

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

Published by Totley Residents Association

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TOTLEY HISTORY RE-ENACTED

Totley history was re-enacted on the 19th March. The Totley Rise branch of the National Westminster Bank held a week-long exhibition the theme of which was Sheffield of Old and, in particular, Totley and Totley Rise. The display consisted of old photographs, paintings, postcards and drawings, the majority of which had been loaned by local residents. It was further enhanced by a display of old Banking relics drawn from the Bank's archives and museum. Any visitor to the Bank that week would have been surprised at the informal atmosphere and the costumes from the 1902-30 period donned by all the staff. In case you are dying to know who was who, the cast was:

Frank Smith (Manager) - Edwardian Bank Manager in frock coat, wing collar & spats.

Peter Hanson (Sub-Manager) - Edwardian gentleman in tail coat, wing collar & spats. (n.b. Mr. Hanson also organised the Exhibition).

Christine Coward

Cathy Nolan - both Edwardian ladies.

Sharon Hall - Parlour Maid

Carol Herring - Bathing Belle

Richard Houldsworth

- Undergraduate at play

Basil Jones - as himself

Marilyn Wheeler

- Twenties Flapper

The exhibition was part of an exercise designed to provide an opportunity (designed to provide an opp)

for both customers and potential customers to meet and talk with the staff on a more informal basis. This they certainly did.

Sub-Manager, Peter Hanson did a

marvellous job in collecting all the material together. Highlights for me were photographs of Highland cattle grazing opposite the shops at Totley Rise, a photograph of the now disused sod-roofed cottage at Moneybrooks and photographs of the various shopfronts in the early days of this century.

BUSY YEAR

1978/9 has been a year, of organising events, frequently dogged by bad weather, and organising protests to protect the environment - unfortunately without much effect on the planning authority. The first event was a trip to Hendon War Museum, by coach, and proved to be very interesting and a fine start. The main summer event - the Totley Sports evening - was held on 4th July in Green Oak Park and just about survived a wet and dismal evening. It was a pity for so much preparation goes into running the two hour event. An activity session was organised in the August holiday and we had the use of Totley County School for this. Although limited, the day was very much enjoyed and may be the forerunner of many more.

There was a Fashion Show at All Saints Church Hall in November and the Senior Citizens Christmas Party at Totley College in December. Both of these Totley Residents Association events were well attended and successful.

A pea and pie supper with bingo at the Heatherfield Club survived the terrible weather in January - not so the Dance at St. Johns Church Hall during February. In spite of the snow, a successful Fish & Chip supper with bingo was held at the Heatherfield in February. Our last meeting was held on the 28th

march with a gardening evening reported in this issue. Mr. Nelson, the speaker, judged our gardening competition in the summer and we are hoping to have another in 1979.

During the year our Chairman, the Rev. Alan Jockel, has started the Totley Forum which meets quarterly to co-ordinate the activities of all clubs and societies in the district, hoping to avoid dates clashing and ensuring joint support in protests.

A close watch has been kept on all building schemes in the area and contact maintained with the planning department, Town Hall, wherever the green belt is threatened. Points have been raised about density of population, traffic build-up, dangerous main roads, and the bus services etc. In all this, we have had the support of our councillors and this has been forthcoming in our meetings with the police, parks department etc.

The Totley Independent continues its regular publication; this is quite an achievement by the devoted editorial staff.

Finally a reminder - the AGM will be held in the more centrally situated Heatherfield Club on Thursday 26th April at 7.30pm - so do turn up and support your committee.

Both the Badminton and Photographic sections continue to flourish.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Annie Hoyland of Elder Cottage, Hillfoot Road who this month celebrate their golden wedding anniversary.

A FOOLS GAME

On Sunday 1st April, the Totley Youth Club played football against a College Students team. Although the score at half time was quite respectable at 3-2, the more experienced college lads took on the almost non-existent Youth Club defence and scored three run-away goals. A late goal from the younger team did help to make the scoreline a bit more respectable on this wet and miserable day. Scorers for the Youth Club were Andy Fisher, Simon Buchan and Nigel Eyre.



