

# Totley Independent

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20p



Totley Pharmacy owner, Tajinder Singh, with ex-Sheffield United players Tony Currie, Len Badger and Rob Page, ex-Sheffield Wednesday player David Hirst, and Lord Mayor of Sheffield Cllr Talib Hussain, at Totley Pharmacy's 20th anniversary event.

## Totley Pharmacy's 20th Birthday!

Football stars, the Lord Mayor of Sheffield Councillor Talib Hussain, and a large number of local residents celebrated the 20th anniversary of Totley Pharmacy on March 10th with owner Tajinder Singh. Players included ex-United players Carl Asaba and Rob Page, ex-Wednesday player David Hirst, and Sheffield United greats Tony Currie, Len Badger and Carl Bradshaw.

The event included meet and greet opportunities with the former footballers and the Lord Mayor, as well as free goody bags and a free raffle.

Visitors could also go behind the scenes at the pharmacy and learn about its state-of-the-art dispensing robot, which helps provide a safer, faster and more efficient service. Totley is home to one of only a few pharmacies in the country which uses this equipment.

Tajinder said: "It's been a fantastic day and great to see such a turnout - many of whom have been patients for years. It's been a privilege to serve such a wonderful com-

munity over the years and I have enjoyed meeting and forming friendships with so many residents."

"Our raffle winner, Sharon Popplewell, even took the day off work to be able to come to our event which is extremely heart-warming. Sharon is a local resident who has been using our services for a number of years. Her mother and her children are also patients of ours so it's another example of our local pharmacy looking after three generations of family."

"We have always maintained an ethos of providing the very highest levels of care as well as personal, safe and efficient service. We've received many kind messages and gifts from residents this week, together with feedback that they appreciate having this personal service from an independent pharmacy in their community.

We are very proud to have served the community for 20 years, at a time when unfortunately many local businesses have closed or been swallowed by large (continued p.3)



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### **Totley Pharmacy's 20th Birthday!** (from p.1)

companies." Former Sheffield Wednesday player, David Hirst, said: "It's great to be here to be part of a pharmacy that is serving the area exceptionally well.

"I've become quite good friends with Taj and I'm in here regularly. It's great to have someone across the counter who you can talk to and that gives you advice and points you in the right direction.

"It just goes to show how well-liked Taj and the staff are, not only as they've been here for 20 years, but also having a great turn out at today's event for the celebration of 20 years."

Former Sheffield United player, Tony Currie, said: "It's exciting having 20 years of anything, and I'm here to support Mr Singh, Totley Pharmacy and the Totley community. I hope they have another 20 years of success."

The Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Cllr Talib Hussain, said: "It's a great honour to be here to celebrate 20 years of this business thriving here in the community and continuing to thrive and serve the community. "Wherever I go I feel it's a great honour to celebrate events like this one and that's why I'm here, and it's good to see other people here doing the same."

### **Pick up your Pen!**

As you read your Totley Independent you might have the urge to write about something that is on your mind. If so, don't let age or inexperience, or even worry about "what will other people think" if it actually appears in print or a digital outlet. What first inspired me to write some years ago was a visit to the dentist where I came across the usual selection of magazines. But instead of diverting my attention from the drilling to come, a few glances of what was on offer evoked - "Gosh, anybody could do better than that"- so I gave it a try.

Luckily I had my first attempt accepted. It was about an amusing incident between a doctor and a patient where the diagnosis was wrong but all turned out well albeit for all the wrong reasons, so I continued with my literary efforts. Of course there were rejections and often no responses at all, but I persisted and along the way I learned the following.



The first is the importance of getting your ideas down on paper or in whatever gadget you prefer and remember that no-one will see the first, the second or even the 50th draft until you decide the time is ripe. This is one of the 'positives' about writing in that it is between you and some editor and not some committee or group decision.

Even if you are eventually successful, don't be surprised if some you know comment that they liked your article but could do the same if only they "had the time." A few may even be jealous because you are in print and they are not. Occasionally, you may even be asked how much you got

paid for your efforts, but don't expect too many accolades since those who know you well may still think of you as you always were, warts and all.

One of the most satisfying rewards about writing is that you will soon be aware of what is really going on inside your head and how your brain functions when it comes to arranging ideas and words for communicating your thoughts to others, with only 26 symbols in lower and upper case plus a few bits of punctuation to do it with. This is far more eye-opening than just being pleased with the sound of your own voice, which if quoted on paper may not come across as intended or, worse still, not make much sense to begin with.

In writing, you can have the opportunity to inform, to amuse or perhaps even annoy others in a positive way. You could also reach a wide number of readers, most of whom you will never meet although they have actually read and taken in what you have written, which is something well worth considering. This said, if you manage to get a few articles published, don't be surprised if a highly stressed editor urgently contacts you because of desperately needing a quick 1500 words soon on some topic or other - "by 12 noon tomorrow". If you can rise to the occasion, then you will know you're on the way to being a 'pro' instead of an amateur who dabbles only when in the mood! So don't delay any longer. Motivation is the best starter and who knows where it will lead to?

*Arthur Kaufman*



### **Totley History Group**

### **Programme 2016**

Unless stated otherwise, meetings are at Totley Library at 7.30 pm.

27th April: AGM followed by 'The Story of Sheffield Cathedral: 900 years of Sheffield in one building' by Janet Ridler.

25th May: 'The Work of Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust' A talk by John Hamshire.

Are you involved in a local group? Do you realise that every time you meet you are all making history? Please keep records of your activities so that local people of the future will be able to share your experiences!

If keeping records is too difficult the Totley History Group would be willing to help. Please contact The History group at [enquiries@totleyhistory.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@totleyhistory.org.uk) or the chair of the Totley History Group at [apple-garth@supanet.com](mailto:apple-garth@supanet.com).

We look forward to hearing from you.

### **Green Oak Indoor Bowls Team**

Even though there is no crown green bowling now in Green Oak Park there is still a team that plays indoors at the Graves Tennis Centre during the winter months.

The team, captained by John Perkinson, has just won the league's Division Two competition and also got through to the semi finals of the Doubles Knock-out competition, which was quite an achievement after losing their previous captain Malcolm Tweed just before the season got underway.

The team consisted of John Perkinson, John Sykes, Clive Bemrose, David Ruthven, Stuart Francis, Graham Rose, John Shimeld and Eric Turner, though Darrell Stent was unable to take part due to illness. Many thanks to all who took part!

*John Perkinson*



## Totley Scouts

Lissy, the Beaver Leader, has awarded four more Chief Scout Bronze Awards to Jessica Camateras, Oliver Davis, Maxwell Gray and Thomas Scholey. This is the highest award that can be earned in Beavers. Well done to them all! As well as being a great achievement for the children, it is also very rewarding for Lissy and her assistants in knowing that they helped the children to achieve the awards.

Please also take a look at our job advert if you are interested in helping Lissy with the Beavers or indeed any of our sections. We always need more adults (young and old) to help with fun and exciting programmes for the children. It is a very rewarding hobby and looks good on your CV as well. You are welcome try out all the sections before deciding which section you would enjoy the most.



Sainsburys are again giving out Active Kid vouchers when you shop with them. Please collect them and pass them onto the Scout group. We use them to swap for valuable equipment for Scouts. Last year we received cricket bats and various assorted balls, and even some foam dice. With your help we can obtain even more equipment. Either hand them to someone you know who is involved with scouts or simply post them through our letterbox. This year you can also post them through the letterbox of 181 Baslow Road. It is very easy to find as it is next door to the Co-op! Thank you.

We were very pleased with our spring Antiques Fair at St Johns Church hall in March. We are now in our 35th year. I hope you managed to come along and look at the antiques but also sample the excellent food (main meals as well as delicious buns and cakes) for sale. Very valuable funds were raised for the Scout Group.

St George's day is coming up. St George is not only the patron saint of England but is also the patron saint of scouting. Our whole scout group will be on parade on 24th April and marching to Saint John's church to celebrate.

I have mentioned before that our Treasurer has resigned, so we really need a new Treasurer as soon as possible. The role of Treasurer is extremely important to the smooth running of the group. So if you have accounting experience and would like to help Totley Scouts as Treasurer, please do contact me.

We are now planning camps for the various sections during the spring and summer - some at Walesby Forest, and the Scout summer camp in Northumberland. The Explorer Scouts will be walking (and camping) along Hadrians Wall as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award. I will tell you more over the next few articles and hopefully with some good photos.

*Richard Frost, Chairman, 1st Totley Scouts*  
*TotleyChair@aol.com*  
*0114 236 3603*

## Coffee, Cakes and Cuttings

Come along to our annual Springtime event at English Martyrs R.C. Church, Baslow Road Totley. The event will be held on **Saturday May 21st, 10.00am – 12 noon.**

Proceeds in aid of Transport 17 and Outreach OLST Plants, etc may be collected by arrangement  
For more details tel: Frank Donnelly on 0114 – 2362 – 789

## Holmesfield Church Walking Group

### Padley Chapel Walk

On Wednesday 13th April at 10 am Robin Greetham will lead a walk starting from Grindleford station cafe. We will walk to Padley chapel where Mrs Celia White will give a presentation about the chapel, lasting about 30 minutes. We will then continue our walk towards Hathersage, then back to the cafe for lunch (optional).

The cost of the walk is £3 and the proceeds will go to Holmesfield Church maintenance fund. If you wish to come just turn up on the day. The walk is about four miles long.

For more information phone Robin on 01246 412767.

## Totley artists group?

Is anybody interested in forming a loose group of Totley-based artists?

We could meet perhaps once a month, with the aim of setting a monthly task, to bring our work for appraisal and encouragement - just a peer group, making work regularly. As I find motivation is often the only thing stopping me from doing stuff. a deadline would focus the mind. Am I alone in this?

We could also involve some of the many innovative artists living and working nearby as guest speakers. Perhaps we could become involved in some kind of collaborative work. A community piece? Perhaps organise an annual art show, on the "hang it all" principle. I see a place for anyone, working in any medium. But I would hope that participants would be prepared to step outside their comfort zone - to perhaps have the support and encouragement to experiment with styles or media that are unfamiliar.



This is where the tasks could come in – say, "Make a piece of work which is in your usual style and medium but to a totally different scale to your usual work". or "do something creative with a bar of soap" or maybe "Make a piece in the style of an artist you admire"

Once established we could ask members to describe, explain and pass on tips about their techniques. We could, in short, do almost anything that the membership wanted!

I suggest an exploratory meeting just to see what, if any, interest there might be? I would favour either a Tuesday or Thursday evening (early-ish!) but almost anything is possible. Please email me if you are interested at [jbscattergood60@outlook.com](mailto:jbscattergood60@outlook.com)

*John Barrie Scatterghood*



# Walking the Dog....

## In your Dreams

**You look in a bit of a dream this morning, Rony?**

Sshhh.

**But thank you for inviting me to come in with you on the bus. Why are you writing?**

I have been writing on this bus all my life Jack.

**Don't people stare at you?**

They do. In 1951, they think I'm a grammar school snob showing off doing my homework. In 2016, they wonder why I'm writing in pencil in this notebook instead of on a device, and who's let me out for the day. But sshh.

**Which bus are we on?**

The 45 then and the 218 now. It's been the 97 and the 24 in between. But I'm trying to write, Jack.

**Where've we got to now?**

About 1953, if those are the Harries sisters outside the artillery houses in their running vests and pants when I'm trying to concentrate.

**Are we there yet?**

No but if it's the summer of 1956, that's Millhouses Pool. You never saw the bottom, but it's the first place I ever saw anyone else's bottom, Jack, and I'm trying to do my homework.

**Why?**

So I can go to Oxford and Cambridge in 1959 and leave all this behind for ever. But there are too many High School girls who want to sit next to me Jack, while I'm trying to check I've got my protractor, compasses, ruler, Quink, fountain pen, Latin, Greek, cross country kit, clarinet, cap, log tables, petit vocabulaire -

**Why are you getting so panicky?**

Because this is Sheldon Rd and I have to get off now with all the High School girls without touching. But it's always nineteen minutes to nine, and the last number 9's always just gone. So I'll be last in the late queue at King Edwards again for the fat headmaster to poke me and tell me to grow up stand up speak up shut up be ashamed of my parents and cry all 1959.

**But we've passed 1959 ! Welcome to the world! Look! Sri Lanka, Polski, Mexico Amigos, Rhaduni, Teppanaky, Felafel, Pharoahs, Top Thai, Zeugma, Caribbean, Romantica , Kebabish, Calcu - What's wrong now?**

That's the Cremorne!

**What's wrong with the Cremorne?**

I don't know what it is!

**If it's 1863 it's a Victorian ship. If it's 1882 it's a pornographic magazine.**

But how do you suddenly know more than me, Jack?

**I just Googled it, free on the 218 in 2016. What's wrong now?**

Too much is happening and all at the same time but time shouldn't happen all at the same time and we're not talking sentences with enough verbs like Mrs Peacock said we have to in J4 and that's the Landsdowne Picture Palace in 1927 and Marks and Spencer in 1943 at the same time and the Locarno twice, when the wee used to run down to the stage, but it's the Mecca and Tiffany's as well now but it keeps changing colour - and where's its back gone, and where have all the trees and hills gone and - aaaaaaaaaaaaaah-hhhhh what's that !!!!!

**Blunkett Towers. 1981. Seven MSC storeys of zigzagging prison red brick, and the ugliest building even in Sheffield.**

It's a nightmare!

**It could be a nightmare in a dream?**

???

**And we could wake up?**

Mrs Peacock in J4 says you're never allowed to end your stories like that e.g. '...and then I woke up and it was only a

dream and I heard my mother calling me for school.'

**You could tell Mrs Peacock it's my dream?**

That would mean...you're dreaming me, Jack?

**Yes so I'll dream I'm the bus driver too, and ride straight back to Totley. I'll tell your mum it's all right, and I, Jack, was only dreaming that you, Rony, were having nightmares on the 218 one morning worrying about the school you left fifty very odd years ago, while sitting trying to write your next article for the Totley Independent, which is as a result a bit harder to understand even than usual.**

What about me though ?

**You can be the bus conductor.**

They don't still have bus conductors in 2016.

**We can still pretend together, though. Can't we?**

**Rony Robinson**

## Puzzle Corner

### Places to find

At a recent family gathering, people started asking riddles, most of which I believe must have been taken from crackers, such as "why was the number six frightened of seven?" Answer: "because it because it heard seven eight (ate) nine". I decided to challenge their brains still further with a quiz in which the answer to each clue was the name of the city, town or village. Here are a few readers may like to try. To help a little the answers are in alphabetical order.

1. tree with discharge of gun
2. cider fruit alongside
3. seen on farm for fastening papers
4. for sleeping by the river crossing
5. academic sugar
6. greyish brown colour for horses
7. sounds like lawn lake
8. female servant rock
9. women apparently not welcome here
10. floor covering for security
11. not an old fortress
12. bovine car
13. aches by candle centre
14. sheep's entrance
15. blood coloured compassion
16. not tear off
17. old fireside seat
18. insectIvorous animals put underground
19. hill with landing place for ships
20. Christmas carol "you", zero, five, forty-nine.

Solution on page 30

# Friends of Gillfield Wood

www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com

## Bluebells and Conservation Work

We are aware that a number of people would like to see the wonderful display of bluebells in Gillfield Wood in May, but find it difficult to negotiate some of the stiles and footpaths along the way. Distance is also an issue understandably for some people. So please remember that you can access the wood with ease from the west end of the wood - that is, at the bus terminus on the main Baslow Road just below Dysons on the outskirts of the village. You can get a bus there and back if you wish, or there is a small area for one or two cars to park off the edge of the bus turning circle; or you can of course walk there. But if you go by car, please do not block the entrance to the main metal gate which our local farmer Edwin Pocock regularly uses to gain access up to his fields and sheep on the north side of the wood.

