

Totley Independent

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The bottom of Totley Hall Lane leading down to Gillfield Wood and beyond - January 2010 (photo: Chris Measures)

Totley Forum meets....

Over the last few months we have reported on the discussions which had taken place with regard to the future of Totley Residents Association. Back in April of this year we reported on a public meeting, arranged by the TRA, at which possible future directions were noted. In particular, the idea was put forward to re-establish the Totley Forum, first set up shortly after the TRA was founded in the 1970s to enable the community to examine issues affecting the area, work to improve services, consider the sharing of resources, and act collectively over issues of concern.

The proposal for a meeting of a revived Totley Forum was supported, and the committee members of the TRA undertook to set the meeting up. All organisations within Totley – community, educational, religious, cultural and commercial – would be invited to send a representative to the forum meeting, of which it was envisaged there would only

need to be perhaps two each year.

Invitations to the first meeting were duly sent to 28 Totley organisations, including churches and schools, medical centres and dental surgeries, and 43 commercial forms, including local pubs. Each was invited to send a representative to the Forum meeting, though it was suggested that the Totley commercial community might arrange for one delegate to represent, for example, all shops.

The meeting took place at Totley Library on Monday 20th of November. Apart from the TRA committee, a total of 11 people attended, representing Totley Rise Methodist Church, Totley Open Gardens, the Litter Picking group, Friends of Gillfield Wood, Age UK Sheffield, Totley Sports and Social Club, Totley History Group, Totley 'Independent', All Saints Church, Sheffield City Council's Local Area Partnership, Totley Pharmacy, and One80 Dental Pract- (continued page 3)

**A MERRY
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Totley Forum meets...(from p.1)

-ice. Organisations who had expressed an interest but were unable to be present were the local primary schools, Neighbourhood Watch, Totley Scouts, Totley Art group and Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society.

After introductions and a short explanation of the recent deliberations on the TRA and its future, Cllr Colin Ross introduced Joanna Glaves, who is the Age UK Sheffield Community Development Worker with responsibility for rolling out the People Keeping Well initiative in Totley. Jo described the objectives of People Keeping Well - essentially about supporting local people, especially the over 50s, who might be socially isolated. She stressed how individuals and organisations can work together to identify vulnerable individuals and support them through involving them in a range of activities. People Keeping Well, it was stressed, was just one excellent example of how individuals and organisations could come together through the Forum for the benefit of the community.

Attendees were asked for their views and questions about the Forum. Some expressed regret at the relatively low attendance, but most attendees felt that here was scope for the Totley community working together. There was doubt, however, over the practicality of arranging physical meetings every six months, and the discussion then moved to consider using social media as a means whereby local people and organisations could communicate and work together.

Some explained how their organisations profitably used social media - notably Facebook - as a platform through which people's ideas could be shared. It was suggested that a "virtual forum" should be created for Totley by means of a Facebook presence under the banner of the Totley 'Independent', which of course is intended to reach all parts of the Totley community. The editor of the Independent agreed to explore this way forward, and so it may be that a new Facebook presence provides the way forward for the Totley Forum to be realised.....watch this space!

Neighbourhood Watch.

We have had another spate of burglaries, attempted burglaries and car thefts. There has been one of leaving the car undone, with little loss of goods, and one where the fitting of a good lock cost the insurance company £1800 to replace the glass in the door, as the burglar, who it is believed wanted the car keys (an Audi again) cut the glass instead. In one case of attempted burglary, the lady had asked me to check her existing locks a few months ago, and she wisely had them changed. Burglars, at about 12-30 lunchtime, attempted to snap the lock, but it did its job and jammed, preventing them getting in. A very relieved lady. It still cost her over £75 to replace the lock and handles.

I have seen a few victims of burglaries recently, both young and not so young, and the trauma suffered is not pleasant. One lady had new doors fitted, and she asked about the locks, being told that they were the best available. Yes, for £6. It was snapped. An anti-snap lock will cost around £44 depending on how many keys are wanted (they are supplied with 3), but some people have them suited, in other words, the same key fits all locks.

Four of us, as Area coordinators, cover the Ward, Les Day being our overall coordinator and covers Bradway. Neil Bunting covers Totley South, the area between the Main Road and the Totley Brook, and I cover the other side of the main road, to the Old Hay Brook. Harry Driver takes over from The Old Hay Brook to cover Dore, all of us following the City's ward boundary lines. We have a good number of members in all areas but in Neil's he would like more members, and, hopefully, some street coordinators. It is not an onerous job, but valuable in these difficult times. We - our members as well as ourselves - have had some successes in both preventing and solving crimes. One of our gallant members has been a major player in getting scam builders to the Crown Court in the near future.

Finally: a relative was recently burgled, in Bradway, and it looked like a two in one, where the house is entered to get the car keys. The Police have just told her that two suspects are to appear in court. It is believed that they wanted both cars, one to do a ram raid, (there has been a spate of them in town) the other, an Audi, as getaway car. The suspects are not local, but have been active over a wide area.

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A Flavour of Ecuador!

**Friday 8th December
Totley All Saints Church
7.30 pm. to 9 pm.**

A talk on a Camps International school charity work in Ecuador by Ed Deakin

The talk will include project work and trekking in the Andes as well as project work in the Amazon jungle and coastal jungle areas of Ecuador.

There will be Ecuadorian coffee, chocolate, tortilla crisps and dips available for refreshments.

The event is free, but donations will be gladly received for the work of the charity Compassion. **To help us cater for the event please phone 0114 2364944 to book a ticket.**





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Totley Scouts

Hello!

I want to introduce myself as the new Chairperson of 215th (1st) Totley Scouts. Richard Frost has done an amazing job over the last 10 years and I am stepping into rather large boots!

The reason I have done this is my two boys love it there, and I know that scouts has a great community feel about it which I love, the Totley community all supporting each other to make it a great place to live and raise our kids.



My boys are 8 and 6 and are the usual full-on kids! I work for myself and run two companies that support the NHS, so yes, I'm quite full-on each day. However, I do feel it's important to give a little back, especially if my kids benefit from it in the long term.

The groups that run here are busier than ever and they are keen to expand so that they can offer more places to more children. There is a very long wait for Beavers in particular, although we are hoping to introduce a new group. They now provide activities for around 120 young people every week, all thanks to a great team of volunteer leaders and assistants. How amazing is that!

We have an exciting journey ahead of us. We want to raise funds for a new scout hut and so are keen to get as much local support to make this happen, so bring on DIY SOS!

As chair, I'm keen that the scouts play an active part in our community and so am keen to hear from anyone who wants to support or collaborate with us to make Totley an even more amazing place to live.

In more exciting news we are very pleased to tell you that our Group has been selected to receive a share of the money raised by the Co-op Local Community Fund. If you aren't aware of the fund and how it works, every time a member shops at the Co-op, 1% of what they spend on selected own-brand products and services goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund. You can log on to your membership account and select 215th Sheffield Scout Group to receive all of your share, otherwise it is split equally between all the causes that have been chosen. In addition, we also receive an equal share of the money that is raised by sales of carrier bags within the local stores. Members can choose our cause and give their 1% from 12th November. We will benefit from this for 11 months starting 11th November until 27 October 2018.



When they were working for their first-aid badges.....

This could potentially raise about £4000 for our new build fund with very little effort from us. All we need people to do is sign up to our cause.

If you aren't already a member, it is free and very easy to do. You can sign up on-line at www.coop.co.uk/membership or in-store. When you buy selected products and services from Co-op Group Businesses including food stores and funeral homes, the Co-op put 5% of what you spend into your Co-op Membership account. You can spend your member rewards at any time. It's very simple and as well as helping our cause you are rewarded as well.

Please could you help us by spreading the news amongst your family and friends and asking people to nominate us as their cause. The more support we can get the more money we can raise for our fantastic Scout Group.

Thanks for listening and supporting us in our community.

*Kirstie Stott, Chair 215th (1st) Totley Scouts
Tel. 07725033409.*



Transport 17

It hardly seems like 5 minutes ago we were welcoming the new year in and here we are saying good bye to it. It has been a busy year and between the hard-working volunteers and all our lovely service users

I think we can safely say that it has been very successful. We have received £35 from Mrs Depledge at TRMC; £50 from Totley Brook Club - now closed; £250 A & M PCC; £650 from Totley Open Gardens and a very generous bequest from the estate of Phyllis Glossop (formally co-ordinator of St John's lunch club) £1,000.. Thank you everyone, we really do appreciate your generosity. We have also raised £840 at the Bridge Drive and £47 at the Totley Show.

We were pleased to have our new bus on display at Totley Show this year. Jenny Nuttall, Phil Kirkup and Colin Price enjoyed meeting with the many people who came to see the bus. They managed to encourage one or two people to join Transport 17 as volunteers which was fantastic. Thanks go to the three of them for giving their time. Perhaps you may feel you have some spare time and would be interested in driving or escorting on the buses or would like to help with fund raising. If so please contact the office on 0114 236 2962

We will be launching our new bus on 10th March following a Coffee Morning. It is already in use but we will be doing a special official launch to thank all the people who were involved in making it possible. Look forward to seeing you then!

All that is left for me to say is thank you one and all for your support and wish everyone a wonderful Christmas followed by a fabulous New Year.

See you in 2018 - every good wish.

Felicity Revill

Latest News on Back Lane

The long running saga of the unsightly and smelly bins left on the pavement at the Totley Rise shops is slowly coming to a conclusion.

The restricted access to Back Lane has meant that the bin lorry could not get down Back Lane. Recently the Council has removed some of the vegetation to improve access and trial runs with a bin lorry have been conducted. However, two self-seeded sycamores are still preventing access for the bin lorry.

Councillor Colin Ross is pressing the council to get these removed as soon as possible so normal bin collection from the rear of the properties can be resumed.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CROWN



Christmas at the Crown

Our Christmas Fayre menu is available throughout the whole of December – perfect for family gatherings, works parties or a gathering of friends. Ask at the bar for our menu.

Christmas Eve

Food served 12pm – 8pm. Sunday lunch available.
Family Quiz from 5 pm with Jack and General Knowledge quiz, Irish Bingo and Open the Box from 9pm with Alex.
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 1st September at £10 each.

New Year's Day

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

I would personally like to wish all our customers old and new a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! It has been an honour to have such a fantastic pub right at the heart of the Dore and Totley community. Myself and all my team are so excited about the new year and ensuring the Crown does what it does best - good honest food and great beer!

We look forward to serving you throughout 2018.

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Totley Open Gardens

2017 was a very successful year!

On 8th and 9th July, twelve Totley gardens opened to the public - for the 16th year. And because the sun shone all weekend, we had the best takings ever - raising just over £3,000.

The money has been donated to organisations as follows:- Transport 17 (£650); Totley History Group (£330); Totley Library (£650); Cherry Tree Support Services (£950); Friends of Gillfield Wood (£330); Totley Scout Hut (£330); National Open Gardens website (£50); and Totley Beavers (£120).



Ray Sables hands over a cheque for £650 to Felicity Revill of Transport 17

For 2018, five of the gardens who opened in 2017 will not be opening, so we would like to have some new gardens. Your garden does not have to be anywhere near perfect, nor does it have to be large or tidy. What is important is that you have a love of plants, and your garden could give inspiration to others. Is anyone with an allotment on Francis Fields or Mickley Lane interested in opening their allotment to inspire vegetable and fruit growing?

If you, or someone you know, would be interested to join the band of Totley Open Gardeners please email Jennie Street on jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk or telephone 236 2302

Totley Open Gardens 2018 will be on 7th and 8th July.

Hathersage Carollers

The Hathersage Carollers will, as usual, be singing their local village and traditional carols over the Christmas period. All are welcome to join them at the following venues. Carol books will be available.

Monday 18th December: Millstone Inn, 9.00 pm

Wednesday 20th December: Plough Inn, 9.00 pm

Friday 22 December: Scotsman's Pack Inn, 9.00 pm

Wednesday 27th December: Little John Hotel. 12.00 noon.

Ask Your Pharmacist

You may have read articles in the past few months highlighting shortages affecting certain medicines in the country. Since this problem is now so widespread with over 300 medicines affected, it is likely you may also have experienced the problem first hand when collecting your medication.

There are many factors involved here including manufacturing sites failing inspections. While it is reassuring to know that high standards are required in manufacturing our medicines, this can have a knock-on effect until further batches are produced and undergo testing.



Another factor involved is the relentless drive by the NHS to reduce prices of medicines in the UK. While this saves money for the NHS things may have gone too far and issues are arising. A pharmacy representative has said "Prices paid in the UK are much lower than in many countries, so why would a manufacturer sell at a lower price to the UK, especially when demand outstrips supply?"

Healthcare professionals are now spending a lot of time trying to source medicines and resolving issues arising from these problems. More importantly, these problems are diverting healthcare professionals away from caring for patients. We are of course trying very hard to ensure that we manage to obtain enough supplies of all our medicines but unfortunately matters are sometimes out of our hands so please bear with us. We may on occasion have to supply your medication in different strengths or forms and in extreme circumstances we may have to change your medicine to ensure treatment. This will of course only happen after liaising with your doctor.

Unfortunately this issue is rearing its head at a very inopportune time as we near the holiday period. The impact of this will be exaggerated as we again have a four-day period when your surgery will be closed, so please ensure you plan ahead and order your prescription early enough before the holidays. Hopefully your medicines are not ones affected by shortages but just in case, please order your prescription before your current supply runs out. As always the team at Totley Pharmacy will do our utmost to ensure you receive the best care.

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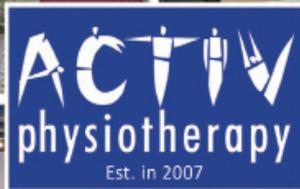
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Totley Yard Sale

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

Longshaw Christmas Trees 2017

A tree from Longshaw is not just for Christmas, says National Trust ranger Mark Bull.

"Buying a tree from us is actually going to support your local countryside throughout the year," he said. "People who love the Peak District tell us they come to us for their Christmas tree because they like to give something back to help conserve the local landscape and wildlife."



National Trust Ranger Mark Bull (left) and volunteer Chris Morgan checking over the trees

Last year Mark and his team of National Trust rangers and volunteers sold over 1,200 freshly-cut trees at Longshaw, with all profits going back into their work to conserve the countryside of the Peak District.

"People know that buying a tree from us, for example, can help repair a path so people with pushchairs and wheelchairs can get around easier, or plant trees in our wood pasture project, or rebuild a dry stone wall to keep the livestock off the roads."

This year the money raised will also go into providing habitats for wading birds like snipe on the estate, bird boxes for the nationally rare pied flycatcher in Padley Woods, and conservation work to encourage dragonflies and damselflies on the Longshaw pond.

