

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY THE TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1977

DECEMBER 2006/JANUARY 2007

No. 299

15p.



The bridge leading to Woodthorpe Hall in Gillfield Woods February 1991

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

Totley Residents Association Update

As mentioned in the November Independent, we have decided to provide a specialist bike and equipment for our Community Police Constable Mark Wadsworth. The bike will be used in the Totley area. It will allow him to patrol his beat, cover a wider area, offer greater security and get to places where troubles can occur more easily.

Dore Village Society provided their Community Police Constable Dave Spencer, with a bike last year. The two police officers will now be able to work together if the situation warrants it.

The bike will be kept at the Totley Brook Road Police Station. It will be insured and maintained by South Yorkshire Police.

We as a community need to raise about £2,000 to pay for the bike. We have already received money from some people, thank you very much.

The Halifax on the Rise has kindly offered their help. They will collect donations from members of the community on behalf of Totley Residents Association. We thank them for their assistance. Cheques should be made payable to TRA.

Cassons, Baslow Road News & Off Licence and Totley Rise Medical Centre are also collecting on our behalf.

£2,000 sounds like a lot of money, but if everyone gives something, we will soon reach our target. Please help by giving, any amount large or small.

The bike is already in Totley, but Mark has to attend a training course before it can be used officially.

Look out for them both in December.

The bike will help to make our community a safer place for us all to live.

At the Multi Agency Meeting held 17th November it was a pleasure to welcome Rebecca Maddox, the new South West Area Panel Co-ordinator to Totley.

We spent a long time discussing the provision of activities for young people.

There is a lot of work going on in the background. The youth workers are doing their best to provide as wide a range of activities as possible.

TRA have given £250 to help support youth work in Totley. We learned Police Community Support Officers are being trained and we will hopefully see one in the Totley area very soon.

The gaps in the hawthorn hedging on the edge of Totley Hall Park will be filled in this winter, to prevent unauthorised vehicles driving onto the grass.

As in previous years we have been planting bulbs to brighten up our Community. 2,500 daffodils have been planted on both sides of Baslow Road. We had been hoping to plant 1,000 crocuses at the corner of Baslow Road and Glover Road but there is a possibility work will be carried out there in order to erect a bus shelter, so the crocuses have been planted at the bottom of Totley Rise instead.

Thanks to Marlene Marshall, Dave Bale, Jim Higgins, Fran Marples, Keith Marples, Graham Winder and George Critchley who helped me to plant the bulbs.

Last month I reported that TRA is 30 years old next year and gave details of our celebration arrangements so far.

The Lord Mayor will be coming to help us celebrate.

The Date to Remember is 1ST JULY 2007 1.00 - 4.30pm

Finally, on behalf of TRA Committee I would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Avril Critchley
Chairman TRA

Wildlife on your doorstep!!

Sheffield Wildlife Trust events for Dec 06 to Jan 07



We want to get out & enjoy Sheffield's wildlife this winter, but don't know where to start? Sheffield Wildlife Trust runs a whole host of events all over the city, aimed at helping everyone get the most out of their local environment. From children's fun events to practical volunteer days, the nature reserves are sure to offer you something. All our events are free of charge, though you may have to ring to book in advance for some of them. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear, bearing in mind that weather is unpredictable, especially on the larger nature reserves inside the Peak District.

- Please make sure your children are accompanied by a responsible adult, as we are unable to take responsibility for them at events.
- Many nature reserves have uneven or steep terrain, and may not be suitable for wheelchair or pushchair users. Please check beforehand if you are unsure.
- All events can be reached easily by public transport and most events are arranged around bus times. For public transport details, call Traveline on 01709 515151. Call the Trust for a directions sheet.
- Photographs may be taken by Trust staff at events and used for publicity purposes. Please contact a member of staff at an event if you are unhappy about having photos taken.
- Dogs on leads are welcome, unless specified otherwise.
- Please contact Annabelle Kennedy on 0114 279 2670 for details and bookings, or to join the mailing list.

Do it for the Birds!

Saturday 16th Dec 10am to 3pm Wyming Brook nature reserve

We'll be coppicing the birch trees that run between the moorland and the woodland. When a tree is coppiced, multiple shoots regrow, creating dense birch trees - perfect for nesting and feeding warblers. Meet any time up on the crags path or at Redmires Road car park SK 269 859

Double Clear-Up day

Tues 19th Dec 10am to 3pm

Weds 20th Dec 10am to 3pm

Carbrook Ravine nature reserve

The annual clean up of Carbrook is upon us, and whilst the vegetation is down, skips of litter are removed to improve the look of the place and encourage more positive use. Meet at the main entrance of Spring Wood on Spinkhill Avenue, or at the Castlebeck Avenue entrance.

Blacka's Heathland Haven at

Bole Hill

Saturday 13th Jan 10am to 3pm

Blacka Moor nature reserve

Without intervention and management, heathlands and grassland will become "scrubbed" over with small trees, and will eventually develop as wooded areas. Join the Trust for some birch removal - cutting down some of the smaller trees to conserve the heathland and its bilberries and heather. Meet at Strawberry Lee Lane carpark SK 296803. Please bring a packed lunch and clothes suitable for working.



Transport 17

We are still
selling Rotary
Club Vulcan
Sheffield,

Christmas Draw Tickets. The more we sell, the more money we get for our bus fund. Tickets are 50p each and the Draw is on 19th December. Good luck to you all. A number of our passengers and club helpers have won in the past.

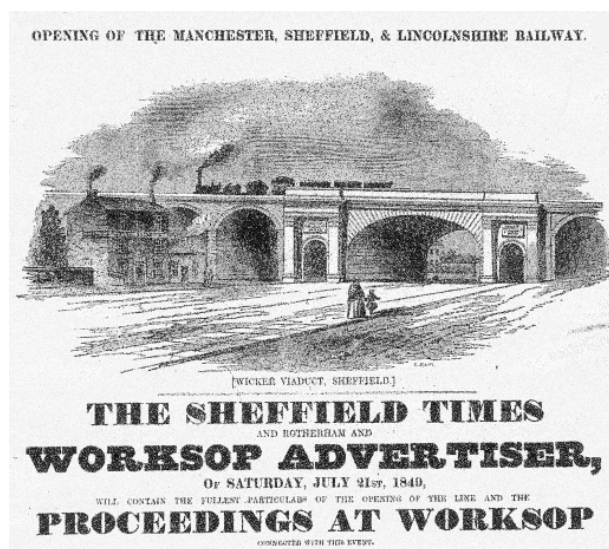
Transport 17 office will close on Wednesday, 20th December when the last passenger is delivered safely home. We re-open on Wednesday 3rd January. I can't believe that another year is nearly over. We send our thanks to Cheshire Home, the Catholic Church, the Library, Totley Residents Association and all the clubs and shops that help and support us.

Michael Finn and John Savournin keep the buses on the roads and our finances all in order. Of course, if we did not have drivers no-one would be going anywhere. A special thanks to them and our escorts. We are closing a week before Christmas to give all our staff and all the marvellous people who run the clubs, time to get ready for their own Christmas. They are amazing because they are all volunteers.

As always, our friends in Busy Bee have been a great help and good friends during 2006. We are sorry that they are closing down, but wish Christine and Tom well and thank the rest of the staff very much.

Have a HAPPY CHRISTMAS and let us hope that there will be a bit more peace in 2007. Take care of yourselves and each other. Margaret Barlow

CHASING OFF THE FLOCK



In the 19th century, a railway line between Sheffield and Rotherham was proposed but opposed by the latter on the grounds that the idle, drunken and dissolute portion of Sheffield would flock to Rotherham.

BRIAN EDWARDS

PUZZLE CORNER

Four follows Four

Solve the fifteen clues so that the LAST four letters of each solution form the First four letters of the next (except 15)

E.g. Anagram, Gramophone, Honest etc.

1. Centre for treatment of sick and injured. 2. Type of script.
3. Hair decoration. 4. Music leader. 5. Money of standard value. 6. Pertaining to language. 7. Adhering.
8. Perpendicular beam in a roof. 9. Guider of carriage horses.
10. King or other with great courage. 11. Gardener's friend.
12. A bitter plant. 13. Type of musical instrument.
14. Openings in walls of buildings. 15. Plunge into water.

Journey to Bethlehem Totley Rise Methodist Church, Grove Road

Free 30 minute tours to see the real story of Christmas, tours start frequently between the following times - 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm Friday, 8 December and 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm on **Saturday, 9 December and Sunday, 10 December.** To book call 0114 2368726 evenings or weekends. It is essential to book in advance as the event is very popular. Over 750 people journeyed last year.

For the 4th year in succession, Roman centurions will be waiting at Totley Rise Methodist Church on Grove Road to lead visitors on a Journey to Bethlehem. In 30 minute tours, groups will be guided through scenes leading up to the very first Christmas 2000 years ago, such as Isaiah's prophecy and the Angel Gabriel's message to Mary. In the market place townfolk are seen demonstrating the crafts and tastes of the time. The tour ends at the stable where a real baby Jesus is cared for by Mary and Joseph. It is the real Christmas.

The tour is free and refreshments are served. Come warmly dressed as the shepherds keep their sheep outdoors!