If you use this entrance to the wood, within a few metres along the solid wide footpath you will have trees either side of you - the large conifers on your left, and what we refer to as the "new plantation" on your right (the latter having been planted twenty plus years ago). This ride is a delight to walk in spring, with its colours and the sound of birds calling and singing, and you might be lucky enough to see here, in the dappled light, butterflies, bees, hoverflies and dragonflies, because the Friends of Gillfield Wood have actively been trying to keep the ride open to the sun and at the same time improve the habitat for a wide variety of fauna and flora.

And then, a little further along the ride, when you reach the wooden gates into the main body of the wood, you will see the bluebells you have been seeking, if you have timed your walk right. Banks of bluebells bless the south facing slope of the wood on the left, where the Council and members of the group have worked hard to thin out the trees in this area. This work has opened up the canopy and allowed more light in to encourage the ground cover below to grow; it certainly has had the desired effect. The group, together with Council Ranger, also put in place the gates and repaired the long dry stone wall, so take a look at their handiwork - the group is proud of its achievements!

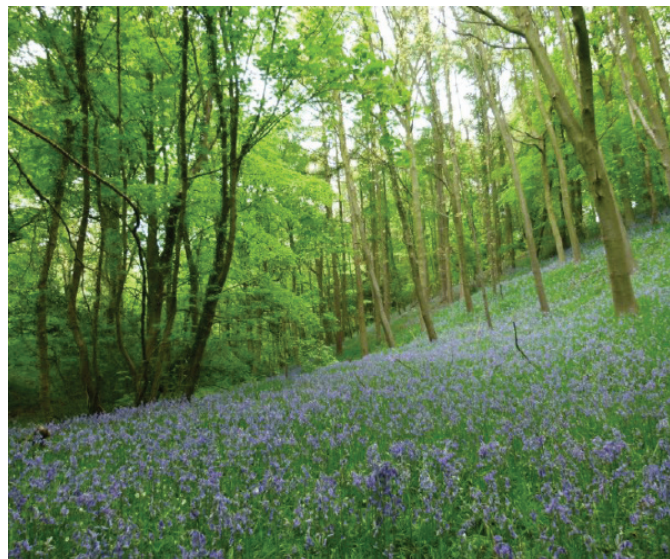


*Repairing the dry-stone wall (photo: Chris Measures)*

We hope you enjoy your walk, and if you can venture further into the wood there is a spectacular display of bluebells on either side of the main path. And please remember there is a colourful and informative leaflet produced by the group, relating to the wood, its surroundings and history. If you would like a copy please go to the website or contact the group direct, or pick one up from the Post Office, the Cross Scythes or the Library.

Members of the group have also been working hard to try to improve the main footpath inside the wood in an effort

to reduce the number of muddy sections, but it is certainly not easy to be successful in this respect with the weather as it is in winter! In addition they have continued to work on the picnic area at the west end of the wood so that it will hopefully be, in time, a swathe of wild flowers in front of the two tables that are sited there, for all to enjoy the tranquillity and views.



*Bluebells in Gillfield Wood (photo: Chris Measures)*

If you are interested in helping with the group's conservation work, please contact Andy Brewster on [fogwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:fogwsecretary@gmail.com). There is always light work as well as work of the more strenuous kind. Working parties consist of ladies and gents, of different ages and abilities. Andy is the group's leader for these events and co-ordinates the work with the Council. We normally meet once a month on a Sunday at 10am and are away by 1pm but you can come and go as you please. Tools are provided and no experience is necessary. Our Council Ranger supervises operations and he also provides the much needed and appreciated tea, coffee and biscuits. It is always a good friendly atmosphere with plenty of chatting and laughs. We hope you will consider joining us.

If you are in your late teens why not come along and give conservation work a try. It is definitely rewarding; perhaps you can add it to your CV or make it a part of your Duke of Edinburgh.

## Bird Walk event February 6th

Not quite the wash-out we thought, this being our first Bird Walk of the new year. Would we see any birds? Rain was predicted for the whole morning. Nine intrepid members met at the Scout Hut at 0900 hours, and it was drizzling from the start. One member had heard a Tawny Owl calling near All Saints church at 0600 hours and two other members had noted Collared Doves calling from roof tops as they walked to the meeting point, passing on their way the rookery near Green Oak Park and a respectable fifty Starlings chattering away at the tops of trees close by. So those members at least had made a good start to their species list for the day.

As we gathered together, a Song Thrush was heard singing from the top of a conifer nearby. This was the first of a very pleasing seven we heard on the walk, so it would appear they like to try to claim territory early in the season if these are resident birds, and rain does not seem to put them off. None of them was singing loudly, but their song was easily recognisable because Song Thrushes repeat the same group of notes two to four times. And then, in the bushes nearby, we watched Blue Tits, Great Tits and a small flock of Long-tailed Tits flitting through the branches in search of food whilst Robins were heard and seen in several locations.



As we moved into an open area more of the same were seen in Blackthorn bushes after we watched a solitary Heron pass over the houses behind, slowly flapping its huge down-curved wings as it went. Perhaps it had visited someone's pond at dawn, or it may have been feeding in the rain-sodden fields where we were to see another two Herons rise and take flight. Back to the Blackthorns, where three members of our group managed to see briefly a pair of Bullfinches showing their distinctive white rumps as they skimmed away over the high bushes before disappearing into the dense vegetation.

Arriving on higher ground behind the Rowan Tree houses we then managed to see a good number of Chaffinches and Greenfinches, together with a mixed flock of Blue Tits and Great Tits, as they moved quietly through the Hawthorn hedgerow at the edge of the field. House Sparrow, Starling and Goldfinch were noted in this area and then there was a call from one of our group as he drew our attention to two Redwings flying swiftly by us at eye level, and their call in flight confirmed the identification.



Chaffinch (photo: Andy Brewster)

The rain persisted. Visibility was quite poor now and as binoculars steamed up and became difficult to use, we made our way into the wood in the hope it would be a little drier amongst the trees. It was, and although we heard a small flock of Jackdaws pass overhead calling, sightings of woodland birds were few and far between, as they tended to call from deep cover at the edges of the wood.

Nevertheless, we carried on through the wood checking out various areas before moving out onto the fields on the south side of the wood where a Kestrel was braving the conditions and was seen to glide over the old pastures and then perch in a distant tree. Blackbirds together with more finches and tits were found in this area before the strong song of a Mistle Thrush caught our attention. It was coming from a hedgerow tree below Fanshaw Gate and four of these birds were then seen in flight with at least one making its rattling call before landing in a nearby field. They have this typical upright fashion, a proud stance, and those rounded black spots showed clearly on its breast and belly.

As we progressed along the lane to Woodthorpe Hall a number of Blackbirds flew across our path calling and more were seen at the foot of a hedgerow bordering the grounds of the Hall. Numbers of this species increase in the winter when Blackbirds from further north or the continent arrive in our area. You may have noticed this if you put food out for them in your garden at this time of year. We then had close views of two more Redwings, with Starlings in attendance, as they perched at the top of a tree. It was pleasing to have the time to look at the shape, size and lovely markings of these beautiful Redwings before we and they moved on. Our route was to take us down White Lane to our starting point.

This last part of our walk gave us brief views of a tiny Coal

Tit and a minute elusive Goldcrest, both searching for sustenance in the cold wet weather. How do they survive? The temperature had not risen much above five degrees all morning and it goes without saying that we humans were all by now looking forward to getting to our homes where dry clothes, a warm drink and hot food awaited and where we could reflect on a good walk, good company and a better-than-anticipated list of bird species seen.

Chris Measures

*Please see the FOGW diary on p.35 for future outdoor and indoor events run by the Friends of Gillfield Wood. The next Bird Walk is set for Saturday 23 April when we hope for better weather and perhaps a Chiffchaff singing. We will meet at the Scout Hut at the slightly earlier time of 0800 hours. You do not have to be a member to take part. No experience is necessary and if you don't have binoculars please don't worry, we will just be very pleased to have you come along.*

*In the meantime, if you get a few minutes, pop into the library during April and have a look at the small display we have erected there regarding Gillfield Wood.*

## Holmesfield Flower Club

**Wednesday 20th April**

– 7.30 pm: Demonstration of Flower Arranging by Jean Fordham (NAFAS area demonstrator) entitled "The Jewellery Collector" at Holmesfield Village Hall, Vicarage Road (Off Woodside Avenue), Holmesfield, S18 7WZ – ample parking.

Tickets available at the door: visitors £8.00; members £4.00 – includes refreshments.

The arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening. All are welcome.

**Wednesday 18th May**

7.30 pm: Craft Evening entitled "Going Potty" – decorating pots, tin cans, jars etc as containers for flower arrangements.



Try your hand at decorating your container/s of choice in your own individual style. Contact Diana: 0114 2377601 for information. All are welcome, not just members. Holmesfield Village Hall, Vicarage Road (Off Woodside Avenue), Holmesfield, S18 7WZ – ample parking. Visitors £4.00

## Councillor Surgeries

### Liberal Democrats:

2nd Monday in the month 6.00-7.00 pm, Totley Library, Baslow Road.

2nd Saturday in the month, 10.30 am to 12.00 noon, Dore Old School Hall, Savage Lane, Dore.

### Contact details:

Colin Ross 235 1948  
Email: colin.ross@sheffield.gov.uk

Joe Otten 230 3290  
Email: joe.otten@sheffield.gov.uk

Martin Smith 0781 205 5346  
Email: martin.smith@sheffield.gov.uk

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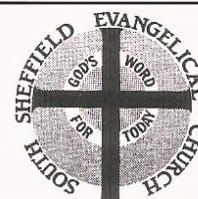
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## On the Beat....

Hello! As usual with the best laid plans, I actually ended up taking on the area in February, and I'll start by saying how nice it is to have met so many people who've told me they've just been reading about me in this magazine! I'm currently getting to know the area which is much the same as I remember it from my youth but with a few significant changes here and there. I have managed to make contact with some of your local Neighbourhood Watch contacts and I am providing them with weekly updates on crimes in the area. If you are interested in setting up a watch on your street let me know and I'll pass on your details to the local co-ordinators. I'm in the process of setting up drop-ins and hope to have some news on dates and venues in the next issue. Dates will also be published on the Sheffield South West LPT Facebook page if you follow us there.

As I write it's raining and cold but hopefully when you read this Spring will be here! Your thoughts may be turning towards the garden....but unfortunately some burglars have already been thinking about that too. We've had a couple of shed break-ins recently in the Baslow Road / Mickley Lane area, so please check that your sheds are securely locked when you leave them, that padlocks are not breakable or cuttable and that screw hinges are not exposed. If you make your shed difficult to break into, they'll go somewhere easier.

We've also had some burglaries in the Marstone Crescent area which have involved breaking through patio doors or removing old style Eurolocks. Please check your locks, making sure you have ABS locks fitted, and let neighbours know if you are to be away. Leave the TV or radio on if you are out and always try and use timers on your lights, varying them in different rooms where possible.

As usual I'm happy to be contacted, if you have any issues or concerns, on email at [adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk](mailto:adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk) or on my work phone, 07787 881945, which has a message facility if I'm not on duty.

*PCSO 8136 Adrian Tolson  
Dore, Totley and Bradway Area Contact  
Sheffield SW LPT  
Woodseats Police Station*



## Transport 17

We decided to have a coffee morning on 27th February with Easter as the theme. It was a super success raising over £780, the Easter eggs that were donated were great and numerous and included six fresh eggs that had been laid in the previous few days,

so lots of satisfied customers for the raffle. Sandra Longley, our fund raiser, really worked hard advertising the event where ever she could and with the new posters, beautifully designed by Gail Wyman, it obviously worked well as the attendance was nearly as good as Christmas. There were lots of new faces as well as regulars so please keep up the good work. We are trying to have a coffee morning every couple of months as long as we don't over use our welcome at the Cross Scythes, who provided tons of fabulous cake and Steve, their chef, donated his first home made chocolate Easter egg as a separate prize for guessing the weight. It really was good fun and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved in the day, especially the donors of raffle prizes and also the wonderful staff at the Cross Scythes for their unstinting efforts.

Our next coffee morning will be on Saturday 23rd April, 10.00 to 12.00 noon at the Cross Scythes and we will be celebrating St George so we are aiming at red white and

## DORE ART GROUP

# ART EXHIBITION

## DORE OLD SCHOOL

**Friday 8th April 2016**

**2.0pm to 6.0 pm**

**&**

**Saturday 9th April 2016**

**9.30am to 5.0pm**

**\*Meet the Artists & Browse or Buy\***

**\*Free Admission\***

**\*Refreshments\***

## Totley Yard Sale!

**Sunday 17th April 2016, 11.00am**

Sell your unwanted goods from your own front garden! You pay £5 which goes to Totley Open Gardens Association (which distributes money to various local community organisations every year — the total raised to date is over £25,000) and you are included on a list with a map which is sold to buyers on the day for 50p.

To register, email [jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk](mailto:jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk) or Tel. 0114-236-2302

*Jennie Street*

blue - it should be interesting. We are hoping to have a 'Hobby/relaxing stall' and would greatly appreciate any jigsaws, CDs, DVDs, sewing, knitting and books. We are also going to be on the look out for a dragon and we promise it won't be slain!!!

We have had several donations from various places so here goes:- All Saints - £4250; Totley Independent - £250; Bradway Discussion Group - £100; St Mark's Home Donation Committee - £200 and we are being the charity of choice for the year with Dore Mercia Townswomen's Guild. The new bus that was promised last year via a Government programme is finally arriving in late June/early July so keep your eyes open. We have £22,000 in the kitty for our next bus but we need to ask for help for something slightly different.

The T17 office is desperate for a face lift. It has had very little done to it in nearly 20 years so a thorough Spring Clean and redecoration are going to be our target for a little while. If you, or someone you know has DIY skills in painting/decorating, washing walls or carpet laying, please contact Mike or John on 2362962. As a 'not-for-profit' organisation, we must try to keep costs down, hence the appeal for volunteers. Indeed, if you cannot help physically, perhaps you could consider donating the cost of a large tin of paint or other materials.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon

*Felicity Revill*

# Tmf

## Totley Music Festival 2016

Preparations are well in hand for this year's Totley Music Festival – the eighth year of the Festival! Once again, admission to all events will be by ticket (bought in advance or on the door) and some of the events will be fund-raising events for the Library.

We're making some changes this year. There won't be a rock concert, as experience has shown that there is little support in Totley for that particular musical genre! And because of falling audience numbers in the last two or three years, we're 'resting' the Variety Cabaret concert this year – but we'll do our best to bring it back in the future with some old and (especially) new and talented faces!

We're hoping to add more events to the programme. The final version will be published in the June/July edition of the 'Totley Independent'. So far, however, the programme is as follows. Totley Primary School's annual concert will be included once again as part of the Festival. On Saturday July 9th, the Seven Hills Quartet will be playing sophisticated jazz at the Crown pub as part of the Festival. We're very pleased to announce that this year's stunning Jazz Evening with Chris and Kevin Walker will take place on Wednesday July 13th, and the ever-popular Folk Concert, produced once again by Steve Brook, is scheduled for Friday July 22nd – both events will take place in Totley Library.

A special library fund-raiser is scheduled for Friday 15th July. This will be a concert by the excellent Sheffield Folk Chorale, and this will take place in All Saints Church, with refreshments served afterwards in the Church Hall.

The choir is dedicated to performing unaccompanied four part songs, drawn from and inspired by traditional folk music. It is led and directed by Graham Pratt. The full chorale has around eighty members, though as few venues can accommodate the full Chorale, we tailor the number of sin-

-gers to suit the venue – around forty is the optimum. Proceeds from concerts are mainly distributed to local charities and the total to date exceeds £22,000.

And finally: we're hoping to bring you an ABBA-themed sing-along special event with a film on Friday 8th July – we can't say any more at this stage but please watch out for details on posters displayed in the Library and on the library website!

Full details with ticket prices for all events will be published in the next issue, as well as publicised through the usual TMF posters, but please note that tickets will be on sale from Totley Library and Totley Rise Post Office from Monday 13th June.