Longshaw trees come straight from the estate, from other Peak District properties, or from other sustainably managed UK growers to meet demand. Customers can reserve a tree in Longshaw's own tree nursery to be cut closer to Christ-

mas, or choose from a range of Norway Spruce, Fraser Firs, Lodgepole Pine and 'non-drop' Nordmann Firs to take away. We have many trees of all shapes and sizes all premium grade.

"The Spruce actually smell a lot nicer than the Nordmann, and will easily last three or four weeks if they're cut fresh, kept cool before you put them out in your room, and then watered regularly," said Mark, adding that many budget commercial trees will have been cut early in November.

People are now thinking about where their tree comes from, as well as price, said Mark. Last year's sales at Longshaw brought in enough funding to plant hundreds of young oak trees, repair dry stone walls around the estate and helped owls and kestrels make a home adjacent to Longshaw's hay meadows.

Generations of families have bought their trees from Longshaw since the National Trust began selling specimens from their own plantation in the 1970s. Children who used to come along with their grandparents are now bringing their own children, said Mark, and other customers have replanted their trees and have them growing in their own garden.

"It's more of a family day out coming here than buying a tree from the supermarket," said Mark "You can visit our new woodland path, and take Grandma and Grandad to the cafe, because we have our 'buy a tree, get a free cup of tea' offer running too. And of course there'll be lots of birds and maybe even red deer to see too."

Tree Keeping Advice

If your tree is cut fresh, and kept cool before you put it out in your room, and then watered regularly, even varieties like firs and spruces will last 3-4 weeks, said Mark Bull. Most medium trees will need around a pint of water a day, and keeping trees away from radiators will also help.

More info: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw

Councillor Surgeries

Liberal Democrats:

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

2nd Saturday in month, 10.30am to 12 noon, Dore Old School Hall, Savage Lane, Dore.

Contact details:

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

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

Martin Smith 0781 205 5346
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Diary for December and January

December 2017

Friends of Gillfield Wood

Monday 4th: Sheffield's Woodland. Sheffield is known across the UK as a city with a lot of greenery contributed, in part, by 175 individual woodlands of which 70 have Ancient Woodland status.

Dave Aspinall is the Countryside Manager for the Countryside and Environment section of Sheffield City Council. Please join us for a talk by Dave about the rich history and current management of Sheffield City Council's 1615 Hectares of Forests, Woodlands and Countryside, and the emerging Trees and Woodlands Strategy. 7.30, Totley Library (*Please note: this is not a meeting about the issues over our street trees*).

The date below is correct for this month and somewhat earlier than most conservation meetings.

Monday 11th: 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 where any late changes of venue will be published.



**FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD WISH
ALL READERS OF THE
TOTLEY INDEPENDENT A HAPPY
CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR 2018**

January 2018

Monday 15th: Revealing Gillfield Wood is a talk by members of the Friends of Gillfield Wood in Totley Library, Baslow Road at 7.30 pm. This is an opportunity to listen to talks on the work done over the last year to learn more about the standing stones in the brook and the possible wider area of this ancient woodland known as the Ghost Wood. There will also be short demonstrations of the results of our research and opportunities to discuss the work.

Saturday 20th: Winter Bird Walk with Chris Measures (Friends of Gillfield Wood). Chris's first 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 Totley Hall Lane at 9am. No experience necessary. Bring binoculars and cameras. Strong shoes are essential. The walk will last about 2-3 hours.

Sunday 21st: 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 where any late changes of venue will be published.

Paul Hancock

All Saints Church

Totley Hall Lane



I was thinking about the number of journeys that will be taken through December and the time surrounding Christmas and New Year.

Short journeys – from our homes to school halls and churches, to watch children re-tell the Nativity, sing carols and songs, perform much rehearsed pieces on a variety of instruments and make our hearts so very proud of them.

Busy journeys – to the shops and markets (or maybe virtually, via the internet!) for the easy to find presents, the last minute presents, the 'what do I buy them this year...?' presents.

Long journeys – as we travel to visit family and friends further afield, making the arrangements around timing, who will sleep where, negotiating the 'usual' household routines.

Unexpected journeys – where the best laid plans are set aside as life takes an unseen twist, packing is swift and the journey is pressured

These journeys connect us with a young couple from Nazareth, in the north of Israel, travelling down through the country to Bethlehem – a journey that was long, pressured (as Mary was pregnant) and not of their choice but due to the politics of the time. They journeyed to Joseph's hometown, where they got a mixed reception and during their stay Mary gave to birth to a child they named Jesus. Shepherds journeyed in from the fields to be the first visitors. Astronomers from far off lands journeyed to see this remarkable little family – at some risk politically. Eventually, the family themselves travelled to Egypt as refugees, before taking the long journey back home to Nazareth where family life could really begin to flourish.

Jesus the baby grew into the man who called people into a journey of faith, a journey with him through the expected and unexpected, the familiar and the unknown. A journey to know and love God, as he knows and loves us. That's a journey I am on – and it's the best there is!

Wherever your journeys take you this Christmas, may they be safe, joyful, and full of love.

Revd Katie Tupling, Vicar, All Saints Totley

Christmas Services at All Saints

Sunday 17th December: Carol Service, 6.30pm, followed by refreshments in the church hall. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Eve: Crib Service, 4.00pm



Please bring something for a baby - nappies, clothes, baby toiletries. These will be given to Baby Basics charity. More information about the work they do can be found at <http://ncsheffield.org/kc/baby-basics/>

Christmas Eve: Holy Communion, 11.30 pm
(Please note there will be no 10.00am service on Christmas Eve - Sunday 24th December)

Christmas Day: Family Communion Service, 9.30am

Walking the Dog....

FAMILY TREES - A Family Drama

It is Saturday morning in Totley. Jack is taking Rony and Sally for a walk. Sally is busy counting trees.

JACK You're a bit quiet?
RONY Well, I'm not talking to Sally this morning.
JACK Why not?
RONY She's too busy. And it's best not to interrupt, with her getting ever more feminist since the trees.
JACK So what are you busy thinking about, instead?
RONY Girls.
JACK What have you been thinking about them?
RONY How most of my life has been spend without them.
JACK Go on?
RONY I had two brothers and no sisters. And only one girl cousin. When I started to grow up there were never enough girls to go round on Laverdene either.
JACK Why not?
RONY It was probably rationing and the war. But by the time that was over we were All Saints Mixed Infants & Juniors and we boys were always first on the register, and never sat next to girls or played with them except for two days a year when we did kiss catch till we were caned. Oh and once there was a maypole and we had to skip in plimsolls but not touch.
JACK You must have met girls outside school though?
RONY Not in the choir.
JACK Why not?
RONY Because girls can't sing treble. Or be cubs because that was all boys except Arkela who wasn't Arkela really anyway because she lived on the Grove and was a woman, and we were wore woggles and played wide games.

JACK What about at that Community Centre at Abbeydale Hall on Saturdays and The girls-in- your-class's big sisters and what they did up at the - ?
RONY The Community Centre stopped because of the Coronation but I was at King Edward's and we were warned off girls for seven years or we'd never go to Oxford.
JACK But there must have been girls at Oxford?
RONY Only one in seven. They could be a bit choosy.
JACK What about when you got teaching in London in your comprehensive schools?
RONY It was getting a bit too late by then.
JACK And in the theatre and at the BBC?
RONY Much too late.
JACK Haven't I read somewhere that you wrote somewhere that you were 28 years old before you -
RONY I was 27, but shhh.
JACK You wrote it?

Pause

SALLY Keep up you two!
RONY/JACK Yes Sally.

They keep up

JACK Did you ever get it right with women?
RONY If I did, it was by having my two daughters Eleanor and Megan. I was allowed to sort of start again and - tell you a funny thing Jack?
JACK About time.
RONY No, but in my time it was all boys. Then my brothers Geth and Dave and I had five boys and only one girl between us. But then our kids have had girls galore - I've now got two granddaughters plus Sandy and eight great nieces.
JACK What's that like
RONY Magic.

There is a bit of quiet.

Sally stops looking at the trees

SALLY What were you two boys discussing?
RONY Sex.
JACK Gender.
SALLY I thought you'd gone a bit quiet?
JACK Yes well Rony's saying how it's better now with more girls.
SALLY Good.
JACK Yes only - well I'm a boy?
SALLY Spit it out Jack?
JACK I know it's best not to interrupt you with you getting ever more feminist since the trees. But when you've saved the trees Sally? With me being a boy? Because in our house it's two boys and a girl, because we can't really count Tempuss because she's only a cat even if we love her? So -
SALLY So?
JACK Are you going to send me back to Laverdene? Make it equal at our house?
SALLY I could keep you? And send Rony back to Laverdene?

Pause

JACK He's gone a bit quiet now.
SALLY Good. So I can now tell you about the trees. And dogs are far more interested in trees than he is. Do you know why you and me like trees so much Jack?
JACK No?
SALLY Because of the bark!
JACK Wuff.

They hug.

RONY Come on you two. You can do that at home. We don't want to make a scene here.

End of scene

Rony Robinson



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THE TIME TRAVELLERS

It has been another active summer for your local archaeology and history group with numerous walks, talks and attempts at practicing our archaeological skills. One of the highlights was a day spent in the nearby 'plague village' of Eyam. We started with a visit to the fascinating little museum where we found out lots about the impact of the plague on the local community and looked at the other displays, particularly those featuring the First World War. That was followed by an excellent guided tour of Eyam Hall by one of our members, Cathy Jackson. We were ready for a spot of lunch and then enjoyed an excellent, interesting and humorous guided tour of this unique local village.

The Time Travellers are almost becoming as renowned for social events as we are for our interest in history. Several members and their partners enjoyed a very sociable evening meal in a local Italian restaurant, a location that saved any of us having to wash the dishes! We are already planning our mid-winter social event which will be back at base, in the Dore Old School, marking the winter solstice.

This summer has seen us talking to the community about our archaeological experiences over the past year or two and we attended the Whirlow Hall Farm Trust Summer Fayre. We were proud that our stand was very well attended with many visitors hearing of the discoveries of Sheffield's earliest past on the fields of Whirlow. Many young budding archaeologists certainly enjoyed the excitement of finding their very own stone arrow head or "Roman coin" in an excavation area 'specially prepared' for them. The Time Travellers also participated in the Heritage event held over two days at the Millennium Galleries. Again lots of people visited our display and found out more about The Time Travellers and, of course, the exciting discoveries still being made at Whirlow Hall Farm.

Our annual excursion this summer was a tour of some of the castles in the South Wales area which included visits to Goodrich Castle, Chepstow Castle, Raglan Castle and Usk Castle. We also managed to include a bit of industrial archaeology with a trip to Abbey Mills beside Tintern Abbey and



then a fascinating tour of the Trellech archaeological dig site under the guidance of Stuart Wilson. Look him up, he bought a field and discovered a 'medieval city'! We even managed to include a Roman flavour with a visit to Caerleon with its amazing amphitheatre, military barracks and the astonishing Roman baths.

One of the most popular talks of the year was given in October by a good friend of The Time Travellers, Colin Merrony of the University of Sheffield. Colin brought us up to date on the latest progress made at the archaeological excavation he leads at Castleton each summer and told us about the origins of medieval hospitals. And in November we had an illustrated talk on Sheffield in Tudor and Stuart times by David Templeman, an Elizabethan historian and Chairman of the Friends of Sheffield Manor Lodge.

If you are interested in finding out more about the programme of activities that the Time Travellers have lined up for the next few months then log on to our website at www.thetimetravellers.org

Glynn Burgin, The Time Travellers

Friends of Dore and Totley Station – FoDaTS

Since the last edition of the Totley Independent we've seen positive steps forward.

Improved Monday – Friday stopping service - to be almost hourly from next Spring.

We were able to make comments and positive suggestions to improve the draft timetable. Unfortunately, until the Hope Valley Capacity Scheme is completed it won't be possible to make it exactly hourly and there will still be some awkward gaps. The ones we argued most strongly to get filled are those crucial commuting times between 6.49 and 8.04, and then 8.27 and 9.58, but there are others. It remains to be seen what will actually emerge after all other interested parties had their say and alterations have been made.

Extra TransPennine Express stop at 6.15 towards Manchester from 11th December

"Why as early as 6.15?" I hear some ask! The 7.14 is the busiest train outwards each day picking up almost 100 passengers and this extra stop may help to spread that load a little. We're hoping an extra stop may come in the late evenings from Manchester from the Spring timetable change

A negative step is the spate of one day strikes by Northern conductors, but there may be a positive side:

On strike days East Midlands are stopping 3 trains out of Sheffield at Dore & Totley

We can't guarantee it will continue, but stopping their 16.40,

17.40 and 20.36 services allows a commuter service into Sheffield to continue on strike days. We may think it would be a good idea if they stopped every day. That idea could be pursued for the future!

Northern have provided a concept plan for a canopy to be added to the old station



Were there be a canopy, it MIGHT look something like this

It's vital to note that this is NOT a done deal or a final design. Anything that is constructed will have to fit onto an old building not designed to support it. There may be issues with safety clearances in proximity to moving trains. Forthcoming work to redouble the tracks may impinge on the current platform surface. Consequently we have *(cont'd p.14)*

a number of reservations that will need to be addressed, not least who will pay for it. Compromise will be necessary.

The four issues that have been raised most are;

It's not big enough to cover 100 people now gathering on the platform at peak times.

It's not enclosed.

It's too modern, out of keeping with the old Midland station. Do we really need space heaters wasting energy.

It won't come quickly, but there's a real willingness from Northern, Network Rail, Rajdhani and others who will have to be involved to get this done. The cash factor needs watching!

At long last we got our planters onto the platform and they're looking better than even we expected, so we've set ourselves a hard standard to maintain.

We're now using two poster frames and could use a third but it's in bad condition. Look in for a display of how the station might look in 5 years time, but bear in mind artists' impressions of concepts will differ from any completed work.

Hope Valley Capacity Scheme to redouble the tracks and add second platform

This should have started work this Spring, with all ready for the new timetable in December 2018. It's in a log-jam at the Department for Transport. Earliest start date is now 2019 or even 2020. We're co-operating with many other groups and organisations in both the Sheffield and Manchester areas to push this forward but the decision will have to come from government. Enough said?

Over and under Station to Station Walk in conjunction with Friends of Grindelford Station

We hosted a walk over Totley Moss between the two stations, returning by train. It was a success with participants coming from as far as Gainsborough by train. We aim to repeat it in 2018.

The Artisan Van, now serving teas, coffees, porridge, crepes, cakes, from 6.00 until 10.00

Sandra Russo has a trial licence to operate in the car park, providing refreshments for commuters. That complements the Summer House who open at 8.30 for breakfasts and a wider range of good food throughout the day.



