

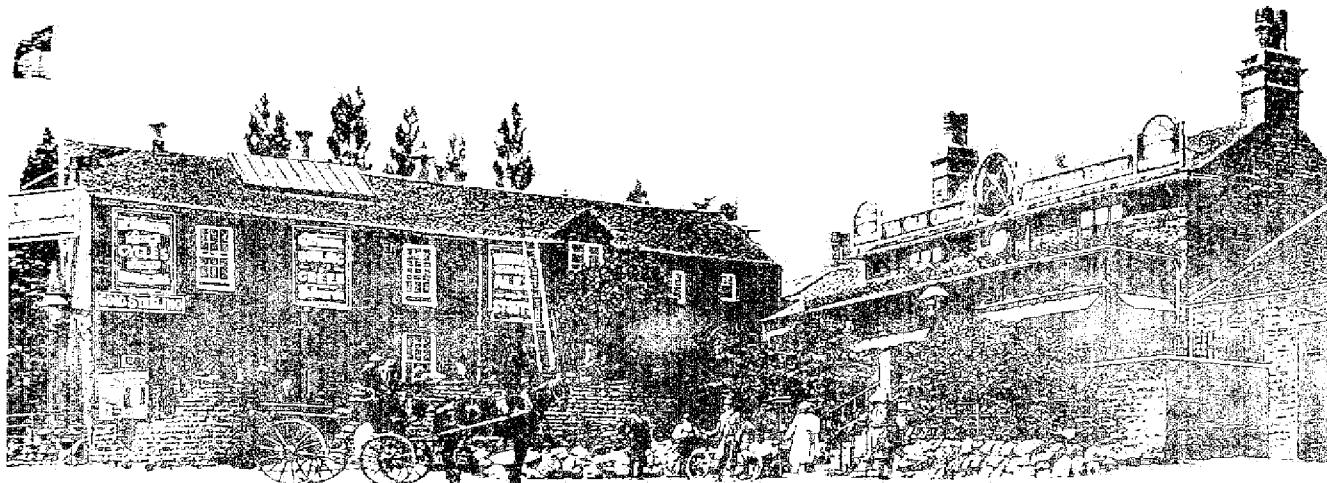
# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE JULY 1977

FEBRUARY 1993

No.160

15p



YE OLDE CROSS SCYTHES HOTEL, TOTLEY.



During December last year a meeting took place at the Cross Scythes to discuss the problems associated with the Buses in Totley.

The major Bus companies, Police and local residents were represented and the problems of road safety and bus fumes were discussed.

Thanks to a local resident keeping detailed times of bus arrivals at the terminus, the bus company representatives agreed to review the bus running times in order to reduce the congestion that has been experienced each day since deregulation.

Other agreements reached were that only the three major companies would be given permission to use the private turning area of the Cross Scythes, also bus drivers would be instructed not to park with their engines running, thus reducing the problems of fumes.

As shown above we haven't always had the problem but then we perhaps didn't have as good a service!

# GILLFIELD WOOD EXTENSION

Many people who live locally, and some from a distance, regularly walk through what is now called Gillfield Wood, and look on it as a place of natural beauty and quietness. A place for peaceful contemplation, a wildlife habitat, a romantic vista of trees with the sound of the nearby brook, a place for the kids to let off steam while the parents walk off their Christmas dinner, or simply a convenient route to give the dog its daily walk or a shortcut to Baslow Road. Whatever the various motives, this much visited woodland, which straddles both the Totley Brook and the county boundary, and stretches from Mickley lane to Baslow Road, has drawn walkers to it since the 18th Century, when it was called The Great Wood.

Most of the current trees have been planted relatively recently - some less than 10 years ago - and this disguises the true age of this wooded area. There are some well grown oak and beech trees on the periphery, but it consists mainly of oak, sycamore and pine type saplings/young trees. The area nearest Baslow Road is an obvious example of what was, until quite recently, the "in-thing" in new plantings; a thickly populated pure pine plantation. This stands out as an unnatural feature in what is (apart from the brickworks!) a pleasantly scenic view of the valley from Owler Bar or Holmesfield Top.

A woodland planting scheme has now been jointly drawn up by the Sheffield City Council Forestry department who currently own and manage Gillfield Wood, and the tenant of the adjoining farmland, to extend this woodland along the valley so that it adjoins Baslow Road in two places. The farmland involved is of poor quality and currently gives poor economic return when used for agriculture. This fact, plus the availability of grants from government bodies to convert farmland to woodland, and the Council's policy of encouraging more public access to the countryside, have been the basis on which this decision has been taken.

The main aims and objectives of the scheme are to establish a permanent multi-purpose woodland using sound silviculture principles, improve the woodland landscapes of the area, to promote the public use of the woodland by improving the access and opportunities for recreational and leisure activities harmonious to a woodland setting and to conserve existing and encourage new wildlife habitats and their occupants.

7.3 hectares (17.9 acres) of land, roughly U shaped will be utilised in varying ways to achieve this objective. The main area (block B on the map) will be planted with a mixture of broadleaved trees, sessile oak 45%, ash 20%, silver birch 10%, gean (wild cherry) 10%, at 2 metre spacing, with rowan 2.5%, field maple 2.5%, hazel 7.5%, and hawthorn 2.5% planted around the edges of this block to improve the visual and wildlife amenity. The areas below and behind the picnic area (block A) will be planted at 3 metre spacing with a mixture of hazel, hawthorn, rowan, silver birch, and common alder. These will not grow very high and will not, therefore, spoil the panoramic views over the valley to the moors. The areas marked 3 on the map will be left as they are, basically scrubby gorse banks, to conserve the existing wildlife habitat.

