

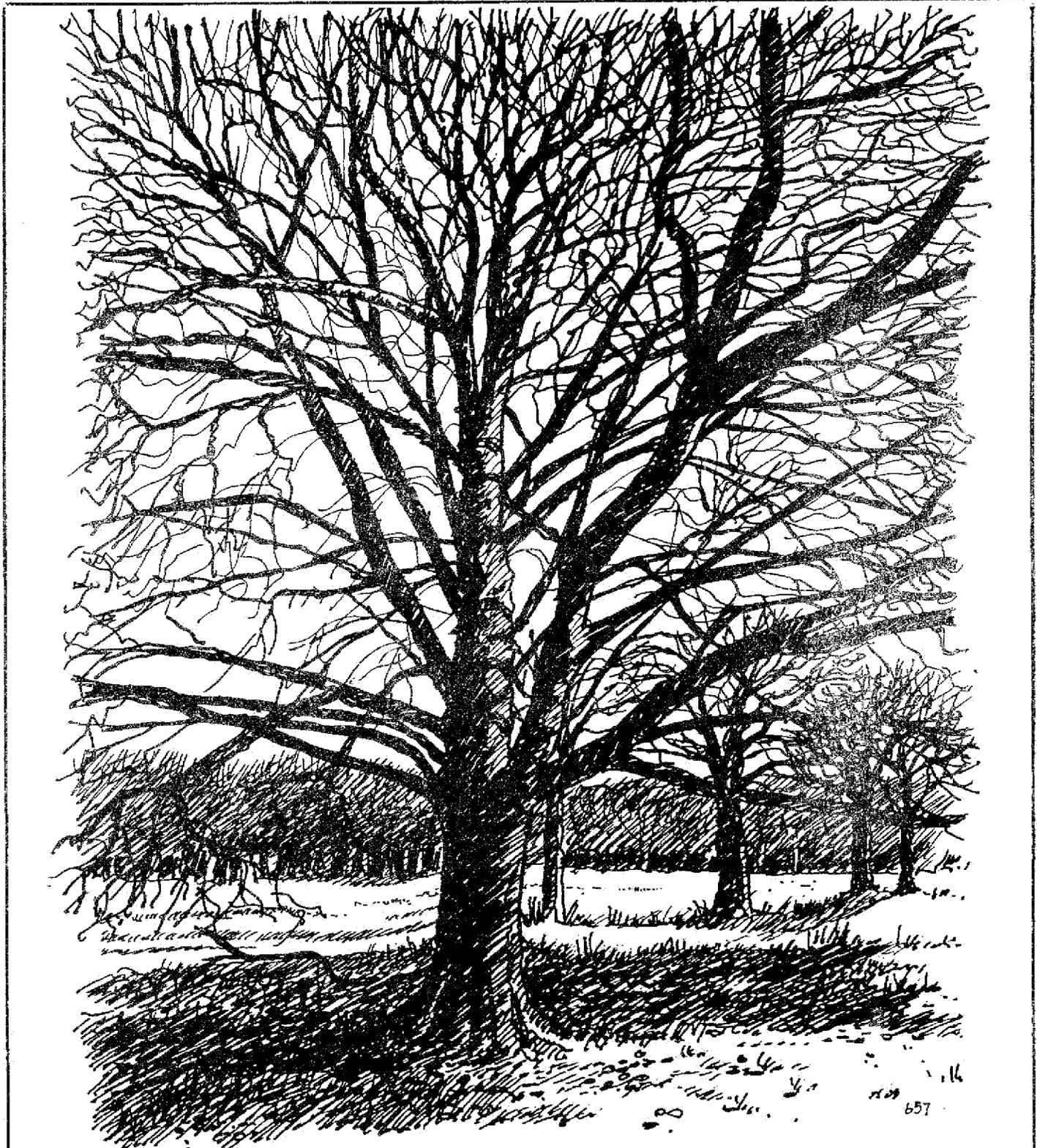
TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE JULY 1977

FEBRUARY 1996

No.190

15p



A view from the bridge on Old Hay Lane looking over the field towards Totley Grove. The trees in the background follow the line of Old Hay Brook. The trees to the right indicate the line of the bank to the Old Hay Corn Mill, long since vanished.

GARDENING TIPS FOR FEBRUARY

Heaven for the gardener is not winning the lottery, or having no worries. It is for many, the view from a heated greenhouse, the arrival of next season's seeds. February is a heartening month, we have turned the corner, the next corner we get round will be spring. So start the planning. If the weather is kind we might even be able to work off that turkey and Christmas pud feeling with a bit of ground preparation (digging).

FLOWERS. Cut down old perennials and fork round plants. Work in a bit of Growmore or similar. Clean up rockeries and top dress with compost and chippings. Plant out (on fine days) herbaceous perennials. If you have a heated greenhouse; sow summer bedding plants, like snapdragons, fibrous rooted begonias, busy lizzie, petunias and verberna. This will give a bit of room later for the faster germinating varieties. Give the flower beds a top dressing of compost (taking care not to disturb any plants or bulbs). This will liven up the soil, which the bedding plants will appreciate. Watch out for slugs, especially those around newly sprouting shoots such as delphinium and hollyhocks. Put down slug bait or beer traps as soon as they appear.

