

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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WHEN SUN SETS AT THE CRICKET

THE CRICKET INN has a special place in many people's memories, especially when we think about those warm summer evenings (we are not supposed to have anymore). Earlier, the local cricket team will have drawn stumps, roped around the wicket, folded deck chairs and roared off down Penny Lane.

The smart crack of ball on bat and the sporadic applause will have stopped echoing around the valley. Occasionally there is a brief hush for the dozen and a half families living around Totley Bents, before the 'townies' roar back up the lane. Soon mums and grans are sitting on the wall, sipping lager and limes, whilst pint mugs and straw-

stuffed pop bottles lie temporarily abandoned. Dads, who have had so little energy all week, burst into life playing to a disinterested, but captive, audience. Balls are swiped to imagined boundaries, followed by rapidly tiring youngsters, leaving dad time to reflect on schoolday glories. Other groups get tangled as one little impromptu footie game overlaps with another. There are cries of anguish as new shiny plastic balls strike hawthorn hedge and that...



BRIAN EDWARDS 1978

WHEN SUN SETS AT THE CRICKET (continued from page 1)

dreadful hissing sound brings together a huddle of folk all attempting the impossible task of stopping the leak. Nearby, the tiniest are willed to nudge a knee-height ball just a few inches to dadas outstretched hands. "We've got a rait Tony Currie 'ere, mum." She may just chase the odd stray ball, arms and legs splaying out as she runs, in a pantomime of sportsmanship. Then, "Oops" down she goes with a crash, skirts flying, never crying and always rising with a flushed grin. Sometimes, on a rare, quiet weekday evening, when the local kennels have bothered to still the offensive yapping and howling of their lodgers, then you might just catch the sharp clack of domino meeting tap-room table. By mid-December when, it is said, the Cricket resounds to the airs of the still remembered Topley carols, the windows are tightly shut. Icy winds howl down from the moors, hurling sheets of freezing rain on the odd faithful who tries to find meagre shelter under the pub canopy as he roars "Grayt gowl Billilad". On the far touch line, a small muffled huddle of fans wage constant war on the nearby opponents unfortunate enough to play the top wing. Every decision going against the lads is challenged raucously by man and woman alike, Latecomers are greeted with "Owdo Tom, it's bloody cowl terrday, three down awreddy, playin like chuffin Wensdy." Often the language is less polite but, fortunately for the refs, Topley are often on the winning side. Meanwhile the local heroes grunt, slide and crunch into opponents equally smothered in mud, hair plastered thinly over scalps. Lads who have known each for years, encouragingly string both names together, "Grayt borl Johnyuse". The manager, worried and quiet, side-steps up and down the line. He turns to the crowd and his heads jerks

**No news is bad news!
Ring us with yours at
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quickly and almost imperceptibly upwards every time a bad decision is given. Topley linesmen have long since learnt how to catch the refs eye. The loud flap and raised salute almost forces the whistle up to those unwilling lips. The scurrying figure of the Collector forces the crowd to reach deep down beneath layers of clothes to search for a coin or two. The Collector mutters something in a strange Scottish brogue but eyes rarely leave the pitch. Those spectators who, distracted, miss the vital goal, bitterly regret that this is not TV and there is no instant replay. The whistle blows and the crowd remain quiet as visitors trudge, steaming and splattered, back to the changing hut. No doubt they are thankful for the new showers, remembering past years when there was just a low gas mantle and no water available. For the Topley team, there's just the chore of undoing stubborn knots with numbed fingers, clambering on each others shoulders to release the cross bar netting. Fifteen minutes later, the valley settles down for a week of calm. Things don't change much down at the Bents.

SCOTCHED

CAROLINE PARSONS, who has helped on the Independent for the last year, has taken up her first full time job on the Kelso Chronicle and Jedburgh Gazette in Scotland. Caroline, an ex-pupil of King Egberts, has been on a pre-entry journalism course at Richmond College. However it does seem a pity that a competitor has to pinch our star reporter - we always thought Caroline's pinches would be reserved for Topley people. In spite of the let-down, we wish her good luck in this exciting career. Unrevealed sources have led us to believe that the move has something to do with the proximity of a certain young gentleman.

New Assistant Treasurer

THE T.R.A. Committee have appointed John Perkinson as Assistant Treasurer to help Brian Bentley with this time-consuming work.

