

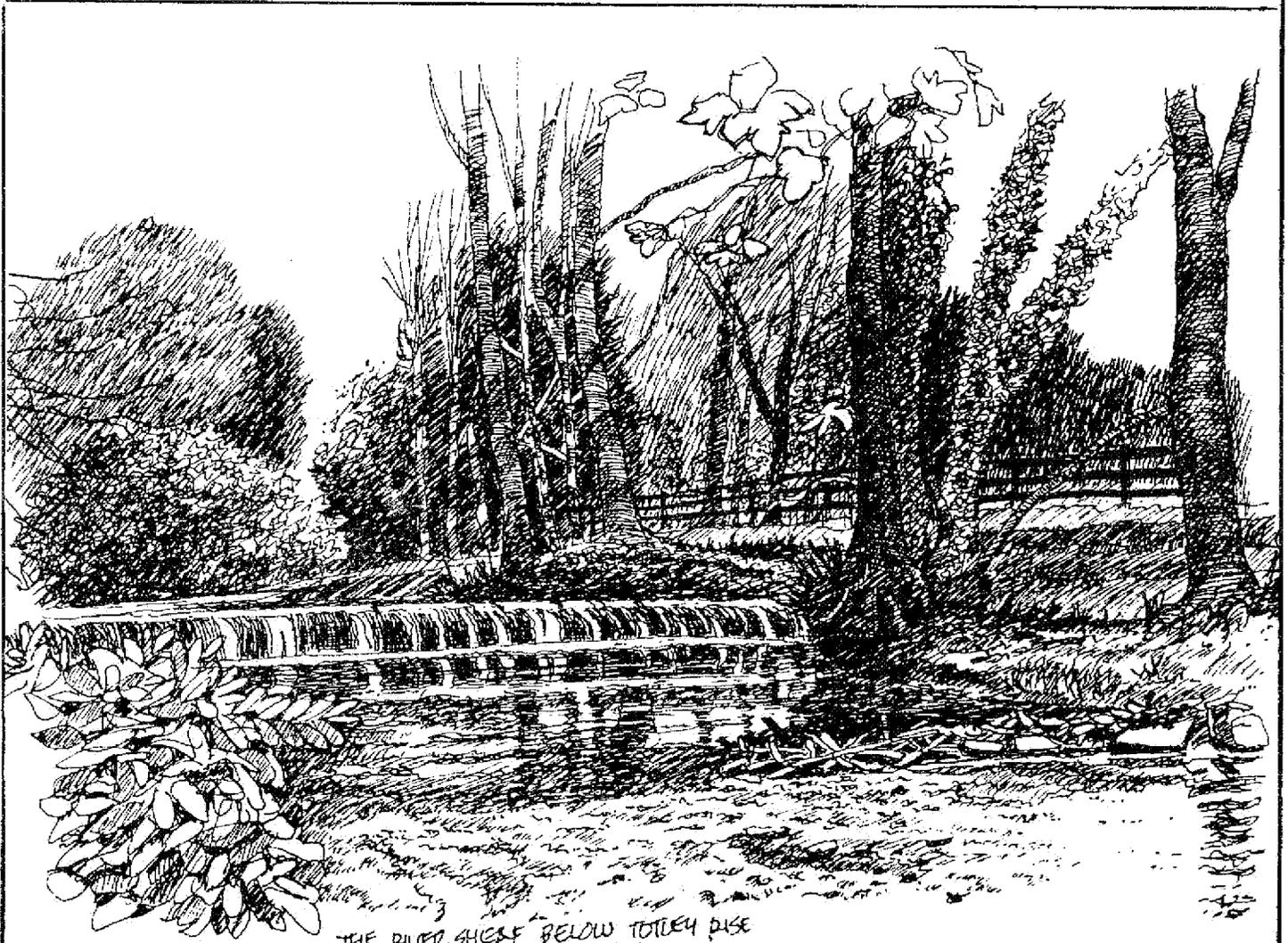
TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE JULY 1977

FEBRUARY 1994

No.170

15p



THE RIVER SHEAF BELOW TOTLEY PUSE
NOV. 1991 BRIAN EDWARDS.

Just after the Oldhay brook and the Totley brook continue to form the upper reaches of the river Sheaf there is a low weir built no doubt to feed the waters into a head goit.

Nearby was upper wheel and not far downstream the Bradway Mill. Only yards away from the viewpoint is the channel which carries the orange coloured waters which, a mile away, emerges from the Totley Tunnel.

TOTLEY ALL SAINTS CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

I am grateful to be offered this opportunity to bring readers up to date with the situation at All Saints School. Although by the time this issue of the Independent reaches you, we may have received a decision.

We began the process of applying for Grant Maintained Status in 1992. Then, early in 1993 the school was placed on the LEA closure list. In spite of our early application the Government decided that it would have to be considered alongside the LEA closure and with our Statutory Objections.

Last summer the school was inspected in connection with our GM application. The Inspector clearly enjoyed his visit and offered helpful suggestions regarding our building plans. In the autumn, Dr. John Lawry (Chair of Governors) and I travelled to London for an audience with Robin Squire MP, the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Education (arranged by Irvine Patnick and Angela Fry), we were able to present our case for the school. Although we gained the impression that a decision would have been reached last term, it now appears that the Sheffield Closure Plan has to be considered in its entirety before an announcement is made.

We have been most grateful to all of those who have written on our behalf. One of the pleasing aspects of this sad situation has been the number of ex-pupils who have been in touch with us, many from far away, some have found out about it from the Independent. We continue to appreciate the support, encouragement and prayers from so many sources.

In the meantime, school activities continue as normal. The Christmas Pageant in All Saints went well and raised £160 for charities. A prayer meeting for anyone who wishes to come along is held in the hall between 08.50 and 09.10 a.m. every Wednesday. Over recent months we have

welcomed new pupils and their families into the life of the school, and thank them for their confidence in us at this difficult time.