The Artisan Van

What's next? Toilets!!!! That may take some time. A new ticket machine, if not two? Maybe one before Christmas. Cover for the ticket machine/s? On the list of things to come. Watch this space.

If you use the trains, or just have an interest in developments at our station, please join us by sending an email with your contact details to our Secretary; nj-barnes@outlook.com

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

Chris Morgan, Chairman, FoDaTS. See www.fodats.net



Totley Primary School remembers the village's Fallen Heroes

As the closest school day to Remembrance Sunday, we chose Monday 13th November to hold our own special memorial day to remember brave soldiers, servicemen and women who have died or been wounded in times of war and conflict. In addition to the traditional observed silence at 11am, we held special assemblies and spent the day reflecting on the sadness of lives lost, alongside the hope of a better, more peaceful world for everyone. Children of all ages engaged in the themes of the day through artwork, poetry and music.

Perhaps the most thought-provoking work of all came from our Y5 children, who paid a visit



to the war memorial in Totley. Viewing the beautiful selection of wreaths and messages which had been left during the previous day's service inspired the children to find out more about some of the local soldiers who had perished in the First World War and write messages in their memory. These were then displayed outside the school at the end of day to share with our community.



Gardening Tips for December and January

November 5th: it's a lovely day! Christine is in the garden dismantling the hanging baskets, saving the begonia corms and the geranium and the fuchsia plants. They will be put in the greenhouses or one of the huts. If we have a mild winter they may survive - we do not put heat in the large greenhouse as the fuel is too expensive. The small greenhouse has a very small electric heater which helps to keep the frost at bay along with the bubble insulation, and we did not lose many plants last year.

We have just come back from a coach trip. It was a themed day-trip taking in the Yorkshire dales - 'Autumn Colours', I think the Autumn colours came and went before we got there! It was a nice day - we really enjoyed the lovely Dales countryside. We saw many little villages - Hawes, Middleham, Masham, Aysgarth Falls, and so on. We were reminded of the times when Christine and the boys and I used to have holidays in the Dales, hiking, camping, walking with the dogs.... those were wonderful days.

I am still waiting for the large Acer tree to turn into Autumn Blaze as the label described it. The Virginia creeper gave us a lovely show a couple of weeks ago - the best ever deep colour. It's gradually covering the barn, so we have to cut it back to stop it blocking the CH vents and obscuring the windows. The garden's a bit untidy despite our efforts. The shrubs and plants seem to grow quicker as we get older, and keeping up with the pruning and tidying-up gets harder, but we just get stuck in as best we can!

We had a good fruit and veg season. The purple sprouting broccoli has been very prolific, and I have put in some more plants ready for next year though they are not looking very good, and some have been nibbled. They might survive - I will put a few seeds in the greenhouse just in case.

The apples have come good. One or two have blemishes but they are still OK when peeled or cooked.

I have not finished the repairs to the summerhouse yet, as I keep getting sidetracked with days out and short holidays! I will have to get the bits of wood ready in the workshop so that I can fix them when we have a fine day or two and get them varnished, and then they will last for another five years (we hope). I have just been told that the plastic garden chairs have got to go! They are looking tatty and wobbly, so we will have to look out for some sturdy ones ready for the good weather next year, which means going round the garden sales (yuk!). I suppose it's better than food shopping or even clothes shopping!

I must finish putting up the bubble insulation as the weather forecast is saying frost is on the way. The insulation can add as much as 10 degrees to the temperature which can be make or break for some plants. We buy more plants in the spring than we used to; the cost of bringing them up from seeds has become prohibitive with regard to fuel, time, etc and we quite often go away during the seed raising time. The little seedlings don't like being left on their own, they prefer the gardeners' company, as they need to be told what to do and the occasional song or whistle helps their development! So we buy plants ready to plant out, or in some cases bring them on in the greenhouse during early spring when less heat is needed.

Christmas is coming (or has come and gone, depending on the time you are reading this), and I hope your wish-list includes some useful things for your garden, such as forks and spades; or maybe a cultivator; a kneeling pad and support (remember your bad back), or a hammock for when the two trees are big enough (perhaps later). On reflection I think I would try four trees, then there's less chance of being tipped out by an enthusiastic wife. Whatever you get in your stocking I hope you make good use of it as the years pass. Give the tools a bit of TLC and they will give you stalwart service over time.

We usually get a bit of sunshine over the Christmas and New Year period. You could take advantage and get that grass cut or that pruning finished, it will work off that Christmas pudding feeling or help you over your New Year festivities. All the best for 2018 and a good gardening year to you all!

Flowers: Check over dahlia tubers to ensure they are not rotting or drying up too much. Give them a dusting of flowers of sulphur after cutting out any suspect parts. Break away the dead foliage from gladioli corms prior to storing them away ready for planting out next spring. Begonia tubers should be checked to see that they are still healthy. Winter flowering iris (*Iris unguicularis*) with pale lilac flowers should now be coming into bloom. Not only does this plant give a bit of welcome colour in the garden but also supplies superb



flowers for indoor decoration, provided they are cut when in bud. This iris flourishes best if planted close to a south-facing wall and then left to fend for itself, so you get splendid results for very little effort.

When the soil has dried out (we hope) dig over any new beds, add a bit of bone meal or well-rotted compost (or both) leave the ground roughly dug so that old Jack Frost can do his stuff on the nasties.

Cover cold frames which are over wintering plants with insulating material to protect from frost. Take root cuttings of phlox, verbascum and oriental poppies and root in containers placed indoors or under a frame. During any mild spells, perennials such as lupins and Michaelmas daisy can be planted out. Pot up Lilies and place in a name ready to set out in the spring. December is the last chance to plant out late tulips, also plant out alpinas and rock plants, and choose a mild day. Firm in any plants, which have been moved by frost or wind. Prune roses down to about half way, this makes the beds look tidier and does not harm the plants it also helps to reduce the plants rocking in the wind, they can be pruned fully in April.

Vegetables: The thing to think about is to work with nature rather than against her. So keep off your garden in wet conditions. Do however; press on with winter digging whenever conditions are favourable.

It's also a good time to apply lime, if this is needed, ground chalk or limestone. Buy your seed potatoes early when there is plenty of choice and set the tubers to chit (sprout) in light frost free conditions. Remove yellowing leaves from brassicas; check over stored root crops for possible rotting. Prepare runner bean trench. If you are going to put onions in the Totley Show, sow seeds on Boxing Day for the show, sow Kelseo or Robinsons mammoth, for the kitchen, Ailsa Craig or wait a bit later for the kitchen variety and put in onion sets turbo or sturon are good ones. Lin a few roots of mint, place them in a deep box of old compost, put them in a frame or greenhouse to give shoots for early picking.

Prepare the onion bed as soon as weather permits; dig in plenty of manure or well-rotted compost deeply. Spread bonfire ash liberally over the top also bonemeal and hoof and horn meal each at the rate of 4ozs (100g) per sq. yd. (mtr). Clear away any finished crops and prepare ground as above.

Trees, Fruit and Shrubs: Now that deciduous species have lost their leaves you can check over the trees and bushes for dead or weak branches which need to be removed. Evergreens can also be pruned. You could use the prunings for Christmas decorations.

Check all trees and shrubs for wind rock damage, also all stakes and supports have not worked loose and that ties have not become too tight around the stems. Spray trees and shrubs and especially fruit trees and bushes with winter tar oil wash; choose a fine calm day to avoid spray drifting.

Complete the pruning of apples and pears, paint cut branches with arbrex or similar to prevent ingress of woolly aphids and disease. Raspberries are difficult to weed by hand you could try selective weedkiller: it's very slow at this time but very effective. All fruit bushes will benefit from an early application of high potash fertiliser followed in the spring by an application of general fertiliser such as Growmore.

Firm in any newly planted stock. Inspect all grease bands and replace if necessary. Give evergreen trees a shake if they are covered with snow especially newly planted ones. Wrap up warm any vulnerable plants like azalea, rhododendrons with fine mesh netting or straw.

Greenhouse and Indoor Plants:Water sparingly and ensure plants in flower are kept moist and away from hot fires and radiators, increase humidity round indoor azaleas, cyclamens and winter cherries by standing on wet pebbles. Use insecticide pins to control aphids and whitefly.

Paint patches of scale and mealy bug with fentricide or methylated spirits. Light is very important in the greenhouse now, glass should be washed particularly on the outside to remove residue of shading and grime. Vines under glass should be pruned. All side growths or laterals are cut back to two buds.

Fuchsias are now dormant need to be inspected and not allowed to dry out keep them just slightly moist.

Cut back old geranium plants, shortening the growth to a joint or a bud 6 to 9 inches above the pots. Then re-pot the plants, shaking all the soil from the roots and repotting in the smallest pots into which the roots can be placed.

Clean up inside the greenhouse and clean all pots and trays ready for seed planting.

Make preparations for taking chrysanthemum cuttings. Give freesias, which are coming into bloom a little weak liquid manure. Cyclamen seedlings should be potted on into 3 or 3½ inch pots. Remove flowers from azaleas as soon as they commence to fade and before seeds start to form. After your pots of daffodils and hyacinths finished flowering allow them to continue growing until the leaves die down. If you have been troubled by vine weevil (a little creamy white grub which eats plant roots) treat all pots in the greenhouse with PRAVADO it will also control other insects such as whitefly, greenfly etc.

Lawns: As usual at this time keep it clean, tidy and keep off during frosty weather.

General: Nothing to stop you altering paths, painting garden furniture, cleaning pots, mending tools, taking mowers etc. for sharpening (it's cheaper just now); recovering the shed roof, making a new compost heap, don't just sit there get cracking!!

Well, that's it for this year. I hope you have a lovely Christmas and a really great gardening New Year.

Cheerio for now

Tom

The grand opening of Totley Primary's kitchen!

Due to continuing growth in pupil numbers over the next seven years, Totley Primary School is the proud owner of a brand-new school kitchen! The kitchen was designed by Sheffield Food Service and built over the summer holidays, opening on September 6th when pupils returned for the autumn term.

Taylor Shaw, the contract caterers, provide over 200 school lunches and Amy Mulrooney, cook supervisor, and her team have enjoyed the past 5 weeks settling into their new kitchen and cooking up the menu delights for lunch!

On 12th October a grand celebration was held at lunch with the whole school in the dining hall to congratulate the winner of 'name the dining room competition'; the winning entry 'The Hungry Hall' was from Lyla Waltoon Cole, a FS2 pupil who was proud to receive a certificate, craft bag filled with goodies and a voucher to spend in The Works.

Totley head teacher Nicola Wileman presented the prize and cut the ribbon along with Lyla who held a foot-long pair of wooden scissors to join in the fun!



Pupils then enjoyed a lunch of homemade mince beef pie or vegetarian pitta pockets with jam shortbread and custard for dessert. Here's to many happy years of quality school meals service!

Holmesfield Church Walking Group

Millthorpe Walk

On Wednesday 6th December at 10am Robin Greetham will lead a walk from the Royal Oak at Millthorpe, where we will order our meals for lunchtime (optional).



We will walk to Unthank, Moorhall and Johnnygate. The cost of the walk is £3 and the proceeds will go to Holmesfield Church Restoration fund.

The walk is approximately 5 miles long, but a shortcut is available. If you would like to come, just turn up on the day.

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

What's on at the Library



Our third anniversary as a volunteer-run library!

Totley Library has just celebrated its third anniversary as a volunteer run library! The library service is run by an energetic group of 110 volunteers who annually clock up an incredible 6500 hours supporting the library. This is an amazing joint effort by local people!

Our main aim in taking on the library was to keep a local library service going for local people. However, as Trustees of the charity which runs the library, we were also keen to develop the role of the library as a community hub. Over the last three years the range of community activities run at the library has grown; we now run a regular Film Club, provide more activities for children, and also enjoy more musical and other enjoyable evening events at the library. These events, such as Sally Goldsmith's wonderful Ruskin event held at the end of October, provide welcome entertainment and help raise necessary funds for the library.

Library users often tell us they are happy with the improvements we have made, particularly the community activities. Last year some users told us that the quality of books was less good than it had been, so we have since worked hard to bring new books into the library through the Orange sticker scheme. These are mainly new or nearly new paperbacks donated by local shops and local people which library users can borrow. Whilst we will do all we can to encourage Sheffield City Council to add new books to our shelves, when money is tight the Council is not able to spend as much money on books, so we are extremely grateful for the donations of new or nearly new books to help us to add new titles to our book stock.

Over the last three years we have made a number of other improvements to the library, including new carpets in both the children's library and the adult's library and resurfacing of the car park. We have had many compliments on our new flower beds and we are extremely grateful to our green-fingered gardening team for the fantastic work they have done to make the area outside the library more welcoming!

Library extension

One of the main problems we have had with the library over the last three years has been the lack of an accessible public toilet, so one of our priorities has been to address this problem. We are pleased to report that we have raised the funds for this project and we are now in discussion with the Council about a scheme to build a new fully accessible toilet for all. Plans for the proposed extension are available for everyone to see in the library at the moment and involve adding a small extension at the rear of the building to provide an accessible public toilet, along with an additional storage room. We are hoping to progress with this scheme during 2018. Comments can be submitted up to 31st December 2017.

Library Lottery winners

Congratulations to Frank Gutsell and Margaret Holdcroft, our September Totley Library Lottery draw winners, winning £94 and £23.50 respectively. Also to Rita O'Hara and Neville Duncan, our October winners who won £108.60 and £27.15 respectively. Congratulations to all!

Supporting your local library

We are always glad of more volunteers, and there are many ways you can support your local library. We are currently looking for volunteers to join our Film Club Team, technical skills not required! We are always glad of volunteers to work in the library, be that working at the desk, tidying the bookshelves or cleaning. Bakers are also always welcomed to supply tasty goods for cake sales at events!

We are also very grateful for the support we receive from local groups and businesses as well as the individuals who help us in so many ways. We were recently delighted to receive a cheque for £650 from Totley Open Gardens and would like to thank all those involved for their generous donation.

Plant Sale 2018

During the late Spring a very successful plant sale raised over £700 in aid of the library. Our Gardening Team are planning a similar event to be held in May 2018. We are looking for volunteers to grow plants for next year's plant sale. You might be dividing herbaceous plants this Autumn or planning seed sowing for Spring. Perhaps you could grow a few extra plants to support the library! If you can help, please let us know by contacting either Sue Hare or Fiona Smith via email - Suehare42@talktalk.net or fionaksmith@gmail.com or leave a message via the library.

Totley Library Community Cinema

We have a programme of films for both children and adults planned for the Winter as shown below. Tickets include prize entry and cost £4 for adults and £2.50 for children.