Other Christmas Events at Totley Rise Methodist Church, Grove Road

8.00 pm Wednesday, 6 December – Carols by Candlelight

10.30 am Sunday, 17 December – Family Christmas Service

6.30 pm Sunday, 17 December – Lessons and Carols for Christmas

10.30 am Sunday, 24 December – Carol Service

4.00 pm Sunday, 24 December – Crib Service for all the family

10.00 am Monday, 25 December – Christmas Morning Service

A warm welcome awaits everybody

FLUE LINE

This was just another name for the Dore & Chinley Line (Now called Hope Valley Line) because of the number and length of the tunnels in its 21 mile length. The two longest are the Totley Tunnel 3 miles 950 yards, between Totley and Padley (Grindleford) and the Cowburn Tunnel 2 miles 182 yards, between Edale and near Chinley. Then there are several smaller ones. Hence the nickname Flue Line.

Brian Edwards

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

Not Lost In The Jungle

A new venture for Sheffield Cutler Federation TG - HOLIDAYS!! Eight members of Totley Guild were amongst the 38 Townswomen from Sheffield to enjoy a 5 day holiday in Cornwall in September based in Newquay at the Carnmarth Hotel overlooking Fistral Beach. No we didn't surf but we did visit the Lost Gardens of Heligan, the Eden Project and other coastal delights in glorious weather.



The photograph shows Hamiyet Onal, Sheila Pownall and Ann Gray pausing on the boardwalk in the Jungle in the Gardens of Heligan. This holiday was a huge success and we are looking forward to the next one, wherever it may take us.

Ladies why not come to our next Guild Meeting, we always meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Methodist Church Hall, Totley Rise at 10.00 am

ADD FULFILLMENT TO YOUR LIFE

Sheffield Cheshire Home on Mickley Lane in Totley is a nursing home for all kinds of disability, from cerebral palsy to spinal injuries.

We are always going out on day trips, shopping trips, cinema, the pub, places of interest and also various appointments.

We are desperate for volunteer drivers to help with social outings and also hospital, dentist's and doctor's appointments.

We have three specially modified vehicles for the use of our residents and service users.

Your commitment can be as small or as large as you wish, from an hour or so now and again, to a period of time on a regular weekly basis.

If you are interested, please contact Jennie or Gwen, at Sheffield Cheshire Home, telephone number 0114-2369952.

Full training & support & all out of pocket expenses, is provided for all our volunteers and all volunteer drivers also receive instruction by one of our two fully qualified MIDAS instructors.

Volunteers are not paid because they are worthless but because they are priceless.

"Victorian Christmas Fayre"

to be opened by David Allen

Chairman of Sheffield Wednesday Football Club

Leonard Cheshire, Mickley Hall, Mickley Lane,

Wednesday 6th December 10.00am - 12.noon

Victoria Gardens

In the article about the Victoria Gardens in the September Independent it would appear that the writer, Sheila Hobson, has misunderstood the location of the Match-box House. The Hotel described was on Baslow Road as also was the row of cottages nearer to the junction of Baslow Road and Glover Road, which were demolished and replaced by Jim Thompson's Garage about 1929.

The Victoria Gardens were bounded by Baslow Road, Mickley Lane, and Glover Road, none of which were part of the actual gardens. The Matchbox House stood alone on the opposite side of Glover Road at the other end where it forms the junction with Mickley Lane. Around the corner in Mickley Lane nearer to the bridge was a pair of Villas, one of which was the home of Jack Windle the delivery man for Marrison's Grocers of Totley Rise.

The Matchbox House earned its name from its architecture. It was a three story building of single room depth, with windows front and back, but none in the sides. When viewed from a distance it had the appearance of a huge box, hence the name given to it by the locals in the 19th.C My Great-Grandparents Samuel and Mary Jane Fisher lived there in the early 1880s before moving to Dunston Farm at the top of Mickley Lane. Mr. and Mrs. Gledhill lived in the Matchbox House in the twenties where, from 1924 it was a popular venue every Christmas for the choir of Totley All Saint's Church when they were entertained generously by Mr. Gledhill and his wife.

In the late twenties and early thirties Mr. Gledhill was the Chairman of the Totley Parish Council when my Father was its Elected Representative to the Board of Governors of the Church or England School, and the Voluntary Hospitals Committee, and both were signatories to the document that took Totley into Sheffield in 1934 after discussions and negotiations between Sheffield City Council, Derbyshire County Council, and the Boundaries Commission for almost twenty years.

From my Totley schooldays I remember a very pretty flaxen-haired girl, about two years younger than myself, who lived with the Gledhills and I believe was their grand-daughter. Her name was Esther Pearson who, we understood was the daughter of a deceased brother of those who owned Pearson's Nurseries. I have often wondered what happened to her after she left Totley School.

Jo Rundle.

I'm on a Committee!

Oh, give me your pity – I'm on a committee

Which means that from morning to night

We attend and amend, and contend and

Defend Without a conclusion in sight.

We compose and propose

We suppose and oppose, and the points of procedure are fun

But though various notions are brought up as motions

There's terribly little gets done

We confer and concur, we defend and demur

We reiterate all of our thoughts

We revive the agenda with frequent addenda

And consider a load of reports

We resolve and absolve but we never dissolve

Since it's out of the question for us

What a chattering pity to end our Committee

Where else could we make such a fuss?

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For Details



Horses at Totley

Anna the mare has been sold for breeding purposes. She has resided at Totley Bents for some ten years during which time she gave birth to two filly foals - Lara in May 2000 and Milly in July 2005. While feeding Milly recently I detected a strong resemblance to the mare in her facial expression unlike Lara whose light brown sleek colour differs from Anna's darker colour. Teresa, their owner, however thinks there is a resemblance between Lara and Anna.. Lara is quite a madam and shows her displeasure when kicking out wildly with her hind legs whenever other horses try to take precedence at feeding time.

I am sure that the other horses and equine fraternity will miss Anna, particularly Herbie, the piebald gelding, who has been her regular-companion for some years.

I begin my weekly visits to hand round carrots and apples at the fields alongside Old Hay Lane near the Crown Inn. Here Aran, a sturdy white gelding some ten years of age, is nowadays first in the queue before his two companions. In these fields during the summer Gus, a good tempered friendly horse, was attacked by vandals. The outrage was reported by the Sheffield Star and Telegraph. The culprits have not as yet been traced. At the moment Teresa is concerned about Gus's health and has fears for his future.

My next call is to Lara, now six years old and a companion in one of the fields at the bottom of Penny Lane. At the gate Lara takes precedence in the pecking order while the other horse stays meekly in the background while accepting a carrot or two and pieces of apple thrown to it.

Peggy, a temperamental, powerful brown horse, is this afternoon in her usual place in the stables next to the Cricket Inn. Teresa advises me to hold the carrot at full length to protect my fingers when feeding Peggy. In the field opposite the Cricket Inn are to be found two white ponies one known as Snowy. In the next field at Debbie's farm Merlin, a Shetland pony together with another Shetland pony recently arrived eagerly await my appearance at the gate having heard my whistles down the lane. Meg, growing well in her third year, is occasionally to be found in the field at the back of Debbie's farm.

Four horses reside at the farm at the foot of Moss Road. Punch, a tall, white gelding some 35 years of age the longest serving resident is nowadays a little reticent to arrive at feeding time as a large brown horse seems to have taken charge since his arrival some months ago and is now first to arrive at the boundary wall and digest a carrot or two and pieces of apple. This is an unwelcome change for Punch who normally has a voracious appetite and always used to be first at the wall when he shared the field with his old friend and companion Jerry -now deceased. The other two horses at the farm Chester a colt now in his second year arrives quickly to take a carrot or two and pieces of apple while a small, brown horse knows how to get his share of the rations.

Finally Herbie and Milly together with another horse whose name escapes me are waiting in the fields alongside Baslow Road. They come quickly towards me when they hear my whistles. Herbie is the boss and takes the first carrot while the others follow his example. When all the fare has been eaten the horses look for more until I hold my empty hands aloft and they retire in disappointment.

I still enjoy my weekly visits to the horses and hope they will continue for some Years to come - God willing having just passed my 75th birthday.

Hugh Percival

The All-Totley Yard Sale

Sheffield's first ever community Yard Sale took place on Sunday 29th October around Totley from 10am to 2pm.

The idea was to give people an opportunity to sell unwanted goods without leaving home at some ridiculously early hour to do a car boot, and then being plagued by the vulture dealers who try to look through the contents of your car before you've hardly finished parking. And to raise some money for Totley Residents Association.



Signs on Mill Lane

On that day 50 households took part, selling from the fronts of their houses. They were scattered all over Totley, and some were even in Dore.

£195 was raised for the TRA, probably to be used for activities in Greenoak Park. This was done by charging each vendor £3, and by selling the map and list of the vendors for 50p to those who came to buy.

Buyers were sent first to houses along Greenoak Road, because 17 homes were taking part within a short distance. Many buyers were walking around, and this gave a good feel to the event, as people met and chatted to each other, or got to know new people. One vendor commented "I found the



Jennifer Burns selling books from her garden wall

atmosphere on the day friendly, warm and fun it was great to have everyone walking up and down Totley, I met and chatted to neighbours I had not had a chance to say hello to before. I received really positive feedback from people coming to our stall about how much they had enjoyed the event."