Joan Stratford, Headteacher

CALLING ALL COLLECTORS

An interesting display of exhibits by local collectors is being planned for Saturday, 26th March in All Saints Church Hall between 10.30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.

Proceeds will be divided between Transport 17 (who will provide transport on the day) and the Church Hall Extension Fund.

To be successful we need a good number of local residents willing to bring (or send) all or part of their own collections and/or curios, preferably for the whole day, but for at least a morning (10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.) or afternoon (1.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.) session. A separate section for children could also be arranged.

SO COME ON FOLKS, HERE IS A CHANCE FOR YOU TO TAKE PART IN A LOCAL EVENT FOR LOCAL PEOPLE AND TO SUPPORT TWO VALUABLE COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

Anyone interested in exhibiting is invited to contact Ken Filleul at 116 Green Oak Road (Tel 360872) by Saturday, 12th February.

THANK YOU

On behalf of Totley County Primary School, may I, through your pages, say a BIG THANK YOU to the shops and businesses in and around Totley, who generously donated prizes for our School Christmas raffle.

The School remains most grateful for their continued support.

Yours faithfully,

R. S. Wilkinson, Chairman

Totley County Primary School P.T.A.

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CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL HIGH DEPENDENCY UNIT

A special appeal launched by the CHRIS Fund just over a year ago to fund the introduction of High Dependency beds at the Children's Hospital, has met its £120,000 launch target.

"We have been overwhelmed by the response of the public to this appeal," said appeals chairman Barbara Barr MBE, since this fundraising has in no way slowed our normal expenditure on related research projects during the same period."

Awareness that the appeal was nearing completion, has enabled the Children's Hospital to begin training four new nurses in the Intensive Care Department from as early as December, as well as purchasing equipment to upgrade two further beds."

"The effect of this investment has already been felt in the hospital," said Dr. Nigel Pereira, clinical director for theatres, who first announced the need for the High Dependency beds, to relieve the peak load on the hospital's intensive care facilities for children.

Since the launch of the CHRIS Fund appeal, the government has itself reacted to the national shortage of children's intensive care facilities revealed in a multidisciplinary working party report assembled by the BPA.

The survey revealed that only half the children in Britain requiring intensive care are receiving it in paediatric intensive care units. There is one bed per 48,000 children, a level the report suggests is a 34% shortfall.

In Sheffield, doctors are hoping for a share of £1m identified by the Trent Regional Health authority as their additional expenditure this year on paediatric intensive care beds.

"What the CHRIS Fund has done, with the help of the local media" said Dr. Pereira, "is provide us with the most important first stage of staff training

and equipment that enables us to expand our intensive care facilities now. We hope that the national impetus will enable us to further expand our intensive care facilities alongside the high dependency beds, removing for all time, the spectre of children being transferred to adult intensive care facilities at times of peak demand."

The CHRIS Fund, which pledged to raise the start-up capital to fund the two high dependency beds, will continue to support the new facilities, which may remain dependent on the High Dependency resource for a considerable period of time.

The Children's Hospital in Sheffield offers intensive care cover for 500,000 children in North Trent, and accepts some patients from outside the region. The differential between intensive care facilities and High Dependency beds, lies in the amount of nursing support available 24 hours a day, rather than the level of available equipment support. It is the funding of specially trained, dedicated paediatric nursing care on a 24 hour basis that restricts the instant improvement in intensive care of high dependency bed facilities.

St. JOHN'S CHURCH HALL, ABBEYDALE

St. John's, Abbeydale have almost completed the extension of their Church Hall to form a new meeting room for the Church.

The hall extension appeal will be launched shortly.

In the meantime please note that the Hall is available for bookings and if anyone is interested, please contact the hall Warden Mr. K Jay on Sheffield 368612 for further details.

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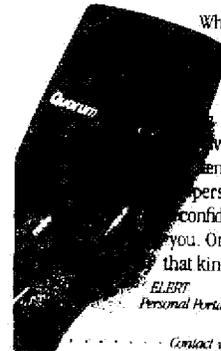
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FARMING SCENE

What a difference a year makes! This time last year we were having one of the driest January to March periods we have ever seen. This year promises to be the exact opposite, with everywhere and everything absolutely sodden. Both man and beast are fed up with sullen skies, soaking wet coats and mud up to your eyebrows.

Most arable farmers are struggling to get any work done at all, whether it be ploughing, sugar beet, fodderbeet or potato harvesting, with many fields water-logged and crops abandoned.

For many years now most of the milk produced in this country has been sold to the Milk Marketing Board. For a small fee to cover their overheads, they have negotiated a price with, arranged delivery to and invoiced the milk processing and bottling companies, who in turn have sold their products to shops, supermarkets, milk roundsmen etc. This system suited most farmers as once the milk was in the bulk tank they could forget about it, in the certain knowledge that it would be paid for in one month's time. This saved them from the traumas of negotiating price levels, quantity contracts, quality bonuses, payment terms etc. with the big processing companies with their inbuilt purchasing power and acumen. This is all in the melting pot now, as both the government and the E.E.C. have decided that the M.M.B. had a monopoly on bulk milk sales, that should be broken up. If all goes to plan on 1st April (what an apt date!!) this year, a milk processor will be able to purchase milk direct from farmers, in competition with other users. It appears that the majority of farmers will still sell through Milk Marque - the renamed and shaped M.M.B. In effect this will act as a producer co-operative acting on their behalf in the negotiation and sale etc. of fresh milk. How could a 30 cow dairy farmer from, say Edale (come on, you should know where this is!) successfully negotiate a good deal with a giant company like Northern Foods on

his own!

The old M.M.B. paid the same price to all milk producers based on their milk quality, irrespective of how many cows they had or where they lived. The fear among dairy farmers is that the processors will only be interested in collecting milk from the bigger producers near to their factories, leaving the outlying small farmers with poor prices, collection charges and a declining income. This in turn is likely to lead to a concentration of production by big operators as farmers with small herds cease production.

