

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE JULY 1977

OCTOBER 1997

No. 207

15p.



SHEEPWALK BRIDGE 1895 BRICKWORKERS
ASSEMBLED IN THE WATER.

270

SHEEP IN TOTLEY.

Sheep have been very much part of the Totley scene for hundreds of years. We know that the Beauchief Abbey Monks had a sheep grange up on Strawberry Lee as long ago as the 13th Century. In 1535 an inventory taken there included a wool weaving loom, three doublers used for spinning and a pair of wool combs (no doubt made by one of the local combmakers). The Monks had a fulling or walk mill which is now well buried below the tip across Twenty Well Lane from the Station. Here the cloth would be cleaned and thickened by hammering or tramping, aided by the use of a soft and friable granular clay which disintegrated in water and known as Fullers Earth. We know from local wills and inventories of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries that most families would have sheep ranging from one or two to flocks of over 100. Families were often engaged part or full time in the trade of weaver or spinner. Weavers were then known as websters. Hence the family name mentioned in Totley documents from the 17th and 18th centuries. The unmarried spinners gave us 'Spinsters'. John Barber of Hallfield near Totley Bents referred in his will of 1706 to his tenancy of the walk mill at Beauchief, passing it on to son John who, if his younger brother Edward took up the trade of dyer must mill his cloth at a discounted rate. The Monastery had long since fallen victim to the dissolution and had been converted in part to a cutlers wheel.

Various references have been made to Tommy Mottram, Strawberry Lee shepherd of the last century. G.H.B. Ward in the Clarion Ramblers Handbook tells us that Tommy, renowned for knitting woollen stockings, would on occasion walk up to Scotland to fetch new additions.

As to the husbandry of sheep, Jim Frost wrote a delightful article in last autumn's Dore to Dore Magazine in describing some of the age old customs still used by shepherds. I first met Jim up near the Hathersage Road, some twenty years ago, carrying out one of the more arduous tasks - locating and digging out new born lambs from an unexpected heavy snowfall.

Continued page 3

FARMING SCENE

Do you remember the lovely dry, warm, sunny weather we had in April and May? Do you remember how most plants were up to a month early flowering and that everything in the garden looked well? It seems a long time ago now. A very wet June, a changeable July and a very wet end to August have tormented farmers and gardeners alike, leading to delayed harvests of damaged crops.

Haymaking, which is usually a June or July activity was still not finished on many farms by the end of August.

The cereal harvest in southern England was nearly completed before the torrential downpours came, but up here with the seasons being some 2 weeks later, the bad weather came just as the wheat and barley became ready to harvest. Consequently many southern growers managed to get their crops into store while the quality was still good and without the need to dry the grain. Northern farmers however, have a lot of very wet sub-standard grain to deal with. Given the difficult harvest, high grain drying costs and reduced yields and cereal prices at a 20 year low, many if not all crops, will be sold at a loss this year.

The potato crops were planted early in very good conditions and have grown quickly to produce yields that will be very similar to last years. However, total plantings in Europe are some 10% down due to last years poor prices. This coupled with major problems with potato blight (due to the continuous wet, humid weather) will mean that there will be no surplus this year, so prices should ease upwards a little from their current loss making levels.

Our 30 "early lambers" now have 2 Tups running with them and should start lambing the second week in February. We have given them the "full treatment" this year - i.e. 1/2 lb. per day of high protein food, lush grass plus the companionship of a vasectomised ram. This is to stimulate both ovulation and egg production with a view to increasing the number of lambs born per ewe. Most of this years lambs have now been sold, surprisingly at prices very similar to last years. The 20% rise in the pounds value lately has reduced export opportunities (or prices) for many products, but lamb seems to be very much in demand at the moment.

Our two cows are currently on "holiday" at a local farm so that the resident Charolais bull there can get them

back in calf. Rosie calved about 8 weeks ago and is now suckling a very nice bronze coloured bull calf called Jim. Angela (or is it Agnes, Sophie or Iona!) started to calve overnight and by the time we got to her in the morning she had made little progress and the calf was dead. This very often happens with heifers at their first calving as they tend to lay down, get up, wander around, then lay down again etc., rather than get on with the job in hand. We had to call the vet in to get the calf "away", which again turned out to be a nice bull calf worth £150-200 if it had been alive.

The State Veterinary Service have caught up with us at last and we have had to register our suckler herd (all two of them!), re-tag them with a computer based Herd and Individual numbers and fill in forms to get an Identity Card and passport for the new calf. These requirements are going to lead to much increased stock handling and paperwork, so to avoid the increased hassle we may well sell them later in the year.

Christmas cannot be far away now as our Turkey Poults are now on the farm. It's amazing how quickly they grow and how 80% of the meat is deposited on the breasts.

In line with other Fruit Growers we have had a difficult year to say the least! Most P.V.O. units are 40% down on takings, with the strawberry crop being hardest hit. Many southern growers suffered from the late frosts, particularly topfruit growers, (apples, pears, plums, cherries) where some have lost virtually all their crop and are in serious financial difficulties. Strawberries were also affected, but not so badly, with most northern crops relatively untouched. The real "killer" was the cold very wet June, which coincided with the start of strawberry picking. We sold 50% less strawberries than last year, with the rest of the fruit being only slightly down due to it not being ready to pick until July, which was a rather better month weatherwise. Unfortunately our blackberries succumbed to Crown Gall over-winter and we had to completely remove them in case the disease spread to the Tayberries. This disease is caused by a soil-borne bacteria which can live in the soil for a number of years. We think it arrived with the plants. Our blackcurrent bushes are slowly being infected with reversion, which although

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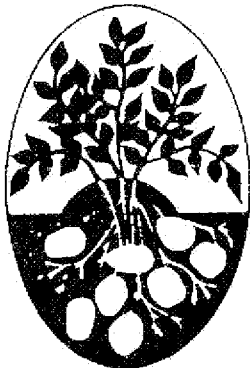
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harmless to us, causes the bushes to produce smaller and less currants. This disease is spread by "big bud mites" which are impossible to totally control once they get into a plantation. We are therefore planning to start a new crop area next to the raspberries, i.e. as far away from our currants as possible, of the new, earlier, higher yielding variety - Ben Connan.

