

**Open** – 29, 30 April and 1 May, 6 and 7 May  
Evening – 1 and 2 May 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm  
Pastel paintings of the Peaks

### Ray Gridley

129 Prospect Road  
Sheffield S17  
0114 262 1122

**Open** – 29, 30 April and 1 May, 6 and 7 May (until 7pm)  
Decorated stoneware pots

## PEAK DISTRICT EVENTS

**1 May**

### **Chesterfield May Day Market**

01246 345999 [www.visitchesterfield.info](http://www.visitchesterfield.info), Market 9 am, rally in Rykneld Square 10 am, Gala 1pm, famous outdoor market, over 200 stalls

### **Band in the Park**

Pavilion Gardens, St John Road, Buxton, 01298 23114 [www.paviliongardens.co.uk](http://www.paviliongardens.co.uk), [paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk](mailto:paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk), Concert by Cadenza

Band in The Bandstand 2 pm to 4 pm

### **Great Longstone Spring Plant Sale**

01629 640136 10 am to 3 pm

**7 May**

### **Castleton Farmers Market**

Castleton Village Hall 01433 620699, Lots of locally produced meat and other tasty foods for sale, free admission 10 am to 3 pm

**10 May**

Blaze Through the Bluebells – Linacre Reservoirs, 01246 551035 [www.derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk), Gentle easy going 2 mile wal, enjoy floral seasonal splendour of Linacre Valley. Wear suitable clothing and footwear. 6.30 – 8.30pm **BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

**10 – 14 May**

### **Annual Antiques Fair**

Pavilion Gardens, St Johns Road, Buxton, 01298 23114 [www.paviliongardens.co.uk](http://www.paviliongardens.co.uk), [paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk](mailto:paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk), Large antique fair which returns to Buxton each year by popular demand. Admission charge. From 11 am daily.

**13-14 May**

### **Chatsworth Horse Trials**

01295 788492 / 01246 582204, [www.chatsworth-house.co.uk/events](http://www.chatsworth-house.co.uk/events), 8.00 am to 5.00 pm admission 13th £10, 14th £12, parking £1.50

**14 May**

### **Band in the Park**

Pavilion Gardens, St John Road, Buxton, 01298 23114 [www.paviliongardens.co.uk](http://www.paviliongardens.co.uk), [paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk](mailto:paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk) Band concert by Thornsett Brass Band 2 pm to 4 pm in The Bandstand

### **Race for Life**

Bakewell Showground 01629 812736 [www.raceforlife.org](http://www.raceforlife.org) Women of all ages and all levels of fitness take part in the 5km race for life in aid of Cancer Research

**20 May**

### **Farmers Market**

Peak Village, Rowsley, Matlock 01629 735326 [info@peakvillage.co.uk](mailto:info@peakvillage.co.uk) 9.30 am to 2.30 pm

### **Food Fair**

Pavilion Gardens, St Johns Road, Buxton 01298 23114 [www.paviliongardens.co.uk](http://www.paviliongardens.co.uk) [paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk](mailto:paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk) Lots of locally produced food to buy, meat, vegetables, cakes, jams, beer etc including a large organic range. Free admission, 10 am to 4.30 pm

### **The Railway Tunnels Walk**

9 mile walk along Monsal Trail, look at biodiversity and features of the former railway, pass through tunnels normally closed to the public, £2 return bus fare and torch. Meet at Bakewell Old Station 10.45 am to 5.30 pm. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL** from 4 weeks before date of the walk on 01298 871869

**20 – 21 May**

### **Angling Fair**

Chatsworth, Bakewell 01328 701133 [info@countryfairoffice.co.uk](mailto:info@countryfairoffice.co.uk), Great Britain's international angling fair for coarse, game and sea fishermen. 8.30 am to 6.00 pm, separate admission charge.