The G.A.T.T. deal, heralded as the answer to all our economic problems including unemployment, is of course not all sweetness and light. The rise in employment in the service sector selling cheap imported clothes, cars and wine, will more than be offset by the unemployment caused by a flood of imported food products causing rapid decline in our agricultural industry. Why do you think the U.S. President was euphoric in the benefits this deal will bring to his country? Why does the U.S. Agricultural Minister instruct his farmers to plant every square inch available, as the good times are here again? This is NOT propaganda.

The deal specifically states that the E.C. agriculture will be wound down in favour of imported food from the U.S.A., New Zealand etc. The sad part as far as the consumer is concerned is that is now being realised that E.C. food safety standards will not apply to imports. Imported meat and milk products will have no guarantee of freedom from artificial hormones, steroids, growth hormones, steroids, growth promoters, antibiotics, bacterial diseases etc. The current ban on the importation of hormone produced meat etc. will have to be rescinded to allow FREE trade. Once again, one of our basic industries is being run down in favour of cheap?? imports.

Edwin Pocock

TOTLEY HALL FARM PRODUCE

TOTLEY HALL LANE

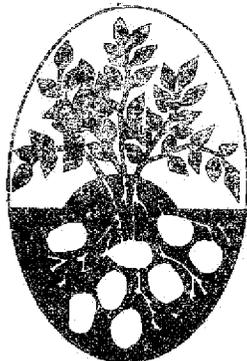
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WEATHER SUMMARY 1993

I was relieved to see a rainbow the other day as I'd been wondering about building an ark. My relief was doubled by the realisation that I wouldn't have made a good job of it! It seemed a rather wet year to me - there was 1.5 inches more rain than the year before, making 42 1/3" for this year in Totley and 234 days when there was water in the rain gauge. Ten months were wetter in Totley than Westen Park, March being the same and June being 1/8" less. September, October, and December producing 4/5" for a day's reading. It has snowed on 8 days, 7 of which were in November and December.

Our coldest night was -7.5 degrees centigrade in November with 47 nights below freezing and just 3 days which stayed below 0 degrees, although there were 28 days in November and December which were below 5 degrees, so yes, it has been cold. Westen Park's coldest night was -6.5 degrees. 25 degrees in June was the hottest we managed this year, with Westen Park managing 25.4 and thunderstorms then ended the week of warm weather, 3/4" inches of rain falling in 1/2 hour.

We had thunderstorms for 3 consecutive days which produced the wettest day with 1 1/3" rain and an average months rainfall in a week - almost 3.5".

On 19th. July we had a dramatic change in temperature when it fell from 17 degrees C to 12 degrees at 2p.m. in a short space of time.

Sheffield Star reported that the temperature of 6.9 degrees was the lowest for 15 years (5.5 was recorded in Totley that night). It should have been around 12.2 degrees.

It was the wettest December since records were begun at Westen Park in 1964 when 209mm fell (Westen Park recorded 171.4mm for the month and Totley 204.75mm.)

The highest wind gust recorded at Westen Park was 67 knot's on 9th. December, the highest since these weather reports began in 1988.

FACTS AND FIGURES

	TOTLEY	WESTON PARK
<u>Rain for the year</u>		
1993	1058.5mm	913.8mm
1992	1021.0mm	824.5mm
1991	782.0mm	666.7mm
<u>Wettest Day</u>		
1993	34.5mm	33.4mm
1992	32.0mm	39.0mm
1991	31.25mm	26.6mm
<u>Coldest Night (degrees centigrade)</u>		
1993	-7.5	-6.5
1992	-7.0	-5.7
1991	-9.0	-6.4
<u>Hottest Day (degrees centigrade)</u>		
1993	25.0	25.4
1992	27.5	28.1
1991	28.0	28.1

Western Park only

Sunhours

1993	1288.6
1992	1377.8
1991	1342.0

Highest Wind Speed

1993	67 knots
1992	51 knots
1991	56 knots

Vivien Filleul

WOMAN'S WEEKEND

Totley Rise Methodist Church
Women's Weekend, Saturday 5th. March,
10-00a.m. to 12-00 noon

COFFEE MORNING

Various stalls will include cakes, white elephants, toiletries etc.

Also there will be a display of Handicrafts.

Admission 50p. including coffee and biscuits.

On Sunday 6th. March will be the following services:-

10-30am. Mrs. Mary Kenward

6-30pm. Rev. Betty Tompkins, with Holy Communion.

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GARDENING TIPS FOR FEBRUARY

My garden is still in a mess, this cold wet, weather is not at all conducive to any prolonged period of gardening, I much prefer the fireside, and a seed catalogue where I can dream of things to come. The seeds are now in the shop and there are some interesting new varieties this year, the year of the pansy according to Fothergills the seed firm. I've planted my onion seed ready for the Totley Show on 3rd September, they should be quite big by then, they will have to be to beat Aeronns whoppas of last September. We hope to see a few new faces at the bench this year to give the old timers a bit of competition.

Flowers - there's still time to plant lilies outdoors or to move established ones move them with plenty of soil attached when replanting. Plant Anemones & Ranunculus about 2 1/2 to 3'' deep for anemones & 1 1/2 to 2'' for Ranunculus plant them with the claws downward, you'll see what I mean when you see the seed. If you wish to increase your stock of dahlias take the old tubers out of store and place them in boxes in the greenhouse to start into growth, just cover the fleshy tubers leaving the old stems exposed, water and place in a light place, give more water as shoots start to grow sparingly at first, a 55 degree temp should be OK. Tidy up flower beds and borders if you haven't already done so. For bigger and better flowers on clematis jackmanii and others that carry flowers after midsummer, cut all stems back to a pair of strong buds near the base. Use your favourite slug eradicator on young herbaceous shoots. Work a balanced fertiliser such as Growmore into all the beds except ericaceous plots, use purpose made fertiliser or bonemeal for these. Clean up rockeries, top dress with potting compost & chippings.