*Phil Harris and Sue Hare*

## Recently spotted.....



*Why should Fargate always have all the fun? When are we going to have one of these on Totley Rise?*



*The Sheffield Folk Chorale*



# What's on at the Library



## New Thursday Film Club and Totley Library Lottery

It has been a very busy start to the year at Totley Library. We have been planning improvements we want to make this year, working with Sheffield City Council to secure a small supply of new books for the library and also looking into whether we can put some of the books we get donated into stock for members to borrow. Our other big focus is on fundraising. We have been very fortunate to get a grant from the Council to cover the library running costs, but this runs out in March 2017. As the library costs over £24,000 per year to run we are lobbying the Council to see whether they can provide further funding. However with the current austerity cuts we may not receive anything so we are looking at new ways to raise funds for the library. We are looking for more volunteers to help us with fundraising, especially somebody who has experience of writing grant applications to charities and funding bodies.

To help keep Totley Library open we're launching the new monthly Totley Library Lottery. By playing in this local lottery, you can help support the library and, if your luck's

## Totley Library Lottery

in, you can win cash prizes! Each month, 25% of all lottery ticket income will be allocated as the prize fund. All of the remaining 75% will go straight to library funds. The first draw will be on Friday 8th July and you can enter by filling out the form which is on our Library Lottery leaflet. We are currently working on the best

way of distributing the Lottery Leaflet, but you will soon be able to collect one from the Library. In due course, you will also be able to enter the Library Lottery online through our website.

We are very pleased that our community cinema has proved so popular. Launched in October, Totley Library Cinema can seat up to 50 adults and children. Every month we show two films, one for families on a Sunday afternoon and one for adults on a Friday night. So far we have shown 12 films, all of which have been very popular with more than half selling out completely. We are now planning to buy some more chairs so we can increase capacity to 60.

Screenings are free for library members, though everyone is encouraged to buy a raffle ticket to support our fundraising efforts, and refreshments and ice cream are also on sale. To find out what films are on join our monthly email newsletter via our website [www.totleycric.org.uk](http://www.totleycric.org.uk) or pop into the library. Unfortunately we cannot advertise which films we are screening due to restrictions of our licence.

We are now extending the Community Cinema by launching a new Thursday Film Club, showing films on the last Thursday of the month at 3.45pm to elderly, housebound or lonely residents of Totley, Bradway and Dore. The first screening will be on Thursday 28th April. Aimed at over 65's, we can seat up to 40 people. We offer limited transport to and from the club, provided by Transport 17, for those with walking difficulties.

The Thursday Film Club has been set up with support of

the People's Postcode Lottery to help older people maintain their independence. In the first year Thursday Film Club screenings will be free of charge for library members, including a hot drink and biscuits. There is a small charge for transport. Totley Library has a toilet available but unfortunately this is not disabled access.

To join the new Thursday Film Club visit Totley Library or phone 0114 236 3971.



We will also be opening our doors on Sunday 17th April between 11 am and 1 pm as part of the Totley Yard Sale, selling second-hand books. We hope this will provide a welcome break for people as they are going around the Yard Sale, with refreshments and home-made cake available.

## Regular events and meetings at the Library

### Monday:

French for children – 10 am toddlers and babies; 3.40 reception and Yr 1; 4.10 years 2-4; 4.40 years 5 to 6. Readers Book Group, every first Monday, 1.30–2.45 pm Friends of Gillfield Wood, occasional Mondays, 7.30 pm onwards. Talks on local nature and conservation. See posters, the Independent Diary, or [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com) Councillor Surgery, every two weeks, 7.00 – 9.00 pm

### Tuesday:

Basic ITC Sessions, 10am – 12 noon. To book, phone Heeley Development Trust on 0114 250 0613. Craft Group, 2.00 – 4.00pm Poetry Group, last Tuesday in month, 7.00 – 9.00 pm

### Wednesday:

Coffee Morning, 10.30 – 12 noon Toddler Story Time, 10.30 – 11.30 Craft activities, singing and stories. Health Walk, 10-30 – 12 noon. One short and one longer ranger-led walk. Tea, coffee and biscuits in library afterwards. Totley History Group, occasional Wednesdays 7.30 onwards. Talks on matters of historical interest. Check posters in library, the Independent Diary, or [www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk](http://www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk)

### Thursday:

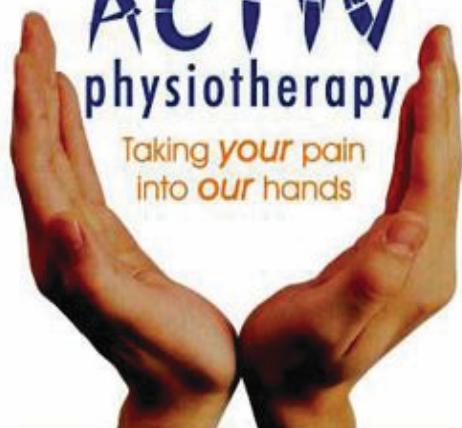
Friends of Gillfield Wood, occasional Thursdays, 7.30 pm onwards. Talks on local nature and conservation. See posters, the Independent Diary, or [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com)

Natasha Watkinson



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It's been a very busy term at Totley All Saints – but then, that's just how we like it!! From visits and visitors, to residential and special days - it's all been happening at TASS!

#### OFSTED and SIAMS

Our biggest news this term is that we had our OFSTED inspection (Jan 26th and 27th) and SIAMS inspection (Feb 25th). We are overjoyed as this was not only under the new inspection framework introduced in September, but also because we achieved something quite rare - outstanding in all five areas: Effectiveness of Leadership and Management; Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment; Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare; Outcomes for Pupils; plus Early Years Provision! To read the full report about what the inspectors said about our school and amazing children, please see our school website link or go through the official OFSTED website. If that wasn't enough, this was closely followed by a visit from a SIAMS Inspector who carries out the 'Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools'. We are very pleased to announce that we were given the grade of OUTSTANDING across all areas! As well as spending time in discussion with myself and Mrs Keen (RE Subject Leader), the Inspector spoke with a group of parents, pupils, plus Rev. Paul Oakley (Foundation Governor and Vicar of All Saints Church). She also looked at children's RE work, plus observed RE lessons and the whole school assembly. What a month it's been in terms of scrutiny - but to be graded as OUTSTANDING right across the board is fantastic! Thank you to the support of our parents and community for all your support and for having such amazing children! We couldn't do it without you!



#### TASS Aspire Day

We held our annual TASS Aspire Day in February with the aim of inspiring our children to think about their futures and what they would like to become 'when they grow up'. A student from Sheffield University came into school to share what she is studying as well as the pathways that she had taken in order to get there. We also had a fantastic variety of parents / carers and members of the community who volunteered their time to come in and talk to classes about the jobs that they do, plus

how and why they chose such a route. Everyone was asked to bring something in for the children to look at in order to make their 'story' real. This involved something like a PowerPoint with pictures, an object that they use or have produced in their work, awards, certificates or something that represents their learning/life journey. They also told the children about themselves, why they do what they do as well as anecdotes to make it real and relevant. Each session was 25 minutes long which enabled lots of varied learning journeys to be shared. All in all, it was a great day and our children were all inspired to go on to do amazing things!

#### World Book Day and Big Writing Day

World Book Day (3.3.16) was amazing this year with the usual dressing up as a favourite book character, holding our annual 'Speed Read' event as well as having our 'Book and Blurb' competition. The school was awash with everyone from 'Where's Wally?' to Willy Wonka — it was great! Congratulations to the following children who won the Book and Blurb Competition from each class and who were presented with a book prize in the Friday Celebration assembly: Leo Hartley (FS2), Nell Booth (Y1), Phoebe Shipley (Y2), Evie Dastoor (Y3), Alice Taylor (Y4), James Buxton (Y5) and Fergus MacLauchlan (Y6). We also held our first 'Big Writing Day' (8.3.16) where children were given a stimulus and activities to build up to writing a very special extended piece. We shared these in our Friday Celebration assembly and were very pleased with our children's efforts!



#### TASS School Council

The TASS School Council meets every two weeks and involves two democratically voted in representatives from each class. The School Council has been involved in all aspects of making the school a better place including carrying out interviews for new members of staff, deciding on how to spend Church Burgess funding and responding to the suggestions of their fellow class mates. This half term they've interviewed the TASS PTA Fun-D Raiser Committee as well as the School Cook and Area Manager for Taylor Shaw. Just after half term, they will be taking part in taster sessions to see if they approve of the new school menu!

#### Team TASS Excel at Sport

At TASS, we love our sport and have fantastic children that not only do well in competitions, but who show great attitude, are committed to team work and show terrific sportsmanship. This term, we came an amazing second place (just one point behind Nether Green) in

the Boys' Cross Country League with Toby Moorwood (Y6) finishing as City Champion! In Orienteering, six children (Daniel Hill, Aron King, Henry King, Kassia Smith, Ben Lashmar and Jacob Parr) ran at the Botanical Gardens with Kassia Smith (Y4) coming first in the League and Daniel Hill (Y5) third! In football, Tom Storey (Y6) and Toby Moorwood (Y6) represented Sheffield Boys in the Shorts Football Yorkshire Cup, beating Derby 2-1 in the final! They beat Scarborough, East Riding and Leeds on their way to victory! This term as also seen Y5s going to Abbeydale sports Club for squash lessons, Y4s having swimming lessons and all year groups having netball coaching at lunchtimes and tennis coaching from Graves Park Tennis Club. On Tuesday 15th March, we also visited the English Institute of Sport for our annual Sports Day and had a terrific time.

### **Egg-cellent Easter**

We had a fantastic time celebrating Easter and made our usual visit to All Saints Church. We were hosted by Rev. Paul Oakley, who is also a much loved governor at our school. The children gave thanks with a selection of singing, prayers, poems and presentations and then came back to school to take part in our competition to find the best Easter Bonnets and Decorated Eggs. The day culminated in our PTA 'Fun-d Raisers' putting on an Easter Egg Hunt for each class plus a special awards assembly. It was truly *egg-cellent!*

So what now? Well, we're in the process of preparing for the Y4 and Y5 residentials, getting ready for SATs and gearing up for our summer production.

If you want to find out more of the exciting things that are happening at our school, then please visit our website or email us at [enquiries@totleysallsaints.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@totleysallsaints.sheffield.sch.uk). We'll be so happy to let you know!

*Karole Sargent, Head teacher*

## **Letters to the Editor**

*The controversy over the proposed removal of trees in the area continues to provoke discussion. Here Don Ashford and Roger Hart remind us that whilst many trees have a unique social history, like all living things, they have a finite lifespan!*

Dear Editor,

The contractor Amey's policy of removing some street trees to avoid potential root damage to roads and pavements has aroused adverse comment. One such is a tree in Vernon Road where we came to live many years ago. As it is suggested the tree may be 130 years old, it would have been more than pension age we first knew it. A pre-World War I photograph across the valley from Bradway bank shows a line of trees up the line of Vernon Road. Of that line, two other trees survive in addition to the one above. One is in our front garden and the other one in a front garden a few houses away, and how this came about it is interesting.

In 1957, there were nearly 40 houses in Vernon Road, mostly semi-detached, eight detached and one bungalow. A local builder, Mr Jones, then erected eight pairs of semi-detached houses in the field at the top of the road converting it into a permanent cul-de-sac. We were told the original plan was to have a central island in the road to make a traffic turnaround but this was abandoned because of upkeep costs. As a result, certain front gardens, including ours, were made bigger, and the oak tree came with it. Over the years of course, we have had to remove hundreds of sacks of leaves, twigs and acorns and pay for the 'haircut' periodically. Some roots across the front lawn are near the surface and produce a crop of mushrooms if mowing is delayed. As the tree is on the north side of the house there is no major shading of sun.

All in all we think is trees are an asset for all to enjoy.

*Don Ashford*

Dear Editor,

The majority of trees on verges in Totley and Bradway were purchased by residents to commemorate the Queen's Coronation in 1953. I think that the cost was £12 each. (My mother shared one with our neighbour.) They are now 63



years old, and some have gone, others are diseased, some have roots which have caused the footpaths and high-way surfaces to be damaged, and others are judged to be healthy. The contract between the Council and Amey is for 25 years, and, therefore, Amey has to be reasonably certain that after they have carried out the improvements on a particular road, there should be no more expense, by the Council, until after that 25-year period. If a tree has to be removed, it will be replaced by another one which may not be in the same place, nor is it likely to be the same species. I like trees, but am not as passionate as some residents, in that if it has to go, fine, provided it is replaced. I do not want it to fall on a child or a vehicle. They are, after all, living beings - like ourselves, they do not go on for ever.

The blossom is magnificent, but only lasts two weeks. The tree outside my house has roots which have raised the footpaths surface twice in six years, roots which totally cover the verge, but, more importantly, encase a BT cable conduit; but it will not be removed, after two inspections. I do not understand why not, as the Council's policy about roots damaging the surfaces is clear. Other trees, which did not appear to have any problems, have gone, or are scheduled to go, if the injunction is removed. The Independent Assessment Team have been round. We await their judgement.

Roger Hart

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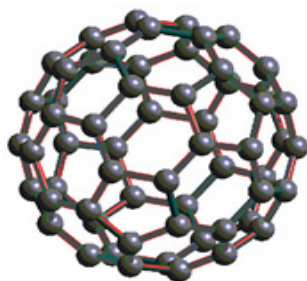
## All Saints Church

### Totley Hall Lane



Twice within a week, I have found myself sitting in church, thinking about carbon! A few weeks ago I joined with our friends at Christ Church Dore for the annual Ash Wednesday service. Part of the service involves being marked on the forehead with a black, sooty ash cross. Just before doing this, Katie Tupling, Vicar at Christ Church, reminded us that the Bible tells us we are all "wonderfully made". I found myself thinking how the carbon which made up the soot, and which is so essential to our bodies, is also wonderfully made!

Carbon, like all elements apart from hydrogen (and some helium), was forged in the nuclear furnace at the heart of a massive star, which subsequently exploded and scattered its products to form the material of our solar system.



Carbon ought not to exist! It ought to have fallen apart as rapidly as it formed. The fact that it does exist depends on an extraordinary coincidence of nuclear binding energies and excited states. When the great Yorkshire astronomer Fred Hoyle deduced this coincidence from the very fact that carbon does exist, he declared that the universe was

a "put-up job"! He couldn't believe it could have arisen by accident – and this is just one of many ways the natural laws are exactly right for our existence. Creation itself is very wonderfully made by a very skillful designer!

The following Sunday, in All Saints, Paul Oakley was talking about Holy Communion, and the fact that just as we can freely receive the bread and wine into our bodies we can receive Jesus himself into our lives. I thought about what happens to the carbon atoms in the wine and bread, which our bodies would digest. Some of them would soon be breathed out as carbon dioxide, but not before they had given us energy to live our lives. And others would be incorporated into our cells and tissues, making muscles, maybe even forming new connections between the neurons in our brains corresponding to fresh memories and thoughts!

Of course, this is true of any food, but in that simple food of bread and wine I was reminded once again of how the Spirit of Jesus can enliven, fortify and reform us!

*Chris Booth*

## Services in April and May

We meet every Sunday morning at 10.00. The first Sunday of every month is our All Ages All Together service to which families are especially welcome. Every Wednesday there is a Communion Service which also starts at 10.00.

### Service Themes coming up...

'If you can get your head round it, it's not God', said St Augustine, and he had a brain the size of a planet! God is certainly bigger than we can grasp

In April and May the themes of our Sunday services at 10am include some mind-stretching ones...

Jesus after the resurrection – April 10th  
 Jesus going back to heaven – May 8th  
 God's Spirit and us – May 15th  
 How can God be One God but Father, Son and Holy Spirit? May 22nd  
 Does Praying make any difference? May 29th

You might like to use this prayer as a way of thanking God for creating the world around us and for making us unique and special in God's eyes

### Heavenly Father

As we trust in the truth of being your beloved creation, having a place in your heart, we commit ourselves to speaking kindly and being a forgiving community, accepting every person as unique and worthy before God, keeping the hope in a future of justice and peace and re-ceiving all people in order that they be able to dream, laugh, dance and love without being discriminated against.