**20 May – 4 June**

### **Camping Show**

Bakewell Showground, 01629 812736 [www.bakewellshow.org](http://www.bakewellshow.org), [info@bakewellshow.demon.co.uk](mailto:info@bakewellshow.demon.co.uk)

**25 – 31 May**

### **Well Dressing, Tissington, Ashbourne**

01335 352200 [www.tissington-hall.com](http://www.tissington-hall.com) [tissshall@dircon.co.uk](mailto:tissshall@dircon.co.uk)

**26-29 May**

### **Chesterfield Spring Bank Holiday Weekend**

01246 345999 [www.visitchesterfield.info](http://www.visitchesterfield.info), Chesterfield Market and Irish Market 9 am to 4 pm Entertainment includes Hagrid and Harry Potter on Saturday

**27 May**

### **Bakewell Farmers Market**

Agricultural Business Centre, Agricultural Way, 01629 813777 [www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk), Locally grown produce and crafts at an award winning event under cover with plenty of parking and easy access. Starts 9 am to 2 pm. Free admission.

### **Bat Safari**

Carsington Water 01629 540696 Join Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group and the Rangers for an evening stroll along the eastern side of the reservoir. Torches are essential. Meet at 8.45 pm at Millfields car park £2, no dogs, booking essential.

**28 May**

### **Band in the Park**

Pavilion Gardens, St John Road, Buxton, 01298 23114 [www.paviliongardens.co.uk](http://www.paviliongardens.co.uk) [paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk](mailto:paviliongardens@highpeak.gov.uk) Concert by Trentham Band in The Bandstand 2 pm to 4 pm.

**28 – 29 May**

### **Medieval Fun Day at Peveril Castle**

Market Place, Castleton 01433 620613 [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk) An educational and fun day for all the family. Admission charged 11 am to 5 pm

### **Art and Craft Fair**

Peak Village, Rowsley Matlock 07909 748097 10 am to 5 pm. A wide selection of rural artists and crafters have been invited to display their creations in the craft marquee

### **Sheffield and District Orchid Society Show**

Cavendish Hall, Edensor, Bakewell 01246 275248 [b-a-j@chesterfield1234.freerve.co.uk](mailto:b-a-j@chesterfield1234.freerve.co.uk)

**29 May**

### **Castleton Garland Ceremony**

Village Centre, Castleton 01433 621588 An ancient ceremony which celebrates Oak Apple Day with a horse led procession, maypole dancing etc. Garland building commences 12 noon. Processing 5.30 pm

### **Bamford Sheepdog Trials**

The Recreation Ground, Bamford 01433 651588 A family day out with something for everyone, admission charged.

**All the above, plus many more events, can be found in "Peak District and surrounding areas" the National Parks Free Guide. [www.visitpeakdistrict.com](http://www.visitpeakdistrict.com)**

## Gardening Tips

It is lovely sunshine just now although it was raining earlier, I was looking through some old Totley Independents and found that quite often when I write the April article that snow has been falling, the cold damp weather we have had of late has held back quite a few plants, there is no sign of blossom on the plums yet and the daffodils are only just turning yellow. I am looking forward to a bit of settled weather so that I can move plants outside, the greenhouses are bursting at the seams and my onions are looking good, they should be nice and big for The Totley Show on 16 September.

I have heard recently that we must conserve our water, I suppose it soon gets used up with washing machines and dishwashers (I do not use much when I do the dishes) etc.

I wonder if someone was doing an April fool's joke on the radio recently, They said that if you put mustard powder on your garden it will irritate the worms into making more holes which will hold more moisture and therefore we will not need to water as often?! I suppose the birds will like that idea as the worms will be a bit tastier. I wish someone would come up with something similar for slugs and snails, they irritate me. I suppose if we ate them they would be difficult to find (Murphy's Law). Has anyone got any good recipes I might try? Slug casserole or fricassee of snail springs to mind and springs out again.