VEGETABLES. Add lime to soil as necessary, two weeks before any sowing takes place. Also work in a dressing of Growmore or similar balanced fertiliser. Onion seeds should be showing through by now - if you haven't planted them by now, get them in, or the prizes at Totley Show will go to someone else (me for instance)! Top dress sprouting broccoli and spring cabbage with nitro chalk. Clear and prepare ground ready for planting, as soon as crops are finished.

TREES, SHRUBS & FRUIT. Prepare ground for any spring planting you have in mind. Fruit trees growing in grass often make little growth because they are starved of nitrogen. This can be remedied by feeding now with sulphate of ammonia or nitro chalk. Protect fruit bushes from birds with a covering of fleece or netting as the buds begin to swell. Prune autumn fruiting raspberries now. Cut them back just short of ground level. Prune gooseberries before growth is too advanced. Firm in any newly planted bushes and trees, that may have been loosened by frost. Prune late flowering clematis. Cut hard back shrubs like spirea, callicarpa, trumpet creeper. Prune winter flowering jasmine and other winter flowering shrubs as soon as they have finished flowering. Trim back heather as blooms fade with shears, to prevent them getting straggly.

GREENHOUSE & INDOOR PLANTS. Several well known greenhouse plants require pruning now; bougainvillaeas should have last year's growth cut hard back. Bouvardias, gardenias, fuschias, zonal and ivy leaved pelargonium should be cut sufficiently to give them a solid foundation for the coming season's growth. Start watering (sparingly) from now on. A rise in temperature will help but is not essential, they all need as much light as possible. Later in the month, start dahlia tubers if you want to increase your stock of plants, place tuber in a deepish box with a base of peat or potting compost. Put more peat around them until the fleshy tubers are just covered but the stumps of last year's growth are just showing. Water them and place the boxes in a light or semi-light place. As soon as growth starts, they need as much light as possible. Water as necessary, any temperature over 13 deg.C (55 deg.F) will start them into growth.

Pot early begonias and gloxinia tubers, as schizanthus become established in their final pots, they should be fed a liquid feed once a fortnight. All feeding of pot plants should be done sparingly, nothing is gained by giving too much. Do not feed dry plants - water them first. Seed planting and propagation by cuttings can be started in earnest now. Try a few types you've not had before, it makes for a bit of variety in your life. I usually have 4 or 5 new varieties each year as well as Chilterns Lottery mixture (greenhouse plants). They put all the seeds left from last year in a pot and give them a stir and packet them. I have had some weird specimens as well as some fine, unusual pot plants. I have never been disappointed yet.

LAWNS. Keep clean, spike and top dress if you didn't do it last year. Keep off if it is frosty. Watch out, spring is just around the corner.

Cheerio for now,
Tom BUSY BEE.

WILL THE SWING BANDS EVER COME BACK?

Probably the answer to that is never! Fashion decrees that this is the age of Rock Music and Heavy Metal and economics have brought the small Pop Groups into focus.

Sheffield is certainly a city on the move and could be classed as the Rock Music Capital of the North with the concert venues at the Don Valley Stadium and the ever increasing numbers of Disco night-clubs to cater for today's music lovers.

After Elvis came the Beatles and the Rolling Stones and the music scene was no longer a sedate affair. But somehow I feel rather sorry for today's youngsters. To watch the Great Count Basie Band swinging into action is an experience never to forget.

The period of the mid 1930s to the 1940s Swing was king! I certainly would not have swapped those pleasures of listening and dancing in the spacious ballrooms of that era.

Our own Ted Heath with the great soloists on trumpet of Kenny Baker and Eddie Blair, plus Sheffield's own Les Gilbert on Alto Sax was pure magic.

Saturday night one could dance to the music of Bernard Taylor, Jackie Bates and the trumpet of Cliff Lobb for a mere "two bob" at the City Hall.

There were equally other good, local Dance Bands at the Cutlers' Hall, Glossop Road Baths and Abbeydale Ballroom etc., names such as Colin Biggin, Hal Baker and Winstone Lee.

Star Bands would guest these venues, Joe Loss, Sid Phillips, Billy Ternant, Stanley Black, Eric Winstone, Victor Sylvester, Jack Parnell and Vic Lewis, all great names in the Swing and Dance Band world. For these special artists one would pay the mammoth sum of 5 shillings (25p).

When variety was king one could see top shows at the Empire theatre on Charles Street. Prices were 9 old pence to only

two shillings (10p) for stars such as Billy Cotton, Harry Roy, Lew Stone, Henry Hall and all the great touring bands of that era. I've seen the incomparable Fats Waller, Mills Brothers, Deep River Boys, George Formby, Charlie Kunz and many others.

Other concert venues with the great American Swing Bands would hold you spellbound to the sounds of Duke Ellington, Stan Kenton Woody Herman, Dizzy Gillespie, Louis Armstrong, King of Swing Benny Goodman, plus Tommy Dorsey's outfit with the artistry of Charlie Shavers on trumpet. How about everyone's favourite, the immortal Glenn Miller, probably the most popular band of all time. The Syd Lawrence Orchestra will be keeping the flag flying with a one night stand later this month at the City Hall, with a guest appearance of Bill Tarmey (Jack Duckworth of Coronation Street).

