

# Totley Independent

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## The Totley Show 2017: A Growing Success!

What a show on Saturday 16th September!

Entries in the 66 classes were higher than ever and the folk of Totley turned out in large numbers to support the event. There was a 30% rise in entries and the footfall at the door was up by 25%.

A full list of winners will appear in the next edition. We are delighted to announce however that Ray Sables won Best in Show, and the nine section winners were Susan Ashmore (Handicraft); Barbara O'Connor (Domestic); Eileen Ogley (Floral); Tom Steel (Fresh Produce); Claire Calvert (Art and Sculpture); Tom Steel (Photograph); Andrew Rose (Woodwork); Elizabeth Bridgens (Children up to 8) and Emma Caroe (Children 9-14).

We were entertained by The Seven Hills Quintet and The Rock Choir and our new

President Mr Les Firth was sterling.

Our warm congratulations to the prize-winners for their original, charming and dedicated efforts in producing such a high standard of produce and artworks.

The Committee wishes to thank all the volunteers who gave their time to make the day so successful - and thank you to the four Junior Vice Presidents for helping with the Awards and the Raffle.

We are very grateful to many of the Totley shops and businesses who gave all the prizes - more than 20! - for the Raffle.

Finally a thank you to the sponsors of the Show, the churches, individuals and public houses. As always you support this community event in such an uplifting way.

*Hetty Moran, Chairman*

*Mick Warwick, the new Chair of the Totley Show Committee, writes:*

A special thanks to Hetty Moran who has stood down as Chairman after this year's Totley Show due to personal commitments. Hetty took over 2 years ago when the previous Chairman retired.

In her first year as Chairman she more than doubled the money coming in from sponsorship which enabled us to make donations to two local Charities last year.

This year, as she has mentioned, there was a substantial increase both in entries to the Totley Show and members of the public coming through the door in the afternoon. This is down to the hard work of Hetty and the other committee members with *(continued p.5)*

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## An Autumn Serenade – Sunday 1st October

There's a chance to delve into the murky depths of the bassoon world on Sunday 1st October at St. Oswald's Church, when Totley resident Glyn Foley is joined by three bassoonist colleagues in A Good Reed.

They promise a light-hearted evening, with an engaging programme giving the bassoon a chance to shine.



*Glyn Foley (top), with bassoons and friends...*

Sometimes described as "the clown of the orchestra", there's much more to this under-rated instrument. The great Frank Zappa described the bassoon as "one of my favourite instruments. It has the medieval aroma, like the days when everything used to sound like that. Some people crave baseball . . . I find this unfathomable, but I can easily understand why a person could get excited about playing the bassoon."

The quartet also offers a rare opportunity to see (and hear!) the contrabassoon – an instrument which reaches rare depths – once heard, never forgotten.

Adding variety to the evening are well-known Sheffields Jimmy and Margaret McWilliams. Jimmy, recently seen on BBC Television and at Leeds Varieties in *The Good Old Days*, is known to theatre audiences around the country as Scotland's Cavalier of Song, with a repertoire of songs and popular ballads from all over the British Isles and musicals.

This charity concert starts at 7pm on 1st October at St. Oswald's Church (on the corner of Abbeydale Road and Bannerdale Road). Tickets are £7 including refreshments.

*Glyn Foley*

## On the Beat

One of the most frequent comments I hear is that people aren't sure what number to ring to report antisocial behaviour/non crime incidents. In this column I will try to clear up confusion and let you know what the Police can do and what is actually the Council responsibility. 999 is of course the number to call in emergencies where life or property is in immediate danger. 101 is our non-emergency number and should be used for all other calls. I am aware that there are sometimes issues with this line and that the hold time can be frustrating, but this is the only other telephone number to report other crimes or incidents and have an officer allocated. Please do not use Facebook or Twitter to report crimes. If you are internet savvy we now have an online reporting form available at [www.southyorkshire.police.uk/reportcrime](http://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/reportcrime) These reports go through to our contact centre and incidents are created from them in the same way as from a phone call.

There are many different types of anti-social behaviour and in some cases, local authorities are responsible for dealing with particular issues. The following is a guide that may help you decide who is the best agency to contact.

Police will deal with begging, drug dealing, youths in parks causing issues, harassment or intimidation, hoax calls, lighting of fires, misuse of fireworks, intimidating dogs, some



aspects of nuisance neighbours, prostitution or indecent behaviour and vandalism.

The Council are responsible for abandoned vehicles, dead animals on the street, dog fouling, fly posting, fly tipping, graffiti, littering, lost or stray dogs, noise nuisance/noise from DIY, discarded syringes or needles and waste on land. They can be contacted on 0114 2734567 or via [www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk) on the report a problem section.

Untaxed vehicles should be reported direct to DVLA via [www.gov.uk/report-untaxed-vehicle](http://www.gov.uk/report-untaxed-vehicle) or via their postal address at Enforcement Section, W070/D12, DVLA, Longview Road, Swansea, SA7 0XZ.

Moving to parking issues, the police only have the power to deal with parking obstructions and dangerous parking. All other parking issues (clearways, bus lanes, yellow lines etc.) are dealt with by the Council. Their parking services department can be contacted through the number above. Note that driveway obstructions can only be dealt with if you are blocked from getting out of your drive - the legislation does not cover being blocked from getting in! (Don't shoot the messenger!!) In the case of pavements, an obstruction occurs when prams or wheelchairs are unable to get past a vehicle without going into the road, and does not necessarily involve how many wheels the car has on the pavement.

I hope you find this helpful but if you are unclear about who to contact you can call me on 07787 881945 for further advice and as usual contact me on [adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk](mailto:adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk) Thank you for reading!

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



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## Totley Show (continued from p.1)

the help of volunteers over the weekend.

Although we have over 12 people on the committee and as many again volunteers over the weekend at the Totley Show we are always looking for more people to help.

If you would like to join the committee or just help out over the weekend then please get in touch with me as the new Chairman on [mick.warwick@talktalk.net](mailto:mick.warwick@talktalk.net)

## Letter to the Editor

Many thanks to the lady picking up litter early on Sunday morning over the Bank Holiday weekend around Totley Rise. If everybody just picked up the litter outside their own home, it would save this lady and her friend a lot of work.

Steve, Glover Road

## Supporting local businesses online!

A new collaboration called [SaucedHere.co.uk](http://SaucedHere.co.uk) has been formed in the local area to help those visiting the Peak District and local residents who live within or on the fringes of our national park.

[SaucedHere.co.uk](http://SaucedHere.co.uk) is a new online supermarket that is only stocked by producers and businesses local to the region – the ambition being to provide a convenient replacement to a national supermarket chain grocery delivery.

There are over 1250 products now on line from around 40 or more different local producers all of which can be delivered to the door of the customer at a time they choose.

The service offers a full basket of products hand sourced from the area's top purveyors (including meats, milk,

cheeses, fruit and veg, drinks, ready meals etc), all made available via one flexible delivery to our property. Even items that are not produced here in the Peak District are purchased from the region's village shops or alike.

The collaboration was set up by Luke Osborne (pictured right) who has recently moved into the area after living in Bakewell for over a decade. Some of Luke's inspiration for the project came from seeing a number of local businesses close down whilst a fleet of supermarket delivery vehicles drove past! You can contact [SaucedHere](http://SaucedHere.co.uk) on 07842 302210 or email [Luke.Osborne@SaucedHere.co.uk](mailto:Luke.Osborne@SaucedHere.co.uk).



## French and Italian Classes this autumn

The WEA French level 4 course, taught at St Johns Church Hall, starts on 3rd October. The French Levels 1 and 2 and Italian Beginners and Level 2 courses have started, but if there are enough takers, people might still be interested in joining us, and there are still likely to be places. Most courses last for the whole 12-week term. Or you might like to join us in January.

As you may not be able to book via the website, you should contact the tutor, Sylvia May, directly on [sylviamay@gmail.com](mailto:sylviamay@gmail.com) or by phone on 07958 940821 or 01709 850011. The WEA booking line is 0300 303 3464.

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## Totley Library Plant Sale May 2018



Raising funds for Totley Library serving Totley, Dore and Bradway

We are once again looking for green-fingered people to donate plants for next year's sale. You might be dividing herbaceous plants this Autumn or planning seed sowing for Spring.

The library is a charity managed and run by volunteers with minimal funding from Sheffield City Council. In May 2017 we raised well over £700 for the library, and were very grateful for all plant donations. We will hold the event again in 2018.

If you can help please let us know and we'll contact you nearer the time.

Please contact Sue Hare or Fiona Smith:

[suehare42@talktalk.net](mailto:suehare42@talktalk.net) or phone 0114 2363331

[fionaksmith@gmail.com](mailto:fionaksmith@gmail.com) or phone 0114 235 0445

or leave a message for Sue and Fiona at the library!

# Dore and Totley United Reformed Church

## Totley Brook Road

### Events coming up

#### Harvest Sunday October 8th

Our harvest worship will be led by Rev. Zaidie Orr at 10.30 am. We will be collecting tinned and dried foodstuffs during the service for the Cathedral Archer Project, and the service will be followed by a lunch.

#### Share the Fun

On the afternoon of October 8th, we will be holding a children's event for 5 to 11 year olds. Come and "Share the Fun" from 2.30 to 5.30 pm with John and Maria O'Brien. There will be songs, a Bible story, crafts, games and a quiz. Cost of £1 per child includes a picnic tea. Please text 07929720977 by 4th October to reserve a place.

#### All Hallows Eve

All Saints Day (1st November) is also known as All Hallows Day, so the day before became known as All Hallows Eve or Halloween. For the church this is an occasion to celebrate the Communion of Saints, past and present. So, on 31st October at 7pm, we shall be holding a short service of prayer to remember Christians who have gone before us and also the present Christian community.

#### Sheffield Carers Centre

Our chosen charity this year is the Sheffield Carers Centre. All profits from the following events are in aid of the Carers Centre. All are welcome to join us for any of these events.

#### Autumn Coffee morning

Saturday 14th October from 10 am to 12 noon. Join us for tea, coffee and homemade cakes.

#### Breakfast on November 5th

We will be serving a cooked breakfast between 9 and 10 am on Sunday 5th November, before our worship.

#### Dronfield Genquip Band

Sunday 3rd December at 3 pm.

The band will be performing music with a Christmas theme. Tickets at £6 each are available from Elaine Ferguson, 07929720977 or from any band member. Price includes seasonal refreshments.

#### Christmas Coffee morning

All welcome for coffee, cakes and a variety of stalls on Saturday December 9th from 10 am to 12 noon.

*Elaine Ferguson*

*Secretary, Dore and Totley URC*

## Traffic News

The speed cameras were not present as often as intended in August, due to technical problems. However, 17 offenders were reported.

I have been carrying out some observations on vehicles which speed. At the start of the dual carriageway, at the railway bridge, there are some motorists who feel that it is necessary to get to the lights as soon as possible, and certainly before anyone else, even though there are markings on the road to maintain a single approach part way to the lights. The traffic lights are as good as being at Silverstone or any F1 Grand Prix! One offender, who very nearly killed me, lives very locally. Why the race? Numerous vehicles need to be in the right hand lane to either turn right into Marstone Crescent, Stonecroft Road or to do a U turn, but there are no signs to indicate that there is a right turn approaching, and a council officer has told me that they will not provide one. Then there is the issue of parked cars, but I stray.

Vehicles then drive, speed cameras being absent, at high speed up to Main Avenue, where the road narrows to single lane, apart from a few idiots who still have to be front of

the queue, but then, where do some of them go? Totley Hall Lane!

Generally, inbound vehicles usually wait until Main Avenue to speed up, and then demand the right to overtake right down to Marstone Crescent, even though an indicator will tell the driver that a left turn is about to take place. Why we have not had accidents recently, I do not know - I just hope that the cameras have had an effect on the majority.