What a joy it is to live next to the "Poly" now that it has closed down! We can now come and go as we please instead of having to plan our movements to avoid the rush hour traffic and the chaos caused by parked cars. The nights seem a lot quieter too, particularly around "chucking out time".

The prospect of having new residential housing on three sides of the farmstead is indeed a mixed blessing. The farmhouse overlooks the Lowfield site giving us a birds eye view of the shiny flat roof of the Library, the glass matchbox of a lectures building and a worms eye view of the concrete skyscraper student residence. The destruction of these eyesores can only improve the view, particularly if the resulting housing estate is tastefully designed and constructed of materials sympathetic and similar to the listed buildings opposite. The current proposals for Highfield really do give us problems. As they stand we would have new houses approx. 12 yards away from our boundary, with some overlooking the farm buildings. Closeboarded fence 8' high all around our farmyard would mitigate the problems of our being overlooked during work and play etc. Much more serious is the threat of Nuisance Abatement Notices likely to descend on us as a result of our current farming operations. We have had a visit from the Sheffield City Council's Environmental Protection Officer, who discussed with us the likely causes of complaint from our "new neighbours". The most serious problems will relate to noise pollution around our main storage buildings as listed below:-

1. 17,000 cubic ft. per minute Electric Fan used to dry our grain and hay during the summer and condition/cool our potatoes during autumn/winter.
2. Diesel Industrial Forklift used almost daily during the year but especially busy during potato harvest and over winter when we are potato grading.
3. Potato grading equipment used extensively November to April.
4. 20 tonne lorries used to collect grain, would be turning 15 yards away at rooftop level for some houses.

5. Daily tractor movements, particularly heavy during the harvest periods.

6. Annual Barn Dance!

7. Sawbench used to cut firewood.

8. Sheep housed for lambing, giving noise and smell problems day and night.

Should we have to cease these operations due to complaints, then our business would be severely affected possibly to the point where the Farmstead was untenable. With this in mind we have made informal enquiries about the possibility of building a new Farmstead away from the residential area, but any possible sites are in the Green Belt and would not get planning approval. The only other option is for the new houses to be sited at least 50 yards from our boundary and install noise barriers, which really is in the hands of the planning department.

Edwin Pocock

SHEEP IN TOTLEY (continued from page 1)

I have come across references on many occasions to the Sheep Wash or Wash Pool making up. Only recently have I discovered that there were probably at least two in Totley. One was upstream from the ancient ford across the Totley Brook, perhaps three or four hundred yards from Mickley Lane. The other is clearly defined in the 1842 Enclosure award and map as being in the Needhams Dike the small stream running behind the Totley Bents recreation ground. Only faint traces remain of the small enclosure, it certainly is not on a grand scale like that at Ashford in the Water, where sheepwashing is carried out each year. I like the description which appears in the diaries of one Henry Best of Helmswell in 1641. 'The usual and best time the washing of sheepe is betwixt the beginning and middle of June; for if sheepe chance to be low in the spring and then rise and amend on a sudden, then their wool will begin to loosen on their backs and slip off like hair that is scalded' Ouch!

MORE ON SHEEP.

A FAIRLY LOCAL RHYME READS;

Mr. Wood
Yer Hogs were good,
And we thank you for that
Under yon whins
You'll find their skins
And you must thank
Us for that.

(Hogs are sheep and whins are gorse bushes)

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VOLCANOES IN THE PEAK DISTRICT

By Alan Faulkner Taylor.

Most of us have heard of Fingal's Cave on the tiny island of Staffa, west of Mull. Even more famous is the Giant's Causeway on the north east tip of Ireland. Every slab of this basalt pavement is hexagonal, but to appreciate the length of the columns one must visit Fingal's Cave. Both belong to the same laval system, in fact there is about a quarter mile long stretch of columns forming part of the cliffs of Eigg some 35 miles to the north.

Columnar basalt also occurs in one site in the Peak District and Michael Caine would probably say - 'not a lot of people know that!' In addition there are many places where lava occurs if we know what to look for.

Because we divide the Peak District roughly into White or Dark we tend to think of the rocks as being either limestone or Millstone Grit (which includes sandstone and shale). However, if we take a closer look in some locations we find rocks of different colour and texture, but because of staining and erosion it is usually necessary to chip off the outer skin to realise that it is lava.

So - how long ago were active volcanoes spewing out lava across the Peak District?. Because many of the flows have limestone both beneath and above (although in some places the limestone cover has been eroded completely) it is reasonable to assume that the main eruptions occurred part-way during the Carboniferous Period - possibly 325 million years ago.

We have quarry owners to thank for identifying the best-known vent of a volcano - Calton Hill (GR 116714) between Taddington and Chelmorton. The basalt taken from here was broken into small pieces for road surfacing, but when the harder limestone chips were used for this purpose the quarry became redundant. Although Derbyshire County Council had later used the area for waste disposal, fortunately the value of one part of the site was recognised and given S.S.S.I. status (site of special scientific interest); the reason - quarrying had revealed vertical columns of basalt. Although worthy of a visit the columns are not so uniformly 6-sided as those at Fingal's Cave and the Giant's Causeway. The rock face is not visible from A5270, on the west side of Calton Hill, but access is from an unofficial lay-by near the bend in the road, up the field on the Taddington side, then from the gate you will see the dark rocks. Providing you close the gates, the farmer has no objection to people crossing his land.

Another disused quarry from which



basalt was removed for road surfacing is now a picnic site less than half a mile due south of the Tideswell Dale car park. The dark brown rock alongside the car park is also basalt.