May is a lovely month for gardens, not too hot so that we can labour tirelessly getting things shipshape, and warm enough to sit outside or in the summerhouse and enjoy a nice cup of tea and listen to the twittering of the birds or the grunting of the gardeners cutting the lawns etc. We have cleaned our pond although looking at it you would not think so, it looks a bit muddy at the moment but it should be OK in a few days when it has settled down again. Something else to look forward to, enjoy your gardening.

### Flowers

Prepare beds ready for summer bedding plants, dig in plenty of well rotted manure or compost, and remove any weeds. Thin and stake herbaceous perennials, watch out for greenfly and treat it before it gets too bad, encourage blue tits, hover flies, lace wings and ladybirds, they love greenfly. Slugs will be on the rampage; beer traps work but are a bit smelly if you forget to empty them regularly. Tie up sweet peas and give them a mulch to keep them moist. Dead head bulbs which have finished flowering, do not cut the leaves or tie them in knots, let them die back naturally or move them to another plot, place them in a trench and cover the bulbs until the leaves have died back, then dry them in the sun or greenhouse. Thin out chrysanthemum growth, plant out dahlia tubers, and cover with 8cm (3ins) of soil. Spray roses with fungicide if you have had trouble with black spot last season. Plant up window boxes and hanging baskets, keep them in the greenhouse or in a sheltered spot until the frosts have finished. Plant out seedlings of hardy perennials; place them in a nursery bed where they can grow undisturbed during the summer. Trim aubrietia to prolong the flowering period and top dress with compost or well rotted manure. Pinch out the growing points of herbaceous plants such as phlox, Michaelmas daisy and golden rod. Sow hardy annuals such as clarkia, cornflower, calendula, candytuft, godetias etc. Liquid feed container grown plants, seaweed fertilizer is ideal and it is organic!!

### Vegetables

Earth up potatoes, support peas and runner beans, thin out carrot, lettuce, parsnip, turnip and spinach seedlings. Keep all crops well watered especially cauliflower. Harden off indoor raised vegetables and salad crops, clear the remains of spring greens and prepare beds for leeks, digging in plenty of well rotted manure and compost, add a bit of hoof and horn. Prepare mound for planting out courgettes, marrows, pumpkins etc. To have a constant supply of veg through the season sow small amounts of seeds every 3 or 4 weeks to obtain a succession of crops and avoid a glut.

Plant out winter greens, particularly brussel sprouts, cauliflower and purple sprouting broccoli, runner beans can be planted out now, put in 2 seeds together with about 9ins apart. If they both germinate cultivate the weakest looking one, you need about 3ft between rows. At the end of the month sow vegetable marrow and ridge cucumbers outdoors on the mounds previously mentioned. I think I have told you before I use 2 bales of straw with well rotted compost and manure mixed in between them with a topping of soil. This keeps them off the ground. I soak the bales thoroughly; this keeps the moisture topped up. Watch out for pests and

diseases and deal with them as soon as they are seen before they get established and beyond control. Onions require a lot of feeding, especially those which are going in The Totley Show in September, a high nitrogen fertiliser (seaweed again) or sheep droppings tied in a bag and left in a tub of water lovely! Give them this until the end of July, and then change to a high potash feed like tomato fertilizer. By the way keep the tub of sheep dropping juice at the far end of your garden as it can hub a bit especially during the summer. Keep your vegetable patches clear of weeds; vegetables do not like the competition of nourishment.

### Trees, Shrubs and Fruit

Mulch around fruit trees and bushes with well rotted manure or compost, this helps retain moisture and keeps down weeds and gives them nourishment. Give apples and pears a spray of fungicide if you were troubled with canker or scab last season, replace grease bands to counter caterpillar infestation. Start to pick gooseberries as they form thinning them out so that the remainder can develop evenly along the branches (cook the thinnings you will need plenty of sugar, see naked chef). Keep all fruit well watered, prune overcrowded raspberry canes. Keep newly planted evergreens mulched and spray with water especially on hot days. Remove any suckers from trees and roses. Trim over and top dress heathers after flowering, bonemeal is ideal. Give your ericaceous subjects a special treat with iron sequestrine plant tonic. Plant out tender shrubs such as flowering currant, forsythia, willows and dogwood. Trim back dead shoots on rose of Sharon.