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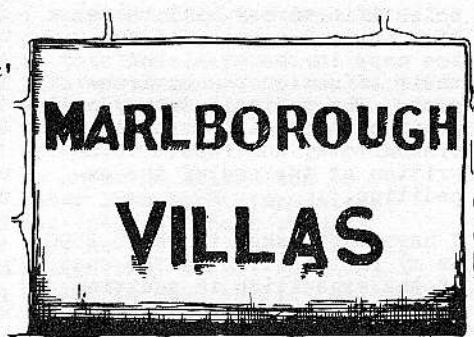
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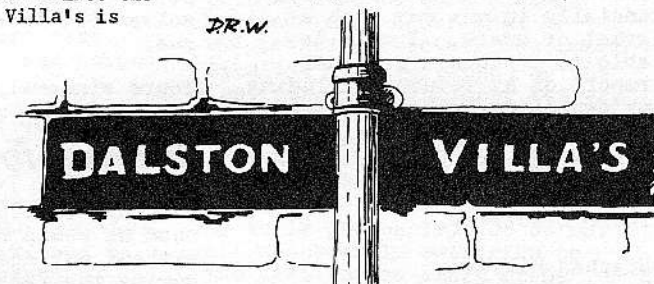
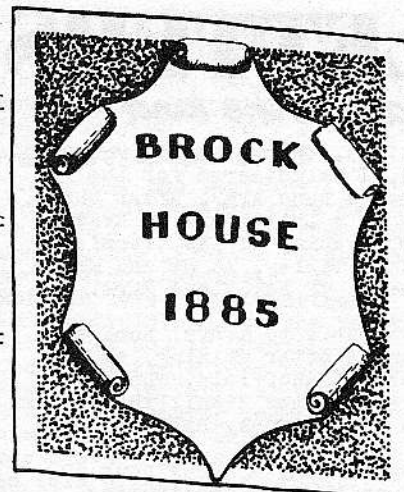
LIMOUSINES FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

GROVE ROAD

In the March issue of the 'Independent' Grove Road was mentioned twice. With regard to its history and also the fact that 21 houses are about to be built there. The buildings which were demolished after the demise of the Polytechnic Management Centre were stone-built and were obviously meant to last much longer than they actually did. The names of the houses are reproduced here, and its interesting to note that bad grammar was evident in the 1880's since the apostrophe in Dalston Villa's is incorrect.



D.R.W.



BOOK THIS DATE

On Friday 11th May at 7.30 pm in King Egbert Lower School Hall, there will be a concert given by the children of Dore Junior School and the Hoyle Family Quartet.

This event is being organised by the Totley Rise Methodist Church, to mark the International Year of the Child. Proceeds will go to three charities;

The N.S.P.C.C.
Parent Life-Line
Action in Distress.

Through Action in Distress Totley Rise Methodist Church are sponsoring a little boy in Kenya.

Programmes, price 50p (30p for children and OAPs) may be obtained from:

Mrs A Buchan 20 Longford Road
Bradway Tel: 367763

Mrs M Couldwell 43 K. Egbert Road Tel: 369318

Mrs D Simpson 32 Stonecroft Road Tel: 366668

TOTLEY SPORTS

Totley Sports second team must be pleased that the recent spell of bad weather has cleared up for they have begun a run of good results. The first team were not as lucky. They only played one match but lost it.

3rd March

1st Team V Youlgreave Utd.
Match postponed.

2nd Team V Green Acres Res.
Away.

Won 5 - 1

10th March

1st Team V Dronfield Woodhouse
Away.

Lost 3 - 0

2nd Team V Buxton Eagles
Home.

Won 2 - 0

MORE THAN HEATHER AT HEATHERFIELD

Totley residents, of the hardy perennial kind, were well rewarded for their efforts recently when Radio Sheffield's gardening tipster, Bill Nelson, entertained them with a first-rate talk on the subject of growing pot plants.

Bill's professionalism was no less obvious in the quality of the slides used to demonstrate some of the more outstanding examples and Bill's many years of practical experience in horticulture allowed his audience many glimpses into some of the less well-publicised aspects of successful pot-plant growing.

Atrocious weather conditions were perhaps responsible for keeping numbers down, but this in no way dampened the enthusiasm of those present and a lively question time followed Bill's talk.