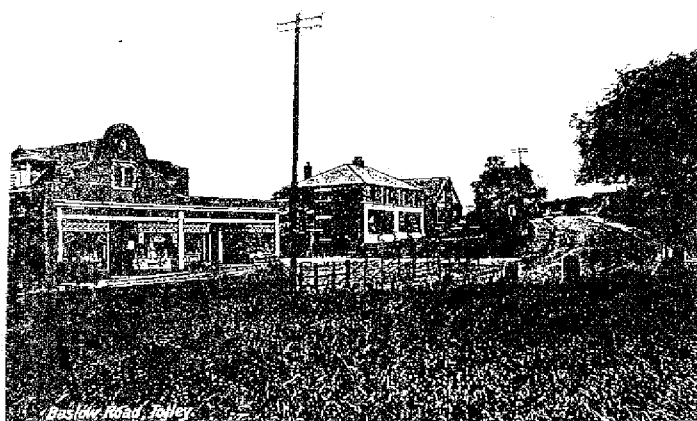
Lava can be found in many locations, such as Miller's, Cressbrook, Monsal, Lathkill Dales and Cavedale (near Castleton) also as the flat bed of disused quarries near Ashover.

Miners, blasting their way through limestone in search of lead, would have known more locations than we. they called the rock 'toadstone' because of its greenish-brown colour.

Two outcrops are of particular interest. One variation is to be found in a railway cutting in Miller's Dale; a section several feet long includes chunks of limestone - indicating that it was the leading edge of a flow. Another feature, within a small cliff of basalt near Ashford-in-the-Water, is a volcanic 'bomb' some 40ins wide. This can be clearly identified because its surface texture is quite different from that of the surrounding rock. A bomb is a solid chunk of rock hurled into the air from an erupting volcano; in this instance it came down and penetrated a viscous lava flow.

The volcanoes may not have been of the mountainous type such as Vesuvius, but similar to the very low or surface vents currently erupting in Iceland.

Basalt is found in two different forms; either as lava which had been erupted from a volcano, or as the rock called dolerite. The latter is of exactly the same chemical composition, but started as molten magma, which thrust upwards through vertical cracks in solid rock, then forced its way along horizontal cracks but solidified within the surrounding rock rather than erupting on the surface. Examination through a strong magnifying lens shows a difference in grain size; dolerite is coarser than surface lava because it cooled and solidified at a slower rate, thus permitting larger crystal growth. The Tideswell Dale basalt is dolerite; rock formed by this means is called a 'sill'.



I read with great interest the article by J. S. Andrews reminiscing on his life in Totley, published in four of the Totley Independent issues 202/205.

There is however one point I would like to correct him on, the Co-operative Stores is not next to Green Oak Hall, two shops come between, as my picture shows, one was occupied for many years by W. T. Hutchings, chemist, and the other S. H. Wesley newsagent, which was 'our shop'. My late husband and I left in 1968 and moved to Dorset.

My other picture shows Baslow Road looking towards Totley Rise, there are no bungalows on the left hand side of

the picture so I put the date of this around 1928. Dr. Murphy had a surgery at 81 Baslow Road (one of the houses on the right hand side) both during and after the war.

Though I was not brought up in Totley, I was a frequent visitor as my grandma lived at 2 Summer Lane from 1927 - 1943. I remember Totley church being built, the date is obscure, I was married there in 1942, as I then lived with my family in Main Avenue.

Totley has many happy memories for me, of both the times and the people. I am now an infrequent visitor but it is still very much in my thoughts.

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Transport 17

Reports on the U.R.C. Coffee Morning and Bradway Fun Run will be in next month's issue. Thank you in advance to everyone for their help and sponsorship.

On Monday, 20th October there is a General Meeting for shareholders. This will be at 7.30 p.m. at Totley Rise Methodist Church followed by refreshments. There are many important issues regarding the way Transport 17 goes forward or not. There needs to be discussions and thought from all of you regarding future developments. It is very important for you all to attend. Make a note of the date. If you need transport ring our office on 2362962. You can become a shareholder for £1.

Tickets for the "Pie and Pea" supper on 1st November are now available. This will be at All Saints' Hall, Totley Hall Lane. Doors open at 6.30 p.m. The meal will be about 7-7.15 p.m., followed by coffee or tea with biscuits. Jack Cartledge will be giving a slide show for us with music that he has selected. These are always very enjoyable. Tickets are £3.50 each. If you need the minibus please let us know in time. There is a small additional charge for this.

I can't finish this report without mentioning Diana, Princess of Wales. What a sad way to die. We all remember her kindness and the joy she gave to others. God give faith and strength to her boys.

People keep saying how awful things are and there is a call for more compassion and caring. We know at

Transport 17 that there is a great deal of both. We could not run our service without it. The people who run the social clubs and lunch clubs that we take our passengers to have it in abundance. None of us are saints but we do what we do because we want to. WE DO OUR BEST. That is what Diana did.

Much of our energy is used to raise money. We get some from S.Y.P.T.E., but the rest we have to beg for or do fund-raising events. We do not get anything from the Council. The view of many people is that the frail and elderly in Totley and Dore are all rich. Perhaps we could apply to the Diana Memorial Fund later on!!

Look forward to seeing you at the General Meeting.

Best Wishes, Margaret Barlow.

T.O.A.D.S

For their Autumn Production, TOADS are presenting a lesser-known play (or at least one that is performed less often than his others!), by J.B. Priestley, called "Mystery at Greenfingers". The story-line is of a large country hotel, high up in the hills of Derbyshire, in which the advance party of Staff have arrived to prepare for the opening in two weeks' time. Unfortunately a severe snowstorm isolates them from all "Civilisation" for a few days and we are allowed to view their hopes, fears, ambitions and skulduggery during the period of their "togetherness".