Children's films

Sunday 17th December 2.00pm Despicable Me 3
Sunday 14th January 2.00pm Robinson Crusoe
Sunday 11th February 2.00pm Captain Underpants

Half Term holiday film showing

Thursday 22nd February 10.30am Kubo and the Two Strings

Films for adults

Friday 8th December 7.30pm Their Finest
Thursday 14th December 3.00pm Wild Oats
Thursday 18th January 3.00pm The Zoo Keepers Wife
Friday 26th January 7.30pm Churchill

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.10, or www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com
Councillor Surgery, 2nd Monday of month, 6.00 - 7.00 pm

Tuesday:

Basic ITC Sessions, 10am - 12 noon. To book, phone Heeley Development Trust on 0114 250 0613.
Baby Time 1-2 pm. Fun music session with songs, rhymes and musical instruments for babies aged 0 - 18 months.
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 Walks, 10.30am Wednesday, Totley Library. One longer of up to one hour duration and one shorter walk, followed by refreshments from Totley CRIC. Contact Step Out Sheffield on 07505 639524 or email stepoutsheffield@gmail.com www.healthwalksinnsheffield.btck.co.uk/
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
Yoga sessions 7.00 - 8.30 pm, Wednesdays (except the last Wednesday of the month). For more details call Ann Zielonka on 0114 2361585 or 07929736966. Beginners welcome.

Woodland Activity Days

Friends of Gillfield Wood have been fortunate to receive funding from the Tree Charter through the Woodland Trust. With some of these monies we were able to set up two free Woodland Activity Days; one on 24th August, the other, recently, on 2nd November. Each day was part of a school holiday.

Andy Brewster and I had the pleasure and expertise of Nell Dixon of the Sheffield City Council Ranger Service. Nell split each day into two sessions. On the August day we did some activities along a short stretch of Totley Brook while the afternoon was spent in an open woodland area thinking about how to survive in the wood. The November morning consisted of an exploration of leaves, fruits and seeds to make colours for painting; the afternoon considered how animals survived the winter.

On both days Nell set a steady pace of varied activities which kept the children, and the adults, fully occupied. Here in pictures and captions are how the two days went.

Thursday August 24th

The day was bright and warm, and many families turned out for the event.



Right Gang! Are you ready?



The mayfly larvae never had so many fans.



Beware of the Troll Bridge!



Home Sweet Home – in the Woods!

One of the highlights for me as a compulsive river dipper in my spare time was the discovery of the Horse Hair Worm. It looks like a piece of string, is about 10cm long and 2-3mm thick with no distinct head or any other appendages. It is a parasite of grasshoppers, cockroaches and others, and needs to return to the brook to complete its life cycle.

Woodland Activity Days

Thursday 2nd November

Eight families enjoyed part of or the whole day. The youngest child was 3, the oldest 12.



Who can make the best leaf snake in Gillfield Wood?



Painting with natural colours from leaves and fruits. We used pestle and mortar to squeeze out the colour with a little water added.



*Game of Pooh sticks? Yeh!
Always a favourite.*



Keeping warm AND safe, Nell blows on the embers



Now for the pineapple and marshmallows.

To know more about events and activities with FoGW contact the secretary at fogwsecretary@gmail.com or visit our website at www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com

Article: Paul Hancock

Photographs: Andrew Brewster

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Chris has coffee with John Beazer

Sheffield has its seven hills, and Totley celebrates this in having its well-known jazz ensemble, the Seven Hills Quintet. You will have caught them at the Totley Show, or perhaps in concert in the (much missed) music festival. Behind their percussion is John Beazer, who is a man of many parts as we shall see.

He has been described by a fellow musician as a 'gentle drummer' in contrast to those drum-egoists whose solos can interrupt the enjoyable flow of an evening's jazz. John's performance style has been shaped by earlier years in the team-playing of a larger, brass, ensemble.

The Seven Hills' musical repertoire comes in part from the great American songbook, which invites one to listen to the subtlety of the lyrics.

But another of John's musical styles was recently recalled when The Moths were brought out of retirement to play a session in the Festival of Psychedelia down in Derby.

The Moths, you ask? But they were famous way back when: they wrote many of their songs, and laid them down on an LP that is now a collectors' item. And they have just recently issued a limited-edition vinyl single, which is apparently already re-selling on eBay for amazing amounts.



John Beazer

Having relatives in Dronfield, John already knew Sheffield before his job in the Civil Service brought him to live in the city, and to settle in Totley. His work in the Service made use of his background in psychology, computing and in particular in the early implementation of IT, for which he was a strong advocate within the Service, an organization which had not been famous for its procedural innovations.

Working into government in such a role may bring one into close contact with ministers, people whose names will be known to the general public, but whose fallibilities and personal styles are less visible to the rest of us. John has many funny stories..... Such as the occasion when they enlivened what promised to be a worthy but dull ministerial closing speech to a conference by providing a rousing backing-track to awaken the delegates.

So how much of John's previous selves might people realize who know him in his current work-place? From being an important player at Moorfoot, in that huge organization that is the Civil Service, John has now retired, and has become a key member of the rather smaller team who run the Nursery and Infants School at Halfway. Here, with a colleague in the school office, he covers school administration, finances, HR; and is the webmaster in what looks to be a lively and successful place.

Clearly as he describes his new working day, John finds it very enjoyable to be working alongside a headmaster and

teaching team that John delights in stressing are much younger than himself. Similarly he meets with the families of the school's children....although I presume that some encounters with parents can require a measure of tact and diplomacy. Here, I can imagine how valuable will be John's long experience of dealing with awkward customers, be they jazzmen or Ministers of the Crown. Here, his gentle, humorous and intelligent understanding of others have de-fused many a situation.

A man who has been happy and valued in the many and varied situations of his life!

Chris Spencer (John and Chris met over coffee at Rendezvous on Baslow Road)

Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society

It is amazing how interlinked some of the theatre groups in the Sheffield and Chesterfield area are. Within our society alone there are those who are active in Toads, Intake Methodist Musical Society, Chesterfield Operatic Society and now John Wade has set up a one-off "Vintage G&S Society" in order to perform Iolanthe next March in Holmsfield Church where Jill Rugg and yours truly will be helping out. The proceeds will be going to The Cavendish Centre.

Our Christmas concert, Music and More will, as usual, be in Dore Methodist Church, Savage Lane, Dore; and will be on Saturday 16th December at 2:30pm. Tickets are £8 each and are available from me, telephone 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 more than a little comedy and of course some carols. It is even rumoured that "Elvis" might even be there!

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 and run to Saturday 14th April 2018. Tickets (£15, £7.50 under 16) will be available from January 2018. I'll save more details regarding these performances for later editions of The Totley Independent.

If you cannot make our concert on the 16th December we hope to see you at The Montgomery in April but in the meantime have a good Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Derek Habberjam

Recently Spotted



Jamie, Julia and Catherine from Totley Co-op working hard to keep Totley looking good!.

Organic Gardening

Most people have heard of the problem of plastic in the oceans, or the damage it does to wildlife and the effect it will inevitably have on human life. It is not the only cause of damage though, as many leisure activities, such as cruising, have a detrimental effect on the seabed and sea life, and our oceans are in a poor state of health. Similarly, while we have known more about the poor state of the soil for a considerable time, we have done very little to improve it, resulting in a huge loss of biodiversity which is continuing to decline.

According to a study in PLoS One (journal of scientific papers for peer review) in 2016, intensive farming has done most harm to UK species. Researchers found that habitat destruction, intensive grazing, fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides have devastated biodiversity. Climate change, growth of cities, river drainage and decreasing forest management were also found to have played a role. I am convinced that the way we garden will be adding to these problems. A walk around any local garden centre says it all!

In the summer, my newly-planted sunny bed of wild native flowers did well despite the fact that some plants somewhat overshadowed others. I have sorted out which will be moved elsewhere and which will stay put. Certainly, there was a huge increase in the variety and number of insects (don't ask me what they all were - I have a job remembering all the names of the many native wild flowers here!). All the flowers were visited by bees, although their favourites were still the nearby established patches of Betony and the yellow Birds-foot Trefoil. However, overall, there were fewer bees than in the previous year, which may be because of the general and very worrying decline in numbers or, perhaps, because like all wildlife they need good links from area to area.

Despite growing more plants, such as Hemp Agrimony and Purple Loosestrife, that are especially attractive to butterflies, few visited the garden, which again is worrying, though Garlic Mustard attracted several Orange Tip Butterflies, and the leaves were later full of holes, hopefully caused by their caterpillars. Quite a lot of other leaves provided food for some sort of wildlife, so maybe next year there will be a greater number of insects in all parts of the garden. I am sure some gardeners would reach for the pesticide, but that will kill off the predators of the leaf-eaters as well. When left to nature it will all balance out in time.



Orange Tip Butterfly

The lawn is very healthy and a good green colour. It has not been cut too short or too often despite all the rain. There used to be a patch of rough grass and other areas of Creeping Buttercup, but they have disappeared and there has been no need to scarify the lawn at all as, with no chemicals applied, or even any organic compost, the worms have done their job, absorbing any debris back into the soil to improve the fertility naturally.

The ponds did have problems - mainly from the uninvited

Canadian pond weed - so some action had to be taken before October, which is the ideal time for any renovation as most frogs and newts will have left. The problem may not be eradicated but is now much reduced.

In October my trusted gardener donned his waders (he loves fishing!) and very carefully moved through the water to remove built-up silt onto some spare pond liner at the side of the ponds, and a few nymphs and tiny newts were helped back into the pond. It had been clear that many frogs had not left the ponds, and as the water cleared a little we could see dozens of baby newts! After fearing that the ponds were not in a healthy state I was both relieved and delighted.

The nuthatches are continuing to visit the feeders, and goldfinches too. Just now, there are twitterings from large flocks of birds in the trees as the autumnal migration begins. I am sorry that Song Thrushes do not appear to be breeding in my immediate area any longer. They are good for controlling snails, though in early October a magpie was seen eating one which it had found on the dry-stone wall at the edge of the patio. I have had very little problem from slugs which are, hopefully, being controlled by hedgehogs rather than slug pellets used in surrounding gardens and, of course, frogs and newts also eat at least smaller slugs.

Now is the time for planning and planting for next year. We all love to see native spring flowers in our woodlands but most people buy cultivated varieties for their gardens as they are usually larger with flowers in a variety of colours - many of them rather bright compared to our indigenous species. However, they do not support our wildlife nearly as well. Television programmes showing our beautiful British countryside invariably also show cultivated daffodils. Little wonder, therefore, that our environmental situation is deteriorating.

Native varieties are available online from specialist growers and are not expensive at all. Winter Aconites, wild Daffodils (*Narcissus Pseudonarcissus*), Lesser Celandines and Wood Anemones are all very beautiful - give them time though. They reappear each year, getting stronger and spreading. Snowdrops are very popular but are not native, having been introduced from France and Denmark. The original variety is *Galanthus Nivalis* and I grow that in my garden, but no other more cultivated varieties.

Later spring flowers which accept shade or semi-shade include the long-lasting Greater Celandine, White Deadnettle, Red Campion and Hedge Woundwort. I have always found the catalogue produced by my supplier very helpful on colour, flowering time, height and position, as well as giving lots of helpful general information (a few plants offered are introduced species and so it is as well to check with them if you are unsure).

Any necessary tree-pruning should be done during the next few months and new trees can be planted. The native White Hawthorn is second only to the Oak for the amount of wild life it supports. It does not grow too tall, is easily contained and is very good cover for birds; in fact I now hang my bird feeders from the branches.

In the Woodland Trust's north magazine (autumn 2017 issue), there was an article about Headley Hall near Gateshead in which Richard Wilson states that "bees are having a difficult time everywhere, so we'll specifically go for trees that produce flowers we know they like. For starters, we've got our eye on Blackthorn, Wild Cherry and Guelder Rose." As it happens, I was advised to plant a Guelder Rose by my supplier a few years ago and just now the leaves are turning a beautiful pinky gold. More recently, I also planted a Wild Cherry and a Blackthorn as they are very good for birds.

What makes native flowers so special to me is the fact that along with trees and shrubs they have been around for thousands of years, and, after the last ice-age, they appeared again, covering our country with colour and variety according to local conditions and supporting the wildlife on which we depend. Now, many of our wildflowers have become rare and over 90% of wildflower meadows have been lost, together with so much woodland. We do need to plant more natives to help improve the environment.

Marian Tiddy

My Totley memories

I was born at 258 Firth Park Road on 24th of May 1920, and the family moved to Totley when I was a baby in the early 1920s. By that time my father had built a bungalow at 14 The Quadrant, where we lived. He also built most of Heatherfield during the next few years.

My mother's parents lived at 18 The Quadrant. My father, who traded as C. L. Marcroft Ltd, developed three roads off The Quadrant and Terry Road.

Father also bought land from Colin Thomson, a butcher on Totley Rise. At the time he had financial help from the solicitors Hyman Stone (he dealt with a Mr Greenway) and presumably that is how they arrived at the names Marstone Crescent and Stonecroft Road.



Between 1920 and 1939 he bought the Grange in Baslow Road, and we thought we were going to live there, but father had other ideas! There was a paddock next to the Grange, which was behind 14 The Quadrant. He made the house into shops and built one or two more shops. As far as I remember the shops included a greengrocer and a hairdresser. He kept the paddock/orchard which went with 14 The Quadrant. I remember that as children we used to climb over the dry stone wall and walk through the orchard to Baslow Road. My father also built most of the houses in Vernon Road and some in Chatsworth Road.

In the 1940s he built houses on the meadow near The Quadrant, which included 144 Baslow Road, which was for my sister Mary whose husband was a butcher in Sheffield. In 1945 my sister and her husband moved to Millhouses to be nearer his business in Sheffield, and father bought 144 Baslow Road for us to live in. Dr David Linfoot lived next door to us. The Marstone estate was built, and C.L. Marcroft Ltd put up the prefabs on the other side of Baslow road towards Totley school near Main Avenue which were still there in 1956. He also built houses in Brinkburn Vale Road.

I remember a chemical yard where they stored building materials behind Totley Rise, and we used to follow a footpath behind this yard to walk to Bradway Bank. Does anyone remember this? It's probably been developed by now. In those days the windows in houses were made to measure, and he had a joiner who worked in the chemical yard making these window frames and other wooden items for housebuilding, such as doorframes, doors and skirting boards.

When my father died in 1951, my younger brother Phillip took over the business and he also had a garage mechanic in the chemical yard 'hotting up' cars! That is the story of my father's connections with Totley.

I attended Totley village school until I was 11, when I took the 11+, then known as the scholarship exam. I then attended Chesterfield Girls High School because at that time Totley was in Derbyshire. During this period Sheffield moved the boundary to the next river which meant we were then in Sheffield, but I did not have to move to a Yorkshire school.