SPONSORED SPELLIN

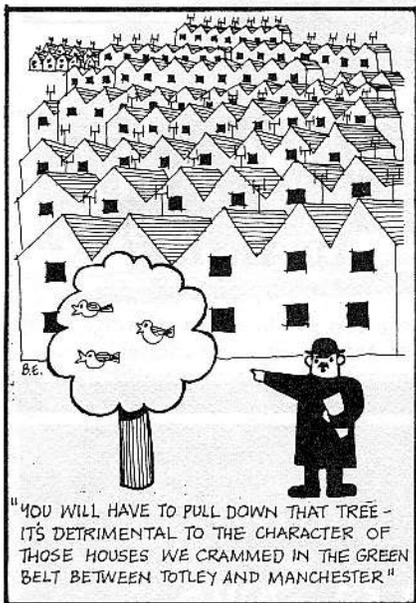
TOTLEY COUNTY SCHOOL PARENT / FRIENDS ASSOC. organised a sponsored spelling test for the Juniors. The event organised by Teacher Mr. Jones raised some £273 and a further £377 was raised at the Spring Fair. The money collected in this way is put to good use and Pat Buckley, the Secretary wrote to all the children congratulating them on their fine effort. For the record, funds raised go towards the following. A fixed amount each year pays the rental for the colour Television. A subsidy is given to the Schools outing fund, which helps to pay for various class outings throughout the year. A donation is given to the School Fund which helps to buy small items required for the day to day running of the School. A French door is soon to be put into the Reception Classroom and a large proportion of this cost will be borne by the P.F.A. The remainder of the money is placed on deposit until required.

PARTY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

PLANS ARE afoot for the Topley Residents Association Senior Citizens Annual Christmas Party. Last years event, brilliantly organised by Doreen Wildgoose, was very well attended and we plan to start work on the preparations for this year's party very shortly. The venue will again be the College dining hall and we hope to hold it just before Christmas.



HOUSES . 81 TREES . 0



"Dear Sir(s)/Madam" the letter stated, "... the Secretary decided he did not wish to intervene and authorised the (Sheffield) Council to determine the application (to build 81 dwellings and garages at Totley Hall Lane). The letter went on to say that "the appropriate (?) Committee had decided to grant conditional outline planning permission." That destroys the cherished view that Sheffield was the goody and really it was the Minister's fault all along. However, conditions were imposed as follows:

1. The submission and approval of full particulars and plans of the proposal.
2. No tree or hedge within the site to be cut down without the Council's permission.
3. The provision and maintenance of landscaping, planting and/or paving of open areas.
4. The provision and maintenance of garages and parking areas.
5. The satisfactory re-location of the existing road-side wall.
6. The retention of the existing boundary walls.
7. The satisfactory facing of the buildings.
8. The proposed new street from

Totley Hall Lane to be completed up to the boundary of Totley College. The applicants have also been informed that they must contact the County Engineer regarding the existing public footpath which crosses the site, as such footpath must not be stopped up or diverted until the necessary legal formalities have been completed.

It's not certain exactly what item 2 means. Perhaps if they ask permission they can knock down as many trees as they like - after all it is only provisional green belt! Do you ever get the feeling that the local authority are really a foreign power bent on the destruction of our way of life?

However, do take heart. Planners have asked Peter Swift to remove his sign because it is unsuitable. Apparently it would be better to have shop signs that are too small to read. By coincidence the same department seem to have allowed similar signs to be erected on shops several yards up the road.

and now back to the SAGA & LIME

ONCE AGAIN local residents are up in arms over the threat to the Quadrant lime tree. There is supposed to be a preservation order supported by local people and by Sheffield Corporation. It is claimed that this is one of the finest limes in Sheffield, that it is healthy and in good condition.

Furthermore, objectors point out that the map sent to the Minister was incorrect.

An appeal against the decision to refuse consent for felling the tree was allowed by the Secretary of State for the Environment. In other words they can chop it down! Although, the usual statement was included that the tree should be replaced with a tree "suitable for the situation". Did someone suggest a banana tree? However, we do have the right to fight the decision through a High Court action - who's going to do that over one tree?

People of Totley, we must realise that accepting proposals, then reversing decisions, keeps people in jobs and creates lots of lovely, often incomprehensible, paperwork so beloved of our bureaucracy. The only consolation is that some of the bureaucrats are actually living in the very environments they allow to be destroyed.