**Amen**

## Totley Open Gardens 2016



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## Gardening Tips for April and May

I have bought a new book, a bit less complicated than Professor Peter Jones's epistle. It's called "Gardening For Seniors". It was going cheap in Waterstones and I thought I had a bargain until I read into it - it's produced in USA and so I thought it wouldn't be much help. I thought that their methods and climate would be different to ours. But I persevered and found it is not all that different. It did point out that we must keep looking out for easier ways to continue gardening when we are getting on a bit.

Safety was the first feature, and as we are told quite often that most domestic accidents take place in the garden, I thought that this would be a good subject to comment on this time.

That wobbly path or the hosepipe lying around might seem OK at the time but there is not much fun in falling flat on your face and having to shout for help, so look round your garden make a note of all the hazards you see. This applies to the fully-fit as well as us golden oldies! Roll up the hosepipe, fix the loose pavers and make sure everything is made safe. If your balance is a bit iffy use a stick - one with a point on so that you can stick it in the ground by where you are working, and try not to forget where you left it! I spend many frustrating hours searching for gardening tools which I have left stuck in the ground. Tying a bright coloured flag to your stick might help (you see I do have the occasional bright idea).

Raised beds are another help for us seniors. I find that digging them is much easier: the weeds are easier to pull out as the soil does not get as compacted, and of course we don't have to bend as much.

We must remember that our body is our most valuable 'tool' so it is very important to know how to take care of it. Just as you might pamper a favourite expensive piece of equipment, your body also needs good maintenance (it's a pity a good squirt of WD40 will not do).

As our reflexes lose their quickness and our other senses become less alert, understanding our limitations and relearning how to use our bodies in order to stay healthy and safe in our gardens will allow us to continue our gardening for many more years.

Now the book says that you should do a regular workout before starting in the garden (something like tai chi). Now I know if I started something like that I wouldn't get much gardening done. I think that a few stretching exercises would suffice if you have been sitting a bit too long, but to go into a real PT workout would certainly slow me down. I know when I've had an hour or so at the gym I don't feel like tackling a bit of digging in the garden - a cup of tea and a gardening magazine is about as much effort as I care to put in!

I can see the point about keeping fit, and I am sure that gardening is a physical activity and may be your only form of exercise; but whether you are a regular gardener or have not done any gardening for a while, it's worth spending a little time gently loosening up, warming up and stretching before you start as this will reduce any muscle aches and risk of injury.

So I hope as I walk around Totley I will hear a few grunts and groans when you are doing a bit of physio before putting up that pergola or raking the lawn. Enjoy your gardening and don't overdo it.



*Tom demonstrates stretching exercise*

### April

**Flowers:** Complete the planting of herbaceous perennials and plant gladioli. April is a good time to plant or replant alpine. Apply a good fertiliser to roses - it will give them the food they require throughout the summer. Sow hardy annuals. Plant out and stake sweet peas, and also violas and pansies if they have been properly hardened off. A rather cool semi-shaded place is best. This will give a longer life to the flowers and a well-manured bed will ensure fine blooms.

Start dahlias in a frame, cover tubers with a light soil and water moderately. Those of you who planted half-hardy bedding plants early can transfer them to a cold frame. Keep the frames closed for the first few days unless it is really hot. Cover over with sacks or insulation at night in case of frost.

Plant antirrhinums and penstemons once they are hardened off. Clematis can be planted now - a good pot-grown specimen is best.

**Vegetables:** Feed spring cabbages which are near maturity with a top dressing of nitrate of soda and hoe it in - and another dressing in 3 weeks' time. Plant the second early and main-crop potatoes to give them plenty of room. Plant onion sets 4-6 ins (10-15cms) apart in rows about a foot

(30cm) apart. Sowings of lettuce, radish, peas etc. should be made. Soil should be pulled up along each side of broad-bean rows. Sow winter cabbage, savoy cabbage and broccoli. Prepare trenches for runner beans, which will be sown or planted next month.

Keep the hoe going on all plots - the frequent aeration of soil and checking of weeds does a great deal of good and certainly encourages growth. Those of you who grow celery should prepare trenches now unless of course you grow the self-blanching type. Sow parsley outdoors. If your garden is susceptible to carrot fly then make a fleece tent for your parsley, as carrot fly grubs love a change.

**Trees, Shrubs and Fruit:** Clean up strawberry beds - take off dead or damaged leaves and clean up generally making the whole tidy. Spray blackcurrants against big bud mite with a proprietary insecticide or lime sulphur. Spray gooseberries against mildew. Make sure any newly planted shrubs or trees are kept moist during dry spells while they are getting established. Keep an eye on plum trees for the first sign of aphids and deal with them as soon as they are seen. Remove grease bands from around trees which have been on since September.

**Greenhouse and Indoor Plants:** There will now be much less difficulty in maintaining sufficient temperature in the greenhouse. It may even be necessary to shade tempor-

arily on the hottest days – do not use side vents or doors which can cause damaging draughts.

Prick off seedlings as soon as they are handleable. Do not let them get too deep-rooted as this causes them to check growth when transplanted. Pot on seedlings pricked out earlier. Take cuttings of winter flowering begonias. Rest freesias, lachenalias, arum lilies and cyclamen. Place them on a shelf near the glass and gradually reduce watering. Stop early flowering chrysanthemums by pinching out the tips of rooted cuttings required for spray flowering.

Plant tomatoes, cucumbers, capsicum etc. in a heated greenhouse. Sow annuals for flowering pots in the greenhouse. Watch out for ants and woodlice as they can do an awful lot of damage to seedlings.

Indoor plants should have their watering increased and established houseplants given a good feed. Split up and repot ferns.

**Lawns:** Rake up debris and lightly roll. Scarify, spike and aerate. Start or continue routine mowing. Apply lawn dressing or liquid feed. Treat any moss or lawn diseases as soon as they are seen. Seed new lawns and keep well watered in dry weather.

## May

**Flowers:** Prepare beds ready for summer bedding plants. Dig in plenty of well-rotted manure or compost. 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, lacewings 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 that have finished flowering. Don't cut the leaves or tie them in knots - let them die back naturally or move them to another plot. Put 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, cover with 8cm (3in) of soil. Spray roses with fungicide if you had trouble



with black spot last season. Plant up window boxes and hanging baskets, but 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's 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 plan-



*Tom demonstrates another exercise you can do*

ting out courgettes, marrows, pumpkins etc. to have a constant supply of veg throughout 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 Brussels sprouts, cauliflower and purple sprouting broccoli. Runner beans can be planted out now: put in 2 seeds together about 9in 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, as 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 that will be going in the Totley Show in September. A high nitrogen fertilizer (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, then change to a high potash feed like tomato fertiliser. By the way, keep the tub of sheep dropping juice at the far end of your garden as it can hum a bit, especially during the summer. Keep your vegetable patches clear of weeds. Vegetables don't like the competition for nourishment.

**Trees, Shrubs and Fruit:** Mulch around fruit trees and bushes with well-rotted manure or compost. This helps retain moisture, 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 trimmings - you will need plenty of sugar: see Naked Chef). Keep all fruit well-watered and 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 - bone meal is ideal. Give your ericaceous subjects a special treat with iron sequestrene plant tonic. Plant out tender shrubs like fuchsias and hydrangea. Prune spring flowering 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 that 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 bearing in mind that they soon rot if overwatered. 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. 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.

Don't forget - watch the weather as 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 nobbled by old Jack Frost

**Lawns:** Give weedy lawns a top dressing of lawn sand. Keep new lawns well-watered, regular cutting at a medium height is much better than cutting it too short. If you use a liquid weed killer make sure you do it on a still day. If it's 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 don't think I have mentioned the Totley Show yet this month. 17th September is the date to aim for. 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, and work and crafts - go on, have a go! In the meantime, enjoy your garden.

**Cheerio for now,  
Tom**

## Dore Gilbert and Sullivan Society

What! You have never been to see light opera? Go on; give it a try. You never know - you might actually enjoy it! Should you be of a mind to take your courage in both hands and venture out in early April to the Montgomery Theatre you might find that your chuckle muscles get a good airing. Orpheus In The Underworld may be an operetta but it is a Comic Opera at its most ludicrous and funny.

Orpheus, (played by Steve Andrews) a music teacher is not too fond of his wife Eurydice (Yoo-rid-i-see) (Gwen Nimmo) who fancies Pluto, King of the Underworld (Alex Hayward-Brown and a teacher at Dore Infants). Eurydice's mother (Judy Savournin) is intent on them staying together and after Pluto transports Eurydice to Hades she goes to Olympus to get help from the Gods. They are so fed up with a diet of nectar and boring lifestyle that they all decide to help. Overcoming Jupiter's objections, everyone decides to go to Hades and party thinking that a change will be as good as a rest.

If you want to know how it all ends then you will have to see it at the Montgomery Theatre, Surrey Street, from Wednesday April 6th to Saturday April 9th. I know that if you do decide to give it a whizz then you'll be amply rewarded with some superb singing, excellent music, seeing the Can-Can danced by the splendid dancers from Dore School of Performance Arts and lots of laughs. Go on. Spoil yourself and have an evening out that is far better than sitting in watching that box in the corner!



*Members of the Society in rehearsal*

Tickets are £13 (adult) and £6 (children) and are available from Judith Bettridge, 238 Carterknowle Road, Sheffield S7 2EB (telephone 0114 2507155). Please enclose S.A.E with cheque made out to Dore G&S Society or via the Sheffield Theatres Box office or from any member of The Society. And you can always contact me on 0114 236 2299 for further information.

*Derek Habberjam*

## Picnic in the Park!

On Sunday 12th June, the Queen will hold a party on the Mall, London, to celebrate her 90th Birthday. To mark this milestone, and to make sure that Totley can be part of the national celebrations, we are hoping to hold a 'Picnic in the Park' - a 'whole of Totley street party' in Green Oak Park.

We're working with Totley Residents Association and other Totley community groups to arrange for some entertainment (and cake!) to be available in the Park from 12-4pm but the real aim of the event is to get Totley folk to come along, eat their picnics together and have some fun to mark this historic occasion, when the Queen will be the first reigning mon-

-arch to turn 90!

We're going to need help in preparing for the event, during the afternoon and with tidying up. If you want to get involved, please email [jenny.nuttall@talktalk.net](mailto:jenny.nuttall@talktalk.net) or phone 07855 171474.



Look out for more details in the next Totley Independent and on posters but for now - put the date in your diary!

*Jenny Nuttall*



## Superhero Science at Totley Primary!

Science is a priority subject in the new National Curriculum and here at Totley Primary our science co-ordinator, the ingenious Miss Goodbody, has been working hard to make our science lessons as creative and inspirational as possible. Recently, we all enjoyed a brilliant week of superhero-themed science lessons during which each class participated in a wide range of practical investigations and experiments.

Y6 and Y5 worked together to combat the evil Lex Luther, who had stolen some treasure. They first had to gather their superhero attributes through a series of physical and mental challenges before solving a number of scientific puzzles to piece together the whereabouts of the booty!



One of these puzzles involved testing various substances to find out whether or not they were acid or alkali—which was great fun! The downside to this was that the indicator liquid they used was made by Mrs Corrin boiling red cabbage for an hour before the start of school. The horrendous smell that this created will live long in our memories!

Y4 focussed their scientific investigation around Aquaman and his amazing watery powers. Could they use the static electricity generated by balloons to help Aquaman control the direction in which water flowed?

In Y3, the super evil villain Doctor Doom has been stealing teeth from the Tooth Fairy and trying to destroy them. Could

the children save the Tooth Fairy by finding out which liquids are safe and which are harmful for teeth?

The Y2s have been linking their superhero science to volcanoes and investigating whether or not they could create eruptions which would be powerful enough to destroy all the baddies! This involved first building their own volcanoes in a conical shape with a tube system built into the design. Finally, the children experimented with baking powder, vinegar and food colouring to try and create an effective lava flow.

In Year 1, the children have been coming to the rescue of superheroes who have been trapped in ice. How could they



use their scientific knowledge to set the superheroes free from the ice without hurting them?

Meanwhile in FS2, children have been investigating what happens when superhero vehicles are rolled down ramps. Did the steepness of the ramps make a difference? Which vehicle went the furthest?

The children thoroughly enjoyed their week and demonstrated excellent teamwork as well as great scientific knowledge and skills.

*Ben Paxman, Assistant Head Teacher*

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## Totley Independent Poetry Workshop

### Sally Goldsmith

In the last Independent the task I set was to listen to a bird's song and see where it took you. Patricia Pillow again rose to the challenge and sent in this:

**Evening bird watching, Wigginholt Common Circa 1970**

**by Patricia Pillow**

(With apologies to William Wordsworth, John Keats and others)

We did not see thee, plain brown bird,  
T'was just your wondrous song we heard.  
Rising heavenward from the thicket  
That sound, I never can forget it.  
I listened though I little thought  
What wealth to me the sound had brought.  
For now that I no longer hear,  
I tune into that inward ear.  
Oft times when in my chair I'm sitting,  
I set aside my book or knitting.  
I feel rough grass beneath my feet,  
The evening air is warm and sweet.  
My memory, it does not fail,  
My heart sings with that nightingale.

I can really imagine Patricia sitting and tuning into her memories of the nightingale's song - and her heart singing 'with that nightingale.' Technically, the rhyming is skilful and not forced - and it's a sonnet! If any of you know Keats' poem 'Ode to a Nightingale' then you will see how Patricia pays homage to the Romantic poet in the sort of language she is using. Keats' poem however takes off from the song into more fanciful reveries on death. In contrast, I like the way Patricia's nightingale is grounded in reality - he is a 'plain brown bird.' Her present too is specific - the chair, her knitting. In this, her poem actually reminds me more of John Clare than Keats. Here's an excerpt from Clare's 'Nightingale's Nest':

And where those crimping fern-leaves ramp among  
The hazel's under boughs, I've nestled down,  
And watched her while she sung ; and her renown  
Hath made me marvel that so famed a bird  
Should have no better dress than russet brown.

Though Clare was a Romantic too and a contemporary of Keats, he was a naturalist and farm labourer, knowing his rural patch and the birds in it intimately. This is a real landscape, a real bird.

Though Patricia has nodded to Keats by using nineteenth century poetic language - 'thee,' 't'was' and 'oft' - we wouldn't talk like that now. I do wonder whether she might now take the plunge and write about the song in her own language? But well done Patricia - I enjoyed your poem.

It's been a delight seeing and commenting on the poems readers have sent in over the last couple of years. However, because so few entries are being sent in, I've decided to change the format of this slot in the Independent from now on. I haven't yet decided how, but watch this space. We'll still have poetry here.

*Sally Goldsmith is a prize winning poet, script and songwriter. You can order her collection of poetry, 'Are We There Yet?' through [www.poetrybusiness.co.uk](http://www.poetrybusiness.co.uk)*

## Memories of Family Life in Totley

*In Totley Independent No. 373, we featured a story by Anne White about her 'Childhood in the Chemical Yard'. Here, in the first of a two-part article, Anne writes about her father, and gives us a fascinating insight into life in Totley in the first half of the 20th century.*

My father, Albert Edward Russell, worked for Pickford Holland Refractories at Owl Bar, Sheffield, for many years from the mid-1920's to 1955. He believed in showing loyalty and respect to the company he worked for. Many people living in the Totley area worked



at the brickworks and there was a strong community feeling amongst the workers. Our next-door neighbour, Mr Stanway, worked there and Eddie, his son, worked there too as a lorry driver.

Totley was little more than a village in those days so most people knew each other. The Cross Scythes public house was the terminus for the local bus service so Pickford Holland had their own company bus which waited in the car park at the Fleur de Lys public house across the road, and took the factory workers and office staff on the rest of the journey out to Owl Bar. The same bus transported people to and from the little hamlet of Barlow where many of the workers lived.

