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Springtime in Gillfield Wood (photo: Chris Measures)

Totley Residents Association: a way forward?

The public meeting arranged to discuss the future of the association was held on Monday February 27 at the library. It was attended by three of the (then) five remaining committee members, and 14 members of the local communities. The acting chair, Dominic Harris, introduced the committee and explained the purpose of the meeting. He stressed that although there were questions regarding the future of the association, there was no threat to the annual Totley show, which has its own committee and which will continue to be one of Totley's main community events. He then introduced Mike Williamson, who served on the committee for over 30 years, and who had offered to speak at the meeting.

Mike reminded the meeting that July 2017 would be the 40th anniversary of the TRA, and provided a very interesting account of the early years of the Association and the many social and recrea-

tional pursuits which the TRA organised and supported. Mike stressed however that the activities of the association enjoyed little or no support from Sheffield City Council, and the case for providing a community centre for Totley, carefully prepared by Les Firth, resulted in no support from either the Council or the then MP for the area, Irvine Patnick.

As the meeting progressed, it became clear that the TRA in its present form was unsustainable and that two possible models for future activities were emerging.

One of these – that the TRA should act as some kind of umbrella organisation for Totley's various groups – was not favoured, as it was by no means clear what an umbrella organisation would actually do in the context of Totley, and there was doubt as to the willingness of local organisations to be 'under the

umbrella'.

The other direction, which attracted more support from the meeting, was that the Totley Forum should be reinstated. This was a mechanism which had existed in the early years of the TRA whereby representatives from the various organisations in Totley – voluntary, community and commercial – would meet twice or three times per year to discuss ideas, issues and concerns, make suggestions and potentially share resources.

It was noted that the purposes of such a forum would need to be made clear, but that the existing objects of the Totley Residents Association appear to provide a useful starting point.

At the end of the meeting, Dominic Harris thanked everyone for attending and explained that the committee members of the TRA would cons- (*continued p.3*)



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Totley Residents Association: a way forward? (from p.1)

-ider the deliberations of the meeting.

The four remaining members of the committee met two weeks later to consider the next steps. It was felt that the public meeting had effectively mandated the committee to explore the possibility of the Totley Forum, and it was recognised that some organisational support would be needed in order that the considerable number of Totley organisations could be invited to send a representative to forum meetings. Timing was also considered important – constitutionally, the TRA's annual general meeting is usually held in April or May, and although there is no constitutional barrier to setting up an initial meeting of the Totley Forum, there will have to be the usual election of TRA officers and committee members at the AGM to provide a degree of continuity, at least until the first Forum meeting has taken place. The current committee are all agreed that they are reluctant to stay on the committee after the AGM as there is an urgent need for an infusion of "new blood" for the Association to have a realistic future.

The annual general meeting of the Totley Residents Association will take place at Totley Library at 7.30pm on Monday 15 May.

All are welcome, and nominations for officers and committee members are particularly encouraged.

Totley Library Plant Sale

**Saturday 13th May 2017, at
Totley Library**



Your library is a charity, managed and run by volunteers. To keep it open we need to raise funds throughout the year and are very grateful to local people for their ongoing support.

We are looking for people to donate plants. If you can help please contact suehare42@talktalk.net or 0114 2363331 or leave a message at the library

Totley Library serving Totley, Dore and Bradway

Step into spring

There are many exciting milestones in nature's calendar, but few are more evocative than the first call of the curlew as they return to the uplands from their winter feeding ground. Step out onto the moors in spring and you may also enjoy the song of the skylark, sightings of sluggish adders basking and, if you're very lucky, a glimpse of a red deer calf.

Eastern Moors Partnership



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nature
a home**

Part of the Peak District National Park, the Eastern Moors sits on the fringes of Sheffield. Boasting a diverse mix of heather moorland, acid grassland, blanket bog and woodland, almost the entire site is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Home to an abundance of wildlife species, the Eastern Moors is well known for its population of adders and herd of red deer, and is also home to the elusive water vole and nationally scarce golden-ringed dragonfly. Its designation as a Special Protection Area (SPA) reflects the presence of bird species such as short eared owl and golden plover. Its dry heath, blanket bog and sessile oak woodland habitats have resulted in a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designation.

During the breeding and nesting season on this special site we ask that everyone enjoying the moors takes extra care to respect wildlife and livestock, giving creatures the space to raise their families undisturbed. Take the Lead, a campaign which runs throughout spring and summer, is being led by land owners and managers in and around the Peak District. The campaign thanks people for literally taking the lead when walking their dog in the countryside during lambing and ground-nesting bird season, from 1 March to 31 July each year.

Katherine Clarke, Visitor Experience Manager for the Eastern Moors Partnership, said: "Dog walkers are important guardians of our countryside. They are the eyes and ears of the landscape, walking in all weathers throughout the year, noticing unusual wildlife sightings and recognising seasonal change. They come from all walks of life with two common interests: they love their dogs and they love the outdoors. Take the Lead aims to celebrate this infectious love of dog walking whilst raising awareness of how responsible dog walking leads to a countryside richer in wildlife and helps keep sheep, lambs and ground-nesting birds safe from harm.

In the Peak District there is a multitude of ground-nesting birds including curlew, snipe, woodcock, meadow pipits, skylark and stonechat. However, their nests aren't the most secure and can leave their eggs and chicks open to predation from wildlife such as foxes, crows and badgers. A dog running across the landscape can be one disturbance too many for these bird species, and can have a detrimental effect on breeding success."

For more information and ideas of where to enjoy exploring this spring please see our website www.visit-eastern-moors.org.uk

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Holmesfield Church Walking Group

The Historic Halls of Holmesfield Walk

On Wednesday April 26th at 10am Robin Greetham will lead a walk starting from Holmesfield Church car park. First we will visit Holmesfield Hall then Woodthorpe Hall, Fanshaw Gate Hall and then the two halls at Horsleygate. We will have lunch at the Angel Inn (optional).

The cost of the walk is £3 and the proceeds will go to Holmesfield Church maintenance fund. The walk is approximately 4.5 miles long. If you would like to come just turn up on the day.

If you have any queries please phone Robin on 01246 412767

Councillor Surgeries

Liberal Democrats:

2nd Monday in month 6-7pm, Totley Library, Baslow Road.

2nd Saturday in month, 10.30am to 12 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
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What's on at the Library



Spring at Totley Library

Spring is in the air at Totley Library. Our gardening volunteers have done a wonderful job over the winter and the gardens are now blooming with daffodils and spring flowers.



We have a varied programme of activities planned for this Spring to entertain both young and old.

During the Easter holidays, we have teamed up with Explore Learning to offer a writing workshop for their national children's writing competition. The first prize is a family holiday to Disney World Paris and £500 for books for their school. The prize is judged by Steve Backshall. The competition takes place in the Easter holidays and the workshop will be at Totley Library from 2-5pm on Tuesday 11th April. It's for ages 4 – 14, and you can book at the Library desk.

Our popular toddler craft and Story Time group will also be running on Wednesday mornings from 10.30-11.30am and school-aged children are most welcome. Story Time themes during the Easter holidays are "Easter" on Wednesday April 12th and "Trees" on Wednesday April 19th. We will be joined by members of the Friends of Gillfield Wood Group on the 19th who will organise some woodland-themed activities to run alongside our usual crafts, songs and stories. School-age children are welcome at both sessions. Cost is £1 donation.

During the Easter holidays we will have a "Mini Musicians at Totley Library" session from 2-3pm on Monday April 10th for 4-7 year olds with Jill Vincent from Broomhill Music. This will be a fun musical session with songs, stories, games and lots of instruments. Numbers are limited, so places need to be booked in advance at the Library. Cost will be £1 donation.

And for Mums and babies we have started a new 'Baby Time' group on Tuesday afternoons from 1 – 2 pm (but not in the school holidays). The sessions are very informal with songs, rhymes and simple musical instruments suitable for 0-2 year olds. Cost is £1 donation.

Then on Sunday 7th May we have teamed up with the Friends of Gillfield Wood and the Woodland Trust for a family fun session with songwriter Sally Goldsmith. Find words in our bluebell wood and turn them into a group song - then sing it! Suitable for children of 6 and over, accompanied by an adult. Free.

Meet 10am at the far end of Totley Hall Lane. Wear wellies or boots. We will end by walking to Totley Library to make the song and have refreshments.

Friends of Gillfield Wood is a Charter Branch of the Woodland Trust who are funding this and other family workshops over the year.

On the morning of Saturday 13th May we will be holding a plant and book sale at Totley Library. The quality of the plants and the prices will be first rate so please come along to support this library fundraiser.

The first-prize winners in the January and February Library lottery draws were Christine Parker and Elizabeth Watson, and the second-prize winners were Dennis Richmond and Sandra Allsop. The monthly first prize is currently £93.00, and the second prize £23.25. If you would like to enter, you can collect a form at Totley Library.

Our popular Totley Library Cinema continues with Disney's family blockbuster Moana, and Jackie, a searing and intimate portrait of one of the most important and tragic moments in American history, seen through the eyes of the iconic First Lady, then Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy. Full listings and screen times below.

Cinema Listings for April and May

Sunday 23rd April at 2pm – Moana
Thursday 27th April at 3pm – afternoon film club (over 65s free) – A Streetcat named Bob
Friday 28th April at 7.30pm – A Streetcat named Bob
Sunday 14th May at 2pm – Mary Poppins
Friday 19th May at 7.30pm – Jackie
Thursday 25th May at 3pm – afternoon film club (over 65s free) – Jackie

Tickets (Entry into raffle draw) Adult:£4.00 Child:£2.50

Natasha Watkinson

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 Diary on p.34, or www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com
Councillor Surgery, 2nd Monday of month, 6.00 – 7.00 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.



The Health Walk group prepares to stride out!

Totley History Group, occasional Wednesdays 7.30. Talks on matters of historical interest. Check posters in library, the Independent Diary, or www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk
Yoga sessions 7 – 8.30 pm, Wednesdays (except the last Wednesday of the month). For more details call Ann Zielonka on 0114 2361585 or 07929736966. Beginners welcome

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

Walking Football Tournament

Totley Pharmacy in partnership with Sheffield United Community Foundation and Dore Walking Football are pleased to announce that we will be holding the inaugural walking football tournament at the HSBC Sports and Social Club on Saturday 20th May. The event, which is due to take place from 9.30am to 12.30pm, will feature teams representing both Sheffield United Community Foundation and Dore Walking Football, among other walking football teams from the region. A number of former football stars have been invited to attend the tournament, and have been asked to bring their boots.

The Walking Football tournament is following on from a project delivered by the Community Foundation together with and funded by Totley Pharmacy, which engaged over 120 Y3 and Y4 children from schools in the Dore and Totley area. The project aimed to promote healthy lifestyles through both physical activity and classroom based sessions and was thoroughly enjoyed by all involved.



Mark Todd, ex-Sheffield United player and current Head of The Community Foundation commented "We are grateful to Tajinder for his ongoing support and hope to continue working closely with Totley Pharmacy in promoting the health and wellbeing of the local community and the wider population of Sheffield."

Walking football has become increasingly popular. It's exactly what it sounds like – a standard game of football where players walk instead of run. It's designed to help people get fit or maintain an active lifestyle no matter what their age and fitness, as well as support people getting back into football they have given it up due to age or injury. It is also a sport with local origins having been conceived by the Chesterfield FC Community Trust. Dore Walking Football has recently been set up by local resident Chris Roy who is a qualified FA coach. They play on Thursday evenings, and anyone interested in joining can get in touch with Chris through the website www.dorewalkingfootball.com



Older people who play have seen many benefits: lower heart rate and blood pressure, less fat and more muscle, and better mobility. And it's not just health benefits - walking football also offers social benefits. Participants can meet new people, avoid becoming isolated, and interact with individuals and small groups. This is one sporting activity that is suitable for all.

We at Totley Pharmacy are pleased to support this wonderful project which we hope will lead to greater engagement by local residents, and health benefits for them. We have been offered the opportunity to enter a team in the tournament, so please come in and see me if anyone is interested in participating in the tournament.

Taj Singh

Daniel's Rainforest Adventure

On 11th and 12th March we held a Fundraiser for Daniel Whitley, a young man from Totley, who is going to Costa Rica and Nicaragua next year as part of Camps International to help with Rainforest Conservation, animal repopulation, local building and teaching English to children.



Daniel had already raised £1300 from his personal efforts. During the weekend we had home-made cakes, tea and coffee for sale, food and craft stalls, Latino band and Disco.



There was a Raffle and Silent Auction with super prizes donated. We thank all who sponsored, attended and baked - Totley people, you are exceptional!

We currently have £1400 raised from the weekend, and there is still money to be collected!

Our next event will be in May - we'll keep you posted!

Hetty Moran, Daniel Whitley, Kirsty Alvy



Events

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Dore Gilbert and Sullivan Society

Calling all under fifties! It's about time you got to grips with Great Britain's musical heritage. Stand by for some education!

Some time ago I gave a King Egbert School drama class a talk on what it takes to put on a theatrical performance, using our Society as an example, and where the differences lay between amateur and professional productions. Out of the 25 or so pupils not one had heard of Gilbert and Sullivan even though they were at least as popular as Andrew Lloyd Webber is today, and are still being performed regularly after 150 years.



"Three Little Maids From School Are We" in rehearsal with (L to R) Jo Hutchisson, Gwen Nimmo and Kathryn Parkin.

Everything Else); Ko-ko (once a cheap tailor but now Lord High Executioner who couldn't even kill a blue-bottle) and Katisha (an elderly and not very handsome lady who wrongly believes that she is the Mikado's daughter-in-law-elect). The Mikado has many well known numbers including "A Wandering Minstrel I", "I've Got a Little List", "The Sun Whose Rays" and, of course, "Three Little Maids From School". It is the one G&S operetta where precise movements matter. I hope our rehearsals pay off – I'm sure they will.

So, come on all you who have never plucked up the courage to go to "The Opera". Give this a try. I know you will be pleasantly surprised and sure as anything it is better than sitting in watching the telly.

Dore G&S will be performing The Mikado at the Montgomery Theatre, Surrey Street in Sheffield City Centre from Wednesday 5th April to Saturday (Matinee only) 8th April 2017. For tickets (£13 adult and £6 child) please ring Judith Bettridge on 0114 2507155, Sheffield Theatres Box Office (though a booking fee applies) or just turn up in time for the 7.30pm performances (Wed, Thur, Fri) or 2.30pm (Sat).