PEAS & PIES

TOTLEY COUNTY Parent Friends Association's Annual General meeting and Pea & Pie Supper will be held on Wednesday 27th September. Apart from a lively roustabout, this is likely to be your biggest chance of voting for the new committee.

LIBRARY QUIZ

DON'T FORGET that on Wednesdays until 23rd August there are special childrens activities at Totley Branch Library from 1-30 - 2-30 p.m. There is also a quiz and for Adults there are special displays of ideas for visits and outings.



HAVE YOU GOT NICE PLANTS?

TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION members are invited to enter a "Best-kept Garden Competition", entry forms are available from Perkinton's Shop at the top of Main Avenue and are to be returned by 26th August.

As this is the first competition the organisers have decided to keep it simple and not complicate matters with sections for various categories. The gardens will be judged during early September and there will be three prizes. Although entry is free you must belong to Totley Residents Assoc.

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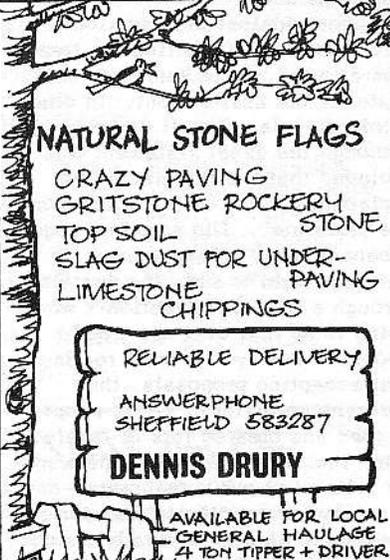
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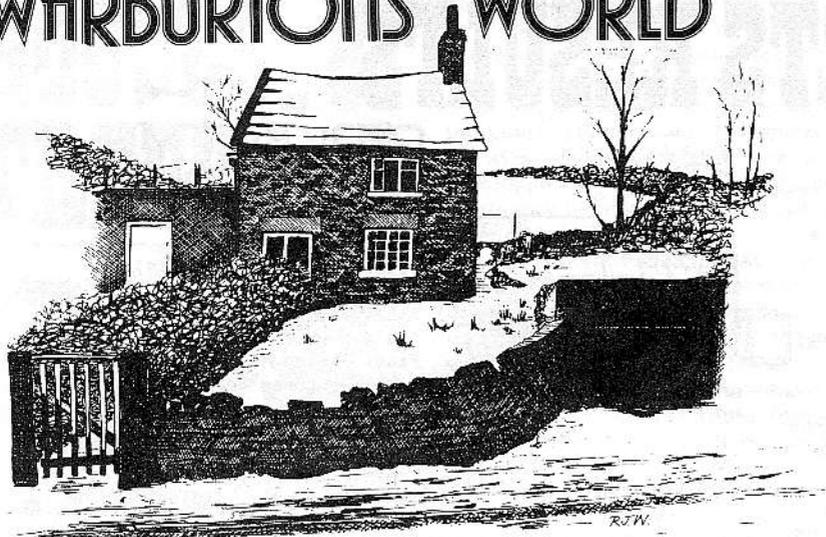
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WARBURTONS WORLD



THE COTTAGE shown above has gone. It was demolished to give access to the new Totley Hall Lane development. If it was deemed necessary, it could be re-erected (at great expense) stone by stone so that it would be indistinguishable in appearance from the original. It could then be preserved in that state indefinitely.

If a living organism, plant or animal, is removed or becomes totally extinct, there is no way in which it could be resurrected. Several British plants and animals are fast approaching extinction, at least in Britain. Some have already gone and there is no hope of a return.

The main reason for their disappearance is Man. We are acquisitive of land for crops and housing, destroying vast areas of our countryside and the inhabitants. We rarely deliberately destroy any one species, but we do destroy the habitats, sometimes deliberately but often in complete ignorance. We poison the animals and plants without the full knowledge of what total effect that will have in future years. DDT was, at one time, the great new breakthrough, and was found in almost every home in Britain. It is now known to be one of the most insidious poisons. It is stored in animal tissues, accumulated in the predators, and has even been traced in the flesh of penguins in the Antarctic, thousands of miles from the nearest DDT spray.