I never had the pleasure of watching the great early bands of the swing era, such as Fletcher Henderson, Andy Kirk, Jimmy Lunceford, Chick Webb and Benny Carter. What sheer talent! Still I doubt if the Big Band Sound will ever return, but for me they have never gone away. Some of these early recordings are collectors items.

Have any readers got a pressing of Sydney Bechet playing the number "Blues my naughty sweetie gives to me", or any recording of Sam Donahue's Navy Band, I could possibly borrow.

If anyone is keen on this style of music come and join us at Sheffield's Big Band Record Society. We meet fortnightly (Wednesdays 7.30-10.00p.m.), at the Shakespeare Hotel, Gibraltar Street, near the West Bar roundabout.

We have been around for 17 years, so still plenty of fresh music to get your feet tapping.

Contact me anytime, telephone no. 2368608. John C. Barrows.

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FARMING SCENE

Did you spot the "deliberate mistake" in last month's T.I.? must admit it was only as I re-read the article prior to writing this month's, that I realised that Katy had suddenly become the mother of Angus rather than his half sister! The another mistake was to say that the new calf was not expected until the Spring. She duly arrived first thing this morning, weighing in at approx. 50lbs., with black hair and brown eyes. Both mother and baby are doing well! Angela, Jan and Madge have been the names suggested so far, but any other suggestions would be considered.

We have been busy during December pruning and tying our Raspberries, a job which thankfully is now finished, with all the old or unwanted canes collected up and burnt.

For the last fortnight we have been busy in the "New Gillifield" wood. Firstly we renovated the area by the proposed Car Park, straightening up the tree shelters that had been knocked or blown down, removing those that had trees growing out of the tops and replanting where trees had failed to grow. The shelters not only protect the trees against rabbit and vole damage, they also create a mini microclimate around the tree, causing it to grow very rapidly.

The main wooded area has suffered from a lack of T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care), over the last two years. As a result we have had to replant around 4,500 trees where the originals failed to take root, were smothered by grass or weeds or have been gnawed through by field mice or voles. The latter are probably responsible for most of the deaths as the ground and the grass around the trees was a labyrinth of tunnels with mice running about as we walked across the area. A high proportion of the trees were also showing signs of bark damage. There must be thousands of

mice here, in what has obviously become an ideal home for them. We intend to kill all the grass and weeds that are in a half-metre circle around each tree this year. This enables the trees to grow in unshaded conditions, free from competition and hopefully create a cover free zone where the kestrels and owls can spot and capture the mice as they attack the trees.

Our current job is pruning and tying in our blackberries, gooseberries and tayberries. These all seem to have grown rapidly since last year: the dry weather has obviously suited them. When these are finished next week (26th Jan.), all our winter fruitwork should be completed.

We are due to start lambing in about 4 weeks time, with our "early lambers" already looking well endowed. As I write our sheep are still grazing on grass, but will shortly be moved to their winter quarters on Lane Head Road where they will be fed hay as there is little grass there.

The relatively dry/mild weather so far this winter has encouraged autumn sown crops to tiller out (produce 3 or 4 main stems per plant) with most looking very forward and thick for the time of year. At the beginning of March we shall be putting the first dressing of Nitrogen on our Oilseed Rape, this being the first crop to start growing in the Spring.

Edwin Pocock

TOTLEY LIBRARY

The staff of Totley Library would like to thank Eileen Ogley and all the ladies who help with the Wednesday Coffee Mornings.

Their continued support and fund raising has helped tremendously in the success of activities and events in the children's library.

Thanks and a Happy New Year to them all.

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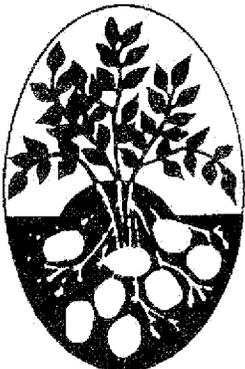
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



TOTLEY ATHLETIC CLUB

Totley Athletic Club meet twice a week during the evening and we run as a group over a distance of about 6 miles. The distance varies according to who is in the group and their capabilities on that particular night. We run on footpaths during the winter months around the streets of Sheffield. During the summer months, we run in the evening from the Cricket Inn, which gives us the opportunity to run over Totley Moor and Blackamoor. We are also able to sample the refreshments available at the end of the run! On Sunday, Derbyshire provides a lot of wonderful places to explore and what better way is there than running?

Some of us enter races, both on and off road, wearing the club colours of green and white. In addition to entering races, Totley Athletic Club holds five races each year for anybody who wishes to meet the challenge. The Blackamoor chase may sound familiar, but

did you know that it now forms part of the Totley A.C. race series? The five races attract runners to Totley from as far away as London!

This year we have chosen to make a donation to the Cheshire Home. We actually considered quite a few local causes that would benefit from a donation. We gave a donation to the National Trust who also appreciate the fact that they are recognised for the work they do.

New members of all abilities often join in our training evenings and anybody who wishes to run with us will be very welcome to do so; you will also burn off those unwanted calories!

If you are interested, simply turn up and join in. At the moment we can be found at Millhouses Park on a Thursday evening, by the boating lake (6.25pm). For further details, 'phone Rob on 2365866.

James Whittington, Captain of T.A.C.