If you fancy joining us for future concerts and shows, we are always on the lookout for new members, especially younger ones. Just give me a call on 0114 2362299.

Derek Habberjam

I am sure that the G & S operettas are thought of as 'highbrow' opera but nothing could be further from the truth. Gilbert (the librettist) and Sullivan (the composer) were not alone in the 1860s onward in writing these musical comedies: there was Offenbach, who composed over 100 operettas (including Orpheus in the Underworld and La Belle Helene) and Johann Strauss Jr (Die Fledermaus), although he was better known for his waltzes and polkas. All these operettas were light and frothy with Gilbert and Sullivan, especially, poking fun at the establishment. The stories are mostly silly but are always funny and you would be surprised at how many of the songs you would know.

The Society performed a concert version of The Mikado at Ridgeway on 4th March and the audience all left humming the music, especially "Three Little Maids From School". The Mikado is arguably G&S's most popular comic opera with three of the funniest characters in Pooh-Bah (First Lord of the Treasury, Lord Chief Justice, Commander-in-Chief, Lord High Admiral ... Arch bishop ... Lord Mayor and just about Lord High Every-

Road Traffic News

Harsher penalties for speeding

Motorists convicted of serious speeding offences are set to face harsher penalties under new sentencing guidelines for magistrates, which come into force on April 24th.

Given that the fines are calculated according to how much the offender earns, they vary. Band A fines start from 50% of the offenders weekly income, while band B fines start from 100%. The most severe Band C fines have been increased to a minimum penalty of 150% of the driver's weekly income.

So, as an example, if you earn £25,000 a year then the absolute minimum that a band C fine will cost you is £720. This will increase or decrease depending on what your salary is, but magistrates are instructed to cap fines at a maximum of £1000 or £2500 if the driver happens to be caught excessively speeding on the motorway.

As a result, anyone earning more than approximately £47,000 probably won't have to pay more than the maximum, leading some to claim that the sentencing changes will disproportionately punish drivers on lower incomes.

Increase in penalty for mobile phone use

The penalty for using a hand-held mobile phone while driving increased from March 1st to six points and a £200 fine. For drivers who are within two years of passing their test, this could mean an automatic 6 month ban, as they will accrue 6 points immediately.

Totley Speed Camera checks.

The vans are still carrying out their checks, but the average speeds have seen a reduction, and there has been a reduction in offenders from the S17 post code area. At last, residents are recognising that the road has a 30 mph limit on it, but it has been an expensive exercise for some people, finding out.

Roger Hart

'Coffee, Cakes and Cuttings'

The annual fundraising event for Transport 17 and other worthy causes will take place on Saturday 20th May between 10am and 12 noon, at the English Martyrs (Catholic Church) Baslow Road, Totley.

Plants, Bric-a-Brac and Cakes may be collected if required during the preceding week. For more information please contact Frank Donnelly on 236 2789.



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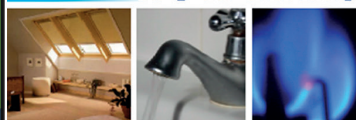
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It's been a very busy term at Totley All Saints – but then, that's just how we like it!! From visits and visitors, to residentials and special days – it's all been happening at TASS!

TASS Aspire Day

We held our annual TASS Aspire Day once again 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. Visitors included: doctors (GP and Emergency), a musician, a dentist, a counselor, a missionary, an engineer, a nurse, a patent attorney, an architect and many more. 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

World Book Day (2nd March) 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



World Book Day at TASS!

'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: Zach Butcher (FS2), Poppy Eccles (Y1), Becca Day (Y2), Xian Vercueil (Y3), Jesse Johnson Drought (Y4), Jojo Mezza (Y5) and Eleanor Young (Y6).

Rights Respecting Schools Award

This term we have been continuing our journey from Recognition of Commitment (ROC) towards Level 1 of the

UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools award (RRSA). With support from Unicef and with thousands of schools across the country, we are working to embed children's rights in our ethos and culture. Already, we've had a Fairtrade Café and shop run by Y3 and Y4, we've hosted the 'Right Click' ESafety Parent Workshops in partnership with BT and we've been working for Waste Week and World Water Day. The Award recognises a school's achievement in putting the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child into practice within the school and beyond. Children and adults at TASS have been learning about the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child in assemblies and in the classroom led by Mrs J Brown (Y4 class teacher) plus our TASS Rights Respecters: Esme Naylor and Daniel Hill (Y6), Lily Naylor and Lexy-Bee Reid (Y5), Megan Hill and Alex Radbourne-Harris (Y4), Abigail Simpson and Finlay Denholm (Y3), Hayden Gibson and Jessica Rai (Y2) plus William McGrath and Bronwyn Shaw (Y1).

A Night at the Museum

In February, children from Y3 and Y4 classes stayed overnight at Weston Park Museum! Our staff gave their weekend to ensure that our children had a wonderful experience and included: Mrs Winson, Mrs Brown, Mrs Bell, Mrs Bradbury, Mrs Taylor, Mr Johnson, Miss Morrell and even Mrs Granger (coming out of retirement)! They had the most amazing time and didn't get much sleep at all. Apparently, they were hoping for the giant mammoth and sumo wrestlers to come alive like in the film! Even though they didn't, they had a whale of a time, but slept very well indeed the next evening!

TASS School Council

The School Council meets every two weeks and involves two democratically voted-in representatives from each class. The Council has been involved in all aspects of making the school a better place including carrying out interviews for new members of staff, deciding how to spend Church Burgess funding and responding to suggestions from their fellow class mates. This half term they've interviewed the TASS School Cook and Area Manager for Taylor Shaw as well as taken part in taster sessions to see if they approve of the new school menu! The next big decision is how we spend Red Nose Day!

Egg-cellent Easter

We're looking forward to celebrating a fantastic time at Easter and will make our usual visit to All Saints Church. We will be hosted by our 'new' vicar, Rev. Katie Tupling, who is also a governor at our school. The children will give 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. Celebrations will then culminate in our PTA 'Fun-d Raisers' putting on an Easter Egg Hunt for each class plus a special awards assembly. We can't wait and are very egg-cited!

So what else? Well, we're in the process of having our Sports Day at the EIS, preparing for the Y4 and Y5 residentials, getting ready for SATs and gearing up for our summer production. It's all happening at TASS!

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@totleyallsaints.sheffield.sch.uk. We'll be so happy to let you know!

Karole Sargent, Headteacher

Totley Open Gardens

Totley Open Gardens this year will be on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th July.

14 gardens will be open to raise money for local voluntary organisations.

Come along and visit some beautiful gardens, enjoy cream teas and buy plants to help local activities.

If you would like to open your own garden or know someone who might be persuaded, please contact Jennie Street, email jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk or telephone 2362302

Jennie Street



Little Saints Nursery, the School House, Hillfoot Road, Totley Sheffield, S17 4 AP. Tel: 0114 2352148

News from Little Saints Nursery....

Nursery Visitors!

This term we have welcomed a four-legged friend to Nursery! 'Bruce' is our new Nursery Mascot. Bruce usually lives with our member of staff, Kären, but he came to visit all the boys and girls, who got chance to ask lots of questions - and even stroke him if they wanted.

Bruce has very quickly become part of the Little Saints family and we love hearing updates about him!

World Book Day

We had great fun entering into the spirit of World Book Day in March. Our children came dressed as book characters and we enjoyed sharing our favourite books together.



New Opening times

We extended our Nursery opening times in January and these are proving popular!

We now offer care each day from 7.45am until 5.30pm - for pre-schoolers (all day or half day), KS1 and KS2 (Breakfast and after-school care). We walk all school-age children across to Totley All Saints school in the morning, in time for the start of the school day and our lovely staff collect after school from classrooms and walk the children back across to the Nursery.

We still have some availability so please get in touch if we can help out.

Sheffield Motor Show – date for your diary!

The Sheffield Motor Show will be coming to the City Centre again on June 3rd and June 4th this year. There will be over 50 cars from 14 manufacturers. In addition, The Institute of Advanced Motorists will attend, Sheffield College Vehicle and Engineering, Edale Mountain Rescue, with one of their vehicles, a Fire Appliance and a demonstration of how to put out a chip pan fire. Chris, the stilt walker and balloon modeller will also be there, at this free event, in Barkers Pool, Fargate and the Town Hall Square. 9-00am to 5-00pm Saturday and 9-00 am to 4-00 pm Sunday.

The event is staged by Sheffield Vulcan Rotary Club, who meet at Abbeydale Sports Club on Tuesday evenings, and the proceeds from the event will go to local charities.

Roger Hart

Totley weather report 2016

Long term records broken! Warmest mean January day since 1932! Highest September night since 1898! Warmest mean winter temperature since 2006/7 (joint second warmest January and February on record)! Dullest June since 1958!

This year saw a few dramatic storms, not all with thunder. One on 13 September, with thunder in Totley (T) when 23 mm was recorded, as against Western Park (WP) 4.2 mm. I stood looking out of the front window marvelling at the ferocious wind blowing in all directions and the torrential rain making the road run like a river, but on going into the kitchen, found a growing pond spreading across the floor. Tracing it back to its source I found water freely running down the wall and over the worktop from the closed extractor fan, the outlet of which I thought was in a sheltered corner!

March 27 produced 38.5 mm of rain with hail in Totley, and 30 mm in Western Park, thus making the wettest March on record despite having the longest dry spell for the year. Not to be outdone 21st of November to lose to us with thunder and torrential rain to the tune of 60 mm in Totley and 37.6 mm in Western Park. Needless to say this was the wettest day recorded in 2016. Three months – January, February and March – produced nearly double rainfall in Totley, with November doubling, in June will over double the Western Park average for rainfall.

The longest dry spell was in March when there were 23 days in Totley which were broken into two six-day sections in Western Park. Totley saw snowfall or lay for 18 days, as against one for Weston Park, no doubt because Totley is on higher ground.

The coldest nights recorded were -5° C on the 15th and 24th of February in Totley and -2.6° C on the 24th at Weston Park. The hottest day was recorded on 19th of July when 26°C registered in Totley and 30.5°C in Western Park. August and September both had high temperatures of 27.5°C Weston Park and 23.5°C in Totley. September also recorded the warmest night temperature since 1898.

Weston Park recorded 17.7 hours of sun on 6 June, although June finished up the dullest since 1958, with 97.5 hours of sun when the average is 177 hours, with a total of 1532 hours for the year, the average being 1380 hours and that against a total of 215 days of rain against an average of 185.

Tallest Sunflower Competition!

The Totley Library Gardening Team are holding a "Who can grow the tallest sunflower?" competition. On Wednesday March 15th John from the Gardening Team came to Story Time and helped the children plant some sunflower seeds in two tiny little pots. They were then asked to take their planted seeds home and take care of them. Hopefully they will be planted in their gardens as seedlings and then grow into beautiful tall sunflowers.



The children were asked to email a picture of themselves stood next to their Sunflowers by Saturday September 2nd along with the height measurement. There will be a prize for the tallest Sunflower. We'll report on the outcome later!

Re-furbished Co-op opens for business!

On Friday March 4th, the newly-refurbished Co-op store in Totley re-opened its doors. Although the store had been open since 6 am, it was not until later that people began to gather for the Grand Opening at 10 am.

Here, store manager Jamie Marshall explains the thinking behind the re-furbishment, and how he and his team see Totley Co-op within the local community.

The Co-op company has invested heavily in the Totley store, which signifies the affinity that we have with the local community. The store has had the latest Gen 3 Store Design including the re-designed company logo, which customers will recognise from years gone by. The striking blue neon signs really stand out from the crowd!

The shopping trip has been re-designed in a way that our customers are telling us that they wish to experience. The biggest and most noticeable development is in fresh products, which means that customers can pretty much get their whole shopping list in one place. We have taken feedback on various key departments throughout the store - for example, a wide range of fantastic soups, a delicious selection of ready meals, a varied range of new pizzas to cater to any taste, an incredible instore bakery range adding real character to the store.

The most noticeable and controversial change is the introduction of the self-serve checkouts. This decision was made in order for us to be able to offer the option for customers in a hurry to scan, swipe and go, but also still maintaining the one-to-one connection that made the store such a hub of the community. This is a change that will take the most getting used to for both colleagues and customers, but we are confident we will get it right.



The new tills and self-serve checkouts

Moving on to community the store has strong links to local charities and businesses. For members, 1% of a customer member's spend in-store goes to three local charities (Eden Dora trust, Jubilee food bank and Hallam Cash for Kids) which equated to thousands of pounds for each of the charities to support their great work.

On this point the next round of applications to become one of the store's local causes is currently open to be put to the community to decide. As a store, we are very conscious of the environment, so we have begun a partnership with a local litter picking group, where you will see our colleagues out and about keeping Totley beautiful!

Although the closure period was substantial, it was absolute



ly necessary in order to ensure that our store moves with the times, and is geared up to stand the test of time in order to be there, serving Totley residents for years to come. This is why we made such a fuss of the launch, as a massive thank you for your patience! I hope you agree it was a great success. And although there have been loads of changes, the key thing to remain was the store team, so rest assured you will still see the same friendly faces you always have. We, the team, would like to thank every individual for their patience and great support in delivering this re-launch.

Jamie Marshall, Store Manager



Jamie with school pupils from Totley Primary and Totley All Saints Schools doing the honours with the traditional ribbon



Members of the store team celebrate the re-opening



Dispensing of NHS and private prescriptions

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Medication dispensed in Monitored Dosage System trays.

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Disposal of unwanted medicines

Emergency supply of medicines

We now have two pharmacists working so we can answer any questions you have quicker.

Totley Pharmacy, 158 Baslow Road, S17 4DR. Tel : 01142361070



Totley Pharmacy

Serving Totley since 1996

Childhood memories of Totley Rise

I will start my journey in 1934 when I was six years old – a long time ago – at Dore and Totley railway station – a very busy station, with a station master and two porters who kindly helped us safely on and off all trains, then carried the luggage out of the station for you. On the platforms were chocolate bar, chewing gum and cigarette machines. Outside in the yard was the bicycle stand where we left our bikes unchained all day and they were still there at teatime – wonderful! Mr Wint ran a taxi service to meet each train. He had a cabin alongside WH Smith's stationers shop in the yard – now a car park to the restaurant.