I passed my examinations (the equivalent to O-levels) at 16 and stayed on in the Secretarial Sixth at Chesterfield Girls High School. From there, my first job was as a receptionist at a dentist's in Chesterfield, but my mother thought it was too long a day for me with the travelling, and arranged for me to have a secretarial job in the Almoners Department at the hospital in Sheffield, where I worked until after the war. I was not allowed to go to the war (1939-45) much to my disappointment, as I was in a reserved occupation. I was Almoner at the Children's Hospital for 18 months, then returned to the Jessop's Hospital as Assistant Almoner.

In my spare time I helped with the Sunday School and many groups at Dore and Totley Union Church. I was a leader of one of the Sunday School groups. There was a group of four or five of us who used to walk over to Longshaw every Sunday morning and have coffee and scones, and then we walked back in time for Sunday School! Maybe there is someone reading this who has similar memories?

When the war was over in 1946, I went to India and worked as a hospital secretary at Medical College and Hospital, and spent the last two years as secretary to a Leprosy Research Unit near Madras.

I came home in 1951 on leave, and then went to Bombay to work in a hospital there where I met my husband. We returned to this country in 1956 and I was married in Dore and Totley Union Church in Totley Brook road 1956. Since then I have lived in the south of England.

I thought somebody might be interested in knowing who built so of the houses in the area, but of course your History Group will have most of this information. I was last in Totley in 1960. I wonder if there is anyone who has memories triggered by mine? Perhaps they would like to add to the discussion by writing to the editor?

Betty Marr (née Marcroft)

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Friends of Gillfield Wood Summer Events

One of the many events organised by the Friends of Gillfield Wood this year was the ever-popular live **Mammal Trapping** event. This took place on Sunday October 15th, a fine bright morning. Val Clinging of the Sorby Natural History Society once again led this event and oversaw the setting and opening of the traps.

Val is a good friend of the group and enthusiastically shares her knowledge of small mammals so that it makes for a fascinating morning for all ages. On this occasion twenty-six people attended - sixteen adults and ten children - which



Mammal trapping group with leader Val holding plastic bag with mammal in it.

was a brilliant turnout. The previous evening, a total of twenty traps had been set in two different locations within Gillfield Wood. These traps are specially designed metal Longworth traps into which bedding and food are placed so any small mammal caught has warmth and nourishment to last them overnight and, when caught, these mammals are quite safe within the compartment. The entrance to the trap has a thin trip wire which when triggered, closes the flap door behind the mammal. As each prepared trap is carefully placed on the floor of the wood, in specially chosen sites, it is covered with fallen twigs and leaves.

That morning, once in the wood, everyone gathered around Val with great excitement and anticipation as each trap was inspected. When the door of the trap is found to be closed it does not always mean that the trap has caught a mammal, as one of the woodland slugs may have slithered in to get to the food and triggered the sensitive wiring. Usually, however, the weight of the trap when in the hand indicates that there is more than a slug inside!



Wood Mouse in an inspection box

So if the trap is closed and "heavy" the technique is then to get the small mammal from out of the trap and into a plastic bag and then into a small clear plastic box for inspection. It sounds easy but great care is needed to ease the small mammal, with bedding, out of the trap and into the plastic bag for all to see; mice are very lively and can sometimes escape. Of the twenty traps placed in the wood, eleven had successfully caught mammals - an excellent result. Five of the traps each contained a Wood Mouse and six contained Bank Vole. Everyone was thrilled to get close-up views of these tiny creatures as they gradually settled inside the inspection boxes and it was not long before the children were identifying the mammals and pointing out the differences between Wood Mouse and Bank Vole, the latter having tiny ears, shorter tail and darker fur.

When each mammal had been identified and observed with interest, it was released into a suitable piece of undergrowth, again to much excitement. It was at this time you could clearly see the speed at which Wood Mice are capable of moving through the ground vegetation: lightning quick, bounding over tiny obstacles - and their long tail, large ears and light brown fur were clearly noted. The Bank Voles in comparison were far more cautious, clearly using their noses, sniffing the ground as they moved slowly away.

Without doubt an excellent time was had by one and all, and already another mammal trapping event is being arranged with Val for next October. If you would like to attend please keep your eye on the group's event calendar in the Totley Independent or keep looking on the FOGW website.

Another event that took place a little earlier in the year was the **Bird and Butterfly Walk**. This got off to a great start because almost immediately those attending gathered to look at a Little Owl. This small bird was characteristically perched on a fence post at the edge of a field. The light was good so all the distinctive features were noted and discussed - the size and shape, the colour and the beautiful patterns on the plumage - white spots on light grey-brown feathers. And those alert yellow eyes staring back at you when its head flicked round.

If that was not enough, another Little Owl dropped out of a nearby tree and flew low along the top of the hedge to land in a large Oak tree. This re-emphasised how small this owl actually is and just how short and rounded its wings are. As we searched the Oak for more views of the owl, two Jays suddenly called raucously and briefly appeared in flight for us to see their shape and bright colours.

By this time a range of other birds had made their presence known. We were hearing and identifying Robin, Wren, Blue Tit and Dunnock as they called from the adjacent hedgerow.



Wren

In addition a Great Spotted Woodpecker was heard to call, and was seen at the top of a distant tree. It would not be the same if we did not get at least one sighting of this species on our quarterly walks in and around Gillfield Wood. Another species that has been putting in an appearance during our recent walks is the Stock Dove, and on this occasion we saw at least two perched on bare branches for everyone to study

through the telescope. The differences between this species and the bulkier Wood Pigeon were pointed out, and in flight it was noted the Stock Dove lacked the distinctive white wing bars that are very clearly present on a Wood Pigeon when it flies.

As we stood still and quietly soaked up the atmosphere on this mid- August morning, it was a delight to find House Martins and Swallows flying above and in front of us, it was as if they had just appeared from nowhere. We watched with interest as the House Martins, with their white rumps showing, chased insects above the tops of trees, whilst the Swallows skimmed over hedges and the yellowing pasture collecting their food on the wing at a lower level. This provided a perfect comparison in feeding behaviour and showed how fascinating nature is.



Swallow

Eventually our walk found us strolling up the footpath towards Fanshawe Gate Hall. Along the way we heard Buzzards calling and we then watched as two birds soared up high together. We perhaps saw four in total but it is not always easy to count them as they drift in and out of sight. One did however fly low over the woodland at the top of Shep's Hill and, in so doing, put up a large flock of corvids, mainly Jackdaws. As these flew around calling in confusion a Swift was seen to fly at speed above them and over our heads, a brilliant and unexpected sighting for this time of year. No flapping of wings for this bird, it cut rapidly through the sky on a mission!

What an interesting morning! Summer moving into autumn, colours changing, a rainbow in the sky, a late Swift and the gathering for departure of Swallows and House Martins. Then there were the colourful fungi in the meadows and a Common Frog hopping in front of us along Fanshawe Gate Lane. It was here we also had a small mixed flock of Goldfinches, Greenfinches and Chaffinches chattering away in flight as they moved about a stubble field feeding. Young birds with adult birds and, to lift spirits even further, a lovely Speckled Wood butterfly resting in the sun.

Towards the end of the walk we managed to visit another quiet sheltered area on the south side of the wood where a variety of shrubs and wild flowers grow, and it was here we



Red Admiral butterfly

found a small number of butterflies. These included Red Admiral, Green-veined White, Meadow Brown and a beautifully

marked Comma. And as they too rested in the sunlight a large green coloured dragonfly, with blue tips to the abdomen, zipped back and forth, twisting and turning and changing direction as it tried to catch insects. It was a Southern Hawker - you could hear its wings beating and clipping the edges of leaves on trees and bushes as it searched for food. There was so much for us to see and enjoy, a perfect setting to finish another lovely walk.

Chris Measures

The first Bird Walk of 2018 will be on Saturday January 20th. Non-members as well as members are very welcome to come along. We will meet at 9.00am at the bottom of Totley Hall Lane, so why not make a note in your diaries and come and join us. No experience is necessary and don't worry if you don't have binoculars! You can still enjoy being with the group as we try to find some birds that are winter visitors and some that are residents in and around Gillfield Wood. In the meantime, Friends of Gillfield Wood extend their very best wishes to all for Christmas and the New Year.

Totley Library Lottery

Running Totley Library costs over £24,000 per year, and the grant received by the Library from Sheffield City Council will be reduced significantly in April 2018. To help keep Totley Library open, last summer we launched the Totley Library lottery and it's been a big success! Each month, 25% of all ticket income is allocated for the first and second prizes, and the remaining 75% goes straight to library funds. After initial set-up costs, the lottery raised around £4,000 during its first year with over £1700 given out in prize money. At the moment, around 130 local people have tickets, and, for the first time, this autumn the first prize topped £100!

Lottery numbers each cost £1 per month, and by playing, you can help support the library - and if your luck's in, you can win cash prizes! Pick up an application form at Totley Library, or ring Chris Cave on 236 4648!



Lottery manager Chris Cave holds the bag of numbers for Library user Jillian Dudley to draw the winning numbers.

Dore and Totley United Reformed Church

This year we are supporting the Sheffield Carers Centre which gives valuable support to carers of all ages.

Dronfield Genquip Band Christmas Concert, Sunday December 3rd at 3 pm. This award winning silver and brass band will perform a selection of Christmas music and was widely acclaimed at their last visit to our church in the Spring. Tickets at £6 include seasonal refreshments and can be booked from Elaine Ferguson on 07929720977 or by email to elaineferg32@yahoo.co.uk

Christmas Fair, Saturday 9th December 10 am to 12 noon. Join us for delicious home made cakes (including gluten free) and drinks and browse some stalls for Christmas ideas. All welcome, free entry.

All are welcome to join us for our **carol service** on Sunday 17th December, led by Rev'd Simon Copley or on Wednesday 20th December for carols and mince pies from 10.45 am.

Mean Streets

I was sat at my desk in the office in the weak winter sunshine. The sun threw cold pools of light over the dusty wood-en floor. The upstairs water tank dripped cold pools of water over the papers I was working on. There I was, in an upstairs office in a row of shops in an English village on the edge.



Kerry's the name. Harry Kerry. Arrived from Stateside three months ago. Sure is a change from downtown Chicago. But what's a private detective to do? Work dried up since Trump made lies, deception, and duplicity part of the American way of life – so cheating husbands, check frauds and fingers in the till didn't bring me cases any more. So I'm here, relocated and open for business, hoping that people on

this side of the pond will pay me for sorting out the mysteries of their lives and uncovering the little vicissitudes that can, let's face it, cause headaches.

I'd been careful to make sure that the sign outside the office said "private detective" as I've found that abbreviations can cause misunderstandings and, frequently, trouble.

But business was slow.

I yawned and glanced across the road. The greengrocer – Reg the Veg – was taking in the aubergines from outside his shop. The price tag was reasonable – " 'AUBERGINE'S' 47p 'each'." They shone like brand new bruises, between the courgettes (24'p' per 'pound') and the parsley ('one pence per "bunch".). It was Thursday. A dim memory glowed in my mind – didn't we run a course in Bad Grammar Eradication back in the 70s in Detroit? Where were the operatives now – Momma the Comma, Apostrophe Lil, Artie Parenthesis, and the other guys – just when we needed them?

The dame from the estate with the poodle would be doing her shopping around now - it was her ratatouille day. The routine was as predictable as the aftermath of a chicken vindaloo. I thought about her poodle, yapping around the Maris Pipers (POTATOE'S, 12p a pound). She would kick the dog, then argue about the price of coriander. Reg would explain about market forces and the impact of deregulation on the wholesale vegetable trade. She would poke around in her bag and wave the Delia Smith. Reg would explain again about the method with mangoes. Eventually she would cough up and leave. As Reg always says, that that's the way it is with mangoes.

Oh, well, back to working out the VAT return, even if the VAT return on nothing is nothing. I could sure do with a few customers and I was hungry. Dinner was difficult – down the road, "Stan's Inconvenience Store" (opening hours 3am – 4.30am) wasn't much help. Across the road, the dame with the poodle arrived and began the aubergine routine. It took Reg half an hour of closely-argued Keynesian economic theory to get rid of her. By that time, the sun had started to go down and the afternoon rays of light streamed through the front door, turned left at the coffee-machine, and beat a path through the skylight to return to celestial warmth. Across the road, Reg was closing the greengrocers. I had to fix that VAT return, so I went into the back office.

The doorbell jangled - like icicles being tickled by a piece of frozen cod (sometimes I'm not too sure where the imagery comes from). But it was the dame from Reg's. A client! My stomach leapt like a dolphin doing tricks. My heartbeat went AWOL. A dull, dumb bump hit my brain like a bag of bricks. My legs were weak, my vision went for a swim, my arms felt like lead weights were fastened to the wrists. All in all, not in bad shape for a 65-year-old. But not great for a guy of 37.

"Mr Kerry?"

"Yes Ma'am, how can I help you today, to have a good day, an' all?" I knew my manners.

"It's gone missing! It's gone!" She began to weep all over the

new office rug. "I can't cope without it. I can't go on, I just can't go on..."

"Sit down here, ma'am". I gestured to the office armchair which had seen better days. And had probably read better articles. I picked up a pencil. This could be a profitable case – maybe theft of a valuable car, or maybe jewellery. "What's gone missing, ma'am?"

"A pair of spectacles! It's a brand-new pair. Disappeared!"

I signed and put down the pencil. "OK – let's see - when did you last see these glasses, ma'am?"

"This morning"

"And where were they?"

"On my husband's face. He borrowed them".

"I see." My razor-sharp intellect whipped into action. "Ma'am, is your husband missing?"

She thought for a moment. "Oh. I suppose so. I hadn't thought of that. Come to think of it, the house has been quiet this morning. But I must get that pair of glasses back! Will you find them for me?"

It didn't seem too big a job, but could this case make me? Or break me? I don't know yet, because the editor has just told me I've run out of space.

To be continued.....

Do They Know it's Christmas?

The amazing Abbeydale Park Rise Christmas lights should all be lit and sparkling by the beginning of December. This is a Christmas tradition stretching back around 30 years – the whole street lighting up the characterful cherry trees. People from all over the city come to see them - on Christmas Eve, cars are bumper to bumper all up this long road!



This year residents want to use the opportunity to raise money for St Luke's Hospice. Arrangements are not yet in place, but do watch out for publicity on how to do this. And enjoy the lights!



Sally Goldsmith



It's been another exciting start to the year at Totley All Saints with our focus being particularly on developing SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) and on working towards the Rights Respecting Schools Award. We've had lots of special focus days already and some more coming up with the History Van visiting for the Y4 Egyptian topic, bread making with Mrs Bly in Y5, Saints Alive puppet shows, Amey Construction workshops and a PTA Fun-d Raiser Christmas panto! Plus we've dressed up for Children in Need and been part of the 'World's Largest Lesson'. That's aside from all of our usual lessons, activities, residentials, visits and visitors! As we always say - it's all happening at TASS!