Vegetables - Top dress spring cabbage and sprouting broccoli with nitro chalk. Add lime to soil in vegetable plots as necessary. At least two weeks before sowing or planting work in a dressing of Growmore or similar. Start chitting potatoes. I hope your onion seeds are in by now, if not get cracking you may pick up second prize at the Totley Show. If you have a greenhouse empty, why not try some french beans, lettuce, radishes - - - it's nice to have fresh produce early in season.

Trees, shrubs & fruit - Finish planting trees & shrubs, the earlier this month the better. Prune autumn-fruity raspberries to within 6'' of the soil. If some strawberries have been grown in pots, bring a few into the greenhouse now, temperature needs to be 50 - 60 degrees F. Give trees & shrubs a feed, especially newly planted ones and apply mulch. Prune autumn flowering shrubs which flower on the tips of new growth i.e. Butterfly Bush, Spirea and hardy

fuschias. Cut out broken and diseased branches from the around the garden. Finish spraying top fruit as soon as possible Inspect stored fruit, discard any showing signs of rot.

Greenhouse & Indoor Plants - Time to start tidying up if not done before, prior to the busy time starting soon. Sow mustard & cress & radishes & your favourite veg. Pollinate & train early vines. Pot up annuals for the greenhouse which were sown earlier. Start Achimenes in shallow boxes half filled with a light sandy compost. You could try planting a few cucumber seeds for an early crop though they do like to be kept warm, germinate at 75 F and 60 or so thereafter. The principal half hardy annuals to be sown now are Begonia Semperflorens, Statice Lobelia, Snaps, Ageratum, Nicotina, Nemesia, Schizanthus etc. etc. you need temperatures around 55 to 60 for these. Pot early Begonias & Gloxinia tubers, don't let the roots get tangled up with one another. Bring Clivias and Vallotas into growth now increase the watering and a little more warmth 55 - 60 unless you want earlier flowers then increase temp. to 60 - 70. Prepare seed trays, pots etc, ready for planting bedding plant seeds.

Lawns - Keep off if frosty and keep it clean, if you are bothered with cats, you could try the tip a gardener gave me some time ago, put half filled (with water) plastic pop bottles around with space around them, the cats never seemed to be in his garden and he swore by it. I haven't tried it yet, I am rather fond of the moggie around my plot, can't say as much for my dogs though.

Remember spring is just around the corner (I hope). Cheerio for now.

Tom, Busy Bee

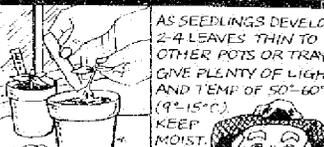
STEALING A MARCH ON NATURE

MANY PERENNIALS WILL FLOWER IN THEIR FIRST YEAR IF SOWN NOW IN GENTLE HEAT...



SEED COMPOST

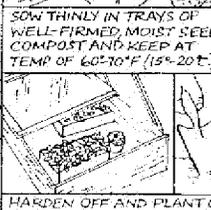
AS SEEDLINGS DEVELOP 2-4 LEAVES THIN TO OTHER POTS OR TRAYS GIVE PLENTY OF LIGHT AND TEMP OF 50°-60°F (9°-15°C) KEEP MOIST.



... AND EVEN IF THEY DON'T, YOU WILL HAVE MUCH HEALTHIER PLANTS THE FOLLOWING YEAR



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HARDEN OFF AND PLANT OUT IN FLOWERING POSITION LATE MAY/JUNE

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SCOUT NEWS

1ST TOTLEY LOTTERY WINNERS

Drawn at the Christmas Fayre 7th December

NOVEMBER DRAW

1st Prize no. 27
26 inch Table Lamp & Shade
Mr & Mrs J. Lawry
2nd Prize no. 73
£10.00 Voucher
Mrs Ramsden

DECEMBER DRAW

1st Prize no. 94
Christmas Hamper
Mr & Mrs Holding
2nd Prize no. 18
£10.00 Voucher
Mrs W. Heath

85TH SHEFFIELD ST. JOHN'S ABBEYDALE BEAVERS, CUBS & SCOUTS

The old year finished very busy with our Annual Christmas Fayre, with Santas Grotto as the main attraction; Scout Post; carol singing in a local Care Home; and for the Cubs and Scouts, a visit to Laser Quest followed by cheeseburgers and coke.

The New Year started with a visit to the City Hall Pantomime, to see Ali Baba and his 40 Thieves (and three camels). Later in the month the Group went to see Sheffield Steelers ice hockey match at the Arena, meeting the players afterwards.

Regular meeting nights continue with many activities, games, badgework and other special events. The Beavers and Cubs sections now have vacancies for anyone interested.

Age 6-7 ring Ruth Charles 362339 for Beavers

Age 8-10 ring Sue Bridgers 360097 for Cubs

Coming soon we have weekends away, Antique Fayres, and camps. Looking forward to better weather and lighter nights.

TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Jimmy McWilliams and the Totley Residents Association would like to thank everyone who attended the "Christmas Party" for the donations givend to the Yorkshire Television Calendar Toy Appeal, £34-00 was raised and sent to the appeal.

Thank you once again, Margaret Coldwell

WHISPERER

There seems to be plenty of activity on the pub scene around the local public houses in the Totley and Dore area these days.

The Crown Inn on Hillfoot Road is going up market in the food trade by starting to do early evening meals, with a Sea Food menu on Monday to Friday evenings. Starting with a special wine offer on Valentines Day, 14th February. See advert for details.

The Cricket Inn on Penny Lane has a new landlord with Hosts Kath & Phil. This also takes on a new look with decoration taking place, and live music seeming to be the order of the night on Fridays.