In this country, it helped to reduce the hawk family to a pitifully low number. The system worked like this: the farmer sprayed his crops with DDT, the pigeons ate the treated crops with no ill effects, because the poison is at a very low level, the pigeons in turn

were eaten by Peregrine Falcons particularly; the DDT accumulated in the body of the falcon, eventually causing the egg-shells to be much thinner than normal; the eggs never hatched. Nowadays, farmers pay vast sums of money to prevent crop damage by pigeons - because there just are not so many falcons to control their numbers naturally.

FRUIT AND VEG

JOHN SCRIVEN

Strawberries are coming to an end after what has been a fairly successful season. All soft fruit have been of excellent quality. Peaches, seedless grapes, melons and plums are now in full swing. We shall soon be enjoying the first of the English apples and these, we hope, will bring down in price the very expensive foreign varieties. Freezer fans should take advantage of the currently inexpensive seedless grapes. These can be frozen in whole bunches in the following way. Open freeze in whole bunches then place in freezer wrap or bags, and return to freezer. They will keep well for up to six months, allow to thaw in bag before using. For the weight watchers, the caloric value is 15 per ounce.

It is sometimes an awful waste when you shell such vegetables as peas and broad beans but it is not always necessary to discard the pods. Pea-Pod Soup is one such recipe where the whole vegetable is used. Wash the pods from 1 lb. of peas well and cut up roughly. Chop 6 spring onions finely and put them in a large pan with the pea pods, a few sprigs of

mint and 2 pints of chicken stock. Simmer gently for 20-30 minutes until the pods are tender. Blend in a liquidiser and then sieve it. Melt 1 oz. of butter in a pan, remove from the heat and carefully stir in 1 oz. plain flour and then the soup. Stir the soup over a gentle heat until smooth and gradually bring it to the boil. Simmer for a few minutes then add 3 tablespoons of creamy milk and sprinkle with freshly chopped mint. Season to taste. Serves 6 people.

Mrs Marsden's times

You may be interested to learn that my husband and I are regular receivers of the 'Independent' from my mother, Mrs Crawshaw, who was formerly Mrs. Hague of Mickley Lane. When we have read the papers we pass them on to my sister, Mrs. Rita Taylor of London. Having lived for the first 21 years of my life at 47 Mickley Lane in the 'Monkey Gardens', I am very interested in your articles and have learned much about 'Old Totley' that I did not know before. My husband was born in Queen Victoria Road and he too is improving his knowledge of Totley considerably.

After reading about the Creswicks, I wondered if someone could do some research into the life and times of Miss Marsden who was for many years the reception teacher at Totley All Saints School. Although she lived in Dore she must have been responsible for beginning the education of hundreds of 'Old Totley' people. Congratulations on your very interesting articles and marvellous illustrations. We look forward to many more copies being sent our way.

Mrs Sylvia Phipps, 15 Grendon Dr. West Midlands.

PANTO!

TOTLEY IS to have it's own panto this Christmas. The energetic Parent teachers association at All Saints School look set to bring off yet another scoop. when they stage Cinderella for a week from 20th January. Producer Trevor Wood of The Grove, came to Totley from the Halifax area a year ago. There he worked on some 20 pantos. A bank employee, Trevor attaches great importance to comedy and reckons that is what the kids really want. Cinderellas cast is already settled with all parts filled by parents, children and staff. Tickets will be 40p adults, 20p children, reduced rates for parties. Details from Andrea Turner, 4 Quarry Road

TOTLEY SPORTS RESULTS

50 m Boys 6 yrs. Stephen Belk.
Girls 6 yrs Heather West
Boys 7 yrs Michael Wrigglesworth
Girls 7 yrs Sarah Robinson
Boys 8 yrs Andrew Edwards
Girls 8 yrs Jane Andrews
Boys 9 yrs Nigel Truswell
Girls 9 yrs Paula Dyson

80 m Boys 10 yrs Ashley Dickinson
Girls 10 yrs Susan Pendall
Boys 11 yrs Robert Behenna
Girls 11 yrs Sally Elliott
Boys 12 yrs Andrew Stephenson
Girls 12 yrs Dawn Duckworth
Boys 13 yrs Andrew Fearn

300 m Under 15 Girls. 1st Helen Noble
2nd Tracy Jackson
3rd Vivian Shepherd

300 m Under 15 Boys 1st Stephen Edwards
2nd Nicky Shepherd
3rd Mark Lomas.