Some buyers came before the scheduled start time, but by 1pm most buyers had gone - Sunday lunch and all that.

Some people did very well and made some good money, but others, who were away from the centre of the action, did not do so well.

The best thing about the day was that it was very mild and sunny. As one vendor who didn't sell much said, "I enjoyed four hours sitting in the sun, but I wonder if I would have felt the same if it had been windy and raining....."

Feedback from the event from vendors was generally in favour of having more Yard Sales.

Someone in an outlying road suggested a central location, others felt this would negate the whole purpose of a Yard Sale - selling without leaving home! One person said "Having a central location would defeat the object in my

opinion, maybe 'central' sellers could share their drives with the out lying people?"

In fact, some people did this on Oct 29th with about 4 vendors selling from other people's gardens.

But, even if the idea of a central location is not for all, I think it would be possible for some people to sell their goods from a more central location e.g. - if the landlords were willing - the car parks of the three pubs. Totley Primary School car boots used to be held in the Cross Scythes car park.

We also had the suggestion that "Selling the map previously and offering it as a raffle might raise more money - there were a few people just trying to find sellers without buying a map!"

In fact, this would be a good idea, as dealers always try to come ahead of the time to bag all the best items - we want to get away from this and lay out our goods in peace, but I'm prepared to do it if others do not agree with me.

People also commented that more advertising was needed.

I sent copies of the poster to The Central Library and they sent one to every single library in the city (although that doesn't mean that all the libraries display them). It's worth noting that Totley library refused to put the posters up as they have a new policy (yes, you guessed - new manager, and not based in Totley) not to display community events unless they are connected to the library.

An article about the Yard Sale appeared in the Sheffield Telegraph about a month before the event, Radio Sheffield and Hallam FM trailed it, and it appeared in the What's On column of the Star on Sat 28th. If we had advertised in the Star in the events page it would have cost quite a bit of money.



Monica Foley waiting for punters

And of course, it also appeared in the Totley Independent, and on the Totley website www.totley.org.uk.

I had also put posters and leaflets in shops and businesses around Totley, and regularly stuck posters on the bus shelter outside Busy Bee, replacing them each time they were cleaned off!! They were also placed in the 4 community noticeboards around Totley.

The event was also on the Sheffield City Council Information Service's What's On website www.sheffieldwhatson.org.uk/ from early September.

For the future I propose that:-

- Totley have two yard sales a year - in Spring and in Autumn.
- That people living in "outlying" places bring their goods to either another drive more centrally or use one of the pub car parks or the library car park.
- That we make some A-boards to place along the Baslow Road to advertise the event in the week beforehand. Any volunteers?
- A small group organise this, to share the load with me. Any volunteers?

Jennie Street, Tel. 236-2302, jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk



The Media come to Totley to film our LIVE, NATIVITY PLAYS



Look North, Calendar News the Local and National Press and Radio Sheffield have all

been to record these events and the atmosphere being created. The look of both awe and happiness on the children's faces as they hold the newborn lambs, and ride on the donkey, is only matched by the enjoyment the proud, happy parents have of seeing their youngsters performing the play.

We have recreated the Bethlehem stable scene in our barn complete with live animals, Sunbeam our cow, Dorset ewes and lambs, and Spirit our donkey, giving it a flavour of real authenticity and atmosphere.

The children who came last year enjoyed dressing up as Mary, Joseph, the angels or wise men and playing out their role as we narrated the wonderful nativity story. The parents filmed or photographed the performance in between joining in the carol singing. The after performance refreshments proved very popular, particularly the mulled wine for the adults! Santa's house was the main attraction for the children as they collected their presents from him, although the free donkey rides were a close second!

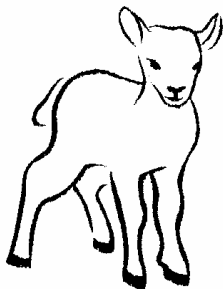
Why not give the whole family a Christmas treat this year

by coming to one of our plays? The whole event lasts approximately 1½ - 2 hours, the narrated play taking about 30 minutes at the beginning. Do visit our web site at www.totleychristmasfestivals.co.uk for pictures of last year's performances and a list of special options for groups and clubs that start at £4 per person. Below is a schedule of this years performances and we would love you to join us for this unique and special start to Christmas.

2006 Ticket Prices

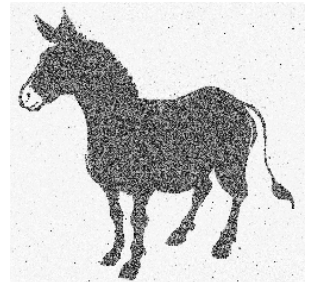
Adults @ £8.75 - includes tea, coffee or mulled wine and mince pies.

Children 3 - 16 @ £8.75, Children 2 and under @ £4.50 – includes a present, drinks and Christmas biscuit.



Sat 9th Dec	10:30	1:30	4:30	
Thur 14th Dec			4:30	
Fri 15th Dec			4:30	6:30
Sat 16th Dec	10:30	1:30	4:30	6:30

Mon 18th Dec			4:30	6:30
Tue 19th Dec			4:30	6:30
Wed 20th Dec		1:30	4:30	6:30
Thu 21st Dec	10:30	1:30	4:30	6:30
Fri 22nd Dec	10:30	1:30	4:30	6:30
Sat 23rd Dec	10:30	1:30	4:30	6:30



For further information, or to book your places using our credit card hotline, please call Jenny on 236 4761

hatha Yoga

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United Reform Church, Totley Brook Road

For more details phone

Caroline Shelton

07837 876429



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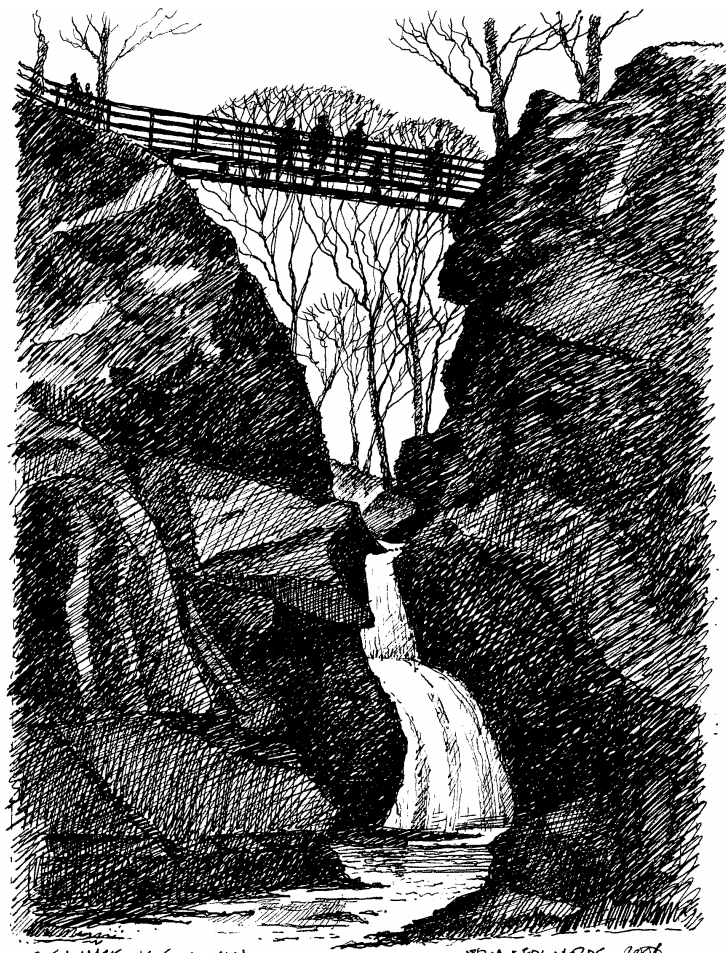
TRAVELS WITH PEN, BRUSH & CAMERA

For some years I have been giving illustrated talks to various organisations and have often been asked if I have transcribed them into book form. I haven't so far but, instead, I intend to share my trips with readers of Totley Independent.

I start with the Isle of Man which I have visited three times over the last few years. When I mention where I am going or have been, the response is either "my parents used to go there" or "I keep meaning to go but never get around to it". A lucky few have been and thoroughly enjoyed it. The route I take is via the two and a half hour ferry from Liverpool to Douglas, the capital of the island. I have been by air but found it not cheap compared with European cut price travel, although prices are reducing. The airport is small and relaxed rather than crowded and frenetic. I do not take the car but use the excellent public transport which includes a Victorian steam train (from Easter to end of October) travelling close to the south coast and through pleasant rolling countryside. At fifteen and a half miles this is the longest narrow gauge, three-foot steam route in the British Isles. The Douglas Steam Railway Station is a superb example of late 19th century and there is an excellent vegetarian cafe and shop which has a collection of old railway posters and reminders that confetti throwers will be prosecuted. There is also an electric tram, operating on a regular service, and running some seventeen miles up the east coast, through villages and delightful countryside with glimpses of the Irish Sea.