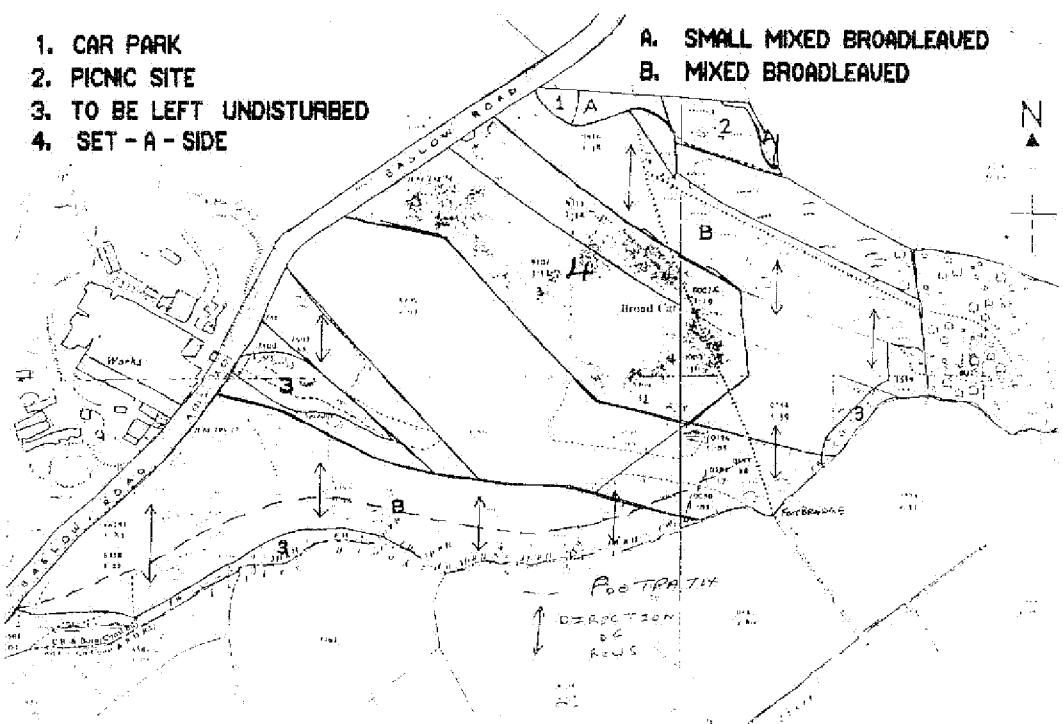
The car park (1) picnic site (2) and new footpath will not be operational for 5 years, so that the woodland can become established without undue disturbance. It is envisaged that the car park will be designed to hold 6 - 9 cars behind a tree covered bark, obscuring them from the road, with tables and litter bins provided on the viewing area.

The newly planted trees will require protection from rabbits and hares, to achieve this, the main block will be fenced round with rabbit netting 1 metre high, with the other areas protected by individual tree guards. Where this new fence crosses an existing footpath new stiles will be provided.

The Forestry Commission and the Ministry of Agriculture have now approved this scheme and the initial phase-erecting the new fencing etc. should begin towards the end of January, with the entire project finished by the end of April. We shall then be left with the 2 fields in the middle, one of which will be used for sheep grazing, the other marked 4 - will be our compulsory set-aside field for 1993 under the C.A.P.P. reform scheme.

Much time and effort has been expended in the planning of this enterprise to accommodate varying viewpoints and desires, I hope we have designed a project that meets with your approval.

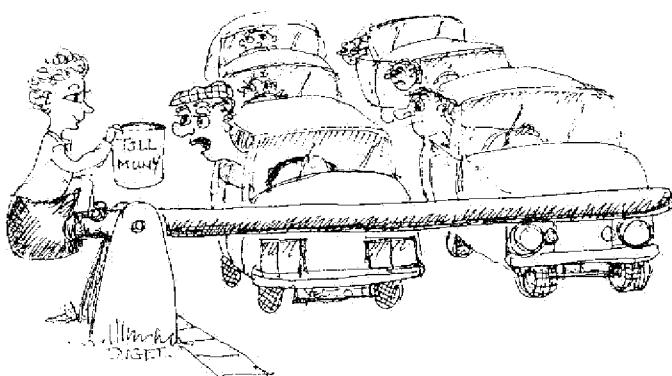
Edwin Pocock



## SPRING IS ON THE WAY

All Saints Church Garden Party will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, 15th. of May.

Does any other organisation have any advance dates, so that we can try to avoid the usual clashes?



"I KNOW I SAID IN SCHOOL THAT PRIVATE ENTERPRISE WAS A LANDABLE THING CHUFFWORTHY, BUT A TOLL BAR ACROSS BASLOW ROAD IS A BIT MUCH!"

## DORE & TOTLEY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Have you ever moved house? It can be a sad experience but often it is a new chapter in your life.

This is exactly what happened to the Dore and Totley Christian Fellowship when we bade farewell to the Union Building, Totley Polytechnic Site which had been our home for 7 years and moved on to the Dore Junior School Hall.

Most people think of a Church as having stained glass windows and an ornate building but the Bible tells us that it is the people who meet who are important. This is an exciting venture for us as it opens up new opportunities for involvement in the local community.

Our service times are 10-30 a.m. Sunday with Sunday School meeting at 11-15 a.m. to 12-15 p.m. and a Young Peoples Meeting on Friday evening at 7-30 p.m.

We would love to see you if you would like to check us out, so why not get up one Sunday and come back to school !!

For any further information please contact Terry Irwin Tel. No. 351585

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,  
I really must write a letter of protest to you - but before I give you the details, perhaps I can quote the circumstances leading up to it.

We, our company of sheep, go about our business nice and quietly in the fields, but one windy day a scrap of paper fluttered into the hedgerow. It was a page from the 'Totley Independent'. I do not know whether I should be glad that at least one copy had been sold, or saddened by the fact that it had become an item of litter. It does annoy us to see such scraps floating about. However, it happened to come to rest showing a paragraph that you, yourself, had contributed to the magazine.