The evening closed with Bill giving some tips to those of the audience thinking of entering this year's Totley Garden competition. The splendid trophy awarded to last year's winner was on show and some mouths were clearly watering. However, last year's winner, C. Attlesley, is going to be in there fighting and it will need a good 'un to take the cup away from him. I am sure that this event will become

increasingly competitive and prestigious in years to come. Bill has agreed to judge the gardens again this year so we can look forward not only to Bill's return to Totley but also to the prospect of Totley gardeners proving once again that they are a cut above the rest.

TOADS PLAY

The Totley Operatic and Dramatic Society, your friendly local TOADS, are performing another play, on May 2nd-5th at St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South.

The piece, called "Lady Charing is Cross" by Gordon Daviot, is an Edwardian comedy, and goes to show that although politics may have changed in seventy years, politicians have not.

The Society consider their choice of play very apt in a General Election Year, and would welcome your support.

Tickets may be obtained from Chambers Fish Shop, Totley Rise, 360806; The Hon. Sec., Mrs Kate Walker, Phone 364749 or any member of the Society.

TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 26th APRIL 7.30 PM
HEATHERFIELD CLUB, BASLOW RD.

LETTERS

Back to the land

In 1943, when I was 17 years old, I volunteered for the Women's Land Army, after working on a Dairy farm in Evesham for 2 years. I was transferred to Totley, to Mr and Mrs Bramall of Hall Lane Farm.

I was able to travel home each evening after milking, as I lived in Sheffield. The bus fare then was 1 shilling return and usually only half full.

I spent many a happy hour on the milk round, delivering down Main Avenue, Rowan Tree Dell and Sunnyvale Road, which was a bit shorter than it is now. We did not leave bottles on the doorstep then, we had to measure a full or half pint from the can to a jug or basin which was a delicate operation taking care not to spill a single drop. When it rained we had to step into the porch or else the milk would have been diluted. I used to take Gillian Bramall round with me when she was a lively 4 year old.

I always said I would like to live at Totley, and my mother used to say the same. Now 36 years later John and Roger Bramall (not even thought of then) deliver milk to my house in Sunnyvale Road where I have lived for 12 years, and to my mother's flat in Green Oak Crescent where she has lived for 5 years. We both love Totley still.

I kept in touch with Mr and Mrs Bramall all the years in between, even though at times it was only a Christmas card. I have never forgotten them, they are a lovely family and long may they reign at Hall Lane Farm. It is a bit of old Totley down that Lane and I hope it never changes.

Marion Marples.

SCHOOLBOY EXPLORER

I have been chosen for a national expedition to the Lyngen Alps in Arctic Norway next summer. It is organised by the British Schools Exploring Society and will include an artistic and scientific survey as well as exploration of the area. The main objects of the

scientific survey will be the studying and mapping of two ice caps in the area, and of their effect on the environment. The artistic survey will provide material for an illustrated talk, and report to be written at the end of the expedition.

I have been asked to raise £590 as my contribution to the cost of the expedition in addition to buying my personal equipment. I should be very grateful if you could help me financially in any way with a grant or award. I will be able to produce a personal report on my return, including my own photographs and drawings or an illustrated talk. Any assistance you could give me would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Hilyard,
Upper Sixth Form,
King Egbert School.

If anyone is interested in helping Stephen in any way, please contact him at 80 Devonshire Road, Dore, S173NW (even explorers can have chichi postcodes!)

SUPERMILK!

On that terrifying Sunday, 18 February, when ice upon ice had brought our city to a halt, my husband and I were faced with the problem of travelling to Heathrow en route to an errand of mercy to Argentina, where my 83-year-old mother had suddenly become unable to care for herself.

Our car was iced in. No bus, taxi or other form of transportation could be mobilised. We were frantic. Then I observed the only moving vehicle visible from our house - that of our ever-cheerful dawn-braving purveyor of milk, John Clark, whose neighbouring farm is off Totley's mellifluously-named Strawberry Lea Lane.

"John the Milk," I told my husband, "is our only hope." And John needed no more than a quick phone call. "No problem," he assured us, and at 11 am on the dot he was here, not on his milk float, which he considered too exposed for unhardened travellers, but in a borrowed Land Rover with tyres equal to any surface.

So, through our silent city, we were conveyed to our train in good time, and then, to confirm that Totley still contains people to cherish, John asked our daughter after the snowfall on 17 March if he could collect us at the station on our return next day.