Now, Norton Lane. I followed three cars along by the Old Norton Aerodrome at between 40 and 45mph (it is a 40 limit). At Lightwood Lane Roundabout, the three cars decide to "go". The first one, a Black Range Rover, was off at about 60mph, and the other two tailed each other at about 50+ (I cannot, of course, tell you exact speeds!) They passed 40 mph reminders just after the roundabout.

The psychology? That all dual carriageways MUST be 40mph? Wrong! That all dual carriageways which have an open aspect, must be derestricted? Wrong!

And SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices)- where are they, and where have they been? They were purchased from a pot which is not now available, and were run by local committees



on which our Councillors sat. I have now been told that they are under control 'centrally' whatever that means. I have asked, but await an answer.

Research has shown that these devices are only effective for three weeks in one place, so there are costs in maintenance and moving them, costs which, I guess, the Council say they cannot afford.

I have to ask, then, what happens to the income from fines and driver awareness courses, of which an acquaintance of mine has been on three!

But then I am on a loser - whatever happened to the Road Fund licence money, and excise duty and tax on fuels?

What can WE do?

Placards to remind motorists that Baslow Road is 30mph (and always has been!) Would we get planning permission to erect them? Would vandals leave them alone?

Could we raise the money to fund our own SID?

Any ideas will be welcomed.

*Roger Hart*

# What's on at the Library



## Children's summer activities!

It's been a busy summer at Totley Library with lots of activities for children taking place. We were also very impressed by the number of children entering this year's Summer Reading Challenge which had the theme of 'Animal Agents'.

A very big thank you to everyone who entered our Children's Art Competition 'Mad about Minibeasts'. We had nearly thirty



Entrants for the Mad About Minibeasts Art Competition

entries and the standard was very high indeed. Well done to everybody for making such a big effort and taking the time to make so many beautiful pictures. The prize-winners and runners-up were as follows:

### Under 5's section:

1st prize: Frey Fletcher, aged 4. 2nd prize: Alice Taylor, aged 4

### 5-7 section:

1st prize: Stanley Coe, aged 7; 2nd prize: joint winners – Toby Hobson, and Theo Hughes, aged 5.

### 8-11 section:

1st prize: Magda Elmlik, aged 10; 2nd prize: Sophia, aged 8

All entrants were awarded a certificate. If you were unable to collect your prize and/or certificate on Saturday 9th September please ask at the library desk and they should be able to help you.

Congratulations also to Amy! She was the winner of our Story Time 'Who can grow the tallest Sunflower?' competition. John from the Library's Gardening Team had joined Storytime earlier in the year and helped the children to sow the seeds, which they then cared for as they grew.



Sunflower prize-winner Amy

**Totley Library Lottery** Thank you also to those of you who support us by being members of the Totley Library Lottery. The lucky winners this month were Robert Jackson who won first prize with winnings of £94.60 and Barbara O'Connor, who won the second prize of £23.65! If you would like to enter, you can collect a form at Totley Library.

## Cinema Listings for October and November

Our popular Totley Library Cinema continues with the following showings planned for October and November:

### Adult films:

**Friday 20 October at 7.30pm** - *Lion*: A five-year-old Indian boy gets lost on the streets of Calcutta, thousands of kilometers from home. He survives many challenges before being adopted by a couple in Australia; 25 years later, he sets out to find his lost family.

**Thursday 26 October at 3.00pm** - *Their Finest*: 1940, London, the Blitz; with the country's morale at stake, Catrin, an untried screenwriter, and a makeshift cast and crew, work under fire to make a film to lift the nation's flagging spirits; and inspire America to join the war. Partnered alongside fellow screenwriter Buckley and eccentric actor Ambrose Hilliard, the trio set off to make a film that will warm the hearts of the nation and capture the imagination of the American population.

**Friday 24th November at 7.30pm** - *Hidden Figures*: The story of a team of female African-American mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program.

**Thursday 30th November, 3.00pm** - *Lion* (see above)

### Children's films:

**Sunday 15th October, 2pm** *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*: This spin-off of the Harry Potter franchise jumps back in time to explore the wizarding world of 1926 New York, which is being threatened by both mystical acts of destruction and a group of extremist No-Majs (the American term for Muggles, i.e. those unable to use magic). Author Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne) arrives in the city as part of a global study of fantastic beasts, but he gets caught up in this conflict when some of the magical creatures in his care are accidentally released.

**Sunday 19th November, 2 pm** *The LEGO Batman Movie*: A cooler-than-ever Bruce Wayne must deal with the usual suspects as they plan to rule Gotham City, while discovering that he has accidentally adopted a teenage orphan who wishes to become his sidekick.

Tickets (entry into raffle draw) Adult - £4.00; Child - £2.50

### Autumn Events

**Friday 27th October** - *Thirteen Acres*: John Ruskin and the Totley Communists. An engaging evening with Sally Goldsmith in which she tells the story of John Ruskin's scheme at St George's Farm in Totley, the subject of her new book, *Thirteen Acres*. We'll meet a whole cranky cast of utopians and find out how it helped the greening of our city. The event starts at 7pm and tickets will cost £5 (£3 for members) and will be available from Totley Library

### Isabel Hemmings

## 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 FoGW Diary on p.21, or [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://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. *Please note that this group cannot accept new members at present.*

### 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, and then tea, coffee and biscuits in library.

Totley History Group, usually last Wednesday of the month, 7.30. Talks on matters of historical interest. Check posters in library, the Independent Diary, or [www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk](http://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

# All Saints Church

Totley Hall Lane

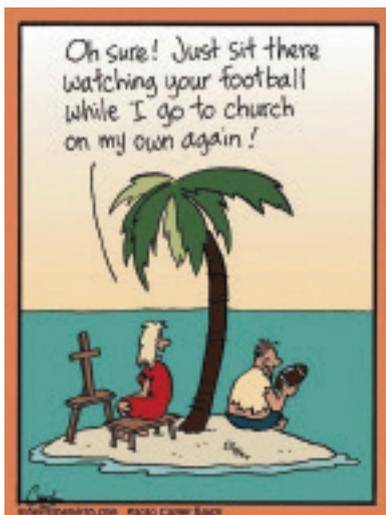


## Football and Faith

If you have ever been at a football match at the start of the game, you will have seen and heard the singing of the home team's anthem. Many of the crowd sing lustily, eyes raised heavenward, hands high in the air, full of passion and expectation. It's just their

way of showing their devotion to their team, but may look a bit over the top to some observers who can't see why anyone would want to go to a match in the first place. Football makes no sense to some people.

The crowd at a match is a very interesting place to observe people. Friends and colleagues and even families who normally get on well, can turn into bitter rivals for the duration of a match. Supporters meet every week and discuss their hopes for the game, speculate about the latest signings, argue at length about the offside rule and how they think the manager should organise things. People who only ever meet at the match get to know each other and lifelong supportive friendships are often made on the terraces. When the team are doing badly, fans share their concerns and if the team are doing well, celebrate their success. If you are a season ticket holder or go to every game, you get to buy your tickets before the rest and the longer you have been going the more loyalty points you accrue. Many of the crowd go because they have always gone there, taken as children by their parents and now it's just what they do. Others go because they accompany a friend or partner, they're not all that bothered for themselves but it means a lot to the other person. Some have heard that this particular team are exciting to watch and are playing well so they go to find out for themselves. Once there, they discover that it is quite good but



they don't feel able commit to regular attendance, because they have other interests as well. They are happy to attend special games, perhaps when the "big teams" are in town, or it's a local derby or a cup game. Some, however, find that it is exactly what they are looking for and decide to follow the team and go to every match, so that it becomes part of everyday life for them. Still others wouldn't go to a match under any circumstances - it's not their thing at all and quite frankly they think it's a complete waste of time.

It's a bit like that with the Christian faith and going to church. Some of us look at the way the "crowd" behaves, and feel uncomfortable, none of it makes sense and it's hard to understand why anyone would choose to be there. However, just like at a football match, those attending church are there for a variety of reasons. But unlike football matches it isn't important how often you enter the building, there are no loyalty points, no special treatment for regular attendance at church. It isn't important what you wear, whether you join in with the singing or just listen. The people are the church and you can be part of the church wherever you are. It isn't going to church that makes you a Christian, it's having a faith in God's love for us and his promise of salvation through Jesus that does that. Just as at the football match, the church meet together, encourage and support each other in good times

and times of difficulty. It is the place where we learn what it means to be a follower of Jesus in the world beyond the church building. We begin to learn how to value and respect and live alongside those who don't share our views. Just as with rival football fans that can be difficult, especially if those people are members of our own family. Being part of a loving and supportive community can be a real encouragement as we seek to face the challenges of everyday living in the 21st century.

Services at All Saints are held every Sunday and Wednesday at 10.00. Everyone is welcome, whether they come every week or once a year or have never been before and the bonus is you don't even have to understand the offside rule!

Here are some pictures from our recent Holiday at Home event held in the church hall. This was an opportunity for



older people to spend a couple of days meeting with others and have a break from the routine with a series of activities, talks, entertainment and food.



Our Harvest Service will be held on Sunday 1st October at 10am. Donations of non-perishable foods and toiletries are welcome and will be shared between the Grace Foodbank and the Archer Project which supports the homeless.

Following the service from 11.15 am there will be a Macmillan Coffee Morning in the church hall and this is open to anyone who would like to support this charity.

On November 23rd at 7.30pm in the church hall, we welcome Rev. David Kereto who works among the Maasai people of Kenya, planting churches and working on a wide range of educational and humanitarian projects designed to improve the lives of many people living in poverty. David is the son of a witch doctor and has a fascinating tale to tell of his life and the projects he is involved with. The talk is open to all, there is no charge and refreshments will be served.

Did you know that All Saints Church Hall is available for hire? There is a large hall, a small lounge and a kitchen, which are suitable for parties, groups or meetings. To find out more or for availability and bookings please contact Beth Booth on 0114 2365512.

Liz Hayden (Churchwarden, Totley All Saints)

## The Poetry Slot....

### Sally Goldsmith

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

#### The January Birds

Maurice Riordan

The birds in Nunhead Cemetery begin  
Before I've flicked a switch, turned on the gas.  
There must be some advantage to the light

I tell myself, viewing my slackened chin  
Mirrored in the rain-dark window glass,  
While from the graveyard's trees, the birds begin.

An image from a dream survives the night,  
Some dreck my head refuses to encompass.  
There must be some advantage to the light.

You are you, I mouth to my shadow skin,  
Though you are me, assuming weight and mass –  
While from the graveyard's trees, the birds begin:

Thrush, blackbird, finch – then rooks take fright  
At a skip-truck and protest, cawing en masse.  
There must be some advantage to the light

Or birds would need the gift of second sight  
To sing Another year will come to pass!  
The birds in Nunhead Cemetery begin,  
There must be some advantage to the light.

This poem is a villanelle – a poetic form used most famously in Dylan Thomas's poem *Do Not Go Gentle*. It's a hard form to pull off, but this is one of my favourites. A villanelle has 3 line stanzas, and requires that the first and third line of the first stanza are repeated alternately as the last line of each of the following stanzas. The middle line of each stanza must rhyme with each other. The first and third lines must also rhyme. The last stanza has four lines where the refrain lines come together. So you see, it's very strict and it's all too easy to end up with something stilted and forced.

I love the image here of the man getting up in the winter dark and turning on the light and gas, a dream still bothering him, the old London cemetery outside with its stirring birds who shouldn't quite be singing yet. Birds are not known for singing in January – though sometimes they do, a sort of sub-song that heralds life and light. We have death here, the ageing man with his saggy chin, the birds singing hopefully in the dark days of January, the feeling that despite dark and death, 'Another year will come to pass.' The form itself, with its circularity, its returning lines, the end echoing the beginning, reinforces this idea – that life goes on.