It was where you gave a note of thanks to a number of people for their efforts to provide items of interest to the paper. I am pleased that you mentioned my master, Mr. Pocock, and such worthy gentlemen as Mr. Barrows, and Tom of Busy-Bee. Here, we come to the essence of my complaint. How about me? Have I not faithfully reported the aspects of the rural scene in Totley? I hope that you do not subscribe to the thoughts of a J. K. Stephen who wrote, "An old half-witted sheep, which bleats articulate monotony". Baa, Baa, Bah! to Mr. Stephen. It seems that it may be fashionable to dismiss us as being only sheep who shouldn't worry their woolly heads about what is happening in the world. But think on, Mr. Editor, how warm would your feet be in bed in wintertime, without your woolly bedsocks? Where, in daytime would you be shivering in acrylic instead of being cosily wrapped in lovable wool? Not to mention the insomniacs who would not be able to sleep without us being available for counting, and where would the children be without a woolly little toy lamb tucked up with them at bed time.

I appeal to you, Mr. Editor, please give credit where it is due.

Yours sincerely,

Emily . . . The Sheep.  
(of "Tales of the Unbelievable"  
fame)



Sir,

Usually I am fascinated by the changing fortunes of our local farmer and enjoy his monthly articles that provide me with a glimpse of a farmer's day to day problems but could he, perhaps, spare us the politics? From the December issue of The Independent, are we to believe that the reform of the C.A.P. will be any more of a disaster for farmworkers than the relentless drive for efficiency through mechanisation; are we to be content that G.A.T.T., which provided the greatest boost to international economic well being in history, may be destroyed for a handful of oil seeds and are we to rejoice that the devaluation of the, 'green' pound will lead to higher food prices? I think not.

So, while I realise that the current reforms may not be to the farmers liking, I am sure their grumbles are no more than we are accustomed to and have enough faith in human nature to believe that they would not wish the 98% of us who are not farmers, to suffer the consequences of an international trade war, or to live forever with the inequities of the C.A.P.

Finally, Mr. Editor, I believe that The Independent is all about our local community, the gentle pursuits of the garden and the delights of Totley Moss. If you see fit to publish this letter therefore, could I suggest to your contributors that we leave the political debate to the politicians: heaven knows the quality of their arguments could not be much lower and where would that leave us?

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## 'ER INDOORS ..... 'IM OUTDOORS

Are there other wives like me who have become patrons of DIY stores through necessity rather than desire? Read on . . .

I did not know it then, but in my high days in independence; own mortgage/own car loan/own cat, I gathered the survival skills I thought I would never need once my loving partner and I were united.

I have my own DIY kit. It was not without some trepidation that I (unaccompanied) purchased my first item; an electric drill. At the time I comforted myself with the knowledge that this would redress the imbalance in my convent education where woodwork was considered unseemly and unnecessary. But in my heart I rather wanted my intended to prove his love by putting up my shelves for me.

My DIY kit grew. A stroll to Totley Rise would end in the purchase of magazines such as 'Plumb The Depths' or 'What Nail?'. But I felt uneasy. I wanted to buy 'House Fabulous', I wanted to read about the finishing off bits. I wanted to be a plumber's mate, not the gaffer.

The box was rapidly filling. I had now purchased the whole gamut of electrical items, hot air gun/sander/strippers (large and small) not to mention splashing out at Busy Bee on little paper bags of nails/screws also filler, grout, sandpaper and rawiplugs (why do they never fit?).

However, after the wedding bells I knew that as part of my dowry I could do no better than offer these carefully stored items to my beloved. How we would enjoy sharing tasks I had hitherto carried out alone.

It had never occurred to me that those jokes you hear about men not wanting to put up shelves/drill holes/change the ball-cock, were anything other than malicious, sexist jibes put about by feminists but, it happened to me. Reader, I married him - a man who knew less about drill bits than I. But taking him for better or worse, I have now almost come to terms with the 'worse' aspect. The DIY box still has only my name on it.

My husband, being a farmer, seems to have cast-iron alibis when I ask him why he was not home to help me with the grouting/sanding/stripping etc. . . . 'Cow calving' is the convenient retort. (This man wishes to remain anonymous for obvious reasons).

Can any woman in Totley beat that excuse?

K.B.

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## HOW SWEET FLOWS THE RIVER DON

### 'AT T'WICKER WHERE T'WATER RUNS O'ER T'WEIR'

The passer by hardly gives the grimy waters of the River Don a second glance. Yet this once life blood to the steel city rises in scenes of incomparable beauty to the north west of Sheffield. To enjoy the spectacular scenery you must walk by the Little Don from Langsett to its source. The distance is roughly 10 miles. Allow 6 hours. Boots, map and compass essential. Travel to Langsett by car or bus. Dark Peak 2.5" to mile scale map.

Despite heavy industry along its banks, the Don has charm all the way through Oughtibridge to Deepcar where it divides. The main water-course rises on Upper Dead Edge, 1,600 ft. above Grains Moss where the wild country areas are private grouse moors. The river flows through Dunford Bridge, Penistone and Oxspring, but we intend to explore the region beyond Stocksbridge where the tributary of the Little Don supplies drinking water at Langsett and Underbank reservoirs.

After leaving the car park behind the 'Wagon and Horses' Inn, take the forest path to the right of Langsett Reservoir. The river appears at Brookhouse Bridge sparkling and clear. This district is within the boundaries of the Peak National Park. Langsett Moors are open to the public but walkers must observe the country code and by-laws. Cross the cut gate, an ancient bridleway to the Upper Derwent Valley, then proceed along the right hand bank. This country is full of history. Brookhouse Farm is mentioned in records of King Henry VIII, the homestead of Swinden Hall dates from 1570 at least, alas both in ruins. Beyond Crookland Wood we enter Swinden Plantation, rich conifers liken the scene to a little Switzerland. Cross the foot of Mickleden Clough, a fascinating landscape of rich moorland colours. The valley widens to become Hordron Clough, with Bradshaw Clough, Fox Clough, Harden Clough, Far and Near Cat Cloughs on either side. To the right lie the gaunt ruins of Lower Hordron Farm. The scenery becomes wilder as the valley deepens. Take the left hand stream known as Laund Clough, where you can scramble along the weather-worn rock bed if the river is not in spate. The water has carved a giant's staircase and below each step is a tranquil pool. Note the inscribed 'Scarrotts' stone on the left bank. A memorial spot to a past local artist. From the heather slopes loom great crags of millstone grit. Soon the stream thins out to a mere trickle, the channels of water disappearing into the heart of the hills.