Totley may count itself lucky to have people like John the Milk to typify our green and pleasant land and, despite all the recent evidence to the contrary, neighbours who are still prepared to put themselves out to come to the rescue.

Yours sincerely,

ENID D. BURNS (Mrs)

Thanks to local shops

Dear Sir

Has anyone stopped to think what we would have done without our local shops during the recent adverse weather conditions? I always shop in Totley because I prefer the friendly atmosphere to the impersonal supermarkets but those of you who usually shop in town spare a few thankful thoughts for those of us who keep the corner shops alive for you to fall back on in a crisis. With special thanks to J & P Perkington and G Ashmore.

J. Bingham

The Pinfold - a reply

I was particularly interested to read in February's edition of the Independent the letter from the Secretary and Chairman of the Totley and District Environment Society concerning the Pinfold. They state that "nobody objected" to the plans and that "since that date all who had been using the land for car parking have been contacted".

There is an element of truth in each statement, but each is also calculated to convey a misleading impression.

Following the publication of notices indicating that planning permission had been sought I wrote to the Dept. of Planning and Design on 6 February 1977. Whilst not objecting in principle to the improvement of the site I did express concern about two main factors:

1. The removal of parking facilities from residents of Chapel Lane in the absence of

alternative facilities. I have parked my car on the site since August 1974 and by other local residents for a much longer time. The facility was used by previous occupants of my house and was a factor taken into consideration prior to house purchase.

2. The junction formed by the entrance to the school, Butts hill and Hillfoot Road, situated on an S bend, constitutes a danger for both pedestrians and motorists especially at school opening and closing times. The use of the site for short term parking and turning has helped reduce the hazard.

On 7 March 1977 I again wrote to the above Department suggesting that parking spaces for the occupants of Chapel Lane be incorporated in the plans. The official response ignored all points raised by me and informed me that planning permission had been granted. In consequence I complained and received a further reply in which some of my "objections to the scheme" were dismissed summarily and others ignored. As planning permission was granted and I had no right of appeal I did not pursue the matter.

The Totley and District Environment Society made their first contact with me through their solicitors (see footnote - Ed.) in a letter dated 6 March 78 to inform me that work would commence on the site from 1 April 78 in accordance with planning approval. A plan of the site was enclosed but lacked any scale reference. It also showed two granite stumps to be placed centrally at the entrance to Chapel Lane. No planning permission had been obtained for these stumps and I understand they were not in the original plans; one wonders whose idea it was to add them to the plans after planning permission had been granted. The objective could only have been to prevent vehicular access to Chapel Lane and as I had recently spent much time, effort and money providing a parking space under the kind auspices of my neighbour, it was, to say the least, suspicious. As the erection of the posts would be illegal they were erased from the plans on my protest.

I am most concerned that as one person directly affected by the Pinfold conversion, no effort was made to discuss the proposal with me prior to planning permission being sought. I realise the Society is under no obligation to enter into such discussions but one would have thought that as the initiators of the action they would, as an exercise in good public relations, have approached me by telephone, letter or on a personal basis. To this date no such contact has been made other than by the letter previously mentioned. Finally, with reference to the last paragraph in their letter, I would point out that many of us living within the vicinity of the Pinfold are also long-standing residents of Totley and are more directly affected by their proposals. We do not all necessarily subscribe to the utilitarian ethic propounded.

I hope my letter will assist in clarifying some of the misconceptions and explain the apprehensions of others.

ALAN BYRON
5 Chapel Lane.

COMMENT

This is not the only response we have received regarding the T.A.D.E.S. letter about the Pinfold. There are several disturbing points common to all the responses. They all say that they did complain, either to the Town Hall or to the Society directly. None were consulted prior to planning permission being sought, and the first contact that was made was in the form of a letter written by a member of the Environment Society. He happens to be a solicitor, and wrote these letters on his firm's notepaper. This looks suspiciously like someone trying to intimidate by the use of the "solicitor's letter." The letter in question would have had precisely the same legal value if it were written on good old Basildon Bond. No doubt we shall be hearing more.