I discovered that Riordan has edited a book of early Irish lyrics and that one 8th – 9th century poem in this anthology is called *The Calendar of Birds* and begins, 'Birds of the world – / Any hour when January's young / A throng trills from the gloomy wood / welcoming the sun.' As texts from our own culture stick with us through life, so this one may have nodded to by Riordan when writing this poem.

*Maurice Riordan was born in 1953, brought up in County Cork in Ireland, now lives in London and is currently Professor of Poetry at Sheffield Hallam University. The poem here is taken from his book, The Holy Land, one of four collections of his poetry published by Faber and Faber. He has been shortlisted for the T S Eliot Prize and the Whitbread Poetry Award.*

## Totley Yard Sale

Advance Notice!

A community Yard Sale will take place next year, on Sunday 29th April, starting at 11.00am.

If you want to sell some items from the front of your house, you register your name, and pay £5, and we publicise the Yard Sale all over. Everything you sell at your house is your own takings.

The proceeds of the £5 registration will be for Totley Open Gardens Association, to add to the monies we raise for local voluntary organisations. In 2017 we raised just over £3,000 at TOG, and this has been a big help to Cherry Tree Support Services, Transport 17, Totley Library, Totley Scout Hut, Friends of Gillfield Wood, and Totley History Group.

Registration for the Yard Sale will start in January. The more people who take part the better – in previous years we have had 40-50 houses taking part, and that not only raises money for TOG, but it brings lots of buyers from all over the city.

Jennie Street

jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk Tel 236 2302

## Litter-picking dates for your diary!

Animals and birds can suffocate inside plastic bags, be killed by swallowing balloons, choked or poisoned by cigarette butts, trapped inside cans, bottles and plastic bags, strangled by fishing lines or killed by oil that has been poured down the drain?

If you would like to join my group of volunteer litter pickers to help address these issues we would love to see you!

Forthcoming dates are:

Saturday 28th October, 10 am, main entrance to King Egbert School, Totley Brook Road.

Saturday 25th November, 10 am, Totley Library

All equipment provided, but wear sensible clothing/footwear! If you would like to do something fantastic for Sheffield, our community, environment and wildlife please join us. For more information text Julie Gay on 07775 585471.

Email ju.gay@btinternet.com

Facebook: Sheffield Litter Pickers

Julie Gay

## Dore Gilbert and Sullivan Society

Hello everyone, I hope that you had a very enjoyable summer break, weather notwithstanding. As I write this the Society is coming to the end of their break after successful concerts in Dore, Carlton-in-Lindrick and Norton in July and we now look forward to the start of rehearsals for our next show and later for our Christmas Concert.

We are sad to say that we have lost our Musical Director of the last 4 years, Nigel Martin, due to illness and will miss him; but we are very pleased to announce that we have an old friend returning this year to take his place. It is James Newby, a very well-known and respected musician who led us some years ago. We are also lucky to retain the services of Graham Weston, a very talented producer. He works us hard but we've never been disappointed by any of the shows he has produced for us. We are also extremely pleased to welcome our new accompanist, Kelli Edwards, a lady well versed in G&S. Now, what have we got coming up?

Our Christmas concert will, as usual, be in Dore Methodist Church, Savage Lane, Dore; and will be on Saturday 16th December at 2.30pm. Tickets will be £7 each and available from me (from October), phone 0114 2362299. If the last two years are anything to go by, don't leave ordering them too late as the church has a limited number of seats and it is a popular event. The programme will be an eclectic mix of music including, I am sure, more than a little comedy and of course some carols.



Alan Wade as The Mikado, from last year's production (photo: Patrick Scott)

After that we will be concentrating hard on next year's shows. Yes, I said 'shows', for we will be performing two for the price of one! The two will be Trial by Jury, a short one-act romp which is always great fun, and The Sorcerer, a tale of what can go wrong when a love philtre is indiscriminately fed to a whole village. It is another fun-filled vehicle for Gilbert's wit and Sullivan's wonderful music. These two will be at the Montgomery Theatre, Surrey Street, Sheffield from Wednesday 11th April to Saturday 14th April 2018. Tickets (£15, £7.50 under 16) will be available from January 2018. I have no details yet of telephone numbers to ring for tickets, but you can always ring me on the above number.

If you fancy singing and acting with the friendliest bunch of people you could wish for why not come along to a rehears-

al. These are held at Millhouses Methodist Church Hall every Wednesday at 7.30pm. We are always looking for more men - and top sopranos!

We look forward to seeing you at Christmas and next April.

Derek Habberjam

## From your Pharmacist

In the last few months many of our friends, neighbours and patients have received leaflets disguised as letters through their letterbox about Pharmacy2U. This has led to many queries from people asking what it means; quite a few of whom have been anxious, not understanding what the leaflet requires them to do. We will try to explain why you are receiving these leaflets.

They have advertised their company in a way that confuses many people (including vulnerable people) as it may seem part of a convenient NHS service, however, this is not the case. The presence of the NHS symbol and mentioning local surgeries implies you are obliged to respond to the leaflet. Nothing could be further from the truth; all of this is simply a way to try to get business. Nothing about this company is in any way sanctioned by local surgeries - in fact, surgeries across the country are frustrated with the underhand tactics of this company and dealing with the chaos they create by confusing patients.

They are trying to attract customers by offering a delivery service. However, this is a service that we too offer for FREE at Topley Pharmacy. We also believe that you will find our delivery service more efficient and flexible with a facility for providing emergency deliveries too. This company is an internet pharmacy so as well as not being able to provide the personal care of your local independent pharmacy, it simply cannot provide a full range of pharmacy services. It does not offer services such as a free NHS New Medicines Service or Medicines Use Review, which have been widely praised by the NHS, the government and patients.



Not only does it offer an incomplete service, it has also been deemed unsafe and ineffective by the Care Quality Commission who inspect all health and social care sectors. Pharmacy2U has also been fined in the past for selling confidential patient information. However, even worse is the threat posed to the current local pharmacy network by their cherry-picking, depriving other pharmacies of valuable funding.

This pharmacy cannot offer services to all patients anyway; in fact, patients of both surgeries in Topley would not be suitable as they do not generate electronic prescriptions. So the best solution would seem to be to throw the leaflet away and come and see Taj, Jasmine and the team at Topley Pharmacy for the best service.

Taj Singh



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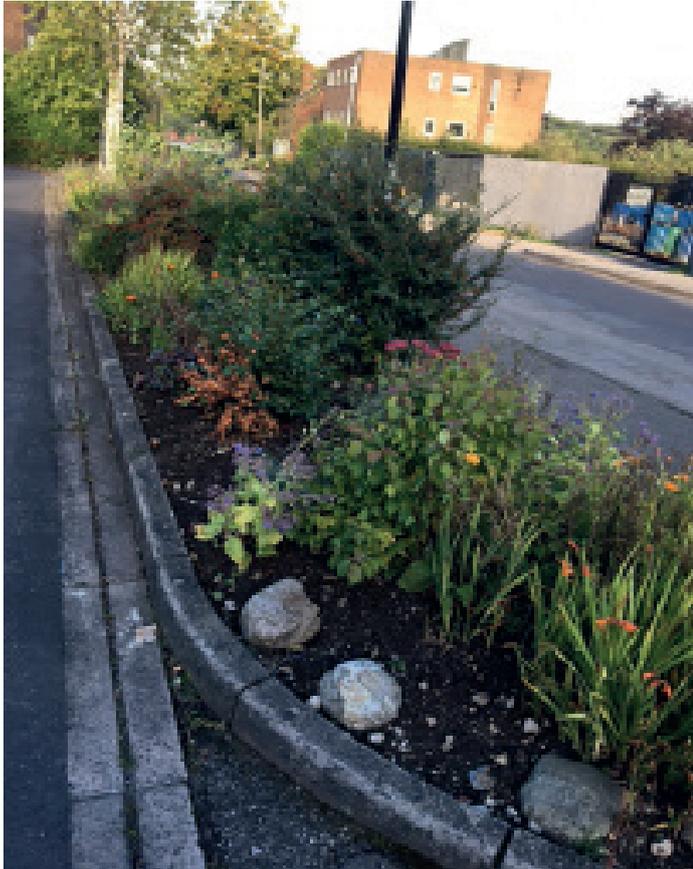
# Totley Show 2017



## Enjoy the Library Garden!

In case you've not visited the library (Totley Community and Resource Centre) recently, you don't know what you're missing. Apart from the books, the CDs, the computers and so many other sources of information within the building itself, there is lots to see outside.

As you walk along the Baslow Road side, there is a protective border of well-maintained shrubbery, just in front of a well-trimmed lawn falling sharply away to the back and right. The lawn itself is so steep, it is a wonder how it is mowed so neatly and evenly. And just behind the building is an attractive arrangement of silvery green plants setting off the edge of the building from where the grass ends.



In walking down the path from Baslow Road and then turning sharp left towards the entrance you will first encounter a magnificently large shrub, and nearby a wooden container display with a pleasant assortment of plants and a small tree as its centrepiece.

If you approach the entrance via the lower path from the car park, on the right is another colourful display of plants spread out in a row on the side of the path. Their names are too numerous to list, but, as with the rest already mentioned, they show off the site in an appealing manner, as with many homes in Totley.

On the Lemont Road side of the library, along the pavement is a lovely display of flowering and other plants of a wide variety, providing an attractive 'relief' from the extensive building works just across the road! Indeed, if you walk around the whole of the library itself, there is much to see in greenery and colour of all kinds, even those parts which are not very visible from the pathways or the Baslow and Lemont Road approaches.

As money does not grow on trees, neither does the upkeep, planting and looking after the grounds itself. From time to time, there is a host of volunteers who can be seen working very hard, often on their knees, in all aspects of good gardening - weeding, replanting, adding new varieties, digging - along with mowing (which is not easy, given the steep slopes at the back and sides of the site). In addition to the physical effort required, they all bring with them a background of use

ful experience as well a keen love for what nature provides. If there is such a thing as a prize for the 'best kept' library garden, I'm sure that Totley's would do well.



*Two library gardeners in action!*

So, together with the 'inside' volunteers who provide all the management and technical services, from book lending to internet availability, as well as the arrangements for many community activities, those looking after the grounds have added to the success of what has been achieved thus far, and have clearly shown what can be done at a local level.

If you feel you would like to contribute in any way to the future running of the library, from either within or out, pick up an application form at the reception desk. There's lots of jobs to be done, during any time you can spare, with lots of others to work with!

*Arthur Kaufman*



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or applications? Broadband installation?

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# Totley Rise Methodist Church

## Autumn/Winter at Totley Rise Methodist Church

9.00am 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

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

6.30pm Reflective Worship most Sundays. A quieter space for worship and listening to God

9.30 – 10am 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 and you're looking for refreshment for your onward journey.

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

**Focus Church:** Totley Rise Methodist Church, Sunday 8 October and 12 November, 3.00-4.30pm. 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 services are held on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 3 – 4.30pm. If you are interested, please come along or if you would like to know more, please contact Sue or John Freeman on 0114 2366819 or email sueandjohn6@talktalk.net

**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.

**Journey to Bethlehem:** Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December 2017. A chance to experience the scenes and market place of Bethlehem. A Roman Centurion will take you on a tour, finishing at the stable where a real baby 'Jesus' is cared for by Mary and Joseph.

The 30 minute tour is free. Booking is essential, so please look out for details nearer the time and/or check the Totley Rise Methodist Church website.