300 m Under 12 Girls 1st Susan Wright
2nd Sally Elliott
3rd Susan Rendall

300 m Under 11 Girls 1st Rebecca Hurst
2nd Elizabeth Mitchell.
3rd Rachel Cryer

300 m Under 12 Boys 1st Gary Walters
2nd Nigel Jackson
3rd Andrew Flude.

300 m Under 11 Boys 1st Matthew McKenna
2nd Andrew Geering
3rd Darren Wheldon

(600 m) Under 15's Boys 1st Stephen Edwards.
2nd Andrew Stephenson.
3rd Nicky Shepherd.

(600m) Under 15's Girls 1st Helen Noble.
2nd Tracy Jackson
3rd Susan Wright.

EGG & SPOON RACE.

Boys 10 yrs Robert Peat
Girls 10 yrs Joanna Cashmore.
Girls 11 yrs Sally Elliott
Girls 12 yrs Marion Peat
Boys 13 yrs Timothy Dean
Girls 13 yrs Diana Herbert
Girls 5-9 yrs Fiona Crookes.
Girls 7 yrs Rebecca Green

SACK RACE

Boys 6 yrs Peter Coe
Girls 6 yrs Helen Underwood
Boys 7 yrs Thomas Underwood
Girls 7 yrs Sarah Robinson)
Rebecca Green)
Boys 8 yrs Roland Taylor
Boys 9 yrs Darren Wheldon
Girls 9 yrs Sharon Ryalls

SENIOR CITIZENS BOWLS COMPETITION - RESULTS IN FINALS:

MR. H. ASHMORE & MRS. PROUDLOCK 15.
MR. J. HUSBAND & MRS ASHMORE 3



MIKE WILLIAMSON WITH A HANDFUL - OUR LAND ROVING MIKE.

COUNTY SCHOOL

AT TOTLEY COUNTY SCHOOL SPORTS on 17th July, six children broke records: Paul Brien (J1), Helen Meddowes-Taylor (J2), Ashley Brown (J2), Lindsey Turner (J3), Nigel Jackson (J4), and Fiona Jackson (J4). It was a double success for the Jackson twins.

Chatsworth have set records in the J1, J2 and J3 relays whilst in J4 Thornbridge did the same. Haddon, however, finished up as overall winning house. This was the last Sports Day to be organised by Barry Jex - the Deputy Head - he takes up a new Headmaster post in Darnall next term. Best wishes Barry and thanks for organising so many pleasant afternoons.

AS PART OF THE FUND RAISING at Totley County School, infant teacher Mrs. Holding organised a matchbox filling competition. Each child took a matchbox, put in a 10p entry fee and then had to put in as many different objects as possible. Apparently the judging was both difficult and amusing with such objects as old teeth, toe nails, rose thorns, dead flies and bees together with food particles. Winner was Rachel Kay who managed to squeeze about 150 items into her matchbox. The money raised went towards the Parent/friends Association at the School.

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YORKSHIRE DALES WIN

DALE ORTON of Stonecroft Road is the new Yorkshire Champion for the 14 year old boys individual medley which means Swimming 100 metres of each of butterfly, breast stroke, back and front crawl. Dale has already collected three bronze and two silver medals throughout the year, thanks to the training session of 1 hour in the morning and two hours at night, every day except Saturday. Recently he also won the 3rd year boys cross country race at King Ecgberts despite Doctors advice not to run because of an allergy. Dale's younger brother, Robert, is also a strong swimmer.

SPORTNEWS

WE ARE always pleased to hear if any member of your family has had any success in sport. Do we have any tiddlewinks champions, horse riders, fishermen, squash players?

FINALISTS

Norman Cann, Frank Woodhead and Nick Broomhead of Greenoak Bowling Club qualified for the finals of the Sheffield Civic Weeks Bowls Tournament on 5th August.

Sports Report on the 4th July Morning

IN A WEEK WHEN SOME PARTS OF THE EAST COAST HAD TWO MONTHS RAIN IN ONE DAY, WE JUST HAD TO HOLD OUR T.R.A. SPORTS EVENING! AFTER SEEING THE ALL SAINTS SCHOOL GALA DAMPENED DOWN ON THE SATURDAY, WE WATCHED THE RAIN POUR DOWN ON AND OFF FOR THE FOLLOWING FEW DAYS. ALL OUR PLANS WERE BEGINNING TO LOOK WASHED OUT TOO. HOWEVER WE HAD PUT UP THE TENTS AND THE MARQUEE, WHEN SUDDENLY, AT 6 O'CLOCK THE RAIN STOPPED. SO IT WAS ON WITH THE SHOW!