Coming along Abbeydale road were two wooden shops on stilts - the land behind was a steep drop into a rough field. The first shop was a watchmaker. The second belonged to Mrs Eaton (sweets and lemonade shop). At the bottom of Twentywell Lane was Mr Bookless's garage for many years, until he retired and various motor companies have since owned it.

Moving along to the bottom of Devonshire Road was Mr Naylor's garage. His sister Vera served the petrol. They retired and eventually Tesco now has it. The telephone building was next door, which then became Totley library and is now a hairdressers. Mr Gibson owned the next shop – solely a tobacconists with no sweets! Rogers had it through World War 2, then Vincent Martin bought it till he retired, and Jimmy, his son, had it for many years. Now it is Seasons gift and coffee shop. A Mr Pearson had the next shop, until the Bradshaw family took it over, and they made a great business of it. Gerald and Bernard, the sons, used to deliver Friday and Saturday until 9:30 pm, and were always last to come to the dances at Totley Reformed Church! The corner shop was always known as a Bushey Wood Stores, owned by the Wint family for many years, Ormes of Bakewell took it over. It was subsequently Gowers and Burgins, and then Spar and is now Lush bathrooms.

Before the dual carriageway was made, Baslow road had a huge S-bend from the bridge, and the then Baslow road was where we all parked cars outside the shops. The path outside the shops wasn't properly paved for many years, which made it very difficult pushing our big prams, plus negotiating one big step halfway up, and two big ones just before the Post Office.



Mr Bainbridge kept the first shop on the corner of Back Lane, before the two new properties were built. He was the newsagent. The steps to the shop were steep and at the side. He ran a penny-a-week library. When he retired the shop was extended to the next house above, and a Mr Topham owned it, and then Peter Swift – now, I think, back to a private home as most of the properties were then. Mr and Mrs Shaw kept the fish and chip shop. Mrs Shaw had a very strong beautiful singing voice and she could be heard right up the Rise – everybody loved it! Mr Chambers had the wet fish shop. He always put a bunch of parsley in with the fish we bought. His son Donald had it later.

The chemist was always there – a Mr Thompson owned it then. Mrs Greaves the draper came next – with a huge polished wooden counter with a brass measuring tape fastened on to it, and two wooden doors to get into the window, and always a chair for the customer to sit on. She sold materials –

wool, pins, ribbons, patterns for dressmaking, etc. A lovely lady! It's now the Indian restaurant. Next was Mrs Millett's shoe shop – I'm not quite sure when she moved there; and the Barges kept the small bakery and cake shop – now the Deli. I almost forgot Mrs Spring's sweet shop – famous for her penny and halfpenny trays! It took us children ages to spend our Saturday pennies. She was a very artistic lady and the shop reflected this: her little window at Christmas was a child's wonderland!

After the first big step up we came to Otters hardware – a small shop. Most of the shop-owners lived in the rooms behind the shops, but all have been pushed through nowadays. Their shop stocked everything you could wish for in hardware – pots and pans, screws and nuts they had them! Mr Tym kept the first butchers shop and was there for many years. Reg Damms had the cobblers, and a hairdressers was up the stairs in the same building. Next came another grocers, but I can't remember the name – until Arthur Davies of pork pie and sausage fame took it over after the second world war. Colin Thomson was next – another butcher who also had the pig farm on Back Lane (now a housing estate) which always flooded years ago. Up the two big steps to the post office – owned by Mr and Mrs Jackson – with a long counter the whole way along the left side of the shop. A string line ran above the counter and pinned on were transfers which we used to buy and stick on our arms, so not much has changed in that way! Mrs Jackson licked all the postage stamps we left to post – she must have been a very thirsty lady by the end of the day, particularly by Christmas! Mr Jackson was the postmaster and the sorting office was next door.

The top shop was a beer-off, owned by a Mr Mariatte and then the Gratton family took it over before it became the newsagent we know today. Across the road and up the steps were two hairdressers – one on either end of the row – a fruit shop, a painter and decorator, an electrical shop and a bank, and now we have the doctor's surgery, offices and Pomade the hair salon (very nice, friendly efficient people).

The Rise on Saturday afternoon was a hive of people, all doing their weekend shopping. The shops closed at 5.30 or 6 pm and were always closed on Sundays.

In case I have forgotten anyone, I apologise, but time has moved on and I'm now an elderly lady. The help we had then in the shops is still there for us today, so please in this fast changing world keep up the good service which we all appreciate very much, and to the people, please keep these lovely welcoming shops open – use them as much as possible!

Joan Sutton

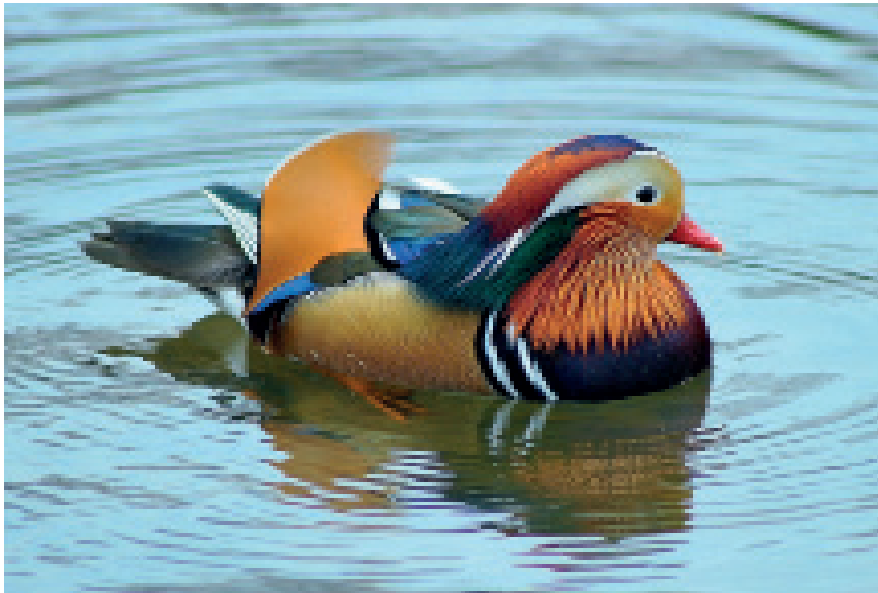
Friends of Gillfield Wood

Bird Walk

www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com

11th February 2017: It was a grey overcast morning when a small group of us gathered at the Scout Hut off Aldam Road. The time, 0900: it was cold, wet, and snow was in the air and lightly falling. Not a great day for bird watching but all were keen to make the best of it.

As we waited for others to arrive a Robin sang quietly from a nearby hedge and a small party of Long-tailed Tits flitted through the thin branches of a tangled bush, making their clicking calls and lovely trills. Before setting off on our walk west through the wood we decided to move down to the edge of the brook. Standing together on the bank of Toley Brook, and looking down stream we were able to get good views of a male Mandarin Duck quietly floating with a pair of Mallards on the fast-flowing water. The female Mandarin was probably close by, but the male, in perfect plumage at this time of year, was rather special: strikingly colourful with red bill, white band above the eye and vivid orange on the face and in the 'sails' that stick up like triangles at the rear of its back. 'Mandarin' - a fitting name for such a duck that originates from South East Asia. A very pleasing start to our walk.



Male Mandarin Duck

A little further along the path, a small flock of Goldfinches were found perched in the wind at the top of a tall tree. Their upright stance, distinctive gold wing bars, fine bill and red and white facial pattern were noted, even though at a distance.

Our next new bird for the walk was somewhat larger. It was a Grey Heron, standing motionless in a field on the south side of the wood. It certainly looked bedraggled in the rain but we managed to get great views through a telescope as we stood inside the wood sheltering. The bird's long thick powerful bill and that staring eye really did stand out through the close up lens and prompted much discussion within the group. As the Heron walked silently off through the long wet grass we continued our walk through the wood.

Our next special encounter was hearing and then finding Great Spotted Woodpeckers. They were seen interacting at the tops of some trees, flying, landing and calling. "Were there two or three?" was the question. It was difficult to say as they were constantly on the move and making a lot of noise - they certainly gave the impression that there was a dispute over territory. At this time of year one can hear them drumming on suitable branches and we were not disappointed to hear one drumming away in the distance. A substitute for song, a claim on territory, a way of attracting a mate and for us, an uplifting moment, and a sign of approaching spring.

Then to add to the excitement a large flock of Siskins suddenly appeared above our heads to feed high up in the tall Alders that stand so majestically along the banks of our brook. These birds are tiny, smaller than Goldfinches, and they regularly feed in an inverted position. They have distinctive forked tails, streaked underparts and are a perfect greenish yellow in colour. Listening to their excited chattering and their wheezing calls as they moved about the tops of the trees feeding was a lovely moment for the group. And despite the rain falling on upward pointed binoculars and telescope, good views were had of these obliging birds because it was possible to get two or three birds in our view finders at the same time.

It was in this same area of the wood, a little later, that we were able to hear and watch Coal Tits feeding in the Larches. We also watched here, delightful Goldcrests searching and feeding amongst the ivy that covers many trees in the area, ivy being that ideal habitat for invertebrates to over-winter in.

Our search for birds continued. This time a request had been made



Grey Heron

for us to try and find a Little Owl. On our last bird walk in November we had been lucky enough to find this small owl peering out of the hole in an Oak tree: its beautiful yellow eyes kept a close eye on us as we studied him or her from a suitable distance so as not to disturb. An exciting moment for all, and not the first time we secured good views of this species on one of our walks, but unfortunately no such luck this time. But as we searched fields and trees on the north side of the wood we were rewarded with over one hundred Redwings feeding on the ground in one of the fields. Great views of these winter visitors were had as they probed the pasture for suitable food items. Song Thrush size, these smart-looking members of the Thrush family have a distinctive white stripe (supercilium) above the eye and a rusty-red smudge on the flanks. This rusty-red extends on to the underwing and was clearly visible when the birds took to the wing to land in trees near to us.

Although we had much more to see and talk about - Mistle



Sparrowhawk

Thrush, Fieldfare and Starlings - it was the flashing sight of a Sparrowhawk alighting in a tree that grabbed our attention. As we searched to get a better view, it took off in attacking mode, flying fast and low across field and dry-stone wall, putting up the Redwings it had perhaps targeted for its next meal. It was unsuccessful in its quest, but nevertheless we had excellent views of the slate grey-blue upperparts, and when one excited member of the group said "Did you see the lovely rufous colours on the breast?" it added further confirmation to the fact that we had seen a male.

A perfect moment to take home and savour over a warm cup of tea. All agreed, another successful bird walk even though the weather left a bit to be desired. And as we said our good-byes at the Scout Hut we managed to see another Sparrowhawk circling over the houses of Totley before it slowly drifted and disappeared out of view.

Chris Measures

The next of our quarterly bird walks is planned for Saturday April 29th. We will be meeting at 0800 at the Scout Hut off Aldam Road. It is "come and go as you please" and don't worry if you don't have a pair of binoculars - they are certainly not essential - so we hope to see you there.

Please remember that you will be made very welcome on any of the events run by Friends of Gillfield Wood and you do not have to be a member to attend. If you happen to be interested in one of our outdoor events, no experience is necessary to take part, so do come along and join us. Just check out the diary of FOGW events in this publication or go onto and explore our website www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com. You will find that we have indoor meetings in the library when we invite guest speakers who usually present illustrated talks. In addition we have conservation work mornings on a regular basis in the wood for anyone wishing to get involved.



THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY South Pennine Group

www.southpenninehps.btck.co.uk

Also see us on Facebook.



SPRING PLANT SALE 2017

Saturday 20th May, 11.00 am - 2.30 pm and

Sunday 21st May, 10.00 am - 1.30 pm

Sheffield Botanical Gardens

Wide selection grown by our members.

Free admission : Everyone welcome.

Refreshments available.

To carry your plants home and to help protect the environment by cutting down on the use of plastic bags, it would be very helpful if you could kindly bring your own.

Letter to the Editor

Glover Road again

Following my letter in the last issue: I was pleased to see we had a street cleaner up and down the road last week and it was after 9.00 am. Unfortunately it was during half term, when there were still a lot of cars parked on the road and it was also in the middle of Storm Doris! The road is almost as bad as it was before. But the other day I saw two ladies picking up litter all along the road and thanked them for their efforts. Well done ladies!

We are also suffering from a plethora of dog muck on the pavements on Glover Road. Will owners please pick up the mess after them. Is there anything that can be done about it?

And what about cars driving and parking on pavements and, especially, the grass verges? Mickley Lane and Green Oak Road are particularly bad. Can anything be done about the parking of cars on the grass verges? It does make the place look a mess.

Steve (No.42)



Totley History Group

Programme 2017

26th April: AGM followed by a talk by Valerie Bayliss on building schools for Sheffield, 1870 to 1914. Totley Library, 7.30 pm

24th May: Ganister mining and Refractories: the Forgotten Industry. Talk by Graham Shepherd. Totley Library, 7.30 pm

Walking the Dog....

Heavy Petting in Totley!!!

by Jack and Tempuss

The house is empty except for a dog and a cat. The cat is Tempuss. The dog is Jack. The phone rings. The Editor of the Totley Independent is on the line!

EDITOR (*On the phone*) This is the Editor of the Totley Independent on the line! I'm leaving a message for Sally and Rony. I need your dog and poem columns at once, if not before. Send immediately or I shall be cross. Thank you. (*He hangs up at once.*)

JACK Shall we write Sally and Rony's dog and poem columns for them?

TEMPUSS Yes! And we can put in rude things by mistake?

JACK Yes! And they'll get the blame!

TEMPUSS Pass me the mouse! Right, write!

JACK Dogs are not the same as cats e.g. dogs bite people but cats eat fish.

TEMPUSS And e.g dogs eat other dogs' poohs. Cats, however, have nine lives i.e. for three we play, for three we stray and for three we stay.

JACK Can you look up about how dogs smell?

TEMPUSS Terrible.

JACK No, I mean google us, because you'll find that a dog's sense of smell is ten million times better than a human's because a dog has up to three hundred million million scent glands.