SORRY

In our last issue we had a letter about the old Totley Brook Estate, and inadvertently spelt the name of the writer incorrectly. We tender our most sincere apologies, and would like to point out that it can happen

to anybody. Thank you for your letter pointing out our error; by the way, my name is spelt NAUEN, not Naven. You see, Mr Wolstenholme, it isn't only us

new developments

The Totley and District Environment Society have sent us a copy of a letter they have sent to the Director of Planning and Design, Sheffield, to the Estates Surveyors Department in Sheffield, and to the South Yorkshire County Council.

Though a little long to reproduce here in full, it points out that planning permission has been rushed through for two new housing developments in this area despite local objections, and asking that three local pieces of open land remain as they are and not be developed.

The three places referred to are: Map reference SK31407940. Fields adjoining Totley Brook stream on both banks, the area bounded by Mickley Lane on the east; Aldum Road, Greenoak Road and Rowan Tree Dell on the north; extending south-west into and including Gillfield Wood.

Map reference SK 30628019. Land surrounding Totley Grove House, to the east of Hillfoot Road, south of Old Hay Brook, extending east to Akley Bank. Map reference SK 30558032. Land to the North of Old Hay Brook, extending east from Hillfoot Road to Totley Brook Housing Estate, and north to Dore village.

We hope that if and when the Environment Society receives a reply to this letter, which seems very reasonable if we don't want to become a totally built-up area, they will let us have a copy of the reply, so that we can publish the official response.

STAMPS FOR SALE

We are always pleased to hear from people who help local charities and Mrs E Burns of Ashcroft, Hillfoot Road, Totley has written to tell us that she sells foreign postage stamps for 1 penny each in aid of the Home Farm Trust for mentally handicapped children. Fairthorne, at Dore, is one of the Residential Homes. If anyone is interested in buying stamps they can contact Mrs Burns at the above address; not only will you be adding to your collection but also helping a local charity

Warburtons World



Believe it or not, it is now spring. After suffering one of the worst winters for many years, the countryside is slowly responding to the longer days. In years past, I have seen butterflies, just out of hibernation, by the end of March, and my garden has been quite well sorted out. This year, the garden has remained untouched, and the seeds have had to be started off in the greenhouse.

The winter's severity has meant a wealth of bird-life in and around the gardens, and there has been an enthusiastic response to the peanuts on the bird table. Many other creatures have spent the winter here, but but have remained completely out of sight during their hibernation. All of our amphibians spend their winters in this way, and the commonest species locally, the Common Frog, and Common Toad, usually find the mud at the bottom of a pond to be quite suitable. In spring they awaken, go through their noisy courtship and mate. Their familiar eggs, or spawn, are common in many areas, but not, unfortunately, in ours.

We have very few permanent ponds in the locality, and since amphibians must lay their eggs in still water, our many streams are of no use whatsoever.

There are several temporary ponds, which dry up in summer, and these too are useless, since many of them have dried up before the tadpoles have made the transition to adult. Amphibians usually return to the pond in which they spent their time as a larva, or tadpole, and often migrations may occur, when thousands of

frogs or toads move towards their ancestral home.

Newts are even more uncommon in the district, as they need water for more of their adult life, since they are far more aquatic than their hopping relatives.

If we are to conserve these species, we must ensure that no more ponds are filled in. The largest pond locally is at Abbeydale Hall, which is of course, an artificial one. Several frogs and toads breed here annually. Anyone who has a small garden pond can help these two species by introducing a small amount of spawn into it. With a little luck, there should be a succession of amphibians visiting the pond annually.

This would be a positive step towards conserving species which were once very common, but are now suffering a very serious decline.

ROLL UP, ROLL UP.... SEE THE GREAT TOTLEY CIRCUS!

Following the publication of the map in our March issue we were contacted by Mrs Burnand who says she can remember a circus and fair visiting the field behind Milldale Road.

This was forty or fifty years ago but Mrs Burnand can remember some gypsies coming to their door and an elephant being put in the field nearby.

We would be pleased to hear from any other readers who can remember this - perhaps it came every year? If not, but you can remember any other unusual events that happened in Totley write and tell us - we're your magazine!

Calling George Formby!