AS SOON AS WE STARTED, OF COURSE, DOWN CAME THE RAIN. AN ESTIMATED CROWD OF 400 APPEARED AS IF BY MAGIC. THEY WERE ARMED WITH WELLIES, ANORAKS AND UMBRELLAS, BUT THAT DID NOT DETER HORDES OF CHILDREN FROM TAKING PART IN THE RACES BRIAN BEZANT AND HIS HELPERS BATTLED AWAY, LINING UP WAVES OF KIDS, ALTHOUGH THEIR ENTRY LISTS WERE GRADUALLY BEING WASHED AWAY.

WE WERE REALLY AMAZED TO SEE SO MANY PEOPLE AND WERE ABLE TO HOLD MOST OF THE RACES AS PLANNED, EXCEPT FOR THE TUG-O-WAR AND OBSTACLE RACE.



THESE EVENTS WOULD HAVE BEEN TOO DANGEROUS ON THE SLIPPERY GRASS, AND WE HELD AN EGG-AND-SPOON RACE INSTEAD.

A BEDRAGGLED CROWD STOOD AND WATCHED A BRAVE PUNCH & JUDY MAN, THE BOYS BRIGADE BAND IGNORED THE WEATHER AND SQUELCHED SMARTLY UP AND DOWN BLOWING THEIR HEADS OFF, WHILE JOHN SCRIVEN CAJOLED ADULTS AND CHILDREN TO JOIN IN HIS WELLIE THROWING CONTEST. HERE 14 YEAR OLD JONATHAN HAWKE SHOWED JUST WHY HE'S SO GOOD IN FIELD EVENTS WITH A HUGE THROW FOR A YOUNG LAD.

NEARBY MESSRS. FAIRHEAD AND HICKMAN, THE COMEDY DUO, WERE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR NON-ARGENTINIEN TALENT IN THEIR FOOTBALL GAME. THE TOTLEY BRANCH LIBRARY AND CUB SCOUT STALLS PROVED DIFFICULT TO OPERATE IN THE LLET.



SOAKED COMMITTEE MEMBERS STAYED AT THEIR POSTS SELLING RAFFLE TICKETS, INDEPENDENTS AND MEMBERSHIPS. SNUG IN THEIR TENT WERE THE RED CROSS WHO, FORTUNATELY, HAD ONLY ONE (NOT SO SERIOUS) CASE ALL EVENING.

HOWEVER THE USUAL FAVOURITES - THE DONKEYS - WERE KEPT BUSY AS WAS THE GOVERNORS CART AND PONY.

BY FAR THE BEST REFUGE WAS THE REFRESHMENT MARQUEE LOANED AND ERECTED BY MINSTHORPE HIGH SCHOOL WHO HAD TRAVELLED FROM NEAR FONTEFRACIT DESPITE THE CONDITIONS. INSIDE THE MARQUEE PETER AND JILL WESTON, WITH THEIR JOLLY HELPERS, WERE KEPT BUSY SELLING CRISPS, POP AND CAKES.

The pluckiest

PLUCKIEST OF ALL WERE THE SENIOR CITIZENS WHO HAD PLAYED THE PRELIMINARY ROUNDS OF THEIR TRA SPONSORED BOWLS CONTEST, DURING THE DAMP AFTERNOON, AND RETURNED IN FORCE LATER FOR

THE FINALS. THERE WAS JUST REWARD FOR BERT ASHMORE, WHO HELPED TO ORGANISE THE EVENT. HE WON AND HIS WIFE WAS A RUNNER-UP. ONCE AGAIN, FRANK WOODHEAD KINDLY KEPT THE COUPLES APART AND THE MATCH FINISHED.

OF COURSE EVERYONE HAD BEEN SUSTAINED BY HOT CUPS OF TEA DISHED UP BY THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS. MIKE WILLIAMSON, THAT BRUCE FORSYTH OF TOTLEY, CROUCHED UNDER AN UMBRELLA ON ONE OF HATFIELD'S LAND ROVERS, ANNOUNCING AWAY, ASSISTED BY VICAR ALAN JOCKEL.