TASS Spelling Bee and Wild Read

This term, we held a 'Spelling Bee' competition across school to raise the profile of spelling, as well as to learn the key skills needed to be able to spell words successfully. Letters went out before the half-term holiday to give plenty of time for children to learn a list of spellings both at school and at home to prepare for the competition. Unlike the American or 'Child Genius' style of Spelling Bee, we re-designed things so that everyone had a chance at success at their own level, with children competing in groups and with words adapted to be challenging, but not impossible. Each group then had a winner with special prizes and all participants received a certificate. The feedback regarding the Spelling Bee has been fantastic and has certainly served to get our children enthused about spelling! It's certainly kept us buzzy!

We've also continued our Wild Read programme this year, where parents and carers come in after school to read with their children around the camp fire in our Woodland Workshop. The session finishes with the toasting of marshmallows - mmm!

TASS Harvest Celebrations

Our Harvest Celebration took place in October and was a special time of thanksgiving held at All Saints Church, Totley. This involved children in every year group contributing with prayers, poems, songs and presentations. Parents and carers contributed with monetary gifts in aid of the Sheffield Cathedral Archer Project. Finally, the service was pulled together with a fantastic talk by our vicar (and governor to the school), Revd. Katie Tupling. We'll be visiting the church again in early December ready for our Christmas service - can't wait!

TASS Remembers

Our Remembrance Assembly for children took place on Friday 10th November and focussed on some of the young men who actually attended TASS before later going on to fight - and give their lives - in World War I. This certainly brought history alive for our children and helped them to focus on the sacrifice made by others during the world wars. Year 6 pupils then also visited Sheffield Cathedral on Tuesday 7th November for a special look around.

TASS Healthy Snack Shack Leaders and Other Responsibilities

Our TASS Healthy Snack Shack is once again open and was initially financed as a result of Church Burgess funding. A whole host of healthy snacks are available at reasonable prices and the children are served by our Y6 Healthy Snack Shack Leaders.

Other roles and responsibilities are also enjoyed by our children, such as Merit Team Captains, School Council, Eco-Saints, Rights Respecters and Playground Leaders. All of the children involved go through some sort of selection process, from applications and interviews to hustings and public

votes. The children are becoming well established in their roles now and are developing excellent skills of leadership.

The TASS School Council includes: Y1: Kharis Lancaster and Daniel Wilson; Y2: Spencer Corrin and Elizabeth Bridgens; Y3: Lulu Howorth and Felix Chen; Y4: Abigail Simpson and Finlay Denholm; Y5: Hugo Deeks and Jessica Fields; Y6: Lexy-Bee Reid and Rafi Day. They meet every couple of weeks and make big decisions on how to improve the school further, as well as take the views of their class mates.

The Eco- Saints for this year include: Zachary Farrow and Charlotte Davies (Y1), Isaac Everitt and Orla Bennett (Y2), Jessica and Isaac Rai (Y3), Dylan Flint and Sophie Chapman-Parmar (Y4), Megan Hill and Guy Eckersley (Y5) plus Daniel Clements and Jessica Smith (Y6). The Rights Respecters include: Zach Butcher and Hebe Jenkinson (Y1), Charlie Rose and Darcey Lawton (Y2), Ben Sedgewick and Flossie Tomkinson (Y3), Evie-Louise Ramskill and Oliver Mather-Scott (Y4), Jessica Diggins and Jesse Drought (Y5) plus Alex Hydes and Ruby Winslow (Y6). The two groups will be coming together for a lot of joint working this year, including fulfilling the Rights Respecting School Award Action Plan - all under the expert guidance of Mrs J. Brown (Y2) and Mrs Leggett. We know they will do brilliantly!

TASS PTA Fun-d Raisers

We now have a new PTA Fun-d Raising Team following on from the great work of Kelly Lawton and Sally McCann. Alison Richardson and Heidi Wilson (with children in Y1) are now Joint Chairpersons, Helen Foot and Liz Priest (with children in FS2, Y1, Y2 and Y6) are Joint Secretaries and Diane Wilkinson (with a child in FS2) is the Treasurer. The team has certainly started as they mean to go on, with their first events including a bonfire-themed craft competition, plus firework sweet treats on sale after school on the last Friday before



finishing for half term. They managed to raise a fabulous £178.74! The quality of entries for the Bonfire Craft competition was extremely high. Winners included: Lily-Rose Yaul and Elsie Coupar for FS2, Charlie Clarke and Ruby Taylor for Y1, Darcey Lawton and Lucian Mather-Stott for Y2, Lottie Glover and Maisie Slater for Y3, Ewan Cuckney and Thomas Davies for Y4, Jesse Drought and Isla Wilson for Y5 and Lily Naylor and Jack Wild for Y6. The next event led by the PTA Fun-d Raisers will be the Autumn Family Breakfast on Thursday, 16th November and then it's onto Christmas with the PTA Christmas Fayre (1st December), pantomime (5th December) and carols on the yard (21st December).

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

Karole Sargent, Proud Headteacher

JOHN WADE SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Christmas Trees and
Christmas Carols

Conductor Jonathan Lazell
Accompanist David Burgoyne

Saturday 9th December 2017

7.30pm
Millhouses Methodist Church
Millhouses Lane
S7 2HA

Tickets £9
Concessions £7
Children Free

Proceeds to a Local Charity

Ticket sales and information
Jenny Parker 0114 236 0798
Helen Hancock 0114 235 1433



Totley History Group

Programme 2017

13th December: Please note we are meeting on a different Wednesday in December. This is because we are including the Sheffield Folk

Chorale Christmas Concert in our programme. We have attended this concert for the last few years and everyone has thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The concert includes songs from across the centuries and makes a good beginning to Christmas.

With guests Sarentino Strings.

Ecclesall Parish Church, 7.30. Tickets £8.25 from www.wegotickets.com or ring Pauline on 0114 235 2344

24th January: Talk by Chris Parker, 'The Shell Armaments Crisis and Munitions Production 1915-1916'.

This talk highlights the limitations of Britain's industrial mobilisation during wartime, and the formation of the Ministry of Munitions, which under the guidance of David Lloyd-George was tasked with rectifying the severe short-comings. Totley Library, 7.30 pm.

Wednesday 28th February 2018: Advance Notice: Open Meeting on the theme of Sports and Social Groups and Events

Everyone is invited to bring along their memories and photographs of local clubs and societies and annual events like Totley Show.

SARAH MIRZA

LORD
SANTA'S
REVIEW

LORD
SANTA'S
REVIEW

Ash is a Light Warrior who reports to Santa's grotto after a three-year absence to undertake her review. Expecting to be in disgrace, instead she finds herself totally unprepared for the reception.

Her review brings surprises and Ash learns about her own levels of power and connection higher than she had ever understood. Perhaps she is much, much more than the maverick she is considered to be? She must learn to stand with her powers.

When Santa enters the Collective Stream of Consciousness and delivers his gifts, he learns that it is indeed time for people to move to the next level. Ash's new team is barely assembled before a breach in the Earth's energy grid makes it necessary for them to act immediately. Will Ash prove to be all that the Light Warrior Order believes her to be? And if she is, where will it take her?

Available at Waterson's and
on Amazon in book and
Kindle form

On the Beat

It's that time again! Is it me or does it come around quicker every year? The carols are already playing in the supermarkets, the toy adverts are filling our screens and the windows are full of glitter. Yes, Christmas is nearly upon us. Traditionally seen as a time for giving, unfortunately there are some who see it more as a time for taking. Houses full of sparkly new things, the latest electricals, and the "big shop" can be too much of a temptation! Here's a few tips for keeping your property out of the hands of others:

1. Burglar alarms: whilst many people say that there is no point as they get ignored, they do put off burglars. I've attended a few this year where the sound of the alarm has set them running away. Even dummy alarm boxes can be of use.
2. CCTV: a good system can cost a lot of money, but dummy cameras can prove as much of a deterrent and are widely available.



3. Always make sure the door is locked behind you! Too many burglaries still involve no form of break-in, more of a walk-in. Make it the first thing and the last thing you check every time you go in and out of the house.
4. Keep keys away and out of sight from the door.
5. Try not to leave handy things in your garden for climbing onto flat roofs or smashing windows. Always make sure that your windows are secure before leaving the house.

6. Now we're back into dark nights, consider investing in timers for your lights. They are an inexpensive purchase and lights going on and off in your house will again deter Mr Burglar.

7. Consider setting your radio to a talk channel and leaving it on whilst you're out. Again, the burglar cannot be sure if anyone is in or not and will go somewhere they can be sure.

8. In these days of Social Media try to avoid posting your packed Christmas social schedule. We don't want to tell people when we're not in do we? Make sure your privacy settings are as secure as they can be.

9. Complete an inventory of your belongings and upload serial numbers to www.immobilise.com This is a secure system and free to use and will help immensely if you are a victim of crime, both with recovering goods and with your insurance company. Maybe take photos of valuables and email them to yourself.

10. If you've got a dog, even if they're as soft as a brush, let people know by putting beware of the dog signs in plain sight. If you haven't got a dog put the signs up anyway!

Whilst we still live in a relatively low crime area, taking some or all of these steps will help keep the level down, and hopefully ensure that your Christmas is a very happy, safe and secure one.

As usual, if you have any concerns please contact me via the usual channels, adrian.tolson@southyorks.pnn.police.uk or my work mobile 07787 881945.

Cheers,

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

Recently Spotted

An 'Independent' reader on holiday in Salcombe reports that these A3 posters are prominent in the town, and they seem to have an impact. Maybe a few should be posted in Totley?



**Dog mess is spoiling
YOUR local area.**

Please help us to stamp out this anti-social behaviour by letting us know who is not picking up after their dog.

They face a fixed penalty fine of £80 or a possible £1000 fine if the case goes to court.

Please contact Street Scene in confidence.

Tel: 01803 861234 8.30am - 5.00pm
Email: streetscene@southhams.gov.uk


South Hams
District Council

Totley Rise Methodist Church

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.

Christmas Services at Totley Rise Methodist Church

Christmas Service: Sunday 17 December, 10.30am

Carol Service: Sunday 17 December, 6.30pm

Crib Service: Sunday 24 December, 4.00pm

Christmas Day: Monday 25 December, 10.00am

Journey to Bethlehem: Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December 2017, 4.14pm - 7.30pm.

Christmas starts here! A free 30 minute walk-through drama for the whole family that tells the Nativity Story. Travel back in time to see the people and places that surrounded the birth of Jesus. Actors tell the story with shepherds and sheep, wise men, a bustling marketplace with stall holders, refreshments and ending at that special stable.

Pre-booking is essential by phoning 07854 968 011

Focus Church: Totley Rise Methodist Church, Sunday 10 December 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

Men's Breakfast, Totley Rise Methodist Church, 9.30am - 11.00am
Would you like to begin your Saturday with a complimentary English breakfast and great conversation?

Men's Breakfast meets on occasional Saturdays during the year at 9.30 am. Our speakers have covered topics ranging from football legends to life as a long-haul airline pilot. All men are welcome - no pressure, an easy environment. For more information see the Church website.

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

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

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

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

Pushchair Club Every Thursday, 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 and find a selection of recent services at Podomatic Podcast Page.

Delving into Gillfield Wood's Past - Part 1

It created a lot of excitement...! Friends of Gillfield Wood (FoGW) had had a very successful Level 1 Survey of Gillfield Wood supported by Heritage Lottery Funding. Much was learnt about the wood from an ecological, archaeological and historical perspective. The Q-pits, used to produce white coal, told of the extensive use of the wood over time for the smelting of lead. Evidence existed of coppicing alluding to the managed status of the wood; Gillfield was a working woodland, in stark contrast to today's use of the wood almost entirely for leisure.

It did indeed create a lot of excitement to have a second survey supported once more by Heritage Lottery Funding. This time we had help from South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group (SYBRG) who applied for the funding on our behalf and arranged to provide us with expertise and training to enable us to do a Level 2 survey.

Two lines of investigation were attempted. This first article for the Totley Independent tells of our explorations and research into the standing stones along Totley Brook. The two notches cut into each stone and bolts affixed with lead strongly suggested the use of wooden beams across the posts, but with what purpose?

Our second line of investigation stemmed from a record of Gillfield Wood in the Domesday Book:

(Domesday Book 1086). - In Totingle, Tolf had IV bovates of land hidable, land for one plough. It is waste. Wood pasturable, 1 mile in length and half a mile in breadth.

From the above extract, it is notable that although the wood is at least 1 mile long it is not much wider today (north to south) than a hundred yards. A further article in the next issue of Totley Independent will continue the story of our investigations into the historical extent of Gillfield Wood.

Our research team – members of FoGW and the Totley History Group - worked tirelessly in the Sheffield and Matlock archives and also source material from elsewhere. Information was gathered on land ownership, ancient field names, from old maps (some commissioned by local landowners) and newspapers, local history and living testimonies, extreme weather records, and family histories and businesses.

The Standing Stones

We suffered an early setback to this part of the project when our expert, Dr Simon Doncaster, moved to a new job away from Sheffield. He was to have been our hydrologist to enable us to understand and correctly interpret the water flow along the brook in relation to the standing stones. Nevertheless, we sought to learn about the standing stones using two approaches; firstly, to measure the stones and record data from the sites; and secondly, to use our archivists to try to find who had commissioned the construction and placement of the stones, and when.

Measurements were taken of the stones such as lengths between notches and their height and depth, the stones' thickness, widths and heights. Contextual data was added from local flora and the geography around the sites. Some stones were broken, others partly buried in accumulated silt and now sited amongst thickets of holly. Access was difficult! The stones were of a similar build, but one detail stood out clearly. Sites with stones in the western part of the brook (5 in all) had notches in the stone to accommodate 4" by 3" beams of wood. The more eastern sites (another 5) had similar bolts in the notches but the beams required were 3" by 3". Bolts were also present on the tops of the stones as shown in the photograph (right). Including the notches and top bolts it was possible to erect 3 beams



horizontally across the upright stones. But with what purpose in mind?

The stone used for the posts is Greenmoor sandstone, typical also of the stone walling found in the Gillfield Wood area. Although found in local quarries close to the wood the posts in the brook were not sourced locally. Sheffield Archives had documentation from Green Moor Quarry, near Penistone, but none linked to Totley's industries.

Two main industries relied on the water from Totley Brook: the Chemical Yard distilled pyroligneous acid and naphtha from the charcoal burning process. Totley Rolling Mill relied on a supply of water to power their machinery. Investigations in the Archives found no evidence of the commissioning of the standing stones to act as barriers to prevent materials fouling the water supply. Certainly, the rolling mill would have been concerned about wood debris damaging the water wheel and would have considered how to prevent this. Both industries would have been concerned about silt accumulation - the chemical yard wanted good quality water and the rolling mill would have been concerned about its pond silting up.