The Dore Moor Inn has been completely ripped apart and is to be a restaurant when it re-opens.

The Hare and Hounds in Dore is also being re-furbished and also has a new landlord. It could well take on a complete new look with new decorations and more than likely a new set of customers.

Totley Bridge garage has re-opened complete with a new shop two new car washes.

We have the usual problems with the footpaths up Baslow Road not being fit to walk on, as they are, once again, covered in wet leaves which have been there since they came off the trees last October. Are the council hoping they will dry out and blow away rather than clean them up?

There is the problem of the gutters being blocked on Lane Head Road and Penny Lane. The water has nowhere to go but across the road and then we get the frost and both these roads are dangerous for both motorists and pedestrians - all for the sake of a few hours work!

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GOLD, GEMS AND PETROL PUMPS

By C. N. Railton Holden

I am beginning to write this on November, 14th, 1993. The Great White Brotherhood of Kiev has received messianic knowledge that the world will come to an end today and only 4 hours remain for me to scoff. If you are unable to read these profound words of mine then obviously the Great White Brotherhood will have predicted with amazing accuracy and I shall be laughing on the other side of my face, or what is more probable, trying to bluff my way past St. Peter. Our planet is littered with gullible characters, some of whom live in Totley and are spreading a fanciful rumour which might have disastrous consequences for our snug little community. Godfrey Shorthouse and his cronies will have a lot to answer for!

At this point you need to be reminded that many years ago, Good King John of England married Isabella of Gloucester and then he married Isabella of Angouleme and in due course, having fathered two legitimate sons and four ditto daughters, he found himself grievously short of ready cash. It is a fact of life, that even one wife of non-royal vintage can very soon devastate an otherwise tidy chequebook. So there, in simple terms, was John's predicament. But the Middle Ages was an era when many abbots, abbesses and their monastic orders, who should have been laying up treasures in heaven, had managed inadvertently to accumulate vast treasures on earth, whereupon Good King John, to free them from the clutches of Mammon, began to disburden their sanctuaries of anything which might conceivably enhance the royal coffers. One day in the year 1216, when his loot-laden wagon train set out on a rather long and bleak journey from 'A' to 'B', a local crackpot guide, long past his sell-by date by today's standards, declared that half a day's travel could be saved by crossing The Wash at low tide. Well, we all of us know that thick mud hampered the royal cavalcade, that the tide came in early and that the king lost all his ill-gotten gains. But few historians know of Driver Egfrith and of two riff-raff varlets named Guthrum and Siward who all succeeded in stuffing a modest ration of the sinking booty up their doublets.

Once out of the mud, Egfrith and his light-fingered accomplices met for a conference. As the driver pointed out, emerald brooches could not, with safety, be converted into tankards of ale unless they were first of all converted into small change, and he knew of a trustworthy jeweller in London Town who would be glad to help them with their problem. Guthrum

and Siward presently agreed to an arrangement whereby Egfrith would dispose of the swag as he suggested and afterwards meet them in Wisbech for a shareout. Solemn oaths were sworn, hands were shaken, and that was the last occasion on which the two riff-raff varlets saw Egfrith.

Now I have to mention Athelwulf who kept body and soul together by burning charcoal in Ecclesall Woods. One day his brother Egfrith, carrying a sack and wearing a gold ring on one of his grubby fingers, arrived at the wattle hut and offered to help Athelwulf with his charcoal business which was prospering because the local cutlers had recently received a large order for curved knives from a chap called Saladin who lived way out east somewhere with a large bevy of concubines, in spite of whom he managed not to be short of ready cash as was King John. After the reunion of Egfrith and Athelwulf, when the sack had been buried in the vicinity and the gold ring disposed of in Sheffield's Rag Market to Oswald Hyssop, a reputable dealer in nicked plunder, Egfrith went out to celebrate, appropriately enough, because of his trade, at the 'Waggon and Horses', in Millhouses.

Here now are two pertinent questions: when you have spent a convivially alcoholic evening and then you sway unsteadily towards a wattle hut in Ecclesall Woods on a moonlit night, how often do you meet a plump friar bearing a long, thick stick? And if you do meet such a friar with such a stick in such circumstances, how many of you would be stupid enough to poke him in the stomach and greet him with the words, 'Hello, Fatty'? So the next day Egfrith was discovered in a ditch, lying face downwards in six inches of water. After the funeral at Beauchief Abbey, Athelwulf bethought himself of the sack. 'There were jewels in it', said his wife who, like most wives, was observant and knowledgeable. 'And he took it out of the hut together with your shovel but he was back within the hour, so the sack is buried not far away'.

Thus the digging began. Holes appeared everywhere. One huge excavation occurred not far from Beauchief corner but nothing valuable was unearthed and eventually a scythe maker filled the hole with water from the stream and called it abbeydale Hamlet, which was surprising because Shakespeare had not, at that time, written any of his famous plays. After a few years the treasure fever of the Middle Ages faded and Egfrith's bonanza was forgotten until Victorian times when yet another digging frenzy reduced Totley to a state of turmoil, though not one great came

to light and the principal excavation was sold to a speculator who pushed the hole on a further mile to Grindelford and began to run trains through it.

This brings the saga up to 1993 when mechanical diggers went into action at Totley Bridge Garage. The entire project may be completed by the time you read this short history but Godfrey Shorthouse and his feckless friends are circulating a rumour which must be quashed forthwith. Godfrey alleges that in August the garage manager's wife attended a clandestine reading of tarot cards and when it was suggested to her that all the indications pointed to gold, gems and petrol pumps, she put the screws on her husband, as wives do from time to time. The consequence was, according to Godfrey - and I believe this to be dangerous nonsense so don't involve me in it - that when Totley Bridge Garage was savaged by bulldozers and the new superstructure raised it was simply to disguise the true motive - another search for Egfrith's treasure.