SMILE OF THE NIGHT ONCE AGAIN WAS THE FLY PAST BY TOTLEY'S ONE-MAN AIR FORCE WHO BRAVED THE CLOUD FORMATIONS TO

GIVE US ALL A CHANCE TO GUESS HIS HEIGHT (THE PERSON WHO WROTE 5'9" WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN, NEXT YEAR)

THE GREATEST RELIEF WAS THAT THIS YEAR THE AMPLIFIERS WERE AUDIBLE.

NEXT YEARS EVENT WILL HAVE A CHANGED TITLE - IT

WILL BE CALLED TOTLEY WATER SPORTS, AND WILL FEATURE THE MASSES BAND OF THE ALDAM WAY DIAPINES, WATER FOLLO ON SEA HORSES, DOLPHIN RIPES, 50 METRES BREAST STROKE, ANGLING CONTEST AND A SENIOR

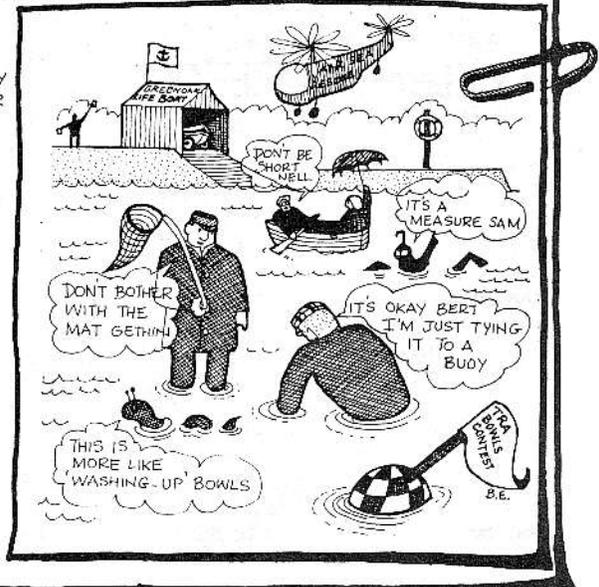
CITIZENS PADDLING CONTEST. BUT I RECOMMEND THAT WE DON'T GIVE THESE DETAILS IN THE TOTLEY INDEPENDENT SO IT WILL BE A BIG SURPRISE TO EVERYONE. THE RED CROSS COULD PROVIDE SURVIVAL KITS, WHILST THE AIR SEA RESCUE HELICOPTER FROM TOTLEY AIR FORCE COULD HOVER OVER. IT WOULD THEN NOT BE NECESSARY TO CALL OUT THE GREENOAK LIFEBOAT. GLASSES OF HOT PUNCH & JUDY COULD BE SERVED CHILLED.

SUGGEST ENTRY FORMS COULD BE WATERPROOF WRAPPED, SEALED IN A BOTTLE AND DROPPED INTO TOTLEY BROOK.

Seriously though

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE VERY DAFT PEOPLE WHO TURNED UP TO MAKE THE EVENT SO ENJOYABLE AND WHO HELPED IN MAKING THE TOTLEY SPORTS EVENING A SUCCESS.

RESULTS ON PAGE 6.



PICKED AS NEWT SALTY BACCY SMURFED UP?

DURING THE last week of term at Totley County, the boilers were taken apart for repairs. The plumber noticed something moving in the sludgy remains of the water and to his surprise found a newt. He took it up to Mrs. Holdings class where it was found by the children to measure $14\frac{1}{2}$ cms. On attempting to classify the newt, Mrs Holdings noted that it had an 'orange spotted tummy' and after reading all the books, the class decided that the creature was probably a female crested newt. After an afternoon of admiration, it was put in the school pond and, in spite of the colder water, 'Boiler' as the children christened her, appears quite happy.

ROAD UP

THE GAS board seem to be taking an awfully long time over whatever they are doing to the dual carriageway at Totley Rise. Meanwhile, what is normally an extremely dangerous bend has become an even greater hazard. Down at Totley Brook Road, chaos reigns. The traffic is forced through controlled traffic lights hardly wide enough for the no. 17 bus. This means that vehicles are queuing up on the main dual carriageway waiting their turn to get into Totley Brook. However nobody has yet complained to the Independent so it can't be too inconvenient.

As we were going to press, we heard that the traffic lights controlling the Totley Brook Road works had broken down and traffic travelling away from the city was being diverted via Bushey Wood Road, Chatsworth Road, Mercia Road and King Egbert Road.