There is also a good bus service on the island and then there is the Snaefell Mountain Railway, opened in 1895, Laxey Mines Railway, and Groudle Glen Railway. In Douglas, the mile long promenade has regular horse-drawn trams. The clip-clopping evokes nostalgic memories of the slower pace of yesteryear as the tram passes the restored Gaiety Theatre (same architect as Buxton Opera House) and the beautifully and elegantly restored Villa Marina with its wide range of uses and sunlit gardens. For the walkers, there is a wide choice of short routes and a public footpath which circumnavigates the hundred, or so, miles of the island. The walk follows the coast wherever it is able and the terrain varies from secretive shingle coves, sandy beaches, stunning cliff tops with crashing waves to lovely rolling countryside smothered in clumps of vivid gorse. The route can be divided into modest sections between

towns and villages or from one mode of transport to another. As you may know, I am very interested in local history and the Isle of Man provides an array of sights where walks and history can be easily combined. Near the attractive Port Erin there is Cregneash village where thatched, whitewashed cottages and other buildings recreate the life of 19th century Manx crofters. Wool dying and blacksmithing are among the traditional farming skills being demonstrated. Cregneash was the setting for the memorable film 'Waking Ned'. Not far away is the Calf of Man, an offshore island ringed by precipitous cliffs, popular with bird and grey seal watchers. Isle of Man is fortunate in having lots of wildlife - birds, butterflies, wild flowers and so on. Two of my favourite places are Peel and Castletown. The former has a short causeway to St. Patrick's Isle and the castle which was fortified by the Vikings. The eleventh century tower and St. Patrick's Church, together with other historic buildings and the thirteenth century Cathedral, are surrounded by a stone curtain wall forming an easily defensible fortress. I had neither time nor men available to contest this claim. It really



is worth taking the guided tour; do take a picnic although there is a great mobile cafe on the seafront. There are brightly painted boats in the harbour and you shouldn't miss the Kipper Museum! Most of all I like Castletown with its small harbour and Castle Rushen which is known as one of Europe's best preserved mediaeval examples. The Norse Kings of Mann fortified the site in the twelfth century and part of it is still used for offices. There are appropriate sound effects even extending to the mediaeval toilets! I learned that in early days visitors were presented with a gingerbread biscuit extravagantly wrapped in thin slivers of gold or silver. This was then eaten and eventually ended up in the midden where it was searched for by locals and recycled! Hence the origin of the saying: 'going through the motions'. Over the river is a tiny Nautical Museum

based on the remarkable discovery in 1935 of an eighteenth century armed yacht whose exit to the sea had been walled in for a century. It is also worth visiting St. Mary's Chapel built six hundred and fifty years ago and then in 1570 used as a school until its closure in 1930. It has been well restored and contains excellent informative displays. There are a number of cafes and takeaways in Castletown but it is worth watching the bowls from the greenside cafe.

There are plenty of small hotels and B&Bs on the island, many with sea views. As you can see, I could go on for ages enthusing about the Isle of Man, and I haven't scratched the surface nor

have I mentioned anything much of Douglas or Ramsey, museums, galleries, the largest water wheel of its type in the world, a camera obscura, nature reserves, Celtic crosses or the TT races!

We're going again next year - that's how good it is!

Brian Edwards

Info: Dept, of Tourism, St. Andrews House, Finch Road, Douglas IM12PX Tel: 01624 686733

Farming Scene

It seems strange, but our Dorset ewes have now started lambing again, when we still have some of this years spring born lambs to sell. For some reason our Texel lambs are taking longer to grow than they have in the past. Going back 2 or 3 years, all our spring born lambs would have been sold by the end of October at the latest. The ewes are almost pure bred now, and we are putting a Pedigree Texel Tup on them, so it is quite possible that this slow growth is due to a lack of hybrid vigour.

The use of a tup from another unrelated breed, say Suffolk or Hampshire, would result in crossbred lambs with hybrid vigour and better growth rates. We are experimenting this year by using one of our Poll Dorset tups on some Texel ewes to see if this will produce a crop of good quality, fast growing lambs. If successful, we would be able to use our Dorset tups on both flocks. This would be a financial saving for us, and give these tups two 'honeymoons' a year to enjoy the pleasure of female company, all 70-80 of them!!

No sign of that hard winter yet. The ground is getting steadily wetter as the rain falls and temperatures stay up. The sheep do not enjoy this, and would be pleased to see a sustained period of bright, frosty weather so they can dry out and have some dry ground to lie down on. The upside of this of course is that we are not spending time clearing snow or thawing frozen water pipes. However, it does not feel winter yet. Here we are 4 weeks to Christmas and, to date, there have been no really frosty nights. Strange, and unusual.

Our first lamb arrived on Monday, and to date we are averaging an excellent 1.9 lambs born per ewe. Some of these lambs will face the rigours of being carried by the 'shepherds' into Bethlehem, as the children who come to our plays act out their role with great delight. Being handled by up to 100 children a day can be a harrowing experience for a 2-day-old lamb and its mother! However, they soon seem to get used to the idea, as their baa's of protest are drowned out by the amused laughter of the children and the ooh's and ah's of the parents. An occasional 'wetting' of the carriers brings howls of surprise, delight and derision from all sides – perhaps the lamb is getting his own back for being parted from its mum for a few minutes.

Many thanks to those of you who have expressed support or supplied us with pertinent information for our H.L.S. scheme. Although we intend to apply by the end of December, there is currently no money available at the new 'Natural England' department to fund these schemes. Consequently, it looks as if 6 months will pass before our application is even considered. This delay will cause problems for us as we cannot plan our cropping or stocking with any certainty until we know if we are successful applicants. So what's new? Bureaucracy really is the bane of farmer's lives today. Many are now saying that the industry has been nationalised by the back door, such are the controls that politicians and other agencies now have over all aspects of agriculture.

Edwin Pocock

GREEN OAK PARK ACCESS

Access to this Park has been a major bone of contention in Totley ever since the Council granted private right of access over park land. Totley Residents Association have fought long and hard to get this situation resolved. It is a credit to them that they have managed to get this problem to the top of the Council's agenda, resulting in the Chief Executive instructing the Head of Parks and Woodlands to sort it out. This would be in the interests of all concerned, none more so than those who now occupy the new property. We will do all we can to assist Totley Residents Association in their quest for a fair solution, acceptable to all.

Councillors Anne Smith and Michael Waters

TOTLEY LIBRARY CRAFT GROUP

Would welcome anyone who can work on a craft

Or who would like to learn a craft

Or who would like to observe every Tuesday from
2pm to 4 pm

We also knit for charity and would be pleased to
see anyone
Who could help.

Call and see us and see what is needed.

M B Marsh

Or call

Totley library Tel 0114 2930406



"DON'T TELL ME THAT MICKLEY LANE
IS UP TO HIS TRICKS AGAIN, -
EAVES DROPPING!"

Gardening Tips

I have just come in from the garden, the sun is shining, and the greenhouse temperature is 85F. There is still lots of colour; geraniums (they are usually frosted by now), kafir lilies, chrysanthemums, roses, jasmine, nasturtium and fuchsia are giving us a show. It is tidying up time, clear all leaves and rubbish from beds, cut back any tall plants to prevent wind rocking them, dig up dahlia tubers and wash and dry them, put them in store after dusting them with flowers of sulphur, make sure you store them in a frost-free place and inspect them regularly, inspect any fruit you have in store and use or discard any suspect ones. December and January are quiet months in the garden, planning for next season is a priority. Ordering seeds and tubers, working out what you are exhibiting at The Totley Show, it's not long in gardening terms to September. Onion seeds are traditionally planted in the warmth on Boxing Day and leeks about a month later so you see work has started already, vacant plots should be dug over as soon as possible after clearing and compost or fertilizer dug in, a dressing of lime on plots where brassicas are to be grown will be beneficial test for Ph values before planting. Clean up empty greenhouse (shame) and fumigate especially if you had white fly or similar nasties this year. Give any woodwork (fences, huts etc) a fresh coat of preservative to keep them looking smart ready for the spring. I am a bit sad at the moment because we are closing Busy Bee at the end of December after 34.5 years of looking after you gardeners and DIY folks. I would like to thank all of you for your custom over the years. Both Christine and I have enjoyed meeting all customer friends and looking after your needs. We are not leaving Totley so I hope you will still stop for a chat when you see us around.

I hope you all have a happy Christmas and a good gardening year.

Flowers Prune back any large rose bushes; chop them down to about half way, so that they can be pruned properly in the spring. The early chopping down will reduce any wind rock which can severely damage rootstock if rain and frost get down there. It also makes your rose bed look tidier. Work in humus making material into your soil during the winter months, manure, lead mould, spent hops, garden compost, old growbags etc are ideal. All these will have a beneficial effect.

Herbaceous plants sometimes suffer from slug damage during the winter, delphiniums are generally first in line, to help prevent them spoiling your young plants, scrape away a little soil from around the crowns and replace with sharp sand (better still cinder ashes). Check all the structures supporting flowers (arches, fences, trellis etc) make sure they are sound and ready for next season's weight of flowers and berries.

Mulch over any roots exposed by the rain. Top dress with compost or soil, peat and sand. Large flowered clematis such as Jackmanii can be cut back fairly severely. Order your seeds in good time, try something new this year, there are a lot of new varieties to choose from, or maybe resurrect an old favourite that you haven't sown for a few years. They say a change is as good as a rest. You can divide and move or plant new stock of Michaelmas Daisy and Golden Rod.