**Messy Church** at Totley Rise Methodist Church. Saturday 14 October and Saturday 18 November

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 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 was 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, 1.30pm-3.00pm. A place for Mums, Dads, Grandparents and Carers to come and chat whilst the children (0-5years) play in a Christian atmosphere. Contact Rachel on 07912 352543 or racheltrm@yahoo.com



**Tuesday Ladies:** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8.00pm, Totley Rise Methodist Church Lounge. About 35 ladies consisting of both church and non-church members meet to enjoy speakers or a quiz or beetle drive. Sometimes the evening includes food such as salmon and strawberries or cheese and biscuits. If you would like more information please call Janet Savage on 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 will happily provide wool, needles and a chat for those who can't travel to the church. Young people are also welcome as part of our community. 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:** 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 Dean on deano1972@sky.com. Or visit our website for a booking form and details of room sizes and charges.

**Community Defibrillator at Totley Rise Methodist Church:** the Church has been fitted with a public access defibrillator. It is a portable device that can be used by a member of the public to help restart the heart when someone has a cardiac arrest.

Always call 999 and follow the instructions from your local ambulance service. It is really important that the professionals are called and are on their way.

The defibrillator is in a yellow box, attached to the Community Hall, reached via the church car park. It is easily visible from the main road.

### Hear our sermons

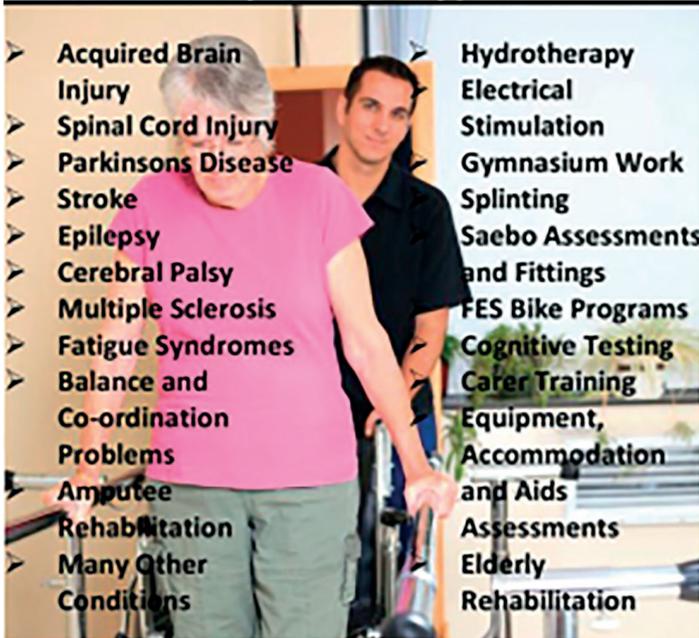
If you are unable to come to Totley Rise Methodist Church on a Sunday morning, you can still hear the service as a podcast online. Just visit our website [www.totleyrise.co.uk](http://www.totleyrise.co.uk) and find a selection of recent services at Podomatic Podcast Page.

**For more ongoing events see this issue's Diary, p.30**

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## Totley History Group

### Programme 2017

25th October: The October meeting of the Totley History Group will be an open discussion evening, concentrating on the buildings of Totley.

Many changes have taken place. Many houses have been built, and even more have been extended both upwards and more recently outwards.

Not just houses have changed. Pubs have become homes. Some shops have been lost and others have opened.

One very big change was the demolition of Totley Hall College. Did that demolition have an effect on your life? Do you live in a house built on that site? Did your profits fall because you no longer had the business from students?

Please can you search for old photographs or records of your homes or businesses that you would be willing to share?

The meeting will be at Totley Library at 7.30. We look forward to sharing your memories.

22nd November: The Cutlers Company and the Assay Office: Sheffield's Two Unique Companies. A talk by Christopher Jewitt.

Contact Norman Rolfe on 01142361999 or email [n.rolfe@btinternet.com](mailto:n.rolfe@btinternet.com)

## Totley Scouts

All the leaders, together with assistants and other helpers, are now rested after the summer and into another programme of events for the children.



We have a wide variety of events planned including shooting, archery, camp fires, hiking, orienteering, cooking, survival skills, climbing and good old fashioned games, as well as many others.

In the last week of July, Scouts went on their week long annual camp at Linnet

Clough in the Peak District with 30 Scouts and Leaders attending. Scout camp this year was a very muddy affair at Linnet Clough, Nr. Mellor on the edge of the Peak District. It rained every day but the Scouts did very well in cooking their own breakfasts and dinners on wood fires each day. During the week they canoed in the rain; built and sailed rafts in



the rain; had fun in a cave bus; ventured into the high ropes cube and played on the low ropes and assault course. They also visited Treak Cliff cavern (which was drier than the camp site) and Jodrell Bank.

Thank you to Shorts Chartered Accountants for donating about 40 high quality chairs. They were much needed as our existing chairs were very old and in need of replacement.

Our website ([www.215thtotleyscouts.co.uk](http://www.215thtotleyscouts.co.uk)) and Facebook page are getting a lot of views. There is lots 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.

*Richard Frost*  
Chairman, 1st Totley Scouts  
[TotleyChair@aol.com](mailto:TotleyChair@aol.com) 0114 236 3603



## Transport 17

Hello everyone, I hope by the time you are reading this we might be having an Indian Summer cos as I write this I am freezing and it is only early September! We have four donations to thank you for and they are as follows:-

Totley Rise Methodist afternoon teas £100; Dore and Totley Lunch Club £300; Totley Rise Methodist Church £300; Blakemore Foundation £200. Thank you one and all - we will be putting this in the bus fund for future use.

We will have attended the Totley Show and will be giving you the results in the next magazine. We will be drawing the raffle on 30th September for the flight - we will give you the outcome next time round!

On Tuesday 3rd October we will be holding a Pairs Duplicate Bridge Drive at Abbeydale Golf Club. We first ran this event last year and as it was so successful we are doing it again this year. Coffee will be served at 10am and the drive will begin at 10.30 prompt. A light lunch will be provided. For full details please contact Aileen Kirkup on 0114 2366013.

On November 25th we have our Christmas Fayre at the Cross Scythes, from 10am to 12 noon. It has always been an excellent event that has been enjoyed by everyone. Let's hope we have some excellent mince pies to have a go at!!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

*Felicity Revill*

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# Organic Gardening

In the last issue of Totley Independent, the article "Longshaw Bee Safari" explained how the loss of wildflower meadows has had a devastating effect on bee populations.

Further to that, apart from the fact that intensive farming is not sustainable, the wildflowers planted around fields to help wildlife have been found to take up the toxic chemicals, eg pesticides and chemical fertilisers, and the bees and other pollinators are then taking them up as well. Therefore, wildflower margins are not the panacea they were thought to be.

There is no doubt that wildlife is struggling. On the *Springwatch* programme, Chris Packham pointed out that gardens cover one million acres of land and encouraged people to grow native plants to help reverse the situation.

Just allowing a small area to go wild is a start, but introducing wildflowers and gradually increasing the variety and the area they cover would make a huge difference.

Over the years, I have increased the variety of wildflowers in my garden with the result that there is at least one species flowering in my garden almost throughout the whole year; with native spring flowers first, then native Greater Celandine and White Deadnettle followed by Red Campion, Foxgloves, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Red Clover, Rock Rose, Margoram and Betony to name but a few. They are some of the best.



*Pretty Betony and Poppies providing nectar and pollen for many bees and other pollinators*

Television coverage of the Chelsea and Chatsworth RHS Flower Shows seem to allow a token wildflower "design", but the rest of a huge area is devoted to highly cultivated and foreign, especially "exotic", flowers. To me, many look artificial - well, they are essentially man-made - while wildflowers seem to have a soul and sit so well in our landscape. In the garden they give an understated beauty which is the very essence of the English country garden.

There were interviews with plant producers, like the lady who produced pond plants - all foreign and no mention of the necessary oxygenators.

One of my ponds has been infested with non-native Canadian Pondweed, which is very invasive. No-one can tell me that it is "alright" to bring foreign species, and that applies to animals as well as plants, into this country.

Another producer was a Yorkshire company which grows South American flowers and propagates them to produce many varieties and colours. They need quite a lot of care and I rather think many will be discarded sooner or later.

In both these cases and many others, the waste of space needed for production; the amount of water necessary and the use of chemicals, together with the transportation and labour involved will contribute considerable pollution as do the RHS Shows themselves, with some exhibitors even transporting whole gardens half way round the world.

Professional gardeners commented on, and enthused about, impressive flowers. One did say that he had seen a dandelion! Carol Klein said, "Oh no, we don't want weeds." Dan-

delions are one of the best plants for wildlife any garden can have. I simply remove the seed heads from some to control them.

I did not plant the Greater Hawkbit that appeared on my patio. It has long stems and yellow flowers which close up at night and continues to flower for weeks. It attracts many insects and will, no doubt, be found around the garden next year. Good!!!!



*Shade-Loving White and Blue Nettle Leaved Bellflowers: also known as Blue Foxgloves, the bees climb up into the flowers*

I would not like to lose our historic gardens, many of which are cared for by the National Trust, but many other gardens open to the public are filled with, for example, Rhododendrons which smother all other life and other foreign plants which are out of place in this country.

Our environment is in a critical state, but there are many changes we can all make to our daily lives which could help to stop further decline. One of them is the way we choose to manage our individual outside spaces, the way we garden and the plants we choose to grow in them.

To finish, a quotation from "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson, an American marine biologist and conservationist whose book *Silent Spring* and other writings are credited with advancing the global environmental movement:

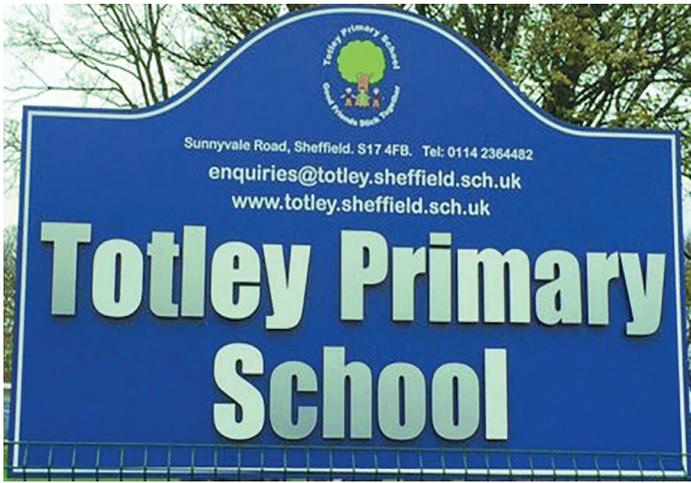
"To have risked so much in our efforts to mould nature to our satisfaction, and yet to have failed in achieving our goal, would, indeed, be the final irony. Yet this, it seems, is our situation."

*Marian Tiddy*

## Gold and Silver Awards for Liberty Foods!

Big congratulations to Damian at Liberty Foods on Baslow Road for collecting Gold and Silver awards for their pies and pork pies at this year's prestigious Bakewell Show - a fantastic but by no means easy result for this completely family-run and family-owned business to have achieved!





## Totley Primary School Improvements

We have had an even more exciting start to the new term than usual here at Totley Primary, as children and staff have returned from the summer break to a range of upgrades and improvements to our facilities.

The school hall project is finally complete with the traditional parquet flooring having had a makeover. A combination of sanding, repairing, varnishing and re-marking has brought up the old 1950s floor a treat and it now looks as good as the day it was laid - see the picture below!



Outside the dining room, the outdoor eating area has been covered by a substantial wooden canopy, giving us more useable space and allowing children to be able to eat outside all year round.

The gleaming new school kitchen looks fantastic and is packed with new modern cooking equipment and gadgetry to allow Amy and her team to continue to serve the nutritious



and delicious meals we are used to as school numbers increase. It is certainly much bigger than what she is used to - we simply don't know how the team coped in the 'mouseswinger' that was the old kitchen!