### Greenhouse and Indoor Plants

As the sun becomes stronger and more prolonged (we hope) it is very important that the ventilation and shading is controlled carefully. Begonia and Gloxinias in particular enjoy being shaded. Seedlings must never be in full sun although they must have plenty of light to aid their development and stop them going leggy. Watering is also important, check the plants regularly. Pot on pelargonium and other greenhouse cuttings which were struck earlier, allow nerine, arums, freesias etc to go to rest by gradually reducing water. Place them in a sunny spot; this will ripen the bulbs ready for a good show next season. Remove side shoots from tomato plants and pollinate regularly by tapping the supports or brushing the flowers. Trim and feed melons and cucumbers, bear in mind they soon rot if over watered. Best water from the bottom if possible (put a small plant pot in the side of the large pot or growbag and water into this and not directly onto the plants).

Sow cinerarias and schizanthus for plants later in the year. Keep insulation in place until all chance of frost is past. Contd. Page9

From Page 8

Cuttings can be taken now of most common houseplants, sow flowering pot plants such as browallia, indoor primula, calceolaria, cineraria, ornamental peppers and cacti. Pot on seedlings and cuttings and once again watch out for pests and diseases and deal with them as soon as they are seen. Do not forget watch the weather it can still turn cold at night, so keep your heaters at the ready. I would hate to think that all your hard work nurturing those seedlings is knobbled by old Jack Frost.

#### Lawns

Give weedy lawns a top dressing of lawn sand. Keep new lawns well watered; regularly cutting at a medium height is much better than cutting it too short. If you use a liquid weedkiller make sure you do it on a still day, if it is windy the killer may drift onto your borders with devastating results. Spike and top dress lawns which have not been done earlier, spread it evenly and brush it in. I do not think I have mentioned The Totley Show yet this month, it is on 16 September. It promises to be an even better show this year. Preparations are well in hand, it only needs you to make a special effort and bring along those prize winning plants, photographs, tapestry, cakes, jams, artwork, and crafts, go on have a go! In the meantime enjoy your garden.

Cheerio for now,  
Tom, Busy Bee

### DAFFODILS

May I just say "thank you" to Mrs Avril Critchley and Janet Chapman for the lovely display of daffodils on Baslow Road. These bulbs were planted last autumn by the 2 ladies and if anyone would like to continue I believe the bulbs can be obtained from the Council free of charge.

Beryl Casson

### Spring

Oh what joy that spring has come  
The earth is turning green  
Blossoms blooming everywhere  
Now burst upon the scene

Birdsong greets the morning sun  
Expectation fills the air  
As the night begins to fall  
The birdsong still is there

Creatures from their long cold sleep  
Uncurl themselves and wake  
The air know too of butterflies  
And bees their nectar take

Flowers all their petals show  
With every riotous hue  
Fields their wondrous carpet spread  
Watered by early dew

Oh what joy that spring has come  
It seems the whole earth smiles  
Days stretch out to warm themselves  
Begone are winter's wiles  
Vivien Filleul



"ELLO TOM, WHAT ARE YOU  
'AVIN' A TOTLEY TOT OR  
A DORE DRAM?"

### GRINDLEFORD STATION



The station is still busy and perhaps more so with a constant stream of hiking customers walking up Padley Gorge or along to Hathersage. Around the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the lane would be full of horse drawn carriages awaiting the arrival of passengers from Sheffield and Manchester. In the 'fly' would be six people sat in two rows, facing each other, knees touching. The summer months brought hordes of day trippers and out would come the charabancs with rows of seats facing forward and carrying twelve people. For those travelling to Eyam, the steep going was too much for two horses and there the driver would shout "first class sit still, second class out and walk, third class get out and shove". The photo of the early 1900s shows a cool summer scene, horses having blankets and one lady a heavy cloak. In 1912 a three-foot gauge railway was built along the Hope Valley carrying stone, quarried just above Padley, to the construction sites of the Derwent and Ladybower reservoirs.