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The birth place is at Whiz Grough beneath the slopes of Howden Edge. The Little Don rises among the giants. At Redhole Spring above Saltersbrook Bridge flows a tributary of the Great Mersey, while just across the valley the Derbyshire Derwent starts at Swains Greave on the heights of Bleaklow, truly one of the principal watersheds of England.

The view is superb, the bold massif of Bleaklow to the west, with Barrow Stones dominating the scene. To the south Kinderscout, Win Hill and Ronksley Moor. The northern lime landscape of Blackhill with the Holme Moss TV mast sprouting from the top. Beyond the heights of Wessenden and the moors of Stand Edge and Blackstone Edge rising over the industrial Lancashire scene. Behind us are the purple and gold expanses of Midhope Moor. Fantastic rocky outcrops decorate this wild place, Shepherd's Meeting Stones, Hoar Stones, Horse Stone and Dean Head Rocks seem part of another world.

A few hundred yards across Featherbed Moss the peaty channels drain into Loftshaw Clough where the stream bed swings off the high plateau. Follow the path among the grey rocks, less than a mile from this 'Shangri-la' lies the busy Sheffield to Manchester road. Note the secret Loftshaw well on the left riverbank, sparkling clear waters from a bygone age. Finally the stream bed plunges deeply over jagged rocks to rejoin its twin Laund Clough. As we retrace our steps the scenery is more gentle in Hordron Clough. You will gaze in delighted awe into Mickleden Clough, 'The Valley of a Thousand Hills' and vow to return one day, to explore its wonders, innumerable small hillocks look like the ancient cities of the 'Little People'. Soon you reach Swinden Woods again, where lonely sheep wander above the steep bank of the Rocher. When you reach Brook House Bridge leave the Little Don as it slides quietly into Langsett Reservoir. Forest trails point the final route back to the village car park.

After a grand day on the tops, refreshments are welcome at the 'Bankview Cafe' and adjacent 'Wagon and Horses' Inn, a recently converted 17th Century barn will soon put the Langsett Moors area firmly on the map. For here the Peak National Park Authority have established a site for a field study centre and information point, plus picnic area close to the public car park.

J.C.Burrows

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Margaret Spencer, 24 Totley Brook Rd.  
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Ann Tilly, 22 Laverdene Drive  
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or any committee member.

Price £7.00, or £5.00 concessionary and  
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Profits from this concert are going to help pay for the staging of our third "Music Festival" which will be held on Friday evening and all day Saturday, 2/3rd. July. 1993.

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### Whisperer

On a recent walk around Totley Bents I was surprised at the amount of rubbish dumped at the back of the sports hut on the recreation ground, who is responsible for this mess?

Development land on Totley Hall Lane and Summer Lane up for sale, yet again. Unusual sighting of a local farmer seen gardening recently in Totley also heard that he has been seen with a paintbrush in his hand.

Congratulations to former Totley girl on winning the recent Walkley by-election. Local hairdressers, Curly Q, now under new management. Recently been taken over the Patricia Barber Hair Salon of Bradway.

A public footpath order has been submitted by Sheffield City Council for the diversion of a public right of way adjoining Old Hay cottages at Totley. A copy of the details are available at the Town hall before 19th February, 1993.

### ANIMAL WELFARE

Thank you to all those who contributed tins of cat/dog food, biscuits, blankets and donations during the Christmas Appeal to help the RSPCA Shelter, Spring Street look after the unwanted animals in their care. Also thank you to Valerie of Dore, Oldales on Totley Rise, and Totley Library for acting as collection points.

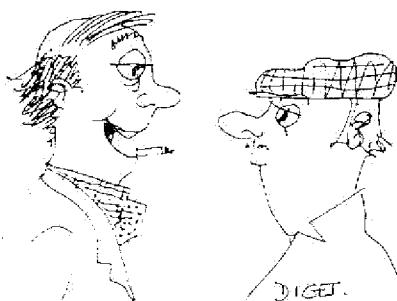
Mr. & Mrs. Raikescroft would also like to thank all those who contributed to their collections, which are going to Sheffield Animal welfare, Firth Park, (Jackie Longley), and Millhouse Animal Sanctuary, Fulwood (Pat Hartley).

Blankets, towels, sheets and old candlewick bedspreads always needed for bedding at Spring Street. Can be left with Mrs. D. Styles at 10 The Quadrant, Totley, but no jumble please.

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TOTLEY?"

## WHO CARES NOW

Churches together in S17 and Sheffield Churches Council for Community Care, are offering an opportunity for us to have a closer look at the new arrangements for Health Service and Social Services Care in our community, together with what is voluntarily provided by relatives, friends, neighbours and local groups.

If you are involved in any way in caring for an elderly person or someone who is ill or handicapped, physically or mentally, or even if you simply want to know more, please come to the UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, Totley Brook Road, at 7-30 p.m. on TUESDAY 16th FEBRUARY, so we can explore our local needs together.

Mrs. R. Carter

## SUPPORT GROUP FOR PEOPLE ON THE BLIND REGISTER

At the December meeting of the Totley and Dore Liaison Lunch Group the possibility of forming a support group for those on the blind register was discussed.

It was decided that the feasibility of setting up a local group should be explored.

Ann and David Caldwell, 2 Brinkburn Close, Totley Rise, Tel. 366894 would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested in such a project.