Finally, the classroom in FS2 (see picture below left) and the girls' toilets have been completely remodeled and both spaces look amazing. Our 60 new starters have had a brilliant time exploring their fabulous new classroom, which we are sure will help them to have the best possible start to their educational journey with us.

*Ben Paxman, Assistant Head Teacher*



## Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society

Hello everyone! I hope you have all had a good summer, in spite of the mixed weather!

We are very happy to report that Alan Wade's play "That Week in August", which we performed in May, has been accepted for publication and is now called "Summer School"!!!



*A scene from "That Week in August"  
(Photo: Patrick Scott)*

We are delighted to have played a part in the play being published, and wish Alan many congratulations and every success. We hope other drama groups have the fun we had.

It's that time of year again in TOADS' calendar - preparations and rehearsals are well underway for our November 2017 play!

The play is a comedy entitled "Lathered Up", written by Lynn Brittney, and directed by Monica Stagg, and tells the story of two rival soap dramas and the devious and dirty tricks they employ to be top of the ratings! We hope you enjoy it as much as we are enjoying the rehearsals.

The dates of the play are Wednesday 22nd November to Friday 24th November at 7.30pm, and Saturday 25th November at 2.30pm. Please note that this is a week later than usual.

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 price £6, or £5 for concessions.

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 on any Tuesday at 7.30pm, or contact me on 01246 460318, or visit our web-site [www.toadsdrama.co.uk](http://www.toadsdrama.co.uk). We are a very friendly lot and you would be very welcome.

Looking forward to seeing you.

*Anne Bettridge*

## Chris has Coffee with Collette Duke

What does a strong community look like? Collette Duke has a standard in mind, given her early and continuing experience of Greece, which she applies to her Totley; and which guides her very positive engagements, both with church and library. You may well know her, say from the garden parties that the Methodist Church on the Rise throws for the community; or maybe you take your young ones to the library, where Collette as a long-standing volunteer delights in the evident engagement of children and their parents with the world of books, and with Storytime.

Collette, Dean and their daughter came to the caretaker's house for the church some nine years ago, from her native Doncaster, and found an already varied and involving organization, to which their energies have added further. They share an awareness that the church looks outward to those who are not church-goers; and Collette instances the support that they have been able to give in fundraising for the Archer Project at the Cathedral. As she says, people seldom realize the stories that lie behind those seeking the Archer's help with their difficulties, whether it be with drugs or illnesses or finances, that lead to their being on the streets. (One hears something of these stories, movingly told by those who are recovering, at the Archer Project's Carol Service in the Cathedral.)



Collette Duke

Equally, Collette talks so enthusiastically about the library in Totley; and what it has been able to do for the community since the army of volunteers came forward to rescue it from proposed closure. Of course, the books and other stock are central to what people expect of a library. But in addition, she stresses the importance of the computers being available in the library: for many seeking jobs, having to trek often into town (and at £4 a go) is a real barrier that some of us wouldn't realize. Similarly, many of the older residents also rely on these computers for their access, glad to have support at hand in case they want.

Collette is evidently a practical thinker: she says solutions to problems seem to emerge easily for her; and she has become one of the Library's Trustees, very much able to bring the perspective of the engaged volunteer to their meetings. The early opportunity to live and work in Greece has given her a perspective on what strong communities can be: you will know the saying that it takes a whole village to bring up a child...She feels that people there live much more open, public lives; and as a result there is much more awareness

of people's needs without the asking. She feels that there is also a great contrast with Britain in the extent to which people do admit to religious and spiritual feelings: here, we may seem rather embarrassed to mention them.

The Greek connexion happily continues for her with family holidays, and especially in recent visits to a simple hotel on Rhodes: if perchance you find Collette in a rare moment of stillness, and with a happy look on her face, you now know where she will be!

*Chris Spencer (Collette and Chris met for the TI interview at Seasons at Totley Bridge)*

## The tree-felling saga - another view

I have read articles in this magazine, the *Sheffield Telegraph*, and letters in the same, about the felling of trees.

I love trees. I have two large mature trees in my garden. My mother paid half, with her neighbour, towards one being planted in the grass verge by the Council in 1953 to commemorate the Queen's Coronation, and there is one in the grass verge outside my house now, from that same planting 64 years ago. I think that most of them in many grass verges in Totley, Dore and Bradway were planted at the same time. However, I accept that some trees will die before others, some get diseased and may fall or branches fall off, some drop leaves and cause inconvenience, as well as sap. Most trees need regular pruning, at varying stages of their lives, at a cost. Some trees have grown to cause obstructions to the view of motorists at difficult junctions. Roots are uncontrollable when they are under footpaths (the roots on 'our' tree have split the footpath twice in 8 years, and have filled the grass verge, under which is a duct for telephone cables). Part of the root was cut away to enable the new footpath to be laid. On Tullibardine Road I noticed that a tree root has pushed the new footpath up, and split the tarmac.

However, where were the protagonists and campaigners when the whole project, by the Council, was being discussed, over 3 years ago? The project, financed by a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) had been approved by the Council to get all of the roads and infrastructure, including trees, brought up to a standard which would last 25 years. Surveys had been made of the whole City, before anyone could bid for the contract. Before the contract was started, everyone in the City was invited to consultation meetings, some locally and some in the City Centre, at which City Councillors, City Officials, and the contractor's representatives were present. Once the contract started, Baslow Road being an early major road to be improved, consultation meetings were held locally, Abbeydale Park Sports club being the meeting room for our area, with local councillors present with the same officials from the Council, and directors from the contractors.

Neil Bunting and I, representing the Ward Traffic Focus Group, attended some of these meetings. At one, in the Town Hall, about 100 people were present, but that was about snow clearing. Another one, in the same venue had, we were told, only a handful of residents from the whole of the City. Another meeting which we attended, in the Quaker meeting room, had a grand total of four people, from the City.

When the protests about the trees on Rustlings Road started to gain momentum, I had walked through Endcliffe Park, alongside the road, and, lo and behold, next to the footpath, were the sawn remains of a tree which had fallen across the footpath. It made me think of a strategy for the Council.

The Council could offer trees to anyone who lived alongside them, or to tree lovers who wanted to retain a tree, on condition that the person took it as a covenant to their property, for the next 25 years, would maintain it, have it inspected and supply a report to the Council every two years, prune it as necessary, insure it and take whatever action was necessary to maintain the safety of passers-by, whatever the cause, such as gales, storms or heavy snow fall.

The Council have not shown themselves in *(continued p.19)*

a good light over this issue, with some inflammatory statements made, and very controversial actions taken. Amey were, I believe, acting on orders from The Council, but how well have the protagonists and protesters acted, in light of the history of opportunities to protest early on in the scheme, at the consultation meetings arranged for just that reason?

As for the Cherry Blossom tree on my grass verge, which flowers beautifully for two weeks a year, has ruined most of the grass verge, casts shadows from the brilliant street lights, harbours insects for the woodpecker, gives me an occasional job in pruning overhanging branches from over the footpath, and has prevented me from having my drive widened - *c'est la vie*.

Roger Hart

## Rhythm Time expands in Totley

Rhythm Time, the award-winning music classes for pre-school children, is expanding in the south-west of Sheffield to offer unique, professional and fun baby, toddler and pre-school music classes in Totley. Starting on Thursday 14 September at All Saints Church Hall in Totley, the weekly morning classes will offer families with young children the chance to relax, sing, dance, play games and spend quality time together, whilst developing vital new skills.

The classes, designed by Rhythm Time's Founder and Managing Director, Kathy Doolan, a graduate of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music, follow the Early Years curriculum and are unique in providing a variety of different music styles, including nursery rhythms, classical and modern music, plus unaccompanied singing which is important to develop a child's voice and language.

The classes will be run in Sheffield and North Derbyshire by Sarah Scott (right), who is a former Secondary School teacher and has run Rhythm Time in Sheffield and North Yorkshire since 2013, as well as managing classes in Bakewell, Crosspool, Dronfield and Greenhill. Sarah is also Chair of



Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society and sings with a number of musical societies and is also Production Manager for Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Societies' yearly productions.

With Sarah and her team of musical staff, the classes in Totley will be taught by Sally, a Rhythm Time mum herself and will run at 10.00am, 10.45am and 11.30am, with optional drinks and snacks afterwards. The venue is All Saints Church Hall, Totley.

### Class Schedule

10.00am – toddlers (12 months to school age)  
10.45am – babies (from birth to 12 months)  
11.30am (September and October) – Introductory 6 week young baby course (babies 6 months and under)

Classes are reasonably priced and there are lots of payment options, including instalments. Families who wish to try the class can come to a no obligation taster class and families who attend the toddler class with a toddler and a baby under one year are welcome to bring the baby for FREE.

For more information and to start your musical journey today visit <https://rhythmtime.net>

Rhythm Time also run children's parties and provide classes in numerous Sheffield nurseries.

## Moorland Discovery Centre 10 years old!

This year sees the 10th birthday celebration of the Moorland Discovery Centre, set up at Longshaw by the Moors for the Future Partnership, and run by the Peak District National Park Authority and the National Trust to help children and adults learn about the unique landscape on the doorstep of Sheffield.

"When schools are thinking of trips, they often think of the famous places to go to, and it always surprises me how many children have never visited this countryside when it's so close," said Moorland Discovery learning officer Rachael Lyon. "I think it's important if you're growing up in Sheffield that you do know what's around you."



A group of eight and nine year olds from a local primary school were identifying creatures in streams and exploring woodlands, and then examining the local 'food webs' - who eats who, to put it bluntly, often dramatised in real time within their pond dipping jars and trays.

"This is not a savannah with lions but our moorland is equally important and as valuable and exciting, and we sometimes overlook that," said Rachael Lyon. "A lot of our wildlife is hidden and secret and often close to the ground, but when you do walk past and realise you're not going to see that anywhere else in the whole world, it's a really special experience. It doesn't have to be a monkey in a tree, it could be a red grouse, for example, that you won't find anywhere else other than in this country and on heather moorland."

The Moorland Discovery Centre hosts courses and days out for secondary and primary schools, and can also be hired out by groups or schools planning their own learning for children or adults in the Peak District countryside. In future years Rachael and her team hope to expand the courses available for different age groups. Unlike many popular commercial school attractions, fees paid go straight back into running the courses and looking after the local countryside, she noted.

"In modern society where there's so much technology and everything is brought to you easily, that appreciation of the nature around you, and how you're part of that is important," said teacher Victoria Shaw. "It's also about being proud of being from Sheffield, this countryside, outside, here is part of Sheffield. We say to the children, this is their city too."

For more information visit:  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw)  
[www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/learning-about](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/learning-about)

David Bocking  
National Trust

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Bar open 12 pm till late.

### *Christmas Day*

Bar open 12 pm – 2 pm.

### *Boxing Day*

Food served 12 - 9 pm  
Alex Barratt's Music Quiz from 8 pm  
Bar open 12 late.

### *New Year's Eve*

Food served 12-4 (Sunday lunch available).  
Live music and street food from 7pm (ticket only).  
Tickets available from 1<sup>st</sup> September at £10 each.

### *New Year's Day*

Food served 12 – 8.  
Bar open 12 till late.

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There's lots happening including Live Music, Steak & Burger Nights, Pie Nights, Quiz Nights and much more. Why not take advantage of our Drinks Club from 4-7 everyday with great prices on selected drinks.

Whatever your reason to pop in and see us you will be greeted by a warm welcome, and a great range of Cask Ales, Wines, Lagers & Spirits - not to mention our fantastic food!

As the last 2 years were a great success, we will be hosting another Bonfire and Fireworks Display on the 5th November from 6pm, with Pie & Peas plus lots of treats available!