Now if this wanton rumour spreads beyond our locality, Totley may undergo a fate worse than death; a feverish Klondike-sized influx of diggers from every corner of the globe. They will camp on the Recreation Ground, Abbeydale Sports Field, Farmer Pocock's strawberry beds and every available lawn. Ecclesall Woods will be excavated out of existence, shops, post offices, taverns and dwelling houses will become undermined by relentless tunnelling, and bristly unwashed giants will jostle you in the mile-long queues outside the fish and chip shop. Tom, selling shovels at the Busy Bee, and the chemists selling Elastoplast, will all become millionaires, but for the remainder of us life will not be worth living; that is why I am appealing to you Totley Folk, first of all not to panic, because that would worsen the situation. Instead you must be alert and

positive on all occasions, deny any truth in Godfrey Shorthouse's crazy rumour, and if any stranger should mention the name Egfrith then advise him or her, in courteous language, of course, to go and join the Great White Brotherhood of Kiev.

If, on the other hand, the garage manager's wife begins to appear in public wearing a medieval tiara then, Oh! dear me, Godfrey, my dear boy you were right after all!

WESTERN PARK HOSPITAL CANCER CARE APPEAL

HELP our money mountain by saving your pennies (1p's and 2p's) for Western Park Hospital "Cancer Care Appeal."

Save individually or form teams in your place of work.

Local collections can be left at "Rosies", Baslow Road or the local Halifax Building Society, Totley Rise.

Any amount gratefully received. For further information or collections telephone Jenny 363367 volunteer fundraiser.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Grateful thanks to everyone who contributed donations, food or blankets for the animals at the various shelters this winter.

Thanks to Valerie of Dore, Halifax Building Society and Totley Library for acting as collection points for the RSPCA collections once again.

Clean blankets and towels for the Spring St. Shelter, and pill containers for PDSA may be left at 10 The Quadrant, Totley. Mrs. Brenda Spencer, Manageress of the PDSA Shop, 13 Cumberland Street, would be glad of volunteers. Telephone 759138 if you can spare a few hours regularly.

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MICE ARE NOT NICE

"Busy Bee" have experienced good sales of mousetraps this winter. The inclement weather has caused many mice to find shelter inside, and they soon come to like it. Our homes provide warmth, shelter and food. Even the cleanest house will provide an abundant supply of food, once a set of teeth have gnawed through a few packets of food.

Mice have to gnaw as their front teeth are continuously growing. They do not, therefore, just gnaw to gain access to food. Fires have been caused due to mice gnawing through electricity cables and gas and water leaks have been caused. Mice do not need a large hole or gap to gain entry. If a pencil will pass through, then so will a mouse (a rat needs a hole the size of a 50 pence piece!). If the hole is in material which is soft, the mouse will enlarge it if necessary.

Mice forage for food and suitable shelter and usually travel around the perimeter of the room, keeping close to the skirting boards or furniture. If they find packeted food they will nibble into every packet.

The first evidence of mice is often damaged packets, but the other evidence is their droppings. They are usually black (white if they have fed on flower), cylindrical and a quarter of an inch (4-6mm.) long. They will be scattered. What we don't see is their urine. They are incontinent, and therefore cause extreme contamination.

If you have had mice, wipe down any surfaces, packets and crockery with a disinfectant solution cloth and destroy any damaged food and packets.

Mice breed profusely. They do not use contraceptives, they do not watch TV. and are incestuous. One pair could theoretically, produce 1000 in a year! They must be controlled. The City Council provides a service, at a cost, Telephone

734678. They use a poison which is effective on the mice but does not harm children or pets. They would be sick if they consumed it because of a bitter additive.

The poisoned mice often die out of sight and may smell.

"Busy Bee" sell three types of traps, 2 break backs and one catch 'em alive. I can recommend the "Selfset" breakback trap. It is metal, is truly self setting (with a little help), costs 75p and is British. The "catch 'em alive" is quite a novelty and would make a good talking piece if placed on a mantelpiece. The principal is simple but what do you do with a live mouse?

If you intend to release it, there is a good chance it will come back in, or if it can't find a way in, die in the cold or wet. You also have the task of opening the trap to let it out! Dead mice don't bite.

An ideal bait for the metal or wooden mouse traps, is chocolate, but make sure it is firmly on. Warm it slightly in the fingers first to ensure it is secure. A mustard spoonful of flour and sugar, on the the treadle of the wooden trap, close to the spike works well. Place the set trap with the bait against the wall, furniture or other obstacles where they run. The trap should not be at right angles to the wall so that the mouse will cross the treadle. Keep fingers away from the treadle of set traps! Hide the trap from children or pets. The spring is strong enough to break a child's fingers.

Likely mouse holes are air grates, round water pipes, under electric sockets, holes for central heating pipes (including ones in the floor) and holes for cables. Pet food can be attractive to mice and anyone with cats will know that not every mouse that is brought home is dead.

A crumb to us, is a meal for a mouse.

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IS THERE ANY MYSTERY IN LIFE?
WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO NOW?

Don't know? Then there is an opportunity to find out by going along to one of the eleven house groups being planned for Totley in Lent 1994 to explore the Christian faith with others who don't have all the answers.

For the past two months, representatives from Totley All Saints, English Martyrs, Totley Methodists, Totley United Reformed and St. John's Churches have been prayerfully planning Lenten groups to meet on the five weeks between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday (21-02-94 to 26-03-94).

Eleven residents are making their homes available in which the groups can meet, eight will be at 8-00pm. on a week day evening and three will be at 2pm. in the afternoon.

Details of the meeting places will be available in all five churches from Monday 23rd. January onwards so anyone interested can enrol with a group whose time and place suit them.

The groups will study the book "Have Another Look" - published nationally by all the main stream churches. This booklet is not another "Churchified" Lent course and it is not necessarily for the 'faithful few.'

Anyone who is interested can come along and also use the material on offer as food for thought.