Pick over plants in frames or cloches, remove dead leaves etc and dust with fungicide. Dig and prepare new beds. Place insulation over frames at night to give extra protection from frost, also ventilate well on sunny days. December is the last chance to plant out late tulips, if you haven't given your flower beds a slow acting fertiliser for a year or two, now is a good time (January), a dusting of hoof and horn or bone meal will do your flowers a world of good. Hoe it into the top inch or so, the worms will do the rest (stand well back in the spring as the flowers burst forth). If you want to increase your stock of perennials or have some plants ready for the various charity stalls or swaps, you could take root cuttings. Dig up the plant to be propagated, or cut a portion from one side, wash off as much soil as possible so that the roots can be separated from each other, cut off the sound roots about the thickness of a pencil, divide into sections about 2ins long (5cm). Trim off small fibrous roots, cut the bottom of the root diagonally and the top straight so that you know which way up to plant it, insert into pots of cutting compost with the top just buried. Water well and stand in a frost free cold frame or propagator, if you want them to root faster. Plants with thin roots can be multiplied in a similar way, 3 inches (8cm) long pieces laid horizontally in the compost (dusted with fungicide) cover them with another 1-2cm of compost, water well. Some of the plants which can be done this way

are acarlthus, brunnera, caenothus, dicentra, echinacea, eryngium, Japanese anemones, nepata oriental poppies, phlox rhus, verbascum etc. Remember root cuttings taken from variegated plants will turn out green and NOT variegated.

Vegetables Firm in any plants loosened by frost. Dig any vacant plots and manure the ground. Apply lime to acid soil where cabbage is to be planted (do not apply at the same time as manure, wait a month or two if possible). Prepare runner bean trench. Take off any yellowing leaves from brussel sprouts and compost them. In January chit seed potatoes i.e. put them in a frost free place in shallow boxes with the eye ends upwards, this will encourage them to sprout.

Prepare your onion bed (I am giving away secrets now). Dig in manure deeply, spread bonfire ash over as well as bonemeal and hoof and horn at about 4ozs (100gms) per sq yd. Prick this into the soil lightly. As mentioned before sow onion seeds around Boxing Day, either in separate pots, two or three seeds per pot, place a propagator or greenhouse at a temperature of 65F. When they have reached the loop stage discard the weakest seedlings leaving just one per pot. Or put seeds in a tray when they are at the loop stage, transplant into deep boxes or trays, reduce temperature to 55F. Lift a few roots of mint, place them in a deep wooden or plastic box, cover them with potting soil, old stuff will do, place them in a frame or greenhouse, this will give shoots for early picking. Mulch asparagus beds with well-rotted manure break it up well and spread it about 2ins thick.

Shrubs, trees and fruit Do not let snow hang on conifers; it can break off branches and spoil their shape. Firm in any newly planted trees and check all stakes and supports, make sure they are firm. New fruit trees can be planted now if weather permits (keep roots moist and frost free prior to planting). Prune apple and pear trees, remove cankered branches. Prune fruit bushes and canes, check grease bands and renew if necessary.

January is a good time to give fruit trees a tar oil winter wash, choose a fine and wind free day. Blackcurrants will benefit from feeding in January, they like plenty of nitrogen so a top dressing of Sulphate of ammonia or nitro chalk at 4-6oz per well established bush, sprinkle it thinly over the soil and keep it away from the stems. Newly planted blackcurrant and raspberries should be pruned back severely, blackcurrants to 2-3ins from ground level, raspberries 6-9 ins above ground. Plant out in mild spells deciduous trees, hedging plants, stored or heeled in shrubs.

Greenhouse and Indoor Plants Dead head faded flowers and pick over all pot plants, water sparingly. Keep bulbs fed and watered after flowering, but move to a cool spot.

Continued page 11

Increase humidity around indoor cyclamen, azaleas and winter cherries.

Use insecticide to control aphids and white fly, paint patches of scale and mealy bug with methylated spirit. Plant amaryllis, Lily of the Valley and indoor gladioli. Pot on cineraria, primula and slipper flowers. Examine all bulbs placed in the dark, they should be about ready to bring into half light conditions prior to bringing into a light warm house, don't rush them though. Seedlings and cuttings should be kept as near to the glass as possible, stake up schizanthus. Sponge over large leafed evergreen plants with half a teaspoon of milk stirred into a cup of water, this will make them nice and glossy. Make sure the greenhouse glass is kept clean. Cut back old geranium plants, shortening the growths to a joint or bud 6-9 ins above the pot. Repot the plants, shaking all the soil from the roots, Repot them in the smallest pot into which the roots can be placed, use ordinary John Innes compost or similar.

Get ready for seed sowing by cleaning all pots, seed trays and boxes. Pot lilies required for the greenhouse feed fuchsias pruned earlier, as geraniums the plants will be potted on into larger pots as new growth develops. If you have a heated greenhouse you can start tuberous rooted begonias and gloxinias. Keep a careful watch on ventilation. Remember a sunny day can reach quite high temperatures in a greenhouse or cold frame even in the depth of winter. I have known mine to shoot up to 95F when snow was on the ground so be warned. Heat at this time can do a lot of damage to young or freshly shooting plants and quite a lot of plants cannot put up with large variations in temperature.

Lawns If you walk on your lawn at this time of year and find squelchy patches they need attention. Spiking is a real pain, but it is a good cure for squelchy bits. Note where they are and when they have dried out a bit (hopefully) go over the area making holes at about 6 ins intervals with a fork. Do a couple of square yards at a time then brush in a good dressing of sharp sand (not buildings sand unless it has been in the rain for a long time) leave a shallow layer on top, this will encourage rooting in spring. Keep lawns clean and keep off in frosty weather. Clean and overhaul your mower, you could take advantage of the cheaper rates for servicing, up to the end of February.

Please bear in mind that these notes cover 2 months when doing the various jobs.

Have a Happy Christmas and a lovely gardening year
Cheerio for now

Tom, Busy Bee



Sunday 3rd and 10th December 2006

11am – 4pm, Abbeydale Road South

**Admission £5 each – 'unlimited' train rides,
visit to Santa, gifts, refreshments.**

www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk

Trust seeks Wild Fundraisers to Use new Website



**Sheffield &
Rotherham**

Sheffield Wildlife Trust is hoping to make sponsorship forms a thing of the past with the launch of its own area on www.justgiving.com/wildsheffield. The Trust is encouraging the public to be creative in raising money on their behalf, and so is aiming to provide the online facilities and support this requires. The site allows supporters of the charity to donate money instantly and safely online due to the use of a VeriSign security system. Just Giving even automatically adds on the gift aid that all charities are entitled to, but which is often difficult and time consuming for them to claim. This means that use of the site will actually significantly increase the amount of money the Trust receives.

www.justgiving.com allows you to make a simple donation or for the more adventurous, enables you to set up your own page on the site specifically to collect sponsorship money. Previous examples include the fund set up by a motor racing fan in Richard Hammond's name which has so far received an incredible £169,000 in donations for Yorkshire Air Ambulance, and the use of the site by some of those entering the Great North Run to raise money for their chosen charities. Both these examples illustrate the significance Just Giving can have in enabling ordinary people to make a substantial contribution to important causes such as the Wildlife Trust.

Just Giving has raised over £100 million for more than 2000 charities since its launch in 2001, and has been hailed as a major breakthrough in charity fundraising. It is hoped that the site will become an important part of the Trust's fundraising efforts, making donating easier for both the trust and its supporters. If you would like to contribute money to Sheffield Wildlife Trust go to www.justgiving.com/wildsheffield and find out just how easy it can be! A recent visitor to the site commented 'The site is so easy to use, it saves the hassle of sponsorship forms and I'll definitely be using it when I run the Sheffield Half Marathon to raise money for the Trust next year', and press assistant Emma Shepherd added 'it even helps the environmental aims of the Trust as the site helps us save the huge amounts of paper normally used to collect sponsorship'.

APPEAL FOR HELP

ASSIST - (Asylum Seekers Support Initiative - Short Term) is a very small Sheffield organisation which provides help to destitute asylum seekers. Many asylum seekers are homeless because of their lack of status and consequent inability to get any support; some are evicted following their 18th birthday, as they attain adult status and are thus no longer protected by the Children's Act. ASSIST finds them temporary accommodation.

ASSIST is looking for new hosts.

Do you have a spare room? Would you consider hosting a homeless asylum seeker on a short term basis for periods of about 7 days, and in some cases longer? Hosts receive money to cover utilities expenses and each asylum seeker receives money for a weekly bus pass to enable them to access the city.

The experience of another culture, particularly the cuisine, has been the highlight for many hosts. Some asylum seekers even become a sort of honorary family member.

If you are interested, please ring Cath Roberts at ASSIST on 07830-376077 or email: cath.Roberts@virgin.net

Memories of Sheffield United

You never know whom you might meet on your doorstep, the butcher, the baker, the, no not the candlestick maker, not these days, but the window cleaner. You might, like myself, still have a window cleaner, and an interesting man mine is too. One day whilst rummaging in my purse for the elusive coins to pay him for my shining newly-cleaned windows the name Sheffield entered the conversation. "Oh I used to play for Sheffield United" said Colin, and up shot my ears in curiosity to learn more. Colin Rawson was 17yrs. old in 1943 when he joined 'Nottingham Forest Football Club' before moving to 'Peterborough United' in 1945. A year later another move to 'Rotherham United' was to last until 1953, after Rotherham had climbed from Division 3 to Division 2. It was said at the time that Rawson was one of the best Halves that United have ever had. In 1953 Reg Freeman, Manager of



Colin Rawson Sheffield United

'Sheffield United' negotiated Colin's next move on March 16th 1953 to 'Sheffield United' for a fee of £13,000, where he was proud to be in the promotion side when 'Sheffield United' went into Div.1.