A Mrs Harper of 20 Green Oak Drive has been in touch with us to see if we can help to solve her window-cleaning problem. She lives in a second-floor flat, and the local window cleaner does not have a long ladder. If he could find twelve second-floor customers, he is prepared to get a ladder; alternatively is there any other window cleaner locally who already has a long ladder and can help Mrs Harper? Please contact her directly at the above address if you think you can help.

PHOTO SOCIETY MEET

Meeting on Wednesday, March 28th. An inter-club competition with Low Edges Photographic Society on slides only. Low Edges won quite convincingly but both sides were commended by the judge Mr. Martin from Chesterfield on the very high standard of the entries. The defeat was expected but much was learnt by the members present.

EGGIE HEADS

King Egbert School produced a winning team for the South Yorkshire Schools Supermarket Management Game. Eight teams competed in the final at Sheffield City Polytechnic for a trophy presented by Quaker Oats. Joint winners were the teams from Doncaster Grammar School and our own King Egbert School.

In the team were:

John Gill (Captain)
Timothy Evans
Nicholas Luscombe
Stephen Noble
Michael Ginn
Roger Powell

Is one of these lads destined to become Sheffield's answer to Lord Sainsbury? Only time will tell, but it seems a pretty good start.

EDITORIAL STAFF

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JULIA NAUEN 11 GROVE ROAD 363911

Jordanthorpe at the Beeb

The Governors' meeting at Jordanthorpe School on March 5th was televised by the BBC to be shown as part of an Open University programme on school governing bodies. The meeting proceeded normally and the Governors remained relaxed even when the camera zoomed in for a close-up. The producer, Mr Little, showed particular interest in the pupil governors Mark Hattersley and Felicity Crowther. The camera crew returned on March 7th to film some exclusive interviews with Felicity and the Headmaster Mr Cook. After a period of questioning under the bright lights they emerged dazed by the glamour of stardom.

Cross Scythes Disco

On March 2nd a charity disco was held at the Cross Scythes for Jordanthorpe School Sixth Formers and friends. 1979 is the International Year of the Child so the £25 profit went to the charity "Make Children Happy".

The organiser, Carol Elsley, said "Not only was it a great financial success considering the amount of people, but it was thoroughly enjoyed by all". She would also like to thank all those who supported the fund raising effort.

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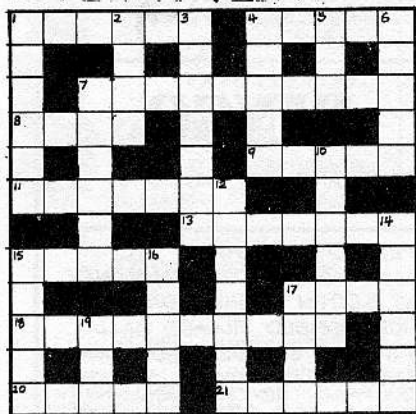
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1. THE MOST ELUSIVE B.R. EMPLOYEE (6)
4. FAST PIGEON, FOR INSTANCE (5)
- 7 & 19 DOWN & 17 DOWN: ANSWER; EARLY BERT (ANAG. LOCAL, 10, 3, 4)
8. BEFORE (4)
9. LUCIFER (5)
11. BASIC SUBSTANCE (7)
13. PERKINTON & SCRIVEN (7)
15. WINNER'S OPPONENT (5)
17. 92 BASLOW ROAD MAY PROVIDE THIS (4)
18. MRS. THATCHER (10)
20. PLUMBERS' VEGETABLES (5)
21. MONKEY IN THE BLOOD BANK (6)

DOWN

1. MARINE HIGHWAYMAN (6)
2. TOTLEY CONTAINS THE RACE COURSE BETTING (4)
3. ANOTHER PLACE GIVES ACTION IN TOTLEY LIBRARY (7)
4. GARMENTS (6)
5. A VEHICLE OF CARRIAGE (3)
6. MAN-MADE FIBRE (5)
7. THE AVENGERS' MOUNTS (6)
10. THE ONLY UNIVERSITY LECTURER AT OXFORD (3, 3)
12. OLD SHEFFIELD TRANSPORT (7)
14. THE FALLEN BOYER COMES TO THESE, EVENTUALLY. (6)
15. PART OF COAT (5)
16. A CONFUSED STARE GIVES US THE PROPERTY CHARGES (5)
17. (SEE 7 ACROSS)
19. (SEE 7 ACROSS)

LAST MONTHS ANSWERS

(Across)

1. Monsal
- 4, 8, 18. Rowan Tree Dell
7. Worker Ants
9. Rally.
11. Last Bid.
13. Towpath.
15. Salad
18. Instructor
20. Tents
21. Tremor.