TEMPUSS Yes, and cats have tickly names e.g. Pussy and Kitty, but special cats have special names, e.g. Tempuss, from the Latin.

JACK Dogs are usually only called Rover and Jack.

TEMPUSS And Bach? ...Bark? Joke!

JACK Not funny.

TEMPUSS Cats live till they are eighteen.

JACK Only if they've been spayed and neutered.

TEMPUSS Cats live longer than dogs.

JACK Or does it just feel longer because you've been spayed and neutered?

TEMPUSS Eh?

JACK Joke!

TEMPUSS Not funny.

JACK Dogs make better jokes than cats. And some dogs can smile. Look.

TEMPUSS And some dogs can only live till they're seven. You're not smiling now.

JACK I'm nearly eight.

TEMPUSS You're couldn't be if you were a Great Dane. And you'll still only be allowed to live to fourteen even if you're not. Whereas I'm fourteen already.

JACK So I've got six-and-a-bit more years to go? Whereas you've only got four?

TEMPUSS So you'll be lonely for your last two-and-a-bit more years. And anyway, one cat once lived to be twenty-eight.

JACK One, once.

TEMPUSS ...Paws?

JACK Paws!

TEMPUSS Paws! And, you'll live to be more than fourteen anyway because it's the posh dogs who die first, and you only come from the Laverdene.

JACK Thanks but shhs. It's the Editor of the Totley Independent again!

EDITOR (*on the phone*) This is the Editor of the Totley Independent again! I am now cross.

Send your dog and poem columns immediately or I'll be very cross. Thank you. (*He hangs up crossly.*)

JACK How many words have we written so far?

TEMPUSS 452.

JACK That's enough for walking-the-dog. So let's do Sally's poems now?

TEMPUSS What are poems?

JACK They are when words don't make sense even if you think they do.

TEMPUSS Give me an e.g.?

JACK E.g I am a dog / You are a cat / I wonder what / To say about that.

TEMPUSS So? / We could send/ Our article now/ And call it Doggerel / Me how!

JACK Yes / That would do / It is enough / But it might be better / With a bit more wuff!

TEMPUSS E.g. ?

JACK E.g. we could give our article a title like - Heavy Petting in Totley!

TEMPUSS Heavy Petting in Totley!! Yes. With three!!! I'm sending it now! It's gone! We'll get the Editor into such cop-it!

JACK He'll be in the dog house!

TEMPUSS It'll be a catastrophe!

JACK Let's pretend to be asleep in case he gets back on the dog and bone?

TEMPUSS He is doing, listen!

JACK Let's pretend to both be ...eighteen!

EDITOR (*On the phone*) Hello. Hello? This is the Editor of the Totley Independent? Hello?

Bye bye for now from Jack and Tempuss

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Chris 0114 274 6158

Mobile 07976 072785

Richard Mobile 07789 497104

Totley Scouts

We celebrated a very special and proud moment when one of the Cubs in our Thursday Pack was presented with a Chief Scout Personal Award. We were delighted to welcome Neil McKay, our District Commissioner, to present the award to Niamh who is 10. The award, the first to be presented to a young person in Hallam District, was given 'in recognition of her determination for Scouting despite coping with many health problems but remaining cheerful throughout'. We are so proud of Niamh and were thrilled that her family were able to join us to see her receive this wonderful award. Well done Niamh!



Ten-year-old award winner Niamh

Chief Scout's appreciation of personal specially distinguished services to the Scouting Movement over many years. Sue said 'I am very proud, surprised and humbled to receive it'. It does mean that Sue is able to attend the St George's Day service at Windsor Castle.

In January our Cubs joined 130 other Cubs from Hallam district in an epic sleepover at The Deep in Hull. We were treated to an after hours tour of the museum, the Cubs got to stroke starfish, they made t-shirts and badges before finally being lulled off to sleep while watching the shark, stingrays and other beautiful fish swimming around their tanks. The next morning we were treated to breakfast and had a visit to watch the penguins getting up before climbing onto the coach for our journey back home.



At The Deep

Unfortunately, it seems that we have had some visitors over the half term who have tried to gain access to our scout hut. Thankfully they failed in their attempts and we were able to make repairs to the damage that was made. It seems a shame that someone wanted to take advantage of our HQ being empty for a week and spoil what we have for our members. I doubt that such people would read this article but if you do you should know that you were very lucky that you did not damage the asbestos blocks that are present between the external and internal walls. We have had an asbestos survey as part of our plans for a new hut. The demolition team need to know what to expect. The asbestos blocks are perfectly safe unless damaged. So unwelcome visitors beware.

Donations for our new Scout Hut have now gone over the £2,000 mark. We are grateful to the Totley Independent for their donation of £250. We do need a lot more money though. We have a good small group of parents who work in building services who so far have provided a great deal more in free time than we have generated from fund raising.

As part of our new building development plans we needed a Topographical Survey carrying out. Normally this would have come at a cost of £495, however John Sanders of Graphite DBM very kindly agreed to undertake the survey free for us. We are especially grateful as John has no connection to scouting; other than being persuaded by our architect.

The building itself will be of modular construction and made off site ready to be assembled on our land. We will be looking for donations of items such as toilets, kitchen units and radiators. Hopefully some local builders will be able to help in due course.



In the past we have done little to publicise Scouting in Totley. That has now changed and we have a website (www.215thtotleyscouts.co.uk). Please take a look. There is a lot of useful information and news stories. You can also follow the links to Facebook (or be found by searching for 215th Sheffield - 1st Totley Scout Group) and our donation page on BT Mydonate. So you will be able to get up to the minute news without waiting for the Totley Independent. Also if you are on Facebook it would help us if you follow our Facebook page. It will increase the awareness of Scouting in Totley and hopefully help with fundraising for the new building.

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 concentrated on kitchen equipment but previously we have also received play equipment, and even a Bear Grylls survival kit.

With your help we can obtain even more. 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. Thankyou.

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

Gardening Tips for April and May

Early March. Bright Sunshine. 110 degrees in the greenhouses. The plants don't know whether to grow or not! I just hope that old jack frost doesn't rear his ugly head and knobble all the young shoots that the hot spell will bring on. Any seedlings will have to be well-shaded. I was going to order some veg plants, but I might delay them for a week or two. We are going on holiday at the end of the month, so it would make sense to wait until we come back in April.

Another busy two months ahead, planting, staking, mulching, etc. I hope you completed all your overwintering jobs. I still have a few wobbly pavers, or it may be me that's a bit wobbly. The top end of the garden still needs a bit of tidying up. The wet cold weather has not been conducive to going out. We gardeners always have something to moan about - really the lovely sunshine is very welcome. I have managed to cut the lawn - I think this is the earliest I've ever done it. This climate change is playing havoc with the gardening calendar. The daffodils are in flower, and the verges on the roads look good with crocus and narcissi in full bloom.

Don't let all this sunshine fool you into planting bedding plants too early, or you might be out buying a fresh lot if we get a deep frost later. I can remember a frost in June spoiling some plants - we didn't have fleece in those days, only a few old lace curtains and such, but we still managed to have a colourful garden to show off with.

We had a few days holiday in Cheshire recently. We visited Trentham gardens. Some of it was very formal with clipped hedges and statues; there was also a large lake, and on the lake some rather unusual canoes. They were quite long with two hulls (I think that's the nautical term) joined together. The people in them seemed to be having a good time racing one another - we might give it a go next time!!! There was lots of work going on in the woodland area - it will be interesting to go back when all the work is starting to mature. They also had the largest garden centre building I have ever visited! They catered for every gardening taste. It was vast, so much so that we did not manage to see everything, and after walking round the gardens we were too tired to tackle this showcase of horticulture. In any case, we were on a coach trip so could not purchase much. I don't think the driver would have taken kindly to twenty or so people coming along with plants or garden sundries to put in his boot, and anything tender would not have survived a few days in the dark amongst all the luggage. Another visit with the car might be in order.

Nature never ceases to amaze me. Christine and Ken, our neighbour, have cleared a rather messy area at the rear of our hut, where a Russian vine has been growing for quite some time. The roots have spread around and into the stone wall which has been built round the oak tree trunk; it has made an amazing tangle. (see photograph). I think as it's made such a big effort I will leave it there and just trim off any shoots that might come. I don't want it to grow again - its other name is 'Mile a Minute' !!



April

Flowers: Complete the planting of herbaceous perennials, plant gladioli. April is a good time to plant or replant alpinists. 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



Antirrhinum

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 maincrop potatoes to give them plenty of room. Plant onion sets 4-6" (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 temporarily 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, 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. Place them in a trench and cover the bulbs until the leaves have died back, then dry them in the sun or greenhouse. Thin out chrysanthemum growth, plant out dahlia tubers, 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, 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 planting 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 dur-

ing 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, 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 sequestrine 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 grow-bag 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.



Ornamental Peppers

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! It can still turn cold at night, so keep your heaters at the ready. I would hate to think that all your hard work nurturing those seedlings is knobbled by old Jack Frost.

Lawns: Give weedy lawns a top dressing of lawn sand. Keep new lawns well-watered,

and 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! 16th 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



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Spotted one of these?

RSPB want to know if you've seen a hen harrier in the Peak District.

As spring approaches, the RSPB is calling on eagle-eyed wildlife fans who enjoy walking in the Peak District to keep a look out for hen harriers, one of England's rarest birds of prey.



Male hen harrier in flight

The nature conservation charity has relaunched its Hen Harrier Hotline in the hope of finding out where these birds might be breeding.

At this time of year, the male hen harrier performs his courtship display known as skydancing, involving a spectacular series of swoops and somersaults. If he is fortunate enough to attract a female, he then proves his worth as a mate by passing her food offerings in mid-air.

Scientists estimate there is sufficient habitat in England to provide a home to around 300 pairs of breeding hen harriers. But last year there were only three successful nests in the whole country.

Hen harriers are in trouble largely because of ongoing illegal persecution. This is because they sometimes eat red grouse, which can make them unwelcome on moors managed for driven grouse shooting. This type of shooting requires huge numbers of red grouse and some game managers feel they need to illegally kill or disturb harriers to protect their business.



Female hen harrier in flight

Amanda Miller, Conservation Manager for the RSPB in Northern England, said: "The past few breeding seasons have been disastrous for England's hen harriers and sadly there appears to be no let up in the illegal killing and disturbance of these magnificent birds.

"If we can find out where these birds are breeding, we can deploy specialist staff to protect the nests, thereby giving

them the best chance of success. We can also fit them with satellite tags enabling us to track their movements once they have fledged."

Male hen harriers are ash-grey with black wing tips and a wingspan of just under a metre. They are sometimes known as ghostbirds because of the pale colour of their plumage.

Female hen harriers are slightly larger, are owl-like in appearance, and have a mottled brown plumage, which camouflages them when they nest on the ground. They have horizontal stripes on their tails, giving them the nickname ringtail and a patch of white just above, on the rump.

The Harrier Hotline number is 0845 4600121 (calls charged at local rate). Reports can be emailed to henharriers@rspb.org.uk. Reports of sightings should include the date and location of sighting, with a six-figure grid reference where possible. A description of the bird's behaviour would also be useful. For more information, visit www.rspb.org.uk/henharrierlife.



Transport 17

Hi everyone! Hope you have survived the mixed bag of weather we have been having - just had three glorious days but now it feels like winter again with drak skies and very cold temperatures! I must start with an

apology. Several donations have been received in the last two months and I have been searching for the paper with the information on it and I cannot find it!!! Will have to put it down to senility and still being congested from the horrible cold that I knocked me for six - perhaps it was 'man flu' who knows. I will acknowledge you next issue!!!

We have had a good year so far and the final touches are being made to the office. It really does look fabulous. This year we are aiming to raise money for a new bus. The total cost is £50,000+ and as we already have £20,000, if we can raise £10,000 each year for the next 2 years we should be able to make up the difference with sponsors that have promised us donations when we are nearer our target.

Our first event, which will have happened by the time you read this, will be a coffee morning at the Cross Scythes on 1st April. It will be chocolate-themed, as it is two weeks before Easter!! The next Coffee Morning will be 1st July, and then, hopefully, the Totley Show, finishing with our Xmas Fayre on 18th November. We may be inserting other things but in the meantime that will give you the bare bones to work with and we will be looking forward to seeing you all again.

Last but by no means least we have been joined by what in our usual turnout, is a 'juvenile delinquent' called Jenny Nuttall, in the office for one day a week. She is a computer wizard and seems to be enjoying bringing us into the 21st century (no kicking and screaming 'cos she truly is lovely). She is trying to get us out there on the web in various formats, so if you see us in never before seen places, it's all down to her. Thanks Jenny - we really are grateful.

Hope to see you all soon. Take care!

Felicity Revill

PS: At the twelfth hour the missing paperwork has reappeared. Our grateful thanks go to Totley Independent for £250; Bradway Discussion Group for £150; Collection Box (Dore Club) for £19; Dore Mercia T.W.G. for £1,150. FR

Sheffield Rugby Union Football Club

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Come and support your local rugby club for their last two home fixtures of a very successful season!

Sat April 8th: Sheffield v Birmingham and Solihull 3pm

Sat April 22nd: Sheffield v Bridgenorth 3pm. This is their last game.

Your Library

It hasn't been very long ago since the Totley Library was threatened with closure, as were other libraries in Sheffield. This would have been a serious blow, especially where Totley residents were concerned. It was not only a library but a place where all ages enjoyed each other's company. One only had to pass by to see children inside reading and doing crafts while obviously learning at the same time.

For those living on their own, including many of the elderly, the library had a positive 'side effect', not only by the facilities offered but also for meeting up and chatting with others instead of being on their own most of the day and missing out on emotional support and stimulation. To say that the library was an important part of community life would be an understatement.

Well, it has not only remained open but has 'opened up' all round, thanks to the efforts of many volunteers who have devoted their time and skill in providing book borrowing to internet services, along with the thousand and one tasks required to keeping it efficiently run and up to date. Indeed, the number of activities and events has expanded, from providing such as films, language classes, yoga, talks on various subjects in addition to the groups and clubs which have already met there for years.



The list of what is going on there is impressive and shows that the volunteers and their efforts are fulfilling important needs despite the availability of continually updated electronic communication which is still lacking on the personal side of human contact. A walk by in the evening will show that the lights are on more often than expected, with the building being made good use of, including opportunities for fund raising to keep it open during these times of financial restraint.