Brian Edwards

## OLD TOTLEY by Jo Rundle

In 1948 the new Health Service came into force and at the time it was applauded as a means of free treatment and medicines for all and, had it not been treated as a free handout for every minor ailment, it might have weathered the advances in medical technology and increased costs of treatment and fulfilled the dreams of Beveridge, Churchill and the Government.

From the moment that the N.H.S. was created many doctor's surgeries and outpatient departments were inundated with requests for simple things like aspirins, plasters, and treatment for the smallest cuts or minor wounds that hitherto had been treated at home. Very soon it was evident that some restrictions should have been included, and the purpose of the N.H.S. more clearly defined as being for more serious illness and hospital treatment.

Some members of the community wondered why the new system was so essential when, until the end of W.W.2. no-one in the village had been denied treatment when necessary. Totley was not alone in such thinking because as part of the existing Voluntary Hospitals System most villages, and areas of towns and cities had their own Hospital committees. Friendly Societies and other organisations dealt with emergencies and since W.W. 1 it had been considered a pleasant duty to work for the hospitals, even the children played their part. During the war Mrs Colin Thompson, wife of the Totley Rise butcher and her daughter along with Nellie Gill, Sister of 'Choppy' Jackson, and other local women had been nurses at the war-time Hospital for injured soldiers in St. John's Church Hall Abbeydale (More later), and both ladies were also members of the Totley Hospital Committee. My Father and Mother (the former also representing the Parish Council), were both Committee members with Mrs. Milner of Totley Hall their Chairman. As a School Governer Mrs. Milner was well acquainted with some of the problems of the children and their parents and once a year the ladies of the committee were invited to the Hall for a very informal afternoon tea when the welfare of the village was the main topic of conversation.. As with all committees each member had his/her special responsibility and my Mother's was to collect the hospital contributions from all working men. Many years later she told me that no man paid more than 2d a week, for the average wage was about £1-10s (£1-50p), very few reaching the princely sum of £2; some of them also subscribing the same amount to Dore Friendly Society in case of future need.

In Totley, whether through illness or death of a husband, we had the occasional call by a lady from the village asking to see my Father as representative of the Parish Council for his help in obtaining the 'Parish' i.e. the amount paid to a widow on the death of her husband, or, in case of illness, the amount allowed for children. On such occasions we children were instructed to "Take the lady into the room" and ask no questions. (the 'Room' was the sitting-room or parlour at our house) The amount of the 'Parish' allowance was 2s 6d (12.5p), with additions for each child, not a lot today but in the 20s and 30s it could have been an eighth of a labourer's wages.

However, the hospitals did not have to rely on subscriptions because the committees were constantly working at some project to make money, by whist-drives, usually in the school and, after the Labour Hall was built, an annual dance when all the refreshments were given by the public. The greatest effort, however, was the work put in by everybody during the annual food collections organised by the Committee to supplement that provided by the hospitals themselves. Many houses kept a few hens if they had either a back-yard or an adjacent piece of land large enough to house a small shed and, during April the main egg-laying season, the older children, often accompanied by younger brothers and sisters, went round the village with baskets of all shapes and sizes collecting contributions of eggs for the hospitals to lay down in large pickling-jars of Isinglass to be used for cooking throughout the year. Contributions could be one egg, possibly