(Down)

1. Mental
2. Shoe
3. Likes it
4. Rarer
5. Win
6. Nasty
7. Weasel
10. Leader
12. Dovecot
14. Holder
15. Swift
16. Darts
17. Dore
19. Sun

DIARY

April 27/8/9 Abbeydale Art Group exhibition at Abbey Hall. Phone Doreen Clarke 368179 for details.

May 2nd - 5th T.O.A.D.S play. See notice in this issue.

May 8th - Talk at King Egbert's School 7.30 pm. "Understanding Vandalism - some of the facts."

May 11th - concert at King Egbert's Lower School Hall - see notice in this issue.

May 11th Residents' Association Pea & Pie Supper at Heatherfield Club (NOT 4th)

GARDENING

LAWNCARE

Unfortunately, most peoples idea of what constitutes lawncare is a weekly cut with a lawnmower, and that's it. This notion of a 'soft option', when referring to grass, is far from the truth. It is true that the upkeep of a lawn is, area for area, significantly less time consuming than say an herbaceous border or a rockery, but only if certain guidelines are adhered to will the resulting time saved be matched by an attractive feature in the garden instead of the more usual eyesore.

It is not possible, within the space of a short article, to cover the full range of lawncare operations necessary to achieve a first-rate lawn but there are one or two points that may prove useful in avoiding some of the less obvious pitfalls.

One of the first things to consider when laying out a lawn is the amount of wear it is likely to get. Do not sow a bowling green seed mixture if all you are after is a play area for the children. It doesn't need much imagination to predict the likely outcome if you were to play 90 minutes football on a bowling green! For this sort of use a standard turf would be the best answer, particularly if you haven't the time or patience to hand-weed the area for the first twelve months. And besides, bowling green tupe lawns need far more than the occasional cut with the mower and on this type of lawn flymowers or any kind of rotary mowers are definitely OUT.

Having decided the function of the lawn, the next step is to design the shape of the lawn bearing in mind the ease of cutting and main-

taining it. Avoid any corners, with angles of less than 90 degrees, they are virtually impossible to cut without chewing up the narrow point at the end. The same is true of narrow paths, particularly when a rotary mower is used - too narrow and one of the front drive wheels is sure to slip over the edge and chew up the grass and soil alike. One final point concerning the layout of the lawn, if you have any large trees with low spreading branches around the outside of the garden, you would be well advised to introduce curves into the edge of the lawn and so avoid the later disappointment of bare patches of soil under the trees where the grass has failed to grow.

Moving on now to one of the main 'pests' of the mature lawn - moss. I think it is true to say that no one cause alone is responsible for moss appearing in a lawn, but rather a combination of several forces i.e. poor drainage, poor aeration, poor nutrition, and poor maintenance generally, all encourage the spread of moss in the lawn. It must be emphasised that anything which retards grass growth will, at the same time, encourage moss or other weeds to take over. Regular spilling, hollow tining and feeding are normally enough to prevent most weeds from getting a foothold in the lawn.

If moss is already a problem then even with the above procedures carried out the moss may still continue to thrive. If this is the case then the normal treatment is to apply lawn-sand. However, care must be exercised when applying this substance to areas of lawn close to trees and shrubs, particularly when the lawn-sand contains mercury. This is an extremely toxic chemical when applied in large doses and can seriously affect shallow rooting trees and shrubs, even causing death to those plants growing in the lawn which receive an unusually large dose on all sides. Finally, if you are one of those gardeners who regularly spray all your paths with weedkiller remember to thoroughly wash the undersides of your boots immediately afterwards. Keep off the grass for at least 24 hours if it hasn't rained and keep the children and pets from straying onto the grass. **NEVER PUT WEED-KILLER IN SOFT DRINK BOTTLES.**

TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
AGM HEATHERFIELD CLUB, BASLOW
ROAD, 7.30pm, Thursday 26th APRIL

GARDENER REQUIRED URGENTLY
telephone 368672