Were it not for the fact of the volunteers and all who support what we now know as the Totley Community and Resource Centre (Totley CRIC), we might have been left with an empty, very forlorn looking building and wondering what was to come of it. Instead, Totley is blessed with a thriving success that many other localities would envy and would do well to use as a model when faced with similar closures of a community nature, not only when trying to save what they are in danger of losing permanently, but also in improving other aspects of local services.

What Totley's library success demonstrates is what could be called the untapped amount in skill and enthusiasm along with that of 'caring', which exists in most communities and which can be harnessed to save valuable public facilities that government and hard pressed local councils find hard to maintain and then decide to close down.

So if you've not visited Totley CRIC since its 'rebirth' in 2014, you would be well advised to do so, whether for the purpose

of borrowing a book or a DVD or having a go on any of its computers, or just to have a good look round to see what is on offer, even a leisurely read of a current newspaper or magazine. And who knows, you might bump into people you haven't seen for much too long and then want to keep seeing them again?

Your library, as some still like to call it, would welcome you as a supporting friend. When all is said and done it's been very good to the community and with your help will continue to do so. Apart from Thursdays, it's open officially four and a half days a week including Saturday mornings, and until 7.00 pm on Monday evenings, plus for special events catering for a wide range of interests and within walking distance for most. What more could one ask for?

Arthur Kaufman

Holmesfield Flower Club

Tuesday 19th April – 7.30 pm
Evening Workshop with tutor Catherine Greatoux entitled "The Joys of Spring". At Holmesfield Village Hall, Vicarage Road (Off Woodside Avenue), Holmesfield, S18 7WZ – ample parking.

Tickets available at the door: visitors £4, includes refreshments. Non members are welcome.

Contact Sandra for further details and list of materials required: 01709 541187

Wednesday 17th May – 7.30 pm.
Demonstration of flower arranging by Jo Marshall (NAFAS Area demonstrator entitled "Summer Love". At Holmesfield Village Hall, Vicarage Road (Off Woodside Avenue), Holmesfield, S18 7WZ – ample parking. Tickets available at the door: visitors £8, members £4 includes refreshments. The arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening. All are welcome.





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Friends of Gillfield Wood

Diary for April and May

April

Monday 24th: Friends of Gillfield Wood AGM and talk. There will be some initial AGM business to attend to before we move on to a talk by Prof Ian Rotherham and his Hallam University team regarding the progress of Phase 2 and the future workshops and surveys which will extend our

understanding of Gillfield Wood's history and that of Totley Brook. As in previous years please consider whether you could contribute on the committee in the coming year and notify the secretary with your name and that of a nominee.

Saturday 29th: Bird Walk. This is Chris Measures' second Bird Walk of 2017 with an opportunity to look for local breeding birds, summer migrants and to improve on your bird song skills. Also you can look out for early butterflies. Meet by the Scout Hut, off Aldam Road at 9am. No experience necessary. Bring binoculars and cameras. It is strongly advised to wear strong shoes and appropriate clothing. The walk will last 2-3 hours depending on what we find.

Sunday 30th: 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. Also check our website at www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com – any late changes of venue will be published there.

May

Sunday May 7th, 10am - 12.30pm 'A Song for the Wood' A family fun session with songwriter Sally Goldsmith. Find words in our bluebell wood and turn them into a group song - then sing it! Suitable for children of 6 and over, accompanied by an adult. Free.

Meet 10am at far end of Totley Hall Lane. Wear wellies or boots. We will end by walking to Totley Library to make the song and have refreshments.

Friends of Gillfield Wood is a Charter Branch of the Woodland Trust who are funding this and other family workshops over the year. We are also partnering Totley Library for this event.

Monday 8th: Water Voles – a talk with Christine Gregory. The emphasis for this talk is on insects and pond life and continues the earlier talk on mammals & birds, much enjoyed by those who came to the previous meeting in October. We will meet in the Totley library, Baslow Road from 7:30pm. We will be asking for a £1 entrance donation to meet costs.

As part of Phase 2: Surveying the history of Gillfield Wood and Totley Brook, we have a series of woodland and hedgerow workshops on Mondays on May 8th, 15th, 22nd and Monday 5th June. If you are interested in learning how to age hedgerows or would be interested in learning more about the history of the wood, please contact the secretary to join our mailing list via fogwsecretary@gmail.com.

Sunday 28th: Friends of Gillfield Wood practical conservation morning with the help of 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. Also check our website at www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com – any late changes of venue will be published there.

Paul Hancock

Beauchief Dam

During the era of the Premonstratensian monks occupying Beauchief Abbey (1180-1537), water was used from the River Sheaf to power a wheel in the vicinity of the present day Abbeydale Hamlet, probably a corn grinding mill, and there is also a record for a Walk Mill on the site of Dore and Totley Station, used for processing the wool from the Abbey's sheep.

In 1568 William Humphrey, a goldsmith living in Greenhill, acquired royal assent for the monopoly on his water-powered 'new engine', built to drive the bellows being used in the lead smelting process. This replaced the previous labour intensive 'footblast', the method that in turn had replaced the earlier bolehill smelting on local hillsides.

When he died in 1579 Humphrey was fighting 11 infringements of his patent, including one by Sir Nicholas Strelley (Beauchief Hall) and another by the Earl of Shrewsbury in Totley. Again, at this time, a wheel is mentioned in the vicinity of Abbeydale, but its purpose is not recorded. By 1650 a survey states 'at Beachiffe is one water Corne Mill and one paper Milne and Iron Works', indicating that lead smelting had been replaced by that of iron.

In 1678 Sir John Bright paid for improvements to a wheel 'with tayle goit bridges shuttle and slate' that by 1740 was being referred to as New Wheel. This is probably the one shown in Gelley's map of 1725, positioned alongside the River Sheaf in a field called Sinder Hills, the name being derived from centuries of deposited furnace waste that had accumulated there. Poor quality local iron ore was being smelted in bloomeries and evidence of one is recorded on the site of the Beauchief Hotel, making the nearby field an easy dumping ground.

When Thomas Goddard, tenant of the wheel at Abbeydale, sold the slag in 1748 its gradual removal left a low lying, boggy and contaminated area, probably unusable for farming but an ideal area on which to build a dam.



The dates recorded for this are a little confusing, 1777 is mentioned with an extension in 1785. It was initially a simpler construction and the later date indicates the building of the dam walls that raised the water level needed to power the new wheels. 1785 correlates with that of the tilt hammer workshop where Thomas's son, Martin Goddard had his initials carved into the lintel.

Later variations in the recorded acreage of the dam were probably due to silting taking place...Beauchief Gardens is built on an area that once was part of the dam.

An indication of the silting problem is shown when Tyzack, Sons & Turner were taken to court in 1899 under the Salmon Fishery Act 1861. The bottom shuttle was in need of repair, which had necessitated the emptying of the dam. Top and bottom shuttles were opened fully to allow the stored water out and in so doing a huge amount of foul smelling black sludge was carried down stream.

In court it was estimated to be 30,000 tons, which had the effect of suffocating the trout downstream in what was one of the best fishing rivers in Sheffield. The water (*cont'd p. 26*)

Beauchief Dam (cont'd from p. 25)

bailiff had first noticed the contaminated water and dead fish near Moscar Wheel a mile below Abbeydale Works, and by tracing it upstream discovered the cause.

Recent surveying in Gillfield Wood has brought speculation about notched stone posts in Totley Brook, a tributary of the River Sheaf, thought to be used for flow management. There are a number of sites, set at approximately 100-200 yard intervals, and placed in threes across the stream. Horizontal struts were bolted into the notched points in order to support battening. This would slow the flow of water, resulting in sediment being deposited before it reached the dam, in this case the one serving the Rolling Mill at Totley Rise.

It is known that Tyzacks had made a complaint about the volume of sediment washing into their dam.

Although affecting the Rolling Mill at this point, some sediment would inevitably make its way down river when sluice gates were opened.

Maintenance of the level of sediment in a dam was essential to ensure that enough water could be stored. Perhaps with the installation in 1855 of supplementary steam power to drive the machinery at Abbeydale, there was less need to be vigilant, resulting in the catastrophic deluge of 1899.

The dam was initially built as the power for 18th century machines processing iron ore into working tools, but it had another life within the community.

To be continued.

Pauline Burnett, Totley History Group

New Path at Longshaw

Rangers at Longshaw have been busy this winter preparing a new path for families, older people and visitors in wheelchairs.

The new trail should open in May, and will take visitors on a half kilometre stroll through a previously hidden part of Lodge Woods, passing the remains of a Victorian ice house, and over two new rustic bridges.

"The new trail will be readily accessible for young children and people with limited mobility who might not ordinarily have the chance to explore a woodland with a stream, and see all the wildlife associated with it," said Rachel Bennett, Lead Ranger for the National Trust at Longshaw.



Ranger Rachel Bennett (right) and colleague Helen Tuck on the new path under construction in Lodge Woods

The woods at Longshaw include trees planted in the past by

estate staff, such as beech, firs and sycamore not native to the area, some of which have started to die and struggle after climate change has turned once-dry areas of woodland much wetter. Some trees have also been damaged by the Longshaw grey squirrel population.

"Adolescent grey squirrels who have no territory seem to take their frustration out by gnawing bark, and sometimes 'ring barking' all the way round, which can kill off a tree or a branch," said ranger Chris Milner.

Around twenty trees have been removed or cut back near the new path and around a children's play and den building area, and an old hedge of nine squirrel-gnawed beech trees will be replaced by hundreds of hazels, hawthorns and hollies, all native upland Peak District species. Ten more beech trees were removed near paths and tracks, with species like willow and alder (which should cope better with wetter soil) to be planted nearby.

Estate staff have a monitoring programme to check trees near buildings, car parks and major paths more regularly than those on quieter tracks or in deep woodland. A large beech near the new path had a 'crown reduction' to remove potentially dangerous branches, for example.

Rachel said: "We have a duty of care to visitors. Trees do decline, and that's an issue in places people visit."

In a more natural English woodland fallen trees leave gaps of sunlight for flowers and insects to thrive, often along with new seedlings from the fallen tree, and staff are aiming to replicate that process with a mixture of younger and older trees in the estate's woods to encourage a wide variety of birds, insects and flowers.

"It's all part of a plan to improve the habitats of Longshaw, regenerate our old woods, and provide an opportunity for people with disabilities, older people and families to experience the magic of a woodland," said Rachel.

David Bocking, National Trust

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Totley Rise Methodist Church

Spring 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 5s 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

There is a creche available plus Youth/Junior Church at all morning services.

Totley Rise Methodist Church welcomes you.... We extend a warm and friendly welcome to you from the community here at Totley Rise Methodist Church.

Everyone is welcome. You are welcome if you are a lifelong follower of Jesus or if you are a seeker, or just starting to wonder.... or if you have just hopped off the bus outside and you're looking for refreshment for your onward journey.

Come along and meet us at one of our services or group activities.

Easter Services at Totley Rise Methodist Church

April 9th: Palm Sunday - 10.30 am

April 14th: Good Friday - 10.45 am

April 16th: Easter Sunday - 10.30 am

He is Risen Hallelujah!

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 has

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.

Come along and give it a try - you won't be disappointed!

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.

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.

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 are provided. Contact Rachel on 07912 352543 for further information.

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.

cheese and biscuits. If you would like more information please call Janet Savage on 0114 2369002.

Coffee morning 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, TRMC Centre.

They may natter and chatter but they are certainly productive. 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 provides wool, needles and a chat for those who can't travel to the church. Young people are welcome too. There are skilful, lovely ladies ready and willing 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.

Sheffield Citizens Advice Bureau

Every Tuesday, 10 am-12 noon. No appointment needed. Drop-in free confidential advice service. Advice on legal, financial, employment, benefits and any other matters.

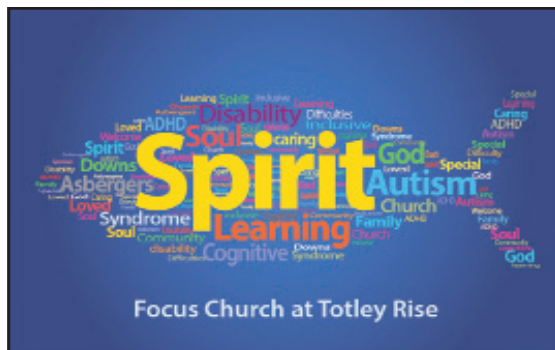
Room Hire at Totley Rise Methodist Church:

Available Monday to Saturday. We have a variety of rooms for hire, which include the use of kitchen facilities and audio-visual equipment. Please contact the caretaker, Dean Duke, for more information or to make a booking, on 236 0389 or email Deanj on deano1972@sky.com. Or visit our website for a booking form and details of room sizes and charges.

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 and find a selection of recent services at Podomatic Podcast Page.

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



Focus Church at Totley Rise

Focus Church
at Totley Rise Methodist Church

A special church for people with learning disabilities and cognitive difficulties. The service is a time for worship, creativity, fun and fellowship... and an opportunity for carers to chill.

The service is the 2nd Sunday of each month.

2017 Winter Spring dates:
Sundays, 12 February, 12 March, 9 April, 14 May
From: 3 pm to 4.30 pm

Totley Rise Methodist Church
1 Grove Road, Sheffield S17 4DJ

If you are interested, please come along, or if you would like to know more, please contact Sue or John Freeman on 0114 236 6819 or email: sueandjohn6@talktalk.net

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

The Battle over the Sheffield to Manchester Railway Line: A David and Goliath Tale from the 1800s

Most Totley residents will now be aware of ongoing public consultation concerning proposals to increase the capacity of the Hope Valley Line to Manchester and the immense amount of work being done by the Friends of Dore and Totley Station to influence changes there.

Early nineteenth century plans to link Sheffield with Manchester focused on building a canal over the Pennines. There were five competing proposals, but the opening of both the Cromford and High Peak Railway and the Stockton and Darlington Railway in 1825, and then the Liverpool and Manchester Railway a year later compelled the canal-minded developers to turn their attention to the building of a railway line. They could then take advantage of the very latest technology - steam powered railway locomotives.