The show takes place from Wednesday - Saturday, 26th-29th November, at St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Rd. South, Totley at 7.30p.m.

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ONE WORLD WEEK

"STRETCHING THE LIMITS"
19th - 26th October.

In the 1920s - 30s it was the "in thing" to write one's name and address in the front of one's books, autograph albums etc., taking up as many lines as possible - "stretching the limits" in fact.

For example:- Name,
Street,
District,
Town,
County,
Country (say England),
British Isles,
Europe,
The World,
The Universe.

The world to most children in those days, conjured up in one's mind a double-spread in one's Bartholomew's Atlas, showing the whole world laid flat, but our own horizons were limited very much to the local area we lived in. Since television has been available we are much better informed and have a much better concept of "the world" and also some idea of how different parts of the world are dependent on each other in many ways. Even so it is easy to forget about more faraway places and limit our ideas and our understanding of events very much to our own small environment. But we are all part of God's world - the wonderful and diverse world which He conceived and created. He wants us all to care for the world, to share responsibility for it, and to enjoy it in harmony with all its other inhabitants. So during this special week can we all stretch the limits of our imagination to think of ourselves as members of "One World - God's World". Various things will be happening locally to help us to focus on caring for our own little bit of the environment and promote fair trading with developing communities across the world, as well as informing us about what is happening in South Africa.

The programme is as follows:-

IN THE LIBRARY ALL WEEK - a display of pictures etc. relating to environmental issues; an opportunity to take part in a survey as to our modes of transport; a collection point for aluminium cans.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd. OCTOBER - "Traidcraft" stall in the Library.

THURSDAY, 23RD. OCTOBER - a skip in the Library car park to receive your rubbish and help clean up Totley.

AT TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH - Wednesday, 22nd October at 8 p.m. A talk

by Canon Mike West on South Africa, also a "Traidcraft" stall.

This is open to everyone, all are welcome. SATURDAY, 25th OCTOBER - 10.00-12.30. A Coffee Morning with "Traidcraft" stall and a "Bring and Take Recycling Stall". Bring your own unwanted items and take home somebody else's free.

We hope that the children from our local schools will take part in some or all of these activities, as well as many of our Totley residents.

SLIMMING AWARDS

They build their women differently at Woodseats. The person members nominated as the runner up for class Woman of the Year for the daytime Slimming World meeting at the Big Tree is 6' 5" tall with a full beard. Andrew Bennett, 41, lives on Hunstone Ave. Norton and is an electrical engineer. He joined his local class after realizing he had gained weight. Although having to take regular medication which he first feared would rob him of a weight loss, since March he has lost 4 stones. Although Slimming World hold a Man of the Year competition Andrew just missed out on the timing so to recognize his achievement members nominated him an honorary woman for the day. Andrew says he has enjoyed losing weight at class and finds he has not had to change his life style dramatically. He said, "I have really just reorganized the way I eat. I can still eat big plates full of my favourites, Spaghetti Bolognese and Curry and Rice."

Winner of the Class final is Helen Spencer, a 34 year old mother of two who lives on Main Avenue, Totley. Helen is well known in athletic circles as she swims competitively with the City of Sheffield Swim Squad despite being registered disabled with Joint Instability Syndrome, which mean she has to use crutches to walk. After a specialist in London had told Helen she needed to lose some weight she also chose to enrol with Slimming World at around the same time as Andrew. Helen's weight loss is now 3 & 1/2 stones. When asked what had been the main contributors to her fantastic weight loss Helen said, "The fact that you can eat loads of food is important to me as I need big meals when I am in training. I also had loads of support from Shirley our class consultant and from the rest of the class. And I must say I found a real buddy in Margaret Rhodes who also attends the class and has lost 2 stones, she has helped me many times."

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GARDENING TIPS FOR OCTOBER

I walk round the garden at this time and I wonder at all the colour to be seen, the lovely yellows, reds and browns of leaves turning and the rose hips and other berries of various colours from orange to black, there seem to always be something to wonder at.

It was sad that we had to cancel the Totley Produce Show, I was looking forward to giving Aaron a run for his money in the onion class, extra effort will be needed for next year.

FLOWERS Plant spring flowering hardy annuals and biennials as soon as possible. Plant up window boxes, tubs and hanging baskets for winter interest. Lift tender bulbs, corms and tubers such as dahlias and gladioli, store them in a frost free place. Check bowls of bulbs planted for winter flowering indoors, do not let them dry out.

All tender plants should be brought indoors or placed in cold frames.

Tidy up borders, remove all leaves and debris which could harbour slugs, snails etc. over the winter.

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

Finish planting spring bulbs. You can still take cuttings of fuchsias and geraniums etc. if you have a warm greenhouse or propagator. Most cuttings root quite readily at 65F.

Top dress rock and alpine plants with fine grit. Most herbaceous perennials can be lifted and split up at this time.

VEGETABLES. Earth up celery and leeks., Firm in sprouts and stake or earth up. Plant out spring cabbage plants, lift the last of the main crop potatoes, carrots and turnips.

Lift young parsnips for immediate use, leave others in the ground to pull as required. Keep a close eye on vegetables in store, remove any suspect ones.

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

TREES, FRUIT and SHRUBS. Young fruit trees and shrubs can be planted at this time. Take hardwood shrub cuttings, these may take quite a time to root, but are well worth the wait.

Hedging plants such as barberry, heathers and lavender, oleaster and rosemary can be planted.

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

Gather apples and pears as they become ready for picking (they should come off the branch into your hand when gently lifted with a slight pressure on the stalk towards the branch). Handle all fruit with care and only store really sound fruit.

Tie into place all raspberry canes and cut them back to encourage fruiting. Prepare ground for planting new raspberry canes, gooseberry and blackcurrant bushes. Prune established blackcurrants.

GREENHOUSE and INDOOR PLANTS.