Colin Rawson has very fond memories of 'Sheffield United' and recalls the names of the players with much respect; Ernest Jackson the Trainer, Caldwell who was Manager at one

time, Hoyland, Graham Shaw, and Joe Shaw (Captain for a while) Bob Granger, Howard Johnson, Ted Burgin (Goalkeeper) Jimmy Hagan, Colin Granger and Hawksworth, He left 'Sheffield United' in 1955 to play left-half for 2nd. Division 'Millwall', where he was soon promoted to Captain and stayed with 'Millwall' until 1959 after taking the team into the 1st. Division. His next move took him to Torquay to Captain 'Torquay United' for the next five years, seeing their promotion from the 4th. to the 3rd. Division. following a career that had gone from strength to strength until he was offered a 'Player-manager's' job by a non-league team, but, being an honest man, and grateful for the opportunities he had enjoyed with the 'League' clubs, he turned it down and stayed with 'Torquay'

Looking at the photographs of all the teams with whom he has been associated throughout his career one has to admire his tenacity and devotion to football for over 20 years, and reading through the numerous Newspaper cuttings. Remarks from Managers, Trainers, and Reporters, it is difficult to choose only one to describe Colin Rawson's football career; perhaps this one, published in an unknown Sheffield newspaper after a game between 'Sheffield United' and 'Sheffield Wednesday' sums-up what he 'really' did for football.

Quote "I question whether you could get the Wednesday players together and ask them to name a dozen times in the whole game when they made a reasonable pass to one of their own players. Against this was the example of Rawson, who passed through the game quietly and unobtrusively as it were, yet where passing was always effective without putting much boot behind the ball. That is football!".Unquote.

There are many, I am sure, who remember those days fifty years ago when Football really was a sport to be enjoyed, usually on Saturday afternoon, followed by a 'third-degree' discussion over tea, or a pint in the local 'Pub'. Jo. Rundle

SCHOOL REPORTS

What do readers think of this as a possible examination question? "Write a comparative account of the major religions of the world."

I am not offering (or indeed competent) to mark any answers submitted! So what is the point of introducing it? - read on.

Like most grandparents we take an interest in what our grandchildren are doing and inevitably this includes their progress at school. Being of the age we are it seems natural to also try to remember our own past at the comparable stage. Our youngest grandchild is ten years old and goes to a state primary school in Leeds. Her school report covers several typed sheets of A4 size, two of which are the comments on fourteen subject areas. Comments range from 2 lines to 7, followed in some cases by

Targets to be aimed for.

The following is a true copy of the section which prompted my present rambling.

Religious education. Lydia is working at the expected level and has a good understanding of the five main world religions. She can identify the key features of the places of worship visited this year and is aware how sacred writings can be used to influence people's lives. Lydia can recognise symbols from both religious and secular worlds.

When I complimented Lydia on her good report I said she obviously enjoyed her learning at school with so many interesting things to cover. I said I thought of joining her at school next year but was afraid I would not be able to cope and keep up with it all. She knew I was joking of course, but secretly I may not be!

The first comment is how different things were in my day when "the three Rs" were the dominant areas. I have always assumed they were Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic though I think this was "sums" to us. I am sure we never got school reports until we moved to grammar school, and even then the commonest comment was probably "could do better."

My second thought is are we expecting too much of our youngsters. Are we overloading them with fancy topics at the expense of fundamentals? We still find amusement and some incredulity at what happened when we bought 10 small loaves of bread some thirty years ago. The young lady serving had to ask the cost saying

"I know what one costs and even two but I don't know ten"

You can guess this was in the days before the tills did it all for them. I'm afraid we have to accept that since the introduction of calculators and more recently computers, even many adults don't remember, or perhaps never heard of, "moving the decimal point to multiply by 10!" I am sure that widening the curriculum must be a good thing, just as we were assumed to be better off than our grandparents, with the schooling we got.

My third comment is that the reports I have seen are helpful to parents and pupils. Of course we have to bear in mind a recurrent phrase in Lydia's report "working at the expected level." It would be patently silly to expect a ten year olds "good understanding of the five main world religions" to be of the same depth as someone studying for a BA in Religious Studies.

My final comment is sympathy for the teacher. Not only the breadth of coverage throughout the year, but the comprehensive report they have to produce for every member of the class in each subject area.

No wonder so many members of the public think teachers have an easy life!

Don Ashford

OLD TOTLEY by Jo Rundle

There were activities and pastimes, some for all ages and sexes, others strictly for men only, the pond in the wood being the main one for a time in summer during the early twenties.

The river Sheaf rises in a heap of rocks in the second field on the south-west side of Moorwood Lane just past Mooredge Farm from where it flows down the field and under the road at its lowest point and continues down the fields and through Gillfield Wood, part of the Totley Hall Estate, when it is known as Totley Brook. Early in the century Arthur Bradley the Forester and other employees at Totley Hall had damned the brook just above a bend and excavated an area 18ft square by 3ft. deep to make a fish-rearing pond with a pipe inserted to drain off the water into what was intended to be a swimming pool, however, in a short time the tank completely filled with silt and was abandoned.

Some time in the early twenties Frank Taylor and Arthur Kirby approached Mr. Milner for permission to re-excavate the site and create a swimming-pool for the lads of the village, to which he agreed. The pond was not an ideal situation because, still being a part of a flowing stream it was constantly being silted-up and fowled by vegetation from upstream, and although it was often a source of great hilarity, as when one of the village girls dared to gate-crash and was dunked for her efforts, and many of the youths learned to swim in it's muddy waters, it soon became impossible to keep it clean enough even to play around in and was abandoned.

By 1920 it was clear that some other form of relaxation was essential to challenge the youth of the village and a possible solution and the idea of a youth club was born. It was the brainchild of Mr. Foulstone, the Lay-preacher, who conducted the religious services in the small classroom of the school affectionately called 'The Tin Tabernacle'. Mr. Foulstone was concerned that there was nowhere for the youth of the village to spend their evenings and other spare time on something more productive than standing around in groups, or draping over walls gossiping; nowhere to create an atmosphere of social intercourse where they would at least be doing something more active both for the brain and body through reading, entertainment, and games. His answer was a Social club with facilities for reading, conversation and discussion, a library, billiards, and for more energetic pursuits, a football team and a cricket team, thereby covering all seasons and all weathers.

The opportunity came when the upper room, once used as a hay-loft over the cow-house of the old farm, (now obsolete), in Town Street/Hillfoot Road, became available. How long the farm and cowshed had been empty, or who had lived in it, no-one seemed to know except that the cowshed had been fitted with double doors and used as a store by Mr. Evans, owner of the shop and house in Hillfoot Road.. The hayloft had been used from 1918 to 1920 by the newly formed Branch of The British Legion, and for a short time after, without permission, as a pigeon loft by Mr. Procter, who lived in the cottage in the corner of the old cobbled farm-yard.

I have never found with any certainty a connection between the cowhouse and the cobbled yard, for there was no entrance to the cowhouse from the yard. It has been suggested that a door from the cottage had existed when it was a working farm, whilst the other larger cottage backing onto Hillfoot Road was the actual farmhouse. In the late twenties this cottage was occupied by Sam Coates the scavenger at the time, and later by the Otter family. During the late twenties and thirties the Totley Social Club was the pivot for the youth of the village for there was something to occupy the mind and activities for all who could afford to pay for what it offered.

One of our neighbours, Arthur Ward, was one of the founders and for about five years was secretary of the cricket teams, whilst Secretary of the club until 1930 was Archie Thomas. Earnest Drury was Treasurer, the fee for membership being 5/-(25p) per year. Soon after its formation the club boasted two 3/4 size billiard tables, two football teams, and two cricket teams, as well as an extensive library of a thousand books, including a bound volume of the magazine 'Punch'

from its first edition, the latter donated to The Athenian Gentlemen's Club in Sheffield in 1930.

Totley had no library until the first one was opened many years later at the bottom of Bushywood Road, and though for members only and opened only one night a week, it was invaluable for those members who were intent on knowledge, or simply a quieter form of relaxation. The membership fee of 5/-(25p) a year was a reasonable amount out of the wages of most youths and young men, but 20d for 20 minutes for a game of snooker, strictly timed by an alarm clock, was not so easily afforded by the younger members of the club some of whom were apprentices on very low wages for 7 years, whilst others were studying at evening school and paying for the necessary books and bus-fares.

From the age of 14 my brother Elijah was an apprentice cabinet-maker at the Sheffield firm of Walsh's, whose handmade furniture was renowned throughout the furniture world, and on becoming a member at the age of 16, though watching and wishing, he could not afford the luxury of a nightly game of snooker.