For reservations call 0114 236 0789 or email [crowninn.totley@outlook.com](mailto:crowninn.totley@outlook.com)  
And see [www.crowninnsheffield.co.uk](http://www.crowninnsheffield.co.uk)



## Friends of Gillfield Wood

# Diary for October and November

## October

**Thursday 12th: Phase 2 Final event.** South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group with Sheffield Hallam University and the Friends of Gillfield Wood, are organising an open afternoon and evening. This free event will

be held at Topley Library, Baslow Road between 3pm and 8pm. For more details see separate item on this page.

**Sunday 15th: Small Mammal Trapping** with Val Clinging. Join us to look at any small mammals that we have trapped the previous night. These will be carefully examined, recorded and released into the surroundings that are familiar to them. It may be possible to photograph individuals. Good footwear and appropriate clothing should be worn. Meet at the end of Topley Hall Lane by 8.30am.

**Sunday 29th: Friends of Gillfield Wood practical conservation morning**, run with the help of the Sheffield Council Ranger Service. Meet 10am at Baslow Road bus terminus. Refreshments, tools, etc. provided. Please wear strong footwear and appropriate clothing. All levels of help required and guidance given. Check our website at [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com) where any late changes of venue will be published.

## November

### Thursday 2nd: Family Activities - Woodland Day

Please join us for another exciting day in Gillfield Wood with Ranger Nell Dixon and members of the Friends of Gillfield Wood. This local family day out for children is FREE and will involve:

**Autumn Colours**, 10am to 12 noon. How do we get dyes? It is a fact that mankind started doing this with items we find on a school Nature Table. Join us for a morning session making colours from plants using pestle and mortar. Get a chance to do your own nature painting masterpiece.

**Hibernation activities**, 1pm to 3pm How do animals survive the winter? Here is an opportunity to make a small home for an animal (bring a teddy) and look for food to keep your animal alive (berries & fungi). We may try out a blindfold walk (animal senses) and possibly finish with lighting a fire.

**Details:** please register your interest with our FoGW secretary ([fogwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:fogwsecretary@gmail.com)). Children must be accompanied by parents or guardians for the whole event. Families can take part in just one or both activities. Please bring a packed lunch if you intend to stay for the whole day as well as drinks and snacks to keep you going. The activities are run in partnership with the Tree Charter campaign and are free of charge to families of young children.

**Meet at the end of Topley Hall Lane at 9.45 (morning session) and 12.45 (afternoon session).**

**Saturday 25th: November Bird Walk** with Chris Measures (FoGW). Chris' final walk of the year will be a gentle walk in and around Gillfield Wood to see and hear our wintering birds. Meet at the bottom of Topley Hall Lane at 9am. No experience necessary. Bring binoculars and cameras. Strong shoes are essential. The walk will last about 2-3 hours.

**Sunday 26th: Friends of Gillfield Wood practical conservation morning** run with the help of the Sheffield Council Ranger Service. Meet 10am at Baslow Road bus terminus. Refreshments, tools, etc. provided. Please wear strong footwear and appropriate clothing. All levels of help required and guidance given. Check our website at [www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com](http://www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com) - any late changes of venue will be published there.

Paul Hancock

# Open day event - Reconstructing Gillfield Wood's Historical Setting

This exciting Lottery-funded project is drawing to a close and you can help us celebrate. On Thursday 12th October, South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group with Sheffield Hallam University and the Friends of Gillfield Wood, are organising an open afternoon and evening. This free event will be held at Topley Community Resource and Information Centre, (Topley CRIC), on Baslow Road between 3pm and 8pm. The open event is to publicise research and survey work done during a year-long HLF (Heritage Lottery Fund) funded project.

The activities have been carried out with the 'Friends of Gillfield Wood' and 'Topley History Group' to investigate the fields, hedgerows and old trees in and around the ancient woodland and the 'mysterious' stone-posts situated in and along the brook. This is a very informal celebration of the remarkable findings so far from these studies. Our event, which is open to the public to drop in, will have displays and information about the discoveries from the field surveys and the local history research which has taken place. Members of the groups will be on hand to talk about the project and the work that has been done, and to provide information on how to get involved in the groups in the future.

All are welcome and for more details, please contact Christine Handley via email [info@hallamec.plus.com](mailto:info@hallamec.plus.com) or phone (daytime) 0114 272 4227, and check out our website [www.ukeconet.org](http://www.ukeconet.org) for this and other projects.

## Chernobyl Children's Life Line

In July and August seven children from Belarus stayed with families around the city. Belarus is still polluted from the explosion in Chernobyl in 1986. The charity Chernobyl Children's Life Line (CCLL) was set up in 1992 by Victor Mitzi MBE in the south of England. Since then links have been formed all over the British Isles. The Sheffield link was formed in 2007. Taking the children on holiday out of Belarus during the summer gives them a break from their polluted land and it has been proved that one month away improves their immune systems for 2 years. The links organise a month of activities for the children and the host families - swimming, seaside trips, sports day, a visit to Sherwood Forest, parties are a few. The charity also supports organisations within Belarus, such as the Minsk Children's Cancer Hospital and schools and orphanages. The photograph below was taken at De La Salle Sports club at Beauchief where the Lord Mayor visited to meet the children and invited them to tea and cake at the Town Hall. The quilts were gifts for the children made by the ladies at the Patchwork Garden, Abbeydale Rd.



If you are interested in considering hosting a child next year, please contact Dorothy Firth, 2364190 who can give you further information about the Sheffield link or look up Chernobyl Children's Life Line to see the national website.

Dorothy Firth

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## A Nature Hunt for Children and Families

### A Library event organised by Jill Hnat and led by Chris Measures, Friends of Gillfield Wood

28th July: Arriving in the library at 10.30am on this fine Friday morning there was a real buzz of excitement as children gathered and checked that their name badge was firmly attached to their clothing and that they had the required pencil and little brown paper collecting bag.

As still more children arrived through the doors, with parents or grandparents in attendance, Jill, the organiser of the event, batted a range of questions as she took the register and handed out the necessary kit for each child to take out with them on this nature walk with a difference. Stuck to the side of their collecting bags was a list of fourteen things they were being challenged to either see, hear or collect. Things such as "A feather", "something fuzzy", "a squirrel running or jumping in the trees". Each thing on the list had a tick box by the side, the list being headed "Let's go on a Nature Hunt and see what we can find!"



One young man, all of 7 years old, queried whether number 13 on the list, "Wildflower", should be collected. "No, we should not pick wild flowers, just admire them". He probably knew that anyway but was making sure the leader knew. "Now children, number 6....Squirrel....best just watch that, don't try and catch it and put it in your paper bag". They smiled and were all keen to get started.

And so it was that as the party moved out through the library doors, the children's eyes were scanning everywhere to find at least one item on their list. "Something green" a perfect start as the children shouted out "grass, trees, leaves" and eagerly ticked the appropriate box. Then a feather was found lying on the grass, another box ticked and one lucky boy, in the blink of an eye, had quickly tucked the find away in his collecting bag. It was great to be able to show the children that nature is on their doorstep, all around them, no matter where they are. Before moving on, the children gently touched the purple flower heads of an Allium and we all agreed this could be classed as "Something fuzzy" so another box could be ticked and one or two children carefully wrote down the word "A L L I U M". There was no need to encourage these children, they were all up for this Hunt.

Green Oak Park was our next port of call; so much to see and talk about in this area with its trees, shrubs, flowers and a stream with two small ponds. The flower bed, as on previous walks, proved a great attraction as the children gathered round to look at the different variety of plants, the colours and textures, plus they had the opportunity of watching, up close, a number of bees as they fed on the nectar. Some of the children noted the differences between Honeybees and Bumblebees, whilst some ran their small hands through Lav-

ender stems to feel the texture and then to smell the fragrance. The grey leaves of the plant Lamb's Ear were the "Something soft and gentle to touch", so box number 8 was successfully ticked - even some of the adults were amazed at how soft these leaves felt.

Turning then to walk by a line of shrubs the children rushed on to see what next they could find on their list and they were quick to point out that some of the bushes were prickly and they could also see bramble, armed with sharp thorns, creeping over these bushes. So "Something prickly to make you squeal" was ticked but thankfully only squeals of delight were heard this particular day. It was also here that cones nibbled by squirrels were inspected and collected and a small patch of fungi was found and studied as it grew in the shade of a pine tree.

As the children then admired the wooden carvings of Otter, Rabbit and Squirrel that stand in the park, some children edged near to the sides of the ponds to search the pond weed and surrounding vegetation. It was here that one of the highlights of the Hunt took place as everyone became engrossed in watching tiny frogs resting and hopping on the surface of the weeds. A youngster even managed to carefully catch one and then proudly showed it to everyone as it sat quietly in his hands but, as he gently returned it to the pond, it hopped into his wellington boot! Much laughing and excitement was had by all as it was then seen to crawl out of the dark inside of his boot and up his leg to freedom.

As we then walked on, the occasional small white butterfly was noted in flight and box 14 was ticked whilst some children dashed to pick up the odd feather that happened to be lying on the grass. One such feather, on close inspection, when tilted in the sun showed not just black but blue and green along the edge. A young boy shouted out to the gathered group "it's a Magpie's!" and then one more feather disappeared into a brown collecting bag.

When it was suggested we should look at the trees on the edge of the park for different kinds of leaves more than one youngster politely pointed out that they had already collected the required three leaves and they had ticked box number 4. Remaining one step ahead of this group of very enthusiastic youngsters was proving a challenge in more ways than one. However, not to be de-railed, the group was encouraged to search the ground below the trees where a lot of old beech mast could be found for all to bag and tick box 11 "An acorn, a beech nut or an alder cone". A collection of tiny acorns would come a bit later.

Some freshly-developing beech mast was then pointed out in the lower branches of a huge Beech tree. This proved an ideal opportunity to show the differences not only in the leaves but in the seeds that hung in the Sycamore, Lime and Ash, and then to demonstrate how they fall to the ground and give the opportunity for new trees to grow. A further example was the new conkers growing on the Horse Chestnut tree, and the tiny conker trees growing in the leaf litter below, which certainly grabbed everyone's attention.



The group would go on to inspect Oak and Hazel but not before box 7 was ticked. This challenge involved a favourite, the hugging of a tree - "something rough and bumpy to touch". There is nothing quite like hugging a big old tree and connecting with nature whilst you peer into the massive

canopy above.

Attention was then drawn to a Harlequin Ladybird resting on a leaf at just the right eye-level for a sharp eyed youngster to find. As the insect then crawled slowly over an open hand, another box was ticked, box 5, "Something wriggling or crawling". And then just as everyone was admiring its many black markings on its bright red casing, it opened its tiny wings and casually flew high across the open field for all to see.

On with the Hunt, which then led everyone down to the Scout Hut, off Aldam Road, and along the footpath in the direction of Gillfield Wood. So much more to find along this footpath, so many different varieties of "Wildflower" which deserved a big tick in the appropriate box and although the sun was not shining, bees and hoverflies, moths, spiders, beetles and snails were present as was a number of butterflies. The markings on Comma, Gatekeeper, Meadow Brown and Large Skipper were pointed out and a magnificent Red Admiral was discovered in a clearing as it rested with wings wide open. But box 3 "A smooth pebble" awaited. Tottle Brook was flowing gently by the side of our path so it did not take a second before the children were scampering down to the edge of the brook to search through the stones for that one smooth pebble they would choose for their collection. Needless to say those children wearing wellington boots wanted a stone from the bed of the brook, below the water, so wading in, they went with hands searching - the dry edge of the brook would not do for these adventurers as it did not provide quite the same excitement on a morning like this.

Hardly a bird had been seen or heard on this walk, so box 10 "Listen and hear a bird singing" may not have been ticked by many; some may have counted the solitary Carrion Crow that called from a roof top before it flew over our heads as we returned to the library for a 12.30pm finish. After an action packed two hours it was lovely to see the children sitting around tables, at the end of the Hunt, chatting away as they dived into drinks and biscuits, and adults too were seen to be in deep conversation - a very special atmosphere in a much loved library. It would be nice to think they were all sharing their favourite moments.