A meeting was held between interested parties at Sheffield Town Hall in Waingate in May, 1830, at which it was decided to form the Sheffield and Manchester Railway Company. The company would be partly owned by the pioneering Liverpool and Manchester Railway. George Stephenson and his son Robert were appointed as the Engineers. Along with railway promoter Henry Booth, who had suggested using a multi-tubed boiler, the pair had won the Rainhill trials in October 1829 with their locomotive 'Rocket'.

Henry Sanderson, a land surveyor from Sheffield, was also appointed to the team. In 1826 Sanderson had published his own proposals for a route through Edale which would have connected with the Peak Forest Tramway. He seemed the ideal choice, but his recruitment was to have significant repercussions on the final route which the new railway would take over the Pennines.

In view of what was to follow, it is worth looking for a moment at George Stephenson's credentials. Born in 1781, he is often credited with being the inventor and founding father of the world's railways. The son of a fireman at Wylam, near Newcastle upon Tyne, he worked at first in his father's colliery, became an engine-man at Willington Ballast Hill in 1802, moving to Killingworth colliery in 1804 and Montrose in 1807, before returning to Killingworth in 1808 where he became the engine-wright in 1812. His talents were not confined to steam engines however: for example he perfected a miner's safety lamp in 1815, at the same time as Humphrey Davy who is generally credited with that invention.



Railway engineer George Stephenson

In 1814 Stephenson's first locomotive ran successfully and a year later he patented the steam blast principle by which a partial vacuum was created in the locomotive's smoke-box. This caused air to be drawn through the fire by the exhaust steam - a fundamental principle used in every steam locomotive built since that time. He completed the Hetton Colliery railway in 1823 and then became the engineer for the Stockton and Darlington Rail

-way. And of course, just a year before the meeting in Sheffield, his 'Rocket', the first locomotive to be built with angled cylinders and boiler tubes, had easily won the prestigious Rainhill trials.

There can be no doubt that the man was a living legend and those present at the meeting in Sheffield must have held him in awe. George Stephenson's detailed proposals would have meant building a railway line which climbed up the Sheaf Valley and over the moors. In these pioneering days, the notion of building a tunnel over three and a half miles long to cross the formidable barrier presented by the Pennines (which the Midland Railway was eventually forced to do between Totley and Grindleford) was inconceivable, so Stephenson devised a series of rope-hauled inclines.

Unfortunately for the great railway engineer, the astute Henry Sanderson became deeply concerned about what he considered to be an excessive amount of tunneling, and about

inclines which he believed were dangerously steep. He immediately began working from his home in Beet Street to mount a vigorous campaign against the plans. Sanderson was certainly not alone in having concerns, or in being willing to stand up to the eminent Stephenson. One correspondent to the Sheffield Courant and Advertiser, in February, 1831, commented that 'no man in his senses would ever venture in a carriage on such a road; the breaking of a chain or a rope would be inevitable destruction'.

In support of his case, Sanderson discovered inaccuracies in the surveying work for the levels carried out by John Gillespie, one of Stephenson's assistants, and he was also able to prove that some of the costings put forward by Stephenson were erroneous, perhaps even mendacious. As a result of these totally unanticipated objections, several meetings of the troubled Sheffield and Manchester Railway Board and its equally worried shareholders took place. Each participant had set out before him George Stephenson's personal assurances that his proposals were workable. This was in direct contrast to the well written pamphlets from Sanderson, arguing that they most definitely were not. Sanderson's vitriolic comments finally sounded the death knell for Stephenson's proposals when his fourth and final pamphlet, dated 28th May, 1833, was accepted by an adjourned meeting of shareholders on 5th June at the York Hotel, Manchester. In his scathing comments, the Sheffield surveyor accused Stephenson of dismissing a route through the Don Valley 'too hastily' and even more intrepidly, given Stephenson's reputation, of writing 'nonsense'. Instead, Sanderson had urged the shareholders' meeting to consider a route out of Sheffield which ran along the Don Valley to Deepcar and then went via the vale of Midhope, by Langsett and Swinden. The line could



The Totley opening of the 3.5 mile Totley Tunnel, finished in 1893.

cross the Pennine ridge at Saltersbrook using inclines, but Sanderson strongly recommended that they drove a tunnel, which would be two miles long.

And so an upstart Sheffield surveyor won the day - a latter day David up against a Goliath - and Stephenson's proposals for a Sheffield to Manchester Railway over the high moors between Dore and Totley were rejected, 'strangled by the ropes of its inclines' according to the eminent railway historian George Dow. But Sanderson had achieved something which was to have far-reaching effects - he had put forward for the first time the notion that to be a feasible proposition, the first trans-Pennine railway line should pass through the Don Valley and not the Sheaf.

Strangely enough Sanderson does not seem to have taken any further part in later developments and he disappears from the scene. It was to be 1893 before the Hope Valley Line, with the second longest tunnel in Britain, was completed by the Midland Railway Company.

With Stephenson out of the way, a series of meetings took place in 1836 between groups of influential businessmen from both sides of the Pennines to consider a new survey, this time one which had been undertaken on their behalf by another eminent civil engineer, Charles Vignoles. The result was the Sheffield, Ashton-Under-Lyne and Manchester Railway which connected the two great cities via the Don Valley. Construction began in October 1838 and the line was officially opened to the public on 22nd December 1845. The first train passed 'through country mantled white under a recent heavy fall of snow' according to one observer, before plunging into the dark, smoke-filled depths of the Woodhead Tunnel. Not surprisingly, the passengers cheered when they emerged over three miles later at the end of the longest tunnel in the world.

Railway mania may have been at its height, but travelling by rail was not a pleasant experience. The Sheffield, Ashton-Under-Lyne and Manchester bought twenty cattle wagons which were fitted with sprung buffers and drawbars to enable them to carry passengers, although there were some first-class coupes for those who could afford such luxury!

Mick Savage

John Wade Singers
present a

Musical Kaleidoscope

Saturday 20 May 2017, 7.30 pm

**Millhouses Methodist Church,
Millhouses Lane S7 2HA**

**Conductor Jonathan Lazell
Accompanist Kristin Markay**

Tickets £9 (Concessions £7, Children free)

Proceeds to Whirlow Hall Farm

**Ticket information:
Jenny Parker 0114 2360798
Helen Hancock 0114 2351433**



Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society

TOADS May Play - A World Premier!!

Further news about our May play. As I might have mentioned (!) in the last issue of Totley Independent, TOADS is very proud to be performing a brand new play written by our very own Alan Wade - "That Week In August".

This tells the story of a group of mature students attending a Summer School in 1975 - fond memories for some of us, the dark ages for the younger cast members!! Rehearsals are going well with Alan directing, and we hope you will enjoy the play as much as we are enjoying the rehearsals!

This is not the first time TOADS has presented a World Premier! Some of you may remember a play called "Buzzards" which we performed 25 years ago in 1992!! This was written by Tracy Cross, who at the time was an active member of TOADS. There are very few of us TOADS left in the society who were around at that time - Jeff, of course, Bev, John and myself. If I remember rightly, I played John's mother-in-law! The year 2016 was a very good year for TOADS - we performed two excellent plays which were very well received by you, our audience - "Dish of the Day" directed by myself, and "13 Past Midnight" which was directed by Judy Savournin.

We have been fortunate recently to be joined by several new ladies, and we are delighted to have them. But where are the men? Come on men, don't be shy - it's a lot of fun!

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.

As is our usual practice, a raffle is held at each performance for charity, and we are delighted that the raffle from the May 2016 play raised £230.90 which was donated to Myeloma UK, and the raffle from the November 2016 play raised a total of £326.08 which was donated to St Luke's Hospice.

The dates for your diary for Alan's play are Wednesday 10th May to Friday 12th May at 7.30pm, and Saturday 13th 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. Ticket prices £6 or £5 for concessions.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Anne Bettridge

Totley All Saints School Reunion!

At The Cross Scythes Hotel

Monday April 10th from 2 pm

For pupils who left around the 1940s to 1950s

We look forward to meeting you there

The Poetry Slot

Sally Goldsmith

In each issue, Sally looks at a poem by a published poet from South Yorkshire or North Derbyshire

GEORGE THE BARBER

Plump, with a fat man's manual dexterity
He first came round on a bike, with a leather bag
Like a doctor's emergency kit on the carrier,
Cutting at the table by gas or lamplight
And moving later to a lean-to by the Working Men's.
He cut my hair from golden curls to black
And when I was old enough to bike it
Always started his conversation with 'Father?' and 'Mother?',
Meaning 'Are they alright?' the only barber
I ever talked to. Customers waited
On a stick of secondhand cinema seats
With a view in a pier glass whose upper half
Was working but never used; his qualifications
Hung framed beside it – his membership scroll from the Buffs.
For passing the scholarship he gave me a prize,
Macaulay's 'Lays' in an 1882 edition,
The covers as thick as the text, with a golden Roman
Waving his sword on the front and the verses in
About Horatius the school editions omit,
That might make you think he did it for the money.
'You'll find more use for this than me,' he ruled
In a tone that meant he was clearing out his life
He had persevered with in that glorified shed.
With a wife who was ill, whose parents were old.
His hair and moustache were Italian to the end;
His breath was Scotch.

by Stanley Cook

A portrait poem of someone we might consider inconsequential yet here given the importance of affectionate observation, the life framed inside the poem. The barber is someone the poet knew from earliest boyhood. We all have memories like these – a shopkeeper, a doctor, the woman-next-door.

The poem is an almost breathless rush of memory – not many full stops, though as the life comes to its end near the close of the poem, we get more. It is conversational, no difficulties in understanding though some of the references – the Buffs, Macaulay's Lays – may seem esoteric to younger readers now. The ease of the poem is deceptive though – the flow and syntax are carefully constructed and the pattern is a 4 or 5 stress line, apart from the last.

I love the sound and simplicity of 'moving later to a lean-to by the Working Men's' and 'when I was old enough to bike it', the words no doubt reflecting the way Cook's family spoke. We get a feel for the life of George, a man who may once have had pretensions to learning with his Latin, who has given up on being anything but a barber but who still primps his hair and moustache. His life perhaps hasn't long to go – he has been persevering a long time in that 'glorified shed.' Crucially, Cook is doing with his observations what writers are still advised to do – show not tell. The last line with its tragic-comedy is perfect.

Stanley Cook (1922 – 1991) was born in Austerfield, South Yorkshire. He won a scholarship which took him from a two room village school to Doncaster Grammar and from there a further scholarship to Oxford. For most of his life he worked as a schoolteacher. He was admired in his lifetime but never achieved the popular audience and critical reputation his work deserved. This poem comes from Woods Beyond a Cornfield: Collected Poems (Smith/Doorstop Books).

Holmesfield Parish Church

proudly presents

An Illustrated Talk

by

Mr John Driskell

"Everest

The Hard Way"

Friday 7th April - 6:30 pm

at

Holmesfield Church Hall

Preceded by a

Pie & Pea Supper

Tickets £12.00

To reserve a place please 'phone

Jane & Robin Greetham

01246 412767

Proceeds to

Holmesfield Church Maintenance Fund



Neighbourhood Watch News

External post-box security

Residents who have remote post boxes on their gates or outer walls are advised to ensure that they are good quality secure models, preferably with the access lock being on the inside of the gates or wall. Some residents, in S17 as well as elsewhere, have suffered significant loss through their post being extracted from the letter boxes, and identities have been stolen, resulting in bank details being used fraudulently. It is also worth mentioning that all correspondence, carrying any financial details, should be shredded for security. There is no security for unshredded paper in a blue box or bin!

Look out for phone call scam

A warning has been issued over a new phone call scam. Police say people should remain vigilant when answering the phone to a number they don't recognise. And if the caller asks 'can you hear me?' the advice is to hang up straight away.

The scam, which uses voice signatures to try and charge you for products or services that you've never used, has been a widely used in the US and experts expect it to turn up on this side of the pond very soon.

How does the scam work?

- * A local number will ring you
- * The person on the phone will then introduce themselves and the company they supposedly work for
- * They then ask: 'Can you hear me?'
- * Your answer is recorded, and if you say 'yes', your response will be edited and then used to charge you for products or services without your knowledge.

If you try to disagree with them, they will then play back their recording of you saying 'yes' and threaten to take legal action if you don't pay up. Take care!

Roger Hart



Sweet Sweet Music!

Here at Totley Primary, we have long extolled the virtues of educating children within a musically rich environment. In terms of children's mental development, music has been proven to stimulate both the right brain hemisphere (the creative bit) and the left (the logical part) equally. On a more obvious level, we have seen that children simply get lots of pleasure from taking part in musical activities, whether it be practising and improving their own individual skills or participating in a large ensemble.

Every week, children of all ages have a singing assembly, where we sing a wide variety of songs ranging from seasonal classics to folk songs to modern pop tunes. Our older children have the opportunity to take their interest in group singing to the next level, as we prepare our juniors to perform at events such as our annual Summer Fair and the Young Voices Concert at the Sheffield Arena. The latest Young Voices show in January was the most spectacular we have been involved with so far, as we took almost 100 children to join 5,000 others who had all been learning the same songs to perform to a huge audience of parents, carers and family members. It was a truly unforgettable night! Even our parents have been

bitten by the musical bug, as a band of talented musicians (Totley Crüe) emerged from within the ranks to rehearse for and perform at a spectacular Rock Night to raise money for the PTA.

We are lucky to have two great private music teachers in school – Jamie and Jane – who work with around 30 children to provide tuition in piano, keyboard, guitar and vocals on an individual basis. Children make great progress under their guidance and have the chance to show off their skills to the rest of the school at Christmas and summer performances.



In order to give all children the opportunity to receive specialist music tuition, we have teamed up with the Sheffield Music Hub in the past couple of years. Last year, our Y5 children enjoyed a 10-week block of tuned percussion lessons. This involved playing instruments as diverse as marimbas and boom whackers! This led to a very well received assembly performance for parents plus a trip to the City Hall to hear elements of their lessons incorporated into a concert put on by the Halle Orchestra. This year, our Y4 children are receiving Brazilian Samba drumming lessons on Thursday afternoons. The whole building rocks to the beat!!

As well as special musical events, we also integrate music into the curriculum wherever possible – for example, our Y2 children recently learned the classic round, "London's Burning" and performed it to the whole school as part of their work on the Great Fire of London. The Y5s study Gustav Holst's "Planet Suite" as part of their Space topic. Our recent visit from the Sheffield Chinese Lion Dancers as part of the Chinese New Year celebrations was brought to life by the rhythmic beat of the backing band.