two or three, but occasionally a whole half dozen would bring a broad smile from the collector. Of course the greatest contribution was from the large houses and farmers, in which case the responsibility fell on the adults; anyone who owned any mode of transport, bike, motor-bike, or car, covering the distant farms, the 'Shank's pony' (Legs) collectors joining in groups and calling on those nearer to the village. The committee were responsible for delivering them daily to The Royal Hospital Sheffield throughout April and the 'Pickling pots' were soon full for another year. This was followed by a similar collection of jam-jars ready for the fruit season starting with raspberries, strawberries, through to plums, damsons, and apples. Collecting continued throughout the long school holidays, but most of this crop was donated from the larger houses (Grove House, Totley Hall, The Grange), with smaller donations from small gardeners according to the sizes of their crops. Of course with all these pickled eggs, bottled fruit, jams and jellies one might criticise the patient's diet, but every basket of eggs or plums meant that more money could be made available for other items that constituted a healthy diet and, if a patient fancied something different like an occasional fresh boiled egg, it could be brought in by a visitor and deposited in his/her locker. When the patient fancied a boiled egg, his/her name was written on it before boiling and it was served up just like at home. This system continued for the first years of the N.H.S at least up to 1954, when one visitor brought in a few shrimps and it was found essential not to wait too long before having them served for tea in case the other patients rose in protest at the aroma coming from the locker! There has been much criticism of food in the old hospitals, rice pudding in particular, but, with experience of today's food the old variety of rice pudding was far superior to that of to-day, and those who have experienced modern hospital food I fear would not award a very high mark for quality.

Possibly the most important contribution to the hospitals was the voluntary service of the Doctors and particularly the Surgeons. There were two Doctors serving Totley. Dr. Parsons, who was also the school Doctor visited the school at the beginning of every term to examine the new intake of pupils, and attended most children at home when necessary. Dr. Marshall, a Doctor, and also a Surgeon, attended the Royal Hospital on Tuesday each week as a volunteer for work in the Theatre. Dr. Parsons standing-in for emergencies in the village. Neither Doctor had an appointments system; if a visit were deemed necessary, you just went and waited your turn to be seen. Dr. Marshall's surgery was more like a small hospital as Mrs. Marshall was a pharmacist and all medicines prescribed by the Doctor were dispensed by her immediately; any other items like ointments, plasters, and readymade lotions being handed out by the doctor himself. Over the years the cost of treatment by the Doctor has often been criticised and mis-understood, for the Father's contribution covered his children as well as himself, and treatment for his wife, either surgery or hospital, was subject to a means-test, and the assessments were very generous. In 1934 an eighteen year-old village girl had to have long-term hospital treatment for gland infection and during her first visit the Almoner

(income assessor) asked about her father's occupation. He happened to be a well-known business man who was asked to attend the Almoner's office in order to assess his financial situation. Interview over, assessment complete, and he had nothing to pay; the long-term treatment was necessary and free.

All children looked on these summer activities as another game, what's more, an adult game in which they could take part and feel 'Grown-up', for although there always seemed to be plenty to occupy the adults there was little for the very young at Lane Head, particularly for the two youngest girls, myself and the girl next door who was not always well enough to play outside, and I was often quite alone. My Father would not allow me to play in the village or in the Bents, the two places where I could find those of my age; he liked to know exactly where I was and what I was doing. Luckily my Mother had a wonderful capacity for inventing games, usually one in the form of house-work. Friday morning was always the time of day when she black-leaded the big Yorkshire range in the living-room and, seeing her 4yr.old daughter 'moping around' one Friday morning, obviously without a playmate, she suggested we play a game of 'Black-leading'; I would do the basket fire-place in the 'Room' whilst she did the one in the kitchen, "And", she said, " let's see who can get the brightest shine". From her basket of brushes an old shaving-brush of my Dad's was produced, then a larger, nicely curved one with a handle to hold whilst polishing and a small piece of velvet for the final shine. Finally a small tin lid was retrieved from the bottom of the basket in which she mixed some Zebo powder to a paste with a little water. With one of her aprons tied firmly around my middle I was in business. Brushing on the Zebo with Dad's old brush was easy, though it was a good job that Mum had thought to cover the floor and hearth with lots of newspapers. The polishing was exhilarating; brushing this way; brushing that way; into the nicks in the carved design, not getting any into the tiles on both sides of the fire basket, with an occasional run to the kitchen door to see whether the Yorkshire range had a brighter shine than mine, then back again to give a final rub with the piece of velvet, all ready for Mum's verdict. 'Oh my, oh my' was the cry as she entered the room, and my chest was puffed out like a pigeon's when she added, 'well we can see who's won this game can't we?' There never was an outside game that came anywhere near the satisfaction of that morning.