TRANSPORT 17

We started 1996 with our new bus joining the other two Renaults. We are quite proud of them and of everyone who helped us to purchase them. All 3 buses are, of course, fitted with seat belts. Fund raising is going on all the time and the first event is at Totley Rise Methodist Church on 3rd February. This is a "Sponsored Hymn Sing" organised by the United Churches of Sheffield 17. It will start at 9.30 a.m. and finish at about 12.30 p.m. 50 hymns will be sung in blocks of 10. Tea or coffee with biscuits will be 25p to visitors but not to the singers. The refreshments will be served in the Church Lounge. Please come along and enjoy the morning and perhaps sing along. Our thanks go to everyone involved in this event.

Please look out for future events in Totley Independent, the Library, offices and shops. We try to advertise around as much as we can. Our telephone number is 2362962 if you want to talk to us about anything.

Our "Outward Bound" club will be starting their trips in the Spring. Dates will be announced. As I write outings are being planned. This is a club to get people out and about to bar meals, places of interest, garden centres etc. The annual membership fee is £2. The club is open to anyone elderly in the South Sheffield area. Existing members will be hearing from us soon about their renewals.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at any events this year. Keep supporting us!
Margaret Barlow.

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THE T' ALLI STONE

by
Marjorie Dunn

The T'alli Stone is set in South Yorkshire immediately after the Napoleonic Wars, at a time when the starving lower classes were ready to rise against oppression. Fanny Garnett, a respectable but rebellious girl, becomes infatuated with an idealistic reformer who is the victim of a vicious revenge plot. As a consequence of being falsely accused of theft, he is transported, leaving Fanny pregnant. She, out of social necessity, agrees to a loveless marriage with an older man.

This gentle yet compelling love story particularly illustrates the lifestyle of the simple artisans of Sheffield, who, living in a backwater away from main coaching routes, developed strong enduring characteristics.

Fanny's strong will and determination is tempered only by the restrictions of her times and the devotion of the two men who love her; John, the radical, and Gervase, the shy, respectable businessman. Whilst this romantic triangle is played out against the backcloth of conflicting social restraints and radical fervour, it retains the simplicity of ordinary human life.

The T'alli Stone is a work of fiction, but many incidents have been drawn and adapted from local newspapers of the time. The names of some of the characters, their occupations and addresses have been borrowed from the author's family history, all else concerning them is fiction.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR.

Marjorie Dunn was born in Sheffield and has lived in Totley for 18 years.

Known widely as Sheffield's "Puppet Lady" and also for giving talks in the region, her love of old Sheffield has resulted in her second book, a romantic adventure portraying the town as it was between 1797 and 1818. The T'alli Stone is available at the Totley Rise and Totley Post Offices at £5.95 per copy.

CHURCHES TOGETHER in S17 THE 'J' TEAM

The J-Team is an ecumenical outreach programme for children aged 5 to 11. It developed from "Pentecost '95", the week of activities organised by all the churches in S17 in Greenoak Park last June.

So far, over 200 children have been involved and 85 helpers, mainly from Totley Rise Methodist Church, United Reformed Church and All Saints. Past events include a whole day at All Saints last August, three after school sessions and a Highlight Party at Totley Rise Methodist last October, a Christmas Party at the United Reformed Church and a Saturday afternoon at All Saints in February.

A further two afternoon sessions are planned at Totley Rise Methodist during the week 25th. to 29th. March. The primary schools in Dore, Totley and Bradway receive leaflets for every child to take home prior to each event, so far all our happenings have been free of charge, the funds coming from the local churches.

If you would or like further details about the J-Team children's activities at the local churches please contact me.

Nan Alder

J-Team co-ordinator

Tel. 2350574



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THE END ON AN ERA DORE & TOTLEY GUILD

It is with regret that I have to announce the closure of the above Guild, after 45 years. Prior to this time it was formed as a Townswomen's Guild (1941-1950) which was attended by 30 members. It was held in a hut/cafe attached to The Crown on Butts Hill. In 1950 it was decided to break away and form a private Guild. Since then, something in the region of £5,000 had been raised for local charities.

I would like to thank all members past and present, who have shared in any way in the running of the Guild, also for their contributions, however small, to the donations we have been able to make to charity and to all speakers who have entertained us. Best wishes to you all for the New Year and many thanks for the beautiful bouquet which was a lovely surprise for me.

Joan Gray.

TOTLEY: THE NAME

Two main theories are:- The clearing of the people of Tota. A settlement on a hill, or possibly a hill look-out. Reference Brian Edwards Drawings of Historic Totley.

SCOUT NEWS

December Lottery Draw

1st. Prize No. 52 Christmas Hamper
Mr. & Mrs. Ruthvern, Meadow Grove
2nd. Prize No. 64 £10 voucher
Mr. & Mrs. Pilgrim, Mosgrove Close

We will have had the registration forms for our next lottery printed in January and hope to start February or March '96.

The First Totley Scout Group thanks all who participated in our lottery which helped our group financially over another year, there were 23 different winners.

Peter Casson

OPEN DOOR COFFEE MORNING

There will be a Coffee Morning and Bring and buy Sale at Open Door, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, on Thursday 8th. February between 10-00am. and 12-00 noon, when we are hoping to raise money for the Romanian Orphanage Trust. All are welcome.