All in all, we love music and recommend that, like us, you "whistle while you work" whenever possible!

Ben Paxman, Assistant Head Teacher

The Totley Show

Saturday 16th September

We are pleased to announce that the Seven Hills Quartet and the Rock Choir will be entertaining us again this year. We have approached the two local primary schools and as in 2016 they will be providing us with Junior Vice Presidents to help with the presentation of the prizes.

Last year we had some new classes to enter, and this year there are also some new additions:

Domestic Section: Open Class Cake (any recipe, flavour and decoration)

Fresh Produce: A plate of mixed vegetables, salad or leaves (Minimum 5)

There will also be an Open Woodwork Class, in both the Adult and Children's Section an Original Poem, and in the Childrens Section A Decorated Gingerbread Man!

We hope to have lots of entries!

Hetty Moran, Chairman Totley Show

New Woodlands in High Peak

Over 100,000 new native trees have been planted on the steep valleys of the High Peak over the last three winters, in one of the UK's largest native broadleaf woodland creation projects.

"The Peak District naturally should have more woodland," said Tom Harman, National Trust project officer for the High Peak. "It's a huge area of land with very few trees in it, and we want to change that."

Over seventy people, including contractors and volunteers have been working with the National Trust planting oak, birch, holly, hawthorn, rowan, aspen and alder trees along the steep valleys ('cloughs') above the Howden and Derwent reservoirs and around Kinder Scout. These new 'clough woodlands' will soon grow into a landscape very different to the conifer plantations around the dams, or the bare grass below the moors grazed by generations of Derbyshire sheep.

"If you've got sheep grazing in the uplands you're not going to get trees growing without doing something about it," said Tom, "So we've fenced areas off to allow trees to grow naturally, and we've planted trees in guards where we still get some sheep."



Tree planting above Howden reservoir: Assistant ranger Hannah Cantrell and volunteer ranger Matt Hilton-Webb checking the newly-planted trees

Visitors are asked to help preserve the young trees by closing gates in planted areas after passing through, as stray sheep can quickly knock over guarded trees and eat the saplings.

The fencing allows natural regeneration with access for walkers via gates and stiles, said Tom. A small fenced woodland above Howden is now full of local oak and birch trees alongside planted varieties from the 1980s.

"This wood wouldn't be here unless someone had put a fence round it 30 years ago," Tom said.

Partner organisations supporting the project include the National Park, Moors for the Future, the Forestry Commission and the Woodland Trust, who recently pointed out that the UK is nowhere near its target of planting 11 million new trees between 2015 and 2020, and that planting needs to increase even more to bring England's paltry 10% tree cover closer to the 38% average in Europe.

"A lot of tree planting we see at the moment is on a much smaller scale, the size of a tennis court for example, so it's really important to see a 'landscape scale' project like this in a National Park, particularly when the country is not meeting its tree planting targets," said Doug Edmondson of the Woodland Trust.

Tom Harman said the new woodlands will stop peat eroding and releasing carbon and reduce flood risks by soaking up water and slowing down river flow.

"We hope in a few years time today's children can bring their own kids and find woodlands that look like they've always been here, with butterflies, wood warblers, redstarts, buzzards and all kinds of animals, from lizards to deer," said Tom.

David Bocking, National Trust

Come Bowling at Millhouses!

Spring is a time eagerly awaited by the members of Millhouses Park Bowling Club, the start of the new bowling season begins in April. Bowls from the previous season have been carefully stored, and like the many plants and wildlife, their hibernation will soon end. Bowls will be carefully polished in the hope they will speed the greens even better than they did the previous season.

Millhouses Park is carefully maintained by a dedicated team of council employees together with Friends of Millhouses Park, and is home to two splendid bowling greens. The Bowling greens are set in a beautiful location, nestling in the Sheaf Valley with the river flowing alongside and framed by the steep green banks of Hutcliffe Wood. The occasional glimpse of an inter-city rumbling along the tracks only enhances the peace and tranquillity of the setting.

At this time of year the parks are at their best. New buds are on the trees, flowers begin to blossom and the freshly cut bowling greens give off their distinctive aroma.

This season Millhouses Park Bowling Club is aiming to encourage more people to be aware of the game and to come

and have a go. To that end an Open day is being held on Sunday 23rd April 10.30am to 3.30pm. Bowling is suitable for all ages. Currently children from eight years old to veterans in their nineties still enjoy the sport.



Bowling is a skilful sport and at the open day you will be introduced to the game by trained coaches. There will also be an opportunity to take part in some family-friendly fun games. All the equipment will be provided, but (*cont'd p. 33*)

Come Bowling at Millhouses (continued)

please bring FLAT SHOES to wear on the green. Should you be interested in pursuing the sport a number of follow up sessions will be available - free of charge!

MPBC (Millhouses Park Bowling Club) was formed over 90 years ago. In the 1960s it incorporated Abbeydale Bowling Club which used to meet at the Beauchief Hotel. More recently we were delighted to welcome members of Greenoak Bowling club who joined us following the closure of their green in Totley.

Many readers will know local personalities who are members of MPBC. These include Robert Jackson, Sports Presenter at Radio Sheffield in the 80s and 90s and inventor of "Praise or Grumble". Robert has played bowls for over 50 years and is the Club President.

In fact you never know who you might meet on the bowling greens of Millhouses Park. Not long ago Jessica Ennis-Hill (now Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill) made her bowling debut here while being filmed as a mystery guest on the BBC Question of Sport programme.

Bowling is a great way to enjoy the outdoors. It provides you with gentle exercise, lots of fresh air and a chance to make new friends. So if giving it a go is beginning to make you feel green with envy, why not roll up to our open day on Sunday 23rd April, between 10.30am and 3.30pm. **And please remember - FLAT SHOES!**

There is no age limit and the sessions are free. The greens can be accessed by turning right upon entry to the park via the Dobcroft Road entrance.

In the event of postponement due to bad weather or for further information telephone Peter England on 235 1496 or email peter.england@blueyonder.co.uk

Looking forward to seeing you around the greens!

John Perkinson

On the Beat

I have written before about the rogue trader / scams issue. Trading Standards in Sheffield have recently launched a new campaign entitled "Not Born Yesterday" to try and tackle this issue further. As we are still experiencing some of these issues across our area I hope you won't mind me reiterating some of the advice I gave last year along with the new advice from Trading Standards.



Rogue traders target people by cold-calling, typically offering gardening and property repairs. Look out for the following warning signs both for yourself and for neighbours -

- Have you noticed any recent unexpected work that has been or is currently being undertaken?
- Did the trader call at the property suggesting the work/repairs were needed?
- Did the trader ask for payment up front, request cash and/

or offer to take them to the bank?

Remember, if traders are calling at your door they can't be that busy! If you have tried to find a decent tradesman you will know that normally a wait is necessary whilst they complete other work. If they say they are working nearby, ask where and speak to the neighbour concerned about the standard of work. Do not proceed with any work without some form of written contract stating what work is to be carried out and how much it will be. No reputable trader will ask for money up front - don't be taken in.

Scams can take all sorts of forms and again it is the most vulnerable who are often targeted. Signs to watch out for are:

- Do you/they receive a lot of junk mail, prize draws, competitions and lotteries?
- Are you/they pestered by nuisance calls?
- Do you/they buy a lot of mail order goods and have sent off money or cheques?

If you are worried by any of these issues you can contact Sheffield Trading Standards on 03454 04 05 06 or by email on trading.standards@sheffield.gov.uk or give me a call and I can pass your concerns on. They can attend and speak to yourself or your neighbours, either whilst workmen are there or if there has been a knock on the door that has worried you, or if you've had unwanted telephone calls.

You can also register with the Telephone Preference Service which is the only register to help prevent unsolicited calls. Contact them on 03450 70 07 07 or go to www.tpsonline.org.uk

As usual please contact me if you have any worries, concerns or issues either via email at adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk or leave a message on my mobile 07787 881945. Keep safe!

PCSO 8136 Adrian Tolson
Dore, Totley and Bradway Area Contact
Sheffield SW LPT
Woodseats Police Station
07787 881945

Dore Art Group Annual Exhibition

Dore Art Group are holding their annual Exhibition in the Old School, Dore, on Friday April 28th from 2pm - 6pm and Saturday April 29th from 9.30am - 5pm

Admission FREE

Come and enjoy a wide range of art works by local artists including pictures and cards etc.

Refreshments including home-made cakes are served in our tea room.

New members are welcome to join us in either of our groups which meet on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in the Old School, Dore.



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THE TIME TRAVELLERS

2016 was undoubtedly the busiest and most remarkable year since our formation as a local history and archaeology group in 2011. Our programmes of activities and involvement in excavations seem to be hitting the target as we have grown in size from around a dozen enthusiasts to an organisation of 100 members, plus as many again on our email information lists. We rounded the year off in celebratory style at our Solstice / Christmas party and reflected on what we had experienced and learned, aided by a curry and a drink or two.

The highlight of 2016 was our Heritage Lottery Funded project to conduct a variety of archaeological activities at Whirlow Hall Farm, the best of which was a three week excavation. At a presentation on 30 March eminent archaeologist Dr Clive Waddington revealed our new discoveries of Roman Sheffield and the 'forgotten frontier' that runs through our city. The Time Travellers will be delivering several presentations over the coming months, passing on details of our findings. and organising a Heritage Day at the farm on 21 May. The Time Travellers will host this event in the main hall of King Ecgbert School, Totley Brook Road, Sheffield. Entrance is free and doors will open at 6.30pm when refreshments will be available. The presentation will start at 7pm and last approximately 1 hour, followed by an opportunity to look at some of the artefacts.

The Time Travellers don't just hold meetings and presentations, and over the coming weeks we have an industrial archaeology trip to Lumsdale Valley and Cromford Mill, several walks around nearby moors and a talk on the historical development of Yorkshire. There will also be a field trip to help interpret the remains of a Romano-British settlement near the interesting village of Chelmorton. We will also be continuing to practice archaeology and have a number of ongoing projects that involve excavations and surveying in very nearby locations.

Back to meetings though, and our AGM is coming up on Tuesday 11 April at the Dore Old School. This will include a guest speaker and will be a good opportunity for new members to find out all about the group and what we get up to. If you are interested in finding out more about the programme of activities that the Time Travellers have lined up for the next few months then log on to our new look website at www.thetimetravellers.org.uk

Glynn Burgin, The Time Travellers

Not Born Yesterday

Neighbours and relatives of elderly and vulnerable people are being urged to join a campaign to crack down on rogue traders and scammers.

Called "Not Born Yesterday", the Sheffield City Council-led campaign highlights the collaboration between Sheffield's Trading Standards and Adult Safeguarding services and brings together a network of partners including South Yorkshire Police, Age UK Sheffield and South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue.

Mail and telephone scams, rogue trading and doorstep crime are prevalent across the city but go largely unreported. This campaign is delivered through organisations and community groups – using the help of concerned friends, neighbours and relatives – who are best placed to spot the signs of this type of financial abuse and provide an effective and confidential route to refer concerns.

Spotting the warning signs and providing support to victims is a key aim of the project. Those being helped might be receiving lots of junk letters for mail order products and prize draws, being pestered by scam calls, or being targeted at the door for unnecessary property repairs or gardening work.

Councillor Bryan Lodge, cabinet member for the environment at Sheffield City Council, said: "We know that some of the most vulnerable people in Sheffield sadly won't have face-to-face contact with many people on a daily basis, which is why it's important that we use those living and working in our communities to look out for these people and be aware of the signs of scams and rogue trading.

"We will be raising awareness of these issues through public spaces such as community centres, GPs' surgeries, libraries and other places that act as hubs of the community. It is a sad fact that criminals prey on the most vulnerable, but by raising awareness of the problem and giving people the knowledge they need to help spot the signs, we aim to reduce the level of offending and the risk of being a repeat victim of these types of crime. The message is to friends, fam-

-ilies and neighbours – you can help.

National statistics suggest that at least half of scam victims lose more than £50, while five per cent lose more than £5,000. A third of adults responding to post or phone scams will then be repeatedly targeted with requests for money or sensitive personal details.

South Yorkshire Police's force lead for burglary, Detective Chief Inspector Jade Brice, said: "South Yorkshire Police are committed to protecting members of the public, particularly vulnerable members of the public, who may be targeted by bogus and rogue scammers."

A spokesman for Age UK Sheffield said: ""We regularly hear of older people being targeted by unscrupulous and unsolicited traders. If in doubt, people should contact Trading Standards or, for independent advice, contact us on 0114 250 2850." Anyone who has concerns that someone they know may be a victim of scammers or rogue traders should call 03454 040506 or email trading.standards@sheffield.gov.uk

Miss Trott's High School for Girls



This photograph, taken in a snow storm, in 1961, is from Akley Bank, showing what was Miss Trott's Dore & Totley High School for Girls. It was located in Dore, as it is on the Dore side of the Old Hay Brook. The land is now occupied by the Grove Road estate. Since this photograph was taken, Akley Bank's boundary has moved, in some cases, due to land slippage and possible erosion from the River. Residents on Marstone Crescent know that the land has been sold, but to whom they do not know. Household insurances could be affected. Research will be carried out to hopefully bring a fuller picture of the situation, in our next edition.

Kinder surprise

The transformation of the summit of Kinder Scout, the Peak District's highest point, will be the theme for this year's Spirit of Kinder Day, to be held at Edale Village Hall on Saturday, April 22. Keynote speakers at this iconic event include the chief executives of the National Trust, the Ramblers and the Wildlife Trusts of England.



This year marks the 85th anniversary of the famous Kinder Mass Trespass, and also the 35th anniversary of the acquisition of Kinder Scout by the National Trust. The trespass was the inspiration for the annual Spirit of Kinder event, which aims not only to commemorate the past but also to look forward to current and future challenges to the environment and provision of access to the countryside.

You are cordially invited to the fifth Spirit of Kinder Day at the Village Hall, Edale at 2pm on Saturday, April 22, 2017.

The event will look at the outstanding re-wetting and re-wilding work which the National Trust and others have done on Kinder Scout since 1982, transforming the landscape which the trespassers knew.