Gradually reduce watering on most plants except those which are coming into flower. Give your fuchsias, geraniums, hydrangeas etc. a rest, keep them just moist. If you want a nice show next spring, sow seeds of annuals like clarkia, poor mans orchid and salpiglossis in warmth.

Chrysanthemums should be brought indoors before the petals begin to open or if frost threatens.

If you haven't taken tender plants indoors do so now, or they will be lost to frost or cold wet conditions. Remove all dead or decaying leaves from plants otherwise they will go mouldy and this can spread rapidly across the greenhouse. When the foliage of gloxinias and begonias has withered completely the tubers can be removed from pots and dusted with flowers of sulphur to prevent mould and stored in a frost free place.

Do not over heat the greenhouse, but provide slight warmth when necessary to keep the air dry and on the move, and so prevent a damp stagnant atmosphere.

Make sure all your heaters are working well, renewing wicks where necessary and give them a general clean up, this will add to their safety and efficiency.

Lawns.

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

Cheerio for now.

TOM, Busy Bee.

RUBBISH SKIPS

I fully support the idea of an occasional community skip and I know from experience in other parts of the city how difficult these free skips can be to come by in view of Council cut-backs. I was recently helping organise a community clean-up in Parson Cross and we were told by the relevant Council officer that there was no money left in her budget for a community skip. Following persistent enquiries we eventually got one. At the second clean-up Sheffield Wildlife Trust kindly sponsored the cost of the skip. In this deprived part of the city (Parson Cross) about 40 residents turned out for some or all of a Saturday morning to litter pick their local area. Could we in Totley not do something similar? I've noticed quite a bit of rubbish recently on the verges around the Co-op in particular. If such an event could be organised it helps to bring young and old together and others can join in by making teas and coffees. It is a good way to bring people together in the community as well as making an improvement to the area. I certainly wouldn't be opposed to the skip outside my house, but I live at the end of a close which is not ideal.

C. Parsons

R.S.P.B. FILM SHOW

Wednesday, 29th October, 7.30.p.m. at Sheffield Hallam University, Pennine Lecture Theatre (entrance on Howard Street).

3 films will be shown:-

"Flight for Survival".

"Talons".

"Short-eared Owls".

Tickets (including interval refreshments) £5, under 16s £3.50. from Sheffield Tourist Information Office or phone Hilary Sills, 2351676.

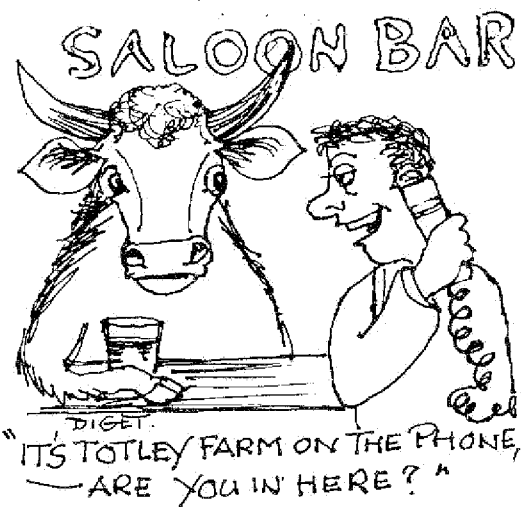
Dear Sir,

With reference to the complaint made by J.M. Smith regarding the skip near Greenoak Road. It used to be placed at the end of Greenoak Crescent and I don't recall anyone ever objecting to it being there. On the contrary, everyone was pleased to have somewhere to dump their unwanted rubbish. It was never an inconvenience at all.

We all have Transport 17, Home Helps, Wardens, Mobility Bus, Meals on Wheels etc., etc., but so what? I, thank God, do not have need of these services but I fully understand that they are an absolute necessity in a district which is mainly composed of the elderly and who knows what any of us may need one day?

I believe, along with most people, that Totley Residents Association Committee do a wonderful job in serving the local community and are to be commended for the many tasks they undertake on our behalf.

J. Spencer



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SERVICES in the HOPE VALLEY

In the 1895 edition of Sheffield Independent's Dore and Chinley Railway Gossping Guide to the (Peak) District, the activity generated by the new line is so apparent.

At Grindleford Station both G. Godber and William Kenyon operated carriage services which met the trains daily, claiming that 'passengers may drive to Eyam, Middleton Dale, Chatsworth or other places at a very moderate fare.'

Cafes mushroomed on the other side of the Totley Tunnel-Mrs. Rowbotham's Refreshment Rooms at Edale offered 'every accommodation for schools, picnic and pleasure parties, apartments and stabling.'

The Shearers Temperance Hotel at Grindleford Bridge stated that 'Rechabite and Temperance Societies will find good accommodation at Widow Shearers, she would be pleased to see them in small or large parties, rallying round her and helping her through this world.'

Several Hotels advertised 'horses and carriages let out for hire' whilst Matthew Robinson at Hope (late carriage driver for 14 years from Tideswell to Sheffield) 'begs a call from his old friends from Sheffield at the Hall Hotel, seven minutes from Hope Station, where waggonettes and other conveyances meet all trains to go forward to Castleton.' The mines there of course benefitted tremendously from the increased tourism and the Cheshire Cheese at Castleton had put in a new dining room for no less than 150 people.

At the Sheffield end, the Midland Dining Rooms on Howard Street offered dinners from 6 pence (2 1/2p), the expanding Sheffield Cafe Company with 21 catering establishments throughout central Sheffield built a 'large refreshment pavilion for 400 persons at Castleton featuring ladies and gentlemen's lavatories!'

The forward to this little book claimed 'The Dore and Chinley Country moreover affords residential attractions to Sheffield and Manchester people who in these Derbyshire Highlands can breathe the cleaner air when their business houses are choked with fog and the sky looks dense enough to be blasted with dynamite. There can be little doubt but that in a few

DERBYSHIRE.



HALL HOTEL, HOPE.