It was around this time that I became acquainted with other kinds of houses quite different from our little cottage with its stone-flagged floor that Mom scrubbed and swilled every Saturday morning, for there were two ladies who lived in a big house in Victoria Road (later Queen Victoria Road), with bay windows much more impressive than our little casements. They were the Misses Dawson, two very elegant ladies whom I had seen sometimes at Chapel, who may have been responsible for the Mothers' meetings held there, but I knew them as the ladies who held a monthly sewing-meeting that mothers with pre-school children could attend. Dressmaking had been my Mother's favourite occupation since her schooldays so this was an opportunity she couldn't miss. I eagerly looked forward to the sewing meeting days to play outside in summer with boys and girls, not only from Totley but also from Bradway, Green-oak, Totley Rise and the Chemical yard. After about an hour cups of tea and small buns were served to the sewing ladies and the children were allowed a small glass of lemonade and a biscuit, but the really wonderful experience for me was walking on the lovely deep carpet that covered the floor, not like the 'Clippy' rugs that covered our stone flags. It was the first time that I had seen a

whole floor covered with such luxury and I wanted to roll in it, to bury my face in it, and never to leave this house again. But, of course, it was only dreaming, and after two hours it was time for home and the 'Clippy' rugs, happy and already looking forward to the next time. 'Clippy' rugs, for those who are not familiar with the term are those made from the good parts of cast-off clothing, old skirts, jackets, trousers, anything that could be cut into 6" lengths, which, using a special 'Clippy' tool could be attached to a piece of hessian, a washed sugar or flour sack, or other piece of hessian that could stand the hard wear of hobnailed boots and countless comings and goings of many feet. There were of course different ways of making rugs, some of them peculiar to the area, as the 'Proddy' rugs of Northumberland and Durham that are still made on special frames that in some houses are still kept in the corner of the room ready for making a new rug next winter. I was initiated into making 'Proddy' rugs in the 30s when I visited my new in-laws in County Durham and found them very easy to make, the frames taking the weight of the hessian backing. 'Knotty' rugs are those made with 'Thrums', the short lengths of special wool, such as the 'Readicut' variety that were made draped over the knees as were the 'Clippys', but each type needed it's own type of needle. The 'Clippy' needle looked rather like a weapon with its sharp pointed nose for cutting through serge, alpaca, and other heavy cloths, with a lever worked by the thumb to open jaws in which to insert the piece of cloth and pull it through the hole. No knots were needed for the rows were set close together, each one securing the last. 'Proddy' rugs are also made on hessian with balls of rug wool or long lengths of fabric approx. ½" wide either old or new and, in the case of wool can be individually designed and even reversed. This is not so with those made with cloth, for, although some form of design can be achieved by use of colour, there are bound to be ends of cloth on the reverse side due to using varying lengths. The needle used for the 'Proddy' rug is hollow with the end of the ball of wool or cloth passing through it from the top to the point at which it enters the hessian. As the point of the needle enters the hessian the end of the wool is held underneath by the other hand whilst the needle is pulled up again and inserted about ½" away thereby holding it in place and producing a stitch on both front and back. Most people will be familiar with the 'Readicut' rugs that are made in a similar way to the 'Clippys', but the needle is not pointed because they are made on canvas, not hessian, and the 'Thrum' is grasped in the centre thus forming a loop through which the two ends are pulled thereby forming a knot. If that was boring then, for fear of becoming even more boring the following will be the last of the stories of the young folk in Totley early in the 20thC, for life today bares no resemblance to that of yesteryear. However, should anyone be around who remembers those halcyon days they will know who I am talking about when I mention Annie Nutty. To be continued.