We lived in a little cottage in the Chemical Yard at Totley, and I remember seeing my dad return from work covered in thick, grey dust, his jet-black hair looking almost white. He would remove his dusty work clothes in our small kitchen and my mum would stand at the kitchen door shaking as much dust out of his clothes as possible. The air would be filled with clouds of the powdery grains and despite her efforts his clothes remained thick with dust.

It was impossible for dad to have a bath every night because bath-night itself was an evening's job. The old gas boiler had to be filled with cold water then we had to wait for it to

heat up before ladling the hot water into the tin bath in front of the fire in the black-leaded Yorkshire range in our living room. We had the luxury of a gas geyser which allowed us to get a limited amount of hot water at the kitchen sink which doubled up as our washbasin so dad would have a good 'strip' wash there before sitting down to his tea.

His working day was far from over! Times were hard during the war and post war years so my hardworking dad used every talent he had been blessed with to provide for his family. We had a type of smallholding where he and my mum kept livestock. There were pigs to be fed and cleaned out, hens to be fed and eggs collected. We sometimes had ducks and I believe that we once had a goat which was sold after it had butted my older brother, Kenneth, and knocked him off his feet! We always had several pets including dogs, cats and rabbits. Dad had a vegetable patch which needed to be tended, and we also had gooseberry and raspberry bushes, blackcurrant and redcurrant bushes and sweet, tender rhubarb which grew on the fertile plot of soil next to the patch of ground where dad heaped the manure from the pig-sties! The pig sties and vegetable plot were on land which we rented from Colin Thompson, the butcher, who had a shop on Totley Rise. His land ran parallel to the back lane which was an unmade rough track in those days. We accessed the land across a small wooden bridge which dad had built across the river which ran at the bottom of our garden.

Many of dad's friends came to him to have their hair cut. He was meticulous about hygiene, and his special haircutting scissors, comb and clipping shears were always kept immaculately clean. But all his customers were given the same regulation haircut - a basic short back and sides!



Many times I would see him sitting in front of his cobbler's last repairing all our family shoes and those of friends and neighbours too. His mouth would be filled with tacks and he would expertly wield a sharpened knife cutting out the leather shapes of soles and heels.

He was a very proud man and he walked tall as though he had been in the army. He insisted that we follow his example and he couldn't bear to see us walking with hunched shoulders.

If we were sitting at the table we had to sit up straight, no slouching!

We had an upright piano in the front room and a piano stool which had a compartment beneath the seat packed with sheets of piano music. Audrey, my older sister, could play the piano and on Sunday evenings, when we often had visitors, we would all enjoy a sing-song around the piano. It was



always a special Sunday night when Vernon Mather visited us, as he had the most beautiful voice and I think our performances improved simply by him being present! At that time he was working as a butcher's assistant for Colin Thompson.

After our impromptu sing-song we would play card games, playing played for pennies as it made the games more interesting. My mum would insist that we had to play as adults, with the rules being observed and no allowances made for childish errors, definitely no cheating, and if we lost we had to do so with good grace - she couldn't abide poor losers!

Upstairs, in a walk-in-cupboard in our back bedroom, there was a selection of musical instruments - a violin, a cello and a beautiful mandolin. I loved to hold the mandolin and admire its oval shape made out of highly varnished beautifully grained wood. I could never understand why we had these instruments because, as far as I am aware, nobody played them.

There was also a tarnished, battered old bugle with a fraying yellow braid attached to it. My dad could play the bugle but he needed to be persuaded! After much gentle bullying on my part he would put it to his lips and start to play. He soon gave up as he said it had been too long since he'd played it properly and it was too difficult now that he had false teeth!

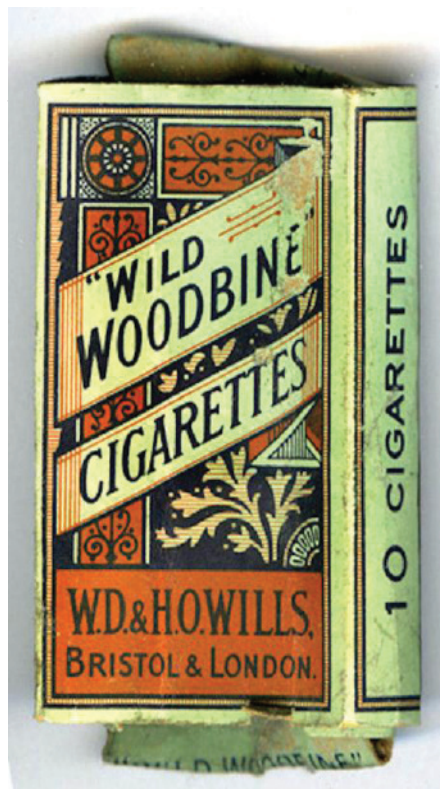


At some point during his life, he had learnt how to sew and was capable of making tailored suits and coats. We had a treadle Singer sewing machine which was a heavy duty model. He tried to teach me how to use it - he was very patient but I just couldn't seem to get the co-ordination right. Trying to operate the treadle smoothly with my feet and manoeuvre the material with my hands was something I seemed unable to do. The cotton would keep snapping and, eventually, so did my temper! He tried to encourage me to persevere but my heart wasn't in it. Some years later, after his death and when I had a family of my own to look after, we removed the treadle from the sewing machine and fitted a small basic electric motor. Out of sheer economic necessity I taught myself how to make curtains and dresses, skirts and blouses for myself and my daughters. I like to think that dad would have been proud of my eventual success!

The glass fanlight over our front door had been professionally etched with thick black lettering stating that A. E. Russell was licensed to sell tobacco and sweets. There was also a registration number. As a young child I was fascinated by the wording on this window and thought that it made us very important people indeed!

My mum was a kind and gentle person and she would 'split' a packet of ten Woodbine cigarettes so that she could

sell them separately to our customers who were unable to afford a full packet. She had a little notebook where she kept details of customers who would 'buy' cigarettes with a promise of payment at the weekend but she wasn't a very good book-keeper!



I loved helping out and didn't look upon the chores as work. Even as a

very young child, dad taught me how to find suitable logs for the fire in the nearby woods. We would take them to our garden where we would cut them into fire-sized pieces using a two handed saw. It took me quite a while to learn how to use this saw and I think I made it blunt several times before I finally understood the rhythm that had to be used and we worked steadily as a team! He also let me use a heavy axe to chop wood into small pieces, showing me how to lift it high above my head before bringing it down with as much force as a small child could muster! We would take a metal bucket into the woods and gather leafmould to put on the vegetable plot. Once when he was re-paving the path at the side of our cottage, he gave me a hammer to help break up old stones and rubble for the foundation. Unfortunately it was a claw hammer, and as I brought backwards ready to smash it into the rubble, I hit my forehead instead! I ran inside with blood pouring down my face. The amount of blood seemed to be everywhere, but, in fact, I only had a cut on my forehead which was soon cleaned and sealed with a plaster. However, my mum was so angry with dad for giving me the hammer, she shouted at him! It was one of the very rare occasions when my parents argued!

**To be continued!**

*Anne White*

## Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society - Spring Production!

Our May production is a comedy written by Christine Woodhead, directed by yours truly, and entitled 'Dish of the Day'! It will therefore be no surprise to find that the play is set in a restaurant!

Originally I had planned on directing a murder/thriller this time, but unfortunately I was limited by not having many young men available - so come on you young(ish) Totley males, don't be shy, support your local Am-Dram society!! We need you!

However when we read 'Dish of the Day' at play reading, it chose us, as it was so funny, and castable, and it was unanimously voted as Toads next play! So here we are, rehearsing like mad, and having the time of our lives!

The dates of the play are Wednesday 11th May to Friday 13th May at 7.30pm and Saturday 14th May at 2.30pm.

The venue is as usual St John's Hall, Abbeydale Road South. Please call 0114 2351206 to reserve your ticket, or contact any TOADS member - we look forward to seeing you there.

As is now our usual format, we will be holding a raffle at each performance, the entire proceeds of which will be donated to a charity. The raffles from the two plays in 2015 raised a total of £508 - £225 in May which was donated to St Luke's Hospice, and £283 donated to Children in Need in November.

As always, if you are interested in treading the boards or helping backstage, why not pop down to the Guild Room at St John's Hall any Tuesday at 7.30pm. Or contact me on 01246 460318, or any TOADS member. Or visit our web-site [www.toadsdrama.co.uk](http://www.toadsdrama.co.uk).

*Anne Bettridge*



TOADS members in the last production, "In-laws, Outlaws and Other People who should be shot"



## Letters to the Editor

### Fly tipping on our doorstep

Dear Editor.

This rubbish was dumped at the top of Moss Road, near the entrance to Totley Moor, at the end of January. If anyone recognises any of the items in these photographs please contact the South Yorkshire Partnership/Police on 101 and quote the reference 272, stating the date 4th February 2016.



You may have asked 'a man with a van' to empty your garage or shed, so if you recognise the items and believe you know who may have done this, please make the police aware. These people clearly have no respect for you or I, or the countryside around us.



Similar tipping has occurred recently at Blacka Moor Nature Reserve and in two places on Baslow Road including the entrance to Gillfield Wood. Hope you can help catch the culprits.

*Name and address supplied*

### Searching for the Mills Family Part 2

From the last update on our family history in issue 365 of Totley independent I mentioned regarding the Mills family living at Lamont Road. I spoke to Josie Dunsmore regarding churches in the Totley area. In 1897 there were no churches in Totley at that time. In the census for 1841 we find Thomas Warren Savage living at Stanley Street, Sheffield with his uncle and aunt, Richard and Mary Warren. In 1856 we find, at Stanley Street, Thomas Savage, shoemaker, living there. He could possibly be a cousin to the Savage family at Knab

farm. But we cannot find a connection. I would be grateful to have more information on the Savage family living in Dore.

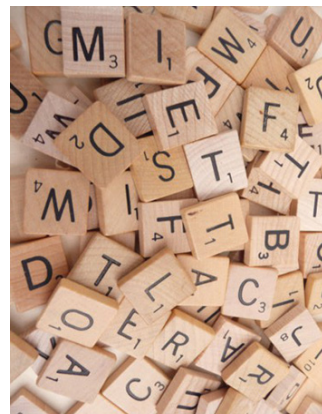
*Paul Savage*

## Totley Townswomen's Guild

The Guild continues to thrive. Several new members have already signed up for the new Guild year. On the third Tuesday morning of every month the main Guild meeting provides members with information about all the ongoing activities. This is followed by the essential coffee/tea break, and then a talk by a visiting speaker. The talks cover a wide range of subject areas during the Guild year. In the Diary page of this issue, you can see the talks arranged for April and May.

There are also walks for the energetic (twice monthly on Thursday mornings), social studies for the studious (fourth Tuesday morning) and friendly games of Scrabble (Wednesday morning monthly).

Occasional activities include outings and visits, the birthday lunch, and the carol service. There is an annual fee, and a small charge for each meeting attended.



So if you are planning to go out more often, or find that you have some free time to yourself, then come along and join us at the Totley rise Methodist church hall, at 10 am on the third Tuesday of each month.

Alternatively, information is available from our very approachable chairwoman Maureen Gray (telephone 2509670)

## 215th (1st Totley) Scout Group

Due to a recent change in leadership we are URGENTLY seeking to recruit some new leaders to our thriving Scout Group. In particular we need:

**Cub Scout Leader  
Scout Leader  
Group Scout Leader**

All of these roles are very rewarding and we have a great group of enthusiastic boys and girls who love coming along every week to enjoy all the activities that Scouting has to offer.

Do you think you could help us?

All of the above roles could be done as a 'job share'. Maybe your expertise lies in the paperwork side of things, maybe you are more hands on and enjoy the practical activities that Scouting has to offer. We can offer lots of help and support if Scouting is new to you. All you need is enthusiasm and a willingness to learn and have fun.

If you feel you could help us out with any of the above, or indeed know of someone who might be interested please get in touch.

If you want to find out more about what the different roles entail we would be very happy to talk to you.

Contact: Sue Bridgens 07982 719284 or email [hallamadc-cubs@gmail.com](mailto:hallamadc-cubs@gmail.com)



## Cakes, Brains, Butter and Biological Warfare!

I am no expert with fungi, but they do elicit interesting reactions from people from 'Yuks' (or worse) to 'Oohs!' depending on what you turn up. They also have some interesting names. Six members of Friends of Gillfield Wood plus our expert Steve Clements, recently did a spring forage in the plantation at the west end of the wood, but not for toadstools and mushroom types. We intended to turn over dead wood in order to search out the less obvious fungi referred to as 'Crusts'.

Having parked in the small parking area at the Bus Terminus off Baslow Road, we immediately found two species of fungus on old ash stumps. One is known as King Alfred's cakes (*Daldinia concentrica*) and the other, Jelly Rot (*Phlebia tremellosa*).

Our specimens of King Alfred's cakes were found on logs dumped last September near the entrance, and no fungus was present then which is why the fruiting bodies are a reddish colour, indicating a young specimen. These turn black when mature. The photo shows the concentric rings from which the name derives when the fruit body is cut.

There are a good number of saplings to medium sized trees in the plantation along with a mass of dead twigs, branches and young saplings that did not survive a bad winter or an infestation of some sort. These include silver birch, hazel, oak, ash and elder; such a variety helped our search as many fungal crusts prefer certain types of tree.

We spent a good half hour rummaging through some brash – twigs and log stacks we have made after one of our coppicing sessions to provide protected places for various wildlife. Logs turned over were placed back the way we had found them.

Here we are with Steve Clements, centre, and Derek Bateson, at the back ready to take a photograph. You can see some more of Derek's photographs on our website in his Nature Notes. Better still, why not come along to our AGM on 18th April in Totley Library at 7:30pm. Sure, we have a bit of AGM business to do but this is followed by a talk given by Derek on the secret life in Gillfield Wood as revealed by his photographs.



Fungi have both ancient and modern stories to tell as some of their names suggest. We came across Jelly Ear also known less sensitively as Jew's Ear but still carrying the Latin name *Auricularia auricula-judae*. The name is associated with Judas Iscariot who is believed to have hung himself on an elder tree. Folklore likes to suggest that the 'ears' are Judas' spirit returned to remind us of his suicide. The fungus is found mostly on Elder.



Jelly Ear

Two other jelly fungi were found, Witches' Butter (*Exidia glandulosa*) and Crystal Brain (*Exidia nucleata*, also known as *Myxarium nucleatum*). The former is found on dead Hazel or Beech and looks nothing like butter but more like a rotten banana skin. It does however have a butter-like consistency and can be greasy to the touch. Our specimen was a little dried out. The name may stem from the belief that if

its fruiting body was thrown on a fire, it could prevent someone using witchcraft.



Witches Butter

Crystal Brain Fungus has a watery look with a soft to firm flesh. It contains calcium oxalate crystals which were at one time thought to be its spores.

We took a short visit to the conifer section on the north side of the path into the wood. Here we found a root rot (*Heterobasidion annosum*) hiding under a large pine log. This parasitizes pine damaging the roots leading to the death of the tree. Wikipedia notes that this fungus "can be considered to be the most economically important forest pathogen in the Northern Hemisphere"! Close by was



Crystal Brain

*Phlebiopsis gigantea* covering a short pine stump with a white encrustation. This is a common saprophytic fungus (feeds off dead plants and animals) which has been used as a successful biological control against root rot since the 1970s.

In all we found around 30 species, several of which were unrecorded in the wood previously. The final count will require quite a few hours checking identification keys and preparing various microscope slides to assist this process. This will be done by our expert Steve Clements, who we are grateful to for his informative help on the morning but also his additional work behind the scenes confirming, or otherwise, the species found. A small hint from Steve by email informed us that one species was very interesting – we will wait and see.

Paul Hancock



## Summer 2016 Plant Orders

It's that time of year again! Brighten up your borders, add perfume to your pots and hang those baskets with pride! Let's make Totley bloom this summer with the Totley Primary School PTA Plant Sale, bringing colour to the gardens of Totley and beyond for many years. We have something for everyone and every garden.