Examination of the sites of the stone posts show clearly that the alignment of the posts does not always match the line of the brook. There is strong evidence to show that silting has occurred next to and up-stream from the stone posts at a number of sites. Many sites have two posts, but some carry three. Was a third post added later because the brook's course had changed due to silting or flood erosion? Or had the brook simply required three posts rather than two as it was wider at that location?

Were the posts erected as barriers to debris or to control the flow of the brook in some way? Were they used with hay bales to act as a filtering system for silt? Why were at least 10 erected and spaced at roughly equal intervals? Were they erected all at once or individually when needed? Or, possibly they were only part of fencing used to section the wood in the process of parcelling the wood for coppicing or for pheasant management. To our knowledge the posts have not been recorded on any maps.

We know much about their construction including the use of bespoke threads on the bolts (at 9 teeth per inch a Whitworth thread – established after 1841 – would have been a 7/8" diameter bolt, but ours are 5/8" diameter). Their placement was good as many of the stones are still standing and the alignment of the beam notches, even today, are within 35mm as measured with a laser level.

We intend to examine the sites more closely, especially to see how water flow was controlled as many sites have walled sections upstream. It would be good to know more about the composition of the silt and, if possible, how the deposits at the sites accumulated. To do this we have sought further help from SYBRG and are hopeful that the necessary hydrological/geological expertise will be available. This has turned out to be a big project.

We have had much to learn and still have more to learn. If you would like to know more and maybe have a little time on your hands please get in touch through our website www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com or contact us at fogwsecretary@gmail.com.

Paul Hancock (Events Coordinator, Friends of Gillfield Wood)



The Poetry Slot

Sally Goldsmith

Each issue, I look at a poem by a published poet from South Yorkshire or North Derbyshire – except that this month I'm cheating and choosing one from a West Yorkshire poet, Keith Hutson.

Morton Fraser's Harmaniacs

Keith Hutson

Mouth organs must be kept from the inept
whose efforts have a butterfly effect.
For instance, *Michael Row The Boat Ashore*,
murdered, makes desert spread a metre more.
Ditto, *Old McDonald's Farm*: note for note,
a piebald nag in Mexico pegs out.
And some insist when unskilled lips accost
Greensleeves, forest the size of Wales is lost.

For God's sake make it stop! My friend, you can,
with any YouTube clip of Morton's men:
ten wizards of the silver wheeze and one
gymnastic dwarf. Press *Play* to halt the harm,
and somersault this crippled planet back
to 1966 and Crackerjack!

Halt global warming by good harmonica playing! This poem – a sonnet no less – comes from a witty, skilful collection by Keith Hutson, all of them about old Music Hall and variety stars. Morton Fraser and his Harmaniacs existed and I'm sure you can find them on YouTube, on Crackerjack!

The poem has an ease that belies its craft and skill. Affectionate but sharp, all his sonnets are also strict sonnets – fourteen lines, five stress lines (or 'iambic pentameters'), a 'turn' after the eighth line, a strict rhyme scheme and having that successful sonnet click when it's finished – giving the sense of something complete, perfect even. The rhyme scheme in this one is in couplets – pairs of lines rhyming though not always "perfect" rhymes, preventing the poem from being too pat. He also uses internal rhyme – for example 'kept' and 'inept'. Sometimes the phrase or sentence ends with the end of a line, but he also uses 'enjambment' – a poetic term which means that the phrase carries on over the line ending. Keith is a master at this, keeping the poem driving on.

I love the humour – how it's *Michael Row the Boat Ashore*, a song about water, that spreads deserts. Likewise *Old MacDonaldis Farm* that kills a horse and *Greensleeves* causing deforestation. We know too, don't we, that it's just those sort of tunes that will be in the *How to Play the Harmonica* tutor book? There are cracking lines – how can we not love 'ten wizards of the silver wheeze' – and wheeze having that double meaning? And don't we all know that dreadful harmonica playing? Bring back Morton and the Harmaniacs and save the Earth – and our ears!

Keith Hutson is a former Coronation Street and comedy writer, his poetry widely published. This poem is taken from Routines published by Poetry Saltzburg in 2016. He lives in Halifax where he delivers poetry and performance workshops for The Prince's Trust and The Square Chapel Centre for the Arts.

Traffic News

The tubes have been in position again, near to the library, positioned by the speed camera partnership. These are used for them to get an average speed of vehicles, without drivers being aware of their presence. The results show a slight decrease in average speeds, the higher ones being on Sundays. The majority of offences committed are in the 30 - 40 mph bracket – again showing, I believe, the ignorance of drivers in thinking that the speed limit on the dual carriageway is 40mph.

With regard to the speed indicator devices (SIDS) which I believe are a good reminder to drivers of the limit, Cllr Colin Ross reported that the responsibility for them had gone to "Central" but they had no money to relocate or maintain them. Ironically, the manager of the speed cameras has also asked if they can be brought back into use, but he has been told that the SIDS are under the control of the Local Area Panels, where they used to be - the opposite to the information which Colin was given! Left and right hands come to mind!

Speeding drivers should be aware of the

new level of fines which have been introduced – up to 175% of a weekly salary. The penalties for use of mobile phones has also increased to a maximum of £200 and 6 points. For a new driver, this could mean the loss of their licence!

How many drivers are aware of the "Tailgating Regulations"? No accident or collision is required for an offence to be committed. In other words, BACK OFF. Recently, whilst driving at the speed limit, with traffic approaching from the opposite direction, a young driver approached me from behind at high speed and I expected a rear end shunt. Why? It could not overtake, it would have exceeded the limit, and was close to damaging their car by hitting my tow ball. I put my hazard flashers on momentarily, which had some effect - they slowed down, but then raced up again!

Roger Hart

HGV Update: a petition has been submitted to Sheffield City Council, calling for action on the unacceptable use by HGVs on Twentywell Lane, Prospect Road and Queen Victoria Road. We have also found that these routes which service Totley and Bradway are amongst the worst

'hot spots' for HGV traffic across the city. A risk assessment has shown they are top priorities for improvement and, following our intervention, traffic surveys are being undertaken to evaluate the problem.

Delay to Resurfacing: Local Councillors have been informed of delays to the road resurfacing programme. Residents were promised that nearly every road in the city would be resurfaced in the 5 year 'core investment' period ending in December. This is now not going to happen!

The B53 zone covering part of Totley will not be completed on time. Pavement and road resurfacing will not be finished until June 2018.

Some roads in the south west have been reassessed and the Council now claim they are in a better condition than when they were originally surveyed! As a result they will no longer feature in the 'core investment' phase at all!

Needless to say we find this situation unacceptable and are pressing for more information. I will keep you informed of progress.

Martin Smith, Councillor for Dore, Totley, Bradway and Whirlow

Remembrance Sunday, Totley War Memorial



The Christmas story

Do you know the story of Christmas?
It's contained in a wonderful book
And if you're willing to try it
Together we could have a wee look

It starts with a girl due to marry
When on the scene an angel appears
Which startles the girl called Mary
But he quickly dispels all her fears

He says with God she's found favour
And will in time give birth to His son
For He longs to give earth a present
And baby Jesus will be the one

She doesn't know how Joseph will take this
For he's the one she's to wait
But all is explained in a dream to him
One night while he's lying in bed

There's one ruler called Caesar Augustus
A census he decided to take
So all must go to the place of their birth
And many a long journey they'd take

To Bethlehem did Joseph take Mary
But they could find nowhere to stay
A stable was all they could find there
And she lay the babe in the hay

At that time on the hills were some shepherds
A-watching their flocks through the night
When a host of angels burst on them
T'was a glorious, wonderful sight

They glorified God in the highest
With peace and goodwill to all men
They told of the birth of the baby
Then sent shepherds to Bethlehem

They came to the stable before them
And went in the baby to see
There they knelt and humbly worshipped
The baby that sets us all free



They returned to their flocks rejoicing
And praising the Lord God above
Thanking Him for such a blessing
A present of goodness and love

Now wise men followed on later
With presents of fabulous worth
But none can compare with the greatest
That God gave to men here on earth

Now that is story of Christmas
Though the tale does not come to an end
And that's why we give presents at Christmas
To bless those we love - family and friend

Vivien Filleul

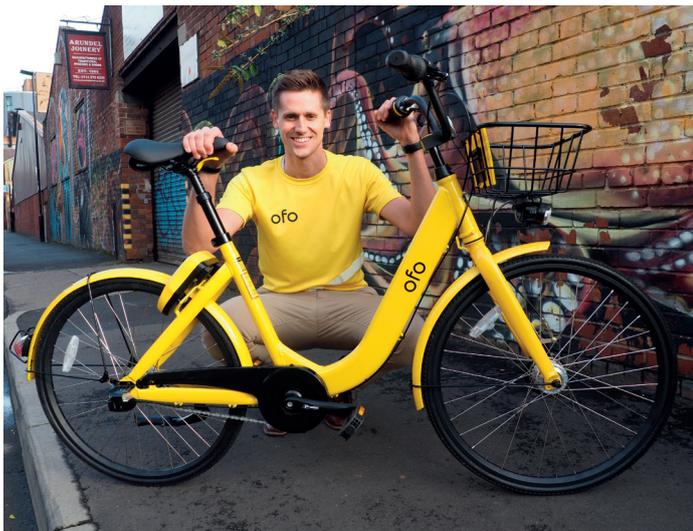
Big Yellow Bike Share!

Sheffield is getting ready for a yellow Christmas this year, as the world's biggest bike share company, OFO, prepares to launch its bright yellow scheme around the city and around Dore and Totley station in December.

"This will be the first public dockless bike share scheme in Yorkshire, and OFO's first in the north of England," said councillor Jack Scott, Cabinet Member for Transport and Sustainability.

"With an initial launch of over 1,000 bikes across Sheffield, we think this will also be the biggest launch of share bikes so far in the UK," said OFO's Sheffield operations manager Adam Rose, adding that the company's December roll out will see several hundred yellow bikes appear on the streets of Sheffield literally overnight in the run up to Christmas.

'Share bike' schemes are a mobile phone operated bike loan system, where users download a free app to locate and unlock a nearby bike, which then charges 50p per half hour of use.



Sheffield's OFO Operations Manager Adam Rose with an OFO bike in central Sheffield

Sheffield's OFO share bikes will include a three speed Shimano gear hub to help cope with our hills, and can be left and picked up from most public spaces, subject to the user guidance to park bikes using their fitted bike stand so they don't cause problems for pedestrians and other highway users.

OFO are enlisting a local team to monitor and maintain the bike fleet, who will also quickly move bikes parked inappropriately. The trackable bikes are robust but light, use non-standard fittings to deter theft, and have airless tyres to prevent punctures (and sabotage). Local bike retailers will be brought in to help maintain the growing yellow bike fleet.

Users can cycle where they like but, after their ride must return their bike to a defined area, which will initially stretch from the city centre to Sheffield University, the Northern General, Meadowhall and around Dore Station. Adam and his team can expand the area of operation depending on user demand.

OFO users gain or lose points depending on how responsibly they use the scheme, and can be fined or eventually banned for parking the bike where other users can't access it, or outside the defined area of use.

The scheme will be cost-free to the council, with Sheffield joining 180 cities across the world with OFO bikes, in China, USA, and Australia as well as London, Norwich, Oxford and Cambridge in the UK. Sheffield's share bike scheme is seen as a long term investment for the company, said Adam Rose, who anticipates a quick growth to 3,000 or more bikes in Sheffield within a few months.

"This is a truly exciting opportunity and exactly where we need to be going as a city, bringing convenient, safe, low-cost cycling to almost everyone. OFO are an absolutely great company, and by working together, we can achieve

even more for Sheffield, such as Bikeability cycle training for adults and children. This will help us to tackle some big issues like poor air quality, obesity and congestion all in one go," said councillor Scott.

"We had a taste of yellow in 2014, when the greatest cycle race rolled into Sheffield. Three years on and the city is about to go yellow again, as over the next few months we are going to roll out the biggest bike share scheme the country has ever seen."

David Bocking, National Trust

Ash Dieback Threat

As our ash woodlands turn yellow this autumn, National Trust Ranger Luke Barley and his colleagues have reported signs of ash dieback all over the White Peak, unsurprisingly, he says, because the spores that cause the disease are carried by the wind.

"We felt it was inevitable, because the White Peak is an ash landscape. Now we need to manage it and mitigate for it." The disease originated in the far east, where native ash species have co-evolved with the *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* fungus which causes ash dieback, and can survive its attacks, whereas European ash trees seem to have little defence.

The rapid spread of ash dieback throughout Europe since its first outbreak in 1992 has led to predictions of an 'ash armageddon' with most of Britain's 100 million plus ash trees dead or dying within a few years. The National Trust and other agencies are working together to monitor the spread of the disease in steep limestone valleys like Dovedale, Lathkill Dale, Monsal Dale and Monks Dale.

"Some places in Europe have seen more than 90% of ash trees infected, and if that happened in our ash-dominated woodlands, they could stop functioning as woodland ecosystems with all that implies for other woodland species," said Luke.

Ash is a 'pioneer' species, whose seedlings grow quickly in cleared and open ground, so the predominance of ash in the White Peak's woodlands is a result of many hundreds of years of woodland clearances for farming, quarrying and mining.

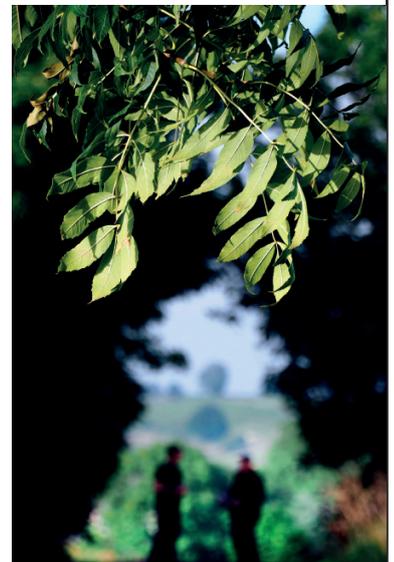
But there are still some secluded ravine woodlands that evaded human interference, like Matlock Wood in Matlock Bath, which include trees like wych elm, yew and lime as well as ash, and Joe Alsop from Natural England said restoring species that would have grown around the White Peak in the past would be good for biodiversity.

As well as a monitoring programme in the Peak District, conservationists will be cutting down some trees to give space to older ash which could be more tolerant, and to allow other native trees to gain a foothold. Luke and colleagues are also looking for funding to plant species that would have grown in the ravines long ago, like hazel, rock whitebeam, lime and wych elm.