## DORE & TOTLEY GUILD

Our Coffee Morning on 27th October raised £181.24 despite inclement weather.

In 1992 we were able to donate over £400 to charity. Those to benefit were Nether Edge Stroke Unit, Dorcas Centre and Transport 17.

Thank you to all who helped us in any way to raise funds.

## TRISTAN SWAIN

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## COFFEE AT THE LIBRARY

We provide coffee, tea and biscuits, price only 25p. (Must be the cheapest in the area) every Wednesday from 10-00 to 11-30 a.m.

Run entirely by volunteers, during the last 12 months we have raised over £120.00 towards materials for the children's activities at the Library, and also the refreshments for the Carol Service which was held on the 18th December, when pupils from Totley County School entertained an appreciative audience.

Why not come along, meet your friends there for a chat; you will be sure of a warm welcome.

A Happy New Year, we hope to see you in 1993.

## CHESHIRE HOME

The Christmas Coffee Morning at the Sheffield Cheshire Home was a great success. Despite inclement weather conditions the event was well attended and raised £790. Once again many thanks to our ardent supporters.

Over the Christmas period there have been several parties for the residents and staff and on December 15th. Dronfield Church Choir gave a carol concert at the Home. This was attended by residents, staff and volunteers. The Chef provided a buffet and a thoroughly good time was had by all.

The next event is the A.G.M. on Tuesday 9th March, 7-00 for 7-30 p.m. including wine and Cheese.

Some further events planned are:-  
19th. March Jazz Night commencing at 8-00 p.m.  
2nd. April 7-30 p.m. Barn Dance  
7th. April 10-00 a.m. to noon Spring Coffee Morning.



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## TOYS FOR THE CHILDRENS HOSPITAL

Anna & Steven Wilkinson and Holly & Richard Measures raised £57.67 during the Table Top Sale at King Egberts School. On Monday, 21st December they went to the Childrens Hospital and gave their gifts of toys and books for the ward to Linda Towers, Management Assistant in Public Relations. They were invited to visit the ward to see the gifts in use after Christmas, this, they are going to do shortly. Thanks to all who donated items to the stall.

## TOTLEY LADIES EVENING GUILD

We chose Transport 17 as our Charity for the year 1992.

Mr. Jackson, son of one of our members started the ball rolling by donating his fee as a Disc Jockey.

Four ladies, Joan Ashford, Nora Crawley, Peggy Green and Dorothy Nash organised a sponsored walk.

Mrs. Mary Hanson persuaded a friend Mr. John Clarke to give us a great Christmas concert of songs and poetry with our friend Mrs. Margaret Guest accompanying him, and members bringing raffle prizes.

Altogether we raised £200, many thanks to all those who contributed in any way.

## A.R.M.S.

In order to help and raise much needed funds for "Action & Research for Multiple Sclerosis" a Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy has been organised on Saturday, February 27th, 10-00 a.m. to 3-00 p.m. by Rene Zannettou at

9, Mountford Croft (Off Grove Road)  
All are welcome, any queries please ring 620573.

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## THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY

### DORE & TOTLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

The next production by the Dramatic society will be a farce "Shock Tactics" by John Dole in the Church hall, Totley Brook Road, on Wednesday 17th March to Saturday 20th March at 7-30 p.m.

Tickets, Adults £1.50, children £1.00, Senior Citizens on Wednesday £1.00.

Tickets can be obtained from any member of the society or the Box office Tel. No. 364440.

## VICTIM SUPPORT SHEFFIELD

VICTIM SUPPORT SHEFFIELD - the Charity which aims to help those who have fallen victim to crime, are seeking out more volunteers. The nationwide charity which provides victims with advice and support after a crime are looking for further help in the city. Volunteers need to be over 18 years old. The next preparation course will be held on:

20th March, 1993 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

27th March, 1993 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

8th May, 1993 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

All 3 Saturdays must be attended. The Director of the Sheffield branch stated, "It is only through thoughtful co-operation and the commitment of our volunteers that the needs of Sheffield's victims of crime can begin to be met." Anyone interested in helping the Charity should contact Victim Support at 69 Division Street on Sheffield 758411.



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Peter Webb  
365959

## THE VERY LAST CHRISTMAS OF ALL

With uneasy curiosity, I stumbled into the gloomy cave. The walls were the darkest black. The stuff witches made into cloaks. Faraway sounds of rippling music, and indistinct voices as from heavenly choirs floated around me as I shuffled towards a brilliance I could see ahead.

Moving along in a wide-awake dream, and my courage crumbling fast, I turned a corner and was instantly spellbound, rooted to the spot. on a bright green meadow, glistening with dew, rabbits and squirrels, ducks and geese, wobbly piglets and little spotted fawns gambolled and hopped and leapt, long-lashed eyes agleam with delight.

A bright orange squirrel was cramming nuts into a chuckling face, and a family of hedgehogs was lying fast asleep on the grass, little fat bellies rising and falling so you'd think they'd pop any minute. The blue sky, streaked with purple and gold, cuddled cotton wool clouds above a smiling yellow moon. Meteors and shooting stars flashing in the bright light shone with dazzling blues and greens, and oranges and reds, in splendid cosmic accord.

A little fat locomotive with a grin on its boiler puffed and hooted through the throng, pulling brightly painted trucks full of elves and gnomes, frogs and white mice, all laughing fit to bust, in and out of the red spotted toadstools. Up above, in a bower of blood-berried holly and pearly mistletoe, a fairy with a tinsel wand was swinging and turning, amidst a cloud of glorious butterflies, smiling prettily at the enchantment below. It was sheer rapture, and only a little white picket fence, gripped tightly by my chubby little fingers separated me from the wonder of it all. Then a sweet-scented voice breathed in my ear, 'Come and meet Santa!' I nodded, dumbfounded, and a slender hand guided me to a throne of that grassy stuff greengrocers use to flatter their best oranges and apples.