Put the kettle on and go to the PTA page at [www.totley.sheffield.sch.uk](http://www.totley.sheffield.sch.uk) or click on the QR code below to look at our blooms, plan your garden or think about putting a summer smile on someone's face!



Orders and payment required by Friday 8th April please.

Plant collection from Totley Primary School Thursday 5th May between 3.30pm and 5pm.

The only way to avoid disappointment is to pre-order as unfortunately plants will not be available to purchase on the day.

You can obtain order forms through the web-page, through the QR code above, or as paper copies from either Rendezvous or Teatime Vintage on Baslow Road; and completed forms and payment can be returned to the same locations or emailed to [totleyprimarypta@gmail.com](mailto:totleyprimarypta@gmail.com)

We now accept Paypal. If you have a Paypal account you can log in to your account, go to 'pay for goods and services' and pay by typing in [totleyprimarypta@gmail.com](mailto:totleyprimarypta@gmail.com) or if you do not have your own account, you can still pay via Paypal by clicking on [www.totley.sheffield.sch.uk](http://www.totley.sheffield.sch.uk) and click on the Paypal link. There is no charge for paying via paypal.

Please feel free to pass on the order form to your friends, neighbours, family and colleagues.

Any queries can be directed to the PTA: [PTA@totley.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@totley.sheffield.sch.uk)

Thank you for your support and we look forward to making Totley bloom in 2016!

Totley Primary School PTA

## More news and views on Amey!

It is good to see that the footpath outside the Co-op up to Heatherfield Club, has been resurfaced, at last. It was scheduled for 3 days, but only took two. Some inconvenience was caused, but the end result is good. I had discussed the amount of path which was to be resurfaced, with the Contractor's manager, as the boundary between the Council owned footpath and that belonging to Heatherfield Club and the forecourt for the houses and Deli, was not too clear. But common sense prevailed.

Amey's web site has been down again. Trying to find dates for work on the rest of our footpaths in Dore B52 zone, seemed to be impossible to find, and despite them saying refer to this or t'other, I get nowhere. I am convinced that if Amey had some form of programming and logistics, they could have saved a fortune on not buying so many plastic barriers. Why is it not possible for the gang who backfill the holes for the lamp posts, to take away the barriers?

Neighbours reported barriers in the Old Hay brook. I emailed Amey and explained the situation. Replying email said, "In response to your email about fly tipping, what do you expect us to do?" I suggested that as the 'fly-tipped' material belonged to them, they might like it back in circulation, but also it might prevent flooding if they removed the barriers from the river! No response. Why, one might ask, does it take them the best part of six weeks to backfill the holes after the lamps were fitted and working?

I'm on one now. On November 24th, a furniture van reversed into a newly installed lamp post and knocked it over. The van then reversed to try and correct the "lean". Failed, so drove off. My wife witnessed it all, got the details of the van and I duly reported it. The post was left leaning and loose.

To cut a long story short, 5 visits later, reminder emails to Amey, phone calls from Amey to confirm what was wrong....the "A" Team arrived, got stuck in, raised it to be plumb, reconcreted it and gone in 15 minutes. A long story – 3 months.

Roger Hart



## Totley Rise Methodist Church

### Winter at Totley Rise Methodist Church

9.00 am Early Services (1st and 3rd Sundays). A quieter, more traditional service.

9.30am (2nd and 4th Sundays) Toddler Praise aimed at the under 5's and their parents/carers

10.30 am Mid-morning Service every Sunday. An informal and contemporary service with a monthly Communion

6.30 pm Reflective Worship: every Sunday. A quieter space for worship and listening to God

9.30 – 10 am Tuesday Prayer, every Tuesday. Prayer for the world, community and for healing and wholeness in the Church

**Messy Church:** We hold a Messy Church on a Saturday afternoon most months. Every Messy Church has a particular theme. All are welcome - contact Rachel Wilson on 07912 352543 for more details on themes etc or just turn up. Tea and snacks are included.

Messy Church is not just a club for Kids to come and do activities - not just a bridge into "normal" church - not just a social activity for Saturday afternoons. If Messy Church isn't any of these things then what is it?

Messy Church is an all age way to help people discover Jesus, not just church families but the whole community. A relatively new concept, it has now spread internationally (Denmark have to call it something else as they don't have a word for messy in their language!). This happy mixture of games, craft activities, food and lively worship, all based on a bible theme is bringing families together in a new and special way. Churches that have been providing Messy Church are finding that it is creating a new worshipping congregation in its own right. Messy Church is here at Totley Rise.

**Little Lights:** Wednesdays 1.30pm – 2.30pm during term time. A chance for Mums/carers, babies and pre-school children to meet for songs, fun, snacks and crafts all based on a bible story. Contact Rachel on 07912 35243 for more details.

**Meeting Place:** Every other Wednesday 2pm – 3.30pm. All parents and carers are welcome with their babies and toddlers. There will be a bible story, singing, prayer and a chat with each other to discuss the challenges of parenting. Tea and coffee will be provided. Please contact Rachel on 07912 352543 for further information.

**Pushchair Club:** Every Thursday afternoon, 1.30–3.00. Babies and toddlers 0-5 years come together with their carers to play and chat in a Christian atmosphere in the TRM Centre.



For more information contact Rachel, our Family and Children's Worker, on 07912 352543.

**Tuesday Ladies** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8.00pm, Totley Rise Methodist Church Lounge. About 35 ladies consisting of both church and non-church members meet to enjoy speakers or a quiz or beetle drive.

Sometimes the evening includes food such as salmon and strawberries or cheese and biscuits. If you would like more information please call Janet Savage on 01142369002.

**Coffee morning:** Every Tuesday, 10 am–12 noon, TRMC Lounge. Come and meet new and old friends from the community and chat over coffee and biscuits.

**Knit, Natter, Craft and Chatter:** Every Tuesday 12.00noon -3.00pm, Totley Rise Methodist Church Centre. This busy and friendly group has been a great success. They aim to include more people from the area, even the housebound. Housebound does not mean isolated. The group will provide wool, needles and a chat for



those who cannot travel to the church. Young people are welcome too. There are skilful, lovely ladies ready and will

ing to help those new to knitting and sewing.

Many charities benefit from the group's work: Butterfly Wings (still-born babies), Sheffield premature baby unit and the Christmas shoebox appeal. Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind have adopted knitted Ellie the elephant as their mascot and have given a certificate of grateful thanks. Members can knit/sew (a sewing machine is available) for their chosen charities. Maxine, the organiser, says that all the ladies love coming. Men are also welcome. You can stay for as long as you like for up to three hours. We offer tea, coffee, biscuits and, most importantly, friendship.

### The Quiet Garden at Totley Rise Methodist Church

Stillness and Hospitality: you are invited to come and sit here and wonder about our creative God. It is a place to find peace in the stillness of the garden and an opportunity in the 'busyness' of modern life to lay down your concerns. You can do this any time during daylight hours. Or you may want to share an experience with others by taking part in a Quiet Garden day or evening event. Visit [www.totleyrise.co.uk](http://www.totleyrise.co.uk) for details. 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest' (Mark 6:31)



### Sheffield Citizens Advice Bureau

Every Tuesday, 10 am - 12 noon. No appointment needed. A drop-in free and confidential Advice Service at the TRM Centre. Advice on legal, financial, employment, benefits and any other matters.

### Hear our sermons

If you are unable to come to Totley Rise Methodist Church on a Sunday morning, you can still hear the service as a podcast online. Just visit our website [www.totleyrise.co.uk](http://www.totleyrise.co.uk) and find a selection of recent services at Podomatic Podcast Page.

**For more ongoing events see this issue's Diary, p.38**

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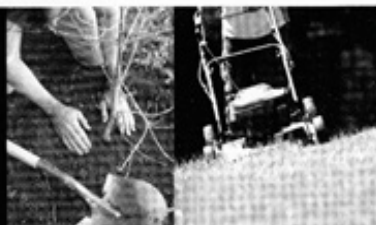
Rachel Quinn BWY Dip



**Tristan Swain**

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**Mobile 07976 072785**

**Richard Mobile 07789 497104**

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Gail Kitchen: 07986473415

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07986473415 5 Ullswater Place, Dronfield Woodhouse



# Friends of Dore and Totley Station

## There's going to be an Inquiry!

It should start on the 10th May at Abbeydale Sports Centre and could take 2-3 weeks. A new second platform may be operational by December 2018 with more trains, and there'll be no more Pacers. Amongst other things, the Northern Powerhouse is trying to improve the rail connection between Sheffield and Manchester along the Hope Valley. In theory 15 minutes might be shaved off the quickest journey times experienced today.

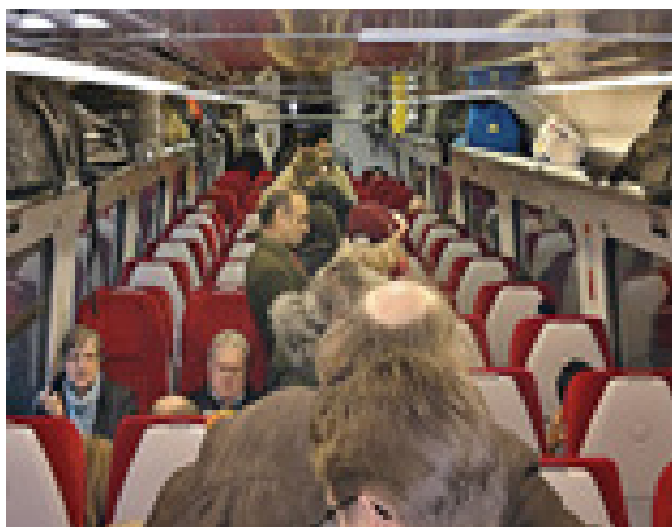
It's been almost three years since the first of three rounds of consultation meetings, designed to smooth the passage of the proposed Network Rail (Hope Valley Capacity) Order. At the first meeting we were told work should start in the summer of 2017 and be largely complete within 12 months, enabling an improved service to run from December 2018.

That's still the plan, as long as the project is approved in its entirety by the Inspector for the Department for Transport, and Network Rail can accommodate any changes he may require. If the Bamford loop is not approved Dore won't go ahead either.

It will have taken almost five years to restore the second track for the Hope Valley line through Dore and Totley Station and rebuild a central platform. Railway historian Ted Hancock could tell how long they took to design and build the whole line from Dore to Chinley in the late 1880s. It wasn't a lot longer, and that included very long tunnels at Totley and Cowburn, as well as the line from Grindleford to Edale!

No matter, the processes have to be gone through. Originally there were to be passing loops at Chinley, Grindleford and Dore to hold slow moving trains, mostly freight, while fast trains sped through. The passing loop at Dore is to hold trains coming from the Hope Valley before they move onto the mainline towards Chesterfield. At present any freight train waiting to go south has to take the Dore South curve below Poynton Wood. If the mainline isn't clear it blocks the Manchester bound track.

Originally the plan was to allow four fast trains an hour and a stopping service each hour, with additional freight services. After the consultations it was calculated that three longer fast services an hour were enough, thus enabling the Chinley loop to be dropped from the scheme. By providing Dore with platforms for six-coach trains they can increase the capacity of the fast services without more trains.



*The plans are to ease overcrowding on Sheffield – Manchester trains*

There were a lot of objections, particularly in the Hope Valley. The Grindleford loop idea was abandoned fairly early on, and replaced by one at Bamford.

FoDaTS is broadly in support of the scheme. Without it we cannot get more trains to stop, nor can service reliability be improved. We've examined the plans carefully and submitted some constructive objections and comments. Dore Village Society and Bradway Action Group have also made their views known, as have a number of other groups and individuals.

We've discovered Network Rail have a wealth of experience with projects such as this! They employ an army of specialists, well-used to attending inquiries and presenting evidence, often cross-examining objectors on the facts supporting their cases.

FoDaTS has reservations about the design of the proposed new footbridge. It looks very high and stark in its wooded setting. It will have to be high to allow for any later electrification. It should have lifts for those who are disabled or less mobile. What's proposed appears to be the minimum required to meet legislation. We've requested them to look at that again.

FoDaTS is unhappy about the amount of covered waiting space provided both now, and also proposed for the future. That too appears to be the minimum normally provided for the sort of numbers using our station. We've asked them to look at that again as numbers are rising fast (up 19% in last 2 years) and will rise further with more trains. As with the bridge, Network Rail are planning the minimum and that's all their remit from the Department for Transport requires them to do.

We've drawn attention to inadequate car parking. That's outside the terms of the scheme, but a park and ride facility is in Sheffield City Council's development plan and the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan, both of which envision extension and further promotion of Park and Ride in the Sheaf Valley, primarily at Dore. That is probably a long way off and will have to compete for funding.

Although Park and Ride is not something Network Rail's plans will currently take into account, we've flagged that they should. Similarly, any future tram/train system down the Sheaf valley corridor isn't being taken into account in the scheme.

At the time of writing Network Rail have suggested a site meeting for locally interested parties to review remaining areas of concern. It's in their interest to persuade as many objectors as possible to withdraw their objections. Nevertheless, FoDaTS is preparing to state our case at the inquiry.

A website is being built up to provide all parties with information about individual objections and procedures. By the time you read this it should all be there at <http://hope-valley.persona-pi.com/>

Arriva Trains North, the new holder of the Northern Trains franchise, will need to be involved in obtaining better facilities. As the TOC (Train Operating Company) they manage the station and are responsible for maintenance and improvements. At the time of writing they're still gearing up to take over on the 1st April. We're hoping to engage with them as soon as possible to explain our case.

Similarly, we'll be trying to discover how to resolve the parking challenges. That will be a very delicate issue and the appropriate areas of local government will have to be involved.

More immediately than all this, it's good to be able to rep-

ort that Arriva are already hoping to add an extra return service through the Hope Valley over the summer months. It's not the all year round, all day long, hourly service we'd like to see but it's going in the right direction.

They plan to replace all the old Pacer trains before the Hope Valley improvements have been completed in December 2018. Lots of new trains have been ordered (from Spain)



One of Arriva Train North's newly ordered electric trains

although we shall probably get refurbished older carriages. Whatever we get should be faster and more modern than the Pacers, providing more seats and things like free Wi-Fi for all passengers.

FoDaTS is still growing. We will be having our next Public Meeting at Totley Library on Tuesday 5th April at 7.30 when the public inquiry will be the main topic. You're probably reading this after that date. We'll be keeping all friends up to date on our Facebook page. It's free to join and you'd be amazed to see how much friends are contributing. Some material is historical, some is about modern railway operations, and some is just news and views.

You can join FoDaTS by sending an email with your details to Nick Barnes at; nj-barnes@outlook.com or through the FoDaTS Facebook page which is kept up to date with news and opinions.

Chris Morgan

## Totley Residents Association

### Latest News...

#### Annual General Meeting

This will take place on Monday 25th April, in Totley Library at 7.30pm.

At this meeting we will be proposing some constitutional changes which we hope will be part of a future way forward.

**A copy of the TRA Constitution, together with full details of the proposed changes, are available for inspection via the notice-board at Totley Library.**

Please come and give us an hour of your time. Tea and biscuits will be available.

#### The Queen's Birthday

A group of enterprising Totley ladies is looking forward to hosting a 'Picnic in the Park' in Green Oak park to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. A wonderful opportunity for all

ages to join together for a fun afternoon. (See the short article elsewhere in this edition)

### Totley Market

The first market this year will be held in the summer, which is a slight change for us. It's because of conflicting dates with other local events. Full details will be published in the next edition.

### Totley Show

A date for your diary. This year's Show will be held on Saturday 17th September. The Show Committee is delighted that both Primary Schools are involved in a big way with Junior Vice Presidents helping to develop new ideas.

There will be new classes, outdoor activities and the Seven Hills Quartet will be entertaining us.

Here are two photos from last year's Show to whet your appetite!