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CALOR

SPANISH OMELETTE

By C N Railton Holden

Do we support the proposal that harems should be legalised in Totley? That is the stark question before us; forthright, no nonsense, crystal clear and plain as a pikestaff. Please send your answers on a postcard to the editor. Naturally, some of you are now sitting up, quivering with alarm, your brains on red alert and you are saying to yourselves: "Bless my soul! Heavens above! Why does such a wacky question appear in the Totley Independent?" Well, there is a very sound explanation for this unusual proposal and if you will just calm down and read on patiently, then I will endeavour to show how this harem was conceived.

In the beginning, there was Michael Schumacher. As he drove our taxi from Totley to East Midlands Airport, we passed through the sound barrier and this incident, taking place during last October, accounts for my wife's toes which are still curled up. As for me, my ambitions for the future were temporarily thrown into jeopardy. I had planned to win a top prize in the National Lottery; to make generous donations to the Totley Residents' Association, Age Concern and Battered Husbands Anonymous, to be raised to the peerage and to enjoy perfect health until the year 2050. You will agree that jeopardy was no fitting state to be in for such public-spirited intentions. I never chose this Schumacher speed king. Nor was I responsible for his brother who awaited us at Malaga Airport with another taxi. But our worst fears were not realised, because dense traffic on the forty mile journey to Nerja gave little scope for Formula One lap records. If an occasional whiff of smouldering tyres sneaked in through the driver's open window, no-one had the nerve to protest.

Nerja is a small holiday resort. On the morning after our affair with the taxis; sunlight shimmered down upon a host of white Mediterranean buildings and in temperatures thoroughly unsuitable for geriatrics. We could have fried eggs upon the pavements. Unfortunately, my family vetoed this notion with some sort of trivial argument which I won't bother to explain in detail, except to say that it involved germs and foreigners' feet. Rising immediately behind the small town are the brown, forbidding slopes of the Sierra Nevada, where flatness is at a premium and explains why the Spanish

never learned to play cricket. One day, our coach, well equipped with low gears, climbed up into these mountains and deposited about fifty of us in the city of Granada, where enchantment and unholy joy awaits all visitors. Now the harem subject has definitely not been forgotten; I am steadily leading up to it. Please don't fidget.

The cathedral in Granada, where "unholy joy", as you will appreciate, is not obviously encouraged, measures a quarter mile wide, a half mile long and at least three miles high. The Rev. Doctor Marc of our Totley church, is blessed with a fine resonant voice which reaches even deaf ears on the back row of the congregation, but the dear man would face a daunting acoustical challenge in this vast Spanish edifice. It would be interesting to know how in this same vastness, medieval bishops communicated with their flocks in the days before Pierre Etienne Micro invented his famous microphone.

Alongside this voluminous cathedral stands the Royal Chapel, where one may gaze at the effigy of Queen Isabella. She was a comely matron, unless her sculptor, intimidated by the fearsome Spanish Inquisition, decided that flattery was preferable to roasting in the presence of masked figures wearing tall, conical hats. Isabella and her husband Ferdinand are directly responsible for much of the present life-style of Totley folk, for these two monarchs were once importuned by a penniless Genoese sailor on his beam ends, who knew how to bamboozle anyone likely to have a healthy bank balance. Apparently, there were no healthy bank balances in Genoa, "All right then", said Isabella, after a long and flattering bamboozlement. "Take this sackful of pesetas" (not to be confused with potatoes) "then off you go and discover America"! Fatal words indeed, because now the planet Earth is inundated with hot dogs, beefburgers, chewing-gum, and Oprah Winfrey, and if ever the Totley Recreation Ground is transformed into a baseball pitch, you should blame Bella and Fergie.

Outside the cathedral, I encountered an intelligent-looking caballero and I asked him politely, where the studio was. "Studio?" He smiled helpfully but that one word seemed to have hacked into his vocabulary and created a mental blockage. "STUDIO!", I repeated slowly

and articulately; "JACK AND VERA DUCKWORTH". His eyes glazed over. "CORONATION STREET?" I added with failing hope. "FILMING IN THE GRANADA STUDIO!" At this point he turned and scurried away as though challenged by Lucifer himself. If only these foreigners would take the trouble to learn a few simple words of English, life would be much more rewarding for them.

Granada continued to reveal its manifold fascinations; the radiant hibiscus and frangipani and the high-pitched squawks from gypsy women as they darted to and fro, endeavouring to festoon unwary visitors with sprigs of what might pass in Spain as lucky heather. We sat down for lunch in the open air and there followed a spell-binding forty minutes which began with a gentle tap on my shoulder and the polite thrusting under my nose of a box of ancient shoe brushes. Alas, the owner was not to know that my shoes are cleaned twice a year - if necessary - and that it required twenty five more weeks to the next official burnishing. Then, at intervals of three minutes, as if a carefully planned rota was being operated, I was approached by two more shoe shiners and by four or five orthodox, arm-outstretched, palm-opened beggars. You are never alone in Granada!