Santa sat there, and standing beside him, the soft voice had become a beautiful woman in a bright red hat with a bobble on it. She wore a red jacket trimmed with snowy white fur, with big buttons like fluffy marshmallows, and she

had long legs in shiny red wellies like the ones I had last birthday. The wellies, I mean. Santa was exactly like the picture in my Bumper Fun Annual - plump and rosy - cheeked under a grizzly white beard and he had a bright red coat, with the wide big-buckled black leather belt embracing a bulging middle. The coat was trimmed like Mrs. Santa's, and his baggy trousers were tucked into heavy boots with snow glistening on the toes. It must have been magic snow or it would have melted, I thought.

His toe was tapping to the music which saturated the whole of the fairyland like an expensive fragrance. He helped me on to his knee, and in his deep kindly voice gently questioned me, his blue eyes twinkling in the fairy lights festooning the little frosted trees around him. I think I would have trusted him with every dream I'd ever had. And all the while Mrs. Santa was smiling, amused by it all.

I could hardly tear myself away, as I clutched the present she gave me from a large brown sack beside her. My eyes got quite watery as she waved goodbye, but boys don't ever cry, as you know, well, not little ones.

The delight lasted right through the weekend, and on Monday I couldn't wait to tell Jamie about it as we collected our bottles of milk and straws at playtime. Jamie was the bestest friend I had in the whole world, and we'd been together ever since we started in infants with kindly Miss Brown of the warm woolly jumper. He was very articulate for his age, and in three short and convincing sentences demolished the Santa Claus myth like a bulldozer in the Gingerbread Forest.

I wasn't friends with him until the cricket season started, and anyway it was his bat. And I never saw Mr. & Mrs. S. Claus again. Pity, really. They seemed such a nice couple.

Adrian Schofield.

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## Farming Scene

At last, a period of more than 3 days without rain!! December turned out to be the driest month since June, albeit also the coldest December since 1981. In the semi-dry period before the frosts we managed to harvest 5 acres of potatoes, leaving another 2.5 acres still in the ground. Approx. half of these will now be frost damaged, and we shall leave these to rot before harvesting the remains of the crops, probably in March. There are about 20,000 acres still to harvest nationwide. The sugarbeet harvest has also been delayed, although, these are not so susceptible to frost as potatoes. Much of the planned autumn sown cereal planting has yet to be achieved, and will probably now be planted in March/April with spring cereals.

Most autumn sown crops usually have a herbicide applied to them in October or November, to control the weeds before they get big enough to damage the crop. Due to the wet, and then frosty weather, most crops have not been treated this year, so thin, weedy crops are likely to be much in evidence this summer.

One benefit of the wet weather has been an abundance of grass. We, like most other sheep farmers, still have our stock clearing up the grass fields, rather than eating into our hay and silage stocks.

We seem to be having a catalogue of problems with our pigs at the moment. Firstly, 2 pens of weaner pigs developed a scour problem and we had to mix an anti-biotic powder in with their water supply for 10 days. That cured that little problem but soon after this the sows which had just farrowed seemed to lose their milking ability, with the result that many of the little piglets died.

Having now more or less controlled

that problem, the sows have now decided to press the self-destruct button on three occasions. Firstly, a newly weaned sow (goodness knows how she managed it!), died when she put her head under the bottom rail near the back of her stall, put her backside up in the air, and choked as the full weight of her body pressed on her neck. Next, a sow that was farrowing prolapsed her cervix in the process. When she had finished farrowing we popped this back in, and she promptly had a rectal prolapse. This we pushed back in and stitched her up so that it stopped in place. She then seemed to fully recover over the next 14 days, until suddenly we went in one morning and found both rectal and cervical prolapses had re-occurred and the exposed tissue had been severely damaged. It was inevitable then that she would have to be 'put down', and the little piglets she was feeding have now been given a plastic feeder containing a milk substitute as their 'replacement mum'.

Finally, today a gilt we bought in October, served for the first time in December, and was due to farrow in April, was found dead as a doornail in her pen this morning. The only explanation would seem to be that she suffered a heart attack during the night. This only goes to prove the saying, 'Where there is livestock, there will also be deadstock'!

Finally, an apology or two, firstly I got my sums wrong in the last issue - by putting too many 0's on I arrived at 4 billion instead 400 million pounds. Secondly, to those of you who buy spuds from us, I apologise that they have not been up to our usual standard. This is entirely due to our harvesting difficulties this year, but from now on we should be back on course to provide you with top quality 'Totley Tatters'.

Edwin Pocock

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## **HEALTHY EATING**

Yet another year is upon us and what do we have to look forward to? The ever popular Satsuma & Clementine are set to continue for at least six weeks, in fact, because there are so many varieties of this type of fruit they will continue almost through the year, unfortunately, only the Satsuma is seedless.

This is the time for making marmalade, the genuine Seville Bitters have been available for 2 or 3 weeks and will continue through to February. Years ago almost everybody made some. In the midst of winter it is good to see such delicious fruits as peaches, apricots, plums, nectarines, even lovely plump cherries! All these are now arriving from the Southern hemisphere, South Africa, Mexico to name but a few. Twenty years ago it would be hard to find these in any shop, the journey by sea would be at least 6 weeks, but with the advent of the Jumbo Jet, these fruits can be picked, packed and sold in the U.K. all within 4 days.

Our recipe for February is a very tasty salad dish, popular with all the family.

### **CELERY & APPLE SALAD**

This crisp, easily prepared winter salad is excellent with cold ham for a light lunch or supper. It can also be served chilled as a starter to a substantial main course.

Preparation Time 15 mins.

Chilling Time 1 hour

Ingredients (for 4)

Head of celery

4 Red Dessert Apples

2 tablespoons French Dressing

3 Rounded tablespoons mayonnaise

2oz shelled walnuts

garnish (if required) watercress

Wash, scrub and finely chop the celery sticks. Wipe the apples, quarter, core & dice them. Mix the celery and apples at once with French Dressing then fold in the mayonnaise. Set aside to chill in the refrigerator.