Hetty Moran, Chairman, TRA

## Solution to Puzzle Corner

1. Alder shot
2. Apple by
3. Barn staple
4. Bed ford
5. Don caster
6. Dun stable
7. Gras mere
8. Maid stone
9. Mans field
10. Mat lock
11. New castle
12. Ox ford
13. Pains wick
14. Rams gate
15. Red ruth
16. Rip on
17. Settle
18. Shrews bury
19. Tor quay
20. Ye o v il

Don Ashford



## A Message to Responsible Dog owners - and other dog owners!

Failure to pick up the leavings of dogs continues to cause serious problems in Totley. One dog was seen to deposit outside the door of the Co-op. A customer went into the shop to inform the staff, as clearly they would not want people walking it into their shop. The response? "Oh, not again!" Now, why should some selfish dog owner expect a food-handler to clear up after their dog has performed, and left it?

One lady going to the Library saw another lady let her dog perform on the grass verge, though of course she did not pick it up. The first lady spoke to her. The dog-owner just replied "It always does it here and I never pick it up."



There are numerous and frequent deposits on Totley Rise. One dog owner was spoken to but ignored the advice given. Deposits have been observed on both sides of Baslow Road, from the traffic lights up to Mickley Lane. There are two council waste bins emptied daily on this stretch of path, so there's no excuse for not picking up the deposit and disposing of it hygienically. Mind you, one lady out walking her dog DID pick up the deposit, but then dropped it into her neighbour's bin!

The law says that it is an offence for the person in control of a dog to allow it to perform on a footpath or grass verge, without then picking up the deposit. Furthermore, failure to dispose of the deposit in a safe and hygienic manner could be deemed to be anti-social behaviour.

The Council's Dog Warden is aware of these complaints and will, hopefully, have printed reminders on the footpaths by the time this is published, as well as taken observations with a view to prosecution.

The volunteer litter pickers are doing a great job to keep Dore and Totley clean. Please support them with no dog poo, or doggy bags left lying around please.

*Anonymous*

**Editor's note:** *Isn't it ironic that in the last issue of the TI we were celebrating the hard work being done by volunteers to tidy up Totley and Dore, and in the next we are asked to report the problems of dog poo left all over the place - and this isn't the first time we've drawn attention to this. Isn't it time all dog-owners took this problem - and their responsibilities - seriously?*

*This is the text of the letter to residents from Sheffield Environmental Protection Service:*

### "Dog Fouling in Your Area"

Dear Resident

Many people in the area have been raising issues concerning the amount of dog waste being left on pavements, grass verges and on the open spaces in the area.

Residents are concerned that this degenerates the community and makes it unsightly, unsafe and a general nuisance; after all, you don't wish to walk the waste into your home, have your children covered in it or see someone in a wheelchair have to steer their wheelchair through it because they cannot avoid it.

Environmental Protection Service are committed to making your area a better place to live, work and play and because of this we need your help.

Dog owners – please pick up after your dog! Most dog owners are responsible; please help us to keep your community clean. Thank you for doing this.

We will issue fixed penalty notices and / or prosecute those people who do not pick up their dog's waste to make sure that people can live safely and cleanly in their area. Don't allow your dog to stray – in addition to the fouling problem, a straying dog can cause traffic accidents and can cause nuisance to others through fighting.

Everyone - If you see anyone who allows his or her dog to foul and then fails to clean it up, please let us know. We will then be able to work with those people to educate them about what the waste they have left behind does to the community, and to those who live in it.

Remember, your children have to play in the open spaces in the area. How much better will it be for them if they can play without the fear of getting covered in dog waste?

Officers from Environmental Protection Service will be patrolling the area regularly to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs.

The Service is also a valuable source of information on owning and keeping dogs and other animals, if you would like any advice or would like to report

dog fouling offences, please don't hesitate to contact us in the following ways;

Environmental Protection Service  
5th Floor ( North ) Howden House  
Sheffield  
S1 2SH

epsadmin@sheffield.gov.uk

0114 203 7410"

## Burglaries and Shop Till Thefts

Totley has suffered a spate of burglaries from houses, and thefts from shops. The photo below is of the suspected culprit for the shop offences. His glasses are believed to be fake, as may be the tattoo on his left hand.



The methods used in burglaries are very similar to each other, three of them being snapped locks. Neighbourhood Watch has been beating the drum about having your euro locks checked to see if they are anti-snap and anti-pick. The difference in cost is £6 for the insecure ones, and around £38 for secure ones. What is your security worth to you? To replace the euro locks, measurements have to be taken first, or, take the old lock out and, whilst someone is in the house, take it to a locksmith. Locks can be made to operate from the same key.

Tip: Do you enter your conservatory from outside by using a key, or, do you just go out of the conservatory and back in without locking it in between? You can buy half barrel locks, which only lock on the inside, and you blank off the outside keyway. Big deterrent to a burglar, but this guy has smashed a window, so window alarms are another deterrent, at £3 each, if you do not have an alarm which covers the patio/conservatory doors.

*Roger Hart*

## Totley Fields (Part 1)

How many people have walked the footpaths from Totley Hall Farm and Lane and looked and wondered at the small wood that stands on a steep south-facing bank just north of Gillfield Wood. Named on the Ordnance Survey maps as "Little Wood" it stands almost isolated in the middle of fields as if forgotten; but not by me.

Indications are that Gillfield Wood was, in years gone by, a half mile wide. This gives rise to the thoughts that Little Wood was an integral part of the larger wood before woodland was claimed, partitioned, for farming. It is lovely to think that this small wood is perhaps the shadow edge of a much larger ancient wood, and then you wonder what birds and mammals you would have encountered in those distant days.

This is where.....

I have seen Common Buzzards perched, and I have watched a pair soaring together in perfect harmony above the tree tops, calling as they spiralled, their call an evocative mew-ing. And then there is the Green Woodpecker seen on more



*Little Wood in full leaf*

than one occasion flying across adjacent fields, in an undulating movement of bright green, to land in one of the tall old Oak trees and laugh out loud, as they do, to re-inforce their old name "Yaffle" bird. Both of these species have thus shown the behaviour required for them to be regarded as probably breeding in this area of trees, woodland and open fields.

And these open fields of grass prove ideal for Rooks, Carrion Crows and Jackdaws to gather, strut and feast. Red Deer also roam these fields. A small herd of sixteen with stag in attendance is not unusual, and at times they seek the cover provided within Little Wood.

This is where only last night I flushed a Snipe at dusk as I walked the field edge. It emitted its alarm call as it took to flight, and then a Cock Pheasant called from nearby and a Raven was heard to croak just once as it passed overhead. And Great Tit, Robin and Wren made their presence known from inside the small wood as three or four Wood Pigeons moved about the tops of the trees in anticipation of the roost.

This is where I have sat quietly with my back against a dry stone wall and listened to Fox and Tawny Owl calling, and watched a Badger and its young trotting through long wet grass, with, as a back-drop, a full moon glowing in a darkening sky; so atmospheric. I wondered where these black and white creatures of the night were going, perhaps to feed in a nearby Totley garden on morsels left out by a kindly neighbour.

This is where small bats, Common Pipistrelles, hunt the edge of the wood on warm still evenings and where Jays can be heard in the early mornings raucously calling as they move through the branches of the Beech trees. And just to the west of the wood I have counted fourteen Mallards, found feeding in pairs in the field that slopes, and spotted a



*Little Wood from a different angle*

solitary Heron standing to attention in the pond below. Herons can actually be seen quite often standing there proudly with perhaps one or two Mallards floating in front of them or resting quietly at the water's edge. The pond is the start of a stream.

This is where that stream laps the lower edge of Little Wood as it winds its way down, against field boundaries and path, to join the bigger Totley Brook. And here by this very stream in the wood, wild flowers such as Hedge Woundwort and Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage grow in peace and tranquillity. And here too, butterflies such as Small White and Green-veined White flit along the edges in dappled sunlight and within the wood itself fungi grow on fallen trees or push themselves through the beds of fallen leaves at autumn time.

This is where I stood in amazement as a Fox, oblivious to my presence, stealthily stalked amongst the Gorse, Broom and Bramble bushes below me, where Linnets, Greenfinches and Goldfinches had been feeding and in a flock had noisily departed to leave the predator to its hunt. And then



*The fields above Highfields*

to my left a movement in my peripheral vision: a Stoat appeared, sleek and perfect, working the ridge, only to stare at me with tiny shining eyes of annoyance before disappearing, like a flash, down one of the rabbit holes at the base of the tree next to me. Only days before I had watched Rabbits, silhouetted against the skyline, hopping peacefully around this very tree as they stayed close to their tunnels





*The field that slopes*

for safety; will they be safe now I wondered.

Just my memories, not of old but of recent events. This is such "a green and pleasant land", our Totley Fields. Surely they will not build on this land. I hope not, I do sincerely hope not.

But they have tried before.

*Green Belt  
January 2016*

## Totley weather report 2015

During the summer I seem to remember a lot of early mornings that were beautifully sunny, but which disappointingly clouded over by 8 or 9 am, with the sun reappearing about teatime. If I remember this summer, I will make a note of them to see if the same thing happens.

Globally 2015 was reported to be one of the warmest on record which was not the case locally (it was the 17th warmest according to Weston Park's records) despite recording the highest December temperature of 10.5°C in Totley, and 15.1°C in Weston Park, since 1994; and being the warm-



*Weston Park Weather Station*

est December since records began. The hottest day was 1 July – 28°C in Totley, 32.7°C in Weston Park. August, November and December were all warmer than last year with six months being recorded above the long-term average at Weston Park. Five months were recorded as having more sunshine than last year, notably April which was almost double at Weston Park. Weston Park recorded 1419.6 hours of sunshine, as against 1380 hours long-term average, and 1386 hours last year.

The first week in May produced more rain than some other months and there was a steep drop on the 14th in temperature with a strong wind chill. Many, October, November and December were very wet months. Total rain for the year was 1074.1 mm in Totley, and 750.8 mm in Weston Park. March, November and December were wetter than last year, with six months being wetter/drier than the long term average. The heaviest rainfall was 28th of August with 33.2 mm Totley, and 30th of March with 23.3 mm in Weston Park. Four thunderstorms were recorded in Totley and a thunder snow storm in January in both Totley and Weston Park. 32 days were recorded in Totley of snow or lying snow, and 12 days in Weston Park.

Some statistics over the last three years -

### Rain for the year:

	Totley	Weston Park
2015	1074.1 mm	750.8 mm
2014	1196.8 mm	938.7 mm
2013	884.5 mm	747.0 mm

### Wettest Day:

	Totley	Weston Park
2015	33.2 mm	23.3 mm
2014	24.5 mm	26.3 mm
2013	48.8 mm	38.3 mm

### Coldest night:

	Totley	Weston Park
2015	-5.0 C	-1.6 C
2014	-5.0 C	-1.4 C
2013	-5.0 C	-5.0 C

### Hottest Day:

	Totley	Weston Park
2015	28.0 C	32.7 C
2014	25.5 C	27.7 C
2013	26.5 C	30.3 C

## Suddenly it's Spring!



*Daffodils on Baslow Road - Avril Critchley's legacy  
(Photo: Roger Hart)*



## Inside Artists' Studios

Did you get a chance to visit your local or other Sheffield artists last year? If not, Open Up Sheffield 2016 will take place again in April / May over two weekends - Sat 30th April, Sun 1st May and Mon 2nd May; and Sat 7th and Sun 8th May. Opening times are 11 am to 5 pm.

The artists and venues may vary from year to year but Dore, Abbeydale and Totley have Open Studios again this year. The entry and brochure are free. This will give you all the information you need, including a map and directions, whether an artist is open both weekends and describe their special interests. Posters and these brochures should be around the city sometime in April, usually in some local shops, libraries, garden, community centres, art groups and galleries. Online information can be found at [www.openupsheffield.co.uk](http://www.openupsheffield.co.uk)

There are styles and presentations to appeal to everyone. This is your chance to see how personal projects have developed over the past year, look at new dimensions with materials; be adventurous, visit some new studios in 2016 and bring your family and friends. There is usually work for sale but no pressure to buy.

Three of your local artists are:

**Christine Rodger** ([www.christinerodger.co.uk](http://www.christinerodger.co.uk), email [30rodger@gmail.com](mailto:30rodger@gmail.com).) Following a career practicing and teaching in art and design, along with travelling and sailing the west coast of Britain in a 25' yacht, it is now a pleasure to combine all three experiences in my own small studio in central Dore. You will be able to see sketchbooks, research, collage, and small models, all using a variety of materials. I have a special interest in Iron Age metalworking and design, landscape and maritime subjects such as figureheads and the ships' spirits. An eclectic mix, some of which is looking at the Iron Age territory of Brigantia.

This is believed to have been the largest tribe, in an area from South Yorkshire to the Scottish Borders, surrounded by smaller tribes. As metalworking is part of the heritage of Sheffield it makes sense to learn more about our pre-Roman northern roots. What evidence is there of creative work before and alongside our Roman invaders?



*Dragonesque Collage by Christine Rodger*



*Norfolk series XIII.V by A. Rosemary Watson*

**A. Rosemary Watson's** work (see [www.rosemarywatson.co.uk](http://www.rosemarywatson.co.uk)) explores notions of and responses to memory with specific reference to place, time, experience and dream, and forms a record of the constantly shifting and multi-layered nature of memory. It is a process that is continually explored, developed and refined through drawings, paintings, prints, photographs, video and artists' books. She will be exhibiting her work in her garden printmaking studio during Open Up. She has exhibited throughout the UK, in Norway, Spain and in France and currently has work in an exhibition at the Old Town Hall Bakewell which she has organised and curated on behalf of Sheffield Printmakers.

Rosemary holds classes and workshops in the S17 area for all levels of ability and experience including a weekly Drawing and Painting class and monthly Life Drawing and Painting workshops in Dore and has over 25 years' experience teaching in adult education. Workshops in printmaking will resume shortly in her print studio and include the monoprint, drypoint, etching and collograph techniques using more environmentally-friendly and less toxic printmaking techniques and inks than traditional methods.

**Julie-Ann Weiss** has worked as a jeweller, designer-maker and lecturer for over 15 years, exhibiting work across the UK and is currently



a regular visiting lecturer on both the BA and MA Metalwork & Jewellery Courses at Sheffield Hallam University. Julie-Ann is interested in exploring story-telling through objects and artefacts; current work explores how objects and making have the potential to bring people together to share memories, stories and experiences. Work by Julie-Ann will be on show and available for sale during Open-Up. Julie-Ann moved into her studio space at Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet in spring 2015 setting up her new business, Studio Budgie Galore, running jewellery and craft courses, one day workshops and birthday parties. She currently runs evening and daytime courses on various weekdays and also runs one-day Saturday workshops. Julie-Ann firmly believes that everyone can be creative and can learn how to make objects and jewellery and loves to teach and facilitate this.



*Object Conversation Boxes by Jules Weiss*



## Diary for April and May

### APRIL

**Sunday 17th:** Friends of Gillfield Wood: Practical conservation morning run with the help of the Sheffield Council Ranger Service. Meet 10am at Baslow Road bus terminus. Refreshments, tools, etc. provided. Please wear strong footwear and appropriate clothing. All levels of help required and guidance given. Check our website at [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com) for any late changes.

**Monday 18th:** AGM followed by a talk by Derek Bateson entitled "More secrets of Gillfield Wood". Derek has spent a lot of time patiently photographing small (and some hidden) animals in Gillfield Wood. His speciality is invertebrates. Some of his photographs have provided new records for Gillfield since the inception of FoGW. The meeting and talk will be held at Totley Library from 7.30 pm. Refreshments available. Bring a friend.

**Saturday 23rd:** Bird Walk with Chris Measures (Friends of Gillfield Wood). Chris's second walk of the year will provide the opportunity for identification of birdsong in spring. He will also be looking out for early warblers. Meet 8 am at the Scout Hut, off Aldam Road. No experience necessary. Bring binoculars and cameras. Strong shoes are essential. The walk will last about 2 hours.

### MAY

**Sunday 15th:** Friends of Gillfield Wood: practical conservation morning run with the help of the Sheffield Council Ranger Service. Meet 10am at Baslow Road bus terminus. Refreshments, tools, etc. provided. Please wear strong footwear and appropriate clothing. All levels of help required and guidance given. Check our website at [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com) – for any late changes.