Lunch was succeeded by a short coach ride to the Alhambra. I would describe the Alhambra, rightly or wrongly - and don't accept without question everything I write - as a collection of Moorish palaces and fortresses dating from the 11th century. Beautiful terraced gardens, fountains, pavilions, alabaster, jasper and a fine

panoramic view over the city. If you enjoy historical detail then do engage the guide allotted to us. She was Spanish, theatrical and loaded with Alhambran history which poured forth as the hours ticked away and the sun dipped down towards the horizon. I very soon took up my camera and drifted away. A psychiatrist, as I lay upon his couch, once referred to something he called "a short concentration span". At least I think those were his words, perhaps my mind was elsewhere at the time.

But then I entered the harem. Delightful architecture; stone floors, no chairs, no beds and not a single concubine in sight. Imaginations had to be fired up and that was when I thought of Trolley, whose gentlefolk should be given an opportunity to express themselves, harematically, hence the invitation referred to earlier for a postcard response. After all, we do not wish to implement the scheme without your full approval. Even I myself cannot approach the idea with a purely open mind, remembering as I do, a harrowing two hours when I followed a wife and daughter, my nearest and dearest (as the poets quaintly say) around the turmoil of Nerja market; stopping, starting, retreating, advancing, perspiring, being shouldered aside by Falstaffian senoras, finding myself lost, then found, then glared at for being lost. So naturally I have to ask myself; do I really need a harem? Would my way of life be enhanced? Would there be more rules and regulations? Would the cooking be better or worse? In the meantime I shall, like you, brace myself for the outcome of the referendum. So for now - "Gracias and buenas noches!"

CATHERINE CLARK
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TALES OF THE UNBELIEVABLE

"Roses are red, violets are blue..." There is going to be a lot of that sort of thing this month. What a good thing it is that gardeners produce their blooms in those colours. Can you imagine the rhyme going "roses are green, violets are yellow don't you think I'm a wonderful fellow"? Not quite the same somehow. You might just get away with "roses are black, violets are green, if I were king would you be queen?" Now, before the greeting card people started this flood of cards, they latched onto the name of the saintly Valentine as their inspiration. This is a man who managed to get his neck in the way of a Roman sword. Some avow that it started centuries before that and the real introduction was made by Juno. She is the lady who gave her name to the month of June and in her time was notorious for driving around in a chariot drawn by a peacock. Driving round the heavens whilst she was queen of that domain and in her spare time she presided over the goodwill of marriages and births. She was married to Jupiter, ruler of the Universe. Being married to such a man, one might suppose that she had no need to send or receive cryptic messages, but her husband was a bit of a Likely Lad where other ladies were concerned and as a counter balance, some ardent swain might consider that Juno was similarly freelance. Always a dangerous business trying to double-cross the Gods who had the ability to change you into a bird or a beast, without having the necessary recipe to change one back again.

Before we look again at Valentine, there appears to be a bit of an effort to upstage him by St. Dwynwen from Anglesey. She tried to beat him to the draw by having her date on January 25th

- but since she pops up three centuries after Valentine, we should go back to our Roman friend. Two versions remain; that he was a convert to Christianity contrary to the accepted idea of Roman Gods. Hence his untimely demise and he wrote to a foreign princess whilst in gaol. The other story is that she was imprisoned and he sent her various notes signed 'Your Valentine'. I have never managed to find out how they sent these notes, they were a bit short of ball-point pens, with the back of an old envelope to scribble on. No doubt, we have to fall back on the usual explanation that "love will find a way.." So all this lets you get your cards ready for 14 February - - - All together now - - "Roses are red, violets are blue - - - -"

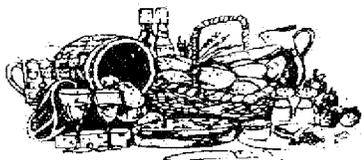


"I WENT TO A BIRTHDAY PARTY IN TOTLEY, IVE NO IDEA HOW OLD THE LADY IS BUT THE HEAT FROM THE CANDLES IN THE CAKE WAS INTENSE!"

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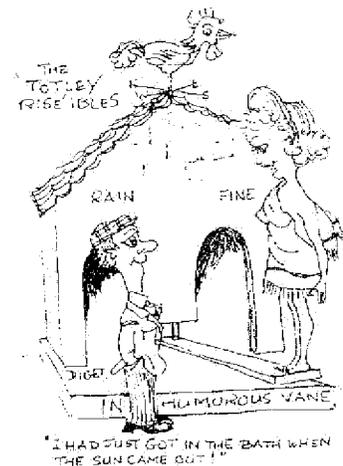
1995 WEATHER REPORT

Today the wind is in the SW and it is grey and wet, but not too cold, in contrast to the memories of last year's summer. Just in case you're feeling cold when reading this, here are the days throughout the year that were 20 deg.C or over.

The first was on 2 May, followed by 5 consecutive days, with 2 more on the 23rd and 24th. The next occasion was the 19 June, with 9 more days before the end of the month. I have 26 days recorded for July, 23 for August and 1 each in September and October; making a total of 69 altogether. The hottest day was 1 August with 30 deg.C recorded in Totley and 31.3 deg.C recorded at Weston Park, which also recorded 15.6 hours of sunshine on the 29 June - the most for this year. As opposed to that, there were 4 days when the temperature didn't get above freezing, 3 being in December and 49 nights of frost. The coldest night, 29 December sank to -10 deg.C on the thermometer. Although there were no appreciable snowfalls, there were 26 days of snow falling or lying.