There are some encouraging signs that Britain's ash trees may be more tolerant than continental European variants, and maybe an 'ash armageddon' can be averted here. But the White Peak's ash trees will soon face another challenge, as conservationists monitor the spread of the Asian emerald ash borer beetle (whose larvae burrow into ash trees and kill them) which arrived a few years ago in Moscow.

"It is a call to action," said Luke Barley. "We can't stop ash dieback, all we can do is try and manage these woodlands so what's important about them continues."

David Bocking, National Trust



THE 32nd TOTLEY SHOW RESULTS September 2017

Overall Best in Show: Ray Sables for his Upcycled Sculpture

HANDICRAFTS: Best of Class: Susan Ashmore

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
1. Knitted or crochet garment	Carole King	Kathryn Deakin	Susan Bridgens
2. Decorative cushion	Susan Ashmore	Eileen Macpherson	Carole King
3. Soft Toy	Susan Ashmore	-	-
4. Tapestry	Hannah Corbey	-	-
5. Cross Stitch	Eileen Macpherson	-	-
6. Quilting/Patchwork	Judy Needham	Carole King	Susan Ashmore
7. Greetings Cards	Catherine Wrigglesworth	Susan Bridgens	Hannah Corbey
8. Open handicraft	Claire Calvert	Hannah Corbey	Judith Barton

DOMESTIC SECTION: Best of Class: Barbara O'Connor

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
9. A Cake (any recipe)	Barbara O'Connor	Judith Barton	Daniel Whiteley
10 Victoria Sandwich	Emma Caroe	Laura Glover	Judith Barton
11. Dundee Cake	Judith Barton	Duncan Froggatt	Tom Steel
12 Carrot Cake	Barbara O'Connor	Chris Scott	-
13. 5 Biscuits	Chris Scott	Barbara O'Connor	Daniel Whiteley
14. 3 Scones	Dorothy Firth	Eileen Ogley	Chris Caroe
15. Loaf of Bread	Jackie Butcher	Chris Scott	Jackie Butcher
16. Jam	Rebeka Newman	Judith Barton	Pauline Perkinson
17 Lemon Curd	Eileen Ogley	Rachel Walkden	Liz Walkden
18. Marmalade	Chris Caroe	-	-
19. Chutney	Sharron Goldie	Judith Barton	C. Froggatt

FLORAL SECTION: Best of Class: Eileen Ogley

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
20. Floral arrangement	Sharron Goldie	Kim Day	-
21. 3 cut Flowers	Liz Walkden	Eileen Ogley	Diane Wilkinson
22. Flower pot plant	Eileen Ogley	Duncan Froggatt	-

FRESH PRODUCE: Best of Class: Tom Steel

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
23. 4 Eating Apples	Tom Steel	Paul Hancock	Stuart Barton
24. 4 Cooking Apples	Claire Calvert	Chris Caroe	Tom Steel
25. 8 Blackberries	Eileen Ogley	Chris Caroe	Jessica Camateras
26. 5 or more mixed veg/salad	Mary Jo Titterton	Chris Caroe	-
27. 3 Courgettes	Chris Caroe	-	-
28. 5 Matching Runner Beans	Jackie Butcher	Jackie Butcher	Tom Steel
29. 5 Tomatoes	John Perkinson	Tom Steel	Tom Steel
30. 1 Cucumber	Tom Steel	-	-
31. Heaviest Marrow	Tom Steel	Sharron Goldie	Chris Caroe
32. Longest Runner Bean	Eileen Ogley	Danny O'Connor	Jackie Butcher
33. 3 Eggs from own hens	Rebekah Newman	-	-

ART: Best of Class: Claire Calvert

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
34. An Original Poem	Kate Caroe	Chris Caroe	-
35. Oil or Acrylic Painting	John Wells	John Wells	-
36. Water Colour	Tina Warwick	David Wright	David Wright
37. Sketch in Ink or Pencil	Lionel Boniface	Andy Meaker	Valerie Wrigglesworth
38. Upcycled Art or Sculpture	Ray Sables	E. Adlington	-

39. Open Art Any Medium	Claire Calvert	Hannah Corbey	Valerie Wrigglesworth
40. Open sculpture any medium	Valerie Wrigglesworth	Claire Calvert	Claire Calvert

PHOTOGRAPHY: Best of Class: Tom Steel

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
41. Black and White	Emily Walkden	Zafar Ali	Claire Calvert
42. Creative	Tom Steel	Charlotte Bridgens	Kathryn Deakin
43. Wildlife	Tom Steel	Zafar Ali	Zafar Ali
44. Landscape	Simon Walkden	Simon Walkden	Simon Walkden

WOODWORK Best of Class: Andrew Rose

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
45. Wood Turning	Andrew Rose	Andrew Rose	Stuart Barton
46. Wood Sculpture	Richard Howe	Andy Meaker	Anne Rose

CHILDRENS SECTION. Best in Class: Emma Caroe

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
47. Vegetable animal (up to 8)	Elizabeth Bridgens	-	-
48. Vegetable animal (9-14)	Jessica Camateras	-	-
49. 3 Decorative Buns (up to 8)	Isla Glover	Lottie Glover	Elizabeth Bridgens
50. 3 Decorative Buns (9 to 14)	Keira Scott	Jessica Camateras	Oliver Scott
51. 3 Biscuits (up to 8)	Elizabeth Bridgens	-	-
52. 3 Biscuits (9-14)	Elodie Cunningham	Emma Caroe	-
53. Decorated Gingerbread Man	Emma Caroe	James Caroe	Elizabeth Bridgens
54. Egg Cup Flower Arrangement	Victoria Foster	Toby Hobson	Jemimah Deakin
55. Painting or Drawing (up to 5)	Harry Rzepinski	Leila Wood	Isla Glover
56. Painting or Drawing (6 - 8)	Peter Caroe	Felix Chen	Lottie Glover
57. Painting or Drawing (9 to 11)	Jemimah Deakin	Jemimah Deakin	-
58. Painting or Drawing (12 to 14)	Emma Caroe	David Caroe	Joel Thornton
59. Lego Model <25 cm sq (5-8)	Stanley Coe	Naomi Fearnough	Toby Hobson
60. Lego Model <25 cm sq (9 - 14)	Aimie Swift	James Caroe	Emma Caroe
61. Colour Photo (up to 14)	Isabel Deakin	George Camateras	Elizabeth Bridgens
62. Open any Medium (up to 14)	Emma Caroe	Max Wrigglesworth	James Caroe
63. Handwriting (6-8)	Felix Chen	Peter Caroe	Elizabeth Bridgens
64. Handwriting (9-11)	-	-	-
65. Handwriting (12-14)	Emma Caroe	Amelia Awan	David Caroe
66. An Original Poem	David Caroe	Emma Caroe	Amelia Awan

All the children who came first in their class received a Medal and a certificate thanking them for taking part in the Show.

We thank all the exhibitors who entered 369 entries for all to see.

Many thanks to our Class Sponsors: Totley Rise Methodist Church, Hamnett Wealth Management, Shepley Spitfire, Totley All Saints Church, The Grouse, The Cross Scythes, Hetty Moran, Jennifer Burns and Mick Warwick.

Thanks also to our local shops for their generous raffle prizes: Co-op Totley, Rendezvous, 194 Headlines, Liberty Foods, Luxury Gap, Taj Singh (Totley Pharmacy), Ironing Parlour, Totley DIY, Looby Loos, Totley Rise Newsagents, Totley Tails and Whiskers, Totley Post Office, Totley Deli, Martin Scriven Fruiterama, Shepley Spitfire, Tea Time Vintage, Angela Harpham and Claire Calvert.

Walking in Sheffield

"This is what a Nepalese friend of mine calls a Himalayan Flat," said Sue Lee, striding out of Endcliffe Park with a posse of explorers during the recent Sheffield Walking Festival. "The walk starts at one altitude and ends at the same altitude, but doesn't necessarily stay at that altitude all the way round."

Moments later Sue and 20 fellow ramblers were ascending the slopes on their clockwise navigation of Sheffield's Round Walk, where some of the steepest climbs come first. Up from Hunters Bar, up through Chelsea Park, down through Nether Edge, and then up again through Meersbrook Park, and so on. But this is Sheffield.

Sue Lee runs the award-winning Step Out Sheffield health walks programme, which hosts short weekly walks at 25 parks, woods and green spaces across the city, including Tuesdays mornings from Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet and Wednesday mornings from Totley Library.

The 'Step Out Sheffield' walks are ideal for people taking up exercise for the first time, she said, or people recovering from illness, or with mental health problems or older people who just want to stay fit. Over 400 regular attendees are led by a team of over 100 volunteers (although more volunteers are always needed, said Sue.)

There are also more people walking in Sheffield for practical reasons, say transport planners. More than half of us now make a 'utility' walking trip such as walking to work every week, with commuting on foot increasing from 5 to around 8% of trips since 2001. The zero cost, easy health gains and the low stress of not navigating road traffic are cited as reasons for walking to work.

Longstanding local walking champion Terry Howard of the Ramblers and Sheffield Campaign for Access to Moorland walks pretty much every day, and believes many people underestimate urban 'utility' walking. "Walking is a means of exploring, it's not just about health and fitness," he said. "I've lived here all my life and I'm still finding new things when I'm out. You meet walkers who say: 'I've heard about Beauchief Abbey but I've never been there.'"

He said walking to work gives you far more variety than travelling by bus or car. "You can try different routes all the time, and you'll see and experience so much more. And if I'm going into town for a meeting, walking gives me that 30 minutes to plan and think beforehand."

Sue Lee's walkers approached the Meersbrook foothills, and a man with boots and a photocopy asked: "Is this the drain walk? The manhole covers of Heeley?" Without pausing for breath or raised eyebrows, the backwards Round walk leaders put the drain walker on the right path, and continued on their way. Another hill, another workout, another breathtaking view of the city of Himalayan Flats.

David Bocking, National Trust

For more information go to:

<http://theoutdoorcity.co.uk/walk/>

<http://www.healthwalksinffield.btck.co.uk>



Sheffield Walking Festival: climbing the hill in Meersbrook Park

No Accounting for Cherrytree!

Cherrytree, on Mickley Lane, a registered charity, provides temporary accommodation and support for up to 20 homeless single young people aged 16 – 21. Most move on successfully either to their own accommodation or by being re-united with family or friends after a stay averaging 6 – 9 months.

The facility is managed on a day-to-day basis by Sarah Tully, the general manager, with support and guidance from a Board of Directors chaired by Steve Walker.

The Directors also act as Trustees for the investment portfolio that provides the income needed to pay for the little extras, such as counselling and leisure activities, that help to turn the young people's lives around.

Unfortunately, Cherrytree's Honorary Treasurer, John Kirk-

-ham, has recently had to retire due to ill-health, so a replacement is being sought as a matter of some urgency. The amount of work involved isn't huge since all the regular book-keeping is carried out by the company's admin and finance staff.

The role mainly comprises the provision of an overview of proceedings, focussing particularly on the accountancy regulations, as well as liaising with the auditors. It would particularly suit a recently retired Chartered Accountant with management experience who is interested in putting something back into the community.

Apart from the AGM, which involves a certain amount of input to the Annual Report, the Board of Directors / Trustees meet for just a couple of hours four times a year.

Interested parties should contact Steve Walker (Tel 07941 092 207) in the first instance.

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.
- TUESDAYS** **SLIMMING WORLD**, Abbeydale Sports Club, 5.30pm and 7.30pm, Jo Elsey: 262 0523 or 07590 545253.
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.
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. Katy Maclean 07790 411893.
HEALTH WALKS, 10.30am, Totley Library. Contact Step Out Sheffield on 07505 639524 or email stepoutshffield@gmail.com www.healthwalksinffield.btck.co.uk. For more information see Totley Library item in this issue.
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 07792 422909.

DECEMBER

- MON 4th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD** Talk by Dave Aspinall, Countryside Manager. Sheffield City Council, 'Sheffield's Woodland', 7.30 pm, Totley Library. For more details see page 10.
- SUN 10th ABBEYDALE INDUSTRIAL HAMLET** Fourth Abbeydale Community Christmas. Come and hear Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet's 'Tilt Hammers' Choir, led by Val Regan at 2.30pm. All day in the Learning Centre: Browse stalls of hand-crafted items made by Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet's resident craftspeople - Blacksmiths David Southgate and Iain Jones, Budgie Galore Jewellery, Glass Artist Martin McAssey and the Hamlet Haberdashers and Gardeners. Treat yourself to lunch or to coffee and a slice of delicious cake in our Waterwheels Café. 11am - 4.45pm. Normal admission £4 Adults, £3 Concessions. Children FREE. For more information contact Nell Farrell on 0114 2369064 or email n.farrell@simt.co.uk
- MON 11th 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 10.
- WED 13th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP** Spitewinter Concert with Sheffield Folk Chorale at All Saints Church, Ringinglow Rd Sheffield, S11 7PP. Traditional and New Songs. 7.30 pm. Tickets £8.25 from www.wegotickets.com or ring Pauline on 00142352344
- THURS 14th WHIRLOW HALL FARM TRUST** Carols by Candlelight - an evening of carols, candlelight, readings and music. 7 pm, Holy Trinity Church, Millhouses. Tickets £5 from www.whirlowhallfarm.org/tickets.
- SAT 16th DORE GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY** Christmas Concert, Dore Methodist Church. 2.30 pm. Tickets £8 from Derek Habberjam, tel. 0114 2362299.
- TUES 19th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD** Christmas Party, Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10 am.

JANUARY

- WED 10th TOTLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB** 10am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Chris Dorries, HM Coroner, 'History of Crime & Punishment'. Visitors Welcome
- MON 15th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD** 'Revealing Gillfield Wood', talk by members of Friends of Gillfield Wood, 7.30 pm, Totley Library. For more details see page 10.
- TUES 16th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD** Mel Jones, 'Wentworth Woodhouse'. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10 am.
- SAT 20th FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**, Winter Bird Walk, with Chris Measures. Meet at bottom of Totley Hall Lane, 9 am. For more information see page 10.
- SUN 21st 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 10.
- WED 24th TOTLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB** 10am Totley Rise Methodist Church. Talk by Andrew Swift, 'British Sports Cars 1950s & 1960s'. Visitors Welcome
- WED 24th TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP** Chris Corker, 'The Shell Armaments Crisis and Munitions Production, 1915-1916'. This talk highlights the limitations of Britain's industrial mobilisation during wartime, and the formation of the Ministry of Munitions, which under the guidance of David Lloyd-George was tasked with rectifying the severe shortcomings. Totley Library, 7.30pm.

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6.30pm. to 9.00pm (drinks - open all day)

Sundays 12.00 to 9.00pm

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