Just before serving, coarsely chop the walnuts and stir them into the celery & apple. Spoon into serving dish and garnish with sprigs of watercress.

### **COBBLERS IN TOTLEY**

Your query in a recent issue of the Independent concerning three shoe repairers in Totley presumably refers to that period around the latter part of the Second World War and the years following it.

During the early part of the War, there were two cobblers in Totley; Jack Stacey, on Totley Rise, occupying the premises now used by the Optician, and Clayton's in the shop by Heatherfield Club. At some stage during the War, Willars came to Totley Rise and opened a shoe shop just above the Chemist's; thus making the three. However, Willars did not repair shoes on the premises, as did the other two; the shoes that were taken in for repair were taken by Mr. Willars and repaired where he worked at Shoreham Street.

In 1946, Jack Stacey sold out to Reg Damms who worked the business with his wife until they eventually retired about 16 or 17 years ago. With their retirement, the era when there was a working cobbler in Totley came to an end.

Reg Damms was well-known in mountaineering circles; and I believe that he repaired the boots for several prominent mountaineers, including Jack Longland who was Director of Education for Derbyshire C.C. I remember that Reg Damms was quite insistent that the famous 'commando' soles should be riveted to the boot, and not screws, as the manufacturer apparently recommended. Here, then, was the counsel of practical experience in both repairing and rugged use.

One titbit of forgotten information is that during the War period, both Jack Stacey and Clayton's used to repair wellingtons, using a crepe material. Nowadays, the idea of repairing wellingtons never even occurs to anyone.

J. Handley

## **John Townend**

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**Home Visits**



John Lawry, Peter Casson and Micheal Hollindale on behalf of their respective Scout and Cub groups send their thanks to all who helped with this years Scouts Christmas Post Service.

Thanks to local businesses for displaying posters, allowing the selling of stamps on their premises, and collecting the post.

A special thank you is sent to the helpers who stood outside the Co-op on Baslow Road during two very cold Saturdays and selling over a thousand stamps.

Total stamps sold was 5,800 and cards going out of Totley numbered 5,940 while incoming post for Totley was 91 kilos (approx. 300 lbs.)

The funds raised will provide much needed resources to the local Scout Groups and also to this year's nominated charities "Help a Ryegate Child" appeal and the National Association of Colitis and Crohns Disease.

#### 1ST TOTLEY SCOUTS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1st Xmas Hamper - J. Dacey        | 000683 |
| 2nd Elect.Kettle - Mrs.Gartshore  | 000360 |
| 3rd Turkey - Debbie Jones         | 000670 |
| 4th Chicken - Monica Slater       | 000756 |
| 5th Chocolates - Mike c/o J.Lawry | 001042 |
| 6th Xmas Cake - Mrs. Smith        | 000297 |
| 7th Wine - Christine c/o J.Lawry  | 000032 |
| 8th Wine - J. Daniel              |        |
| 9th Wine - B. Stenson             | 000426 |
| 10th Port - J. Fahey              | 000581 |
| 11th Croft Original - S.O'Mahony  | 000700 |
| 12th Vin Rouge - H. Barton        | 000047 |
| 13th Butter Cookies - Mrs.Foster  | 000402 |
| 14th After 8 Mints - Ann Tilly    | 000413 |
| 15th Choc. Shapes - Mrs. Dorling  | 000085 |
| 16th Red Wine - Phil Jones        | 000673 |
| 17th After Eight Dish - Ann Tilly | 000418 |
| 18th White Wine - J. Lowes        | 000204 |

P.Casson

#### 1ST TOTLEY SCOUT LOTTERY

##### NOVEMBER

###### No. 41 1st prize

Phillips Triple Filtration Fryer  
Mr & Mrs. Hebblethwaite, Lane Head Road.

###### No. 90 2nd prize £10 voucher

Mr. & Mrs. Kirton, 32 Gleadless Avenue

##### DECEMBER

###### No.121 1st prize

Christmas hamper  
Mr.Monks, Green Oak Rd.

###### No.119 2nd prize,

£10 voucher  
Mr. & Mrs.Dunstan,  
Beckett Av.Greenhill

Our HQ floor has now been revarnished and the hut decorated internally and externally, so it is available for keep-fit groups etc., or toddlers' parties. Unfortunately, our HQ electric cooker is now not working. Can anyone help by giving us a replacement in working order?

Finally, as we start a new year, the Beaver, Cub and Scout Sections are all planning programmes, camps and other activities. Each section has vacancies so contact me if your son is interested. Happy New Year to you all.

John Lawry  
Scout Leader - Tele: 368566

#### 85th. Scout Group, St. Johns, Abbeydale

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Christmas Fair and made it a great success.

Those who were there at 2 pm. saw Santa arrive in his carriage pulled by a faithful "reindeer". Afterwards many children then visited Santa in his Grotto receiving a present and having their photographs taken.

The grand raffle was drawn at the end of the fair with many prizes being on offer. Thanks to all who purchased tickets and congratulations to the winners. A big thank you to local businesses, Avenue Stores, Busy Bee, McClures, Totley Butchers, Raikescroft, Alf's, Rosies, The Co op, Flower Bowl, David's Butchers, United News, Gordon Lamb, Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Igo and others who provided prizes.

Meanwhile all sections of the Group are now in full swing with a varied programme of activities planned for the first half of the year. This includes visits and weekends away, the ever popular Dads & Lads camp and for the Scouts a full weeks camp in Yorkshire.

#### FUTURE EVENTS

Antique Fairs, St.Johns, 10am. till 4 pm.  
13th. March, 19th. June, 16th. October.

Dads & Lads Camp, Walesby Notts.

30th. April to 3rd. May

Scout Camp, Ravenscar, North Yorkshire.

24th. to 31st. July

Christmas Fair, St. Johns, 2 pm.

4th. December.