Perhaps they were; perhaps they were all discussing number 6 "A squirrel running or jumping in the trees". Yes, we did see a squirrel. It caused such excitement and surprise. Adults were pointing as they tried to guide the eyes of their children onto it as it ran along branches and jumped its way

through the tree. "It's there running up the tree! There, look, look!". A perfect moment and although some children were gently held back so all had the opportunity of seeing this animal's antics, there may have been just one small child thinking "I do wish I could put that squirrel in my little brown collecting bag and take it home".

*Chris Measures*

## Holmesfield Flower Club

Wednesday 18th October, 7.30 pm: Demonstration of Flower Arranging by Sasha Gallager (NAFAS Area Demonstrator) entitled "Autumn Haze" 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.



Wednesday 15th November, 7.30 pm: Demonstration of Flower Arranging by Catherine Handley entitled "Christmas Foraged and Found" 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.

The November meeting will be the club's last meeting in 2017.

*Diana Holland*

## Holmesfield Church Walking Group

### Hassop Walk

On Wednesday October 25th at 10am Robin Greetham will lead a walk from the Eyre Arms at Hassop (near Hassop Hall).

We will walk to Rowland, Great Longstone and the Monsal Trail, and then back to the Eyre arms for lunch (optional).

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

If you have any queries, please phone Robin on 01246 412767.

## Councillor Surgeries

### Liberal Democrats:

2nd Monday in month 6-7pm, Tottle 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  
Email: martin.smith@sheffield.gov.uk

## Friends of Dore and Topley Station

Arriving in Sheffield from the south or west by train the first station you pass is Dore and Topley. 100 years ago there was a four-platform junction, with Midland Railway trains stopping on services towards Derby and Manchester. Since a misguided rationalisation in 1985 there's only been one platform, yet passengers can travel direct to Liverpool and Manchester Airport to the west, Doncaster, Scunthorpe and Cleethorpes to the east, and Nottingham, Grantham, Peterborough, and Norwich to the south-east - but only on a very few trains a day.

Hourly stopping trains along the scenic Hope Valley between Sheffield and Manchester make up most of the service, but it's only two-hourly Monday-Friday, in the middle of the day. Two thirds of commuters are travelling towards Manchester, not Sheffield.

The original station building is now the Rajdhani Indian restaurant. The Summer House and Peppercorn restaurants are also on the original station site, at the end of the 129 space car park that is always full and overflowing onto nearby residential roads on weekdays. The Artisan Van provides teas, coffees, porridge, cakes and crepes in the car park from 6am, Monday to Friday. The Summer House opens for breakfasts at 8.30 and opens until late with all day menus for everyone, Rajdhani is open from 5 pm until late. Peppercorn offers high-class cuisine, amongst the finest in Sheffield. Both Rajdhani and the Summer House provide takeaway options for returning commuters.



Where else can be found a single platform station offering such excellent catering facilities on site? Most small town stations can't compete. No Subway, KFC or MacDonald's here. What's going on? At present there's a lot of press comment about HS2, HS3, Crossrail 2 and cancelling electrification of many lines, including the Midland mainline. There's virtually no notice being taken of smaller schemes that are being delayed, like those to improve services between Manchester and Sheffield. For a start two extra platforms at Manchester Piccadilly are urgently needed to provide more space for longer and more frequent trains on all routes.

The Hope Valley Capacity Scheme is a modest affair, including the construction of two loops to allow passenger trains to overtake slow moving freight trains carrying stone and cement for construction projects across the country - possibly including Crossrail, but certainly many building projects in London and the South East. At present these trains frequently cause long delays. It's no surprise to those using the Hope Valley line that TransPennine Express was the train operating company with the highest percentage of late running trains in a recent Sunday Times investigation. In addition to the two freight loops the Scheme also includes doubling the half mile stretch of single track through Dore and Topley station, and building a new second platform with lifts. A line speed improvement scheme for the Hope Valley line is also delayed.

Once these schemes are completed it should be possible to operate longer trains (but still only six coaches) and increase the number of passenger journeys between Sheffield and Manchester from 3 per hour to 4 (3 semi-fast and one stopping at most stations). A typical journey time for the 44 miles between Manchester and Sheffield is currently about 50 minutes on a supposedly fast service.

It costs over £15 a day to park in the Qpark at Sheffield city centre station. It's a free Park & Ride at Dore & Topley. An average train takes 6 minutes less to travel from Dore & Topley to Manchester than from Sheffield. It's hardly surprising that word is getting round. That's a challenge. Passengers are now coming from as far away as Aston by the M1, Chesterfield, Baslow, Fulwood and all and any places in between. If we get better services we'll attract more passengers from far and near.



*The way we were - Dore and Topley Station in 1910*

For local rail users our station is unique. It's in a lovely wooded setting. Local residents don't want more cars parked on the roads around the station. We see all the money being poured into massive tunnelling and electrification projects elsewhere, and talk of 8, 10 and 12 coach trains every 5-10 minutes on London commuter lines. We see brand new electric trains in the south, while we get refurbished 25-30 year old smelly diesel cast offs. It's very frustrating.

Is it unreasonable for those in the north to expect a bit more urgency in implementing the smaller schemes that can make just modest improvements? As an example, the redoubling of tracks through Dore and Topley station was rumoured to be about to happen over 10 years ago. There were three public consultation sessions before the Hope Valley Capacity Scheme went to a public inquiry in May 2016. Work was supposed to start in May 2017 for completion in September 2018. The inspector's report got to the DfT in November 2016. As I write it's still awaiting a decision.

How many more worthwhile schemes are similarly stuck in the labyrinths of government? At least we can eat well while we wait for those extra trains - trains which may be able to cut journey times for the 39 miles between Dore and Topley and Manchester down to 40 minutes. That's a long way from the 30 minute aspiration for the 44 miles between Sheffield and Manchester centres - but that requires HS3.

*Chris Morgan, Chairman, Friends of Dore and Topley Station*  
See [www.fodats.net/](http://www.fodats.net/)

## Gardening Tips for October and November

I am having to put my DIY cap on for the next few weeks. One or two things have been neglected. The barn doors have a bit of wood rot starting and that must be checked before new doors are required. It takes quite a lot of drying time for wood rot eradicant to dry - it has to be thoroughly dry before painting, otherwise the paint peels off, so a lot of patience is required. The summerhouse woodwork is looking shabby. I am replacing some of the trim that I did to make it a bit pagoda-like. It is octagonal so I have eight sides to deal with, and the whole thing needs a good rub down and a coat of varnish/ wood preserver; and the decoration inside (the sky and cloud effect on the inside roof) looks a bit dull and rainy.

In the garden two trees are getting out of hand and need drastic pruning, or we will have to get expensive tree surgeons to see to them if they get much bigger. One of the small ponds is leaking. It has done this before and has been patched up. I am wondering if it would pay us to reline it rather than adding more patches.

I have just been watching the news about the tornadoes in the Pacific. It must be really soul-destroying to see your property blown away by the wind and rain. We complain about the weather, but after seeing all the devastation I'm sure we have very little to complain about.

The garden is quite colourful at the moment (early September). The hanging-baskets and troughs are still looking good - they have been really prolific throughout the season.

I am a bit worried about my exhibits for the Totley Show (though I know it will be over when you are reading this). The tomatoes are looking very sparse: you might be surprised how many you need to select five perfect ones! The cucumbers started early and have nearly finished. I might have one or two but they will be far from perfect. The runner beans are very prolific and I will have to keep them well watered to stop them curling up - they have to be perfectly straight and matching! I have earmarked one for the longest bean category, and I have got a whopping marrow which started off as a mini courgette and grew and grew, so I might get a point or two for that. My Dundee cake is maturing nicely and should be OK - I only made second prize in the past so I live in hope.

The apples are doing very well. Some are in store already and it smells lovely in the barn. There are a lot more to come and some of them will last until the end of March.

I have just planted some winter vegetables - Savoy cabbage, purple sprouting broccoli, and some lettuce. The lettuce will not be long maturing given a bit of decent weather. I hope the slugs are still suffering with nematodeitis and are staying away from the raised beds, and I have netted over the plants to stop the pigeons pecking and spoiling the growth. The irrigation system is working well. Each raised bed has its own soaker hose and can be fed from the water butts or the mains if the butts are empty. It avoids a lot of hand watering.

I had better get cracking with the DIY stuff before Christine starts looking at the holiday brochures and dragging me away from my lovely garden.....

### October

**Flowers:** Plant spring flowering hardy annuals and bi-annuals as soon as possible. Plant up window boxes, tubs and hanging baskets for winter interest. Lift tender bulbs, corms, and tubers such as dahlias and gladioli, store them in a frost-free place. Check bowls of bulbs planted for winter flowering indoors; do not let them dry out. All tender plants should be brought indoors or placed in cold frames. Tidy up borders, remove leaves and debris which could harbour slugs, snails etc over the winter.

Continue planting border carnations and pinks in beds if soil and growing conditions allow, or pot up cuttings and place in cold frame ready for planting in March. Finish planting spring bulbs.

You can still take cuttings of fuchsias and geraniums etc if you have a warm greenhouse or propagator. Most cuttings root quite readily at 65F. Top dress rock and alpine plants with fine grit. Most herbaceous perennials can be lifted and split up at this time.

**Vegetables:** earth up celery and leeks. Firm in sprouts and stake or earth up. Plant out spring cabbage plants, lift the last of the main crop potatoes, carrots and turnips. Lift young parsnips for immediate use; leave others in the ground to pull as required. Keep a close eye on vegetables in store, removing any suspect ones.

Plant in the frame a few roots of parsley taken up with plenty of soil for winter use. Prepare any spare vegetable plots by a good dig over and apply farmyard manure or well-rotted compost. Leave rough dug so the frost can get at the soil, which is really beneficial.

**Trees, Fruit and Shrubs:** Young fruit trees and shrubs can be planted at this time. Take hardwood shrub cuttings, these may take quite a time to root, but are well worth the wait. Hedging plants such as barberry, heathers and lavender oleaster and rosemary can be planted.

Put fresh grease bands around apple and cherry trees. Cover autumn fruiting strawberry with cloches and watch out for slugs and snails.

Gather apples and pears as they become ready for picking (they should come off the branch into your hand when gently lifted with a slight pressure on the stalk towards the branch). Handle all fruit with care and only store really sound fruit. Tie into place all raspberry canes and cut them back to encourage fruiting. Prepare ground for planting new raspberry canes, gooseberry and blackcurrant bushes. Prune established blackcurrants.



**Greenhouse and Indoor Plants:** Gradually reduce watering on most plants except those which are coming into flower. Give your fuchsias, geraniums, hydrangeas etc a rest -

keep them just moist. If you want a nice show next spring, sow seeds of annuals like clarkia, poor man's orchid and salpiglossis in warmth.

Chrysanthemums should be brought indoors before the petals begin to open or if frost threatens. If you have not taken tender plants indoors, do so now or they will be lost to frost or cold, wet conditions.

Remove all dead or decaying leaves from plants, otherwise they will go mouldy and this can spread rapidly across the greenhouse. When the foliage of gloxinias and begonias has



*Gloxinia*

withered completely the tubers can be removed from pots, dusted with flowers of sulphur to prevent mould and stored in a frost-free place.

Do not overheat the greenhouse, but provide slight warmth when necessary to keep the air dry and on the move and so prevent a damp stagnant atmosphere. Make sure all your heaters are working well, renewing wicks where necessary and give them a general clean-up - this will add to their safety and efficiency.

**Lawns:** As last month. Keep them clean. Rake or scarify to pick up the thatch at ground level (and it will also remove a lot of moss if you have it). Spike and top dress with old potting compost (grow bags are ideal) or use an autumn/winter fertiliser. You should have a lovely sward by next spring.