The year was certainly dryer than average; rainfall for 1995 being 28", with a Totley average between 1990-94 of 38" - 2" less than 1991, which was previously the driest year since I've been keeping records. The wettest day was 25 January, when 46.8 mm (1.87") was recorded. The first thunderstorm was on 15 February and the second on 11 July, when 0.4" of rain fell in 1/2 hour and it was so dark that the street lights came on for 1/2 hour in the middle of the afternoon. On 27 September, the third storm, with hail, knocked the rain gauge over. January and August were the only two months when we had less rain than Weston Park, which recorded 165 rain days compared with Totley's 192.

	TOTLEY	WESTON PARK
Rain for year:		
1995	717.1 mm	667.8 mm
1994	1047.5 mm	895.1 mm
1993	1058.5 mm	913.8 mm
Wettest day:		
1995	46.8 mm	41.4 mm
1994	37.5 mm	58.9 mm
1993	34.5 mm	33.4 mm
Coldest night:		
1995	-10.0 deg.C	-6.2 deg.C
1994	-8.5 deg.C	-7.0 deg.C
1993	-7.5 deg.C	-6.5 deg.C
Hottest day:		
1995	30 deg.C	31.3 deg.C
1994	29 deg.C	29.6 deg.C
1993	25 deg.C	25.4 deg.C
Sunhours:		
1995		1586.3
1994		1361.7
1993		1288.6
Highest wind speed:		
1995		61 knots
1994		60 knots
1993		67 knots



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DORE MALE VOICE CHOIR

Now numbering about seventy singing members, Dore Male Voice Choir has achieved a considerable reputation in choral circles. Over the years there have been successes at festivals in Blackpool, Frechleton, Harrogate, Morecombe and Huddersfield to name only a few of the more prestigious locations. Perhaps the Choir's crowning achievement in this area has come at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, where the Choir gained four third placing's in the Male Voice Choir Competition over a five year period, mainly just behind overseas choirs.

Apart from its numerous local concerts the Choir has performed in many striking locations including York Minster and Huddersfield Town Hall. One very memorable occasion was its appearance at the Royal Albert Hall as one of three leading British choirs singing at a Special International Concert in aid of the new Eusteddfod Hall.

Over the years the Choir has had the pleasure of being host to a number of fine choirs from overseas. The latest guests were the Rouss-land Soglasie Male Voice Choir from St. Petersburg who, in June gave a wonderful performance, thrilling both the Choir members and the audience.

This year, in addition to the usual programme of concerts, Choir members are looking forward to competing in festivals again after a brief break. The Choir would welcome prospective new members. Just come along at 7-30 pm. on a Thursday to Dore Church Hall, on Townhead Road, Dore, where rehearsals are held every week or telephone Laurie Butcher on (0114) 2350431.
Future Concerts:-

All concerts starting at 7-00 pm.
Saturday 17th. February at Christ Church Dore. Guest Artist Stephen Ash
Saturday 9th. March. Joint Concert with the Sheffield Youth Orchestra in aid of the Lord Mayor's Charity Fund.
At St. John's Church Ranmoor.
Saturday 30th. March at Hallam Methodist Church.
Saturday 20th. April at Psalter Lane Methodist Church.
Saturday 18th. May at St. James Church Louth.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER

We are trying to set up a National Women's Register group in South West Sheffield, and welcome any enquiries.

National Women's Register is a women's organisation of local groups who meet to discuss a wide range of topics (but not domestic ones) on an informal basis.

Please ring Chris Brewster, Telephone 2367942, for a leaflet or more information.

TOTLEY AND DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED MEETINGS AT 4, GROVE ROAD, TOTLEY 11-00 am.

1996 WINTER PROGRAMME

Wednesday 14th. February

Mainly social

Thursday 14th. March

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READERS LETTERS

Dear Editor

Once again the Totley Resident's Association provided a good party with entertainment for we, the OAPs. New faces by way of entertainment made it a night to be remembered.

I read in December issue of the Independent that deeds for penfold (not pinfold) have been handed over to All Saints School. This said piece of land never did rightly belong to the City Council, nor does the playing field fronting the Cricket Inn. The latter was given to the people of Totley and the penfold was common land where stray animals were founded.

An old friend of mine Joe Marshall knew quite a lot of the old Totley and it was from him I acquired a lot of information towards my memoirs and as regards the playing field Totley Bents; any persons in the villages of Dore, Holmesfield and Dronfield Woodhouse were allowed to use the fields for any event, also one was able to graze geese and non-cloven footed animals. The last person who used it for this purpose was Mr Hoole, who had a donkey and some geese, even at that time, an area in the middle of the field was fenced off and used as a cricket pitch. In my younger days, we boasted of a good team with the likes of Andrew Crothen, Frank Taylor, Jim Green and others including Charlie Smith and Arthur Turner as umpires; more to say of the field in the future.

Dan Reynolds.