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## GARDENING TIPS FOR FEBRUARY

I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break and are now raring to go into the garden and looking forward to spring's bounty. To enjoy it to the full a fair bit of work needs to be done. My garden is a bit untidy at the moment, so that's my first job become rampant. Those fences & furniture can be tackled now while there are not a lot of jobs to do. I hope you have bought your seeds ready for the Totley Show. September 4th is your target, let's make it the best ever this year, everyone including beginners are welcome to this, the most relaxed and friendly of shows, so get cracking now.

### FLOWERS

Cut down old perennials and fork round the plants. Work in a bit of balanced fertiliser like Growmore. Clean up rockeries and top dress with potting compost and chippings. Complete the planting of lilies. Pot up early begonias and gloxinia tubers. Fill in any gaps in your wallflower bed and firm around the plants already in the beds.

### VEGETABLES

Add lime to soil as necessary at least 2 weeks before sowing or planting. Work in a dressing of Growmore or similar. Top dress spring cabbage and broccoli with nitro-chalk. Sow broad beans under glass in boxes or pots, set seeds at regular intervals 2" apart and cover with about 3/4" of soil. Germinate in slightly heated greenhouse, or even in a frame covered with sacks when frost is about. If weather is favourable sow parsnips, the longer and steadier they grow the better. Shallots can also be planted if ground is well drained and the weather's not too bad. Sow French beans under glass for an earlier taste of what's to come. Sow parsley pots indoors for summer use. Watch out for slugs and bait or destroy them. Sow lettuce & cauliflower if not done already.

### TREES, SHRUBS & FRUIT

Planting of trees, shrubs etc. should be completed this month. Prune autumn fruiting raspberries 6" off the ground. Give a general feed. Treat

your apples to a dressing of super phosphate if they haven't had any for a couple of years. Apple, pear, gooseberry & redcurrants can be pruned now. Prune flowering shrubs and clematis such as hydrangea, paniculata, spiraea, japonica and buddlia.

### GREENHOUSE AND INDOOR PLANTS

Continue to pot rooted cuttings of chrysanthemum & perpetual flowering carnations.

Seedlings from January sowings of begonia, tomatoes, leeks, & onions should now be appearing, watch them carefully and remove covers as they appear, to avoid drawing them into thin, straggly specimens. Sow cucumbers for an early crop if you have a well heated greenhouse. Prune & start greenhouse plants by gradually increasing water intake. Towards end of month start planting summer bedding plants such as ageratum, begonia, dianthus, kochia, statice, lobelia, French or African Marigolds, impatiens, nicotiana, nemesia etc. etc. Sow main crop tomatoes. Gradually increase the watering of indoor plants, keep African violets, cyclamen and indoor primulas humid, by standing them on moist pebble filled saucers. Plant indoor gladioli corms.

### LAWNS

Prepare areas that are being sown for lawn later. Rake, spike & top dress existing lawns when weather permits.

Cheerio for now,  
Tom Busy Bee

## BUSY BEE

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Sunday Nights "Disco"

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Thursday 18th. Feb. "Quiz Night"



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## FEBRUARY DIARY

TUES.FEB. 2nd. (and every Tuesday) COFFEE MORNING, TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH (in the CHURCH HALL) 10-00am.- Noon

TUES.FEB. 2nd. (and every Tuesday Afternoon ) CRAFT GROUP TOTLEY LIBRARY.

THUR.FEB. 4th. (and every Thursday) OPEN DOOR, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, TOTLEY BROOK ROAD, 10-00 am.- Noon

WED. FEB.10th. TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH, WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP "DESERT ISLAND DISCS" CASTAWAY - Mrs.T.BAGSHAW, 8-00 p.m. ANYONE WELCOME

FRI. FEB.12th. WHY THE U.S.S.R. DISINTEGRATED by WILLIAM HILL, ABBEYDALE HALL, 8-00 p.m. (Arranged by U.N.A & the Local Peace Action Group)

FRI. FEB 12th. TOTLEY EVENING GUILD, ABBEYDALE HALL 7-30 pm. THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY-preservation of our Victorian heritage, Mrs BETH SLIWINSKI

TUE. FEB.16th. TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, METHODIST CHURCH HALL, 10-00 am.

TUE. FEB.16th. WHO CARES NOW, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH,TOTLEY BROOK ROAD, 7-30 p.m. (See inside for details)

WED. FEB.24th. TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH, WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, "THE HAPPY YEAR" (in pictures & words) by A & D.SIMPSON, 8-00 p.m.

SAT. FEB.27th. COFFEE MORNING/BRING & BUY, 10-00 a.m. to 3-00 p.m. At 9,MOUNTFORD CROFT (in aid of Action & Research for Multiple Sclerosis) see inside for further details

WED. MAR. 3rd. "ANYTHING BUGGING YOU ?" DISCUSSION ON TOPICS OF CURRENT INTEREST @ NEWFIELD, BRICKHOUSE LANE, DORE, 8-00 p.m. (Arranged by U.N.A.)

TUES.MAR. 9th. A.G.M. CHESHIRE HOME, 7-00 for 7-30 p.m. and CHEESE & WINE (See inside for details)

### THE INDEPENDENT FOR MARCH

The NEXT issue of the Totley Independent will available from the usual distribution points Sunday last March. Copy date for this issue will be Wednesday 17th.February 1993.

Editor  
Lee Fifth, 6, Milldale Rd., S6418C

DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISING

John Perkinton, 2, Main Avenue, S61601

EDITORIAL TEAM

Dorothy Fifth, Rose Goldsmith. Items for publication may be sent to or left at 6.Milldale Rd. 2,Main Avenue. V.Martin's (Abbeydale Rd.) or Totley Library.

PRINTED BY STARPRINT

We welcome letters about local affairs and will publish as many as possible. However the views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, Editorial Staff or Totley Residents Association and must not be imputed to them.

Totley Scouts paper collection  
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