## Food for thought

### Year 1981

1. Prince Charles got married
2. Liverpool crowned Champions of Europe
3. Australia lost the Ashes
4. Pope Died

### Year 2005

1. Prince Charles got married
2. Liverpool crowned Champions of Europe
3. Australia lost the Ashes
4. Pope Died

In the future, if Prince Charles decides to re-marry and Liverpool wins another European crown.. will someone please warn the Pope?



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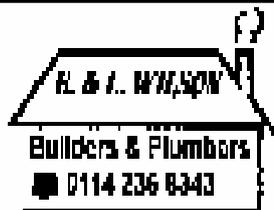
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## TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

**MONDAYS** COFFEE MORNING, All Saints' Church Hall, 10am. To noon  
**TUESDAYS** 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  
**TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUP,** Grove Road 9:30-12.00, Phone: Judith 236 3456 or Gill 236 1373  
**THURSDAYS** PUSHCHAIR CLUB. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 1.30pm.. to 3pm. Tel. 2363157 for further details.  
**CHAIOBICS,** Totley Library, 2pm to 3pm. £1.  
**TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUP,** Grove Road 9:30-12.00, Phone: Judith 236 3456 or Gill 236 1373  
**SATURDAYS.** MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING. All Saints Church Hall 2<sup>nd</sup>. And 4<sup>th</sup>. Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.

### MAY 2006

**MON 1<sup>st</sup> MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES.** Abbeydale Road South, **First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m.** [www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk)  
**SAT 6<sup>th</sup> BEAUCHIEF GARDENS** Volunteer Working Morning 2006: 10 to 12 am. All Welcome. Mike Kidder 296 0550  
**SAT 6<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE,** 5th. Anniversary Live Night with Steve A., Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome.  
**SUN 7<sup>th</sup> PLANT SALE,** Botanical Gardens, 10.30am – 2.30pm  
**WED 10<sup>th</sup> – SAT 13<sup>th</sup> TOADS SPRING PLAY,** St John's Church Hall, 7-30pm, Kate Reynolds 236 6891  
**SAT. 13<sup>th</sup> & SUN 14<sup>th</sup> CHATSWORTH SSANGYONG INTERNATIONAL HORSE TRIALS,** Dressage, show-jumping and cross country, the world's top riders compete Tel. 01295 788492. Web. [www.chatsworth.org](http://www.chatsworth.org)  
**SAT 13<sup>th</sup> BLUEBELL WALK,** Ecclesall Woods organised by FEW, meet 10.00am opposite Beauchief Gardens  
**SUN 14<sup>th</sup> MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES.** Abbeydale Road South, **First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m.** [www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk)  
**SAT 20<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE,** Sammy Gale, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome.  
**SAT. 20<sup>th</sup> COFFEE CAKES and CUTTINGS.** English Martyrs Church, Baslow Road 10.00 am to 12 noon.  
**SAT. 20<sup>th</sup> –SUN 21<sup>st</sup> CHATSWORTH 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ANGLING FAIR,** Fishing demonstrations, a bandstand, crafts, shops, food and a bar make the event suitable for all the family. Tel. 01328 701133. Web. [www.countryfairoffice.co.uk](http://www.countryfairoffice.co.uk)  
**THU 25<sup>th</sup> TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED,** Totley Methodist Church, Grove Road, 11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.  
**SUN 28<sup>th</sup> & MON 29<sup>th</sup> MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES.** Abbeydale Road South, **First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m.**  
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### THE INDEPENDENT FOR JUNE

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

**SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2006**

**COPY CLOSE DATE for this issue will be  
 SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2006**

Editor Ian Clarke Tel. No. 235 2526. Email [iangclarke@hotmail.com](mailto:iangclarke@hotmail.com)  
 Distribution & Advertising. John Perkinson. Tel. No. 236 1601.

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