Ed's note, our Dictionary says Pinfold, "a place in which cattle are confined.(pen and fold)"

Dear Editor

I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and response of our local business owners as I've haunted their premises in an effort to solve my on-going problems through my husbands illness. It's been "thinking caps on every time" and not once have I been turned away. I have become one of the "family" of Totley. May I say thank you to you all. Ernest is now being cared for permanently in a nursing home as he can't cope with life at home and needs expert care. A happy 1996 to all

Elizabeth E. Cooke

Dear Editor

For some time I have been rather puzzled about the mystery of the macabre message etched high into the tree adjacent to the first stile as you enter Gillfield wood close to Rowan Tree Dell.

The grim message reads Tim fell to his death from the tree and a date around 1972. Rather difficult to make out for it is at least 25 feet from ground level. The carving is very professionally done. It finally appears that Tim had a most unusual sense of humour and it is all a hoax. He certainly was a very good climber and left egg on the faces of a few curious onlookers.

J.C.Barrows

HEARING DOGS FOR THE DEAF

On behalf of "Hearing Dogs" for the Deaf I wish to thank Mr. & Mrs. Casson and all those kind people who have contributed stamps to our cause. Last year, 1995, we sent 120 pounds weight to Head Quarters. Please continue to help us.

Mrs. Enid D. Burns.

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TOTLEY RE VISITED

A year ago today I was enjoying re-discovering Totley after 41 years in South Africa. I left at age 13 with my parents. I was surprised to find how relatively little had changed over so long a period, with the exception of the road where we lived - Green Oak Road. What a change there ! But it was glorious (despite the rain !) to walk in the woods again, remembering how as children we always tried to catch "old one eye", a fish with supposedly only one eye.. The hours spent in and around the river - the bluebells (we don't get them here) - sledging down the slopes near that little bridge, visiting the children at the (then) Cherrytree Orphanage. I took my old, devious route to Totley All Saints School, bringing back a myriad of delightful memories. Then down Penny Lane where we walked in twos to the sports field to play hockey - which I hated. Just to go back in time as we wandered from place to place was incredibly nostalgic and gave such pleasure.

The Sunday morning service at Totley Rise Methodist Church was lovely and I had pleasant memories of Sunday School days. We were really blessed by the service and the people were so friendly and welcoming - a really "alive" church.

Today I am doing a mental walk and wishing that I could be there in reality. I felt such a sense of belonging in England and it was with a heavy heart that I left again. God willing we will be able to return to stay in the not too distant future.

My regards to Mr. Beamont, it was he who gave us our copy of the Totley Independent. I wonder if he will remember us.

Pat Grey (Mrs)

THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY, DORE & TOTLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

The Dramatic Society was formed in 1927 and since then has entertained firstly the areas of Dore and Totley and now audiences from all over the Sheffield area.

A variety of plays are produced Comedy, Farce, Murder Mysteries and Thrillers and we put on two productions a year in March and October.

The Society welcomes new members, also temporary members, people who are in the area for a short period and especially in the 18 - 30 age group. Please write for details to the secretary Mr. Peter Sherwell, 72 Busheywood Road, Sheffield S17 3QB or speak to any member of the Society.

Our next production will be "A Sting In The Tale" by Brian Clemens and Dennis Spooner (Thriller) from Wednesday 20th. March 1996 to Saturday 23rd. March at 7-30pm. in the Church Hall, Dore & Totley United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, Sheffield.

Tickets £2-00 Adult, £1-50 Children
£1-50 Senior Citizens on Wednesday only.
Box Office 2364440 or from any member of the Society.

TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH MEETINGS.

The following meetings have been arranged at Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, at 8-00pm. All are welcome.

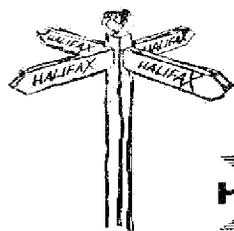
Wed. February 14th.

A talk on "Stained Glass" by Mr. C.Higgins

Wed. February 28th.

"Contrasting Ministries - Suburb and Inner City" by Rev. Duncan Wilson. Come along and welcome back the former Minister of Dore and Totley URC.

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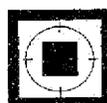


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FEBRUARY

THUR. 8th. COFFEE MORNING & BRING and BUY SALE, United Reformed Church, 10am. to 12 noon. Details inside.
 FRI. 9th. TOTLEY EVENING GUILD, "Don't Mrs Worthington" or "Exit through the fireplace" by Mr G.Tomlinson, 7-30pm. Abbeydale Hall. New Members Welcome.
 WED. 14th. TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP for the VISUALLY IMPAIRED, 4, Grove Rd. 11am. Details inside.
 WED. 14th. STAINED GLASS by Mr.C.Higgins, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 8pm. Details inside. All welcome.
 SAT. 17th. DORE MALE VOICE CHOIR, 7pm. Christ Church Dore, Details inside.
 TUE. 20th. TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Methodist Church Hall, 10-00 am.
 WED. 28th. CONTRASTING MINISTRIES, SUBURB & INNER CITY by Rev. Duncan Wilson, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 8pm. Details inside. All welcome.

THE INDEPENDENT FOR MARCH

The NEXT issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on **SATURDAY 2nd. MARCH.** Copy date for this issue will be **FRIDAY 16th. FEBRUARY 1996.**

EDITORS Les & Dorothy Firth, 6, Milldale Rd., Tel. No. 2364190

DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISING John Perkinson, 2, Main Avenue, Tel. No. 2361601

TYPING Vicky Crookes, 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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