People interested can obtain a leaflet about the groups from Marjorie Snowden, at 1 Quarry Rd. Totley Tel. No. 362822.

Though it would be useful to know as soon as possible who would like to come to a group, anyone can join in at any time and there is no compulsion to go to every session.

GOOD SAMARITANS

On Monday, 3rd January, 1994 my wife and I were walking home at approx. 1400 hours from the Old Crown. We had just had a lunchtime meal to celebrate my 39th Birthday.

We crossed the field opposite, through the metal gate and were about to walk along the path which starts properly just after the wooden bridge.

However, I slipped off the wall here and landed in the river. I cannot remember anything then until I hit the cold water. My head was badly cut and I needed help because I was not able to get out of that river by myself. My wife shouted for help and a kind lady who was a first aider took control of the situation with the help of two more gentlemen who got me out of the river and walked me to a house where I awaited the ambulance to the Royal Hallamshire. I was kept warm as I waited which, fortunately, was not long.

We know the occupants of the house and I have been able to thank them personally for their kindness but we do not know the identities of the other people involved. Consequently, I would like to take this opportunity through the Totley Independent to thank everybody for their help and kindness which was much appreciated.

I was discharged from the hospital later that day and had the rest of the week off recovering, but for everybody's quick reactions I feel that the whole incident could have turned out much worse.

So to all the people involved that day THANK YOU from the both of us and if you can get in touch, please do so. You will always be welcome in our home.

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TALES OF THE UNBELIEVABLE

I imagine that you must have travelled in one by now. I am commenting on the single-deck buses which have the roving electric dot information panel above the platform. These are, no doubt, installed to give up-to-date information of the splendid offers being made by the bus company, and the delight of being with them. This must, of course, be only the beginning, and I suspect that the bus company must have other developments in mind, to prevent the travelling public from falling asleep on the journey. This silent rendering brings back memories of the cinema screen long before the days of the 'talkies'. Then they had the hard working pianist who pounded away with a selection in keeping with the action on the screen. I can envisage this coming along now. If they move the luggage rack, there would be just enough space for a mini-piano - and the tunes would range from lively marches as the dots flash across the screen - followed by slower tunes as the dots move more leisurely across, giving emphasis to the information presented. All this would have difficulties. Those at the back might not be able to see too clearly, and it may be that the floor of the bus might have to slope upwards - and we may have to ask the lady in front if she would kindly remove her hat.

I do not think that the rival companies would remain idle for long and leave all this sparkling entertainment to just the one company . . . Who knows where it could lead? Very soon each company might be carrying bill boards in front advertising the latest offering - - 'Travel by Superline and see - - - all dancing, all singing, all talking - - etc' All this could benefit the transport companies as the public flock to see the latest offering of free dots

parading across the screen. Mind you 'Standing room only' will be a little difficult, and all standing passengers will have to squat on their haunches. I wonder if part of this idea has been copied from the aircraft companies, where long and tedious journeys are enlivened by the showing of a film. Could be that this, too, would catch on with the bus companies - and, moreover, if the journey gets any slower, there would be just time sit through, 'Gone with the Wind'.

Anon

TOTLEY WALKABOUT

Brian Edwards, author of "Historic Drawings of Totley", "The Totley Tunnel" and "Sheffield and the Peak", will lead two half-day walkabouts around the Totley area explaining the history of the areas covered.

Area one will cover Gillfield Wood, Totley Hall Lane, Butts Hill, Chapel Lane, Totley Bents, Strawberry Lee, Monneybrook and Lane Head.

Area two will cover the water mills from Avenue Farm following old Hay Brook via Totley Brook to Totley Rise and then to Beauchief.

The walkabouts will cost £7-00 each which includes a special drawn aerial view of the walks covered and will take place on Saturday mornings 9th. and 16th. of April (weather permitting). The fee is payable on booking.

If you are interested in taking part please contact Pam Edwards at Sheffield 620476, Tuesday to Saturday 9-00 to 5-30 or call in to Shape Design Shop near Dore Station.

The numbers of each walkabout will be limited to 25 so be sure to book your place as soon as possible.

If the weather is bad an alternative date will be offered.

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HEALTHY EATING

I am sure we shall all have eaten far too much during the festive season, a testimony to the skill of our hard working wives who have prepared and presented us with such a magnificent feast. As always there is a price to pay, most of us will now be thinking of dieting. Proprietary diet plans have their place in this process and are no doubt very good, but have you considered that your local greengrocer has a whole shop full of good things to aid this process? Almost all specific diet charts contain some element of fruit & vegetable.

A typical daily diet for the more seriously minded slimmer would be as follows:

Breakfast: 2oz cereal with 1 small banana, 1 slice toast, fruit juice. 300 calories.

Lunch: 1 Pitta Bread filled with 2oz Feta cheese and plenty of green mixed salad, 1 small pot of diet yoghurt and 3 fresh plums. 400 calories.

Evening meal: 4oz Roast chicken (no skin) served with 5oz jacket potato, 5oz green beans, 1 large baked apple stuffed with 3 chopped dates and topped with 2oz low fat ice cream. 550 calories.

This diet has been known to lose 14lb over a very short period, so jump to it all you would be slimmers and don't forget, eat plenty of fruit and vegetables.

J. Scriven

BRING & BUY BONANZA

The National Children's Homes are planning to organise 3000 Bring and Buy Sales across Britain during February to raise funds for children in need.

All events, big or small, will help for example £100 from a sale would buy a whole year's respite care for a child with disabilities, £12.50 will pay for a week's support for a young care leaver.

Further details can be obtained from "125 Campaign, NCH Action For Children, Northern Division, 33, Wilson Patten St., Warrington, Cheshire WA1 1PG.

In aid of the above the children of Topley Rise Methodist Church invite you to their "Bumper Bring & Buy Bonanza" Friday 25th. February 6-30pm. to 8-00pm. Adults 50p, children free, includes coffee and biscuits.