MATTHEW ROBINSON

(Late Coach Driver for 14 years from Tideswell to Sheffield) begs a call from his old friends from Sheffield at the

HALL HOTEL.

Seven Minutes' Walk from Hope Station, where Waggonettes and other Conveyances meet all Trains to go forward to Castleton.

years hence this health inspiring district will be dotted with mansions and villas designed by, let us hope, a Norman Shaw, in artistic sympathy with the superb scenic surroundings, and not the architectural atrocities of Mr. Buggins who builds for to-day and charges for all time.'

This piece written by Edward Bradbury, famous for his travel books and guides, went on to praise the railway 'it will drive off the road that satanic usurper of the highway, the traction engine!'

Of course Totley had reaped the benefits of the railway as described in my book on the Totley Tunnel, and had been usurped by traction engines well into this century when Billy Gascoigne had transported ganister from the Strawberry Lee Mines to the Totley Brickyard.

Brian Edwards.

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DIARY OF A WOULD BE PARAOLYMPIAN

"BACK IN TRAINING"

Following my Spanish trip and a weeks trip I slowly introduced myself back into training. Once in the first week, twice in the second week and so on. I am now doing 5 sessions and need to get back to 6 sessions a week. 3 sessions of 1 & 1/2 hours in the water and 3 of 1 hour, plus 3 land training sessions - or as I call it - Chinese torture. It includes flexibility, stretch cords, which look like french skipping elastic but twice as hard to stretch and lots of sit-ups and press-ups. The final aim will be to increase the 1 hour sessions to 1.5 hours.

I am training with the Junior National Squad and I think when they get over the shock of someone who looks like granny in her bath chair training with them, it could be good fun.

At the moment I am having to accept the view of looking at their toes. I struggle to keep up, but hopefully, with time, I will and that in turn will give me that extra speed to keep up in my new group until my classification (see previous issue) appeal is looked at and who knows I may even get a medal before then.

I am struggling with aching joints at the moment. I've found a good aromatherapist in Bakewell, where I managed to get a joint oil prescribed. All I want now is a good masseur - NO, that's not a request.

At the end of this month I swim in the National Masters, which is for able bodied oldies, so really I'm racing to improve my times. David's preparation is as dedicated as always. Radox in a Pampas bath and lots of the liquid brown stuff. Ironically maybe I should try it, he usually gets a medal.

My next race in the disabled sports is in the first weekend of November. I

shall want to get a medal there just to show them that whatever group I am in I am going to be a force to be reckoned with.

Lots of training, lots of rests, stable joints and I'll let you know what happens next month.

Kind regards, Helen.

FURTHER EDUCATION

Kink Egbert School would like to expand their provision and "open up" the school in the evenings. Eventually hoping to encourage our local community to undertake examination courses in a variety of subjects and levels. To get started they need your help. Please contact them if you would like to participate in a "self financing" course.

They would like to pilot some courses using their high networked computer system. They have PCs, scanners, digital cameras and a wide range of hardware and software.

Contact Dermot McDonald or John Appelhoff at the school tel. 236 9931. Fax. 236 2468.

DRAMA WORKSHOP

A new Drama Workshop will take place in the City Centre, Sheffield commencing on Saturday October 4th.

PLAYMAKERS SESSIONS, for 9 - 12 year olds, starting at 9-30am. to 12 noon will be at the Victoria Hall, Norfolk Street, cost £5-00 per session.

STAGE WORKS, for 13 - 18 year olds, state at 2-00pm. to 4-00pm. cost £6-00 per session at a venue to be announced.

For further details telephone Meg Jepson, (Director Sheffield Youth Theatre) 288 2929.

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BALLOONS.

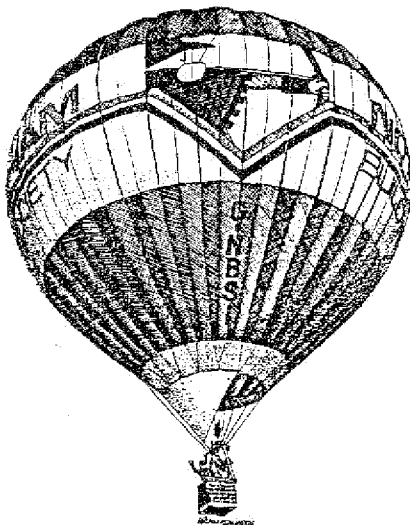
Hot Air Balloons have put in appearances over Totley on a number of occasions.

In 1894 a Mr. Parker Hydes of Nether Edge was advertising Balloon trips to view the wonders of nature. One such trip from the Botanical Gardens in Sheffield had attracted paying spectators to the lift off. The views over Sheffield were cut out by chimney smoke but the balloonists had fine views as it passed over Dore Station then Totley at 3000 Feet. The Balloon eventually came down near Tutbury where a farmer lent them his horse and cart to carry the Balloon to Derby station and then to Sheffield.

Some 11 years earlier a Balloon ascent was to be one of the main features on the opening day of Totley's Victoria Gardens, but was postponed owing to bad weather. Apparently the event was moved to Hillsborough Park and a lady parachutist leaped from the balloon to her death; a plaque marks the spot where she landed.

When we re-launched the Totley Sports, in Greenoak Park, after a 50 year lapse I thought it would be a good idea to have an ascent and subsequently asked local solicitor and balloonist Steve Richards of Avenue Farm to oblige. His 'contraption' was often to be seen rising over Totley Bents in the 1970's.

He did us proud and we witnessed the exciting job of filling three balloons with dangerous-looking burners before they rose gracefully and quickly towards Dronfield Woodhouse.



FOR WHOM THE TOLL DWELLS

The Stony Ridge Toll House stood at the junction of the Hathersage Road and the Wooden Pole Road, some 1150 feet above sea level and was one of the last to be abolished on Derbyshire roads. The last bar keeper (who operated the toll bar) was reputed to have left his windswept eyrie for he declared - 'Thar's so many draughts I' Sheffield, I alws catches cold'. The Toll Bar was abolished in at the same time as Hunter's Bar went out of existence. A date stone marks the spot.