Snooker on television today is absorbing, and sometimes exciting, but the time that some players spend on measuring, contemplating, and considering, whilst profusely chalking the tip of the cue, one does tend to sympathise with one player, (no name no pack-drill) who threw the alarm clock through the window because it went off before his game had finished. The Totley 1st. football team in which my brother Elijah played was in the Hope Valley League that, at that time, boasted only one Division, and when the Totley Social Club finally closed in 1938 the teams probably joined together and retained the name Totley in their new one 'Totley Sports' that still plays in a Division of the Hope Valley League now with so many that almost every area in Derbyshire appears to be represented. I know little about the cricket teams except that one of them played on the pitch in the Bents on Saturdays during the season, the other possibly playing away.

The Social Club unfortunately was for men only, no women allowed for reasons unknown, which wasn't unusual as in most men's clubs women were not admitted. It could be that discipline was easier to enforce in an all male society, or simply that women had other things to do than hang over walls gossiping and membership for them was not deemed necessary, who knows? However, in 1929 the men decided that a football match should be played between the ladies of the village and a visiting team or, it is possible that the idea was planted in their heads by the women themselves for there were about half a dozen who regularly followed the teams and probably wanted to have a go. Whatever the reason a team was assembled with a nucleus of the older unmarried ladies (18- 24's), including 'Tiss' Andrews from the Bents, Mary Holding, who I believe lived in Ash Cottage, Butts Hill, Flossie, Edith, and Nellie Fox of Butts Hill, and Rene Gill sister of Edgar Gill soldier in the Horse Guards who visited the village in his bright uniform when on leave who lived in Shrewsbury Terrace. It is possible that the match was arranged by Archie Thomas a member of the Hallamshire Harriers, who had a ladies football team and the game was to be played on the men's pitch on the 'Sic'. To be continued

THREE BRIDGES TO CROSS

A SHORT WINTER DAY WALK OF 4 MILES - ALLOW
2 HOURS

Cross the car park behind the Fleur de Lys and into the fashionable Stocks Green estate. Negotiate a stile onto a track above the farm behind the housing development and follow the path round into the field area. Bear to the right over two ladder stiles and we are above the strawberry field (fruit growing now finished). Enter Gillfield Wood by the top field. Head forward across the woodland glade and ford the infant Totley Brook by our first wooden bridge. Field area ascends towards the historic homestead of Storth House via two stone pillars. Keep well to centre of second field, no markers. Wooden stile breaks out into a lane adjacent to the farmstead. Just behind the house leave the lane through a quaint stone stile on the left. Two more stiles and skirt a wood to our left, (note the fishing pond in the bottom field, this property is owned by the Dronfield Woodhouse Angling Club).

The faint path climbs fairly steeply to the left through an area of gorse and blackberry bushes. Locate an ancient stone horse trough en route.

Soon we are onto the lane that leads to the main road above Holmesfield and Lidgate, with superb views in ever direction. Turn left down the lane and after 350 yards we pass our favourite Fanshawe Gate Hall with its fine garden setting.

A finger post points 1 mile to Totley. Enter two field areas (note the huge gnarled ash tree by the first stile and outbuildings of the Hall). An easy line down to the second bridge that spans the Totley Brook. A slight incline for 60 yards and we are onto the main path of Gillfield wood (owned by Sheffield City Council).

Head right through the heart of the wood for ½ mile. Proceed still forward past the main route from Totley Hall lane to Shepherd Hill and follow the Totley Brook behind the housing estate of Green Oak to our third bridge adjacent to the Totley Scout Group hut.

A short incline and we are onto the lane from Woodthorpe Hall and Mickley Lane. Turn left and we are soon at the finish of our short outing, the Shepley Spitfire, where a tempting bar meal would make the walk complete. The homestead of St George's Farm commands an historic setting over a lovely scene as we head for home.

John C Barrows

SEZ-YOU!

ABDOMEN. A part of the human anatomy possessed only by those in Society. In the middle classes it is called the stomach; and it is only the working people who possess guts.

ABSENCE. Daft. The word is derived from 'ab' meaning away k from, and 'sense' which means sanity.

ABSTAINER.. A person who yields to the temptation of denying himself (or herself) any pleasure except that of interfering with the affairs of others.

ABSTRACT. Something you can see but which isn't there.

ABSURDITY. Any statement or opinion that differs from one's own.

ADAM. The first man to be punished-he had to keep Eve for the rest of her life. In other respects, however, he was the luckiest of all men as he had no mother-in-law.

ADAMANT. Pig-headed.

ADMIRATION. A grudging recognition that the achievements of another may resemble, but of course do not equal, ones own.

Discovered by Jim Biggin. From 'Sez-You!' compiled by H.Owler (Emetic Professor of English at Popplethwistle Night-School). 1942.

SCOUT NEWS

1st Totley Scouts are having a White Elephant Table Top Sale at 10.30 am till 12.30 pm on Saturday, 20 January 2007. We have a few spare tables at £5 each.

Peter Casson Tel : 236 3881

LOCAL STREET NAMES

Dore Road

A directional name, Dore was spelt Dor in the year 942 and it had various other spellings over the years, It means a narrow pass.

Drury Lane

Possibly from a person called Drury, although the name occurs elsewhere in Yorkshire and is sometimes explained as a corruption of Dowarie Lane, that is, land given as a dowry.

Durvale Court

Dur is one of the ancient spellings of Dore – Dore Vale.

Edmund Avenue, Close

After Edmund West, of Amberden Hall, Essex, who was lord of the manor of Greenhill in the 16th century. In 1573 he sold the manor to John Bullocke, of the Inner Temple, London for £307.

Elwood Road

Suspect this name comes from a nearby wood called Little Wood. The road could not be called Little Wood Road or it would have been confused with Littlewood Road S12. It looks like Elwood (L-wood) was a compromise.

Everard Avenue, Drive, Glade

Not known. The names Everard Avenue and Drive were approved in July 1958.

Five Trees Avenue, Close, Drive

From five large chestnut trees which stood on a narrow strip of land between the housing development and Abbeydale Road South. At last count there were only 3 left.

Fox Lane

Usually in researching street names there are too few clues. In this case there are too many. There was a house on the lane called Fox Hall and a farm nearby called Fox Farm, over the years, several people called Fox have lived nearby, among them Samuel, farmer in the 1870s, Clement, farmer in the 1890s, Edmund, farmer at Fox Farm, in the 1920s and Edmund Fox, joiner and builder in the early 1900s. The lane could have been named after any of them, or even somebody else.

Furniss Avenue

After Richard Furniss (1791-1857) who was born at Eyam but moved to Dore as a young man and became something of a celebrity as village schoolmaster, parish clerk, registrar of births and deaths, part-time doctor, surgeon and dentist, legal consultant, surveyor and poet.

Gilleyfield Avenue

From an old field name, Gilley Meadow, recorded in a document of 1622 and mentioned in the Dore Enclosure awards, is thought to come from a personal name, possibly that of Richard Gilly, who lived in the area in the 14th century.

Glover Road

Is mentioned in suburban sections of the Sheffield directories (though not every year) dating back to the 1890s.

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

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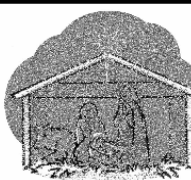
CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ANY OF OUR STALLS WILL BE VERY WELCOME

FORTHCOMING EVENTS at SHEFFIELD CHESHIRE HOME

December 3 rd	DRONFIELD BRASS BAND Cheese & Wine	7pm Tickets £3.50
December 6 th	CHRISTMAS FAYRE	10am – 12noon
December 12 th	CHRISTMAS POETRY EVENING	7pm
December 13 th	LOXLEY SILVER BAND Bar Open, Christmas Snacks	7pm Tickets £3.50
December 21 st	CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT Mulled Wine and Mince Pies	7pm Tickets £3.50
December 31 st	NEW YEAR'S EVE DISCO	
JANUARY	- BURNS NIGHT	

FOR TICKETS AND FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT
 ANY OF THE ABOVE EVENTS,
 PLEASE PHONE 0114 236 9952

CHRISTMAS AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, TOTLEY HALL LANE



3 rd December	4.00pm	Christingle Service
17 th December	10.00am	Service led by the Alive Gang and Sparklers
	6.30pm	Carol Service by Candlelight
24 th December	4.00pm	Children's Crib Service
	11.30pm	Christmas Communion
25 th December	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	All Ages All Together service (45 minutes)

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ROADSIDE DISCOVERY

1894 saw the opening up of the Hope Valley when the Dore & Chinley Line was driven through, making remote villages like Edale popular with day trippers. However, for most people, journeys were still made by Shanks's Pony i.e. on foot. The newspapers of the time were busy reporting that pedestrians were found at the roadside and if still alive were totally exhausted. Simple journeys of ten or twenty miles were undertaken, for instance to visit a relative. In March 1894, in the dark of a winter early evening, two farmers were travelling by cart towards Sheffield and about a half mile from Owlbar came across a body by the roadside. Henry Thorpe, a farmer of Great Longstone, and Mr. C. Oldfield, of Ashford, made out a well dressed gentleman of 40 or 45, sporting black suit and tie, white shirt and blue waistcoat. He was barely alive but recovered enough to ask them if they would take him to Sheffield if he paid them six pence - and then he expired. There were no visible marks of violence but he had a tattoo on his forearm. In his pockets they found 11 pence, tailor's scissors, 2 thimbles, 2 pocket knives and a pocket book. I don't think the deceased was ever identified.