## November

**Flowers:** Clean up and tidy perennial borders. Clear away any leaves. If you are composting these, keep them separate from the main compost heap, as they take a little longer to rot down, and they are handier as leaf mould for potting purposes.

Check your dahlia tubers in store, cut out any disease. If withered, soak and dry them, then dust with flowers of sulphur. Plant out hardy lilies in mild weather and cover with mulch.

Plant herbaceous and moisture-loving perennials. Split up perennials like michaelmas daisy and golden rod, and replant the young vigorous outer portions. Prepare the tender plants for winter by bringing them indoors or wrapping them up in straw or polybubble. Complete the planting of tulips and hyacinths -the sooner the better. Check bulbs which were potted up earlier and water if necessary. Any which are more forward can be brought into a moderately heated greenhouse or a cool bedroom windowsill until the buds are formed. Take down hanging baskets, and remove and pot up any plants that are worth saving. Those in tubs (fuchsias and geraniums) are very often worth saving along with ivies and some trailing plants.

**Vegetables:** Dig over any vacant plots, leaving the clods large to enable the frost and wind to break them down. Stake up Brussels sprouts and remove any yellowing leaves. Cover any green crops with netting or fleece to protect against birds, and watch out for slugs and snails and deal with them. Keep the weeds under control as they seem to grow better than the plants in wintertime!

Lift and store Jerusalem artichokes in the same way as potatoes, also a few roots of parsnip as they will be difficult to

get at if the ground is frozen.

**Trees, Fruit and Shrubs:** Move container-grown evergreens to a sheltered spot out of the wind. I keep my bay trees in the cold greenhouse until the frost has finished. Protect any tender shrubs from frost by wrapping them with fleece or straw. Any deciduous hedges that have been neglected can be cut back at this time.

Fruit trees trained against a wall or fence should be pruned now. After pruning see that all the branches and shoots are securely tied. Inspect the posts and wires supporting raspberries, making sure they are secure and not in need of replacement. Deal with old or neglected fruit trees now. Don't just go round snipping bits off, but rather remove the complete branch here and there to open up the centre of the tree to let in light and air. Large wounds made this way should be trimmed carefully with a sharp knife and painted with a priming paint to prevent disease getting into the tree. Look out for affected parts and paint these also. It is a good time to plant blackberries and loganberries. Look over your fruit in store, remove any which show signs of rotting etc. Plant fruit trees - apple, pear, plum and cherry. Give tree, bush and cane fruit a tar-oil winter wash to help control pests and diseases.

**Greenhouse and Indoor Plants:** During November, lack of light and a damp coldness in the atmosphere are two of the principle obstacles that we usually have to overcome in the greenhouse. Make sure the glass is really clean inside and out and also the insulation if any. Ventilate cautiously. Open top ventilators a little for a few hours during the day when the weather is mild and reasonably clear. Keep them shut if it is cold and foggy. Remove all decayed leaves or bracts. Avoid splashing water about if you have a mixture of plants stored in your greenhouse. A day temperature of 13C (55F) will be OK but don't let it fall below 7C (45F). As chrysanthemums in the greenhouse finish, cut them back to within 5 or 8cm (2 - 3ins) off ground level - this will make more room and also encourage the roots to throw up suckers which will make ideal cuttings later on.

Cyclamen and winter flowering primulas are ready to come into flower and will benefit from a feed once a fortnight. Remember that calceolarias must be quite dry before they are



*Calceolaria*

watered - this rule applies to most pot plants except those which are in full flower and are growing rapidly in heated houses. Seedlings and cuttings should be kept on a shelf as near to the glass as possible.

Sow cyclamen seeds now. They take about 15 months to make good plants. Pot on seedlings and cuttings planted earlier. Plant indoor gladioli, lilies and hyacinths to flower in spring. Prune flowering maple, musk, fuchsia, oleander and plumbago.

**Lawns:** Keep lawns clear of leaves and debris by raking regularly. Keep off if frost is around. In mild spells dig new lawn sites ready for sowing or turfing in spring.

**Cheerio for now,  
Tom**



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# Walking the Dog....

## That Fat Red Book

**What's that fat red book with 998 pages you're reading? And why are you looking sad about it when you should be out walking me?**

It's my mum's Pears Cyclopaedia for 1950 and I've been talking about it on the wireless.

**Why?**

Because it's never going to come out ever again.

**I'd rather go out for a walk.**

It's got everything ever known, in 23 sections from Atlas to Synonyms and Antonyms. It includes Poultry, Health & Beauty, Sports & Pastimes, and Radio Television & Radar.

It's also has the most distinguished men and women of all ages up to Ernst Zwimmer, on page 114. And it can tell you how many gallons there are in a peck if you ask.

**Why would you?**

There are also thirty pages of ready reckoner to help you multiply e.g. 43 two and fourpences? But you can set your liver here on page 70?

**Dogs like liver.**

You wouldn't like page 894 where it tells me how to put my dog down if I want to.

And you can also find out how old Gordon Richards was.

**When?**

In 1951. And look here where Totley Tunnel is the 6th longest tunnel in the world and it's LMS, and it's 6230 yards.

**What's a yard?**

Three feet

**If you had three feet you'd fall over?**

If you did, page 712 shows you how to get rid of your ugly knees. And here it tells you how to speak

**I do speak. It's just that no one listens.**

If you need to mix paint to get flesh colour, you mix lake white and vermillion. And if you're in Scotland, 4 gills make a mutchkin and 2 mutchkins make a chopping. At Beaufort number 12 if you stand up you can't. And if you were in Nan-king at 8 pm today it's 8 pm here too, but it's already yesterday there. You can look up everything in Pears. Including King Egbert here on page 118. He's the oldest King of England. But he's not spelt right. Unless we spell him wrong now. And we can get a postal order for sixpence. And, if you want, but only if you do want, Jack, we can look up strumpet?

**Why?**

Because that's the best thing about cyclopaedias – no one can see when you're looking up things you shouldn't be. So say you're in Medical (pp 746ff) and your mum comes in the front room and asks what you're looking up in her Pears, you just flick to the Dictionary of Poultry and Pigeons (pp 870ff) and read out what he says about the better known diseases of poultry including vent glee, rachitis and bacillary white diarrhoea.

**Why's it called a cyclopaedia?**

I don't know.

**Look it up in Pear's Cyclopaedia then?**

I tried in 1950.

**Is that what's making you so sad now? And stopping us going for our walk?**

No, I think I'm sad now Jack because once upon a time, in 1950, everything made sense. Everything that was ever known was all in one book.

**Then what happened?**

I grew up. And when you grow up – and this isn't in Pears – you find that not many things are as true as they once were. And that some things that people told you were true weren't. And some things they didn't tell you – are.

**We need to go for our walk don't we?**

Yes.

**Where'd you like me to take you?**

Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwilllantysiliogogoch. And that's on page...

**Totley Bents?**

I'll look up why it's 'Bents'?

**When we get home, Rony.**

**Rony Robinson**

## The John Wade Singers Concert

The John Wade Singers are performing Mozart's Requiem at Millhouses Methodist church on 21st October 2017 at 7.30pm.

This choir formed in 1984 when a group of singers, drawn from members of the churches in Bradway, Dore and Totley, gathered together under the Baton of Dr John Wade to perform a concert performance of Verdi's Nabucco in All Saint's Church, Totley. This was to celebrate the diamond Jubilee of the Church. The experience was enjoyed by all involved and so the group met regularly and became established as a choir known as The John Wade Singers.



Since 1984 the choir has performed many concerts, ranging from grand opera and religious works to light hearted selections of traditional songs and show stoppers. Principal singers who have been invited to sing with the choir have also appeared with many leading operatic societies throughout South Yorkshire and beyond.

Over the years, performances have raised thousands of pounds which have been shared between various charities. Today the choir performs under the baton of Jonathan Lazell who is also a Music Leader with Sheffield Music Education Hub.

He will lead the choir at their Autumn concert which features Mozart's Requiem plus music by Finzi, Howells and others along with guest soloists and musicians. It promises to be a super evening of music.

Tickets may be purchased on the door at a cost of £11 and £9 (concessions), children are free.

If you fancy singing on Friday evenings, why not join them at Millhouses Methodist Church 7.30pm. They are a friendly choir and you can be sure to receive a warm welcome. Contact Jenny Parker on 0114 2360798.

Anita McKay

## TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

### MONDAYS

**COFFEE MORNING**, All Saints Church Hall, 10am-12noon. 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, 5.30pm and 7.30pm, Jo Elsey: 262 0523 or 07590 545253.

**FITNESS LEAGUE**, fitness class 1.45 - 2.45pm, 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.

**BABY TIME**, Totley Library, 1-2pm. A fun music session with songs, rhymes and simple musical instruments for babies aged 0-18months

**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, 9.00-10.00am and 10.15-11.15am. 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 - 10.10am, 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, 1.30-3pm.

Tel. 07912 352543 for details.

**PILATES CLASS** run by a qualified Pilates Instructor and Physio-therapist for all abilities and ages. 1.30 - 2.30pm at the United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road. Call Emer on 07792422909.

## OCTOBER

**SUN 8th MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES** Abbeydale Road South. 1pm-5pm (weather permitting). Car park closes 5pm. £1.50 per ride per person. See www.sheffieldmodelengineers.com

**WED 11th TOTLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB** 9.30am Annual General Meeting, followed by Speakers' Forum. Totley Rise Methodist Church. Visitors welcome.

**THURS 12th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD** Open afternoon and evening, 3-8 pm, Totley Library: 'Reconstructing Gillfield Wood's Historical Setting'. For more details see page 21.

**SUN 15th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD** 8.30 am. Small Mammal Trapping with Val Clinging. Meet at end of Totley Hall Lane. For more details see page 21.

**TUES 17th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD** Peter Machan, 'Last of the Little Mesters'. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10 am.

**WED 25th TOTLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB** 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Dr.George Clark, 'Anglo Zulu War'. Visitors Welcome.

**SUN 22nd MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES** Abbeydale Road South. 1pm-5 pm (weather permitting). Car park closes 5pm. £1.50 per ride per person. See www.sheffieldmodelengineers.com

**WED 25th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP** Open discussion meeting on the buildings of Totley. Totley Library, 7.30.

## NOVEMBER

**THURS 2nd FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD** Family Activities - Woodland Day. Free family day out! 10 am to 12 noon: Autumn Colours - session making colours from plants. 1 pm - 3 pm: Hibernation activities - make a small home for an animal and look for food! For more details see page 21.

**WED 8th TOTLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB** 10am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Dr. Andy Parsons, 'Jambo Habari-Kenya 1972'. Visitors Welcome.

**TUES 21st TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD** Sarah Whitaker, 'Winter Flower Arrangements'. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10 am.

**WED 22nd TOTLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB** 10am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Cdr. Alan Yorke, 'The Battle of Midway - a Victory for Intelligence'. Visitors Welcome.

**SAT 25th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: November Bird Walk with Chris Measures. Meet 9 am, bottom of Totley Hall Lane. More details page 21.

**SUN 26th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD** Practical Conservation morning run with the help of Sheffield Council Ranger Service. Meet 10am, Baslow Road bus terminus. For more details see page 21.

**WED 22nd TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP** Christopher Jewitt, 'The Cutlers Company and the Assay Office - Sheffield's Two Unique Companies'. Totley Library, 7.30pm.

**Mark and Sally Fletcher invite  
you to**

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***Tuesdays to Friday's 12.00 to  
2.30pm and***

***6-30pm to 9-30 pm***

***Saturdays 12.00 to 3.00pm  
and***

***6.30pm. to 9.00pm (drinks -  
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***Sundays 12.00 to 9.00pm***

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**COPY CLOSE DATE for this issue will be**

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