**Saturday 21st:** Photographing Spring Flora. Stuart Davies is happy to help photographers of all abilities capture those excellent pictures that a spring wood provides. Photographing plants and flowers will be the main aim, but for those who are more adventurous there is nothing to prevent you from trying other aspects of natural history photography. All depends on the weather! DO WEAR appropriate clothing and footwear – and bring a packed lunch and drink if you wish to stay into the afternoon. We start at 10 am at the bus terminus on Baslow Road. Free for members of FoGW. Non-members will be asked for a £3 contribution.

*Paul Hancock*

## Abbeydale Park Bowling Club

The Club will be holding two OPEN MORNINGS, one on Saturday 9th April and another on Saturday 23rd April, between 10 am and 12 noon for anyone who would like to try their hand at CROWN GREEN BOWLING. Previous experience is not necessary as instruction will be given.

The Bowls Club is primarily a social bowling club with informal sessions running each day in the morning, afternoon and evening. Members assemble and groups are made up as people arrive.



Friendly Inter-Club Matches are held throughout the season as well as internal competitions for the many trophies bestowed by the club. Social events are held regularly throughout the year including Dinners, Garden Party and a Race Evening, as well as regular Coffee Mornings during the close season.

Members of the Bowling Club are automatically enrolled as members of Abbeydale Sports Club and can enjoy the facilities provided by the Pavilion.

The Bowls Pavilion is situated at the top of the Abbeydale Park Sports Complex where ample car parking is available.

Please feel free to join us on the Green equipped with suitable footwear (flat with no heels) where you will be warmly welcomed. All other equipment can be provided. We have a large selection of bowls from which you can choose to borrow.

If you require any further information please contact: Doreen or Richard Bertram (Membership Secretary)  
Telephone: 0114 289 1423 email: [richard.bertram@btconnect.com](mailto:richard.bertram@btconnect.com)

## Helping Nature in Your Garden

Most people are now aware of the loss of wildlife in this country. The lack of bees, butterflies and birds is fairly obvious but it is more far-reaching than that. Pollinating insects are vital to OUR food supplies.

Over millions of years, natural ecosystems have evolved with plants and animals co-existing and supporting each other in the many different geological, topographical and climatic conditions. In our ignorance, we have disrupted this delicate balance, so much so that vital habitats have been lost or greatly reduced.

Urbanisation, industry and intensive farming, as well as various human leisure activities, have had a devastating effect. As a result, many plants and animals have become extinct and many more are in danger of extinction. Research at Kew Gardens has found that 20% of our wild flowers are on the Red List now, and little is being done to arrest this decline, despite the efforts of a considerable number of conservation and wildlife charities.



*Buddleia*

British gardens cover a huge acreage of land which once supported masses of native fauna and flora, but fashion trends for cultivated, showy, brightly-coloured and often foreign plants, along with immaculate lawns and too much hard landscaping have all had a detrimental effect. Overall, the pollen and nectar from our wild native plants are much more beneficial to our native

insects than that from foreign or cultivated plants. Native plants also provide better conditions for hibernating insects, their eggs and food for caterpillars. Many foreign and cultivated flowers are extremely attractive to our insects - one excellent example is the popular buddleia - but this has added to the loss of our wild flowers as they are not being pollinated and are consequently disappearing.

Well-known TV gardeners and designers have contributed to the problem by enthusing about the colour of various varieties of flowers and foreign plants, and prizes are often awarded to garden designs where there is far more concrete than soil. Garden centres are filled with mass-produced plants for instant show, hardly any of which will help our declining wildlife, and supermarkets - and some greengrocers too - just concentrate on supplying a quick fix. Similarly estate agents are no help whatsoever as they promote immaculately lawned gardens with little other planting as "easy to care for".

Having gardened organically for over 10 years, the texture of the soil in my garden is much improved and there are many more soil-living creatures. I do not use chemical fertilisers, pesticides or herbicides, and use natural predators to control any problems, eg for red spider mite. Wild native flowers do not thrive well on rich soil, so I only spread compost made from my own garden and organic household waste.

An article printed in the Soil Association's magazine some years ago explains that the soil is teeming with micro-or-

ganisms, such as bacteria, fungi and protozoa, and that the activity of these creatures is responsible for the soil's crumbly texture and its fertility. They also "fuel and drive the organic nutrient cycle and create a nutrient-rich, water-retaining and life-giving humus", as well as being involved in the absorption of nutrients themselves in various ways. However, any chemicals used on the soil suppress these micro-organisms and the soils become starved of nutrients and water. It has already become a matter of international concern with intensive/inorganic farming methods as well as the land covered by gardens and even towns and cities being studied. We all need to be aware of what is happening and do what we can to mitigate the damage already done and stop further decline.



*Red Campion*

I am gradually removing all non-native, cultivated and variegated plants and replacing them with native ones apart from a few that have sentimental connections, but even these will not be replaced when they die.

The oak tree supports a massive amount of wildlife, but needs plenty of space. Native white hawthorn is the next choice and silver birch, rowan, alder, field maple, bird and wild cherry are all very good. In a woody area, a layer under the taller canopy, which could include hazel, holly, dogwood, buckthorn and tutson, would encourage more wildlife. Gaps can be filled with wild native spring flowers, such as snowdrops, bluebells, daffodils, wood anemones and lesser celandine, to name just a few, with shade-loving foxgloves, lungwort, wild garlic and nettle-leaved bellflowers for later flowering.

There are wildflowers for all situations and soils, the best being red campion. It supports many pollen-seeking insects and lots of other insects and spiders. It tends to spread, but is easily pulled up when it is encroaching on other plants. Red clover, birdsfoot trefoil, marjoram, red dead-nettle (annual) and the damp-loving purple loosestrife are popular with both bees and butterflies. There are many other flowers attractive to bees or butterflies. I find betony is excellent for bees and flowers from July onwards. It is best to develop fairly large clumps of each species, as insects will use less energy in seeking food. There are also native wild roses and climbers which can be grown through a hedge or over walls or trellis. Ivy and brambles are very good, but avoid clipping hedges from April to September/October to avoid disturbing nesting birds and for cover for fledglings.

Lawns can be wildlife-friendly too, by mowing less often and not too short. Allow some wildflower plants to grow and flower, and aerate the lawn as necessary, scarifying only if really vital as this process removes a lot of wildlife-containing debris. Never roll it as this compacts the soil, excludes the air and destroys the soil's wildlife. An immaculate lawn is not what wildlife wants; nor is a very tidy garden. So



leave "bits" that gather for natural recycling.

A pond is a great asset to wildlife. Apart from a good pond liner, it should be as natural as possible, with sloping edges for easy access and exit (avoid steep walls round the pond – these mean that various creatures can get in to drink but cannot get out again – with disastrous results). Oxygenating plants are essential. Hornwort, curly pond weed and spiked water milfoil produce oxygen at different times, so are a good combination. There are many other plants for the edges, muddy moist banks, and in various depths of water. Edges can have tall plants and grasses among stones and logs to give good cover for frogs and newts when moving into or out of the pond and also for hibernation. Wildlife will move in naturally, so fish should not be artificially introduced. A booklet on the subject can be helpful, especially on care.

Compost all you can, but it's better to let things die back naturally as many insects use such plants to over-winter and then clear them when the weather gets warmer and the insects spring into life. Small branches and woody twigs can be chipped and used on bark paths and thicker branches can be used round ponds or built into log piles which are excellent for wildlife. Even tree trunks will gradually disappear, having supported a huge number of insects and other organisms. I do not cover beds with wood-chippings as birds use considerable energy moving them to get at food below.

Wildlife can be supported in many ways. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is very helpful on this subject. However, it is worth remembering that a lot of birds and animals come out at night and they like and need it to be dark, so garden lighting is not helpful, and I do wish people could understand how destructive their cats can be. They do kill a significant number of birds and small mammals and discourage birds where people are trying to feed them. A neighbour of mine put up a really high and secure fence when she had cats so they could not cause a problem elsewhere. They also didn't get lost or run over!

It needs patience, and there are disappointments, but there are many rewards to having a wildlife garden and wildflowers are delightful (it is a pity that they are not appreciated more). There is always something to do (for all the family), and it is very relaxing too.

The Organic Garden Centre at Ryton near Coventry is worth visiting – interesting gardens and a good café/shop too! The many quotations written on the café walls are thought provoking. One, from E B White, speaks volumes: "I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for Man if he spent less time proving that he can outwit Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her sincerity".

*Marian Tiddy*

## Life-saving defibrillator at Abbeydale Sports Club

Abbeydale Sports Club is to become a community of lifesavers after it has been fitted with a public access defibrillator (PAD) and has been awarded a CPR training kit by the British Heart Foundation (BHF). The Club received the Call Push Rescue training kit following their successful application for a Nation of Lifesavers Community Package from the charity.

The Community Package contains the innovative kit which includes everything needed to learn CPR in half an hour. Abbeydale plans to run training sessions in the local community so that everyone can become a potential lifesaver. Details of the public courses can be found on their website.



The defibrillator is a portable device that can be used by a member of the public to help restart the heart when someone has a cardiac arrest. This is when the heart stops pumping blood around the body and they lose consciousness almost at once. For every minute that passes without defibrillation and CPR, chances of survival decrease by around ten per cent. So it's really

important that the people of Dore and Totley now both of these vital steps to help someone in an emergency.

Over 30,000 cardiac arrests happen out of hospital in the UK every year but currently less than one in ten survive. The BHF want to create a Nation of Lifesavers in a bid to boost these shocking survival rates.

The Club's President Roger Lomas, personally knows the value of early access to a defib. "Last year I was playing hockey and suffered a major cardiac arrest – without a defib nearby I wouldn't be around today. The defibrillator will be placed in the sports club building so that that local people have access to it and the best chance of survival should they suffer a cardiac arrest, and we're keen to get as many people as possible trained in CPR too."

The charity is campaigning for defibrillators to be more accessible and recognisable to the public and want all young people to be taught CPR and PAD awareness at school. Since launching the campaign in 2014, at least 350,000 people have joined the Nation of Lifesavers by learning life-saving CPR.

Judy O'Sullivan, Assistant Programme Director at the BHF, said: "More than 30,000 people suffer a cardiac arrest outside of hospital every year but less than one in ten survive. More people could be saved if more defibrillators were available in public places and if more people felt confident using them and performing CPR. We are delighted that Abbeydale have joined the BHF's Nation of Lifesavers campaign – by making defibrillator available in the Sports Club and teaching CPR locally.

It could really be the difference between life and death."

To date the BHF have helped place over 13,000 life-saving defibrillators in communities around the UK. The BHF asks for a contribution of £400 towards each defibrillator as part of the Community Package. To find out more about defibrillators and how to place one in your organisation or community visit [www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk).

For more information on how you can help BHF create a Nation of Lifesavers visit [bhf.org.uk/lifesavers](http://bhf.org.uk/lifesavers)

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

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## TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

- MONDAYS** **COFFEE MORNING**, All Saints' Church Hall, 10am-noon. Transport usually available on request. Tel 236 0872 before 9.45 am.  
**TAI-CHI**, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, 11.30am-12.30pm  
**RAINBOWS and GUIDES**, All Saints' Church Hall, 5.45pm-9pm
- TUESDAYS** **SLIMMING WORLD**, Abbeydale Sports Club, 5.30 pm and 7.30 pm, Jo Else: 262 0523 or 07590 545253  
**PILATES**, The Old School, Dore, 9.15-10.15am. Phone Teresa Tinklin 07906 312372  
**COFFEE MORNING**, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am-noon  
**KNIT, NATTER, CRAFT & CHATTER** Totley Rise Methodist Church, 12 noon - 3.00pm  
**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**. Drop in, free, impartial, and confidential. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10am-noon  
**CRAFT GROUP**. Totley Library, 2pm  
**JAZZ IN THE AFTERNOON**, 2-4 pm, Totley Rise Methodist Church Schoolroom. A weekly afternoon of all forms of recorded jazz, plus discussion. Tea, coffee and biscuits available.
- WEDNESDAYS** **PILATES CLASSES**. Dore & Totley United Reformed Church, 9.00-10.00 and 10.15-11.15. Contact Caroline - Tel: 0781 722 0324, email Carolinenorth1@me.com, www.pilatescarolinenorth.co.uk  
**COFFEE in the Library**. 10am-11.30am  
**STORY TIME in the Library** 10.30-11.30am. Craft activities, songs and a story for pre-school children. Call in at the Library for more information.  
**TODDLER GROUP**. 10am-11.30am, All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. Andy Holmes 0114 236 2088  
**HEALTH WALKS**. 10.30am, Totley Library. Phone Tina, the Health Walk Ranger: 0114 203 9335  
**MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING**. All Saints Church Hall, 8pm-10pm  
**CHILDREN'S FITNESS CLASSES** for pre-school girls and boys aged 2-5. New class on Wednesday mornings 9.30 - 10.10, Abbeydale Sports Club. Free taster sessions. See www.minimovez.com or call Steph on 07838 818743.
- THURSDAYS** **BELROBICS**, United Reformed Church, 9.15-10am, email: jenny@belrobics.co.uk or tel 07816 850132.  
**NCT COFFEE GROUP FOR DORE TOTLEY & BRADWAY**, 10am-noon, for mums & babies/toddlers, various locations. Phone Lucy Street 07837 000405 or email: lucy@streetr.plus.com for further details  
**ROCKCHOIR**, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Rd, 11.30 - 1.00pm. See www.rockchoir.com or call 01252 714276  
**PUSHCHAIR CLUB**. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 1.30pm-3pm. Tel. 07912 352543 for details  
**PILATES CLASS**, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, 6.15pm-7.30pm also new class 1.30pm to 2.30pm, Phone Emer Coffey 07792 422909

## APRIL

- SUN 10th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES** Abbeydale Road South. 1 pm-5 pm (weather permitting). Car park closes 5.15 pm. £1.50 per ride per person. See www.sheffields-mee.co.uk
- WED 13th TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB** 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church Talk by Adrian Eggleston, "The Secret of Life". Visitors Welcome.
- SUN 17th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: practical conservation morning run with the help of the Sheffield Council Ranger Service. For details see page 35 of this issue.
- MON 18th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: AGM followed by talk by Derek Bateson, 'More Secrets of Gillfield Wood'. Totley Library, 7.30. For more details see page 35.
- TUES 19th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**: "Last of the Summer Wine" - talk by Susan Mallinson. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10 am.
- SAT 23rd TRANSPORT 17** Coffee Morning - St George's theme! 10 am - 12 noon, Cross Scythes.
- SUN 24th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: Bird Walk with Chris Measures. For more details see page 35.
- WED 27th TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB** 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church Talk by Stephen Gay. "Railways in the Yorkshire Landscape", Visitors welcome.
- WED 27th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP**: "Sheffield Cathedral: 900 years of Sheffield history in one building" by Janet Ridler; & AGM. Totley Library, 7.30 pm.

## MAY

- SUN 1st & MON 2nd MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES** Abbeydale Road South. 1 pm-5 pm (weather permitting). Car park closes 5.15 pm. £1.50 per ride per person. See www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
- WED 11th TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB** 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Mike Spick, "Sheffield - Salesman to the World" Visitors welcome.
- SUN 15th, SUN 29th & SUN 30th: MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES** Abbeydale Road South. 1 pm-5 pm (weather permitting). Car park closes 5.15 pm. £1.50 per ride per person. See www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk
- SUN 15th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: practical conservation morning. For details see page 35.
- TUES 17th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**: "Nelson's Story": talk by Brenda Cupitt. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10 am.
- SAT 21st FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: Photographing Spring Flora with Stuart Davies. For details see page 35.
- WED 25th TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB** 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church Talk: Steve Drinkall, "Highland Odyssey". Visitors welcome.
- WED 25th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP** Totley Library, 7.30 pm. "The Work of Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust": a talk by John Hamshire.

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**will be**

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