Master of ceremonies will be the popular BBC Radio Sheffield presenter Rony Robinson, and speakers will include Dame Helen Ghosh, Director General of the National Trust, Vanessa Griffiths, new Chief Executive of the Ramblers, Stephen Trotter, Director of the Wildlife Trusts, England, and former manager of the NT's High Peak estate and Jon Stewart, General Manager of the National Trust in the Peak District.



Sheffield folk singer Sally Goldsmith will provide the musical accompaniment on the day, including several of her own songs celebrating the trespass. Sally will also lead the traditional singing of The Manchester Rambler.

The event will see the launch of a new book celebrating Sheffield's place in the fight for access to the Peak District moors. Entitled *Clarion Call: Sheffield's Access Pioneers*, the book includes many previously-unseen photographs of the early days of the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers and their charismatic leader GHB Ward.

Admission to the Spirit of Kinder Day is free and all are welcome, but as space in the hall is limited, people are advised

to arrive early. We are encouraging people to use public transport - Edale is served by trains from Stockport and Sheffield. Light refreshments and tea and coffee will be provided by the Edale Women's Institute. Other events during the weekend include a number of guided walks led by the National Trust and the National Park Authority.

Among the organisations attending the event are the National Trust; the Ramblers; Sheffield Campaign for Access to Moorland; British Mountaineering Council; Peak District Mountain Rescue Organisation; Moors for the Future; Kinder Visitor Centre Group, and Friends of the Peak District (CPRE).

Enjoy and Explore the Eastern Moors Eastern Moors

Dawn chorus walk

Wednesday 10 May, 6.30am-9.30am



"Early birds" are invited to join us for a morning walk. Learn how to identify woodland and moorland species by their song.

The find out more...

Email us: enquiries@easternmoors.org.uk

Call us: 01732 735944

Website: www.walk-easternmoors.org.uk

"Like" us: www.facebook.com/easternmoors

"Follow" us: @Easternmoors

Booking essential, £5pp. Suitable for adults and accompanied children 12yrs+.

Please wear weather appropriate clothes.



Letter to the Editor

Totley Trees

I too delight in living in a city with plentiful street trees. This is why I welcome the fact that for the first time ever Sheffield City Council, through the development of the Streets Ahead Programme, have a comprehensive long term tree strategy. Under the scheme we can look forward to a city street scene full of trees not just this year or next but this decade, next decade and throughout the century. Heretofore tree planting and management has been entirely piecemeal and reactive. In structuring the current strategy the Council has recognised all of the benefits of the presence of trees so ably described in the February issue.

Yes, not all new plantings grow successfully, but small trees are more successful than large and any that do fail have to be replaced by the contractor. More trees will be planted than removed and they will be more suited to the location and environment than many that are being removed. A significant part of the programme is to provide a new diverse cohort of trees. Many of the existing trees are approaching the end of their natural lives. By replacing some now we will have well established semi-mature trees in place when the remaining trees inevitably die. This will prevent the complete loss of sizeable trees to streets in a decade or three's time.

Yes, the council has been exceedingly bad at explaining and carrying out the policy and we should ensure that they carry out the works correctly. However, this should not blind us to the fundamental soundness of the thinking behind the scheme with regard to the long term future of the trees in our great city.

Duncan Froggatt

Friends of Dore and Totley Station

Has anything happened recently down at the station? Putting it bluntly, not a lot that you'd notice!

We received confirmation that the Inquiry Inspector's report into the Hope Valley Capacity Scheme was received by the Department for Transport (DfT) on the 15th November, 6 months after the inquiry had concluded in May. The DfT tell us they allow 6 months to consider a report, and that could be more or less depending on the number of other reports they have to consider and any further enquiries that may need to be made.

Work was due to start about May 2017 for completion about September 2018, ready for new services to commence in December 2018. With the best will in the world we can't see those targets being met, and feel it would be reasonable to anticipate a delay of at least 6 months, and more probably a year. It's possible that legal challenges could be made to the findings which could delay things even further.

For our part we're trying to get Network Rail, Northern, Sheffield City Council, SYPT, and other parties together to ensure we get the best possible station built once work starts. Old fashioned heated waiting rooms and toilets don't seem to feature in modern designs, and any hope we might have of incorporating a refreshment facility will be hard to achieve, but we'll be trying.

On the subject of more cover, we may be making limited progress. Paul Barnfield, Area Manager East for Northern, visited the station on 20th January and spent two and a half hours with us. He could see that need very clearly and we discussed the possibility of adding a sympathetic canopy to the existing station building. The building belongs to Network Rail, leased



The current waiting-shelter at Dore and Totley Station

to Northern and sub-leased to the Rajdhani Restaurant. Rajdhani say they have no objection to a canopy but might have if it were to be enclosed. An application has been made to Northern for seed-corn funding to finance a feasibility study, and provisional plans for a canopy. It still remains to be seen who would take on board the actual implementation and financing of any work.

Regular users of the station will attest that the ticket-vending machine is unreliable. We like to pick up internet-ordered tickets prior to making a journey. Far too often we arrive at the station to find the machine out of order. Attempts to get Northern to do something about it haven't got anywhere. It was brilliant! When Paul arrived at the station, the machine was out of order and in the 15 minutes we were beside the machine three people came to collect tickets and couldn't. Better still, his assistant took all those 15 minutes on the phone before he got through to someone to report it. Two hours later he'd not heard back as to what was wrong and what was being done to fix it.

We made the point that users shouldn't be the ones telling

Northern that their machine was out of order. We suggested that modern central monitoring systems should have picked up that the machine had issued no tickets for far longer than it should, and an investigation made. Some faults can be fixed remotely. Northern have outsourced responsibility for



3pm, Wednesday 15 March: ticket machine at Dore and Totley station - not working again!

managing ticket machines, station facilities and their call-centre to Carillion. In their turn, Carillion outsource the actual maintenance of machines to a specialist firm. It seems to take far too long to get up and down the chain to resolve a problem.

We pointed out that the help point on the platform did little to inspire confidence when called to report a fault. There is no clear sign anywhere near the ticket machine to advise what to do when it doesn't work. If possible, you should call 0800 200 60 60, report the fault and request a fault reference number. If you're on Facebook post the detail on the FoDaTS page so we can all see the latest position. As Chair of FO-DaTS they have my email address and if I report it I'll get an email to confirm it, and another when it should have been cleared – or passed to that outsourced firm! We're told a new machine may need to be installed to get reliable service.

Two people are now being stationed on the platform for about 3 hours each weekday morning to back up the machine. We advised Northern that passengers were expressing concern that only one had a ticket machine - now they both have! The poor souls have no protection in bad weather and nowhere to take a comfort break. We asked Northern about that too, without response. They're outsourced personnel, without Northern uniforms at present. They tell us they can't issue tickets fast enough at peak times.

We hope to get some planters to go on the platform by the spring. They won't be elaborate. We'll look at that again when the platform has been extended and rebuilt, if and when the long-awaited redevelopment comes to pass.

Statistics have been compiled over five weeks and they prove what we all know. From Monday to Thursday, all car-parking spaces are used. On Fridays they may not be, but there are still many cars left by station users, parked on surrounding roads. The survey also confirmed that disabled parking was very lightly used, with never more than three of the seven places in use at any one time. On many days, no spaces were used at all. Whether this will make any difference to our request to narrow the seven large bays to make ten standard bays, and replace two of the disabled bays with large bays, remains to be seen. It's a legal requirement at present and applications for variance are difficult, but an effective five extra spaces would not come amiss.

It should be mentioned that there is a potential fine of £50 for anyone not parking in marked bays, parking in a disabled bay without a permit, or using the car park when not having a valid ticket for a train. Some users are going too far by parking on the planted areas. One recently parked on the verge, directly below the sign saying NO PARKING! This may result in enforcement action in future as the car park is monitored

by CCTV.

We now have our own poster beside the waiting shelter. The frame is the oldest on the station and we had to evict a large colony of hibernating ladybirds before taking possession. Updates on progress should appear there from time to time.

Passenger statistics are showing that numbers are increasing rapidly - 106,000 in 2011/12, 123,000 in 2012/13, 138,000 in 2013/14, 146,000 in 2014/15 and 156,000 in 2015/16. And we feel these are underestimates because until recently many passengers couldn't pay because the conductor or ticket machine couldn't cope. We predict an increase towards 250k by 2025 on current growth trends, reinforced by better revenue collection and more trains when the improvements are completed. This surely points to the need for better facilities on the station.



3 pm, Wednesday 15 March: all disabled parking places empty

FoDaTS is slowly but surely gaining new members. We have people with a wide range of useful talents. A retired British Rail freight manager, a founding member of the Great Western Society with their centre at Didcot, a former British Railways timetabler for this area, the manager of a company that designs and builds kiosks and shelters for railway stations, and at least one person who'd like to provide early morning refreshments on the station. And many more!

If only we could knock heads together and get things done. Trans Pennine Express could fill the four gaps of two hours in our service by stopping their trains. It all seems so simple to us, but there are reasons why not. We'll keep plugging away. If you use the trains, or just have an interest in developments at our station, please join us by sending an email with your contact details to our Secretary; nj-barnes@outlook.com

You can also join us on Facebook - just search for FoDaTS. Look in from time to time to see the latest news - and to post constructive comments, please!

Visit our website at www.fodats.net

Chris Morgan, Chairman

Six Hours

Six hours from nails to death
Six hours before the final breath
Six hours of total agony
Six hours my Saviour died for me

Six hours there on the cross He hung
Six hours before His work was done
Six hours in blazing sun and shade
Six hours the sacrifice was made

Six hours time never went so slow
Six hours seconds into hours grow
Six hours so hours became like days
Six hours that seemed to be always

Six hours of jeers and torment
Six hours on Him much hate was vent
Six hours burdened with all our sin
Six hours loaded there on Him

Six hours it took to pay the price
Six hours for death and sacrifice
Six hours before it all was done
Six hours and so the battle won

A poem for Easter submitted by Vivien Filleul

All Saints Church

Totley Hall Lane



What did you give up for Lent? Or maybe you took something on? I wonder how you've found it - and what you've learned about yourself.

Lent is for many people a time for self-examination, for reflection on who we are and our place in life. For Christians it is a time to focus on our relationship with God, and our place in his mission to love the world.

The culmination is Good Friday and Easter Day. Good Friday - the day Jesus was found guilty of political treason and crucified with the mock sign above his head "King of the Jews". Easter Day - the day of the formal funeral when the first mourners, arriving at daybreak, discovered his burial tomb was empty and he was alive, as he'd promised!

And the day between? Holy Saturday - blink and you miss it. But not for those at the time. For them, it was a day of desolation. Jesus had died the day before, and due to religious laws, could do nothing until the Sunday. Saturday was a day of waiting, watching, wondering, weeping...

Holy Week, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Day - what a rollercoaster of life and emotions. Jesus in the midst of the mess, not avoiding it.

How about journeying with us as we re-tell this story of the most significant week in Jesus life? All Saints Totley is holding a number of opportunities to move through Holy Week to Easter:

Monday 10th April - Thursday 13th April: 'Midday Meditations'. 12-12.30 A short reading from one of the Gospels, a time of quiet and prayer.

Wednesday 12th April, 10 am: Holy Communion

Thursday 13th April, 7.30 pm at Christ Church, Dore: 'Maundy Thursday' Communion

Friday 14th April - Good Friday - 10am: worship begins at All Saints, then a procession through Totley, concluding with worship at 10.45am at Totley Rise Methodist Church.

Sunday 16th April - Easter Day - 10am: Family Communion

We really would love to see you as we journey through the 'rollercoaster' of Holy Week, and our own lives.

May you know the presence of Jesus in the highs and the lows of life.

Yours,

*Revd Katie Tupling
Vicar, All Saints Totley*

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
SLIMMING WORLD, Abbeydale Sports Club, 5.30 pm and 7.30 pm, Jo Elsey: 262 0523 or 07590 545253
FITNESS LEAGUE fitness class 1.45 - 2.45, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road. Call Ali on 07927 420726.
- TUESDAYS** **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
FITNESS LEAGUE fitness class 10 - 11am, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road. Call Ali on 07927 420726.
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. 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 - 1pm
 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 run by a qualified Pilates Instructor and Physio-therapist for all abilities and ages. 1.30pm - 2.30pm at the United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road. Call Emer on 07792422909.

APRIL

- WED 12th TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB**, 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Mrs Jackie Depelle, 'Chasing Million Eyres'. Visitors Welcome.
- TUES 18th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**, Lloyd Powell, 'Sheffield Castle'. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10 am.
- WED 26th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP**, Annual General Meeting, followed by talk by Valerie Bayliss, 'Building Schools for Sheffield 1870-1914'. Sheffield was quick off the mark to provide elementary education after the 1870 Education Act, and the School Board was responsible for many fine school buildings. The talk looks at the way the Board was set up in Sheffield and at the building programme which has left the City with one of the best surviving collections of these buildings in the country. Totley Library, 7.30 pm.
- MON 24th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**, Annual General Meeting followed by talk by Prof. Ian Rotherham on surveying the history of Gillfield Wood and Totley Brook. For more details see p. 25.
- WED 26th TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB**, 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Mrs Angela Delange, 'Robert Mosley and Portland Works'. Visitors Welcome.
- SAT 29th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**, Bird Walk with Chris Measures. Meet by the Scout Hut, off Aldam Road at 9am. For more details see p. 25.
- SUN 30th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**, Practical Conservation morning run with the help of Sheffield Council Ranger Service. Meet 10 am, Baslow Road bus terminus. For more details see page 25.

MAY

- MON 8th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: A talk by Christine Gregory on 'Water Voles'. Totley Library,, Baslow Road, 7.30 pm. Entrance fee £1. For more details see page 25.
- WED 10th TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB** 10am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Nigel Macknight, 'The World Water Speed Record'. Visitors Welcome.
- TUES 16th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**: Ellen Outram, "Curiosities of the Peak District". Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10 am.
- WED 24th TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB** 10am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Pat McLaughlin, 'Prehistoric England'. Visitors Welcome.
- WED 24th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP**: Graham Shepherd, "Ganister Mining and Refractories: the Forgotten Industry". Totley Library, 7.30 pm.
- SUN 28th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: Practical Conservation morning run with the help of Sheffield Council Ranger Service. Meet 10 am, Baslow Road bus terminus. For more details see page 25.

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