Brian Edwards



DIGET.

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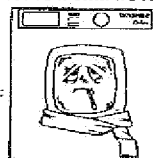
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ORIGIN OF SURNAMES

Continuing on from September entry, here are further Nicknames, again all are in current use within the Sheffield Area, where possible I have shown an early date and in some cases an alternative.

PALMER, A nickname for someone who had been on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and as proof brought back a Palm Branch, however a vigorous trade existed in the supply of these branches and other holy objects. 1273.

SADD. Middle English Sadde, serious, sober, discreet. 1086.

SAFFER Old French Saffre, Glutton, 1275

SAGE, Old French Sage, Wise 1185.

SAINT. SANT. Middle English seint, Old French sant, a saint, a nickname given to a notably pious person 1250.

SAMWAYS Old English samwis, dull foolish.

SARTIN. SATTINN. Old French Certeyn. Self assured. Determined. 1693

SCAFE. SCAIFE. Old Norse Skeifr. Askew, awry, crooked 1219.

SCARLETT. Old French escarlate, scarlet, one who wore such a colour, or a dealer in the red cloth names Escarlete. 1185.

SCATTERGOOD. A spendthrift, philanthropist. 1219.

SCUTT. Middle English scut, the tail of a hare which is noticeable when the animal is running away, later referring to the hare itself, a person who is a swift runner or who easily takes fright. 1183.

SHANKS. Old English sceanca, shank, leg 1095 usually had prefix Longshanks. Sheepshanks, crookshanks etc. a reference to someones legs.

SHERLOCK. Old English scir loc, bright lock, fairheaded. 1002.

SHERWEN. SHERWIN. Old English sceran wynd. Cut wind. A swift runner 1187. Possibly also Anglo Saxon sceorfwine, meaning clever friend.

SHIMMIN. Manx Simeen, little Simon. 1366.

SILBURN Old English Saelig Bearn. Happy child. 1279.

SKEAT. SKEET. Old Norse skjotr. Swift, fleet 1066. Possibly also Anglo Saxon scytta. An archer.

SLAVEN. SLAVIAN. Old French Esclavine. A Pilgrims Mantle. One who wore such a costume 1177, also Irish O'Sleibhin, from the name of a mountain and the Latin Sclavus, a slave.

SMALE. SMALES. SMALL. Old English smael, small, slender. Thin 1221.

SMART. Old English smearth, quick, active, prompt. 1180.

SNOW. SNOWBALL. Old English snaw, snow. Middle English ball. A ball. A nickname for a person with snow white head or hair 920. A Latinised translation was Propter Albedinem, near white (Albino).

SORRILL. SORRELL. Old French Sorel, Reddish brown. The complexion of such a person. 1130.

SPARKE. SPARKES. SPARKS. Old Norse Sparkr. Lively. Sprightly 1202.

SPEED. Old English Sped. Speed, success, wealth 1185.

SPENDLOVE. SPENDLOW. Old English Spendan Lufa (spend love) generous with love, to squander, a spendthrift. 1219.

SPIR. Old English Spir, a spike, stalk, tapering stem. A nickname for a tall thin person 1229.

SPRAGG. SPRAGUE. Norse Sprakr, active lively. 1327.

SPRIGG. SPRIGGS. Middle English sprigge, a twig, a small slender person 1199.

SPRING. Middle English spring. The season when young shoots spring, a young active nimble person 1280, also a place name for the many places having a spring such as our own Broomspring, Springvale etc.

SPRINGER, Old English Springan, To jump, One who could leap, jump. 1185

SPRINGETT, Same as Spring, a young active nimble person 1193.

SQUIRRELL. Old French esquireull. A squirrel, one noted for thrift, also used contemptuously for one who hoarded 1221.

STACK. Old Norse stakkr. Hay stack, a hefty person 1199.

STAFF. Old English staef. A staff or stave, a long thin lean person 1177.

STAGG. Old English stagga, a stag, as a nickname one noted for his sexual prowess 1198, also has an occupational origin, can apply also to BUCK, STUDD, STALLION etc.

STALLWOOD. Old English staelwierde, placeworthy, sturdy, stalwart, stalworth, courageous. 1227.

STARK. Old English stearc, firm, unyielding 1222.

STARKEY. STARKIE. Stiff, dry. 1260.

STERN. STERNE, STEARNS. Old English styrne, severe, strict. 1279.

STIFF. Old English stif, rigid, inflexible, one who steadfast and resolute. 1273.

STITTLE. Old English styttel. Strike. Push, nickname for a clumsy person 1095.

STORK. Old English storc, a stork, nickname for someone with long legs. 1198.

STORR. Old Norse storr, big large. 1200.

STRANGE. Middle English strange, old French estrange, foreign, stranger a newcomer 1192.

STRETCH. Old English straec. Violent 1176.

STRONG. STRONGMAN. Old English strang, strangmann, as it says strong, strongman 1185. 1095.

STURDY. Old French estordet. Middle English sturdi. Reckless, rash, brave in combat. 1084.

SUTTILL. SUTTLE. Anglo French sotil, subtle, clever, cunning. 1275.

SWIFT. Old English swift, fleet of foot 1166. A nickname sometimes given to couriers, messengers etc.

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Published by The Hallamshire Press.
Published Price £6.95.

More about the author:-.

Marjorie Phyllis Dunn was born and educated in Sheffield. She became a secretary before turning a childhood hobby of puppetry into a part-time occupation. She is known by thousands of children simply as 'The Puppet Lady'. Married with two children, Marjorie now lives in Totley and shares her interests, particularly in local and family history, by giving talks in the region. It is her love of old Sheffield which inspired her to write 'The T'alli Stone' and in it she endeavours to portray Sheffield as it was between the years 1797 and 1818. Her first book, 'For the Love of Children' is a history of poor children in Sheffield, money raised from the sale of this book has helped to provide holidays for deprived children everywhere.