ALPHA BEAT

THE AIR WAS full with the wailing of sirens as police cars, a fire engine and an ambulance hurtled through Totley on the 19th of July. A green Alpha Sud had skidded just above the brickyards near Owler Bar and, in avoiding a collision, had mounted the grass bank. After turning over twice, the car came to rest on it's roof and the driver managed to scramble unhurt from it. Eye witnesses are reported to have said that the car was not travelling particularly fast, but seem to skid on the greasy surface. Fortunately for the Nether Edge driver, the ambulance was not needed, but the firemen sprayed the road as a precaution against leaking petrol.

SOME MEN get that Condor feeling - but Elijah Salt has got the Turkey Cut taste. For Totley Cut - a strong Virginia- is his own tobacco, grown in the deep South West of Sheffield. Tobacco baron Elijah says, I only grow a few pounds for myself but I don't like the flavour much. I've tried flavouring it with all sorts of perfume but I can't seem to get it right. So now I mix it with better known brands of tobacco." Mr. Salt, of Moorwoods Lane, Owler Bar, is a member of an old Totley family and is a cabinet maker and builder by trade, being head of crafts at a Stannington comprehensive. He has recently been asked to alter the specially built ladies toilet for Longshaw Sheepdog Trials. Customers had complained that the seats were too high and the holes too small. So our master craftsman cut the bottoms (of the seats) to make them lower. Next he widened the holes and made them more of a convenience. Now going to the loo should be less of a trial at next years show.

WAR DAYS IN HALL

I READ with interest the various uses of the Heatherfield Conservative Club building (formerly the Labour Hall) and would like to inform you that during World War II, the hall was taken over by the Women's Voluntary Service (now WRVS) for approximately two years, to make the camouflage nets to be used in the war zones of Europe and the desert campaigns. A great many were made by the local ladies and some gentlemen, but I forget how many. We had to cut and roll the various coloured canvas and the late Mr. Guy Rooke of the Quadrant made us a small machine for the purpose of rolling the strips of canvas. It was a very dirty job and as everything had to be bought with coupons, there was a constant appeal for gloves which wore out very quickly.

Mrs K.D. Sneath, 26 The Quadrant

NO DIARY

THIS MONTH we have missed out the usual DIARY, mainly because the noted diarist Geoff Nixon tells us that hardly anything is happening this month because so many people are away. In THAT case, no one will be reading this issue anyway. If there is someone, somewhere, who is not away, please be informed that the Diary will be back in September.

YOU EITHER LOVE them or you hate them, but it helps to have money if you love them. The friendly smurfs were created when Father Abrahams began singing with them on a record which was to reach no. 1 spot in most continental countries. In Britain, the story was different for these jovial characters were largely ignored by the press, who were more interested in the government although the plump jolly smurfs have a remarkable likeness to Messrs Healey & Callaghan. It was just under a year ago that a bright National Petroleum company advertising executive noticed how popular these little dwarf characters were on the continent. Hence a TV commercial which showed the happy little chappies singing whilst watering the flowers in front of National garages. If you haven't yet seen them doing this then take it up, not with us but, your your trade description officer. While other firms were jumping on the 'Scotland for the World Cup' bandwagon, James Hunt was taking off in a wheel-less car serviced by Morecombe, Wise Wise, Texaco & Co., the smurfs increased in popularity. At least they weren't losing races or being sent home, in disgrace, for drug offences. But should National really charge 36p for these tiny rubbery figures? It is mainly the younger children who want their very own smurf; 72 halfpenny chews or over 40 football stickers in full colour, would seem to be a more attractive bargain than one dwarf. An inch tall, they don't do anything; but beware! If your child has itchy pock-ets, he could be feeling a little smurfy.

King of the tunnel rats

THE STORY about Totley Tunnel in a previous issue, brought up the tale of Wilfred Slater of Woodseats. Wilfred, with relatives in this area, retired in 1954, after 32 years working in the tunnel and a further 10 years on the stretch between there and Dore & Totley Station. His long service earned him the title of 'King of the Tunnel Rats'. "I've carried six corpses out of there in my time, and about five dogs." the The first victim was, sadly, his own brother. It was very difficult to hear the train before it arrived and two watchmen would sound the alarm for everyone to dive into recesses 22 yds apart.

**Next issue:
New industry for totley**