Brian Edwards

A HAPPY MARRIAGE

There was once a man and woman who had been married for more than 60 years.

They talked about everything. They kept no secrets from each other except that the old woman had a shoe box in the top of her closet that she cautioned her husband never to open or ask her about.

For all these years he had never thought about the box, but one day the little old woman got very sick and the doctor said she would not recover. In trying to sort out their affairs, the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside. She agreed that it was time he should know what was in the box.

When he opened it he found two crocheted doilies and a stack of money totalling £25,000. He asked her about the contents.

"When we were married," she said, "my grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just keep quiet and crochet a doily."

The little old man was so moved he had to fight back tears. Only two precious doilies were in the box. She had only been angry with him two times in all those years of living and loving! He almost burst with happiness.

"Honey", he said, "that explains the doilies, but what about all this money? Where did it come from?"

Oh," she said, "that's the money I made from selling the doilies."

PUZZLE CORNER

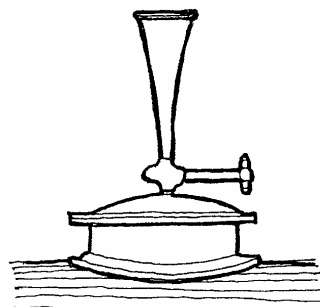
Solution to Four follows Four.

1. Hospital; 2. Italic; 3. Alice Band; 4. Band master; 5. Sterling. 6. Linguistic; 7. Sticking. 8. King post; 9. Postillion; 10. Lionheart. 11. Earthworm. 12. Wormwood. 13. Woodwind; 14. Windows; 15. Dowse.

Don Ashford.

SAMSON SMASHED 960 EGGS

The well-known railway entrepreneur, George Stephenson nearly had a special relationship with Dore & Totley, for in 1846 he and his partner Frederick Swanwick proposed a railway running from Sheffield to Manchester by going over



Totley Moor. Nothing came of it and I guess the gradients and cuttings would be too severe. On 4 May 1833 a farmers cart on its way to market with a load of eggs and butter was smashed up near the Stag & Castle Inn on the Leicester and Swannington Railway. 'Samson'; a new engine hauling the first train of the day along this first of the railways, which later

became The Midland, was the culprit. The farmer escaped unhurt, but what concerned Mr. Bagster the Manager of the Railway, was that a court ordered payment of compensation. Something had to be done about it. So Mr. Bagster went to see our (nearly) friend George Stephenson who built the line and lived nearby. George thought it had nothing to do with him and tartly remarked that the public should keep away from his engines anyway. "But" said Mr. Bagster, still smarting about the compensation, "is it not possible to have a whistle fitted on the engine through which steam can blow?" "A very good thought" replied Stephenson, "go and have one made." Mr. B. needed no second bidding and at once went to a musical instrument manufacturer in Leicester and got him to construct a "steam trumpet." It was put on in 10 days and tried in the presence of the Board of Directors. They nodded approvingly and that is how engine whistles were born, and I guess Bagster went away blowing his own trumpet.

BRIAN EDWARDS

1st Totley Scout Lottery

Lottery draw for October 2006

1st Prize No 56
Philips Elance
Vertical Steam Iron
Mr and Mrs Lloyd,
Old Hay Close

2nd Prize No 29
£10 Voucher
Mr and Mrs Bevan
Totley Grange Drive

Peter Casson

THE BATHTUB TEST

It doesn't hurt to take a hard look at yourself from time to time, and this should help get you started. During a visit to the mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director what the criterion was which defined whether or not a patient should be institutionalised.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub, and then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No," said the Director, "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"

DID YOU PASS, OR DO YOU WANT THE BED NEXT TO MINE?

More Voices and Verses

Gents Hairdresser Don Allot now has his second poetry book out once again to raise money for the Sheffield Children's Hospital and other local charities. The book "More Voices and Verses" can be purchased from Rosies, 164 Baslow Road or the Transport 17 Office on Baslow Road and Patricia Barber's, 53 Wollaton Road, Bradway. At only £2.95 a copy here is something different for Christmas! The poetry book can also be purchased from W H Smiths, Fargate, Sheffield Scene, Surrey Street, Sinclairs, West Street, The Sheffield Famous Shop, Ecclesall Road and Cues Shop at the Crucible Theatre. Wishing you all a happy Christmas and a very good read. Don Allott

BUSY BEE REPRIEVED

Late breaking news is that there will continue to be a DIY store in Totley. The shop will re-open in the new year under new ownership.

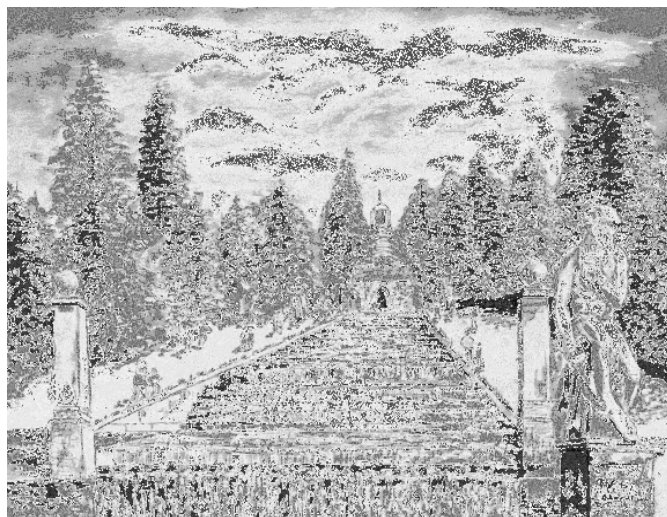


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EXHIBITION AT TOTLEY LIBRARY



We are holding an exhibition of paintings at Totley Library from Monday, 27 November until Saturday, 9 December. The above is a small print of one of our paintings which will be for sale. It was painted by both of us together; for which our joint paintings are signed MACWAX. There will be 10-12 pictures, mainly of local interest. All will be priced at £35 each and all the sales money will go to our MACWAX Fund at St Luke's, which at present totals almost £33,000. We hope your readers will come to Totley Library and find a picture which they like enough to buy for this charity.
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TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

MONDAYS
TUESDAYS

COFFEE MORNING, All Saints' Church Hall, 10am. To noon
COFFEE MORNING, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am. To noon.
CRAFT GROUP, Totley Library, 2pm.

WEDNESDAYS.

TODDLER GROUP, All Saints Church Hall, 10.00a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Details Jo Smith tel. 262 0741
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
PUSHCHAIR CLUB, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 1.30pm.. to 3pm. Tel. 2363157 for further details.
CHAIROBICS, Totley Library, 2pm to 3pm. £1.
TOTLEY RISE METHODIST PLAYGROUP, Grove Road 9:30-12.00, Phone: Judith 236 3456 or Gill 236 1373
HATHA YOGA, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, 9.45-11.15, Phone Caroline Skelton 07837 876429
SATURDAYS. **MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING**, All Saints Church Hall 2nd. And 4th. Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.

THURSDAYS

DECEMBER 2006

SAT 2nd SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Kevin Micheal, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome
SUN 3rd MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES. SANTA SPECIALS, Abbeydale Road South, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
MON 4th SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, Messiah, by Handel, 7.00 pm, Sheffield Cathedral, Tickets 0114 268 3812
WED 6th WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, "Carols by Candlelight", Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Church, 8.00 p.m.
THU 7th – SUN 10th CHRISTMAS MARKET, Fargate
SUN 10th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES. SANTA SPECIALS, Abbeydale Road South, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
WED 13th WRIGGLY NATIVITY AT Totley Library, 10:30pm, Children from Totley Primary School, all welcome under 5's especially
SAT 16th & SUN 17th A REAL MAGICAL CHRISTMAS, Botanical Gardens, 3.00pm – 9pm, Adults £3, Under 14 free, Ice rink, Santa's Grotto (£2), Craft Market, Sanat's sled, Carols in the garden, Good food & refreshments, Kiddies rides
SAT 16th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Sue Charles, Members Christmas Party. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road.8-30 pm.
SUN 17th SHEFFIELD FARMERS MARKET, 10.00am-3.00pm, now relocated to Barkers Pool
SUN 17th SANTA DASH, 1-mile dash, starts in Peace Gardens 11.00am, entry £5 min includes free Santa suit in aid of British Heart Foundation. Details 01623 624558
TUES 19th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, "Christmas Meeting", Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.
SUN 24th CHRISTMAS EVE WITH RAY DAVID, Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome

JANUARY 2007

SAT 13th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Vince Lee Gayle, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome
TUES 16th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, "South American Coastline", Mr. M. Bennett, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.
SAT 18th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Heatherfield Club, Jeff Micheals, Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome

THE INDEPENDENT FOR FEBRUARY

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

SATURDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2007

COPY CLOSE DATE for this issue will be
SATURDAY 22nd JANUARY 2007

Editor Ian Clarke Tel. No. 235 2526. Email iangclarke@hotmail.com
Distribution & Advertising, John Perkinton. Tel. No. 236 1601.
Email johnandpaulineperkinton@talktalk.net
Items for publication may be left or sent to 2, Main Avenue,
Totley, Sheffield, S17 4FG or Totley Library

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