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REMAINING SINGING ENGAGEMENTS IN 1997
Sunday 12th October

Civic Theatre, Doncaster as guests of the Armthorpe Elmfield Band at its Annual Concert.

Saturday 25th October.

Central United Reformed Church, Norfolk Street, Sheffield.

A Charity Concert for the Alzheimer's Disease Society with guest soprano Jean Jenkins.

Saturday 15th November.

Firth Hall, Sheffield University. Annual Concert.

Guest artists - Stephen De Pledge, piano
Jane Anthony, soprano.

Saturday 6th December

St. Cuthbert's Church, Firvale.

A Christmas Concert.

Thursday 11th December, & Saturday 13th December.

Dore Parish Church. Christmas Concerts for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association and the Sheffield Kidney Research Foundation.

For further information and ticket availability contact Tom Ogley (Concert Secretary) Phone 0114 2354367.

KING ECGBERT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

October 7th. Annual General Meeting
Wessex Hall 7-8.30 pm. All welcome.

October 11th. Jumble sale, Wessex Hall, Admission £2-00 from 11-00 am. to 12 noon, 20p. from 2-00pm.. For jumble collection telephone 236 2556.

October 13th. Barn Dance, with Bashstreet Band at Wessex Hall 8-00 pm. Tickets £5-00 including a Ploughmans supper. Bring your own drinks. For more details telephone 236 2556.

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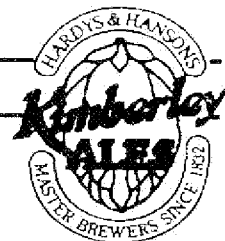
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MONDAYS COFFEE MORNING, All Saints' Church Hall, 10-00am. - noon
 TUESDAYS COFFEE MORNING, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10-00am.- noon
 CRAFT GROUP Totley Library.
 WEDNESDAYS COFFEE in the LIBRARY 10-00 am. to 11-30.
 THURSDAYS OPEN DOOR, United Reformed Church, 10-00 am.- noon
 THURSDAYS PUSHCHAIR CLUB, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 1-30 to 3-00 Telephone
 2363157 for further information

OCTOBER

SUN. 5th.WATER VOLE WATCH Meet Totley Library 11am. Further details contact 2310120
 SUN. 5th.STEAM TRAIN RIDES Ecclesall Woods, 1-00pm. to 5-00pm.
 TUES. 7th.KESA A.G.M. King Egbert School, Wessex Hall, 7-30pm. Details inside.
 WED. 8th.RESEARCHING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY by Jim Webb of Totley Post Office, 8-00pm.
 Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. All welcome
 FRI. 10th.TOTLEY EVENING GUILD, Mrs.N.Rogerson, "Sheffield Walkabout".
 St. John's Church, Guild Room, 7-30 pm. New members always welcome.
 SAT. 11th.KESA JUMBLE SALE King Egbert School, Wessex Hall, Details inside.
 SAT. 11th.KING ECBERT'S' SCHOOL CLASS of 77' REUNION Fleur De Lys, 8-00 pm.
 TUES.14th.TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP for the VISUALLY IMPAIRED SOCIAL MEETING
 11am. at 4, GROVE ROAD, TOTLEY.
 TUES.16th.TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Methodist Church Hall, 10-00 am.
 SAT. 18th.ANTIQUES PAYRE St. John's Church Hall. 10am. to 4-30pm. Details inside.
 SAT. 18th.KESA. BARN DANCE King Egbert School, Wessex Hall, 7-30pm. Details inside.
 SAT. 18th.AUTUMN FAIR Totley All Saints School, Hillfoot Road. 2pm. to 4-30pm.
 SUN. 19th.STEAM TRAIN RIDES Ecclesall Woods, 1-00pm. to 5-00pm.
 MON. 20th.TRANSPORT 17 GENERAL MEETING. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 7-30pm.
 followed by refreshments. Details inside.
 WED. 22nd.SOUTH AFRICA, A MIRACLE IN PROGRESS Cannon Mike West, Totley Rise Methodist
 Church Hall, 8pm. One World Week joint meeting of Wednesday Friendship & U.N.A.
 WED. 29th.R.S.P.B. FILM SHOW Sheffield Hallam University, Pennine Lecture Theatre
 7-30. pm. Full details inside.
 WED. 29th.DORE VILLAGE SOCIETY Open meeting on Yorkshire Water. Dore Old School 8pm.

NOVEMBER

TUES.14th.FASHION SHOW Totley Rise Methodist Church 10am.to noon. Details inside.
 SAT. 15th.NCH ACTION for CHILDREN Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10am. to noon.
 Full details inside.
 SAT. 15th.CHRISTMAS FAIR Dore & Totley U.R.C. Church
 Hall, 10am. to 12-30 am.
 WED. 26th. to SAT. 29th. T.O.A.D.S. present "Mystery
 at Greenfingers" Details inside.

THE INDEPENDENT FOR NOVEMBER 1997

The NEXT issue of the Totley Independent will be
 available from the usual distribution points on
SATURDAY 1st. NOVEMBER. Copy date for this issue, will
 be SATURDAY 10th. OCTOBER 1997.

EDITORS Les & Dorothy Firth, 6, Milldale Rd., Tel. No.
 236 4190

DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISING John Perkinson, 2, Main
 Avenue, Tel. No. 236 1601

TYPING Eileen Ogley, Items for publication may be sent
 to or left at 6, Milldale Rd. 2, Main Avenue, Totley
 Library or V.Martin's(Abbeydale Rd.)

PRINTED BY STARPRINT

We welcome letters about local affairs and will publish as many as possible.
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