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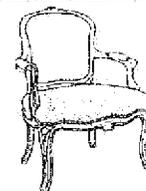
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WALKS AROUND TOTLEY

A pleasant trip of some 7.5 miles, taking in the three golf courses of Beauchief, Abbeydale and Dore & Totley with the star attraction of Birchitt Nook.

Start from Totley Rise, footpath along Mill Lane, bridge over Totley Brook and enter broad track through Poynton Wood. After 0.5ml the path dips down to a iron fence above the railway line. A short field area and we soon join Twentywell Lane.

Turn right and enter the realms of Ladies Spring wood (Part of the Sheffield green belt route) well signed. After the woodland scene just above Beauchief Golf Course we join a terraced path which connects to the Beauchief Abbey drive (by all means make a slight detour to visit the Abbey which has been mentioned in previous walks).

As we leave the first golf course area we head right up the Lane. Note the site of an ancient well along Side Gulleys Wood and the adjacent private drive to Cockshutt Farm. Glorious views across the city boundary, view the stately Beauchief Hall set in imposing grounds at the corner of the lane. Historical interest when once owned by the Wilson family. The lane continues towards Bradway, where we walk alongside the Abbeydale Golf Course.

After 1/3ml. from the lane corner and just above some wooden buildings enter a woodland path to the right. After 100yds. head left up a steep bank and pass the side of the Bradway Golf Practice Range. Then cross over the busy road junction at Hemper Lane.

Here we enter the realms of Dore and Totley golf course where to the left of the club house a finger post shows our route. Keep to the left edge where a second post is indicated. After 350 yds. yellow markers join a path from the Low Edges Housing Estate and turns us right across the centre fairway. Make sure you get a clear passage from flying golf balls. But this is a public right of way, so tolerance will prevail.

Yellow markers continue slightly left after a stream hazard and soon we leave the golfers and cross a path over the Bradway rail tunnel (Dronfield end). A stile takes us into a field area. Second stile below a stream and head towards a solitary barn on the brow of the hill. Yellow markers on route.

Swing hard right for 1/2 ml. across a traversing line of field tops. Tarry awhile at the junction of two paths by a seat (old railway sleepers) extensive views all around. Descend a field path to the right, back towards Bradway to the high spot of the walk where hidden in the valley at Birchitt Wood is a pure gem of scenic enterprise.

Here a group of voluntary enthusiasts have converted a choked boggy stream into a garden paradise. Rustic seats and rockeries to delight any visitor. (note the plaque to their noble efforts).

Continue across three more field lengths back towards the Dore & Totley golf course where further yellow markers show a route by the railway tunnel air shaft and direct to the main path adjacent to the golf club house.

Cross the road with care. Join a path at the side of the Bradway Hotel into another field area to the top of Bradway Bank. Linger awhile at the concrete trig point to enjoy extensive moorland and greenbelt views. Descend a path slightly left through gorse bushes. A steep line soon brings us down to Twentywell Lane. Cross the lane to Twentywell Road and the popular Castle Inn (we could even weaken here for liquid refreshment). Take the path at the side of the Inn and back into Poynton Woods (at the top end once stood the site of the Twentywell brickyard) this derelict area has now reverted to nature.

Keep to the top path through the woods for nearly 1 ml. and soon we are back on home ground at Mill Lane and Totley Rise to plan more walks around our glorious golden frame.

John C Barrows

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DORE AND TOTLEY GUILD

The "Dore and Totley Guild" donated over £300 to local charities during 1993.

Thanks to all who helped in any way to raise the money.

On Tuesday March the 29th. the "Dore and Totley Guild" are holding a Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy to raise money for local charities.

The event will be held at the Heatherfield Conservative Club, 10-00am. to 12-00 noon when all will be welcome.

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DIARY

FEBRUARY

- TUES. 1st. (and every Tuesday) COFFEE MORNING, Totley Rise Methodist Church (in the Church Hall), 10-00am. - noon
- TUES. 1st. (and every Tuesday Afternoon) CRAFT GROUP Totley Library.
- WED. 2nd. (and every Wednesday) Coffee in the Library 10-00 am. to 11-30.
- WED. 2nd. SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED MEETING, 11-00 am., 4, Grove Rd. Please note Ann & David Caldwell tel. no. 366894.
- THUR. 3rd. (and every Thursday) OPEN DOOR, United Reformed Church, 10-00a.m. - noon
- THUR. 10th. COFFEE IN THE CONSERVATORY, 10-30 TO 12-30 noon, at 2, Main Avenue, Proceeds to All Saints Church Hall Extension Fund.
- TUE. 15th. TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Methodist Church Hall, 10-00 am.
- WED. 16th. UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION, DISCUSSION OF CURRENT NEWS ISSUES. 8-00pm. at "Newfield", Brickhouse Lane, Dore. Anyone welcome.
- FRI. 25th. BUMPER BRING & BUY BONANZA, Totley Rise Methodist Church, 6-30pm. to 8-00pm. Funds raised for NCH Action for Children, (details inside)

MARCH

- SAT. 5th. COFFEE MORNING, Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10-00am. to noon, (see inside for details)
- TUES. 29th COFFEE MORNING & BRING & BUY, Heatherfield Conservative Club, 10-00am to noon. Organised by the Dore & Totley Guild, (see inside for details)

THE INDEPENDENT FOR FEBRUARY

The NEXT issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on Tuesday 1st. March. Copy date for this issue will be Wednesday 16th. February 1994.

EDITOR Les Firth, 6, Milldale Rd., 364190

DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISING John Perkinson, 2, Main Avenue, 361601

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

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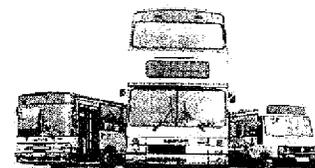
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